By Faith

2Cor. 5:7 (For we walk by faith, not by sight:)

We are influenced by what we see.

We are influenced by what we hear

We are influenced by what people say and do.

Col 4:17 And say to Archippus, Take heed to the ministry which thou hast received in the Lord, that thou fulfil it.

Do we say and do all that the Lord wants us to do?

We must hear all that the Lord is saying to us.

The world and the church is not satisfying the Lord

1Tim. 4:6 ¶ If thou put the brethren in remembrance of these things, thou shalt be a good minister of Jesus Christ, nourished up in the words of faith and of good doctrine, whereunto thou hast attained.

Php 4:2 I beseech Euodias, and beseech Syntyche, that they be of the same mind in the Lord.

2 Timothy 4:7 I have fought a good fight, I have **finished my course**, I have **kept the faith:**  8 Henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, shall give me at that day: and not to me only, but unto all them also that love his appearing.

Acts 26:19 Whereupon, O king Agrippa, I was **not** disobedient unto the heavenly vision: Romans 15:29 And I am sure that, when I come unto you, I **shall** come in the fulness of the blessing of the gospel of Christ.

Jude 1:3 Beloved, when I gave all diligence to write unto you of the common salvation, it was needful for me to write unto you, and exhort you that ye should **earnestly contend for the faith which was once delivered unto the saints.**

Eph 2:2 Wherein in time past ye walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that now worketh in the children of disobedience:

1John 4:3 And every spirit that confesseth not that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh is not of God: and this is that spirit of antichrist, whereof ye have heard that it should come; and even now already is it in the world.

Take Heed

1Peter 1:22 Seeing ye have purified your souls in obeying the truth through the Spirit unto unfeigned love of the brethren, see that ye love one another with a pure heart fervently:

23 Being born again, **not** of corruptible seed, but of **incorruptible, by the word of God, which liveth and abideth for ever.**

2Tim. 2:9 Wherein I suffer trouble, as an evil doer, even unto bonds; but **the word of God is not bound.**

Heb 4:12 For the **word of God is** **quick, and powerful**, and **sharper** than any **twoedged sword**, **piercing** even to the **dividing asunder** of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and **is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart.**

Mat. 24:4—And Jesus answered and said unto them, **Take heed** that no man deceive you.

Mark 4:24—And he said unto them, **Take heed** **what** ye hear: with what measure ye mete, it shall be measured to you: and unto you that hear shall more be given.

Mark 8:15—And he charged them, saying, **Take heed**, beware of the leaven of the Pharisees, and of the leaven of Herod.

Luke 8:18—**Take heed** therefore **how** ye hear: for whosoever hath, to him shall be given; and whosoever hath not, from him shall be taken even that which he seemeth to have.

Luke 11:35—**Take heed** therefore that the light which is in thee be not darkness.

Luke 21:8—And he said, **Take heed** that ye be not deceived: for many shall come in my name, saying, I am Christ; and the time draweth near: go ye not therefore after them

1Cor. 3:10—According to the grace of God which is given unto me, as a wise masterbuilder, I have laid the foundation, and another buildeth thereon. But let every man **take heed** how he buildeth thereupon.

1Cor. 10:12—Wherefore let him that thinketh he standeth **take heed** lest he fall.

Col 4:17—And say to Archippus, **Take heed** to the ministry which thou hast received in the Lord, that thou fulfil it.

1Tim. 4:16—**Take heed** unto thyself, and unto the doctrine; continue in them: for in doing this thou shalt both save thyself, and them that hear thee.

Hebrews 2:1 Therefore we ought to **give the more earnest heed** to the things which we have heard, lest at any time we should let them slip. {let...: Gr. run out as leaking vessels}

Hebrews 3:12—**Take heed**, brethren, lest there be in any of you an evil heart of unbelief, in departing from the living God.

2Peter 1:19—We have also a **more sure word** of prophecy; whereunto ye do well that **ye take heed, as unto a light that shineth** in a dark place, **until** the day dawn, and the **day star arise in your hearts:**

Eph 4:11 And he gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers;

12 For the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ:

13 Till we all come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fulness of Christ:

14 That we henceforth be no more children, tossed to and fro, and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the sleight of men, and cunning craftiness, whereby they lie in wait to deceive;

15 But speaking the truth in love, may grow up into him in all things, which is the head, even Christ:

16 From whom the whole body fitly joined together and compacted by that which every joint supplieth, according to the effectual working in the measure of every part, maketh increase of the body unto the edifying of itself in love.

