

Touch not the Oil and wine ~ Audio (15th July 2022)

The phrase making up the title has always captured my interest and so I have been doing a study on just what it may refer to. No doubt there is much more to this topic but here is what I have gleaned.



During the last two months before the Fall feasts; Av and Elul, one is busy tying up the loose ends for the season before 5782 ends & RH 5783 begins. Two things that happen in these 5th and 6th months, are the firstfruits offerings of the wine and the oil. We know about 7 weeks being counted from Passover to Pentecost and the wheat firstfruits offered on the 50th day, but something less well known (and recorded by the Essenes at Qumran) is that straight after that, another 7 weeks is counted before the firstfruits of the grape harvest is offered and then another 7 weeks is counted until firstfruits of oil is offered before the Lord.

Joe 2:24 And the [threshing] floors shall be full of grain and the vats shall overflow with new wine and oil.

According to the Essene's comprehensive records, the new wine offering (Pentecost of Wine) was done on the 3rd Av and the Pentecost of Oil was celebrated on the 22nd Elul. These were significant markers for the farming community because until the firstfruits offering had been done, the harvests of the ripe crops in the fields were NOT ALLOWED TO BE BROUGHT IN OR CONSUMED. So, the firstfruits offering of each harvest indicated the starters gun for the rest of the crop to be brought in.

On top of that, the Book of Jubilees chapter 32 tells us that, for the priests, once firstfruits of new crop had been offered the remaining wine or oil was considered corrupted and was burnt with fire:

*'For in its year shall the seed be eaten till the days of the gathering of the seed of the year, and the wine till the days of the wine, **and the oil till the days of its season.** And all that is left thereof and becomes old, let it be regarded as polluted: let it be burnt with fire, for it is unclean. And thus let them eat it together in the sanctuary, and let them not suffer it to become old.'*

This is quite a significant spiritual principle – it is apparently vitally important to obtain fresh oil, oil of a new season. It

will not do to keep on consuming the old wine or using the old oil.

So, just as there is a firstfruits barley company which we have often spoken about, the wine and oil firstfruits also represent spiritual truths and prophetic pictures which I have been exploring. The Book of Revelation 6:6 tells us that the angels were instructed not to hurt the oil or the wine during the rollout of judgements. Who or what do these two crops represent?

Oil and wine were applied to the wounds of the man wounded on the way to Jericho. So, they both carry within them healing and restorative properties. The Lord referred to this scene in a prophetic word received for the year 5781:

‘The man on the Jericho road is a wounded world, left to die by those who ransack the nations for their own supplies. But My oil and wine are the kind who pour themselves out for others and the Spirit of Elijah will multiply their flour barrels.’

So, it seems the oil and the wine can refer to certain groups of saints. The Word speaks of 3 separate harvests: grain, wine and oil. According to psalm 104, grain, wine and oil have different purposes - wine imparts gladness of heart; joy. Oil gives light or illuminates and glorifies, and the verse

below tells us that grain made into bread strengthens the heart.

Psa 104:15 And wine that makes glad the heart of man, and oil to make his face to shine, and bread which strengthens man's heart.

So, the wine and oil saints have different assignments and portions in the kingdom. As we are discussing the firstfruits offerings, it indicates there are two groups brought forth, presented to the Lord and released 50 days apart during the 5th and 6th months, in order to trigger the rest of these harvests being brought in. Until these two firstfruits offerings are presented before the Lord, no new wine or fresh oil can be experienced in the rest of the Body.

I asked the Lord what the wine and oil represent, compared to the Barley firstfruits. He explained that the Barley firstfruits company are the Melchizedek priesthood, emerging in the pattern of the Firstborn from among the dead; operating both as priests and kings. When explaining what the oil and the wine represented, He said that they are two groups emerging from within the barley firstfruits company who are allocated different portions and assignments in the Kingdom. "Some are TRANSFORMED and they represent the wine firstfruits. Others are TRANSFIGURED and these are the oil firstfruits."

Hmmm, so what is the difference? 'Transfiguration' does not mean the same thing as the word 'transformation'.

Transformation implies a remodelling of the nature and structure of a person or object. Transfiguration implies a revelation of the true nature within and is usually connected to glory. Jesus was revealed by displaying His true identity in Heavenly places when He was transfigured on the mountain. He became clothed in glory light.

