



Volume 22 No. 3

Voice of Triumph

“And Jesus answered and said unto him, Get thee behind Me satan [withdraw]: for it is written, Thou shalt worship the Lord thy God, and Him only shalt thou serve.”

Luke 4:8 (KJV)

WHERE YOUR HEART IS, YOUR TREASURE WILL BE THERE ALSO

You are the treasure of God’s heart: “Now therefore, if you will obey My voice in truth and keep My covenant, then you shall be My own peculiar possession *and* treasure from among *and* above all peoples; for all the earth is Mine. And you shall be to Me a kingdom of priests, a holy nation [consecrated, set apart to the worship of God]. These are the words you shall speak to the Israelites,” Ex. 19:5-6, (AMPC). Your life purpose is to demonstrate your heart’s worship to God: “All has been heard; the end of the matter is: Fear God [revere and worship Him, knowing that He is] and keep His commandments, for this is the whole of man [the full, original purpose of his creation, the object of God’s providence, the root of character, the foundation of all happiness, the adjustment to all inharmonious circumstances and conditions under the sun] *and* the whole [duty] for every man,” Eccl. 12:13, (AMPC). Passionately pursue Jesus as the treasure of your heart for it catches His undivided attention: “The Lord is exalted, for He dwells on high; He will fill Zion with justice and righteousness (moral and spiritual rectitude in every area and relation). And there shall be stability in your times, an abundance of salvation, wisdom, and knowledge; the reverent fear *and* worship of the Lord is your treasure *and* His,” Is. 33:5-6, (AMPC). Let your world see your heart of worship for Jesus, that is in Spirit and in truth: “Brothers and sisters, in light of *all I have shared with you about* God’s mercies, I urge you to offer your bodies as a living and holy sacrifice *to God*, a sacred offering that brings Him pleasure; this is your reasonable, essential worship. Do not allow this world to mold you in its own image. Instead, be transformed *from the inside out* by renewing your mind. As a result, you will be able to discern what God wills and whatever God finds good, pleasing, and complete,” Rom. 12:1-2, (Voice). House real treasure within your earthen vessel and refuse to bow to pseudo gods, familiar or foreign: “Those who pay regard to false, useless, *and* worthless idols forsake their own [Source of] mercy *and* loving-kindness,” Jonah 2:8, (AMPC).

LOVE CONQUERED DEATH

Mercy triumphs over judgment. John 8:1-11, KJV never identified the accused by name although this could be Martha’s and Lazarus’ sister Mary trapped in this life or death situation. “Jesus went unto the mount of Olives. And early in the morning He came again into the temple, and all the people came unto Him; and He sat down, and taught them. And the scribes and Pharisees brought unto Him a woman taken in adultery; and when they had set her in the midst, They say unto Him, ‘Master, this woman was taken in adultery, in the very act. Now Moses in the law commanded us, that such should be stoned: but what sayest Thou?’ This they said, tempting Him, that they might have to accuse Him. But Jesus stooped down, and with His finger wrote on the ground, as though He heard them not. So when they continued asking Him, He lifted up Himself, and said unto them, ‘He that is without sin among you, let him first cast a stone at her.’ And again He stooped down, and wrote on the ground. And they which heard it, being convicted by their own conscience, went out one by one, beginning at the eldest, even unto the last: and Jesus was left alone, and the woman standing in the midst. When Jesus had lifted up Himself, and saw none but the woman, He said unto her, ‘Woman, where are those thine accusers? hath no man condemned thee?’ She said, ‘No man, Lord.’ And Jesus said unto her, ‘Neither do I condemn thee: go, and sin no more.’” Zep. 3:17 is living in a rejection-free zone in God’s praise. “The Lord your God is in the midst of you, a Mighty One, a Savior [Who saves]! He will rejoice over you with joy; He will rest [in silent satisfaction] *and* in His love He will be silent *and* make no mention [of past sins, or even recall them]; He will exult over you with singing.” Jer. 17:13 (AMPC) shows how effortlessly God erases an indictment by His mercy: “O Lord, the Hope of Israel, all who forsake You shall be put to shame. They who depart from You *and* me [Your prophet] shall [disappear like] writing upon the ground, because they have forsaken the Lord, the Fountain of living waters.” In Luke 7:47-48 (KJV), the host Simon only knew Mary as a shameless sinner. But, she lavished her love on Jesus which he intentionally withheld from Him, although it was customary. Then Jesus presented a multiple choice question to him of who would display the greatest love. Simon answered correctly and Jesus replied, “...Her sins, which are many, are forgiven; for she loved much: but to whom little is forgiven, the same loveth little.” And He said unto her, Thy sins are forgiven.” That may be why Mary worshipped Jesus passionately. “He drew a circle that shut me out—Heretic, rebel, a thing to flout. But love and I had the wit to win: We drew a circle and took him in!”— Edwin Markham

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Thought for Transformation

Mary’s footstool worship was so courageous. Her delight was just to be in Jesus’ presence. She set her love upon Him and worshipped Him publicly, always ending up at His feet at least three times: 1) Martha wanted help to serve Jesus while Mary sat at His feet. He told her Mary had chosen the best and it would not be seized. 2) After Lazarus died, Mary dropped at Jesus’ feet and said if He had been there he would still be alive. When she cried so did He. Then Jesus raised her brother. 3) Mary anointed Jesus with a costly gift for His burial, without an invitation. Simon disdained her as a sinner in his heart while his son, Judas Iscariot called it a waste. Jesus told them when they hear of His story, they will hear of hers also. Mary allowed nothing to stop her from bowing her knees for she first bowed her heart to worship Jesus alone.

Irreplaceable Worship

Jesus challenged the woman at the well with these words, “Ye worship ye know not what: we know what we worship: for salvation is of the Jews. But the hour cometh, and now is, when the true worshippers shall worship the Father in spirit and in truth: for the Father seeketh such to worship Him. God is a Spirit: and they that worship Him must worship Him in spirit and in truth,” John 4:22-24 KJV. “Exalt ye the Lord our God, and worship at His footstool; for He is holy,” Ps. 99:5. You can put something in God’s place, but you can never replace Him.

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