17 This I say therefore, and testify in the Lord, that ye henceforth walk not as other Gentiles walk, in the vanity of their mind,

18 Having the understanding darkened, being alienated from the life of God through the ignorance that is in them, because of the blindness of their heart:

19 Who being past feeling have given themselves over unto lasciviousness, to work all uncleanness with greediness.

20 But ye have not so learned Christ;

21 If so be that ye have heard him, and have been taught by him, as the truth is in Jesus:

22 That ye put off concerning the former conversation the old man, which is corrupt according to the deceitful lusts;

23 And be renewed in the spirit of your mind;

24 And that ye put on the new man, which after God is created in righteousness and true holiness.

25 Wherefore putting away lying, speak every man truth with his neighbour: for we are members one of another.

26 Be ye angry, and sin not: let not the sun go down upon your wrath:

27 Neither give place to the devil.

28 Let him that stole steal no more: but rather let him labour, working with his hands the thing which is good, that he may have to give to him that needeth.

29 Let no corrupt communication proceed out of your mouth, but that which is good to the use of edifying, that it may minister grace unto the hearers.

30 And grieve not the holy Spirit of God, whereby ye are sealed unto the day of redemption.

31 Let all bitterness, and wrath, and anger, and clamour, and evil speaking, be put away from you, with all malice:

32 And be ye kind one to another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God for Christ's sake hath forgiven you.

**Four ministers** were discussing the merits of the various translations of the Bible.

1. One liked the King James Version best because of its simple, beautiful English.
2. Another liked the American Standard Version
3. The third like Moffat's translation best because of its up-to-date vocabulary.
4. The fourth minister was silent. When asked to express his opinion, he replied,

"I like my mother's translation best."

The other three expressed surprise. They wondered what he was saying,

"Yes," he replied, my "Mother translated the Bible into everyday life, and it was the most convincing translation I ever saw." and felt.

There is an important truth here: Parenthood, but especially motherhood, is a special, God-given ministry

1. When parents indulge their children giving them everything they want,
2. at the same time fail to devote themselves as responsible parents to their children's spiritual growth and commitment,

The parents dishonor the Lord and commit their children to a way of life that dishonors God and may result in the child's destruction and even untimely death.

Parenthood, but especially motherhood, is a special, God-given ministry that God has given to all mothers. It is a calling of God, a marvelous opportunity to shape and turn lives toward God and to his purposes for the parents' lives and those of their children.

Motherhood is one of the highest, most noble callings and one of the most important responsibilities in life. Really nothing is more important!!!

Behind nearly every great man of God there was a godly mother. It was so with Moses, with Samuel, with Jesus, with Timothy, with John and Charles Wesley, with G. Campbell Morgan, and on and on the list could go.

Dr. G. Campbell Morgan, the well-known Bible expositor and preacher, had four sons and they all became preachers of the Word. They all became great ministers. At a family reunion, a friend asked one of the sons, "Which Morgan is the greatest preacher?" While the son looked at the father, he replied, my "Mother!"is

As we draw near to God in the sufferings of life, we grow in maturity; as we grow in maturity we grow in our concern for God's will, God's purposes, and God's honor will increasingly concern us (or should if we are really drawing nearer to Him). It seems that God uses our sorrows and heartaches to call our attention to His; to His concerns and purposes and ways He wants to use us. The annual time of sacrifices and feasts had become a source of pain rather than a time of great joy for Hannah. Peninnah would receive large portions to distribute to her children, and even though Elkanah sought to relieve Hannah's pain with a double portion, it was still a constant reminder of her barrenness.

Why does God begin 1 Samuel (which contains the story of the development of God's kingdom) with this story of the pain and barrenness of a Hannah? Why should such a seemingly trivial matter be recorded in light of the great events of history that would follow?

1. Hannah's barrenness was no trivial matter to her and this demonstrates God's concern for each of us in our problems of life

1Pe 5:7 Casting all your care upon him; for he careth for you.

