

## **Recoding The Brain – Part 10**

(The Power Of The Gospel)

### **Review: Acts 14:4-18**

They preached the gospel and got in trouble. They went to a different area. What are we going to do? We will continue to preach the gospel.

Jesus can heal you slowly over time. But this one was instant manifestation. They saw it! We have been instructed to expect "instant manifestations."

The people said, "The gods have come down." They were not far from the truth. God had come down, but it was not Jupiter or Mercury. God came down in Christ. And now Christ has come down in us. It is Christ ... in Paul and Barnabus. When people see the supernatural, they realize only God could do that. It gets their attention. That makes them prime candidates to hear the gospel of Jesus Christ.

Part of preaching the gospel is to boldly say all other gods are "vanities." They are nothing, zero. That will cause lots of persecution. This all happened in modern day Turkey. Can you imagine the persecution if you proclaim that Allah is zero, nothing at all? That's what Paul and Barnabus did at the time concerning Jupiter and Mercury. Turn from these zero's and worship the only true and living God.

The natural gray-matter brain functions this way: "I will believe it when I see it." The apostles did not believe the eyewitness reports of Mary, the other women, or the two men from Emmaus. Ten of the apostles believed only after Jesus appeared to them and they saw Him with their own eyes. But Thomas would not believe their eyewitness testimony either. Thomas would only believe when he had seen the risen Christ with his own eyes. That is how the natural man, with his natural gray-matter brain functions.

### **Spontaneous Tongues & Interpretation**

*For I have lifted you above the natural gray-matter reasonings of this world, and I have given you a spirit from above which is able to comprehend and understand things that are much beyond the physics of this world. Know you not that I have given you the very keys of the Kingdom of God that you can bring My Kingdom*

*manifestation to this fallen world. That is the first message that the Savior preached: Repent, for the Kingdom of God is at hand, it is available.*

*Continue to yield yourself to My Spirit and I will lift your understanding far beyond the natural limitations of this mind. Your mind shall become – your natural brain – shall become the good servant running alongside the Master, willing to help and willing to serve but never having dominion over your life. You shall live by faith and not by sight, says the Lord.*

These eleven men loved Jesus, had left everything to follow Him, had served Him full time for several years. They still loved Jesus, but in their natural mind ... Jesus was dead. It was over. They were not willing to believe the eyewitness word of testimony of those who had seen Jesus after He was risen from the dead.

It is so important to understand; that is how the natural gray-matter brain works. If you continue to walk by sight, only believing what you have seen, you are going to limit the power of God. That will be the case as long as the gray-matter brain controls the ceiling of what you believe. Even Thomas, who had been hand trained by Jesus for years, who had seen miracles and healings done supernaturally through his hands, who had heard every word of every teaching Jesus did ... schooled by the Master Himself ... Thomas was still controlled by the natural gray-matter brain, He only believed when he saw it with his own eyes. That is the definition of living by sight.

**1 Corinthians 2:14 KJV But the natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God: for they are foolishness unto him: neither can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned.**

That is why God had to give us a spirit from Himself so that we could know the things that are freely given to us of God.

**1 Corinthians 2:12 KJV Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the spirit which is of God; that we might know the things that are freely given to us of God.**

Contained within your born-again spirit is a spiritual mind that is capable of understanding spiritual things. That's why Paul says we have the mind of Christ.

That mind is birthed in the same image as Christ Himself. It is capable of being taught the things of the kingdom of God.

Eight days later the Lord appears again and this time Thomas was there. Thomas saw and heard Him for himself. Thomas believed, saying, "My Lord and my God!" Then the Lord said an amazing thing, prophesying about those of us who would be born-again in the future.

**John 20:29 KJV Jesus saith unto him, Thomas, because thou hast seen me, thou hast believed: blessed are they that have not seen, and yet have believed.**

The Greek tense in that verse means Jesus said, "Thomas you are blessed because you have seen Me. Even MORE BLESSED are those that have not seen, and yet have believed."

Thomas, you had to see Me with your natural eye, to have a coding in your natural brain, in order to believe. Thomas, that is one level of being blessed. But there is a higher level of blessing for those who believe, having not seen. At this point in John's gospel, he felt it important to make a distinction between living by sight and living by faith.

**John 20:30-31 KJV And many other signs truly did Jesus in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book: [31] But these are written, that ye might believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God; and that believing ye might have life through his name.**

We are called to believe at a higher level of faith than the eleven did. Not one of them was willing to believe that Jesus was raised from the dead until they saw it with their natural eyes, and it made a coding of neural pathways in their natural brain. They were not willing to believe the word, the eyewitness testimony of others, who had seen the risen Christ. But John is telling us ... we are called to do exactly that very thing. We are to believe the written word of these eyewitnesses in the four gospels who saw Jesus raised from the dead. That is called ... living by faith. Faith in what? Faith in the written Word of God. How are we able to believe having not seen, when the eleven could not? What is different now? At this point the Holy Spirit brought to my mind something Jesus said:

**John 6:44 KJV No man can come to me, except the Father which hath sent me draw him: and I will raise him up at the last day.**

The Father draws them by His outstretched hand ... the Holy Spirit. All of us humans, before we are born again, are just like the eleven. We all function by the natural brain God gave us. It has a legitimate function, to help us navigate in this natural world. It believes what it sees. "If you see the bus coming, do not step in front of the bus." But if your whole belief system is based on the natural brain, you will be limited just like the eleven were limited to only believing what they saw.

The Holy Ghost had not yet been given at that time. This was all before the day of Pentecost. It was before the outpouring of the Holy Spirit. None of the men were willing to believe that Jesus was risen from the dead just because eyewitnesses told them they had seen Him. But John tells us in that passage that we are required to believe the eyewitness testimony of those who saw Him, even though we have not. How is that possible? The answer is the outpouring of the Holy Spirit.

