Lesson 183  Where is man’s conviction?

Conviction, there must be conviction within a man’s soul, heart and mind. Where is man’s resilience? Where is his fortitude? Why does the world take lightly that which they should value? Why am I put off for another person, another thing, another activity? Again I say, where is man’s conviction? Teach on this, put thought into it. Fickle, fickle man expects much but gives so little and then he wonders why the shape of the world is so – blasphemers. Repent or see My wrath. Turn towards Me, now’s the time. That is all but deliver this message. Now go.

Introduction

Where is man’s conviction? This is the question the Lord asked but I think we need to understand the meaning of conviction before we can answer this? Conviction therefore means:

Conviction:
-a fixed or firm belief
-the state of being convicted
-the state of being convinced

So the Lord is asking, where are man’s fixed, firm beliefs? What is he convinced of in his heart, mind and soul? Why is he soft and yielding? Why has he adopted an anything goes, everything’s okay, type of mentality? WHERE IS HIS FAITH? Do you believe that the bible is the inspired word of God? Do you believe in the deity of Christ? Do you believe that the Lord is actively at work today? Are your convictions strong enough to trust Him?

Back at the close of 1932, the two listeners set out to receive guidance from the Lord. They decided to try! One described it like this, she said:
It was then that there came a persistent desire to try to see whether I could get guidance, through sharing a quiet time with the friend with whom I was then living. She was a deeply spiritual woman with unwavering faith in the goodness of God and a devout believer in prayer, although her life had not been an easy one. I was rather skeptical, but, as she agreed, we sat down, pencils and paper in hand and waiting. This was in December 1932.
Their decision to try grew into an unswerving faith for both; and it was rewarded through receipt of words like these:

**January 29th God Calling - I Clear the Path**

"Never fear, whatever may happen. You are both being led."

"*Wait on the Lord.*" - Psalm 27:14

I am thy shield. Have no fear. You must know that "All is well." I will never let anyone do to you both, other than My Will for you. I can see the future. I can read men’s hearts. I know better than you what you need. Trust me absolutely. You are not at the mercy of Fate, or buffeted about by others. You are being led in a very definite way, and others, who do not serve your purpose, are being moved out of your Path by Me.

Never fear, whatever may happen. You are both being led. Do not try to plan. I have planned. You are the builder, not the Architect. Go very quietly, very gently. All is for the very best for you.

Trust me for all. Your very extremity will ensure My activity for you. And having your foundation on the Rock - Christ, Faith in Him, and "being rooted and grounded in Him," and having belief in My Divinity as your Corner Stone, it is yours to build, knowing all is well. Literally, you have to depend on Me for everything - everything. It was out of the depths that David cried unto Me, and I heard his voice. All is well.

"*The steps of a good man are ordered by the Lord.*" - Psalm 37:23

Their faith and their firm beliefs were met with assurances. So the question is, “WHAT DO YOU BELIEVE?” What is your faith grounded in? Do you have conviction in your heart, mind and soul? I think this is the point of today’s lesson.

When Paul wrote to the church of Galatia he said:

**Galatians 2:20** I have been crucified with Christ. It is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me. And the life I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me.

After reading the words above it is easy to see that Paul was a man of conviction and faith just like the two listeners. These people not only walked it out but they valued it as well. However, can the same be said of us today? This is what we will explore in today’s lesson; asking, “Are we a people of conviction?”
Conviction and Fortitude

The Lord opened the message with this, He said:

Conviction, there must be conviction within a man’s soul, heart and mind. Where is man’s resilience? Where is his fortitude?

Where is man’s resilience, his fortitude? In the bible it says:

Matthew 17:14-20 …if you have faith like a grain of mustard seed, you will say to this mountain, 'Move from here to there,' and it will move, and nothing will be impossible for you."

