

Luke 8 Pt 3

Jesus

II. Parable of Revealed Light

- Jesus now addresses those **Born-Again...**

Responded to Light of the Word /Took in Living Water of the Spirit
Experienced Spiritual Photosynthesis and Metamorphosis

16 "No one, when he has **lit a lamp**, covers it with a vessel or puts it under a bed, but sets it on a lampstand, that those who enter may see the **light**."

By very definition Light is meant to Shine

- **Light** [Revelation] of Word of God
 1. **Demands a Response** Said yes. Received Light. Saved. W/that...
 2. **Comes Responsibility** Obligation to share God's Light w/others

Someone shared the Light of Jesus w/us...It our turn to shine

2 Corinthians 5:17 ... if anyone is **in Christ**, he is a **new creation**; old things have passed away; behold, all things have **become new**. 18 Now all things are of God, who has reconciled us to Himself through Jesus Christ, and has **given us the ministry of reconciliation...20** Now then, we are **ambassadors for Christ**, as though God were **pleading through us**: we implore you on Christ's behalf, **be reconciled to God**.

Ministry of Reconciliation: Offering others a New Relationship w/God
From Enemy of God to Friend of God through blood of Jesus

- **God didn't save us/take us** Left us here for a purpose
- **Reconcile Sinners to God** Bring sinners to God by Grace through Faith

Matthew 28:19 ... **make disciples of all the nations**, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, 20 teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you... I am with you always, even **to the end of the age**.

- **Jesus:** You and I will go **together** to bring sinners to God

Is Jesus really w/us until the end of this age?

Luke 24:47 [End of Luke] ... **repentance and remission of sins should be preached in [Jesus] name** to all nations, beginning at Jerusalem. 48 And **you are witnesses** of these things. 49 Behold, **I send the Promise of My Father upon you**; but tarry in the city of Jerusalem until you are endued with **power from on high**."

- Empowered from On High...**for what?**

Acts 1:8 [Acts begins where Luke ended. Jesus appears] ...you shall **receive power** when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be **My witnesses** to Me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth." 9 Now when He had spoken these things, while they watched, **He was taken up**, and a cloud received Him out of their sight. 10 And while they looked steadfastly toward heaven as He went up, behold, two men

stood by them in white apparel, 11 who also said, "Men of Galilee, why do you stand gazing up into heaven? This same Jesus, who was taken up from you into heaven, will so come in like manner as you saw Him **go into heaven.**"

- **I'm leaving.** Wait here for power **to be My witness**

Q. If Jesus left... how is He with them/us till the end of the Age

A. In the Person of His Holy Spirit

John 14:16 [I'm leaving] ... I will pray the Father, and He will give you **another Helper, [Comforter]** that He may abide with you forever...

- **Another:** A Helper/Comforter the **same as** Me when I was here

Is the Holy Spirit the Spirit of the God the Father...or Jesus?

Romans 8:9 ... you are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if indeed the **Spirit of God** dwells in you. Now if anyone does not have the **Spirit of Christ**, he is not His.

Spirit of God the Father/Spirit of Christ used Synonymously.
He is the same Spirit

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|--------------------|----------------------|---|
| ▪ NT Greek | <i>pneuma</i> | Breath. Wind. That which animates |
| ▪ OT Hebrew | <i>nesh-she-maw'</i> | Blast of life. Inspiration. rt. to pant |

Genesis 2:7 And the Lord God formed man of the dust of the ground and **breathed** into his nostrils the **breath of life**; and man became a **living being**.

So, We are Ambassadors of Christ; witnesses of Jesus testifying to what He has done/is doing in our lives. The Spirit of Christ is with us/in us supplying power/Light from on high to fulfill His command to make disciples for His Kingdom. [NJC]

Point v16? With Light [Revelation] comes Responsibility to Reflect Light to unsaved
Where God guides He provides: Power-Source of the Light is the Spirit of Jesus

The **believer's light** makes [known] great/important truths. We are light-bearers by bearing testimony to the Lord Jesus/His divine gospel. "You are My witnesses says the Lord." We have believed, and **therefore speak**; we have felt the healing power of the gospel, and **therefore we proclaim** it. It is the great objective of our lives to make known the gospel of Christ in every place, holding forth the Word of God, in meekness, instructing those that oppose ...and laboring to enlighten every man as to the things which make for his peace. [Spurgeon]

Called to be Ambassadors/Peace-Makers/Witnesses of God

Boldly Testifying of what God has done/is doing in our lives

- Gods people have always been called to be His witnesses...

