

The Word Brings Peace

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Matthew 10:30-40 (Turn there) vs. 34-35 This did not sound much like Jesus. Remember he often spoke to people in parables but told the disciples He would not speak to them in parables. A parable is an allegorical relation or representation of something real in life or nature, from which a moral is drawn for instruction. Why did He speak to some in parables and not to others? Jesus spoke to those who revealed the mysteries of the Kingdom of God who sought the Kingdom of God. For those who sought the Kingdom of God and embrace it are held to the accountability and responsibility of it. Jesus told the disciples, "I can speak to you plainly because you seek me." There are many in the world, and even the church, who seek a lot of things for a lot of reason, even understanding, but do not seek Father and His Kingdom.

Many who followed Jesus were seeking someone to give them power over Rome. Many sought to simply follow the crowd. Some sought what they gain or benefit from Him. But few simply sought Him. Many sought after the miracles, signs and wonders for wonder sake. Jesus said to many, these are the things you seek, not Me. What are you seeking? What are you living for? Why are you here?

"Blessed are they that hunger and thirst after righteousness for they shall be filled." My Dad said that great grandpa used to say that heaven to him would be sitting under a shade tree with a tube running to his mouth from a never ending spicket of Mogan David wine. This is exactly how we should feel about the Holy Ghost and Heart of Father. You can never get enough. Filled with what? Filled with God Himself, the Holy Spirit, the love, joy, peace, gentleness, kindness, meekness, temperance, wisdom, and understanding of God. Only to those who seek shall find. It is not just to those who will show up, it is not to those who will fill a vacant seat once in a while. It is not to those who are on the membership role or drop a dollar in the basket. It is to those who seek after Him and more of Him.

What Jesus was saying here in verses 34 and 35 is that this Word of God will separate the men from the boys. The Word of God will search the heart, mind, spirit and soul and define those who truly seek Him and the motives of their hearts. It will define those who are in His Kingdom and those who are of His Kingdom. Those who may see the wonder of His Kingdom and those who will not.

He came to bring peace to those who would hear Him and receive Him. He came to bring peace to those who would seek first Him and His Kingdom. Those who love His Word of Truth and His righteousness above all else. Those who embrace the covenant of His Kingdom precepts and principles above even the bonds of lineage, blood, and earthly brotherhood will be set apart.

Too often in the culture of the church today the motivation of God's people is not about building the Kingdom but, "What can I gain? What is there for me to receive? What can I get out of it?" Instead of, "What can I give? How can I be a blessing? How can I bring increase?"

Hebrews 4:9-16

So again, what did Jesus mean that He did not come to bring peace but a sword? He meant that His Word of truth brings a rest and peace only to those who are called according to His purposes, who bear His mark, His name, His image. There would be no peace among those who will not let My Word become a sword unto their hearts, minds, motives, desires, and ambitions. Those who do not live according to the precepts and principles of My Kingdom will not and cannot know My peace. Those who will let His Word of truth become a sword dividing their spirit from the flesh, changing their hearts and minds, and let My Spirit convict them, correct them and My Word guide them they will walk in the fullness of knowing Me. They can rest assured of who they are, why they are here, and where they are going? They can live knowing well that none is in vain. They shall walk in My peace and the glorious wonder of My Kingdom. The Word of truth shall divide these even among your house holds and even among the house of God.

Ever notice when you got saved and your thinking begin to change, your desires, likes, dislikes, and your values begin to change then you went back to work or got around those you used to run with and suddenly they come against you for these new found ideas. They begin to challenge your new found lifestyle. And it became difficult and the resolve to be God's became challenged even in your own heart and mind. Ever notice when you resolve that you whole heartedly believe this Word and decide that you are going to really live it that suddenly even other Christians try to avoid you or tell you that you need to cut out that shouting, and dancing, and all that excitement about Jesus and His truth. You need to just settle

down and become complacent in Jesus with the rest of us.

When the Word of God becomes revelation to your spirit do not think everyone else is going to get as excited about it as you. When the Word of God is quickened alive in your spirit don't think the Devil is thrilled for you. When the Word of truth suddenly becomes relevant to your life and you embrace it's principles and begin to apply them to your daily living no else may rejoice with you but the Father does. The Word says He dances over you, rejoices over you, and is glorified through you. Peace and comfort in Christ is not complicated, it is just that, it is in Christ and only in Christ do you find such peace. Therefore, in Christ, hold fast to your profession of truth. Hold fast to His precepts and principles. Hold fast to the revelation of the Kingdom of God. Hold fast to the High Priest that is not takes on your infirmities and takes on your hurts but is not moved by them that you may know His peace.

John 16:33 *“These things have I spoken unto you, that in Me ye might have peace. In this world you shall have tribulation but be of good cheer for I have overcome the world.”*

Only in Christ can you find true peace. There are too many even in the church who try a little of God but then try to find peace and happiness the world's way. You cannot have it both ways and expect to find peace. It is like expecting that having your cake and eating it too will bring some form of contentment. The peace of God comes when you embrace and pursue ALL that He is. To the one who loves all of the law of righteousness there is peace but to him who despises it or is double minded the truth is a sword that cuts deep to the soul of man.

