

MADE NEW IN THE ATTITUDE OF YOUR MIND?

Ephes. 4:23-24 to be made new in the attitude of your minds; ²⁴and to put on the new self, created to be like God in true righteousness and holiness.

LAST WEEK I SHARED WITH YOU THE SCRIPTURE FROM **John 16:23** *In that day you will no longer ask me anything. I tell you the truth, my Father will give you whatever you ask in my name.* What we found in the study was that God was no longer wanting His followers to be asking for things, but that we should be asking for the POWER to accomplish those things that we and other brethren need.

I know this is a new thought to many, but look at the scripture for today. The first thing that must happen is the changing of my mind.

I must not just call my self a Christian, which means Christ Like, my Spirit must say to the rest of me that I have entered a New Kingdom, the Kingdom of God and I must walk as Jesus walked, I must speak as Jesus spoke. If I do any less than I am falling short again and again of the GLORY of God that He has for my life.

Once I allow the Spirit to begin to renew my mind then I can start to put on the new self created to be like God in true righteousness and holiness.

Many will say this is optional and live their lives as they please. Others will say this is not possible, for all those I would just ask them to read in Matthew the Book about the Kingdom what Jesus taught on this subject.

Matthew 22:11-14 *"But when the king came in to see the guests, he noticed a man there who was not wearing wedding clothes. ¹²'Friend,' he asked, 'how did you get in here without wedding clothes?' The man was speechless. ¹³"Then the king told the attendants, 'Tie him hand and foot, and throw him outside, into the darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.' ¹⁴"For many are invited, but few are chosen."*

In the Old Testament Job said, **Job 29:14** I put on righteousness as my clothing; justice was my robe and my turban.

And in the New Testament Paul tell us, **Ephes. 6:14** Stand firm then, with the belt of truth buckled around your waist, with the breastplate of righteousness in place,

We can do these things because we have the Power of God in us in the form of the Holy Spirit and we have an advocate with the Father who is still at work today.

This morning I want to talk with you about the work of Jesus Christ after His resurrection. We will not have Chapel after the celebration of First Fruits so I want to cover it here.

To do this I want to look at Jesus as presented in the Book of John.

At first we see Him with the Father;

John 1:1-5 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ²He was with God in the beginning. ³Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made. ⁴In him was life, and that life was the light of men. ⁵The light shines in the darkness, but the darkness has not understood it.

Then He went about doing GOOD.

I have come to believe that the life He lived here upon the earth is the life that God the Father wants for His children today.

He wants us to overcome the World.

Rev. 3:21 To him who overcomes, I will give the right to sit with me on my throne, just as I overcame and sat down with my Father on his throne.

WHEN I SEE ALL THE THINGS THAT COME AGAINST US AND OUR FAILURES, HOW CAN THIS HAPPEN?

I BELIEVE THE ANSWER IS FOUND IN THE LAST CHAPTER OF THE BOOK OF JOHN.

JUST AS THE FIRST PORTION OF JOHN SHOWED US JESUS WHILE HE WAS WITH THE FATHER NOW I BELIEVE THE LAST CHAPTER OF THE BOOK SHOWS US HIS WORK AFTER RETURNING TO THE FATHER.

John 21:1-14 Afterward Jesus appeared [shewed Himself] again to his disciples, by the Sea of Tiberias. It happened this way: ²Simon Peter, Thomas (called Didymus), Nathanael from Cana in Galilee, the sons of Zebedee, and two other disciples were together. ³"I'm going out to fish," Simon Peter told them, and they said, "We'll go with you." So they went out and got into the boat, but that night they caught nothing. ⁴Early in the morning, Jesus stood on the shore, but the disciples did not realize that it was Jesus. ⁵He called out to them, "**Friends, haven't you any fish?**" "No," they answered. ⁶He said, "**Throw your net on the right side of the boat and you will find some.**" When they did, they were unable to haul the net in because of the large number of fish. ⁷Then the disciple whom Jesus loved said to Peter, "It is the Lord!" As soon as Simon Peter heard him say, "It is the Lord," he wrapped his outer garment around him (for he had taken it off) and jumped into the water. ⁸The other disciples followed in the boat, towing the net full of fish, for they were not far from shore, about a hundred yards. ⁹When they landed, they saw a fire of burning coals there with fish on it, and some bread. ¹⁰Jesus said to them, "**Bring some of the fish you have just caught.**" ¹¹Simon Peter climbed aboard and dragged the net ashore. It was full of large fish, 153, but even with so many the net was not torn. ¹²Jesus said to them, "**Come and have breakfast.**" None of the disciples dared ask him, "Who are you?" They knew it was the Lord. ¹³Jesus came, took the bread and gave it to them, and did the same with the fish. ¹⁴This was now the third time Jesus appeared to his disciples after he was raised from the dead.