So it doesn’t take a lot to get big results but what of this resilience and fortitude. Well resilience means to be able to recover readily after being hit with something big, like illness or depression, maybe a death in the family, or losing a job. It’s about being able to come back to where you were even after you’ve been bent, compressed or stretched beyond recognition. A couple of good synonyms would be flexible or pliancy. And fortitude well, fortitude means strength and firmness of mind in facing difficulty, adversity, danger or temptation. Therefore when we apply these two concepts to conviction, well it means that we don’t lose our faith, our firm belief even after it has been stretched or faced with adversity or temptation. It remains rock solid. It’s kind of like, keep the past in the past, and don’t let it affect your future with Me. Of leaving the old behind, here are a couple of words from the Lord:

04/24/14 - You do well to remember that I am with you. Each of My children I love with and everlasting love. You are loved. Leave those worries behind. Good. Rise up.
07/27/14 - Bother not with small things of the past/ lock eyes with Me/ betrothed.
07/28/14 - Good silence, stay on path. Don’t worry about what is behind you. Stay focused on today. Don’t worry about the past or the future, today is enough to think about. Life is lived one day at a time. Don’t get ahead of Me and don’t fall behind. Stay in the moment. All is in My control, have faith in Me. Nothing is impossible for Me. Watch My plan unfold, be amazed.

The Lord said there must be conviction in our heart, mind and soul. We do not need to be focused on difficulties or adversities, or things of the past, no for today we need to focus on Him, casting doubt aside:
06/18/14 - Take care of business / more coming / see the bigger picture / changes here and there / walk beside Me, not behind.

07/24/14 - My Bride needs to escalate her time with Me. Crucial / non-addictive / no more pablum. Moroseness, inwardness, inspecting yourself is not of Me. Thoughts of goodness and purity are what get the job done. If My people are looking inward they cannot hear Me.

07/25/14 - Doubt not.

07/26/14 - Do you believe in Me? (Yes Lord) 

HH: My darlings, whom I love.

My sweet ones, My devoted ones, ever careful, ever watchful, bow down your ear, listen carefully, silently, stealthily, My called-out ones. Be brave, courageous, fine-tune your ears, stop to think of My glory. Delight yourselves in Me. Blessed are those who suffer for righteousness’ sake. Leave everything to Me, in My hands. Glean not the things of the world. Stalwart are My little ones.

07/27/14 - Be totally rooted in Me; understand, totally; rooted only in Me; all that I AM; be consciously aware of Me; so completely focused on Me; I will never lead you astray; you know that; now, trust that knowledge; trust Me; that’s it; turn your focus onto Me; determined; zero it in on Me; not even a fraction off any time; zeroed in on Me; now, let’s move.

07/27/14 - Stay focused stay pure.

07/27/14 - Do not adhere to what is not of Me.

07/27/14 - Don’t let the enemy get his hooks in (saw hooks like on a fishing line), Rebuke him in My name and slam the doors shut, I will be there to help.

07/28/14 - Stager not / I am with you.

07/28/14 - Yes, I am here with you and I am pleased that you seek My will and My will alone. I am pleased that you don’t give up but keep plowing through. Be diligent, be committed, seek My truth in all things. I have a purpose in it all.

07/28/14 - Good silence, stay on path. Don’t worry about what is behind you. Stay focused on today. Don’t worry about the past or the future, today is enough to think about. Life is lived one day at a time. Don’t get ahead of Me and don’t fall behind. Stay in the moment. All is in My control, have faith in Me. Nothing is impossible for Me. Watch My plan unfold, be amazed.

07/28/14 - Purpose, I have a purpose for each, stay true to My guiding to walk in and complete your purpose/ Order, everything must be done in My order, do when I say to do, don’t miss My timing (saw a large wall come falling down) Exploits will be coming soon/ Each member of My Body must keep their own rank and placing - no guesswork/ No self will be tolerated.

07/28/14 – Persevere.

07/29/14 - Right standing with Me; be at so; henceforth; let Me carry the loads; be not burdened; know your standing with Me; your place; your purposes; know My
love, My caring for you; you must know; I now call you righteous; walk, breathe, live in all that it is; understand what I AM revealing; stop not at surface understanding; allow the depths; seek the depths; embrace the depths; embrace Me; truly embrace all the I AM.

