

Holy Ghost and Refreshing - Message 1 – January 15th, 2023

Let's start by reading **Isaiah 28:11-13**; “*11 For with stammering lips and another tongue He will speak to this people, 12 To whom He said, “This is the rest with which You may cause the weary to rest,” And, “This is the refreshing”; Yet they would not hear. 13 But the word of the Lord was to them, “Precept upon precept, precept upon precept, Line upon line, line upon line, here a little, there a little,” That they might go and fall backward, and be broken and snared and caught.”*

Broken, snared and caught. The reason they responded like this, was because their religious studies were very repetitive, very structured, memory recital, that's how they learned the Old Testament which consisted of the Pentateuch, the Prophets, the Psalms etc., and about God. That's how the culture worked, line upon line, precept upon precept etc., and by this they memorized the Old Testament. So when this prophecy was fulfilled at Pentecost, some were mocking it and mocking it, some were laughing at it, some found it hysterical. When they saw the disciples come out of the upper room, they mocked them, they were mockers, hysterically laughing, shouting, laughing and maybe even saying here a little, there a little, line upon line, precept upon precept. They were unbelieving with laughter, there was no faith and were mocking the men of God.

Gordon Lindsay says; “*This prophecy itself is remarkable, but not less so is the significant place in the book where it is found. Isaiah 24-28 has often been called the *little apocalypse*. In these brief chapters appears a moving portrayal of the whole scope of events of the end time. They tell of the Great Tribulation, the destruction of the gentile power, the resurrection of the dead, the restoration of Israel, the establishment of the millennial kingdom and the binding of Satan, beside recording other lesser events. But note, the inspired writer does not complete this panoramic preview of events until he records that with these world judgments God would also send upon His people a great blessing. There would be a *rest* and a *refreshing* which as we shall see, speaks of the mighty baptism of the Holy Spirit, and the attending phenomenon of *speaking in tongues*.”*

It would seem like the scoffers at Pentecost didn't know that the scriptures in Isaiah Chapters 24-28 were speaking prophetically for the end time, and didn't comprehend that they were living the fulfillment of it, or they understood it the wrong way and couldn't hear it.

Acts 2:1-21, is a fulfillment of Isaiah 28:11-12, and Acts 2:1-21 is broken down into 3 categories;

1. Acts 2:1-4, the coming of the Holy Spirit on the Day of Pentecost, where the 120 disciples were gathered in the upper room obeying Jesus' last commandment to them is found in **Acts 1:4-5**. It says; “*4 And being assembled together with them, He commanded them not to depart from Jerusalem, but to wait for the Promise of the Father; “which,” He said, “you have heard from Me; 5 for John truly baptized with water, but you shall be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now.”*
2. Acts 2:5-13, The crowd's response, (those gathered in Jerusalem for the annual Day of Pentecost), who witnessed the apostles and disciples speaking in other tongues.
3. Acts 2:14-21, The Apostle Peter's sermon opening, where he clearly explains that what the crowds witnessed is a fulfillment of the prophecy given by Joel 2:28-32.

While the majority of people that heard them speak with stammering lips, speaking in their own tongues the wonderful works of God, others in unbelief mocked them and would not hear them speak of the wonderful works of God and it was here that they were mocked, and accused of being drunk as it says in **verse 13**; “*Others mocking said, “They are full of new wine.”* They thought they were out of their minds, drunk, making a big scene, while others believed as they saw a supernatural event taking place. But just like Isaiah prophesied; *they*

would not hear’, and were the hecklers, mockers, and loud mouths that tried to drown out what was taking place.

This is very important to note that their will always be religious people who have a form of godliness but deny its power, and have hardened their heart to the supernatural and can no longer hear the wonderful works of God any more. It’s the equivalent of being spiritually deaf and dumb, while having the appearance of being a Christian, but not able to hear an interpretation of speaking in tongues, regardless of how accurate the interpretation is, they can’t hear it because the god of this world, Satan, has blinded the minds of the sons of disobedience. You might say that that applies to the secular unbeliever and that it doesn’t apply to the Christian. When Christians disobey Jesus’ last command found in Acts 1:4-5, the god of this world blinds their minds because of unbelief and as a result they can’t hear what the Holy Spirit is saying to Churches and end up backsliding in one form or another.

