Title: Object Fixation
Speaker: Liana Alheit
Date: 22 March 2009

Time: 18:00



Destiny

Romans 8:29

For whom He foreknew, He also predestinated to be conformed to the image of His Son, for Him to be the first-born among many brothers.

Fixing your eyes

Hebrews 12:1-2

¹Wherefore <u>seeing</u> we also are compassed about with so great a cloud of <u>witnesses</u>, let us lay aside every <u>weight</u>, and the <u>sin which doth so easily beset us</u>, and let us run with patience the <u>race that is</u> <u>set before us</u>, ²Looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of *our* faith; who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God

One of the witnesses – Abraham

Hebrews 11:8-10, 13

⁸By faith Abraham, when he was called to go out into a place which he should after receive for an inheritance, obeyed; and he went out, not knowing whither he went. ⁹By faith he sojourned in the land of promise, as *in* a strange country, dwelling in tabernacles with Isaac and Jacob, the heirs with him of the same promise: ¹⁰For he looked for a city which hath foundations, whose builder and maker *is* God... ¹³These all died in faith, not having received the promises, but having seen them afar off, and were persuaded of *them*, and embraced *them*, and confessed that they were strangers and pilgrims on the earth.

John 8:56

Your father Abraham rejoiced to **see my day**: and he **saw** *it*, and was glad.

Fixing your eyes

Hebrews 12:2

²**looking** to Jesus the Author and Finisher of our faith, who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and sat down at the right of the throne of God.

- Looking: aphorao
 - o Apo: in composition (as a prefix) it usually denotes **separation**, departure, cessation, completion, reversal, etc.
 - o horao: to *stare* at; to *discern* clearly (physically or mentally); by extension to *attend* to; to *experience* behold, perceive, see, take heed.

The first one that looked away

Genesis 3:6-7

⁶And when the woman saw that the tree *was* good for food, and that it was pleasing to the eyes, and a tree to be desired to make wise, she took of its fruit, and ate. She also gave to her husband with her, and he ate. ⁷And the eyes of both of them were opened. And they knew that they *were* naked. And they sewed fig leaves together and made girdles for themselves.

Four places not to look

1. Don't look back

"who for the joy that was set BEFORE Him"

Examples

- 1. Abraham: Genesis 12:1-5, Hebrews 11:13-16
- 2. Lot's wife: Genesis 19:26
- 3. Elijah: 1 Kings 19:19-21
- 4. Disciples: Matthew 4:18-22
- 1. Delayed obedience is disobedience
- 2. Don't fall for the deception of procrastination
- 3. Don't leave open doors/back doors: Genesis 4:7
- 4. Don't focus on the past

2. Don't look at sin

"and the sin which so easily ensnares us" "despising the shame"

Example

- 1. Abraham: Genesis 21:10, Galatians 4:23-30
 - cast out the bondwoman
- 1. See sin clearly:
 - Romans 6:23
 - Adam and Eve
- 2. Fix your eyes on Jesus
- 3. Sexual sin keeps you from seeing God
 - Hebrews 12:14
 - Matthew 5:5

3. Don't look at yourself

"who for the joy that was set before him, endured the cross"

Example

- 1. Abraham: Hebrews 11:17-19
 - you are able to die to yourself if you trust God
- 1. A living sacrifice: Rom 12:1
 - don't creep off from the alter
- 2. The joy of dying to yourself
 - Galatians 2:20
 - Matthew 16:24-25

4. Don't look at others

"sat down at the right hand of God"

Examples

- 1. Abraham: from idol worshipper God worshipper
- 2. Jesus: Matthew 4:10
- 1. Move away from the fear of man
 - Proverbs 29:25

- "when you open yourself up to the praise of man, you open yourself up to the criticism of man"
- 2. Move away from drawing worship to yourself
 - 1 Peter 3:3-5

Jesus Fixation

2 Corinthians 3:15-18

¹⁵But until this day, when Moses is read, the veil is on their heart. ¹⁶But whenever it turns to *the* Lord, the veil shall be taken away. ¹⁷And the Lord *is* that Spirit; and where the Spirit of *the* Lord *is*, there *is* liberty. ¹⁸But we all, with *our* face having been unveiled, having <u>beheld the glory of the Lord</u> as in a mirror, are being changed into the same image from glory to glory, even as by the Lord Spirit.