When a person is convicted, they have a fixed or firm belief. It means that they do not lose their faith, their firm belief even after it has been stretched or faced with adversity or temptation. It remains rock solid in them. Remember Paul’s words:

**Galatians 2:20** *I have been crucified with Christ. It is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me.*

Now that is firm conviction isn’t it? His old self was gone. It was crucified with Christ. He no longer needed to worry about what was behind but instead he lived one day at a time focused on the Lord. He pressed on:

**Philippians 3:12-14** *Not that I have already obtained this or am already perfect, but I press on to make it my own, because Christ Jesus has made me his own. Brothers, I do not consider that I have made it my own. But one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, I press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus.*

This should be our goal as well, to *press on towards Christ Jesus with conviction.*

**Value**

In the last section of today’s lesson we learned about resilience and fortitude, we essentially learned about meeting life head on so that we can recover readily after being hit with something big. What we learned is to forget what’s behind and move forward focused on the Lord. And this brings us to the next portion of today’s lesson, that says:

Why does the world take lightly that which they should value? Why am I put off for another person, another thing, another activity? Again I say, where is man’s conviction?

I believe this portion of the message is about precedence. Who are what takes precedence in your life. Precedence means:

**Precedence:**
- the act or fact of preceding (to go before, as in place, order, rank, importance)
- the right to precede in order, rank, importance, or time; priority

Therefore if you apply this to what the Lord is saying in the words above, well the Lord is asking if you are allowing another person, another thing, another activity to take precedence over Him. He is asking if you are putting Him first, as evidence through messages like these:

07/25/14 - I AM with you always and forever. Capture the moment. Live in My realm. True and tried My Beloved.
07/26/14 - Forward we go, marching on to victory. Enemy's deception exposed. Knowledge and wisdom of your God Jesus brought forth. Keep it going. Action moves the mountain. Life quest.
07/26/14 - Fervently seek Me.
07/27/14 - Cherish Me always.
07/27/14 - Give Me time and effort on your part I want to spend time with you/ You must keep Me 1st/ I am the head and not the tail and must be treated as so/ As you keep Me 1st put your fellowman before you as well in this are many blessings/ In all you let your motivation and heart be right, even a good deed done with wrong motive spoil the deed.
07/29/14 - Reverence in all situations.
07/29/14 - Keep clean of the world.
07/29/14 - Death to self, be completely immersed in Me. Seek My will in all things. Disavow all else. Keep this, nothing but the blood of Jesus, keep this at the forefront of your mind. A complete union/fusion with Me. This should be your goal. Want what I want. Move forward in My example. Be whole in Me and nothing else. Your path has been laid out before you. Walk in this. Seek My guidance for direction. Don’t be swift to act or speak. Be humble. Be passionate. Be involved. There is great reward in this. Go now, be on your way. Celebrate life and all that this means.

As I was reading all of these passages it reminded me of the fourth chapter of Matthew. It reads like this:

**Matthew 4:1-11**  
Then Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. And after fasting forty days and forty nights, he was hungry. And the tempter came and said to him, "If you are the Son of God, command these stones to become loaves of bread." But he answered, "It is written, "'Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.'"
Then the devil took him to the holy city and set him on the pinnacle of the temple and said to him, "If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down, for it is written, "'He will command his angels concerning you, 'and "'On their hands they will bear you up, lest you strike your foot against a stone.'" Jesus said to him, "Again it is written, 'You shall not put the Lord your God to the test.'"

Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their glory. And he said to him, "All these I will give you, if you will fall down and worship me." Then Jesus said to him, "Be gone, Satan! For it is written, "'You shall worship the Lord your God and him only shall you serve.'" Then the devil left him, and behold, angels came and were ministering to him.

What this passage does is that, it not only offers a demonstration of Jesus’ convictions, but it also offers a demonstration of Him putting God first. Being tempted in the wilderness was not an easy task yet He met the challenge with a firm belief in His Father. He met Satan’s temptations with scripture:

**Deuteronomy 6:13** It is the LORD your God you shall fear. Him you shall serve and by his name you shall swear.  
**Deuteronomy 6:16** "You shall not put the LORD your God to the test, as you tested him at Massah.  
**Deuteronomy 8:3** And he humbled you and let you hunger and fed you with manna, which you did not know, nor did your fathers know, that he might make you know that man does not live by bread alone, but man lives by every word that comes from the mouth of the LORD.

