**Rumination 836 (78) Feb. 07, 2021 by K.C. Ung**

The **T**heme: **Hungry and Thirsty** [berita-bethel-ung.com](http://www.berita-bethel-ung.com)

The **T**ext: *After fasting forty days and forty nights, He was hungry.* Mt. 4:2, NIV

The **T**hots:

Intro.: Jesus was ever a True Man when He was on earth – it was recorded that He was **hungry** and **thirsty**.

1. **Jesus Christ – Hungry and Thirsty**
2. At the **C**ommencement of His Public Ministry. Mt. 4:2

 *When He had fasted forty days and forty nights, He was afterward an* ***hungered****.*

1. In the **C**ourse of His Public Ministry.
	1. For His own **S**elf: He experienced **literal** hunger and thirst:
2. He was Hungry: *when they were come from Bethany, He was hungry.* Mk. 11:12
3. He was Thirsty: *Jesus saith unto her* (Samaritan woman), *Give Me to drink.* Jn. 4:7
	1. To the **S**inners: He offered to quench their **spiritual** hunger and thirst.
4. He **S**tated the **C**onditions: Jn. 6:53

 *Verily, verily, I say unto you, Except ye* ***eat*** *the flesh of the Son of man,*

 *and* ***drink*** *His blood, ye have no life in you.*

1. He **S**pecified His **C**oncept – what He meant:

 *Jesus said unto them*…*he that cometh to Me shall never* ***hunger****;* (because he **eats** of My flesh)

 *and he that believeth on Me shall never* ***thirst****.* (because he **drinks** of My blood)

* 1. To others they can **S**atisfy His **virtual** hunger and thirst:
1. His **P**uzzling **S**tatement: Mt. 25:35

 *I was an hungered, and ye gave Me meat: I was thirsty, and ye gave Me drink.*

1. The **P**oser and **S**urprise: Mt. 25:37

 *Lord, when saw we Thee an hungered, and fed Thee? or thirsty, and gave Thee drink?*

1. The **P**roblem **S**olved: Mt. 25:40

 *Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these My brethren, ye have done it unto Me.*

1. **At the Completion of His Public Ministry.**
	1. On the **C**ross, He cried out: *I thirst.* Jn. 19:28
	2. It was at the **C**ompletion of His Mission. Jn. 19:30, NIV

*When He had received the drink, Jesus said, "It is finished."*

*With that, He bowed His head and gave up His spirit.*

* 1. He **C**ompleted His task as Man. Now as Man… Heb. 2:18; 4:15
	2. *… He Himself hath suffered being tempted, He is able to succour them that are tempted*
	3. *For we have not an high priest which cannot be touched with the feeling of our infirmities;*

 *but was in all points tempted like as we are, yet without sin.*

1. **The Corinthian Christians – Hungry and Thirsty**
2. Their **S**ad **S**tate at the **S**upper. I Cor. 11:21, 22

 *For in eating every one taketh before other his own supper: and one is* ***hungry****, and another is* ***drunken****.*

* 1. Their **D**emeanour is **S**piteful – *despise ye the church of God*?
	2. Their **D**eed is **S**hameful – *shame them that have not?*
1. The **R**emedy is to **R**eally **R**emember the Lord at His Supper. I Cor. 11:24, 25
2. The Church is to eat the bread – it is the act of remembrance of His **B**ody **B**roken for us.

 *Take,* ***eat****: this is My body, which is broken for you: this do in remembrance of Me.*

1. The Church is to drink of the cup – it is the act of remembrance of His **B**lood shed for us.

 *This cup is the new testament in my blood: this do ye, as oft as ye* ***drink*** *it, in remembrance of Me.*

1. The **R**eason for the Church to do this: I Cor. 11:26

 *For as often as ye* ***eat*** *this bread, and* ***drink*** *this cup, ye do show the Lord's death till He come.*

*Verily God, yet become truly human – Lower than angels – to die in our stead;*

*How hast Thou, long promised “seed of the woman,” Trod on the serpent, and bruised his head!*

*How didst Thou humble Thyself to be taken, Led by Thy creatures, and nailed to the cross!*

*Hated of men, and of God, too, forsaken, Shunning not darkness, the curse, and the loss!*

*How hast Thou triumphed. And triumphed with glory, Battled death’s forces, rolled back every wave!*

*Can we refrain, then, from telling the story?* ***Lord, Thou art Victor o’er death and the grave.***

 *Unknown*

**REFLECTIONS FOR THE WEEK R. 836**

1. It is now almost one year since the Covid-19 struck and brought death in its trail [*The first confirmed death was in Wuhan on 9 January 2020. The first death outside of China occurred on 1 February in the Philippines, and the first death outside Asia was in France on 14 February* – Wikipedia] and since then millions of people all over the world have died, others suffered and recovered, while many more come under its affliction in one way or another, directly or indirectly, losing their jobs, having to close down their businesses, shutter their shops and premises, got thrown out of employment or have to change occupation in order to survive. Basically, all need to eat and drink in order to survive. When they, or their dependents are robbed of these resources they will suffer in one way or another. These circumstances account for the increasing numbers (during this period) of depression cases, suicides, family quarrels and societal instability including crimes of various sorts reported to the relevant authorities.

With this increasing need of the satisfaction of physical hunger and thirst, there has also arisen the great and tremendous need of spiritual hunger and thirst to meet the mental and spiritual needs of many people under such circumstances.

Then there are the vulnerable seniors who are more proned to be infected by the disease and those who live alone and are scared to go out of their homes. Sometimes, they are just left to themselves without the so-called offered help from those who are able.

To the church at large, how do they meet the physical and spiritual challenges facing the society and the community of those in need in in these critical times?

People at large are hungry and thirsty and many cannot carry on with their businesses to get an income to feed themselves and their dependents. Willingness to trust in the Gospel to satisfy their spiritual hunger and thirst is not enough to meet their physical needs. They need the essentials of living and unless the Church extend their hand to aid these people in need it will be futile just to boast of the offered fruits of the Gospel.

Thus, the challenge comes to every Christian again as it did in the time of Christ:

**Will the Church be asking then what the seemingly righteous asked? Matt. 25:37-40**
*Then shall the righteous answer Him, saying, Lord, when saw we Thee an hungred, and fed thee? or thirsty, and gave Thee drink? When saw we Thee a stranger, and took Thee in? or naked, and clothed Thee? Or when saw we Thee sick, or in prison, and came unto Thee?
And the King shall answer and say unto them, Verily I say unto you,* ***Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these My brethren, ye have done it unto Me****.*

The Lord’s answer is as relevant as it was then as now! Think about it. **REFLECT**

1. In anticipation of Valentine’s Day next week, a Valentine joke was sent to me as follows:

(It was part of a poetic exchange between a husband and his wife.)

HUSBAND: God saw me hungry, he created pizza.

 He saw me thirsty, he created Pepsi.

 He saw me in the dark, he created light.

 He saw me without problems, he created YOU.

Contrast the Valentine Love so expressed above in contrast to Divine Love as instructed the husband regarding his wife (Eph. 5:25)

*Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ also loved the church, and gave Himself for it.*

I Jn. 3:16-18: *Hereby perceive we the love of God, because He laid down his life for us:*

*and we ought to lay down our lives for the brethren. But whoso hath this world's good, and seeth his brother have need, and shutteth up his bowels of compassion from him, how dwelleth the love of God in him?* **REFLECT.**

**POINTS TO PONDER:** *Let us not love in word, neither in tongue; but in deed and in truth.*