

The Message Belongs to God

Genesis 40:1-23

I. Intro

- A. Joseph is in Prison, for the purposes of God
 - 1. God was with him
 - 2. God showed him kindness
 - 3. God gave him favor
- B. He has an opportunity to serve in a place God needed him to serve
- C. Seemingly inconsequential to his obvious problem of incarceration, this was vital in God's plan.
- D. What we learn, The message belongs to God, and He wants to communicate the message.

II. Text

- A. Verses 1-4:
 - 1. Trusted officials in Pharaoh's house, controlling the safety of his diet, super important because of the view that Pharaoh is a god.
 - 2. The Cupbearer: made wine, insured the wine was good for consumption
 - 3. The Baker: similar to the duties of the cupbearer, a trusted position
- B. Verses 5-8:
 - 1. They both had a dream on the same night
 - 2. God sent a message, and the interpretations belonged to God
 - 3. But remember, these are not followers of the one true God, yet they were about to figure it out.
- C. Verses 9-13
 - 1. Cupbearer's dream:
 - 2. 3 days to be restored
 - 3. Press grapes into Pharaoh's cup
- D. Verses 14-15: The Lament
 - 1. He recognizes the injustice in his situation
 - 2. Refers to the situation as being in the pit...
 - a) The jail could have been a hole in the ground as was common in that part of the world
 - b) But it could also be that the Pit he was thrown in by his brothers was still on his mind.
 - c) Either way, its a low point, and its ok to recognize it as such.
- E. Verses 16-19
 - 1. The Bakers dream
 - 2. 3 days also, but brokenness and death
- F. Verses 20-22
 - 1. Feast of celebration
 - 2. Cup bearer restored
 - 3. Baker executed
- G. Verse 23: forgotten by the cupbearer

III. Points

- A. The Bread
 - 1. The bread and the baker represents the body of Christ that died in our place.
 - 2. Jesus gave His body as a sacrifice
 - 3. We deserved death, Jesus' physical body took our place
 - 4. Now we are the BODY OF CHRIST
 - a) The physical body of Christ died, and He was raised in glory, so we are no longer the defeated body of sin, but we now have the righteousness and power of Christ's resurrected body.

- b) [1Co 15:42-45 ESV] 42 So is it with the resurrection of the dead. What is sown is perishable; what is raised is imperishable. 43 It is sown in dishonor; it is raised in glory. It is sown in weakness; it is raised in power. 44 It is sown a natural body; it is raised a spiritual body. If there is a natural body, there is also a spiritual body. 45 Thus it is written, "The first man Adam became a living being"; the last Adam became a life-giving spirit.
- c) [1Co 12:12-14 ESV] 12 For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. 13 For in one Spirit we were all baptized into one body--Jews or Greeks, slaves or free--and all were made to drink of one Spirit. 14 For the body does not consist of one member but of many.
- d) [Rom 12:3-8 ESV] 3 For by the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think, but to think with sober judgment, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned. 4 For as in one body we have many members, and the members do not all have the same function, 5 so we, though many, are one body in Christ, and individually members one of another. 6 Having gifts that differ according to the grace given to us, let us use them: if prophecy, in proportion to our faith; 7 if service, in our serving; the one who teaches, in his teaching; 8 the one who exhorts, in his exhortation; the one who contributes, in generosity; the one who leads, with zeal; the one who does acts of mercy, with cheerfulness.

B. The Wine

- 1. The wine and the cupbearer represents the life giving blood of Jesus
- 2. The blood that was shed for us gave us forgiveness of sin, LIFE!
- 3. [Eph 1:7-10 ESV] 7 In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace, 8 which he lavished upon us, in all wisdom and insight 9 making known to us the mystery of his will, according to his purpose, which he set forth in Christ 10 as a plan for the fullness of time, to unite all things in Christ, things in heaven and things on earth in him.
- 4. [Mat 26:27-29 ESV] 27 And he took a cup, and when he had given thanks he gave it to them, saying, "Drink of it, all of you, 28 for this is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins. 29 I tell you I will not drink again of this fruit of the vine until that day when I drink it new with you in my Father's kingdom."
- 5. The cup bearer had an important task, and we carry a similar task today!
 - a) We are connected to Christ by His blood
 - b) We carry the message of grace and forgiveness with us every day, because of the blood of Jesus.
 - c) The killing of the body is just one aspect, but the enemy thought it was victory
 - d) The Blood spoke a different word!
 - e) [Heb 12:18-24 ESV] 18 For you have not come to what may be touched, a blazing fire and darkness and gloom and a tempest 19 and the sound of a trumpet and a voice whose words made the hearers beg that no further messages be spoken to them. 20 For they could not endure the order that was given, "If even a beast touches the mountain, it shall be stoned." 21 Indeed, so terrifying was the sight that Moses said, "I tremble with fear." 22 But you have come to Mount Zion and to the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, and to innumerable angels in festal gathering, 23 and to the assembly of the firstborn who are enrolled in heaven, and to God, the judge of all, and to the spirits of the righteous made perfect, 24 and to Jesus, the mediator of a new covenant, and to the sprinkled blood that speaks a better word than the blood of Abel.
 - f) The blood changed everything!
- 6. The promise of the blood making a difference is truly life changing

C. Christ Connection:

1. Joseph, like Christ, was sent to die with two criminals—one to be restored/saved, the other to perish.
2. 3 days: obvious connection to the 3 days in the grave
3. Bread and Wine: The body and blood are a part of every declaration of Christ's victory won for us: GOOD NEWS

IV. Close

- A. I love God's beautiful plan and message
- B. He has given us the truth, we just rest in that truth, and respond to the truth
- C. This is where we find responsibility: Choose to yield your will to Christ!
- D. The message belongs to Him, and is given to us.