This section was opened with a question, it said: Why does the world take lightly that which they should value? I think we can learn a lesson here from Jesus. He gave His Father precedence. He treasured His Father’s words, He knew them, He quoted them. He walked them out in His life. Here are a few of the demonstrations He left for us.

**Matthew 6:9-13** In this manner, therefore, pray: Our Father in heaven, Hallowed be Your name. Your kingdom come. Your will be done On earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, As we forgive our debtors. And do not lead us into temptation, But deliver us from the evil one. For Yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.
Matthew 26:36-39 Then Jesus went with them to a place called Gethsemane, and he said to his disciples, "Sit here, while I go over there and pray." And taking with him Peter and the two sons of Zebedee, he began to be sorrowful and troubled. Then he said to them, "My soul is very sorrowful, even to death; remain here, and watch with me." And going a little farther he fell on his face and prayed, saying, "My Father, if it be possible, let this cup pass from me; nevertheless, not as I will, but as you will."

Jesus did not take lightly that which should be valued, nor should we. He sought the Father’s will above all else even to the cross. He values it so much so that He even continues His training of us, for example, to the two listeners the Lord said:

January 10th God Calling Eventide - Hush your spirit still more in My Presence. Self dies, not by human combat, not necessarily by supplicatory prayer, but by the consciousness of My Presence, and of My Spirit-values. Thus self shrivels into lifelessness, into nothingness.

It is so necessary to dwell with Me, to draw so close to Me in an understanding as complete as it is possible for man to realize.

Do you not see now the need for the training and discipline I have enjoined on you? They are vital in that they attune your being to the consciousness of My Mind and Purpose. When this Mind is in you that is in Me you are able to penetrate the outer courts of the Temple, and in the very Holy of Holies to grasp the meaning that lay behind all I said and did and was.

Sacrifice all for this. Your work has to be inspired. Where can you find inspiration but in My Presence?

Jesus continues to teach us about precedence and sacrifice. Basically He teaches us to draw closer to Him.

Repent and Turn Towards The Lord

In the last section of the lesson we learned about putting the Lord first, giving Him precedence over all else. We learned this from the examples that Jesus left us. In this section we will move forward in today’s lesson by studying this passage. It says:

Fickle, fickle man expects much but gives so little and then he wonders why the shape of the world is so – blasphemers. Repent or see My wrath. Turn towards Me now’s the time.
This passage was delivered with more force wasn’t it? The Lord described man as being fickle. Fickle means likely to change, not constant or loyal in affections, irresolute. So when He said man expects much but gives little, He essentially is saying that man is acting poorly, but in spite of this He still believes the Lord should cut him some slack, all the while fulfilling all of man’s expectations. It kind of sounds like we are treating God like he is a genie in a bottle, Santa Claus, or something of the like doesn’t it? The Lord describes people who have this attitude as blasphemers. This is because blaspheme speaks of irreverence, evil and abuse. And isn’t it rather irreverent and abusive to expect much but give little? Isn’t it rather irreverent and abusive to change, to not be constant or loyal in your affections towards the Lord? We are like this and still we wonder why the shape of the world is so. What is that old saying, an apple doesn’t fall far from the tree. How can we be surprised at the shape of the world when we ourselves (the world’s inhabitants) behave with irreverence, evil and abuse? To this the Lord says:

07/24/14 - Keep all things holy; all manner of thinking, acting, speaking; Holy; excuses do not excuse; no time, no time; each is responsible; now; choose, in or out.
07/29/14 - Always remember Me think of Me often I should be your focus/ Keep Me 1st and you will be on your way.
07/29/14 - Many calamities are the result of sin repent and return unto Me I will wipe the slate clean/ I can heal the broken, restore the old, make new if only you will let Me/ Trust is a big issue there will be many times, situations will be out of your control and even though things look bad you must trust Me/ Will you trust Me?
07/30/14 - Man cannot understand all the workings of My Kingdom, yet that does not make it any less real. Move forward in faith even though you don’t have all the answers, nonetheless move forward in Me and My Ways. Do this and you will be well pleased. Seek My guidance and direction, move in My Will. All is in My powers, My control, just step out in faith. The answers will come when the time is right. I’ve shown you what to do, now do it.
07/30/14 - Audible I speak to the listening ears that wait on Me; My choice of reason and your choice of obedience.

