

## **20190707 Does My Heart Marvel Pt2**

### **Review**

Does your heart marvel Pt2?

Last week- looked at what it means- have a heart filled w/awe/wonder concerning- King/Kingdom

Recently we saw people flock to theaters w/great anticipation/excitement- latest Marvel movie- to marvel over- superheroes/super powers..

The question we posed last week- does our heart marvel with the same excitement/anticipation over God/His Kingdom/Word?

We looked at two verses ...

**Ezek 34:11 For thus says the Lord God, “Behold, I Myself will search for My sheep and seek them out.**

**Psa 139:23 Search me, O God, and know my heart; Try me and know my anxious thoughts;**

In these two verses we see God searching for His people and the Psalmist crying out to God.

**Moments of wonder come when God, who is looking for us, encounters us looking for Him.**

God is doing His part, are we doing our part?

**Jam 4:8 Draw near to God and He will draw near to you.**

Did you make room for your heart to marvel this week over the wonder and awe of God?

Story: Billy Bray an evangelist- 1800s- was so impacted by God when he read Isa 35.5-6 ...

**Isaiah 35:5–6 (NASB95)**

**5Then the eyes of the blind will be opened And the ears of the deaf will be unstopped.**

**6Then the lame will leap like a deer, And the tongue of the mute will shout for joy.**

... in reading these verses he said ...

**“I can't help praising God,” ... “As I go along the street I lift up one foot, and it seems to say 'Glory!' and I lift up the other, and it seems to say, 'Amen;' and so they keep on like that all the time I am walking.” Billy Bray**

What did your feet say this week as you traveled through life?

We looked how we often fail to recognize Jesus in the busyness of everyday life.

As we see in 1 Chr 16.28-29 we must purposefully ascribe to God glory and honor in both the good times/difficult times.

We choose- acknowledge God's presence in- life.

We talked about the importance of verbally expressing our awe/wonder.

We need to be intentional about ...

>declaring the goodness of God and

>verbally expressing a heart of thanksgiving

A verbal expression of truth builds up our faith.

We looked at hindrances to a marveling heart.

I used- example of a quarter held close to our eye and how it blocks our vision of the heavens.

We equated this with the distractions of everyday life that can block out the wonder of God such that we are no longer amazed.

(To remind us of this- wooden quarter- bulletin)

Is my heart filled with expectation concerning  
what God has done, is doing, is going to do?

## **Does My Heart Marvel Pt2**

In Isa 9.6 one of the names of God is Wonderful.

His name is Wonderful because He is full of  
wonder and should stir our imaginations.

The more our hearts marvel/wonder over God the  
less hold- things of this world will have on us.

**Eccl 3:11 He has made everything  
appropriate in its time. He has also set  
eternity in their heart ...**

God set eternity in- heart of every human being.

God designed the human heart to be fascinated  
with and to marvel over the wonders of God.

When our heart is not fascinated w/God we find  
ourselves distracted/fascinated by other things

Other things that begin to draw our affections  
away from our devotion to God.

We become fascinated with money, drugs,  
alcohol, immorality, entertainment, leisure, etc.

**Jer 2:13 “For My people have committed  
two evils: They have forsaken Me, The  
fountain of living waters, To hew for  
themselves cisterns, Broken cisterns  
That can hold no water.**

Broken cisterns are the things we try to fill our  
lives with that bring no lasting satisfaction.

True satisfaction must be anchored in the eternal-  
in God and in His Kingdom.

The more we pour other things into our lives the  
emptier they become because the cisterns  
are broken and cannot hold satisfaction.

It is only the fountain of Living Water that ...

>will sustain us and

>bring true peace/satisfaction/fulfillment

The HS led Jesus into the wilderness ...

**Luke 4:3–4 (NASB95)**

**<sup>3</sup>And the devil said to Him, “If You are the Son of God, tell this stone to become bread.”**

**<sup>4</sup>And Jesus answered him, “It is written, ‘Man shall not live on bread alone.’ ”**

Life is more than the natural life that so consumes our existence.