Let’s read Isaiah 28:13 again; *“13 But the word of the Lord was to them, “Precept upon precept, precept upon precept, line upon line, line upon line, here a little, there a little,” That they might go and fall backward, and be broken and snared and caught.”*

This is what it was to them when they heard the speaking in tongues at Pentecost, they mocked them. If you heckle and laugh at the Holy Spirit, His work and gifts, you fall backward, are broken, snared and caught.

A number of Bible commentaries believe that this scripture refers to the Assyrian and Babylonian armies which Israel was continually being terrorized by. However, if you read this in context, which indicates that these four chapters in Isaiah were prophesying about the future of Israel and Messiah’s arrival through the Millennial reign of Jesus, you see the spiritual state of Judah was rejecting Jesus as Messiah, and upon rejecting Him and the Holy Spirit being poured out at Pentecost, what they heard through the stammering lips they scorned and hence, they fell backward, were broken, snared and caught. Since Paul specifically mentioned Isaiah’s prophecy in 1 Corinthians 14:21-22 in which he was teaching them how to use the gift of tongues and all the gifts of the Spirit and that it would bring rest and refreshing to their soul, how could it be thought that the invading armies of Assyria back in Isaiah’s time, would be of a rest and refreshing nature. There is nothing in the midst of terror that brings rest and refreshing. But for the church age, tongues bring rest and refreshing. We’ll continue to look at this as we study.

The true meaning of this scripture then means that the word of the Lord was to them blah, blah, blah, blah, blah, and the same today many Christians mock the speaking in tongues and interpretation and hear it as blah, blah, blah, blah, blah, but in the end, they fall backward and are broken snared and caught by the god of this world, whose sole intent is to rob, kill and destroy their Christian faith. We are obviously in a day and age where Jesus can come back and rapture His Church because of the great falling away of Christians that have and are backsliding from their faith like never before in history, and this is why so many will be left behind to face the seven years of tribulation.

The Apostle Paul says this about the great apostasy in **2 Thessalonians 2:1-4** says; *“2 Now, brethren, concerning the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ and our gathering together to Him, we ask you, 2 not to be soon shaken in mind or troubled, either by spirit or by word or by letter, as if from us, as though the day of [a]Christ had come. 3 Let no one deceive you by any means; for that Day will not come unless the falling away comes first, and the man of [b]sin is revealed, the son of perdition, 4 who opposes and exalts himself above all that is called God or that is worshiped, so that he sits [c]as God in the temple of God, showing himself that he is God.”*

This is why Isaiah 28:11-13 is an ongoing fulfilment of prophecy from the day of Pentecost to now and until Jesus returns for His bride, the Church, which is all the more reason for Christians to be ready and filled with the Holy Spirit with the same evidence of speaking tongues. The religious will say and do the same thing today that they're crazy, drunk and they'll mock, laugh and say they're drunk.

Gordon Lindsay says; “In considering this remarkable prophecy, let us not what has been called *the law of the first mention*. This law involves the peculiar fact that when a great truth first appears in the Scripture, the most important phases of that truth are mentioned or touched upon in the passage. In the present instance the following important points are alluded to in the prophecy;

1. That the fulfillment of the prophecy would take place in its fullness just before the end of the age. (Notice that it is associated with the great end-of-the-age prophecies.) Those are of Isaiah 24-28.

It seems like we're in a time like never before that it's gotten so perilous, men and women have become perilous especially in the last two to three years. Perilous times have been escalating.

2 Timothy 3:1-7 talks about these end-time perilous signs of the return of Christ; “3 *But know this, that in the last days [a]perilous times will come: 2 For men will be lovers of themselves, lovers of money, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy, 3 unloving, [b]unforgiving, slanderers, without self-control, brutal, despisers of good, 4 traitors, headstrong, haughty, lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God, 5 having a form of godliness but denying its power. And from such people turn away! 6 For of this sort are those who creep into households and make captives of gullible women loaded down with sins, led away by various lusts, 7 always learning and never able to come to the knowledge of the truth.*”

The phrase, ‘a form of godliness but denying its power’, means they're religious in some way or another, but deny the power of the Holy Spirit. The phrase, “always learning and never able to come to the knowledge of the truth” is the same of what Isaiah said, ‘line upon line, precept upon precept, here a little, there a little’, always learning, meditation, memorizing, but never coming to the knowledge of the truth, and rejecting it instead. These end time scoffers say the same about those who speak in tongues today, they're drunk, they've lost their minds.