Let us look at this scripture with our spiritual eyes.

The disciples are at sea, Jesus is not with them in the flesh. But if they will hear Him, He will direct their activity. We will see His love for them by His providing their food for them. And again He will charge them with what their life should be about.

In the previous chapters we have seen Jesus proclaiming PEACE to His followers, endowing them with the Holy Spirit and then telling them to go out and proclaim the forgiveness of sins.

The scriptures says **after these things**.

This always marks a distinctive change in what we see in John's writings. The earlier appearances of Jesus were in view of the conditions and needs of the apostles to establish their faith and assure their hearts.

I believe that this portion of scripture will show us in the actions of Peter that a man who failed Jesus so completely when preciously confronted by the Loving Christ knows he is forgiven.

This part of his mind had been renewed.

But now, what the Lord has to say has a prophetic significance, anticipating and picturing His future relationship with them and with us.

The Greek and the King James says Jesus showed Himself, not presenting Himself as before, but manifested His presence, power and glory. It is not just the disciples seeing Him, but that He revealed Himself to them.

His body after the resurrection was only visible by a distinct act of His will. From that time, the disciples did not, as before, see Jesus, but He appeared unto them. It is not for nothing that the language is changed. Henceforth, He was to be recognized not by the flesh, but by the spirit; not by human faculties, but by Divine perceptions: His disciples were to walk by faith, and not by sight. When we are told in [Acts 1:3](#) After his suffering, he showed himself to these men and gave many convincing proofs that he was alive. He appeared to them over a period of forty days and spoke about the kingdom of God.

At the sea of Tiberias, Tiberias is the Roman name for the sea of Galilee. In Matthew 28:10 we learn that the risen Savior had said to the women at the tomb, Go tell my brethren that they are to go into Galilee, and there shall they see me. This, then, explains the presence of the seven disciples here in Galilee. Where the other four were, and why they had not yet arrived, we do not know. But it seems clear that these seven had no business there at the sea, for Matthew 28:16 distinctly says, The eleven disciples went away into Galilee, **into a mountain where Jesus had appointed them.** It looks very much as though Peter was restless, and while waiting the coming of the other apostles he said, “I’m going fishing” to the last we see his energetic nature at work. Here we still see men who believe that they can still walk in the flesh and not after the spirit and not miss the calling of God on their lives.

The others all say, “we will go with you”. They went forth and entered into a ship immediately; and that night they caught nothing

The fact that they “caught nothing” is at least a warning hint that servants of the Lord cannot count on His blessing when they choose the time and place of their labors, and when they run, unsent. These beloved disciples had to be taught in their own experience, as we all have to be, the truth which the Lord had told them just before His death “Without me, ye can do nothing” John 15:5); not, a little, but nothing! The further fact that we are told, “They went forth, and entered into a ship immediately, as soon as Peter had said, “I’m going fishing” instead of first looking to God for guidance, or weighing what Peter had said, supplies further evidence that the whole company was acting in the energy of the flesh a solemn warning for each of God’s servants to wait on the Lord for their instructions instead of taking them from a human leader!

But when the morning was now come, Jesus stood on the shore: but the disciples knew not that it was Jesus

The “But” here further indicates that their spiritual faculties were not then in exercise. It seems evident that they were not expecting Him. And how often He draws near to us and we know it not! And how often our acting in the energy of the flesh and following the example of human leaders is the cause of this! These men had returned to their worldly calling, and were occupied with their bodily needs and recognized Him not. Surely these things are written for our learning! **Then Jesus saith unto them, Children, have ye any meat? They answered**

him, No.