Yes the Lord said, Repent or see My wrath. Turn towards Me now’s the time. This is because time’s a wasting. And...

07/24/14 - It is time to press on...press forward.
07/24/14 - Patience / endure / learn / time is crucial; My time / survival / must be My time.
We can no longer afford to be fickle, or irreverent or abusive. We can no longer afford to be wishy-washy. We must be people of conviction as noted below:

03/14/13 - Will you but see what I AM saying to you, That...to come to me through humility, Bow before Me, Now concentrate on what I have to say, Guard the truth...hold onto it, There might be times anointed you come, That is the way of righteousness guided by Me. Go forth in all you do proclaiming truth. Get your knowledge from Me. Hope is a mainstay. Do not be wishy-washy. You know what to do...do it. Peace be with you.

The Lord is calling His people to walk in the ways of righteousness, guided by Him, no longer fickle or wishy-washy but firm in their belief. He said that you know what to do...do it. Which is very similar or comes across in much same way as when He said to Repent or see My wrath, doesn’t it?

Summation

We began today’s lesson with this question, Where is man’s conviction? This in actuality was the question that the Lord had asked us. Basically He was asking us, where are man’s fixed, firm beliefs? What is he convinced of in his heart, mind and soul? Why is he soft and yielding? Why has he adopted an anything goes, everything’s okay, type of mentality? WHERE IS HIS FAITH? These were the questions that came to mind when we first thought of conviction.

What we discovered is that having conviction means that we don’t lose our faith, our firm belief even after it has been stretched or faced with adversity or temptation. It will remain rock solid. In today’s lesson we learned to keep the past in the past, and don’t let it affect our future with Him.

Well, we essentially learned that we should not let anything shake our faith, our conviction in Him. We should follow Jesus’ example and give the Father precedence. We should treasure His words just as Jesus did. After all Jesus knew them, He quoted them and then He walked them out in His life. We should do the same. This is the type of conviction we should have as well. Jesus taught us to seek His will for our lives, this is the example we are to follow.

This message was delivered to us today through these words:
Conviction, there must be conviction within a man’s soul, heart and mind. Where is man’s resilience? Where is his fortitude? Why does the world take lightly that which they should value? Why am I put off for another person, another thing, another activity? Again I say, where is man’s conviction? Teach on this, put thought into it. Fickle, fickle man expects much but gives so little and then he wonders why the shape of the world is so – blasphemers. Repent or see My wrath. Turn towards Me now’s the time. That is all but deliver this message. Now go.

And when comparing spiritual to spiritual here is a message that reinforces today’s words:

This was received way back in 2013. At that time when speaking of conviction, the Lord said,

Grace and holiness are found in your God Jesus. Be like Him. Have conviction. Be powerful. Be strong. Don’t allow Satan in to pull you away from Your God Jesus. Fellowship is good if you keep Me in mind (in it). Don’t be swayed. Be convicted. Live in Your God Jesus. Live in His word. Live in His guidance. Live in His presence.

Living your conviction, walking in it, not being swayed, this idea reminded me of a post that I recently read, it went like this:

In the physical today, I was eating breakfast at the café. After I had started eating, my friend Jason came in and sat down at the same table as me. He talked about how he was working on rebuilding the front-end (brakes, ball-joints, bearings, etc.) on his 4x4 pickup truck. During the conversation, I remembered that he needed a cart for his cutting torch and acetylene tanks (because his burned-up in a garage fire last summer). He had bought new tanks and a new torch set awhile back, but he didn’t really want to spend the money on a two-wheeled cart for it yet. I have an extra cart at the farm, so I decided to tell him that I would give it to him, for which Jason was appreciative and said that he would take it.

Later in the afternoon, I brought the cart over to Jason’s because I knew that he would be there working on his pickup truck. After he put his oxygen and acetylene tanks on the cart and re-installed his cutting torch regulators and hoses, Jason brought up the fact that he had read the book of Revelation and thought that it was kind of a “challenging read”. I agreed. (About a week ago, we discussed how it (Christianity) really all boils down to whether or not you believe that you need a savior to be reconciled to God and whether or not you believe that that savior is Jesus. - Jason admitted at that time that he just wasn't there yet.)
Anyway, back to today: Jason mentioned that he was researching a few things about the “seven churches” and was looking up where they were, etc. I responded that there’s also a spiritual reality behind what the Lord is saying about those churches that is still true today.

