

Pressed Beyond, and Yet... (July 31<sup>st</sup> 2022)



[AUDIO VERSION OF MESSAGE](#)

This is, I think, my last message on the firstfruits wine and oil. I want to deal specifically with the firstfruits wine offering today, and I'd like to just share the remainder of what I have seen and heard concerning that. The firstfruits offerings of the grain, the wine and the oil are waved for the Lord on behalf of the whole land and all the harvest in the land. In other words, there's only one firstfruits offering done for the whole wheat harvest, ONE for the whole oil harvest and one for the whole grape harvest. And once that has been done, then the rest of the harvest can be brought in and consumed.

So, I want to say to you who are part of the firstfruits company (wine or oil), the pressing that is happening to you; the pressure and the crushing, is not only about your life, but it's being done for the whole harvest that is going to come in. It's for the sake of others. In 2 Corinthians 4:8, Paul says, *'We are pressed on every side, but not crushed. We suffer embarrassments & are unable to find a way out, but not driven to despair. We are pursued but not deserted and are struck down, but not destroyed.'* And in verse 10, he says, *'always carrying about in the body the same putting to death that Jesus suffered, so that the life of Jesus may be shown forth by our bodies.'*

And in verse 12, it says *'THUS DEATH IS ACTIVELY AT WORK IN US IN ORDER THAT LIFE MAY BE AT WORK IN YOU'*. And he goes on in verse 17 to speak about *'our light and momentary affliction is evermore producing for us an everlasting weight of glory, since we look not to the things that are seen, but to the things that are unseen, because the things that are seen are temporal, brief, and fleeting. But the things that are unseen or eternal'*. So, if you're part of this firstfruits company, the pressing and the pressure you're experiencing is not unto destruction, but unto transformation. The pressing is the transition bridge to the next phase of Kingdom purposes. The pressing and the offering of the firstfruits new wine to the Lord triggers the release of the harvesters and the bringing in of the whole harvest. So, the firstfruits offering lifted up before the Lord is like the firing of a starter's gun for those waiting in the wings to step into their kingdom purpose in bringing in the harvest. IT triggers the next stage of Heaven's purposes. What is happening to you in your life has a far-reaching effect on others in the kingdom. You just feel the pressing and you wonder as it just doesn't ever seem to let up, you ponder whether God is trying to kill you. But no, the pressing is NOT UNTO DESTRUCTION.

He is using you as a harvest-starter. And it's a great honour to be part of the firstfruits offering. You know, the 144,000 on Mount Zion in the Book of Revelation – it speaks of those redeemed from the earth as a firstfruits offering unto the Lord. It's a great honour to be part of the firstfruits. So, it's not unto destruction. And until you are pressed beyond measure, life cannot be at work in others. In 2 Corinthians 4:15, it says, *'All these things are taking place for your sakes. The more grace extends to more people, the more thanksgiving will abound to the glory of God.'* So, what you are undergoing in the affliction and the pressing that is being applied in your lives is for the sake of OTHERS, and it

is so that more thanksgiving may abound to the glory of God. And therefore, that's why Paul can say *'our light and momentary affliction'*. In the Amplified Bible it says *'this slight distress of the passing hour is producing for us an everlasting weight of glory...'* I've often read that Scripture and thought, "Slight distress of the passing hour? Paul, honestly, if you knew what some people are undergoing!" but in comparison, it's slight distress of a passing hour COMPARED to what is being accomplished for the Kingdom of God and for the glory of God.