Our Lord's form of address here is also important. He did not use the term of endearment employed in John 13:33, "Little children," but employed the more general form of salutation, which the Greek renders "Sirs"

But why did He ask: 'Have ye any meat?' He knew, of course, that they had none; what, then, was the purpose of His enquiry? Was it not designed to draw from them a confession of their failure, before He met their need? And is not this His way when dealing with us today? Before He furnishes the abundant supply, we must first be made aware of our need. Before He gives strength, we must be made to feel our weakness. Slow, painfully slow, are we to learn this lesson; and slower still to own our nothingness and take the place of helplessness before the Mighty One. This is the renewing of your minds spoken of in the scripture today.

The disciples on the sea picture us, here in this world; the Savior on the shore, Christ in Heaven. How blessed, then, to behold Him occupied with us below, and speaking to us from "the shore!" It was not the disciples who addressed the Lord, but He who spoke to them! Remember the parable of the lost sheep. As far as doing the will of the Father these sheep are lost.

And He said unto them, Cast the net on the right side of the ship, and ye shall find some How this evidences the Deity of the One here speaking to his followers! He knew on which side of the ship the net should be cast. But more, did it not show them, and us, that He is sovereign of the sea? These men had fished all their lives, yet had they toiled throughout that night and had taken nothing. But here was the Lord telling them to cast their net but once, and assuring them they should find. Was it not He, by His invisible power, that drew the fishes into their net! And what a striking line is this picture of how Jesus wants us to live our lives today?. How He tells the servants that success in their lives is due not to their eloquence, their power of persuasion, or their any thing, but due alone to His sovereign -power. God wants to direct our lives, who we marry, where we live, where we work, who are friends are. He is the one who sticks closer than a brother. He wants us to overcome the world with the power He provides. And that POWER is at work when we enter into His Kingdom.

This is very striking. The Lord was a hundred yards away from them yet they heard plainly what He said.

Again: as far as their recognizing Him, He was still a stranger to them. The fact that they had fished all night and caught nothing, and had already drawn up the net into the boat, they now promptly cast the net into the sea.

How strikingly this demonstrated once more the power of the Word - whether God speaks to us in our ear or we know something in our heart, if we act on it, we will have results. These men did not debate it, question it, they did it. They allowed the word to move their hearts to prompt obedience. Jesus says this is truth, "all power in heaven and in earth" is His. And the amount of fish the disciples here caught, teaches them and us that in "keeping his commandments there is great reward" Psalm 19:11

Therefore that disciple whom Jesus loved saith unto Peter, It is the Lord"

John is the one who always sees and acts in the Spirit first.

When Simon Peter heard that it was the Lord, he girt his fisher's coat unto him (for he was naked) and did cast himself into the sea

This was in full keeping with Peter's character: if John was the first to recognize Christ, Peter was the first to act! Love does not act uniformly; it expresses itself differently, through various temperaments. John did not jump out of the ship, though he was equally devoted as Peter, nor did the other five.

As soon then as they were come to land, they saw a fire of coals there, and fish laid thereon, and bread

This illustrates once more the precious truth that Jesus Christ is "the same yesterday, and to-day and forever." Even in His resurrection-glory He was not unmindful of their physical needs. Ever thoughtful, ever compassionate for His own, the Savior here showed His toiling disciples that He cared for their bodies as well as their souls:

For he knoweth our frame; he remembereth that we are dust Psalm 103:14).

We have no doubt that this food of His was miraculously produced: the fire, the fish on it, and the bread by its side, were the creations of Him who has but to will a thing and it is done. It is surely significant that the food which Christ here provided for the disciples was the same variety as that which He had fed the hungry multitude close by the same sea. The fish and the bread would doubtless recall the earlier miracle to the minds of the apostles.

They saw a fire of coals there, and fish laid thereon, and bread.

What is the deeper significance of this? It tells us of the Lord's care for His servants, and is the concrete pledge that He will supply all their need. Jesus is their to once again make it clear to them how they are to use their lives. He will even tell two of them how they will one day die. But before He does this He will meet their human needs.