(2) It shows how God uses the sorrows of people to do dramatic things in history through the prayers and godliness of people like Hannah.

(3) It shows the importance and value mothers and fathers have on the lives of children and ultimately on society. It reminds us that the foundation of society and its leaders is the home.

(4) It reminds us of the importance of prayer, It is a response to God's initiative. God used Hannah's pain to draw her to Himself, to develop her consciousness of not only her need, but of the needs of her people. And through that process, He drew out of her both her prayer (the request) and the offer (the dedication of her child to God's purposes).

(5) We can see that His great purposes for Israel were linked with and resulted in Hannah's own blessing and capacity for joy. "He led her gently through suffering that He might enlarge her capacity for joy"

Have we ever stopped to consider that our pain may extend far beyond our own life and times? May we each remember that the pain which led to a Samuel (who transformed Israel and who anointed and ministered to kings) first led to a transformed mother named Hannah.

The book opens with the cry of a godly woman. Out of a woman's suffering which caused her to cry out to the Lord, God blesses the nation by raising up Samuel the prophet. I suppose one of the key lessons we can learn from Hannah is, "Let's not waste our sorrows!"

And “a man came from God” whose name was George Campbell Morgan; and he came at the critical moment, at the very right time when all those spiritual emotions and experiences needed to be harnessed and deepened and fostered. The evangelists had done their work; it was time for the teacher;

He placed strong emphasis on applying the lesson to life.

He was better described as a preacher who taught than a teacher who preached

Great success is often accompanied by personal hardship and suffering. The loss of his daughter remained with Morgan throughout his ministry; yet it gave great power to his preaching, as seen in his commentaries where this event is referenced. His ministry was difficult, yet an important part of God’s wonderful appointment for Morgan. Morgan had a saying that is worth repeating here— “Disappointment; His appointment.”

* Cultivate deep friendships in ministry.
* Value Preaching and Teaching Truth; teaching Teachers/Preachers.

True, Plain and Powerful teaching of the Scriptures.

Preach the Word clearly— Truth, Clarity, Passion.

We don’t need to catch the spirit of the age and keep level with it, We need to be led by the Spirit of God, that will send us against the spirit of the age and never along with it. By Eternal Truth correct the spirit of this age

Preaching is the proclamation of the Word, the truth as the truth has been revealed.

The supreme work of the Christian minister is the work of preaching. This is a day in which one of our greatest perils is that of doing a thousand little things that everybody wants done to the neglect of the one thing, that God wants done which is preaching.

1Cor. 9:16 For though I preach the gospel, I have nothing to glory of: for necessity is laid upon me; yea, woe is unto me, if I preach not the gospel!

The Gospel is the good news of The Divine Revelation, The Grace of God.

As Preachers—Messengers of Grace to the need.

Not Emotions, not flattery, not mere excitement BUT after the will.

Mr 16:15 And he said unto them, Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature.

Lu 4:18 The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he hath anointed me to preach the gospel to the poor; he hath sent me to heal the brokenhearted, to preach deliverance to the captives, and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty them that are bruised,

Ac 16:10 And after he had seen the vision, immediately we endeavoured to go into Macedonia, assuredly gathering that the Lord had called us for to preach the gospel unto them.

Ro 1:15 So, as much as in me is, I am ready to preach the gospel to you that are at Rome also.

Ro 10:15 And how shall they preach, except they be sent? as it is written, How beautiful are the feet of them that preach the gospel of peace, and bring glad tidings of good things!

Ro 15:20 Yea, so have I strived to preach the gospel, not where Christ was named, lest I should build upon another man's foundation:

1Co 1:17 ¶ For Christ sent me not to baptize, but to preach the gospel: not with wisdom of words, lest the cross of Christ should be made of none effect.

1Co 9:14 Even so hath the Lord ordained that they which preach the gospel should live of the gospel.

1Co 9:16 For though I preach the gospel, I have nothing to glory of: for necessity is laid upon me; yea, woe is unto me, if I preach not the gospel!

1Co 9:18 What is my reward then? Verily that, when I preach the gospel, I may make the gospel of Christ without charge, that I abuse not my power in the gospel.

2Co 10:16 To preach the gospel in the regions beyond you, and not to boast in another man's line of things made ready to our hand.