

# THE OBJECT OF JESUS' COMING

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In Luke 4:18-19, Jesus gave the object of His coming when He was speaking in the synagogue at Nazareth: *“The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he hath anointed me to preach the gospel to the poor; he hath sent me to heal the broken hearted, to preach deliverance to the captives, and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty them that are bruised, To preach the acceptable year of the Lord.”*

The late Pastor said we could change the wording slightly in those verses to our present-day English, to make it a little easier to understand. We could write it as---- “I have been anointed by the Holy Spirit to tell some wonderful news to the poor, to declare to everyone who is in any kind of bondage, that they are set at liberty. I have come to open the eyes of the blind.” That does not mean spiritual blindness, in this instance, but it means to heal the eyes of those whose eyesight has dimmed, or those totally blind and give them perfect eyesight. “I have come to heal the brokenhearted.” That means to heal the bodies of those who have repented of sin and make them perfectly well. “I have come to tell you that God wants to deliver and protect people and He is going to continue in it throughout this entire Gospel Age.”

That is what He meant when He said: “To preach the acceptable year of the Lord.” It is just like God putting out His sign in this Gospel Age, that He will answer every prayer, heal every sickness and disease, supply every financial need, and make everyone who would deal with Him, righteous, happy, prosperous, and victorious in every part of their life.

One of the greatest hindrances to people hearing the real Gospel is the denominational churches. They believe a few doctrines of the church, live a fairly good moral life, and expect to get to Heaven when they die. Everyone who follows the teachings of the denominational churches and will not change their course cannot make eternal life. This Bible teaches something entirely different from what they teach.

There are three conditions for getting to Heaven. The first is: To confess and forsake every sin and be born again. The second step is to surrender our entire life to God a living sacrifice, be filled with the Holy Spirit, and have God take entire charge of our life.

There have been some who have taken the first two steps and never got to Heaven. There were people who were filled with the Holy Spirit and had the gift of prophecy and are in the lake of fire today, crying for a drop of water to cool their tongue.

Saul, the first king of Israel, refused to take the third step in the Christian life, and, of course, lost out, became possessed with an evil spirit and finally committed suicide on Mount Gilboa. He refused to obey what God told him and rebelled and compromised at every turn.

The third condition of getting to Heaven, which is just as important as the others, is to obey God's Word in the New Testament in every detail of our life. The three conditions of getting to Heaven are inseparable, and they rise and fall together. To have our hearts cleansed from all sin and to be filled with the Holy Spirit is of untold value.

There are some real results when we have a clean heart. A clean heart and a clear conscience always bring perfect peace. In Bible times they never counted a person a real Christian until they were filled with the Holy Spirit. Paul said in Romans 8:9, *“Now if any man have not the Spirit of Christ, he is none of his.”*

Also, in 1<sup>st</sup> John 2:6 it says, *“He that saith he abideth in him ought himself also so to walk even as he walked.”*

That will be the inevitable result when we are filled with the Holy Spirit. When Paul came to Ephesus, in Acts 19:2, he asked the believers there: *“Have ye received the Holy Ghost since ye believed?”*

They told Paul that they never heard there was a Holy Spirit as they only received John's baptism, which was to teach people the need of repentance. They were then baptized into union with Jesus Christ and received the Holy Spirit. They could not live a successful Christian life until they were filled with the Holy Spirit.

In all the teachings of the New Testament, the Blood of Christ is presented as the merit, and the power of God as the means to accomplish results, and then to live the Christian life as God's Word directs in the power of the Holy Spirit.

We are never asked to live the Christian life until we have taken those two steps; confess and forsake every sin and be filled with the Spirit of God. Then we can obey God's Word as it reads as each circumstance of life arises.

God has a plan for every detail of life. He has a plan for the meeting of wrong treatment, and He has a wonderful plan for success in business and finances.

Luke 6:38, *“Give, and it shall be given unto you; good measure, pressed down, and shaken together, and running over, shall men give into your bosom. For with the same measure that ye mete withal it shall be measured to you again.”*

When we give good measure heaped up and running over, whether in business or in helping someone, God will see to it that we receive, in return, far greater measure than we gave.

For the meeting of wrong treatment, Jesus said in Mark 11:25-26, *“And when ye stand praying, forgive, if ye have aught against any: that your Father also which is in heaven may forgive you your trespasses. But if ye do not forgive, neither will your Father which is in heaven forgive your trespasses.”*

To the extent that we forgive every person their trespasses, to that extent will God forgive us, but it must be from the heart. We are not to say: “I have nothing against them, but I do not want to have anything to do with them.” That is not real forgiveness at

all. We are to forgive every person their trespasses from the heart and treat them as they were your best friend, and when we do that, God says He forgives us our trespasses.