Jesus saith unto them, Bring of the fish which ye have now caught

In this verse our Lord calls on the disciples to bring proof that, in casting the net at His command, they had not labored in vain. It was the third words that He spake to them, we must remember, on this occasion. The second saying was, 'Cast the net on the right side of the ship, and ye shall find fish.' This third saying, 'Bring of the fish which ye have now caught,' with a strong emphasis on the word 'now.' I believe our Lord's object was to show the disciples that the secret of success was to work at His command, and to act with implicit obedience to His word. It is as though He had said, Draw up the net, and see for yourselves how profitable it is to do what I tell you.

No longer fishing for food was their desire, for it was provided for them. Proof of the power of Christ's blessing, and the importance of working under Him was the lesson to be taught, and as they drew up the net they would learn it. For us today we must see that if I can get my mind to except all that Jesus has promised and obey His Word and His Teaching provides me with the needs of my life.

Simon Peter went up and drew the net to land full of great fishes, an hundred and fifty and three; and for all there were so many, yet was not the net broken

Peter drew the net to land: how remarkable is this in view of what we saw earlier, What six men

had been unable to do in their own strength, one man now did when he went about his work under the directions of Christ! Peter was weaker than milk toast when he followed his Lord afar off; but in His presence, a sevenfold power came upon him!

Jesus saith unto them, Come and dine

How this shows us that He is still the One Who walked these same shores in the flesh. The disciples were not kept at a distance. They were invited to draw near, and partake of the provision which His own compassion had supplied. So He still says to the one who responds to His knocking,

I will come in to him and sup with him, and he with me Revelation 3:20

And none of the disciples dare ask him, Who art thou? knowing that it was the Lord

JESUS SAID THEN; COME AND DINE, JESUS SAYS TODAY COME AND DINE.

WOULD THE BOARD PLEASE PREPARE TO SERVE THE COMMUNION

FIRST THE BREAD, HOLD IT UNTIL WE HAVE PRAYED OVER IT.

1. **1 COR. 11:25-32** IN THE SAME WAY, AFTER SUPPER HE TOOK THE CUP, SAYING, "**THIS CUP IS THE NEW COVENANT IN MY BLOOD; DO THIS, WHENEVER YOU DRINK IT, IN REMEMBRANCE OF ME.**" ²⁶FOR WHENEVER YOU EAT THIS BREAD AND DRINK THIS CUP, YOU PROCLAIM THE LORD'S DEATH UNTIL HE COMES. ²⁷THEREFORE, WHOEVER EATS THE BREAD OR DRINKS THE CUP OF THE LORD IN AN UNWORTHY MANNER WILL BE GUILTY OF SINNING AGAINST THE BODY AND BLOOD OF THE LORD. ²⁸A MAN OUGHT TO EXAMINE HIMSELF BEFORE HE EATS OF THE BREAD AND DRINKS OF THE CUP. ²⁹FOR ANYONE WHO EATS AND DRINKS WITHOUT RECOGNIZING THE BODY OF THE LORD EATS AND DRINKS JUDGMENT ON HIMSELF. ³⁰THAT IS WHY MANY AMONG YOU ARE WEAK AND SICK, AND A NUMBER OF YOU HAVE FALLEN ASLEEP. ³¹BUT IF WE JUDGED OURSELVES, WE WOULD NOT COME UNDER JUDGMENT. ³²WHEN WE ARE JUDGED BY THE LORD, WE ARE BEING DISCIPLINED SO THAT WE WILL NOT BE CONDEMNED WITH THE WORLD.