2 Peter 2:18-22 tells of more deceptions and false teachers that will creep in, that will speak against the Pentecostal movement, speaking in tongues, speaking against the baptism of the Holy Spirit and other teachings; “18 *For when they speak great swelling words of emptiness, they allure through the lusts of the flesh, through lewdness, the ones who [a]have actually escaped from those who live in error. 19 While they promise them liberty, they themselves are slaves of [b]corruption; for by whom a person is overcome, by him also he is brought into [c]bondage. 20 For if, after they have escaped the pollutions of the world through the knowledge of the Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, they are again entangled in them and overcome, the latter end is worse for them than the beginning. 21 For it would have been better for them not to have known the way of righteousness, than having known it, to turn from the holy commandment delivered to them. 22 But it has happened to them according to the true proverb: “A dog returns to his own vomit,” and, “a sow, having washed, to her wallowing in the mire.”*”

When Peter says that the latter end is worse for them than the beginning...he's again alluding to what Isaiah wrote, “That they might go and fall backward, and be broken and snares and caught.” This is called backsliding.

This is all the more reason why it's so important to be baptized in the Holy Spirit with the evidence of speaking in tongues, so that you can overcome and not backslide into the last day sins and end up outside the kingdom of heaven along with countless others that have backslide from the day of Pentecost until now.

Gordon Lindsay says;

2. “That speaking in tongues will be a special means by which God will reach the people of that day.”

Different kinds of tongues and interpretation of tongues are two of the nine gifts of the Holy Spirit that God is using to minister to believers in this very hour as was used in the early Church.

1 Corinthians 12:4-11 says; “*4 There are [a] diversities of gifts, but the same Spirit. 5 There are differences of ministries, but the same Lord. 6 And there are diversities of activities, but it is the same God who works [b] all in all. 7 But the manifestation of the Spirit is given to each one for the profit of all: 8 for to one is given the word of wisdom through the Spirit, to another the word of knowledge through the same Spirit, 9 to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healings by [c] the same Spirit, 10 to another the working of miracles, to another prophecy, to another discerning of spirits, to another different kinds of tongues, to another the interpretation of tongues. 11 But one and the same Spirit works all these things, distributing to each one individually as He wills.*”

As we read earlier that on the day of Pentecost, the gift of different kinds of tongues were given by the Holy Spirit to declare the wonderful works God to many nationalities in their own languages. Interpretation of tongues is a form of prophecy that reveals what is being spoken in tongues, and is for the edification of the body of Christ.

1 Corinthians 14:1-5 says; “*14 Pursue love, and desire spiritual gifts, but especially that you may prophesy. 2 For he who speaks in a tongue does not speak to men but to God, for no one understands him; however, in the spirit he speaks mysteries. 3 But he who prophesies speaks edification and exhortation and comfort to men. 4 He who speaks in a tongue edifies himself, but he who prophesies edifies the church. 5 I wish you all spoke with tongues, but even more that you prophesied; [a] for he who prophesies is greater than he who speaks with tongues, unless indeed he interprets, that the church may receive edification.*”

We can see that the prophetic gift is not greater than tongues when the tongues are interpreted, the church receives edification and this gift is then equal with the prophetic.

Isaiah prophesied about the gift of tongues and interpretation and the different kinds of tongues that God would use to speak to both believers and unbelievers. He calls them stammering lips and another tongue guarantees that rest and refreshing would be the result of speaking in tongues.

Gordon Lindsay continues saying;

3. That with the speaking in tongues there would also be *stammering lips*, inferring that the utterances at first may be halting and broken, before the clear flow of the language takes place.