In 2017, on the 30th of July, I was on my way to help my sister move her mother-in-law into her flat, and the Lord told me to go home and check my fuel supply that I've got kept in my garage in a canister, to check if the levels were full enough. I thought, "Well, that's a strange thing to ask me..." So, I turned around and I went home and checked and yes, it was almost full. And I went back and stood at the edge of the garage and I bent down to pick up a piece of paper on the floor. And as I did so, while I was in that bent position, the heavy wooden garage door came down on my back and hit me right where my spine joints my pelvis. I immediately put my hand on my back and said, "Be healed in the name of Jesus". But in the days that followed, I realized that my back was not in good shape. And although X-rays showed no breakage, my back has never been the same since, and I've had considerable issues with it, daily pain and limited ability to do certain things. And yesterday, as I was pondering that it was now the end of the sixth year of this physical suffering. The Lord reminded me of what He told me that day as I stood on the threshold. He said, **"There is a company that is standing on the threshold and taking the full brunt and the weight upon their lives in order to keep the door from closing, so that the remnant and the bridal company can check that their oil supplies are sufficient."** And so yesterday, I was very much aware that there is a company that has been under continual pressure, assault and continual pressing – and, mostly, it seems to me, this manifests in the area of physical infirmities, disabilities or afflictions. When the enemy cannot lay a hold of you in your soul because you are serving the Lord with all your heart, soul, mind and strength, very often the only thing He has left to attack is your body. And so, there is a group of people that has been enduring in the area of physical affliction for quite a period of time. I don't know if for you it has been six whole years. Maybe it's longer. But the Book of Proverbs says to us that the strong spirit of a man sustains him in bodily trouble. And yesterday, when I was

pondering on that company that stands on the threshold, receiving the blow and the pressing and keeping the door open for others, the Lord whispered to me, **“In the seventh year, healing will come”**. So today, the 31st of July is actually the first day of the seventh year for me – I thank Him for my healing in anticipation of full manifestation! So, I just wanted to share that in case there are others out there who have been struggling to understand the length of affliction and pressing.

I just want to share some other things concerning the firstfruits wine offering. When Abraham met Melchizedek, Melchizedek brought forth bread and wine. So, wine being brought forth is connected to the Melchizedek priesthood releasing something. The first fruits wine offering is taken into the temple and lifted up and poured out before the Lord. And it belongs to the Lord. The rest of the harvest, the people can consume. At the wedding at Cana, the firstfruits of the water turned to wine was for the Master of the wedding feast. And I was pondering on that water turning to wine. And if you think about us abiding in the vine, the vine draws up the water of the Word and distributes it to the branches. He is the vine. We are the branches, and the water of the Word is distributed to the branches. But when the fruit is harvested and pressed, it is not water that comes out. The water that has been received has been turned into wine, and the first fruits of that wine is for the Master of the feast, and the rest is for the guests at the wedding.

Similarly, in Song of Songs 5:1, the Bridegroom speaks of His bride and He says, *“I have come into my garden...”* And he says, amongst other things, *“I have gathered my wine with My milk”*. Now, to gather wine from a garden, you have to pick grapes and press them, don't you? And here, we hear of the Bridegroom pressing firstfruits new wine with His own hand. And for those of you who are bondslaves of the Lamb and who say, “Do with me what You will, for Your glory, Lord”, the Lord is saying to you, **“Will you allow me to press you when others are not being pressed? Will you allow Me to make you part of the firstfruits wine offering? The others around you are not being subjected to such pressure and such pressing and such affliction. But will you allow Me to press you? I am come into My garden; I want to gather My wine with My milk”**. And then he tastes it and then calls others and He says, “Come and drink abundantly because I know she is Mine. So, the firstfruits wine

offering is always for the Bridegroom (it is holy unto Him) And the rest is for the guests. And who are guests at a wedding? The family and friends of the bridegroom and the bride, aren't they? But the firstfruits wine offering is for the Bridegroom.