THE COMMUNION -

- I. THE LORD JESUS, ON THE NIGHT HE WAS BETRAYED, TOOK BREAD, ²⁴AND WHEN HE HAD GIVEN THANKS, HE BROKE IT AND SAID, "**THIS IS MY BODY, WHICH IS FOR YOU; DO THIS IN REMEMBRANCE OF ME.**"
 - (1) REMARKS - WHEN JESUS CHRIST PASSED OUT THE BREAD AND FISH IN OUR SCRIPTURE TODAY, WE SEE THAT HE DID NOT PRAY. HE HAD NOW TAKEN ON HIS FULL GLORY ONCE AGAIN. LET US REMEMBER THAT THIS BREAD REPRESENTS HIS BEATEN BODY, AND WHAT JESUS IS ASKING US TO DO IS REMEMBER THAT. AND THAT BODY WAS GIVEN FOR THE PHYSICAL HEALING OF HIS PEOPLE.
 - (2) THE PRAYER THAT JESUS WOULD HAVE USED THAT NIGHT IS THIS "BLESSED ART THOU, LORD OUR GOD, KING OF THE UNIVERSE, WHO BRINGS FORTH BREAD FROM THE EARTH.
 - (A) LET US PRAY - ALL MIGHTY GOD, FATHER, WE DO LIFT UP YOUR NAME IN OUR ASSEMBLY THIS MORNING, WE DO THINK YOU FOR YOUR ROLE AND THE SHOW OF YOUR LOVE FOR US IN THE SACRIFICE OF YOUR SON JESUS. I ASK NOW THAT

AS WE PARTAKE OF THIS BREAD THAT YOU CREATED, BY THE WORKING OF YOUR MIGHTY POWER YOU WOULD HEAL YOUR PEOPLE FOR A NEW AND GLORIOUS TESTIMONY OF YOUR LOVE FOR US. AMEN

(3) LET US PARTAKE.

B. THE CUP.

I. USHERS PLEASE PASS OUT, AND AGAIN HOLD UNTIL WE PRAY. **1 COR. 11:25-30** IN THE SAME WAY, AFTER SUPPER HE TOOK THE CUP, SAYING, "**THIS CUP IS THE NEW COVENANT IN MY BLOOD; DO THIS, WHENEVER YOU DRINK IT, IN REMEMBRANCE OF ME.**"

(1) REMARKS - THIS COVENANT IS THE AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE FATHER, SON AND HOLY SPIRIT THAT ALLOWS US BASED UPON OUR FAITH IN THEM TO BECOME SON'S OF GOD, MAKING US A NEW CREATION IN CHRIST JESUS. IT IS THE BLOOD OF JESUS THAT SEALS THIS COVENANT. FOR THE SCRIPTURE SAYS. A WILL OR A COVENANT CAN NOT BE EXECUTED UNTIL THE WRITER OF THE WILL HAS DIED. THAT HAPPENED, AND JESUS IS HERE ASKING US TO REMEMBER NOT ONLY WHO HE IS, BUT ALSO WHO WE ARE IN HIM.

(2) PRAYER - JESUS WOULD HAVE SAID THIS, BLESSED ART THOU, LORD OUR GOD, KING OF THE UNIVERSE, CREATOR OF THE FRUIT OF THE VINE.

(A) LET US PRAY - HOLY, HOLY, HOLY ARE YOU LORD OUR GOD, KING OF THE UNIVERSE, FATHER. WE THANK YOU THAT YOU INVITE US INTO YOUR COURTS WITH PRAISE, AND WE HAVE COME INTO YOUR COURTS THIS MORNING WITH THE SONGS OF OUR HEART. NOW AS WE PARTAKE OF THIS CUP, FROM THE GRAPE THAT YOU CREATED THAT REPRESENTS THE BLOOD OF OUR LORD AND SAVIOR. I ASK THAT YOU REVEAL TO EACH OF US, YOURSELF AND YOUR GLORY ANEW BY MAKING KNOW TO EACH OF US WHAT OUR ROLE IS IN YOUR KINGDOM TODAY. A MEN

(3) LET US PARTAKE TOGETHER.

FATHER NOW MAY THE SACRIFICE OF YOUR SON JESUS DO ITS COMPLETE WORK IN YOUR PEOPLE, WHO YOU CALL YOUR CHILDREN.

AMEN.

HEBREWS 13:20-21 MAY THE GOD OF PEACE, WHO THROUGH THE BLOOD OF THE ETERNAL COVENANT BROUGHT BACK FROM THE DEAD OUR LORD JESUS, THAT GREAT SHEPHERD OF THE SHEEP, ²¹EQUIP YOU WITH EVERYTHING GOOD FOR DOING HIS WILL, AND MAY HE WORK IN US WHAT IS PLEASING TO HIM, THROUGH JESUS CHRIST, TO WHOM BE GLORY FOR EVER AND EVER. AMEN.