

re-thinking some of the parables No.24

BORN BLIND!

Some animals are born with their eyes closed and it takes a few days before their eyes are opened and they can see. When we are 'born again' our eyes are not focused — we can see nothing in the spirit because we are not tuned into the Teacher, the Holy Spirit.

A PARABLE: A blind man with a white cane walking along a path ... tap, tap, feeling his way along. Then just in front of him was a murky ditch. How would you react? You cannot yell, 'Look out!' for he cannot see. Probably you would shout, 'Stop' hoping that he would hear. Later, how would you pray? Surely it would be. 'Open his eyes!' *If the blind lead the blind, both shall fall into the ditch* (Matthew 15:14). Could the blind man be you? *Who is blind but my servant?* (Isaiah 42:19).

There are so many pointers from the scriptures that suggest that we just might be blind! We are not seeing what we should ... hence we pray *Open THOU my eyes that I may behold wondrous things out of thy law* (word) (Psalm 119:16). From this we need God to do some opening up of our eyes.

ISAIAH 61:1-3

The prophet Isaiah declared the general ministry of Jesus, the Messiah by listing nine aspects of His ministry. (Isa 61:1) *The Spirit of the Lord GOD is upon me; because the LORD hath anointed me to preach good tidings unto the meek; he hath sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and the opening of the prison to them that are bound; (2) To proclaim the acceptable year of the LORD, and the day of vengeance of our God; to comfort all that mourn; (3) To appoint unto them that mourn in Zion, to give unto them beauty for ashes, the oil of joy for mourning, the garment of praise for the spirit of heaviness; that they might be called trees of righteousness, the planting of the LORD, that he might be glorified.*

JESUS QUOTED ISAIAH IN LUKE 4:16

(Luk 4:16) *And he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up: and, as his custom was, he went into the synagogue on the sabbath day, and stood up for to read. (17) And there was delivered unto him the book of the prophet Isaiah. And when he had opened the book, he found the place where it was written, (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, (19) To preach the acceptable year of the Lord. (20) And he closed the book, and he gave it again to the minister, and sat down. And the eyes of all them that were in the synagogue were fastened on him. (21) And he began to say unto them, *This day is this Scripture fulfilled in your ears.* Did you notice how that Jesus by the anointing that abode in Him, He added one important aspect to His ministry. Now we know He did open blind eyes in the operation that He fulfilled the other expressions on the Isaiah list.*

Now for us His Body today who believe on Jesus, there is to be a fulfillment of the above list via the scripture *The works that I do shall ye do also and greater ...* (John 14:12). The 'greater' would be 'in the spirit' as well as 'in the natural' for we are told by Paul later that *First the natural and afterward the spiritual* (I Cor.15:46).

RECOVERING OF SIGHT TO THE BLIND

Jesus was laying down a principle ... There was the man born blind in John 9 ... but he had never had open eyes!

So he could not *recover* his sight. He never had sight in his beginning.

ADAM & EVE WERE BORN BLIND!

Let us take a peek at Adam and Eve of old. They were born blind! Or why would the serpent have offered them to have their eyes opened if they would just eat of the forbidden fruit. When they started they could only see in the spirit and could only speak life and walk in relationship with the Father. They ate, they 'fell' and **lost the spiritual sight and from then on saw in the natural only**. Jesus came to 'reverse the curse' ... to restore to us what the first Adam lost. It begins with **recovery of sight to the blind**. John 6:63 declares that the words from Jesus were **spirit** and life. Had they eaten of the tree of life (which is the mind of Christ), then we would not have been become blind i.e. blind to that which is spiritual. *As in Adam all die, even so* (in exactly the same way) *in Christ shall all be made alive* (1 Cor. 15:22).

ON THE EMÆUS ROAD

Luke 24: 13-32 records how that two disciples were travelling the Emæus Road after the resurrection which they had not fully acknowledged. Verse 31, And (Luke 24:31) *And their eyes were opened, and they knew him; and he vanished out of their sight.* (32) *And they said one to another, Did not our heart burn within us, while he talked with us by the way, and while he* (45) *Then opened He their understanding, that they might understand the Scriptures,* They met up with the Living Word and had a most anointed bible study ever ... the resurrected Christ recovered the sight, the spiritual insight that Adam and Eve lost. They could now **SEE** the living spirit word as well as the letter-word.

THE LETTER-WORD v. THE SPIRIT WORD

2Cor. 3:6 *Who also hath made us able ministers of the new testament; not of the letter, but of the spirit: for the letter killeth, but the spirit giveth life.* For the letter-word understanding, all one needs is the ability to read and know the meaning of most words. **The spirit-word requires that Father opens the eyes of one's understanding**. No wonder **the tree of the knowledge of good and evil** produced death to the spirit realm. **The tree of life** is just that ... **life**, the Christ life from the mind of Christ. Through education we are enabled to store up scriptures in our **minds** but without a revelation as to the true meaning of those words, they become just knowledge that puffs up. Father's heart in a matter is revealed to us by the indwelling Holy Spirit. If the literal, letter word was all that we needed, then we would not have been told that the Spirit of God is the Teacher (John 14:26).