There are two realities- seen and the unseen.

The eternal/unseen world for a believer should have a greater reality than the natural world.

Unfortunately, for many the natural world has become the greater reality.

**Jam 1:17 Every good thing given and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shifting shadow.**

Every good thing comes from the unseen realm.

**Our hope is not based in this reality but in the reality of another Kingdom. Kris Vallotton**

Through the resurrection of Christ a pathway was opened between this realm/realms of eternity.

Story of Jacob and the ladder to heaven ...

**Gen 28:12 He had a dream, and behold, a ladder was set on the earth with its top reaching to heaven; and behold, the angels of God were ascending and descending on it.**

**Gen 28:17 He was afraid and said, “How awesome is this place! This is none other than the house of God, and this is the gate of heaven.”**

Ladder- picture of Jesus Christ as he spans the divide between a Holy God and sinful man. Ladder also represents- entryway- divine realm. It is a picture of the blessings of God coming down from above.

Jacob was fascinated by what he saw.

**Deuteronomy 28:47–48 (NASB95)**

**<sup>47</sup>“Because you did not serve the Lord your God with joy and a glad heart, for the abundance of all things;**

**<sup>48</sup>therefore you shall serve your enemies whom the Lord will send against you ...**

Today our enemies are not necessarily physical, but things-hinder our walk w/God- distractions. God was upset because their hearts were not filled w/joy and gladness for all He provided. They failed to see God’s glory and His presence in the everyday affairs of life/did not give Him thanksgiving for His presence/provision.

**Mary and Martha ...**

Last week talked about the death/resurrection of Lazarus- dig more into the story.

Jesus had a relationship w/Mary/Martha/Lazarus- perhaps like Jesus has- relationship us today.

**Luke 10:38–42 (NASB95)**

**<sup>38</sup>Now as they were traveling along, He entered a village; and a woman named Martha welcomed Him into her home.**

Who welcomed them into their house- Martha?

Do we welcome- Lord into our lives like Martha?

**<sup>39</sup>She had a sister called Mary, who was seated at the Lord's feet, listening to His word.**

**<sup>40</sup>But Martha was distracted with all her preparations; and she came up to Him and said, "Lord, do You not care that my sister has left me to do all the serving alone? Then tell her to help me."**

**<sup>41</sup>But the Lord answered and said to her, "Martha, Martha, you are worried and bothered about so many things;**

**<sup>42</sup>but only one thing is necessary, for Mary has chosen the good part, which shall not be taken away from her."**

Put this story in perspective before we pass judgment on Mary and Martha.

13 hungry men show up- unannounced- no cell phone/Apple Find Friends.

In that culture- high sense of hospitality- they had a responsibility to provide a meal for- 13 men.

This is not a comparison between someone ...

>who sits around all day and reads the Bible and prays versus

>who is carrying the responsibility of the everyday affairs of her family

They were both busy women/both were engaged in demonstrating hospitality/preparing a meal.

At some point Jesus seemingly begins to talk to them on a more personal level/intimate level.

This is a picture of God looking for us hoping that we will turn aside to engage Him.

Mary/Martha- both busy getting the meal ready.

The responsibility of a meal- pressing in on them.  
This reminds me of the principle of the quarter.

Prior- 13 men showing up, Martha, like Mary, was  
able to hold the coin at arms length- it did not  
block her view of- heavens/wonder of God.

Martha however allowed- coin to move closer and  
closer as she focused on all- had to be done.

Before long her vision was completely blocked by  
her responsibilities- all wonder/awe was gone.

Mary, on the other hand- just as busy as Martha,  
but when Jesus began to draw near ...

Like Moses- remember Moses was very busy  
taking care of his sheep when he noticed a  
bush on- hillside- on fire but consumed.

God was looking for Moses/when Moses turned  
aside to exam this wonder- encountered God.

It was- same for Mary- unlike Martha who had  
allowed the coin to crowd out her view of the  
heavenlies and take away her wonder ...