4. That this phenomenon of speaking in tongues will be directly associated with a special refreshing and rest that a God will give to His people – a blessing which is none other than the baptism of the Holy Spirit.

5. That despite the manifestation of this divine phenomenon, many will harden their hearts and reject it, and in turn they will be rejected of God. The extreme danger of such unbelief is shown in verses 12, 13;

“Yet they would not hear. But the word of the Lord to unto them, precept upon precept, precept upon precept, line upon line, line upon line, here a little, and there a little, that they might go, and fall backward, and be broken, and snared, and taken.”

Again, Isaiah says in 28:11-12; *“11 For with stammering lips and another tongue He will speak to this people, 12 To whom He said, “This is the rest with which You may cause the weary to rest,” And, “This is the refreshing”; Yet they would not hear.”*

To them it was blah, blah, blah, and saying, you’re drunk, hysterically laughing at the unintelligible language that it was to them. There will always be religious mockers in the crowd like there were with Peter and the disciples in the upper room, who grieve the Holy Spirit, who have a form of godliness but void of Holy Ghost power. They don’t want to hear. Religious hecklers and scoffers who have studied religion all of their lives yet unable to come to the knowledge of the truth on the baptism in the Holy Spirit with speaking in tongues.

How many of you know that God is not mocked but what a man sows, he shall reap? God is not willing that anyone perish and spend eternity separated from Him. But it’s what a man sows, that he will reap. If you mock the Holy Spirit, you’re going to reap something. If you’re going to laugh at preachers and mock them, you’re going to reap something from God. It’s you’re own doing, not God’s doing, it’s you’re doing. If you grieve the Holy spirit, you’re going to reap something.

How many Christians today have chosen not to hear what the Holy Spirit is saying to the Church regarding the gift of tongues, and as a result are backslidden, no longer attend church, no longer take communion, no longer pay tithes, and the keeping of the Ten Commandments has become a game of hit and miss, rather than about conviction of sin and the righteous judgement to come.

There is no true rest and refreshing for Christians, who are mockers, scoffers, hecklers and laughers that have rejected the baptism of the Holy Spirit. There is no rest and refreshing for them and it’s their own doing and when they stand before God, they can’t blame it on anyone else but themselves. But there is rest and refreshing for those who receive Jesus’ last command to speak in tongues, who are operating in supernatural Holy Ghost power, tongues, interpretation, on par with the prophet when they’re interpreting their tongues, they’re building themselves up in their holy faith, they’re able to sing songs in the Spirit, this is the promise of Jesus, and Isaiah prophesied about these 800 years before it happened on the day of Pentecost in the upper room. That is a very long time to be telling people this was coming. Isaiah saw it as clear as day and God fulfilled it.

What are you going to deliver, Christian? Are you going deliver faith in God’s word in what Isaiah and Peter and the disciples at Pentecost delivered? Are you going to deliver and speak the wonderful works of God? It’s your choice, choose life, choose to speak in tongues, choose to interpret your tongues, choose to interpret someone else’s tongues as the Holy Spirit enables you, choose to speak the word of the Lord to the body of Christ. Choose this day who you’re going to serve. Don’t plug up the wellspring of the Holy Ghost with fear, doubt and unbelief. Are you going to cap off the well with a big fear stone, a big unbelief stone, a big doubt stone? If you do that, it’s inevitable you’re going to fall backward, stumble, be broken and fall. Deliver the word of the Lord, preach the word, deliver the word...I sound like a parrot but it needs to be repeated. Let it be like Jeremiah and the word to him was like a fire shut up in his bones and he couldn’t help but speak. Let the Holy Ghost and fire fill you. Deliver, deliver, deliver, speak, speak, speak, look at your mockers and just speak, don’t be intimidated regardless of how educated they are, don’t back down, don’t back down, stand up, stand up to the Goliath, stand up to the wicked leaders that are mocking you, don’t bow the knee to the wicked religious leader. Let them throw you into the furnace of fiery affliction. Let them do what they do naturally, behaving like their father the devil. You need to stand like never before. You have to preach now like never before. You have to speak in tongues like never before, you have to prophesy like never before, preach and teach like never before.