God said He would not speak to His people without a parable. *All these things spake Jesus unto the multitude in parables; and without a parable spake he not unto them; That it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the prophet, saying, I will open my mouth in parables; I will utter things which have been kept secret from the foundation of the world.* (Mat 13:34-35). Thus ALL scriptural accounts are 'loaded' parables for us today requiring God's teaching to get the understanding He has for each one of us and it will gender life. *Through wisdom is an house builded; and by understanding it is established* (Prov.24:3).

FIRST THE NATURAL AND THEN THE SPIRIT

The Christian life is a supernatural life ... if it wasn't, well anyone could live it. Our thinking will change for Isaiah 55:8 declares that God wants His thoughts to become our thoughts and similarly His ways, our ways. *He that is joined to the Lord is one spirit* (1 Cor. 6:17). Jesus was therefore a '**SPIRIT-MAN**' for He was most certainly joined to His Father for He said *I and My Father are one* [NOT two or three](John 10:30) thus the same thoughts from the Father produced His desired actions.

Let us have a quick checkup on what folk call '*the second coming*'. The question gets posed, 'When did He leave?' *In a little while and ye shall not see Me: and again, in a little while and ye shall see Me because I go to my Father.* The two '**little-whiles**' are the same — not one little while and one big while! *That they may be on even as we are one* (John 17:11). After Jesus was crucified, Christ the Spirit (*into Thy hands I commend my spirit*) ascended and after a little while Christ the Spirit descended into Jesus' new resurrected body and was seen by many. This new body then

ascended and the Spirit of that body descended into Christ's corporate body (us). Bear in mind that Christ does not have two bodies! Baptism in water is a natural baptism and a type and shadow of the Holy Spirit baptism which is supernatural. Water baptism is something you DO while through the Holy Spirit baptism you BECOME the supernatural expression of our Father in the earth.

Looking at PRAYER

Prayer with your shopping request list is very natural compared to praying in the spirit — praying truly led of the Spirit. One can also look at **WORSHIP**. John 4:23-24 tells us that *the Father is seeking true worshippers who worship in spirit and in truth*. ('Truth' in the Greek has a root meaning of **REALITY**). *I will pray in the spirit and I will pray in the understanding also ... likewise ... I will sing in the spirit and I will sing in the understanding also* (1 Cor.14:15). **Note the order** ... in the spirit first so that the Spirit can unveil the mind of Christ to our understanding of what He has brought forth from us as we pray or as we worship in the spirit. How many fellowships follow this pattern? Very, very few I am sad to say for they pray and worship in the understanding first and maybe, just maybe, move out in the spirit. Their scenario is that of the blind leading the blind.

THE MIND OF CHRIST

The mind of Christ is where God's thinking is stored and we already have this (1 Cor.2:16). Now add in Philippians 2:5-13 and particularly verse 5, *Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus*. Let Christ's thoughts be expressed before your own carnal natural thinking ... that is the highest way. It does help to know what actually was said by each chosen vessel in the Bible. What did their words mean to those hearing the parables for the first time they were uttered? Their culture and time had a bearing on what they understood. Today we are so very different so even more we need the Spirit to unveil what God is speaking to us. *Son of man, thou dwellest in the midst of a rebellious house, which have eyes to see and see not: they have ears to hear and they hear not; for they are a rebellious house* (Ezek.12:2).

A rebellious house is made up of **unbelieving believers** who would rather take the easier 'road' of submitting to their religious leaders rather than submitting to the desires of the Lord which He has given. The rebellious house would rather believe their traditional man-made substitutions and conclusions which usually magnify man more than God. One of the most important signs that someone is hungry for more of God, is that they are teachable and thus willing to discard many beliefs (doctrines) that previously have been precious. Sell all those wonderful pearls of your collection in order to gain the greatest pearl of all ... the Christ-life.

I counsel thee to buy of Me gold tried in the fire, that thou mayest be rich; and white raiment that thou mayest be clothed, and that the shame of thy nakedness do not appear; and anoint thine eyes with eyesalve that thou mayest see (Rev.3:18). Don't let the 'flesh' appear and DON'T REMAIN BLIND. Above all else desire the GOLD of Father's nature

THERE ARE THOSE WHO ARE **BELIEVERS** and THERE ARE THOSE WHO ARE **BELIEVING-BELIEVERS**

The cry that is in many hearts today is that *the eyes of their understanding being enlightened, ye may know what is the hope of His calling and what is the riches of the glory of His inheritance IN THE SAINTS* (Eph.1:18).

A believer is not necessarily a saint ... but a saint is most definitely a believer who has been separated from his own thinking to the thinking of Christ. *For this cause we also, since the day we heard it, do not cease to pray for you and to desire that ye might be filled with the KNOWLEDGE OF HIS WILL in all wisdom and spiritual understanding* (Col.1:9).

His mind is your's and you will surely experience it as the Spirit is truly Lord in your life and thinking. §