Harvest Eyes (3)
"The Harvest Targets"

John 4:34-35 *Jesus saith unto them, My meat is to do the will of him that sent me, and to finish his work.* ***35*** *Say not ye, There are yet four months, and then cometh harvest? behold, I say unto you, Lift up your eyes, and look on the fields; for they are white already to harvest.* **[Lift = To raise up; Eyes = Vision, sight; Look = To look closely at; Fields = The idea of empty expanse, room, a space of territory; Already = Even now; Harvest = Reaping.]**

INTRODUCTION

We have considered the processes and pleas…to have "Harvest Eyes" and truly be about the Father's business. Let's consider the defined targets of our loving God…

Ezekiel 34:15-16 *I myself will tend my sheep and have them lie down, declares the Sovereign LORD.* ***16*** *I will search for the lost and bring back the strays. I will bind up the injured and strengthen the weak, but the sleek and the strong I will destroy. I will shepherd the flock with justice.*

I. THE TROUBLED

A. <u>The Proud.</u>
- **1. The Sleek / The Strong.**
  - **a. Sleek = Rich, lusty, plenteous.**
  - **b. Strong = Hard, impudent, stiff-hearted.**

B. <u>The Penalty.</u>
- **1. Reality.**
  - **a. Destroy = To desolate, bring to nothing, overthrow.**
- **2. Resistance.**
  - **a. Truth.** ***I Peter 5:5-6***
    - **1) Pride.** ***Proverbs 11:2, Proverbs 13:10, Proverbs 16:18, Proverbs 29:23, Proverbs 16:5, Proverbs 28:25***

II. THE TARGETS

A. <u>The Lost.</u>
- **1. The Undone.**
  - **a. Lost = To perish, to be undone, to have nowhere to flee.**
- **2. The understanding.** ***Psalm 119:176, Jeremiah 50:6, Matthew 10:6,***

Matthew 18:11

B. <u>The Strays</u>

1. The Wanderers.

a. Strays = To push off, drawn away, to go away.

2. The Wandering.

a. *Psalm 119:67, Isaiah 53:6, I Peter 2:25*

C. <u>The Injured.</u>

1. Broken.

a. Injured = To break in pieces, broken hearted, crushed, torn.

2. The Broken. *Psalm 69:20, Psalm 31:12*

D. <u>The Weak.</u>

1. Worn Down.

a. Weak = To be rubbed or worn down, to become weak, afflicted.

2. Weak. *Psalm 6:2*

III. THE TACTICS [His Will…]

"I think one of the serious breakdowns in modern evangelism is this: it has offered too much for too little. What we do mostly is offer forgiveness. We need cleansing! There is no true conversion until a man takes up his cross." (Leonard Ravenhill)

A. <u>To Search…For The Lost.</u>

1. Finding.

a. Search = To search out…by any method.

1) *Psalm 119:176, Luke 15:1-2* [*v.4...lost sheep…; v.9...lost piece of silver; v.24...lost son*]

2. Fixing.

a. Salvation. *Luke 19:10*

b. Illumination. *II Corinthians 4:3*

B. <u>To Bring Back…The Strays.</u>

1. Recovering.

a. Bring Back = *Shuwb* - To turn back, carry back home, retrieve, recover, restore.

1) *Psalm 23:3, Isaiah 51:12, Isaiah 58:12, Jeremiah 30:17*

2. Repairing.

a. Involvement. *Galatians 6:1*

b. Instruction. *II Timothy 2:24-26*

C. <u>To Bind Up…The Injured.</u>

1. **Promise.**
    a. **Bind Up = To wrap firmly, to compress, bind up, Healer.**
2. **Process.** ***Isaiah 1:6***
    a. **Injured.**
        1) **Wounds.** ***Jeremiah 6:7***
        2) **Bruises. Bruises = Bound with stripes, beaten black & blue.**
        3) **Putrifying Sores. Putrifying = Fresh, dripping, recently made. Sores = Carnage, slaughter.**
    b. **Incomplete.**
        1) **No Soundness = Completeness (There is no completeness... something's not right)**
            a) **Because of wounds…something's missing.**
    c. **Instruction.**
        1) **Soften Up. [A Work of God] Mollified = To soften, to make tender.** ***Job 23:16***
        2) **Bound Up. [A Work of God Through His Church]**
        Bound = To wrap firmly, to compress, bind up, healer. ***Luke 10:34***
        3) **Closed Up. [A Work of God Through the Wounded]**
        Closed Up = To press together, thrust together...close.
            a) **God makes it possible...you have to make it permanent.**

D. **<u>To Strengthen…The Weak.</u>**
1. **Strength.**
    a. **Strengthen = Strengthen, cure, help, repair, establish.**
        1) ***Mark 14:38, Joel 3:10***
2. **Strategy.**
    a. **Accept.** ***Romans 14:1***
    b. **Assist.** ***Romans 15:1***
    c. **Administer (Hope)** ***Proverbs 13:12***

CONCLUSION

They are identified…let's go get them!