Then some time passed as Jason continued to work on his pickup and I watched. I decided to do what I came there for in the first place, so I told Jason, "I have been studying the sayings of Jesus and one of them boils down to “see a need, fill a need”, and that is what motivated me to give you that cart for your cutting torch". To this, Jason responded (somewhat light-heartedly, but not disrespectfully) “Thank you Lord”.

This man saw a need and filled a need, in other words, he was convicted to walk out his faith in the Lord by applying the Lord’s words to his life just as Jesus did. i.e. He walked as a servant in the Lord’s support system. He included the Rhema words in his post that had inspired him to act:

Reference:
Sat, 14 Jun 2014, Meeting, MVA

I decided to include this personal event into today’s lesson because through this story you can see how it is possible to walk out your faith, your convictions in your life just as Jesus did. Through this story you can also see how the Lord can use you to bring another person closer to Jesus.

To the two listeners the Lord said:

April 17 - The Two Joys

My children, I come. Hearts eager to do My Will, send out a call that ever I find irresistible. I know no barrier then. Resignation to My Will keeps Me barred out from more Hearts than does unbelief. Can anything be such a crime against Love as being resigned? My Will should be welcomed with a glad wonder if I am to do
My Work in the heart and life. The only resignation that could possibly be acceptable to Me is when Self, ousted by My claims, accepts the inevitable and resigns the throne for Me, leaving My Disciple free to carry out My Will, to welcome My Will gladly, rapturously.

In all true discipleship, and in the true spiritual development of each disciple, there is first the wonder and the joy of first acquaintance, then comes the long plain stretch of lesson-learning and discipline, when Joy seems so much a thing of the past as never to be recaptured again. But the constant experience of Me, the constant persistent recognition of My Work in daily happenings — the ever accumulating weight of evidence in support of My Guidance — the numberless instances in which seeming chance or wonderful coincidence can be, must be, traced back to My loving forethought -- all these gradually engender a feeling of wonder, certainty, gratitude, followed in time by Joy.

Joy is of two kinds. The Joy born of Love and Wonder, and the Joy born of Love and Knowledge, and between the experience of the two Joys lie discipline, disappointment, almost disillusion. But combat these in My Strength, or rather cling blindly, helplessly to Me and let Me combat them, persevere in obeying My Will, accept My discipline, and the second Joy will follow. And of this second Joy it was that I said, "Your joy no man takes from you." Do not regret the first, the second is the greater gift.

If you continue in my word, then are you my disciples indeed; And you shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free." John 8:31, 32

The Lord encouraged the two listeners to cling to Him, to persevere in obeying His will, that there joy might be complete. Basically, He was talking about the resilience of their conviction in Him. And finally in closing to us today He says:

07/26/14 - Streets of gold await / My staff / My people who serve Me / take pleasure in knowing your God / few do and have their own perception / I love them, all the same / truth is a seed that explodes under the right conditions / I will bring those conditions about / woe to those blinded with their own pride / rejoice with those who see / signs in the heavens / signs in the earth / “awake” My people, / steadfastness is a virtue / mercy I give to those with pliable hearts / walk with Me / with joy we go forth.

07/28/14 - New day. Each day a new day. See the beauty, see the life, in each. Trust all in My care. Keep clean of worry. Walk in faith of your God Jesus. I AM in control of all. Allow your God Jesus to work on your behalf. One with your God Jesus. Priorities set. Keep the order. Actions do. Easy as pie. Walk the path, see the beauty. I Love you. That is all.
Each day presents a new opportunity for us to display and walk in the Lord’s ways. Each day presents an opportunity for us to give the Lord the precedence that He so much deserves. Walk with Him. Walk in faith. Walk in conviction. In this I believe you will be well pleased.

May the Lord Bless You in This,
Cindy

http://www.takehisheart.com