

Weekly Word for February 2, 2025

Marion Victory

Jeremiah 1:4-10

Psalm 71:1-6

1 Corinthians 13:1-13

Luke 4:21-30

The Word of the LORD came to Jeremiah.

“Before I formed you in the womb, I knew you; **before** you were born, **I sanctified** you; **I ordained** you as a prophet to the nations.”

God has a plan for Jeremiah long before Jeremiah is conceived. We’re not sure how old Jeremiah is at this point but from his response we can surmise that he is a youth.

1 Corinthians 13 has always been called the **Love Chapter**. It’s quoted at weddings; it’s seen on plaques and given as gifts to remind us of what **‘true’** love is and how it should behave. The word is **Agape**. It’s the love that moved GOD to send His only Son, (the highest form of love). It’s the love given to us by GOD.

1 John 4:19 says; We love Him because He first loved us.

When my son, Curtis, was about six years old, he made me a card for Mother’s Day. It was a stick type picture of him and me. These are the words he wrote: “I love you because you love me.” He wasn’t old enough to understand God’s word. Yet, he said it all on that little card, which I still have, and it gave me a revelation of what that scripture is saying. Love begets love. Unselfish love draws out gifts and works that we don’t even know we have. It draws out of us, the gifts of the Spirit, love, joy, peace, patience, goodness, kindness, gentleness and self control.

In the temple in Nazareth Jesus says this, after reading **“Today this Scripture** (Isaiah 61), **is fulfilled in your hearing.**”

The people go from marvelling at the gracious words, to anger. They had even seemed to be proud that He was one of their own.

Jesus continues and the atmosphere changes. He speaks of things to come, “You will surely say this proverb to Me, *‘Physician, heal yourself! Whatever we have heard done in Capernaum, do also in Your country.’*” Then He said, *“Assuredly, I say to you, no prophet is accepted in his own country.”*

Then speaking of the prophet Elijah, he reminds them how GOD sent him to minister to the Gentiles, (the widow of Sidon and Naaman the Syrian). I think these are the words that caused the change. After all they felt ‘They’ were the children of GOD,

and there was no other even though their own scriptures gave witness to God's love and longing to have relationship with *all* mankind. The people became angry, they thrust Him out of the city and had full intention of killing Him. However, verse 30 tells us; then passing through the midst of them, He went His way.

How do you sum up all these passages when they don't seem to connect? And how did they end up together for the reading of this day?

Jesus is at the beginning of His ministry. He has just finished ministering in the Galilee district and was met with great respect and glorified by all.

God is instating Jeremiah as a Prophet. He's just beginning his ministry.

The Psalmist is reflecting on God's love and Paul writes about it in 1 Corinthians.

Psalm 71:5 For you are my hope, O Lord GOD; You are my trust from my *youth*. By You I have been upheld from *birth*; ***You are He who took me out of my mother's womb***. My praise *shall* be continually of You.

The *Agape* of GOD is the love that sent us Jesus, it's the love that formed us in our mother's womb, (Jeremiah), it's the love that delivers from the hand of the enemy (Jesus), it's the love that has written our lives out before we were even born (David).

It's the love that Paul writes about in 1 Corinthians 13.

I pray the *Agape* of GOD flows in and through us today!

Selah