Isaiah 44:8b... [Israel called to be witnesses of YHWH] **You are My witnesses.** [Why?] Is there a God besides Me? Indeed there is no other **Rock**; I know not one.

Acts 1:8 [Church to be witnesses of Jesus] ...you shall receive power..**you shall be My witnesses**

- Proclaiming our Awesome God/What Jesus did for us!

1 Peter 2:9 ...you are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, His own special people, that you may **proclaim the praises** of Him who called you **out of darkness into His marvelous light...**

Proclaiming Jesus as Savior: Death to Life/Darkness to Light

Ephesians 5:8 ...you were once **darkness**, but now **you are light in the Lord.**

John 1:9 [Jesus is] the **true Light** which gives light to **every man** coming into the world.

- **Jesus reveals** Himself as Light to every man Light must be Received
- **Jesus offers** gift of Salvation to every man Gift must be Accepted

John 8:12 [Great offer] "**I am the light of the world.** He who follows Me shall not walk in darkness but have the **light of life.**"

So, Why do most choose to **live in darkness/sin/confusion** when they don't have to?

John 3:19 And this is the condemnation, that the light has come into the world, and **men loved darkness** rather than light, because their deeds were evil.

- To those who respond/receive Light/Accept the gift: **New Creations as we did...**

2 Corinthians 4:6b God...commanded light to shine out of darkness has shone in our hearts to **give the light** of the knowledge of the glory of God in the **face of Jesus Christ.**

- We are now Light in a world of darkness...time to shine

Matthew 5:14 "**You are the light of the world.** A city that is set on a hill cannot be hidden.

Newsflash: God did not make you Light simply for your sake!
God chose us to be the vehicle of His Salvation message

Acts 26:8 [Paul's commission from Jesus] to **open their eyes**, in order to **turn them** from **darkness to light**, and from the power of Satan to God, that they may **receive forgiveness of sins**

If you have the truth of God, you have a **solemn responsibility** to spread that truth in whatever way God gives you opportunity, even as someone who has the cure for a life-threatening disease has the moral responsibility to spread that cure. God didn't light your lamp so that it would be hidden. [Guzik]

Ephesians 5:8 For **you were once darkness**, but now you are **light in the Lord. Walk as children of light** 9 (for the fruit of the Spirit is in all goodness, righteousness, and truth), 10 finding out what is acceptable to the Lord. 11 And have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness, but rather expose them.

Light exposes darkness by its very existence. Exposed darkness now has the opportunity to come into the light. [NJC]

Ambassadors must accurately represent the one who sent them...

Philippians 2:14 Do all things without complaining and disputing, 15 that you may become blameless and harmless, children of God without fault in the midst of a crooked and perverse generation, among whom you **shine as lights in the world,** 16 **holding fast the word of life...**

Daniel 12:3 Those who are wise shall **shine Like the brightness** of the firmament, And those who turn many to righteousness **Like the stars** forever and ever.

- **Complain** Light will grow dull immediately
- **Share Gospel** Light will shine. Be ready at all times...

Ephesians 6:15 [Armor] ... shod your feet with the **preparation of the gospel of peace**

1 Corinthians 15:3 For I delivered to you first of all that which I also received: that Christ **died for our sins** according to the Scriptures, 4 and that **He was buried**, and that **He rose again** the third day according to the Scriptures

- Salvation by Grace alone/Faith alone/Christ alone. Gift to be received.

Set the Light God has given you on a tall stand for all to see...

17 For **nothing is secret** that will not be revealed, **nor anything** hidden that will not be known and **come to light.**

IOWs God has given us a precious gift meant to share
He is well aware if we are doing so or not. He commands us to use the talents He gave us

- God will hold us accountable for **what we do with His Word...**

18 Therefore take heed **how you hear.** For whoever has, to him **more will be given;** and whoever does not have, even what he seems to have [lit. thinks that he has] will be taken from him."

