BROKEN THINGS
By Donald Townsley

INTRODUCTION
1. BROKEN THINGS are common to this life.
2. Remember as a child how badly you would feel when you broke a toy?
3. The Bible speaks of many broken things -- let us study some of them.

I. A COVENANT GOD MAKES WITH HIS PEOPLE CAN BE BROKEN
   1. A COVENANT "signifies a mutual understanding between two or more, each binding himself to fulfill obligations.
   2. The house of Israel and the house of Judah BROKE the covenant of God -- Jer. 11:10; Jer. 31: 31 - 34.
   3. Today, we live under the New Covenant:
   4. Men today BREAK the New Covenant:
      (1) They refuse to hear the Word -- John 12:48
      (2) Christians turn back to sin -- 2 Tim. 4:10.
      (3) Christians turn to false doctrine -- 2 John 9 - 11.
      (4) All men today are under the New Covenant.
         1. ALL men who are not obeying it are BREAKING it.

II. GOD'S COMMANDMENTS CAN BE BROKEN
   1. Numbers 15: 30 - 31
   2. Matt. 5: 17 - 19
   3. ALL the commandments must be kept:
      (1) James 2:10
      (2) Matt. 7:21

III. CHRIST HAS BROKEN DOWN THE MIDDLE WALL OF PARTITION BETWEEN JEW AND GENTILE.
   1. Christ BROKE down the middle wall of partition when He died on the cross and abolished the law -- Eph. 2: 13 - 15; Col. 2:14.
   2. Now all men can be reconciled to God in the one body -- the church -- Eph. 2:16.

IV. THERE ARE "BROKEN CISTERNS THAT CAN HOLD NO WATER"
   1. Jeremiah 2:13
   2. Here God charged His people with having committed two evils:
      (1) They had forsaken God, the fountain of living waters.
      (2) They had hewed them out cisterns, BROKEN cisterns, that could hold no water.
   3. Many today, like Israel of Old, have forsaken God and Christ who gives "living water" for "BROKEN cisterns" -- Rev. 22:17.
   4. The BROKEN cisterns of denying the existence of God:
      (1) Psa. 14:1
      (2) Psa. 19:1
5. Riches are a BROKEN cistern that cannot satisfy the soul.
   (1) Today material things are sought after above all else.
   (2) They are deceitful -- Matt. 13:22.
   (3) They cannot satisfy the soul -- Luke 12:15.
6. Denominationalism is a BROKEN cistern:
   (1) Denominational churches are of human origin and are BROKEN cisterns -- Psa. 127:1.

V. THERE IS THE "BREAKING OF BREAD" ON THE FIRST DAY OF THE WEEK
1. Acts 20:7
2. Acts 2:42
3. I Cor. 10:16
4. This is the Lord's Supper.
5. This is a spiritual supper eaten in remembrance of Christ's death on the cross for our sins -- I Cor. 11:23 - 26.
6. This supper is to be eaten in the assembly -- Acts 20:7.

VI. GOD SAID HE WOULD "BREAK THE BROTHERHOOD BETWEEN JUDAH AND ISRAEL"
1. Zech. 11:14 -- "Then I cut asunder mine other staff, even bands, that I might BREAK the brotherhood between Judah and Israel"...
2. God had been forced to give them up to destruction as a brotherhood because of their rejection of Him and His ways.
3. The Brotherhood today is BROKEN because many reject Christ and His authority -- I Pet. 2:17.

VII. GOD WANTS A MAN WHO TURNS TO HIM IN REPENTANCE TO HAVE "A BROKEN AND CONTRITE HEART".
1. Psa. 51:17
2. Psa. 38:18 "I will be sorry for my sin"
3. 2 Cor. 7:9 - 10
4. Matt. 5:4; I Cor. 5:2

CONCLUSION
1. If you are here today and out of Christ, won't you come with a BROKEN and contrite heart in obedience to the gospel?

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