

A Vision of Jesus Feeding His Flock Through His Word

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I saw Jesus taking fresh bread from the scriptures and feeding His flock. I then saw a banquet table, full of delicious, abundant food, set for His people.

We, as ministers of the Gospel, are called to be good stewards whom the Master has entrusted with His flock. We are called to “give them their rations at ***the proper time***” (Luke 12:42). It is the Spirit of Christ who dictates what is to be served to Christ's followers and when. This is why we must receive revelation from Him concerning the scriptures. We are not to teach and talk about what we want to talk about. We must distribute the Bread when He wants to. The content and the timing of His rations are decided by Him.

As we follow the Spirit, feeding the flock of Jesus Christ through His word, we will be blessed (Luke 12:43) if we are faithful in this way until He comes.

Getting off track, preaching what other preachers are preaching, preaching out of books, preaching out of our own heads, rather than receiving revelation in, by, and through the Holy Spirit as He leads us through our study of His word, is not faithful stewardship, and it will ultimately be judged.

We need to ask ourselves when the last time was that the Lord filled our hearts with revelation. If it has been longer than 30 days, we need to run to Him and seek His face and cry out for His Fresh Bread, the revelation of Jesus, that is provided by His Spirit. His Holy Spirit was sent to lead us into all truth (John 16:13), and Jesus said that “I am the way, the truth, and the life...” (John 14:6). A minister of the Gospel is called upon to receive truth from the Holy Spirit about Jesus on a continual basis in order that the flock, His Church, can be nourished and grow up to maturity in the Lord.

Paul wrote the following to the Church at Ephesus:

Ephesians 4:11–13 (NASB95)

¹¹ And He gave some *as* apostles, and some *as* prophets, and some *as* evangelists, and some *as* pastors and teachers, ¹² for the equipping of the saints for the work of service, to the building up of the body of Christ; ¹³ until we all attain to the unity of the faith, ***and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to a mature man, to the measure of the stature which belongs to the fullness of Christ.***

It is impossible for the Church to attain the measure of stature which belongs to the fullness of Christ, without a minister preaching/teaching, and demonstrating what the Spirit and His word reveal concerning ***“the knowledge of the Son of God,”*** Jesus Christ.

Paul began his letter telling the Ephesians how he was praying for them:

Ephesians 1:15–18 (NASB95)

¹⁵ For this reason I too, having heard of the faith in the Lord Jesus which *exists* among you and your love for all the saints, ¹⁶ do not cease giving thanks for you, while making mention of *you* in my prayers; ¹⁷ **that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give to you a spirit of wisdom and of revelation in the knowledge of Him.** ¹⁸ **I pray that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened, so that you will know what is the hope of His calling,** what are the riches of the glory of His inheritance in the saints...

Clearly, Paul realized that revelation from Father, through His Holy Spirit, was essential for them to grow in the *knowledge of Him*. Reading and re-reading his letter wasn't going to get them where they needed to be. They needed supernatural revelation that comes in, by and through the Holy Spirit. If it was true for the Church in Ephesus, it is true for the entire Body of Christ today.

Paul's prayer should be our prayer for ourselves and for those whom the Holy Spirit has called us to minister to. There is no other way; revelation from the Holy Spirit is essential. However, there is more.

In Jeremiah 31:33-34, the prophet prophesied that the Lord would establish a new covenant by providing revelation:

Jeremiah 31:33–34 (NASB95)

³³ "But this is the covenant which I will make with the house of Israel after those days," declares the LORD, "**I will put My law within them** and **on their heart I will write it;** and I will be their God, and they shall be My people. ³⁴ "They will not teach again, each man his neighbor and each man his brother, saying, '**Know the LORD, for they will all know Me,** from the least of them to the greatest of them,'" declares the LORD, "for I will forgive their iniquity, and their sin I will remember no more."

Notice that the Lord didn't say, "I will fill their minds with My truth." He says that He will put His law "***within them***", indicating that their very hearts would be filled with His commands, because He would write it on their **hearts**, i.e., it will be part of them. What does that mean? It means that instead of engraving His commands again on tablets of stone, He would engrave (or brand) the revelation of Himself on their hearts – not their minds. Then, and only then, are we able to "know" the Lord, which has nothing whatsoever to do with purely academic/intellectual knowledge. The Hebrew word for "know" is #H3045-***yada***, which denotes ***experiential*** knowledge. Therefore, in the new covenant purchased through the sacrifice of Jesus Christ, His resurrection and ascension, we have been given the right to experiential knowledge of God; we can experience hearing His voice, moving in His power, and being filled with His Spirit on an ongoing basis (Acts 13:52; Eph 5:18 – Note: Paul's use of the word "filled" is used in the continual sense, i.e., keep on being filled with the Holy Spirit). If we settle for the purely intellectual version of Christianity, which is demonic, we cheat ourselves.

Paul confirms the Lord's full intention with the following:

2 Corinthians 3:2–3 (NASB95)

² You are our letter, written in our hearts, known and read by all men; ³ being manifested that **you are a letter of Christ,** cared for by us, **written not with ink**

but with the Spirit of the living God, not on tablets of stone but on tablets of human hearts.

Together with a new heart of flesh given to each believer (Ez 11:19; 36:26), the Holy Spirit leads us into all truth and writes that truth on our hearts. In, by and through the Holy Spirit, we become living and walking letters written by Him through the new covenant. Let us welcome the Holy Spirit to write on our hearts with experiential revelation that we may be continually and forever changed into the image of the Son of God, Jesus Christ. Then we will preach and teach what we **know** (yada) in our hearts, not our minds, as the Spirit directs. The Holy Spirit alone can feed the Fresh Bread of Christ to those who are hungry for Jesus Christ through those who have revelation knowledge of Him.

We must humble ourselves before the Lord, yielding to His diagnosis that we are “wretched and miserable and poor and **blind** and naked” (Rev 3:17 NASB95; emphasis mine), becoming poor in spirit (Mt 5:3), the essential prerequisite for receiving **more of** the kingdom of God. He has called us to buy “eye salve to anoint (our) eyes, that (we) may see” (Rev 3:18; changes made for clarity). There can be no doubt that the Lord is speaking of our receiving revelation from Him, which is required for the Church to be used in the coming outpouring of His Spirit. As we yield our hearts of flesh to the Holy Spirit, recommitting our lives to His plan and purpose, purchasing His gold refined by fire (Rev 3:18), we qualify **to be open flood gates** for Him to flow through us with both His truth and His power (Jn 15:22-24; I Cor 2:4-5; 4:20; I Thess 1:5). The Gospel was not intended to be preached without demonstrating His power, a simple truth which appears to have been quickly lost during the latter years of the first century.

From here, we come full circle to studying the Bible as good stewards of what He has given us, so that He might give us more, i.e., revelation. In this, we know that we must test what we receive, for not every spirit is from God (I Jn 4:1).

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