Transform: a major change in form, nature, or function, usually into something better, but connected to the earthly realm. New wine is the contents of the solid grape released to flow and expand in a liquid state, but still remaining the blood of the grape.

Transfigure: to change something into something else, producing the image of the heavenly while still on earth. Oil is ignited and transfigured into fiery light, even while held in an earthen vessel. It becomes a completely different substance – a flame of fire. The mortal puts on immortality (1Cor 15:53).

So, the oil firstfruits are the portion of the bondslave manchild company who are caught up to the heavenly state of being, and are transfigured, receiving their immortal bodies, and returning to carry out Kingdom business, being unrestrained by earthly boundaries. They come from before the face of God as Moses did and their faces shine with the

glory of God. Having borne the image of the earthly, they now bear the image of the heavenly.

Some teach that the grape harvest is only about judgment of the wicked, but it is also important to remember that Jesus called Himself the Vine and His followers the branches. Genesis 49 also tells us He binds his colt to the vine and washes His garment in wine. This word 'garment' used here also means 'wife'. So wine is used to cleanse the Bridal company. And wine is poured out of a silver vessel onto the altar every day during Tabernacles. The prophetic fulfilment of Tabernacles is still to be experienced and so the grape harvest or harvest of the fruit of those who have abided in the vine is necessary for the fulfilment of Tabernacles. In fact, one of its names is 'the season of our joy' and wine brings joy to the heart of man!

The wine firstfruits are those abiding ones who have matured and become ready ahead of the rest of the harvest of those in the vine. They are marked, separated from the rest of the field, brought near, pressed and transformed into a different way of being, no longer the season of abiding and growing in Christ but now set apart, marked as belonging to God, empowered, changed and released to impart the essence of Christ, bringing joy to those who are in mourning (Isaiah 61). This can only be done by the empowering of the Spirit of the Lord. They are part of the Bridal Company of whom it is said 'the roof of your mouth is like the best wine,

causing the lips of those who are asleep to speak' (Songs 7:9). They impart a quickening, an awakening, to prepare others for battle:

Psa 78:65 Then the Lord awakened as from sleep, as a strong man whose consciousness of power is heightened by wine.

Both the wine and oil firstfruits have a connection to putting off the old mantle and embracing the new.

1. **New wine** must go in a new wineskin, this involves a slaughter and preparation of a hide (which is a form of mantle or covering for the flesh of an animal), refashioned into something new. A new wineskin for new wine.

Grapes also leave behind their old mantle/skin when they are crushed and the juice released. Previously the interior was contained in set parameters inside the skins of the bunch of grapes. The destruction of old mantle brings the juice into a wide-open space, giving it ability and freedom to flow. There is a change of state from solid to liquid, and space to expand in the new wineskin

Num 13:20 ...And be of good courage and bring some of the fruit of the land. Now the time was the time of

the first ripe grapes.

As the spies went into the Promised Land, it was time for the firstfruits offering of the grapes in that region. They brought back the giant cluster for the firstfruits offering.

2. Fresh oil saturates the torn-up mantle of an old season. Old priestly garments were torn into strips to use as wicks for the oil lamps. Oil is a liquid, but is transformed into a gas (flame). The new mantle is a covering of light!! The Word says He makes His messengers a flame of fire. Wine cannot be transfigured – turned into something quite ‘other’. Only oil can be TRANSFIGURED, changed into a flame of fire and clothed in a garment of light. And this can only happen IF you are willing to let go of your old priestly garment.

Oil releases light – this is being changed from one form or substance to another. The Word says we shall be changed, in the twinkling of an eye. This is what happens to oil when the saturated wick is ignited. This helps us understand what the baptism of fire experience is. It brings transfiguration. Oil is liquid, it can be quantified, measured, held in a container. Once fire is applied, it is transfigured into light, which cannot be contained and has the power to drive back darkness. The wick of the priestly garments of an old season provides the transition bridge (the avenue) for

the fire to ignite. The old garments must be discarded, destroyed, torn into strips, then saturated with the oil from the belly of the earthen vessel, before transfiguration can take place.

WE MUST BE WILLING TO LET GO OF THE OLD SEASON, THE OLD APPOINTED PLACE OF MINISTERING, THE OLD WAY OF DOING THINGS – TO TEAR UP OUR OLD MANTLES.

