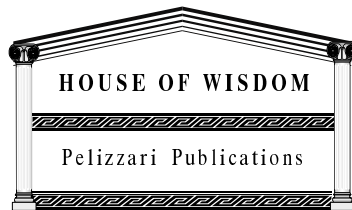
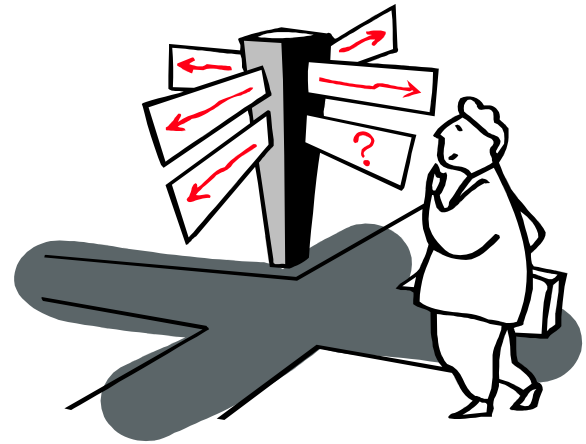


SERMON NOTES SERIES
PERSONAL BIBLE STUDY NOTES

**HOPELESS
BELIEVERS**



DR. JOHN PELIZZARI, PH.D.
SENIOR PASTOR

Hi,

Over the years I have had numerous people ask me for a copy of my sermon notes for their own personal Bible studies. I am glad to be able to present them to you. You have in your hands an exact copy of my sermon notes for your very own personal studies. I pray that as you study the Word, that the Holy Spirit will add even more than what you have before you. Put yourself there in what you are studying. What were they feeling, what were they facing...make the Word come alive by placing yourself there.

I am also including a list of the resources that I use to obtain my information, but I will say this, without the Holy Spirit guiding and teaching you under the anointing all you have is just a bunch of books. I always pray before, during, and upon deliverance of each message I receive. I pray that...***you might be filled with the knowledge of His will in all wisdom and spiritual understanding (Colossians 1:9)***. I am both honored and blessed that you have selected a Sermon Notes Series and I pray that it will be a blessing to you!

With Much Love,
Pastor John

RESOURCES USED

- * The Companion Bible
- * Dake's Annotated Reference Bible
- * Young's Analytical Concordance To The Bible
- * A Dictionary Of Bible Types
- * Vine's Expository Dictionary Of New Testament Words
- * The American College Dictionary
- * World's Bible Handbook
- * The Zondervan Pictorial Bible Dictionary
- * Nelson's Three- in- One Bible Reference Companion
- * The Word -The Bible In 26 Translations
- * God's Plan For Man
- * Harper's Encyclopedia Of Bible Life
- * Nelson's Expository Dictionary Of The Old Testament
- * Manners And Customs From the Bible
- * What The Bible Is All About
- * Halley's Bible Handbook

These are just a small listing of the study aides that I use. The greatest study aide available is letting the Holy Spirit be your teacher. May you get to know Him!

Words translated from the Gk = Greek and Hb=Hebrew.

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OUR VISION

“My people are destroyed for a lack of knowledge;”

Hosea 4:6

“For as he thinketh in his heart, so is he:”

Proverbs 23:7

“...and to desire that ye might be filled with the knowledge of His will in all wisdom and spiritual understanding;”

Colossians 1:9

“Through wisdom is an house builded; and by understanding it is established: and by knowledge shall the chambers be filled with all precious and pleasant riches. A wise man is strong; yea, a man of knowledge increaseth strength.”

Proverbs 24:3-5

“And the Gospel must first be published among all nations.”

Mark 13:10

As the Scriptures speak for themselves, our vision is to empower Believers everywhere to live a victorious abundant lifestyle that can be obtained through wisdom and understanding. If you are willing to change the way you think, you can change the way you live. A renewed mind towards the Word of God established you firmly in the faith and opens the door for the blessings and benefits of God to become evident in your life.

Because We Believe In You,
John and Karen Pelizzari

HOPELESS BELIEVERS

Ephesians 1:18 The eyes of your understanding being enlightened; that ye may know what is the hope of his calling, and what the riches of the glory of his inheritance in the saints,

1. If we were to ask... “*What are you called to do in life?*” very few church folks would know what to say.

Hope of his calling - is translated as “a confident expectation that you will receive His invitation with joy.”

