

INSPIRED WORD

August 19, 2020

SCRIPTURE

When we were singing that song, I was thinking about the galaxy and God and it was like in **Psalm 8:1-9**: *O Lord, our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth. You have set your glory above the heavens. From the lips of children and infants, you have ordained praise. Because of your foes, you have silenced the enemy. When I consider your heavens, the work of your fingers, the moon and stars which you have set in place, what is man that you are mindful of him, the son of man that you should care for him? You have made him a little bit lower than heavenly beings and crowned him with glory and honor. You have made him ruler over the works of your hands and put everything under his feet, all the flocks and herds and the beasts of the field, the birds of the air and the fish of the sea that swim the paths of the sea. O Lord, our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth.*

PROPHECY

I heard a word: "Be faithful as I am faithful. I have been faithful to you all the days of your life. Be faithful as I am."

SCRIPTURE

I was getting pulled into **Matthew 19** which is a really tough chapter of teachings of Jesus, and one of them is the rich, young man (**vs. 16-22, 25-26**): *Now a man came to him and said, "Master, what good deed must I do to obtain eternal life?" And Jesus said to him, "Why do you ask me what is good? There is one alone who is good. But if you wish to enter into life, keep the commandments." He said, "Which ones?" And Jesus replied, "These. You shall not kill. You shall not commit adultery. You shall not steal, or give false witness. Honor your father and your mother. Love your neighbor as yourself." The young man said to him, "I have kept all these. What more do I need to do?" And Jesus said, "If you wish to be perfect, go and sell your possessions and give the money to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven. Then, come follow me." But when the young man heard these words, he went away sad, for he was a man of great wealth. And after that the disciples asked Jesus, "Well, who can be saved then, if it's this difficult?" And Jesus gazed at them. "By human resources," he said to them, "it is impossible. But for God, everything is possible.*

PROPHECY

Just before you read that, I was hearing: "I have no boundaries; I have no limits, only those that you put on me."

SHARING

It's just interesting because in the Jewish tradition of the time, if you were wealthy it was a blessing from God. It was a mark of God's favor. If you were poor at that time, it was a mark of someone's sinfulness or a mark of disfavor from God. And Jesus took that

sense of the time and turned it on its ear. He basically said if you want to be perfect, then give it all away and follow him. Be like the lilies of the field and the birds of the air – complete and total trust, not in your own resources but in him. And I think that message hasn't changed much in America 2020. We still look at our bank accounts and say, "God, if it's full, You're blessing me." He says, "If you're trusting me, I'm blessing you."

SHARING

I was amazed at the songs that were chosen tonight. They tell us how God is with us all the time. Some of the phrases are: God's love leads me through; the Lord enables us; Your love makes me sing; Your love carries me; I am with you; You dance over me while I am unaware; (and as Deacon Chuck said earlier) His love reaches out for us; You are my King; Your touch restores my life; He is always filling us.

CONFIRMATION / SHARING

I confirm that too. I didn't know the words to say so I haven't been saying them but I feel so in God's presence. And I've been a little sad or nervous or depressed or, you know, this thing's been going on and on and on, and I'm getting a little tired and anyway, tonight, and just leading up to tonight, I really feel God telling me and telling all of us that He is always with us. He never leaves us. He never forsakes us. We know those words but tonight I feel it so strongly that God is with us and He's always been with us from day one and even before day one. Before we were born He was with us. And I really take peace in that and comfort in that, knowing that God has His arms around us. We're in the palms of His hands. Nothing can happen to us that He doesn't want.

SHARING / SCRIPTURE

The phrase that stuck out to me in the songs that keeps going through my head is: I am forgiven because You were forsaken. And I was reading in Mark's account of the Garden of Gethsemane, and Jesus says... and I'm guilty of this. You know, He went and He did this, and He was divine and... I mean, did it really hurt the way that it would hurt us if we had gone through that? And it didn't just hurt Him that much; He was carrying the sins of the whole world. And it says in **Mark 14:34** that Jesus says, "*I am sad even to the point of death.*" And that's before anything... that's just in the Garden before anything, when He kneels down to pray. And the phrase to the song that I would link with that is "Lord, I am amazed by You" when I think that I was forgiven because He was forsaken. And I'm amazed by that.

MESSAGE IN TONGUES

INTERPRETATION

My beloved, my dear beautiful, my beloved, it was painful and it brought tears to me but I love you so much I would do it again. I would do it again for each one of you, one at a time if that would help you to understand how much I love you and how much I desire for you to walk each day with me. It was painful, my beloved, but not in the way you think about pain. The tears were not because of the pain. The tears were because of my love for you, my tremendous, amazing love for you.

SCRIPTURE / PRAYER

And the words of **Psalm 139:13-18**: *You created every part of me; you put me together in my mother's womb. I praise you because you are to be feared. All you do is strange and wonderful. I know it with all my heart. When my bones were being formed, carefully being put together in my mother's womb when I was growing there in secret, you knew that I was there. You saw me before I was born. The days allotted to me had all been recorded in your book before any of them ever began. O God, how difficult I find your thoughts. How many of them there are. If I counted them, they would be more than the grains of sand. When I awaken, I am still with you. O Lord, Your knowledge of us, Your love for us is beyond anything that we can imagine – anything that we can know. We give You praise, O Jesus, we give You praise. Glory to You. Thank You!*

IMAGE / SCRIPTURE / EXHORTATION

When Mel was giving that word, I just had the image of a vase and the word was: If water is poured into a vase and just sits there, it does nothing. A vase is made to pour out to others. And in combination with that is from **Isaiah 52:7**: *How beautiful on the mountains are the feet of those who bring good news, who proclaim peace, who bring good tidings, who proclaim salvation, who say to Zion, "Your God reigns."* And in the darkness and in the fog of people's tiredness and crankiness and snarkiness and fear and frustration and in everything going on in politics and in the weather and everything in their lives, despair and frustration, are we the good news? Are we the bearers of that good news that says our God does reign? Jesus did give His life for you in love. Do you know you are loved? Do you know you are a child of the Most High? Do you know you are beloved? Do you know He is here? And as we have prayed many times tonight, do you know He will never forsake you?

SCRIPTURE

When we were speaking about getting up every morning and feeling a little depressed, that word again which was spoken very early on, that word "faithful" came back into my mind, that He is faithful. And the Lord said, "Remember in **Lamentations** when my people were crying out to me saying 'Oh woe is us' (**v. 17**), they were weary." In the middle of that He says to us these words that I think we all know but we need to remember (**v. 22-24**): *The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases. His mercies never come to an end. They are new every morning. Great is thy faithfulness. "Great is my portion," says my soul, "therefore I will hope in him."* So it's a promise to us that His steadfast love is new every morning. You can just count on that faithfulness.

SHARING

In the words of an old hymn: Great is thy faithfulness. Morning by morning, new mercies I see.