

MATHAYO 4 mstari 12

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¹² Now when Jesus had heard that John (...the Baptist) was cast into prison,

He departed into Galilee;

¹³ And leaving Nazareth, He came and dwelt in Capernaum, which is upon the sea coast, in the borders of Zebulon and Naphtali (...the northeast region where some of Jacob's children had settled):

¹⁴ That it might be fulfilled which was spoken by Isaiah the prophet,

saying (...and Matthew is led by the Spirit to quote from Isaiah 9),

¹⁵ The land of Zebulon, and the land of Naphtali, beyond Jordan (...the river), by the way of the sea—Galilee of the Gentiles (...that's where Jesus relocated);

¹⁶ The people which sat in darkness saw great light; and to them which sat in the region and shadow of death light is sprung up.

Verse ¹⁷ From that time (...when John the Baptist was imprisoned; the prophet Malachi, speaking for the LORD, wrote: I will send my messenger, and he shall prepare the way before me; well, John had done his part. Now it was time for Jesus to take center stage)

From that time... Jesus began to preach (...and I bet, He's a good preacher... because I know He's a good Teacher),

and to say, *METANOEO* (...can we all say: *METANOEO*? Say it with me: *METANOEO* which is the Greek word for THE terrible word... that crept into our language... which primarily suggests: to **pain**... and **distress**... and **pain again**; in other words:

¹² Basi Yesu aliposikia ya kwamba Yohana (...Mbatizaji) amefungawa,

Alikwenda zake mpaka Galilaya;

¹³ Akatoka Nazareti, akaja akakaa Kapernaumu, mji ulioko pwani, mipakani mwa Zabuloni na Naftali (...mkoa wa kaskazini mashariki ambako baadhi ya watoto wa Yakobo walifanya makazi):

¹⁴ ili litimie neno lililonenwa na nabii Isaya,

akisema (...na Mathayo akiongozwa na Roho kunukuu kutoka Isaya 9),

¹⁵ Nchi ya Zebuloni, na nchi ya Naftali, ng'ambo ya Yordani (...mto), kwa njia ya bahari Galilaya kwa wamataifa (...hapo ndipo Yesu alihamia);

¹⁶ Watu wale waliokaa katika giza Wameona mwanga mkuu, Nao waliokaa katika nchi na uvuli wa mauti Mwanga umewazukia.

Mstari ¹⁷ Tokea wakati huo (...wakati Yohana Mbatizaji alifungwa; nabii Malaki, akizungumza kwa niaba ya Bwana, aliandika: namtuma mjumbe wangu, naye ataitengeneza njia mbele yangu; pia, Yohana alikuwa amefanya sehemu yake Sasa. ulikuwa ni wakati wa Yesu kwa kuchukua hatua)

Tokea wakati huo... Yesu alianza kuhubiri (...naamini, Yeye ni mhubiri mzuri... kwa sababu najua Yeye ni Mwalimu mzuri),

na kusema, *METANOEO* (...hebu sote tuseme: *METANOEO*? Sema pamoja nami: *METANOEO* ambalo ndilo neno la Kigiriki kutisha... ambayo imejiingiza katika lugha yetu... ambao kimsingi unaonyesha: **maumivu**... na **dhiki**... na **maumivu tena**; kwa maneno mengine:

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to **re-pain**, you know: **repent**... terrible word!

Now... never in a million years could I imagine Jesus, the good Teacher... using that word! That kind of goofy word is not in His vocabulary; matter of fact, it probably would make Him cuss! It is NOT the language of Jesus who came to take away all our sin as well as all our diseases; but it is the language of freaks and perverts who might claim to be teachers.

METANOEO... is from 2 Greek roots: **meta** = **change** + **noeo** = **mind**... so we could say: *change your mind*, or, we might say: *change what you know*... or even, *think differently*; because Jesus knows: a changed mind leads to a changed heart.

The closest single word would be: **rethink**... or... **reconsider**... or **relearn**... or even **remind**... all helpful words for students going to school... who are hopefully life-long learners. Like I said, Jesus is a good Teacher... and He's pretty smart, too!