Where do we see this happening in the Word? Elisha destroyed the plough and his 24 oxen WITH FIRE before beginning the transition to receiving the double portion mantle from Elijah. He burnt his bridges, no going back. He died to the old chapter and after crossing the Jordan, went from a servant mantle to a double portion prophet mantle.

Ruth's widow's mantle at the threshing floor was filled with barley, and then within that 24-hour period, it was exchanged for the Bridegroom's prayer shawl (referred to as 'the wing of His garment') and instantly, the locked up inheritance was released.

So, let's dig a bit deeper to try and understand these two groups. The new wine firstfruits offering is mentioned in the following verses:

Isa 65:8 Thus says the Lord: As the new wine is found in the

cluster, and one says, Do not destroy it, for there is a blessing in it, so will I do for My bondservants' sake, that I may not destroy them all. Isa 65:9 And I will bring forth an offspring from Jacob, and from Judah an inheritor of My mountains; My chosen and elect will inherit it, and My bondservants will dwell there.

So, we see here that the new wine group are part of the remnant; the survivors of the judgements, who receive an inheritance and an appointed dwelling place in God's mountains. They are described as His bondservants

'New wine' or firstfruits wine is the Strongs word H8492

tîyrôsh From H3423 in the sense of *expulsion; must* or fresh grape juice (as just *squeezed* out); by implication (rarely) fermented *wine*: - (new, sweet) wine.

This implies a pressing, the application of sustained and repeated pressure to bring about the transforming or release of the new wine.

The root word H3423 means 'occupy, possess, inherit (by driving out)'. This indicates a possessing of that which was formerly another's – the wealth of the wicked stored up for the righteous scenario or the Israelites dwelling in the cities of those they drove out in the Promised Land! 'Inheritor' in verse 9 is the same word. The inheritors of the mountains come from Judah (who become His sanctuary), who are the forerunner tribe leading the other tribes in following the cloud in the wilderness.

3 days after the Pentecost of oil on 22nd Elul is 25th Elul. This is the anniversary of the first day of creation, when God looked at the chaos and void and said “Let there be light”. How fitting that 3 days before this, the firstfruits of a new and fresh oil harvest has been presented to Him. This decree was followed by a separation and delineation between light and darkness, with naming of each according to their character. Concerning the transfiguration of the oil company, it is accompanied by a decree, “Let there be Light” and the baptism of fire is applied. In the twinkling of an eye, His messengers who are flames of fire are manifested! How all creation is groaning waiting for the manifestation of the sons of God!

Let us not forget that both the wine and the oil are produced by pressing or crushing. So, expect to be brought into a confined, narrow place and know that pressure, both in the spiritual realm and in natural circumstances will be applied – with the express purpose of preparing the firstfruits offerings before the Fall Feasts. This preparation of firstfruits offerings takes place in the darkness of the early morning hours, in order to be ready for a wave offering on the appointed 50th day. Yes, it is a Jubilee day for those who are part of the new wine company, a day of release and flowing, imparting and being used in a new way, BUT first the night of pressing!! And yes, the fresh oil company must supply the candlestick (Zech 4) – the sons of oil must be filled before the baptism of fire is applied - BUT before the flowing and the filling comes

the pressing! Gethsemane means 'oil press'. The manchild company will be going through a time of fully surrendering to the will of God, knowing the cup they are being asked to drink before transfiguration is experienced.

The new wine is made ready for offering in the 5th month, on 3rd Av, the month when righteous judgements have been applied to the House of God historically. The rest of the grape harvest is brought in during the 5th and 6th months and the blood of grapes fills the vats at the threshing floor. The Pentecost of oil is in the 6th month, on the 22nd Elul – one week before the Feast of Trumpets, Rosh Hashanah. The rest of the olive harvest continues to be brought in right through Tishrei.

New oil and wine are needed for a new season. The old supplies are considered defiled and no longer fit for use. The Lord's eyes are going to and fro throughout the whole earth, seeking out His firstfruits wine and oil companies. Keep in mind that the intense pressing is unto the goal of transformation or transfiguration – this will help you surrender and endure its working. Also be encouraged that both the oil and the wine are marked for protection during the riding of the black horse after the breaking of the third seal.

(part 2 to follow)