



## Looking Unto Jesus

Hebrews 12:2 "... looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith..."

### Words of Ministry

"Looking unto Jesus" is the activity of the Christian life. It describes a life of faith, trust and participation. The Bible says that we are "called into the fellowship of His Son" (1 Cor 1:9) and to participate in that fellowship requires our attention to be turned always towards Christ.

What does it mean to "look unto Jesus"? Well, you can think of it like this: If you are drowning and somebody drives by you on a boat, you do not look **at** him. You look **unto** him. When you look unto something, you are turning your attention towards that something, expecting and hoping for rescue! The look is not **at**, but **unto**.

In the same way, God calls us to look unto Jesus expecting Him to save, redeem and deliver us. The look is with expectation, with anticipation and with hope. We are expecting to receive something, to obtain something and to have something imparted into us that will altogether change our situation for the better. In other words, looking unto is a look of faith. God's Word says that we are to keep "looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith". That is how God wants us to live.

Many people today are looking "at" Jesus in our services. They look "at" Him in worship, in listening to the sermon, in the fellowship of other believers, etc. But what is often missing is a hope or expectation of receiving anything from Christ. It is a non-participatory event. We are spectators – spectators of the divine and holy mystery of Christ, mind you, -- but spectators nonetheless. We watch the show and hope we are entertained sufficiently to want to come back another Sunday.

Beloved, this is the way things are because we are not looking unto Jesus. If we were to look unto Jesus with specific faith, earnest anticipation and living hope we would find ourselves becoming participants in Christ and not spectators of Him. We would enter the call to come "into the fellowship of the Son" and have the rich, fruitful life of the "True Vine" (John 15:1) flow into us, the branches, until we are bearing much fruit!

So beloved, are you looking UNTO Jesus? If you have a recurring problem in your life, don't come to the gathering of the saints to just look "at" Jesus. Come with faith and look "unto" Jesus. Look unto Jesus and *keep looking* unto Jesus! See Him taking that problem to the cross and say, "Lord, I thank You that by Your finished work, I am delivered from the power the enemy. Thank you that You have given me Your Life inside to face this problem with victory! I am expecting You to share with me Your victory in this."

You may be thinking, "You have no idea how complicated my problems are! It can't really so simple that all I have to do is to 'look unto Jesus'." Well, beloved, if looking unto Jesus can't fix your problem, I have a question to ask: Where are you going to look? If the author of the universe, the glorious, victorious Lord of resurrection can't fix your problem, then you are really stuck! Psalm 25:15 says, "*My eyes are ever on the LORD, for only he will release my feet from the snare.*"

Yes, victory in the Christian is really that simple. The problem with us is that we tend to look **unto** ourselves. But we cannot save or deliver ourselves. Even the apostle Paul struggled when he depended on his self-effort. That is why he said, "*For the good that I will to do, I do not do; but the evil I will not to do, that I practice*" (Romans 7:19). It was only when Paul looked away from himself and unto Jesus that he received his deliverance (Romans 7:24–25).

Beloved, if you have been looking unto yourself, it is time to start looking unto Jesus. Look unto Him, the author and finisher of your faith. And soon, you will be looking at your deliverance and freedom!