

# Pouring In The Oil and The Wine

We all know that Jesus was wounded for us, and in His great love poured out His life unto death. He gave all, and we receive with grateful hearts. But who will turn their focus away from His benefits and back to Him? Who will take thought upon this One who only thinks of others? Who will come to tend to His wounds, pouring in the oil and the wine to minister unto Him? Some of us may feel like the widow in II Kings 4 who had only a little bit of oil in her vessel. But if we have only a drop of oil to pour into the Lord's wounds, then the Spirit will take that one drop and produce more for Jesus' sake. If we have only one tear to anoint His head and feet, we can take that tear and the Spirit will produce more as He enlarges our hearts for Jesus' sake. If we feel dry and lifeless but have been seeking His heart in the scriptures, the Spirit can take that water of the Word and make wine to pour into His wounds.

When Christ was offered up on the Cross, the Pharisees delighted in His "removal" being the very ones who ordered His wounding and slaughter. The priests were too busy ministering and studying to even be aware of His Person and notice His pain. Just one disciple and a small group of women gave themselves to care for His wounded body. This small remnant made it all about Him rather than all that was going on around Him or flowing through Him. HE was their focus. They noticed HIM. They sought His care. The One who was always pouring out to others is the One they chose to pour over. The One who always cares for the needs of others is the One whose needs they noticed. In His vulnerability, in His weakness, in His depleted and crucified state they "poured in the oil and the wine."

Some may wonder, "How can this at all be relevant today? Jesus is no longer with wounds and in weakness but has been raised from the dead and is now in victory and strength?" But what do the scriptures declare? The book of Revelation show us Jesus in glory and upon the throne AFTER He was raised from the dead as a little slaughtered Lamb (Revelation 5:6). The wounds are still there. Some may wonder, "But how can this be? Weren't those wounds just a temporary condition based on a one-time act on Calvary when He died for the sins of the world?" Yet the scriptures show that those wounds are part of WHO He is from before the foundation of the world, even before creation and sin. Revelation 13:8 declares that from the foundation of the world Jesus was the Lamb that was slain. Based on His eternal nature and beautiful heart He became poured out on the Cross unto death not just in Being but in Body. Jesus manifested who He always was at Calvary. And He is that same slain Lamb today. The question is, do we see Him? Do we look deep enough to consider Him beyond our needs? Do we look deeper still to find His needs and pour ourselves over Him. Some may think, "I have nothing to offer! I am a mess and until He fixes me and cares for my needs I have nothing to give Him!" Can we give Him our hearts? Can we give Him a thought that is upon His care? How about a tear for His broken heart? Just one tear and one drop of oil can reach Him. We may feel dead and dry on the inside, but the Spirit is here to turn our hearts towards Jesus. Jesus within us can form to be a flood of life-giving waters pouring through us to others, but as we seek Him to be the flooding Life within us, can we not take thought upon Him? We are His earthen vessels that can carry the Treasure within us in a manner that holds His heart with tender loving care.

Oh Jesus, our hearts turn towards You. Our hearts burn with fires to warm you. Our eyes pour with tears to wash You. Oils come up as the Spirit breathes within us, that we might pour into Your wounds that which will bring You covering and care. We pour in the oil and the wine. We lose ourselves in caring for You. We may realize that as we tend to Your wounds we also draw life from them and become filled and changed. But our change isn't our focus... You are. And You will always be our focus. You are our love and our Life. May You be the One thing we desire and the One we seek after. May Your needs motivate us to approach You with oil and wine to pour over You rather than issues and earth needs to burden You. May our lives be a drink offering poured over You that reaches Your heart. For Your sake Lord we pray these things because we love You.