

“SEEING”

Date: August 18, 2019

Speaker: Danny Clinton



Disclaimer: It's very important to teach about Communion correctly...

- Two Primary Verses... Luke 22:19-20, 1st Cor. 11:23-26
- But today I'm not going to use either...
- My hope is to teach you how to “See” Communion instead of just read about it. I hope you have the Quickenning of Seeing with your own Spiritual Eyes.
- God tells Ezekiel that they are a people. (Vs) Ezekiel 12:2b – “...who have eyes to see, but see not, who have ears to hear, but hear not...”

(Vs) Psalm 119:18 – “Open my eyes, that I may behold wondrous things out of your law.”

Joseph's Story (Gen. 37)

- Joseph was the second youngest of twelve brothers born to Jacob, who was called Israel.

(Vs) Gen 37:3-4 – “Now Israel loved Joseph more than any of his other sons, because he had been born to him in his old age; and he made an ornate robe for him. When his brothers saw that their father loved him more than any of them, they hated him and could not speak a kind word to him.”

Here is a Clear Message...

- The passage goes on to discuss two dreams Joseph had that angered his brothers... for the dreams indicated his brothers would someday bow to him.

A Great Abandonment

- One day, Joseph traveled to check on his brothers while they were watching their sheep. His brothers plotted against him, threw him in an empty well, and later sold him as a slave to some traveling Midianites.
- Applying animal blood to his “ornate robe,” they then returned home, and made Jacob believe his son had been killed by wild animals.

Terrible Suffering – False Accusations and Lies

- Joseph was taken to Egypt and sold to the captain of the guard, Potiphar, as a household slave.
- Joseph was later falsely accused of attempting to rape Potiphar's wife and thrown into prison.
- But, while in prison, Joseph accurately interpreted the dreams of two of Pharaoh's servants, who were also incarcerated. After this, Joseph sat in prison for another two years.

Season of Miracles

- One day, Pharaoh had a disturbing dream that no one could interpret. One of the servants Joseph had previously helped then suggested to Pharaoh that Joseph could interpret the dream.
- Joseph was summoned from prison, and he interpreted Pharaoh's dream stating 7 years of plenty followed by 7 years of famine would happen.
- This was such a powerful thing that Joseph was appointed second-in-command over Egypt, and so empowered to put a plan into place.

(Vs) Gen 41:46-49 – Joseph was thirty years old when he entered the service of Pharaoh...

- After 7 years the famine struck, and people from all over came to Joseph.
- For God, through Joseph, had prepared a way.

A Restorative Encounter

(Vs) Gen 42:6-11 “Now Joseph was governor over the land...”

- At first, he treated them harshly, pretending that he thought they were spies.
- Joseph even keeps one brother in prison until the others bring their youngest brother, Benjamin, back to Egypt to prove they were not spying.
- They bring Benjamin with them on a return trip, until, after a series of twists that include his brothers bowing before him—in fulfillment of Joseph's dream of long ago.
- He just can't take it anymore and finally reveals himself to his brothers.

(Vs) Gen 45:1-5 – “Then Joseph could not control himself...”

(Vs) Gen 45:16-20 – “When the report was heard in Pharaoh's house...”

- The story ends with Joseph freely giving all he has!

A worthy offering is bestowed upon the unworthy.

- It's truly an incredible story about a man who loves with abandon and gives unabashedly... and so establishes a new and loving Community.
- But, ... If I'm honest... I don't think that's primarily what this story is about...
- In order to "See" this a bit more clearly... Let's take just a few steps closer and consider...
- The Bible is continuously pointing over and over to Jesus and how He is moving toward... "Those He Loves" Or "Us."

Question: Where is Jesus in this Story?

- I want you to 'See' this... how clearly Jesus is displayed within these rhythms of Joseph's life!

Jesus' Story

- Like Joseph, Jesus proclaimed a clear message.
- And those Jesus loved didn't know what to do with Him and His proclamations!

Jesus Experiences a Great Abandonment

- His own people shunned Him.
- In this way, "Those Jesus Loved" chose to abandon Him, tearing a piece of themselves away from who He proclaimed to be.

Jesus Experiences Terrible Suffering

- Like Joseph, starting with false accusations and lies.
- He was thought to have no value or importance.

Jesus Brings A Season of Miracles... At 30 Years Old

- Jesus was also preparing the way.
- The hungry are fed, the thirsty are quenched!
- And so, many in great need travel far to be where he was.

Jesus Leads a Restorative Encounter

- His was held in an Upper Room.
- To Jesus, their needs were already made clear to Him.
- Jesus uses the examples of Bread & Wine to represent His own Body & Blood.
- He proclaims that He Himself will be given to meet the needs and sustain life for all who claim Him... He will give freely all He has!

Jesus Bestows a Worthy Offering Upon the Unworthy

- It's truly an incredible story about a God who refuses to abandon and so gives unabashedly... establishing a whole new way to be in Community with Himself...
- But, ... If I'm honest... I don't think that's primarily what this story is about...
- In order to "See" a bit more clearly... Let's take just a few steps closer and consider once more time...

Question: If the Bible continues to point over and over toward how Jesus interacts with "Those He Loves" or "Us," "Where are we in this Story?"

- Who in this story do you think represents you and me?

Your Story and Mine...

- The Brothers are "Those He Loves."

You've Heard a Clear Message

- But don't know what to do with this person and these proclamations!

Chosen to Abandon

- Living your life searching for the missing pieces that have been torn away from you....

Terrible Suffering

- And so, you often live without Peace and Hope...

Seasons of Miracles & Plenty

- But, eventually, the famine comes and starts destroying all you have built.
- And then one day, perhaps on a day like today, You hear about someone who says they have prepared a way.
- Someone who says they have defeated that internal Thirst & Hunger.
- And so, with great apprehension, and in need, you arrive at your own.

Restorative Encounter... Kind of like this one right now...

- Suddenly you can feel your own Great Needs exposed and made clear.
- And then you SEE it..

A Worthy Offering for an Unworthy Life

- This is what we are supposed to be seeing. This is what Communion is.

"Communion symbolizes the freely given, life sustaining gift of Christ's Forgiveness, Restoration and Relationship."

This is a story about an undeserving and abandoned people who receive a love so unabashedly poured out for them, they become part of a whole new family.