Mary was able to turn aside from her busyness  
when she sensed that Jesus was waiting for  
them to respond to His Words.

Mary had an encounter w/God- Martha missed it.

Mary was able- keep- coin at arms length- turn  
aside and listen for His voice, and as she did  
she encountered God who- looking for her.

When Jesus told Martha that there was only one  
thing she needed, He was not saying it was  
the only thing in her life.

As with Martha we all have many roles we must  
fulfill- it was not the only thing but it was an  
essential/necessary thing for the success of  
all other areas of her life.

This is a comparison between someone who ...

>turned aside/marveled in their heart over

God in- middle of life's busyness vs

>had allowed- distractions- everyday life to

block her view- heavenlies and was not

able-view life from-eternal perspective

Look at what happens to Martha when her view of

the heavens is blocked by her busyness-

she gets impatient/resentful towards Mary.

Does this ever happen to you? Get impatient with

life/others because-allowed-to-get too close.

Because Mary turned aside she encountered

Jesus, who was waiting for her to come, in a

way that Martha was unable to.

Martha was no less a believer than Mary.

The Words of Jesus became a source of life and

joy to Mary but an annoyance to Martha.

It is easy to allow distractions to draw our

devotion/focus away from God.

Mary beheld the face/voice of Jesus.

Martha, while wanting to hear what Jesus had to

say, could not get beyond her distractions.

How do we respond when we allow the running

faucets of everyday life to distract us and keep

us from the wonder and awe of God?

Mary chose the "one thing necessary", not the

only thing, but that which was necessary.

Looking again at- two men going to Emmaus ...

(after Jesus crucifixion, burial, resurrection?? ...

get to their home, invite Jesus in- broke bread)

**Lk 24:32 They said to one another,**

**"Were not our hearts burning within us**

**while He was speaking to us on the road,**



**while He was explaining the Scriptures to us?”**

As the Living Word was speaking to them their hearts burned, yearned to hear more.

Jesus was beckoning them to hear His voice and receive His Word into their lives.

He was trying to open the Word to their understanding- He released revelation.

He wanted them to see and to understand.

Make room for God to speak to you- read, study, meditate on God's Word- pray/talk to God.

**Rom 10:8 But what does it say? “The word is near you, in your mouth and in your heart” ...**

God/Word are accessible for those- seek after it.

Ask and receive, seek and find, knock- will open.

Just as pressing grapes releases the juice inside, speaking/singing/praying- Word- release life.

**Our proclamations seed the clouds of rain that is going to fall on our lives. Bill Johnson**

You want rain- speak/declare/pray God's Word.

## **Conclusion**

We must cultivate our hearts to recognize when

God draws near and pause to breathe Him in.

When we do we will experience His abundant life that releases joy in the human heart.

Jonathan Edwards taught that ...

**The happiness of the creature consists in rejoicing in God, by which also God is magnified and exalted.**

Learn to rejoice regardless of how you feel.

**How you feel is not how you are.  
Feelings make good servants but bad  
masters. Kris Vallotton**

Paul says ...

**Phil 4:4 Rejoice in the Lord always;  
again I will say, rejoice!**

We must be intentional in our pursuit of God and  
make Him the focus of every area of our lives.

Speaking of the return of the Lord ...

**2 Thes 1:10 when He comes to be  
glorified in His saints on that day, and to  
be marveled at among all who have  
believed ...**

Are we going to wait for the Lord to return before  
we marvel- NO- it is our marveling today  
that invites His presence.

Stuart Greaves made an interesting comment ...

**One problem in Christianity today is  
boredom. I think that a marveling heart  
is a matter of life and death especially as  
things unfold. Stuart Greaves**

Never be afraid to let your heart marvel like a little  
child- Jesus said- to such belongs the KofG.

**We need to be more convinced of the  
beauty of tomorrow than the difficulty of  
today. Bill Johnson**

Again, I leave us with this key thought ...

**Moments of wonder come when God,  
who is looking for us, encounters us  
looking for Him.**

Let your heart Marvel today!