Ephesians 6:17 *And take the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit which is the Word of God.*

Haggai 2:1-9 *In the seventh month, in the one and twentieth day of the month, came the word of the LORD by the prophet Haggai, saying, Speak now to Zerubbabel the son of Shealtiel, governor of Judah, and to Joshua the son of Josedech, the high priest, and to the residue of the people, saying, Who is left among you that saw this house in her first glory? and how do ye see it now? is it not in your eyes in comparison of it as nothing? Yet now be strong, O Zerubbabel, saith the LORD; and be strong, O Joshua, son of Josedech, the high priest; and be strong, all ye people of the land, saith the LORD, and work: for I am with you, saith the LORD of hosts: According to the word that I covenanted with you when ye came out of Egypt, so my spirit remaineth among you: fear ye not. For thus saith the LORD of hosts; Yet once, it is a little while, and I will shake the heavens, and the earth, and the sea, and the dry land; And I will shake all nations, and the desire of all nations shall come: and I will fill this house with glory, saith the LORD of hosts. The silver is mine, and the gold is mine, saith the LORD of hosts. The glory of this latter house shall be greater than of the former, saith the LORD of hosts: and in this place will I give peace, saith the LORD of hosts.*

God spoke of the temple of God which is you. And He said it would be filled with a greater glory than any had seen. He spoke of the same glory that Christ said would be in you, the very glory of God that would fill the earth through you. Now God goes on to say that it would shake the nations and in this place where His glory dwells shall be His peace.

To this very day, the Word of God is shaking the nations and dividing the desires, motives, and intents of the souls of the nations. If you watch the news and think it is all about oil in Saudi Arabia, if you think is about Democracy in Iraq, or nuclear power in Iran. If you think the rioting and killing is simply over the offense of cartoons then you are ignorant of history or have your head in a box. All over the world from civil wars to this very moment, it is a battle ideologies of man over the transcendent precepts and principles of the Word of truth.

During the days of the cold war generations lived in fear of global nuclear threat. Now that threat is greater than ever as entire civilians spanning the oceans are heading toward a great collision of ideas. Are we to be a people of fear. When within our own borders we are extremely divided over what is ethical, unethical and what is the right of man to play his own god. Where in all the turmoil is anyone to find peace? Not simply in church but in the Truth for which we stand.

I Corinthians 6:19 *“Know ye not that ye are the temple of the Holy Ghost?”* When was the last time you shook a nation? Does His peace dwell in you?

John 14:27 *“Peace I leave with you, My peace I give unto not as the world giveth give I unto you. Let not your heart be troubled neither let it be afraid.”*

What Christ is telling us that if you will take My Word and plant it deep in your hearts; If you will seek Me and My Kingdom and embrace all that it is; If you will live on the sharp and powerful edge of My sword then will you have My

peace when CNN says there is none, when the trials come against your marriage, when tragedy knocks on your door, when the darts of hurt pierce your soul. Then will the world around you is shaken you will not be shaken for you will know in whom you have believed and rest assured that He is faithful to keep that which you have committed unto Him.

The Rod of Comfort:

In Exodus 3 Moses encounters God in the burning bush. In **Exodus 4:10** Moses is commissioned by God and Moses begins to make excuses. And God's reply is similar to His replies to Job, "Who made man's mouth?" But in **Exodus 4:17** God tells Moses to take the rod, a symbol of leadership and authority, and through it I will do wonders. This rod was the very same that he used as a good shepherd to lead his flock. With this rod God would show Himself greater than the God's of Egypt. It is a type and shadow of the Rod of Aaron that brought forth life. It is a type and shadow of the rod spoken of by the Psalmist David who said in Psalms, "Thy rod and thy staff comfort me." It is a type and shadow of the Kingdom authority and dominion God has given to His flock, the Church, to deliver them from Egypt, and show His wonders to the children of men. The same rod, Kingdom dominion and authority, that God showed His wonders through Moses, God has now given to you, His people, His church. When Moses discovered he was not who he thought he was and his whole world fell around him he fled to the desert and took up the rod of a shepherd and a family thinking that would bring him the peace of mind and soul that he sought. When Moses first encounters his true calling he was fearful and troubled of his ability. But when God empowered him with a new rod, the same but not the same rod. Now a rod empowered with the authority and glory of God almighty. Moses then stands before Pharaoh with peace of mind that God has his back. When they stood with the Red Sea before them and Pharaoh's armies behind them the people were troubled but Moses stood firm with peace of mind that God was with them.

Conclusion:

In God's reply to Job He states, "Only I know how wide the heavens are. I know the breath and depth of the seas. I know the how man and the measure of every cloud. I know how much rain is held back or released. I know the measure of the store houses of snow. What do you know Job?"

You cannot measure your joy or peace by your circumstance. Instead, you must let the joy and peace of God measure the circumstance. You cannot measure where your value lies or what your life is worth through the values of man. You must look at it in the grand scheme of God's wondrous design. You must learn to look at your life through the eyes of God's prophetic purpose that lied within His heart and imagination before the foundations of the earth. You must not measure a life by it's wealth, productivity, or animate degree but by it's transcendent potential given by it's creator. Only when you seek life in Christ do you truly find LIFE. Only then do you find what living is truly about and what is truly worth living for. Only then can you live as God desires and live as God lives. Only then can you know the contentment, joy, and peace of living in the truth of His Word.