

I Refused to Be Distracted

Eccl. 11:4

The wind and the clouds in our opening text represents distractions. They represent diversions from advancing and building the Kingdom of God. The verse says he who becomes distracted by the wind shall not sow or keep praying in spiritual warfare. They are waiting for favorable conditions and he who regards the clouds and the sounds of the night will not see answered prayer. They've become distracted by fear and intimidation of the enemy.

1. The winds in Eccl. 11:4 represents the distractions that produce fears.
2. The clouds are distractions from the natural – like changing diapers, leaky pipes, paying rent, and flat tires.

The Story of the Lightbulb, or Losing Sight of What Matters Most

On a dark December night, 36 years ago, a Lockheed 1011 jumbo jet crashed into the Florida Everglades, killing over 10 people. This terrible accident was one of the deadliest crashes in the history of the United States.

A curious thing about this accident is that all vital parts and systems of the airplane were functioning perfectly – the plane could have easily landed safely at its destination in Miami, only 20 miles (32 km) away.

During the final approach, however, the crew noticed that one green light had failed to illuminate – a light that indicates whether or not the nose landing gear has extended successfully. The pilots discontinued the approach, set the aircraft into a circling holding pattern over the pitch black Everglades, and turned their attention toward investigating the problem.

They became so preoccupied with their search that they failed to realize the plane was gradually descending closer and closer toward the swamp below. By the time someone noticed what was happening, it was too late to avoid the disaster. They became distracted which caused the plane to crash.

After the accident, investigators tried to determine the cause. The landing gear had indeed lowered properly. The plane was in perfect mechanical condition. Everything was working properly – all except one things: a single burned out lightbulb. That tiny light bulb – worth about 20 cents – started the chain of events that ultimately led to the tragic death of over 100 people.

Of course, the malfunctioning lightbulb didn't cause the accident; it happened because the crew placed its focus on something that seemed to matter at the moment while losing sight of what mattered most. Their distraction proved fatal.

Hell's distractions are to take your attention away from a relentless focus to damaging His Kingdom.

You need to tell hell tonight, I refuse to be distracted from:

- My corporate praying with the saints that's working.

- From becoming aggressive with my faith in pursuing God's promises.
- I refuse to be distracted by intimidating fears that want to divert my attention away from my faith in God's unchanging immutable love for me.

God's sovereign is allowing distractions so you can manage and have victory over your fears, for a miracle. Num. 13:1-2

The key words for fighting distractions is in these 2 verses:

1. Vs. 1 – The Lord spake – when God speaks He will bring to pass what He said.
2. Vs. 2 – Send the men – God will never sand us to a place He Himself won't show up for with His Angelic Host.
3. Vs. 2 – The land which I give to you.

- So when God speaks and God sends and God gives, He expect you and me to confront the fears from intimidating distractions.
- I am talking about real fears that are life threatening and financially debilitating.
- To confront my fears or the winds and clouds with God's spoken Word, and His sending authority and what He has promised to give.

So I refuse to be distracted from what God spoke and what God sent me to do.

Read Numbers 13:31-33, Numbers 14:1-4

- The spies got distracted with what they saw and what they heard in vs. 31-32.
- Don't you think God knew they would see what they saw? So why did God tell them to go and spy out the land?
- Because their mission had nothing to do with observing their enemies capabilities. Their mission was to test their love and faith in God's word and in God's capability. So God allowed them to be confronted with fear so they could run back what God said. So they could run into arms of His love and security. If you observe the wind you will not sow. if you regard the cloud you will not reap.

This story is about managing fears through dependence love. The weapon is formed but will not prosper.

So I refuse to be distracted.

- I am going to continue my corporate praying devil.

You know your distractions have a strategy when it's right in the middle of you doing damage to satan's kingdom

Read Neh. 6:1-5

We have stirred up the enemy of our region.

- I know this by the distractions we are getting.

- Like Sanballat and Tobias, they seek to put fear and business on us to divert our attention away from corporate unity of intercessory prayer.

Read vs. 9-16

I refuse to be distracted, because He is teaching me to be indomitable.

- Incapable of being subdued, impossible to be defeated. Having an inconceivable spirit. This is why I refuse to be distracted.
- For I will look to the citadel of my faith. Citadel means a fortress command center. Ps. 31:2, Prov. 18:10
- The Citadel is the Lord of Armies
 - Rom. 9:29, Ps. 89:7-8, Ps. 46:7-9

I refuse to be distracted.

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