

"For he taught his disciples, and said unto them, The Son of man is delivered into the hands of men, and they shall kill Him; and after that He is killed, he shall rise the third day. But they understood not that saying, and were afraid to ask Him." Mark 9:31-32 KJV

There were no euphemisms, innuendos, nor clichés in Christ's announcement. It was spoken plainly. What was there not to understand? The greatest detriment to understanding God's Word is unbelief. Ever notice how a child simply takes you at your word? Jesus said, "Verily I say unto you, Except ye be converted, and become as little children, ye shall not enter into the kingdom of heaven. Whosoever therefore shall humble himself as this little child, the same is greatest in the kingdom of heaven." The Word is plain enough, but living in the realm of liars and physical limitation has jaded us into unbelief. God says it's so and human reason screams, "Impossible!" God says "Do!" and we say, "I can't!" because we don't believe it possible. Instead of humbly taking God at His Word, we elevate human reason above the absolutes of "Thus saith the LORD!" Like the disciples who were "afraid to ask," we try to muddle through on our own, because, once again, we don't believe God when He says "Ask and ye shall receive." Or "If any man lack wisdom, let him ask of God which giveth liberally to all men, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him." Did it ever occur to you that receive a miracle you have to ask for one? And then believe it possible if not probable? "Jesus said, 'If thou canst believe, all things are possible to him that believeth.'" Don't ask for a million dollars if you don't NEED a million dollars! "Ye ask, and receive not, because ye ask amiss, that ye may consume it upon your lusts." We ask not or ask, and receive not, because, again, we ask in unbelief. "But let him ask in faith, nothing wavering. For he that wavereth is like a wave of the sea driven with the wind and tossed. For let not that man think that he shall receive any thing of the Lord." We forget God is "a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart." The more believing prayer we present, the more requests are granted, and the less unbelief will plague us. Understanding of God's Word will increase a hundredfold and our relationship with the King will move from "Acquainted" to "Beloved;" from "Throne Room" to "Banquet Hall." Unbelief is the millstone that drags doubters to their death! The demon possessed child's father had already witnessed the disciples' unsuccessful attempts to cast it out. Plagued with doubt, he cried to Jesus, "Lord I believe! Help Thou mine unbelief!" The burden of unbelief must be laid at the Master's feet if we are to rid ourselves of it.



Understanding will open wide,
When unbelief is laid aside,
If we by faith in Truth abide,
We walk with Jesus at our side! -CGP

What stubborn remnant of unbelief hinders your progress from "Throne Room" to "Banquet Hall?" What keeps you from the side of your "Beloved?" Remember when fairy tales were "real?" God's Word is as "real" as it gets!

"But these are written, that ye might believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God; and that believing ye might have life through His name. Now the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, that ye may abound in hope, through the power of the Holy Ghost. Whom having not seen, ye love; in whom, though now ye see him not, yet believing, ye rejoice with joy unspeakable and full of glory:" John 20:31; Romans 15:13; 1 Peter 1:8 KJV