**Romans 1:16 KJV For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek.**

I am not ashamed of the good news about the Messiah. That "good news" is the POWER ... the Greek word is dunamis ... it's the word we get the word dynamite from. Preaching the gospel is the dynamite power of God. How powerful is it?

Remember at Lystra Paul preached the gospel to a man who was a life-long cripple because of a birth defect. This man had multiple dendrites that created neural pathways in his mind his whole life. "I was born a cripple. I've never walked, not once. I am a cripple. I have never walked. I can't walk now. The doctors have nothing they can do for me. I'll never be able to walk." These thought patterns were like super-highways of neural pathways in this man's mind.

The man came, with these highways of "facts" that he believed were truth, and he heard Paul preach the gospel ... the good news about the Messiah, Jesus Christ. Sometime while Paul was preaching, he perceived this man had faith to be healed. Faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the Word of God.

This cripple man was hearing Paul preach the good news about the Messiah. Part of the good news was about Christ and Him crucified. He died in your place. The innocent Lamb paid the price for your sin so you can be saved. Receive Him as your Savior and you will be born again. (If you have not done that, please do it now.)

If that was the whole gospel that Paul preached, the man would not have received faith to be healed from a birth defect. For this man to receive faith to be healed/cured of a birth defect, then included in the gospel Paul preached had to include more.

The gospel Paul preached had to be something along this line, "Hello, my name is Paul. I have come to preach the good news to you about the Messiah, Jesus of Nazareth. He is the Christ. He is the Son of the living God." He may have preached "Christ and Him crucified," but somewhere in that message he had to preach something along this line, "His name is above every name that is named. It doesn't matter what your affliction is. The good news about the Messiah is that He will heal you. He will heal you now. Even if you have a birth defect. Here is the good news about the Messiah. He will cure your birth defect, and He will do it right now."

Here is the power of the gospel. When this man heard those words, they were not just words. They were words anointed by the Holy Spirit. That man had interstate ten-lane highways of neural pathways in his natural gray-matter brain ... you are a cripple ... you were born a cripple ... you have never walked ... you can't walk now ... science has no help for you ... you never will walk ... you will be a cripple until the day you die ... it was a multi-lane superhighway of dendrite neural pathways, but the power of the gospel was enough to dynamite all of that and blow up that highway in a single message!

Paul was preaching the good news about Messiah so strong it was blowing up every dendrite, every neural highway of strongholds, to the point Paul perceived the man had faith to be healed. Paul simply issued the command, "Stand upright on your feet." And the man did! Boom! Highways of neural pathways were destroyed instantly, and a new neural pathway took their place. The power of God went way beyond these old neural pathways. The power of the gospel, anointed by the Holy Spirit, destroyed all those neural pathways and replaced it with, "I can be healed."

When Paul said, "Stand upright on your feet," the man internally said. "I WILL!" AND HE DID! He did something he had never done in his whole life. He stood upright on his feet. That's the power of the gospel when it is preached in truth, in boldness, and with the anointing of the Holy Ghost. That is exactly what is going to bring revival to this lost world. GLORY TO GOD!

And then the other part of the gospel, which has more to do with being born again than being healed, is that Paul preached boldly that they should turn away from these other gods which are vanities, zeros. Paul told them these "gods" they have been worshipping were nothing. Zeus, Jupiter, and Mercury were zero's, vanities, nothing.

This was happening in modern day Turkey. If you did that there today it would be equivalent to saying, "Allah is a zero, a vanity, nothing at all." They would most likely try to stone you too. He is at Lystra because they tried to stone him in the previous town they were in. But now they wanted to stone Paul in Lystra, and they did. Jesus warned us there would be persecution.

Persecution, stoning's, whippings and so forth did not make Paul ashamed of the gospel. I have wondered how many times the Lord might have raised Paul from the dead, or at least healed his broken body after the whippings, the beating with rods, and so forth.

It is the Holy Spirit that anoints the preaching of the gospel, even if you only preach part of it, like the denominational church I grew up in. They had a lot of wrong doctrine, but they preached the cross accurately and when they gave the altar call, the drawing of the Holy Spirit was so strong you almost had to leave fingernail marks in the wooden pew to resist going forward to be saved.

It has to be that way because, otherwise, we are just natural people like the eleven, who would not believe until they saw with their natural eyes. No one can come to the Christ without that drawing, that anointing, of the Holy Spirit.

In all of my growing up years attending a denominational church, I never saw a supernatural healing, a devil cast out, anybody speak with tongues or prophesy. They preached against all of those things, saying that that had all passed away. But

when they would preach Christ and Him crucified accurately, and when that altar call was given to be saved ... oh my, the drawing of the Holy Spirit was intense.

Ever since the day of Pentecost, the Holy Spirit has been poured out to work with the preaching of the gospel. We believe the testimony of the eyewitnesses who wrote the four gospels, even though we have not seen the risen Christ with our own eyes. How? It is because of the anointing of the Holy Spirit who draws us to Christ when the gospel is preached. And Jesus said we who have not seen, yet believed, are even MORE BLESSED than those who believed because they had seen the risen Christ with their physical eyes.

(I gave my testimony again of when God sent Michael Muccio to come after me.)

You are not alone when you share the gospel. The Holy Ghost is with you, and in you. When you start speaking the good news about Messiah, the anointing of the Holy Ghost is with you. That is the power of the gospel. It will penetrate beyond the neural pathways of the gray-matter and draw them to Christ. The love of God will draw them, and they won't even know it. We are not alone when we share the gospel.

I am not ashamed of the gospel of Jesus Christ. It is the power of God unto salvation. And that salvation includes everything. Even birth defects.