



Dear Precious Friend,

October, 2007

THE HEARTBEAT OF GOD

There is a beautiful passage in the New Testament that reveals the heartbeat of the Son of God.

There is a wedding at Cana in the second chapter of John that Jesus and His mother and disciples attended. The mother of Jesus lets her son know that, "they have no wine." She knows that her son can fulfill the need. She knows His heart and His love for the man He created in His image. She knows that He cannot see a genuine need and refuse it.

His response, however, is puzzling. He responds, as if irritated with her intervention, "Woman, what do I have to do with you. My hour hasn't come yet." It sounds as if He is rejecting her, "putting her in her place," refusing the request, and seemingly uninterested in something as ordinary and fleeting as the provision of wine for a human ceremony. His eyes and thoughts seem to be on higher things, on Calvary. He is thinking of His own blood that He will shed for the world. He is, as it were, preoccupied and distant from this human celebration. It sounds like He is saying, "Leave me alone, woman, I have more important things to think about and concern myself with." This is not the time to change water to wine. This is not the hour for transforming the Old Covenant system of sacrifice and washings into the New Covenant in My blood. It sounds like Yeshua is so high minded that He has to be coerced by His earthly mother to perform the simplest miracle in order to provide the bridegroom and guests with the best of wine. But there is more beneath the surface here.

The Holy Spirit overshadowed me in order to birth a deeper understanding of this portion of scripture. Suddenly my heart was opened to hear in the Spirit more about the relationship between Jesus and His mother than about the miracle of the wine. Suddenly I perceived the bonding that existed between them, even when Jesus was still in Miriam's womb. And I saw the invitation in these verses to us as well to enter into that bonding in order to know Jesus the way Miriam did and to hear His words connected to the heart and not from our own independent and often wounded understanding.

The marriage of Cana is about the heartbeat of Yeshua, the heartbeat of God. So often we too hear His words and at first, they sound like a refusal, a rebuke, a rejection. Yet Jesus was not refusing Miriam and she knew it. She was so absolutely sure that He was about to take on the present need, that she tells the servants to "do whatever He tells you."

Her words, too, are not some dry orders to the servants and not simply a teaching of the doctrine of obedience to Christ alone. These passages are about relationship and bonding, about hearing His voice coming out from His eternal heart and not isolated self-centered words. For these passages reveal something about the perfect unity of Jesus' divine and human natures and how these two, in perfect harmony, flow out in relationship towards the man He created.

These verses are also about hearing one another from the heart of God and no longer filtered through our wounded selves. For Miriam was not talking about a dry and steely kind of obedience to Him alone here. She was rather assuring the servants of how well she knew Him and letting them know that Jesus had taken on their cause, that a miracle was about to happen. She was encouraging them to follow His step-by-step instructions because in so doing, they would be led into their needed miracle of provision.

How did Miriam "know" this? From His words alone? Certainly not! It was more than His words. Miriam knew the heartbeat of God. She was bonded to Him. She had heard His infinite heart, beating for the man He came to save. He was inside her womb when His heart beat on earth for the first time. She had a non-verbal Spirit to spirit connection with Him from her womb for she knew Him before He could utter a clear intelligible word to her. In fact, she knew who He was before He was conceived in her womb because the angel Gabriel came from the presence of God to tell her.

Miriam was overshadowed by the power of the Holy Spirit and conception took place in her womb. The Lord wants us to be a people who are overshadowed by the Holy Spirit as Miriam was, so that the true word of God will also be conceived in us, to be a people who don't hear a word independent from the Spirit and from the heart of God. He wants us to comprehend by the Spirit what He is actually saying to us and to cause us to be like Miriam, who knew that a miracle was on the way and could encourage those to whom the miracle was coming. He wants us to be a people, like Miriam, who are poised in faith to be overshadowed by the Holy Spirit in order to receive a word that will conceive life in us and in our midst. He wants that living word that is conceived in us to cause a bonding as it grows up within us into the full stature of the Son.

In His Amazing Love,

Greta