Now I want to just address the topic of what is in Revelation 14, where it speaks about the final harvest of wheat being harvested from the earth, this being the final harvest of souls. And then in Revelation 14:18, it says, *'Put forth your sickle and reap the footage of the vine of the earth, for its grapes are entirely ripe'*. And then it's a little bit further down, it speaks of those grapes being thrown into the huge wine press of God's wrath, which is trodden outside the city, with much blood flowing. So, what is the difference between that harvest and the harvest of the firstfruits new wine that we've been talking about? Well, the key is in the fact that it says in verse 18 *'the fruitage of the vine of the EARTH'*. We are not of *'the vine of the earth'*. We are the bondslaves of the Lamb; branches of the Vine of Heaven. We are abiding in the Vine of Heaven, not the vine of the earth. And in Deuteronomy 32, it has some very interesting verses - I would suggest you read the whole chapter of Deuteronomy 32. It is Moses sharing a whole discourse with the people of God; saying what God speaking to His people. And He says in Deuteronomy 32:32, *'their vine comes from the vine of Sodom and from the fields of Gomorrah, their grapes are the grapes of gall and their clusters are bitter... Verse 33 Their wine is the venom of serpents and the pitiless poison of vipers.'* This is obviously not the firstfruits new wine offering that we've been speaking about, for this is offered up to the Lord. And if you read the whole of Deuteronomy 32, He's talking about His people, whom He has cared for so tenderly and lovingly, and they have gone off after other gods.

Why is their wine the venom of serpents? Because they are abiding in the vine of the world system (And now the coming beast system). And the poison of vipers has been injected into them, and they're putting their faith in its protection. The poison of vipers is their shelter and when they are pressed, poison comes out. So, Deuteronomy 32:24 says something very telling because God describes what He is going to apportion these ones who are His children, who are sacrificing to demons and not giving Him the honour that is due to Him. First of all, let's go back to verse 20. It says, *'I will hide my face from them. I will see what their end will be, for they are a perverse generation, children in*

*whom there is no faithfulness. They have moved Me to jealousy with what is not God. They have angered Me with their idols, and so I will move them to jealousy with those who are not a people... For a fire is kindled in My anger and it burns to the depths of Sheol, and I will heap evils upon them, and I will spend my arrows upon them.’ And in verse 24, ‘they shall be wasted with hunger and devoured with burning heat and poisonous pestilence and the teeth of beasts will I send against them and the poison of crawling things of the dust. From without, the sword shall bereave and, in the chambers, there shall be terror’.*

So, I found that very interesting, because in that verse 24, it's describing a list of things that is being sent as judgments against those who are God's children but have turned away from Him and are prostituting themselves with other gods and sacrificing to demons. And it mentions hunger, burning heat and pestilence. And are we not seeing those three things unfolding in the Earth right at this very moment? There is huge famine coming upon the earth, burning heat in many, many places - extraordinary heat is being experienced all over Europe right now - and poisonous pestilence. And the only thing that hasn't happened yet from that verse is the teeth of beasts and the poison of crawling things. So, very much what we see happening in the earth is a sign of God's judgment on those who will not honour Him and serve Him and be faithful to Him. Those who are of the vine of the earth get thrown into the wine press of God's wrath, and this is trodden outside the city. But the firstfruits new wine offering of the Vine of Heaven is gathered in and holy to the Lord. They are lifted up before the Lord and the yielded offering of their lives is acceptable to Him.

In Revelation 11:1, where John is told to measure that the altar and those who worship there, he's told to leave out the outer court because it's been given over to the heathen for three and a half years. And there is a trampling that happens! Now, grapes are trampled when they have been harvested to extract the wine. So, we see the three and a half years of trampling happening there.

For those of you who are the firstfruits offering of the Vine of Heaven, the pressing is not unto destruction, but to supply the firstfruits wine offering for the Bridegroom to taste, so that he knows that you are wholly and fully His.

THE PRESSING IS NOT UNTO DESTRUCTION. So just be encouraged. The pressing is only for a season. It might feel like it's never going to end – but it will. As the Lord said to me yesterday, for those positioned on the threshold, who have been keeping the door open so the rest of the bridal company can gather enough oil and check their supplies, there is a point in time that healing comes. It's the time of moving away from your watchman's post at the threshold. Your shift there is coming to an end. So may the Lord Himself bless you, increase and confirm and encourage you with what I've shared. What is happening to you is so that more and more grace can abound to many other people that you may never even see, and all of it will result in an increase of outflowing of thanksgiving to God. May He always be glorified in us, whether by life, or by death. We surrender all, Lord, do what You wish with us, for Your glory. We are your bond slaves. Amen