One important thing about God's healing and financial plan, Jesus Christ considered them as a test of real Christianity. When He was teaching in the synagogue at Nazareth, in Luke 4:25-27, He said: *"But I tell you of a truth, many widows were in Israel in the days of Elias, when the heaven was shut up three years and six months, when great famine was throughout all the land: But unto none of them was Elias sent, save unto Sarepta, a city of Sidon, unto a woman that was a widow. And many lepers were in Israel in the time of Eliseus the prophet; and none of them was cleansed, saving Naaman the Syrian."*

He gave them two tests, one on healing and the other on finances. Why wasn't there anyone in Israel willing to trust God during the famine? In the first place, they were not surrendered to God, and secondly, they were not willing to accept the teachings of Elijah as the Word of God. But the widow of Sarepta did and had every need supplied for the rest of the famine.

In the 16th chapter of Luke, verses 9-10, it is brought out very plainly that unless we are willing to accept God's financial plan, we will not receive eternal life. Jesus said: *"Make to yourselves friends of the mammon of unrighteousness; that, when ye fail, they may receive you into everlasting habitations. He that is faithful in that which is least is faithful also in much: and he that is unjust in the least is unjust also in much."* Or, "I charge you to so handle the money that passes through your hands, that when you die, or when Jesus comes, you will have a home in Heaven."

If we cannot be trusted with a small matter, such as money, which is a very small matter compared to eternal life, we could never be trusted with a great matter, or eternal life. God knew there wasn't one person in Israel who would have believed Elijah when he said: *"Thus saith the Lord God of Israel, the meal will not fail nor the oil fail until the Lord sendeth rain on the earth,"* and that is why he was sent to the widow of Sarepta, an outsider.

It was the same in the days of Elisha, the Prophet; there wasn't one person in Israel who was willing to trust God for the healing of their body, and the only one who was willing to do that was Naaman the Syrian, another outsider. It proved that the people of Israel, during the time of Elijah and Elisha, had no faith in God or any spirituality whatever.

The people of the synagogue at Nazareth were equally as bad as they were because they tried to kill Jesus Christ when He exposed their hypocrisy. Luke 4:28-30, *"And all they in the synagogue, when they heard these things, were filled with wrath, And rose up, and thrust him out of the city, and led him unto the brow of the hill whereon their city was built, that they might cast him down headlong. But he passing through the midst of them went his way."*

Satan had the Jewish people completely blinded to God's healing plan, just as he has the churches today, because he knows the untold spiritual light and blessing that comes with Divine healing. Every saved person, throughout the entire Bible, trusted God for the healing of their bodies without doctors or drugs. The first record we have of Divine healing in the Bible was when Abraham prayed for Abimelech and his household, and they were all healed. (Genesis 20) The last healing in the Bible was in the 28th chapter of Acts, which covered a period of about 2,000 years.

Healing is in the Atonement of Christ, and God was so anxious for us to be healed that He sent His own Son to hang alive six hours on the Cross to bear away our diseases, sicknesses, and pains, and to give us perfect health. One could never be considered a Christian who would throw the Atonement of Christ to the winds and go to a devil-controlled medical doctor, and put more confidence in his drugs, pills, and operations than in the living God. NEVER!

A person with the least speck of spirituality could do nothing else but trust God for the healing of their bodies. That is why Satan is so opposed to Divine healing because faith for healing or anything else brings God's righteousness.

In this Gospel Age we are to receive God's righteousness through faith. Under the Law they were

counted righteous through works. Abraham is held up as our example of faith-righteousness. He trusted God for the healing of his body and that of his wife, and God called that real righteousness. That act of faith, for healing, brought God's own righteousness.

Paul brings it out more fully in the 4th chapter of Romans, Verses 19-21, *"And being not weak in faith, he considered not his own body now dead, when he was about an hundred years old, neither yet the deadness of Sarah's womb: He staggered not at the promise of God through unbelief; but was strong in faith, giving glory to God; And being fully persuaded that, what he had promised, he was able also to perform."*

He believed that if God promised that miracle of healing, He was able to perform it. The only thing involved there, was a miracle of healing on his body and that of his wife. Verse 22, *"And therefore it was imputed to him for righteousness."*

Abraham was willing to trust God for healing and because of that act, he received God's righteousness. Romans 4:23-25, *"Now it was not written for his sake alone, that it was imputed to him; But for us also, to whom it shall be imputed, if we believe on him that raised up Jesus our Lord from the dead; Who was delivered for our offences, and was raised again for our justification."*

Romans 5:1, *"Therefore being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ."*

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