

Looking Unto Jesus

SEEING JESUS

John 3

3 Jesus responded and said to him, "Truly, truly, I say to you, unless someone is born again he cannot see the kingdom of God."

...

5 Jesus answered, "Truly, truly, I say to you, unless someone is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God.

Hebrews 11

1 Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen. [perceiving as real fact what is not revealed to the senses].

2 For by it the elders obtained a good testimony.

3 By faith we understand that the worlds were framed by the word of God, so that the things which are seen were not made of things which are visible.

...

6 But without faith it is impossible to please Him, for he who comes to God must believe that He is, and that He is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him.

Hebrews 12

1 Therefore we also, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which so easily ensnares us, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us,

2 looking 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 has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.

- We can see His Kingdom and we can look to Jesus. We can see Him in our daily lives. We have a spiritual perspective. A biblical perspective. We have spiritual hunger and thirst. New desires. The taste for worldly/fleshly pleasures goes. It is HIS life!
- It's nothing to do with the label that you put on yourself! It's not about calling yourself a Christian! It's a reality change! Do you have the Life of God in you? Do you recognise that change of reality? Are you able to compare life before and after you were Born Again?
- We will see as much of His Kingdom as we want to. I want us to give some thought to that. What desire is there for more of Jesus? Have you grown religious and traditional? Have you become comfortable in your repetition? Sunday, Tuesday etc. Has it become arrogance?

Romans 1

16 For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ, for it is the power of God to salvation for everyone who believes, for the Jew first and also for the Greek.

17 For in it the righteousness of God is revealed from faith to faith; as it is written, "The just shall live by faith."

- Righteousness (Christ) is revealed as faith increases. We can see more of Him! There is greater revelation and knowledge to gain.
- Understand that through The Gospel we have been given and are still given LIFE, not a ticket! God's people are not merely good living, church going folk! They are temples of The Living God! That's not a stagnant, religious, traditional state.

Matthew 7

7 Ask (and keep on asking) and it will be given you; seek (and keep on seeking) and you will find; knock (and keep on knocking) and the door will be opened to you.

8 For everyone who keeps on asking receives; and he who keeps on seeking finds; and to him who keeps on knocking, the door will be opened.

- Jesus here isn't merely talking about repetition and being consistent but a relationship and a lifestyle. It is a foundation for faith. The relationship of a child to a father. Are we, by faith, living in The Kingdom of God and increasing in the Knowledge of our loving Heavenly Father?
- LIFE (God's Life) is faithful, consistent, continuing... It is an ongoing process of growth, strengthening and maturing. Do we see that in ourselves? Are we becoming more like Christ? Have we changed in the past year? Can we see how we will be different next year? What we have to overcome?
- Paul gives a practical truth of this New Life...

2 Corinthians 5

16 So from now on we regard no one in the flesh [from a human point of view, according to worldly standards and values]. Though we have known Christ in the flesh [from a human point of view, in the flesh], now we no longer know Him in this way.

17 Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creature; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new.

- The whole worldview of The Kingdom of God is different. The citizens of that Kingdom no longer look at people and circumstances from a worldly perspective. They no longer react and respond in the flesh like the world. Their conversation is no longer on fleshly things but on the spiritual! They are now alive in The Spirit and have spiritual understanding and vision. Old desires and interests are dead and decreasing, the flesh life is crucified with Christ! That flesh perspective is decreasing; God's life is ALWAYS INCREASING!! But will we yield to it?!

We have been given the revelation of Jesus Christ. Our eyes have been opened to The Kingdom of God, and we have been given the ability and the opportunity to see JESUS! To see Him in our daily lives. To see Him in His beauty, His compassion and in His holiness. That is what it means to be Born Again and to walk by faith. It is to see and live in The Kingdom of God. And when you see HIM you can't help but LOOK TO HIM!

SHARING JESUS

John 2

7 Jesus said to them, "Fill the waterpots with water." And they filled them up to the brim.

8 And He said to them, "Draw some out now, and take it to the master of the feast." And they took it.

- The pots were made for a purpose (water), but they were sitting unfilled and unused.
- If we are the pots then we are required/commanded to be filled! Filled with Jesus, filled with The Spirit, filled by faith, filled with the water that Jesus gives.
- But too often we are sitting in the corner unfilled and unused. That is not Jesus' desire or longing for us. He LONGS to see us filled and being poured out!
- What they were filled with was pure, life-giving water. Refreshing, cleansing and sustaining but as they poured out it became sweet and joyful, something that everyone else could delight in and enjoy.
- But most of all it became a precious testimony to the bridegroom! Only when they poured out!

*Channels only, blessed Master,
But with all Thy wondrous power,
Flowing through us, Thou canst use us,
Every day and every hour.*

- Jesus longs for all of us to have that same testimony.

John 7

37 On the last day, that great day of the feast, Jesus stood and cried out, saying, "If anyone thirsts, let him come to Me and drink.

38 He who believes in Me as the Scripture has said, from his innermost being shall flow [continuously] springs and rivers of living water.

39 But He was speaking here of the Spirit, Whom those who believed (trusted, had faith) in Him were afterward to receive. For the [Holy] Spirit had not yet been given, because Jesus was not yet glorified (raised to honour).

- Are we thirsty for more of Him? Do we have faith to believe that He will quench that thirst?
- Out of HIS being! Out of the believer! Within God's people there is a source! A source of life-giving, thirst-quenching water for others! The Holy Spirit!

Isaiah 44

3 For I will pour water on him who is thirsty, And floods on the dry ground; I will pour My Spirit on your descendants, And My blessing on your offspring;

- Note the order. First The Lord will pour water on the individual who is thirsty. Not the church goer, not the one who says their prayers, not the good living individual... But upon him who is thirsty!
- After the individuals have been poured into then the floods will come to the dry grounds from the rivers and springs of living water poured out of the filled body of Christ!
- Are we thirsty?

If we are Born Again then we are temples of God. Our hearts are where He chooses to live! If HIS life is within us, then there is an indescribable power striving to break forth out of us. Like a root through concrete or water in a dam life, if it is there, will find a way and break through eventually. Is God greater than you? Is God greater than your circumstance? Is there anything too hard for The Lord? Do we petition in faith for what is impossible for man? Do we pour out our hearts in intercession? Do we have faith to believe God that He gives us the desires of our hearts and only good gifts?