Ephesians 1:18 (NLT) **I pray that your hearts will be flooded with light so that you can understand the wonderful future he has promised to those he called. I want you to realize what a rich and glorious inheritance he has given to his people.**

2. What will you be doing five years from now or ten years from now?
 - a. We’re not talking about a secular job.

b. What will you be doing for King Jesus?

Ephesians 1:18 (MSG) ... so that you can see exactly what it is he is calling you to do, grasp the immensity of this glorious way of life he has for Christians,

3. The majority of church folks today would say...*"I don't know."*
4. So now we must ask "Is it because you have never known, or because you used to know and have become disillusioned?"
5. A common response is that some have lost their confidence for one reason or another.
6. Some would say that they had failed in so many areas of their life over the years that they are not sure they can even hear from God anymore.
7. When we lose the hope of our calling, we become defensive and feel as if we have to justify everything we say and do to others.
8. There are two primary callings with God.

Revelation 1:6 And hath made us kings and priests unto God and his Father; to him be glory and dominion for ever and ever. Amen.

9. You're either called to be a King or a Priest.

a. And what is our mutual goal?

Revelation 5:10 And hast made us unto our God kings and priests: and we shall reign on the earth.

10. We are called to reign on the earth.

11. A King reigns in the secular market; buying, selling, working, building, acquiring.

a. As Kings, your calling is the business world through your jobs, businesses, profession and other ventures that causes you to acquire finances, goods and materials.

12. You are assigned to reign in the secular world over the Babylonian system, otherwise known as the world economy.

13. Priests are called into the spiritual arena to minister, teach, build and advance the Kingdom of God through discipleship.

a. As priests, you are called into the ministry of the church in one way or another, usually by the ministry of helps.

b. The other side of that is the five fold ministry (apostle, prophet, evangelist, pastor, teacher).

14. Priests are called to enforce the Kings and together they are to reign upon the earth.

15. A church service is actually a gathering of Kings and Priests. When we meet together, both sides come to present an offering to one another.
 - a. The kings come and give tithes and offerings, the spoils of war or the rewards of their labor and conquest.
 - b. Priests give the Word of the Lord, serve in the house of God and lay out the blueprints for the next assignment from heaven's headquarters.
16. See, whenever a pastor takes up special offerings, that means there are some kings who have been anointed to acquisition more out of the world's system.
17. Kings and priests can be interchangeable. You can serve in the church while still working in the world.
18. Since most do not understand or have embraced what the Bible calls "*the hope of our calling*," most people come to church out of duty and obligation, and not because of their love for the Lord.
 - a. We lose our enthusiasm and become like so many others in churches across the land, believers without hope.
 - b. Let's dig deeper.

Proverbs 29:18 Where there is no vision, the people perish: but he that keepeth the law, happy is he.

19. A vision is the goal or dream set before each one of us by God.
 - a. It is the target for our life.
 - b. It is our hope.
20. Your vision may be to start your own business.
 - a. That means you're called to be king.
21. But without hope, a goal, we are wanderers and not conquerors.
 - a. We have nothing to shoot for, no reason to use our faith other than for everyday living.
22. Even though we may have all the faith in the world and know a lot of scriptures, if we have given up hope, these things profit us nothing.
 - a. Why?

Proverbs 13:12 Hope deferred maketh the heart sick: but when the desire cometh, it is a tree of life.

23. Many times hope is lost because the desires we have had in our hearts have not come to pass when we thought they should have.

Proverbs 13:12 (NLT) Hope deferred makes the heart sick, but when dreams come true, there is life and joy.

24. I have had church members tell me that no one ever trusted God more than they did, and yet God did not come through.

25. Whether they want to admit it or not, they are blaming their frustrations and impatience on God.

Proverbs 13:12 (MSG) Unrelenting disappointment leaves you heartsick, but a sudden good break can turn life around.

26. God has never failed any of us and He cannot fail us.

a. It is blasphemous to think God would not fulfill all of His promises.

b. If His promises are not being fulfilled in our lives, the problem is not with God, but with the people involved.

27. More than likely, we did not really develop our faith and trust in Him by following His plan, but we expected Him to back our plans and fulfill our desires, bending the rules if necessary.

28. The biggest disappointment maker is when we set a time frame for everything He promised us to happen.

a. Then, when the promises did not come to pass, we felt as if God had let us down.

b. If we seek God, find out His plan for our lives, and walk in simple obedience to His Word, it usually works out for the best of all involved.

