

BJ20 Believe The Gospel

Thank God we have believed in Jesus to the point we have been washed in His blood and born again as spiritual children of God. But we are still pressing toward the mark that Jesus Himself set for believers,

John 14:12-14 KJV Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that believeth on me, the works that I do shall he do also; and greater works than these shall he do; because I go unto my Father. [13] And whatsoever ye shall ask in my name, that will I do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son. [14] If ye shall ask any thing in my name, I will do it.

Your spirit doesn't sleep. Your mind and body does, but your spirit does not. We are to meditate the Word of God day and night. If you spend a lot of time meditating the Word of God and praying in other tongues, your spirit will continue to meditate the Word of God at night even while your mind and body are asleep. I have learned to keep my phone near my bed because oftentimes when I wake up, it's as if the Holy Spirit has already begun the teaching session and I need to have a way of recording the notes. Last night the lesson was concerning,

Mark 1:14-15 KJV Now after that John was put in prison, Jesus came into Galilee, preaching the gospel of the kingdom of God, [15] And saying, The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand: repent ye, and believe the gospel.

Preaching the kingdom of God

Jesus was the light manifested in the darkness. Every time Jesus would come into the next village, His attitude would be something like, "Father, darkness has been reigning in this village up until now. The enemy has caused many to be sick, blind, lame and deaf. Manifest yourself through Me and drive the darkness out."

Remember, the Lord's prayer is a declaration of war. "Thy kingdom come, and thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven" means ... Father, your kingdom will be manifested in this village instead of the kingdom of darkness.

"I'M COMING, AND THE KINGDOM OF GOD IS COMING WITH ME."

The time is fulfilled

When Jesus says, "The time is fulfilled," what does He mean? Jesus is speaking of a change in the dispensations. It is time to move from the dispensation of the law of Moses, to the dispensation of the kingdom of God.

Luke 16:16 KJV The law and the prophets were until John: since that time the kingdom of God is preached, and every man presseth into it.

When John the Baptist laid Jesus down in the water, that was a visual vow from Jesus to the Father that He was going all the way to the cross. All the way to death. Jesus was going to take the full punishment for the whole species of the first man Adam. Legally, in the courtroom of heaven, God accepted this vow as accomplished fact and slammed down the gavel proclaiming, "The first Adam is dead." Since the first Adam was declared dead, God was then free to appoint another "Adam" and the Father appoints His Son, Jesus Christ, as the last Adam.

1 Corinthians 15:45 KJV And so it is written, The first man Adam was made a living soul; the last Adam was made a quickening spirit.

Just like the first Adam had dominion on earth, so is this last Adam is to have dominion. That's why John the Baptist saw the Holy Spirit descending upon Jesus Christ, the last Adam, to enforce His dominion in the earth. Before Jesus began His ministry, He had to succeed where the first Adam failed. When Satan tempted Eve, and then Eve tempted Adam to disobey the Word of God ... Adam did not hold fast to the Word of God. Adam fell to temptation and disobeyed the Word of God. Jesus was tempted by Satan in the wilderness also, but He held fast to the Word of God. Jesus faced every temptation with "It is written." Amen! The Last Adam triumphed where the first Adam failed.

"The time is fulfilled" because now Jesus has been anointed as the king of the kingdom of God." Jesus is the last Adam who has the dominion of the king of the kingdom of God on earth.

[Tongues and Interpretation.] "You shall not depart from My Word. I have been depositing in you, for such a long time, the truth of My Word. And you have yielded much time to the Spirit for Him to bring you the revelation so you can walk

in the truth of My Word. You shall not fall. You are born of the spirit of the Last Adam. His strength is in you, and you will not fall, says the Lord."

The kingdom of God is at hand

If something is at hand, it is within your reach. It is available to you. You can have it. It is within your reach. That is EXACTLY what Jesus is preaching, "The kingdom of God is available to you." Why? Because the king was there physically. (In our dispensation, the king and the kingdom are within us.)

I remember when the Holy Ghost said to me, "The king and the kingdom are within you. Receive the revelation of how great is that king within you, and how great is His willingness to use His power on your behalf and on the behalf of others. When these two things are realized, the power flows."

Repent and believe the gospel

John the Baptist had already come, saying to the people to repent of their sins to prepare the way of the Lord. The word repentance means to change your mind, turn around, and go the other way. Jesus always said, "Go and sin no more." Of course we need to repent of our sin. But in this case, in the context of Jesus preaching "the kingdom of God," Jesus couples up the word "repent" with "believe the gospel of the kingdom."

Gary's paraphrase of what Jesus was telling the people, "I want you to change your mind. Start thinking in line with what I am saying. The time has been fulfilled. The kingdom, where God rules, is available to you right now."