- **Therefore:** Since we are accountable for what we are given...

Pay careful attention to how we hear/take in Word of God

Jesus reminds us that spiritual growth follows momentum... when we have the godly habits of receiving the word and living it, more is built onto that. When we lose those godly habits, they are extremely difficult to get back... [Guzik]

Take heed how you hear

IOWs Pay attention to how you pay attention

- **Effective Active Hearing...**
 1. Attentively-Retentively/Believingly-Obediently
 2. Candidly-Honestly/Devoutly-Sincerely
 3. Earnestly-Spiritually/Gratefully-Prayerfully [Guzik]

- In order to shine we must Hear the Word/Receive the Word/Know the Word/Share the Word

Take heed *how you hear*
Take heed *who you hear...*

2 Timothy 2:14 [Don't listen to those who...] strive about words to no profit, to the ruin of the hearers. 15 [A true teacher of the Word is...] diligent [presenting himself as] approved to God, a worker who does not need to be ashamed, **rightly dividing the word of truth.** 16 But **shun profane** and idle babblings, for they will increase to more ungodliness.

- **Choosing a Teacher:** Does he...
 1. Teach the Bible? / Whole Counsel of God?
 2. Believe in the Inherency of Scripture?
 3. Believe we are born sinners? / Believe in Creation?
 4. Believe Jesus is God? Believe in Grace alone/Faith alone/Christ alone?
- **Or do they...**
 1. Teach stories. Use extra-biblical supplemental material?
 2. Pick/Choose verses to support a pet doctrine? Deny Inherency of Scripture?
 3. Believe we are all born basically good? Deny Deity of Jesus?
 4. Deny Salvation by Grace through Faith alone? Make false-converts?

As there is True Light from Jesus there false-light from Satan...

2 Corinthians 11:13 ...these *are false apostles*, deceitful workers, transforming themselves into apostles of Christ. ¹⁴ And no wonder! For Satan himself transforms himself into an **angel of light.** ¹⁵ Therefore *it is* no great thing if his ministers also transform themselves into ministers of righteousness, whose end will be according to their works.

Word from a Shepherd: Remember, True teaching points to Jesus as the True Light
Result of true teaching is love from a pure heart and sincere faith [1 Tim 1:5]

SUMMARY Parable of Revealed Light: Hear it. Receive it. Share it. Heed it. After being born-again we now have a responsibility to share God's Word. We also have the honor/privilege of becoming part of the extended **family of God...**

III. Jesus Family

19 Then [Jesus] mother and brothers came to Him, and could not approach Him because of the crowd. 20 And it was told Him by some, who said, "Your mother and Your brothers are standing outside, **desiring to see You.**"

- **Jesus was first of many children from Mary**
- Jesus is the only one whose Father is God

Jesus natural family concerned things have gone *a bit too far....*

Mark 3:21 [Previously] ...they went out to **lay hold of Him**, for they said, "**He is out of His mind.**"

John 7:5 ...even [Jesus] brothers **did not believe in Him.**

Jesus Mother/Brothers show us as He in middle of meeting w/His disciples

Messenger: Your family wants you to stop what you are doing/come outside to see them

21 But [Jesus] answered and said to them, "My mother and My brothers are these who **hear the word of God and do it.**"

Mark 3:33 [Parallel] "Who is My mother, or My brothers?" 34 And He looked around in a circle at those who sat about Him, and said, "**Here are My mother and My brothers!** 35 For whoever **does the will of God** is My brother and My sister and mother."

Jesus family are those who hear the word of God and do it
Though our earthly family may abandon us/Our eternal family is forever

Matthew 19:29 Everyone who has left houses or brothers or sisters of father or mother or wife or children or lands, for My name's sake, shall receive a hundredfold, and eternal life

- Our earthly family may disown us...yet we have an Eternal Family. Jesus family.
- Our hope is that our earthly family is saved/ and we can all be together forever

SUMMARY Parable of Revealed Light: Shine your Light/Go Save the World. That's why we are still here.

- Pray up for next week