29. A great example for us today is Abraham, a man who lost his hope and regained it after many years.

Romans 4:18 Who against hope believed in hope, that he might become the father of many nations; according to that which was spoken, So shall thy seed be.

30. In Genesis chapter 12, God first told Abram to leave Ur of the Chaldees and take only his wife, Sarai, with him.

a. He partially obeyed God because he took his father and nephew, Lot, with him.

b. That partial obedience caused problems.

31. See, Abram had been such a successful man in the land of Ur, that it was hard for him to forsake everything that he had.

- a. He wanted to obey God, but he also wanted to keep an "*ace in the hole*" in case God failed.
 - b. So Abram brought his father along to ensure that he would keep the prosperity and power he had enjoyed in Ur.
 - c. That was going to be his inheritance when dad died.
32. His disobedience to God's command set him back five years, and bringing Lot with him cost him many more years.
33. Finally, when Abram got to the Promised Land, it did not flow with milk and honey as God had told him.
- a. There was a famine in the land, and there was not enough food and water to sustain the tremendous number of people Abram had brought with him.
34. At this time in his walk with the Lord, Abram was still operating according to his own understanding.
- a. So he allowed the circumstances to speak to him because he had lost hope in the promise of God, which actually started from his disobedience.
 - b. Because there was a drought in Canaan, took matters into his own hands without consulting God.

- c. Abram took Sarai and his people to Egypt, where the grass looked greener.

Romans 4:17 (As it is written, I have made thee a father of many nations,) before him whom he believed, even God, who quickeneth the dead, and calleth those things which be not as though they were.

Romans 4:17 (NLT) ... God who brings the dead back to life and who brings into existence what didn't exist before.

Romans 4:17 (MSG) ... raise the dead to life, with a word make something out of nothing.

35. It was much later in his life that he learned that God that God could have fed them even in a famine.
36. Later, in order to save his own life he gave his wife to the king of Egypt, insisting that she was his sister.
- a. God had to intervene to save Sarai's life.
37. Abram was still not through trying to control his own life.
- a. He and Sarai tried to fulfill God's promise for a child themselves.

but this one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before, [14] I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus.

- b. They brought back a slave girl from Egypt, and Abram had a son through her.
 - c. All hell broke loose with that incident.
38. By now, over twenty-four years had passed, and Abram and Sarai were no closer to having a miracle child according to God's promise.
- a. In fact, it was biologically impossible now, they were too old to reproduce.
39. Abram was perishing without a vision.
- a. His heart was sick because his hope had been put away.
 - b. All of his own plans had failed, and Abram faced a choice...
 - 1. He could remain discouraged, blame God for his failure.
 - 2. He could accuse God for not coming through.
 - 3. He could live out his life in misery until he died.
 - c. Or, he could forget those things which were behind.

Philippians 3:13-14 [13] Brethren, I count not myself to have apprehended:

- 40. After all these wasted years, a quarter of a century, Abraham finally chose God's way.
- 41. God reconfirmed the covenant with Abram and gave him the same promise He had given in the beginning.
 - a. Abram was not given a new promise, but he received a new revelation of the original promise.
- 42. What happened? His hope, his vision, and his goal were reestablished.
 - a. God changed their names so they would change how they saw themselves.
- 43. Think about it...Abraham and Sarah could have had Isaac many years sooner.
- 44. God's promises for your life will not change because of your unbelief or failures.
 - a. God's promises do not rise or fall on our successes or failures, either.

- b. When Abraham and Sarah decided to put their trust in God, they found His promise that they would have a son just as real and powerful as when they had received it twenty-four years earlier.
45. So how much more time has to slip through your hands before you surrender to the will of God for your life and answer “the hope of His calling” so that you can have love, joy and peace in the Holy Ghost?

Psalm 51:6-12 (NLT) [6] But you desire honesty from the heart, so you can teach me to be wise in my inmost being. [7] Purify me from my sins, and I will be clean; wash me, and I will be whiter than snow. [8] Oh, give me back my joy again; you have broken me— now let me rejoice. [9] Don't keep looking at my sins. Remove the stain of my guilt. [10] Create in me a clean heart, O God. Renew a right spirit within me. [11] Do not banish me from your presence, and don't take your Holy Spirit from me. [12] Restore to me again the joy of your salvation, and make me willing to obey you.

- 46. Leave the disappointments and the disillusionments behind.
- 47. Stop wandering and start conquering!
- 48. God has not changed His mind about you!
- 49. Stop being a believer without hope.

END