He was telling them to repent and change their mind by no longer believing that the kingdom of God was not available to them. Jesus was preaching that the kingdom of God IS available to you ... right now ... today ... it is at hand ... it is within your reach ... NOW! Repent by changing your mind and BELIEVE THE GOSPEL!

[I give my testimony again of coming back to God at age thirty-three. The point, for this teaching, is I had to hold to the Word of God no matter my emotions or my circumstances. I was just as saved the first day, when I experienced no emotions, as I was the third day when I did experience emotions. Faith believes God's Word.]

We must believe what the king has said; *"The time is fulfilled. The kingdom of God is at hand. Change your mind and believe the gospel of the kingdom of God."*

The novel about Tarzan was actually about a young boy whose family was shipwrecked in Africa. His parents were Lord and Lady Greystoke from Britain, but they died shortly after he was born. The boy was raised by apes, but was actually the heir to the Greystoke's title, lands and fortune. He eventually returned to Britain and had to learn how to live in an entirely different culture from the jungle he knew growing up.

Tarzan had to learn to live in the kingdom that he was originally supposed to live in. God intended for the original Adam and Eve to produce a family on earth of righteous children. God's original plan was for all of us to live in the kingdom of God as His family. But sin caused all of us to be born in the jungle of the fallen world instead.

You have been born again, brought out of the jungle of the world, and seated at the table in the kingdom of God. God has prepared a great feast for you in His kingdom. Everything you will ever need is already "at hand" for you on that table. Your healing is at hand. Your provision is at hand. In the context of revival, your anointing is at hand.

Acts 1:8 KJV But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth.

We must recode our brain until we believe the gospel of the kingdom. We must repent, change the way we think, to the point we actually believe what the king has declared about the kingdom of God. We must believe the king is in us and the anointing of the Holy Spirit is upon us to do the work of the kingdom of God on earth.

Luke 10:19 KJV Behold, I give unto you power to tread on serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy: and nothing shall by any means hurt you.

The first confrontation of the kingdom of God vs darkness

The first clash between light and darkness was Jesus casting out an unclean spirit.

Mark 1:23-27 KJV And there was in their synagogue a man with an unclean spirit; and he cried out, [24] Saying, Let us alone; what have we to do with thee, thou Jesus of Nazareth? art thou come to destroy us? I know thee who thou art, the Holy One of God. [25] And Jesus rebuked him, saying, Hold thy peace, and come out of him. [26] And when the unclean spirit had torn him, and cried with a loud voice, he came out of him. [27] And they were all amazed, insomuch that they questioned among themselves, saying, What thing is this? what new doctrine is this? for with authority commandeth he even the unclean spirits, and they do obey him.

The first confrontation with darkness was Jesus casting out a devil. What was the first thing Jesus said believers would do? The same thing.

Mark 16:17 KJV And these signs shall follow them that believe; In my name shall they cast out devils; they shall speak with new tongues;

Jesus was talking about you and me, those who believe the gospel of the kingdom. We are to do the same works, just like Jesus said in John 14:12. The very first thing Jesus did, casting out a devil, is the very first thing He said we would do. Believers shall cast out devils in His name.

I must pause here and say, there is a maturity, a mortification and edification process involved in this. Pastor Dave says immature believers will try casting out a devil, but at the time they are in a stronghold of some kind. Perhaps they are a chronic liar. They are still bound in a prison cell of chronic lying, shouting at a devil to come out through the iron bars of the prison cell. That devil would just laugh and say, "No, you have authority over me when you quit lying." This is the very transformation process Paul described,

Romans 12:1-2 KJV I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service. [2] And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God.

The second confrontation with the kingdom of darkness

Jesus rebuked a fever, and it left the woman. Then they brought all the sick and those possessed with devils.

Mark 1:29-34 KJV And forthwith, when they were come out of the synagogue, they entered into the house of Simon and Andrew, with James and John. [30] But Simon's wife's mother lay sick of a fever, and anon they tell him of her. [31] And he came and took her by the hand, and lifted her up; and immediately the fever left her, and she ministered unto them. [32] And at even, when the sun did set, they brought unto him all that were diseased, and them that were possessed with devils. [33] And all the city was gathered together at the door. [34] And he healed many that were sick of divers diseases, and cast out many devils; and suffered not the devils to speak, because they knew him.

Jesus cast out devils and healed the sick. He told us believers we are to cast out devils and heal the sick, in His name.

Mark 16:18 KJV They shall take up serpents; and if they drink any deadly thing, it shall not hurt them; they shall lay hands on the sick, and they shall recover.

The time has been fulfilled. The king is in you. The kingdom is within you. The anointing of the Holy Spirit is upon you. It is time for us to repent and change how we are thinking and believe the gospel of the kingdom, no matter our emotions or our current circumstances. We are believers. We believe the gospel of the kingdom of God.