

I'm Loosing My Mind

1 Cor 2: 16

Lois McMaster Bujold once said, "It's bizarre but wonderful feeling, to arrive dead center of a target you didn't even know you were aiming for." We call this "serendipity", to experiencing great joy or happiness through unexpected discoveries by accident.

- This word, serendipity, was coined by a man name, Horace Walpole in January 1754. He got it from the old name, Sri Lanka, which was called Serendipity. Horace told of 3 princes of Serendipity who went through a court case accused of stealing a camel and in the end, the 3 princes were found innocent. The ruling, Judge King Bahram Gur, appointed those men as special advisors in recognition of the way they brilliantly defended themselves in a Sherlock Holmes manner. This is called, "serendipity".

Has this ever happened to you? Like with a job, marriage, or a financial loss? Serendipity is "how" the mind of God works in your life. I want to take a closer look of what we call, "The Mind of God". It's a misunderstood phrase. Too often we only hear and comprehend God's promises and blessings for our lives, but we do not agree nor understand God's processes!

For example, the Mind of God consists of 3 factors or elements.

1. God's promises
2. God's process
3. God's product

Let me say it another way.

1. God's promise is, "God's Mind"
2. God's process is "the purpose of Satan"
3. God's product is our promises coming to pass in the natural.

You and me must factor in the purpose of satan in walking with the Mind of God.

- This is where serendipity starts.
- This means going through wilderness living and not having answers to not seeing results.
- I must factor in satan's purpose in the Mind of God for my life.

So, we see this in the law of first reference: Gen. 3:15.

- a. You shall bruise His heel
- b. But He shall bruise your head
- c. We see here a promise, a process, and a product.

So, in essence God makes satan's plan serve His purpose through the process you are going through.

Another example is when I was sick last Wednesday night. God used my sickness to provoke prayer for the sick and 7 people were healed in the service.

Would you quote Gen. 50:20 with me?

Promises demand a process in order to get the product. God uses the enemy for all of this.

- So, this means we must look at the enemy in the context of God.

So, what does this process look like in the serendipity of having God's Mind?

1. To teach us dependency while the purpose of Satan is being released in our lives.
 - Read 1 Chron. 2:1 and 2 Sam 24:1
 - Notice this is the same story but two different narratives.
 - Both God and the devil are involved here. Why? God's withdraws His hand of grace and favor in David's life to teach him a lesson on dependency. David had become prideful and arrogant with his armies and his victories. This story is there to warn us to watch out for the purpose of satan.

1. Happens when we get an independent, untouchable attitude towards our spouses, bosses, and authority figures. You get hurt or wounded and withdraw from trusting people.
2. The process of God is to teach Don Rogers dependency on Him with my money, my time, my love, and resources.
3. David paid a heavy price & lost 70,000 people to a plague for numbering the people. (Proverbs 16:18-19)
4. So, God is teaching me through this story that my integrity alone and hard work does not keep me out of sin or sexual perversion or a bar room. It's the merciful restraining hand of God in the purpose of Satan keeping me. Some of you need to acknowledge this like Job under satan's attack. Deception says I can handle sin and still play with it. No, God's hand is keeping you, that's why you need a prayer life. 2 Thessalonians 3:3

5. Prayer and fasting increases God's restraining Hand. The Mind of God is teaching me God's restraining Hand has kept me out of sin, so Lord help me pass through this process to the product.

We increase God's restraining Hand through:

1. Repentance
2. Worship
3. Fasting
4. Obedience to His Word
5. Submission to one another
6. Submission to authority
7. Praying for our enemies

You see David's serendipity was in 1 Chron. 21:15, and 18.

- Ornan's threshing floor became the ground of Calvary later. Wow!
- This was the Mind of God for promise, process, and product.
- God's process for Don Rogers is to chisel out any pride, arrogance, and independence so I can receive the Mind of God's promises.

We see this with Joseph.

1. He started off arrogant receiving a coat of many colors.
 2. He later had another coat ripped off of him, from Potiphar's wife. This was his process in dealing with his lust and self-control issues.
 3. Joseph's 3rd coat was Pharaoh's coat. The finished product where he now shows an attitude of forgiveness, compassion, and servitude to his brothers.
- This is where some of us are right now. You are looking at the delays of your promise. You are looking at the purpose of satan and now your promises are being aborted because the power of life and death are in the tongue.
 - We must see satan's purpose through God's Mind.

Let's quote these verses out loud:

Is. 46:10 – God's omniscient

Job 42:2

1 Chron. 29:11

Ps. 121:2

You see, God's sovereignty can never be separated or divided from His love for you. God's Mind is absolutely undivided between sovereignty and His tender love for you.

- Psalm 92:3-5 God's sovereign hand keeping us is what God wants to teach us in the purpose of Satan.
- God's judgments cannot be separated from His mercies or wrath.
- It's absolutely impossible for Him to do anything that is not wise and at the same time be loving to you in your life.
- But the Troubles comes when I choose to only dwell on the purpose of Satan and the purpose of men (I call this the grasshopper mentality.) Look at Numbers 13:25, 27-28, 32-33 and Numbers 14:1-2

A grasshopper mentality is:

- 1) Someone who feels yesterday is better than there tomorrow.
- 2) Grasshoppers complain all the time
- 3) They feel everything's going to eat them up.
- 4) Some people own doctorates in grasshopper complaining because all they can see is what people and the enemy is doing in their lives.
- 5) A grasshopper mentality says I'll never amount to anything.
- 6) I'm going to make it.
- 7) Why keep trying?
- 8) I'm miserable
- 9) Nobody cares if I live or die.
- 10) I feel like I'm cursed.
- 11) Nothing ever goes right for me.
- 12) I'm afraid I'm going to fail.

God had to get this grasshopper mentality out of Moses in His wilderness process in Ex. 3:11-22 and Ex. 4:1-17.

Moses' mind that God had to change to accomplish His mind:

1. Moses said "I can't talk right"
2. "who am I to be doing this?"
3. Find somebody else for the job
4. I'm going to fail, they won't listen to me

This is God working through the purpose of satan to accomplish His Mind.

- God purposely hardened Pharoah's heart to soften Moses' heart in the purpose of satan. This is God's Mind.
- God tells Moses to go to Pharoah and gives Moses a promise but immediately hardens Pharoah's heart in Ex. 5:22-23, Ex. 6:1-2.

Closing verses: Rom. 9:17-18

God restrains and also releases His power on people as He pleases according to our trust in His love.

My examples of God releasing restraint off me:

1. My prayer
2. My lust
3. My spending habits
4. My gossip or loose lips

I had to cry out to God.

DLR/ag