METANOEO... is a great word that has NOTHING to do with paining yourself! It has nothing to do with squalling and bawling either. I can't imagine any kindergarten teacher daily yelling at his or her students: YOU BETTER REPENT!! Can you? As a matter of fact, Kindergarten and first grade teachers are amazing. They can patiently sit every day for years... and challenge little kids to do their math... and finally get the answer: $1 + 1 = 2$ right... without ever getting upset! Amazing! Well, Jesus... as a good Teacher is equally amazing!

Any good teacher I've ever met at any school... would want their students to practice **METANOEO** ...every day in class as they **rethink**... or **reconsider**... or **relearn**... or **reexamine** their lessons and essays, and reports... and test questions until they get them right...

kujipa maumivu, unajua: **tubu**... neno hatari!

Sasa... kamwe katika miaka milioni siweza kumfikiria Yesu, Mwalimu mwema... akutumia neno hilo! Aina ya neno ovyo si katika msamiati wake; jambo la kweli, basi pengine bila kufanya mzaha! Sio lugha ya Yesu aliyekuja kuchukua dhambi zetu zote pamoja na magonjwa yetu yote; lakini ni lugha ya majambazi na wanajisi ambao wanaweza kudai kuwa walimu.

METANOEO... kwenye mizizi ya Kigiriki ina inaunganisha maneno mawili: **meta** = **badiliko** + **noeo** = **akili**... hivyo tunaweza kusema: *kubadili akili yako*, au, tukasema: *kubadili tunachojua*... au hata, *kufikiri tofauti*; sababu Yesu anajua: akili iliyobadili inasababisha moyo iliyobadili.

Neno la karibu litakuwa: **fikiria-tena**... au... **waza-upya**... au **kujifunza-upya**... au **hata kukumbusha** ...maneno yote muhimu kwa ajili ya wanafunzi waendao shule... ambao ni wanafunzi wa muda mrefu. Kama nilivyosema, Yesu ni Mwalimu mzuri... na Yeye Mstaadi, pia!

METANOEO... ni neno kubwa ambalo halina uhusiano wowote na kujipa maumivu mwenyewe! Ina uhusiano wowote na kujipa maumivu au dhiki. Siwezi kufikiria mwalimu yeyote wa chekechea anayewafokea wanafunzi wake kila siku: WEWE BORA TUBU!! Je! unaweza? Jambo la kweli, waalimu wa chekechea na daraja la kwanza ni wakarimu sana. Wanaweza kiuvumilivu kukaa kila siku kwa muda wa miaka... nakuwapa changamoto watoto wadogo kujifunza hesabu yao... na hatimaye kupata jibu: $1 + 1 = 2$ unaelewa!... bila hata kukosa amani! Inashangaza! Naam, Yesu... kama Mwalimu mzuri ni wa kustaajibisha! -Mwalimu awayeyote mzuri ambaye nimemkuta shule yoyote... angependa wanafunzi wake kufanya mazoezi ya **METANOEO**... kila siku katika darasa wanapo **fikiria-upya**...au **waza-upya**... au **kubadili mawazo**...au **Kuchunguza-upya** masomo yao insha, na taarifa... mpaka kuyapata sahihi...

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instead of crying in class all day, right?

Hey, I bet any boss at work... would want their employees to *METANOEO* ...every day at the job site... as they *rethink*... or *reconsider*... or *relearn*... how to better grow the business—their business, right? Instead of crying and complaining while waiting for a paycheck!

And if I were to guess, every parent who is raising a kid in their home... would probably want their kid to occasionally *rethink*... or *reconsider*... or *relearn*... how to better present the family name to the public; rather than sniveling and bawling throughout the neighborhood... or at the local pub all the time.

You know, more than anybody... 2/3rds of the time in the Old Testament, God... is the One doing what got poorly translated! And I don't get the impression the Lord God is an obnoxious whiner or complainer.

An example is recorded in Amos 7, where God is talking with the prophet Amos about a situation... and obviously, 2 times... the Lord God thinks about what Amos said... and changes His mind. He can change His mind, can't He? Or is that the sole prerogative... of the obnoxious and intolerant that live down here?

One thing I've learned about Jesus... whom John calls: *the Word of God*; one thing I've learned about our great Teacher is... that He has placed *METANOEO* moments... on every page of His inspired Word.... which is hardly a dead letter. Like I said, Jesus is pretty smart!

And those *METANOEO* moments... are for His students who care to look... in every generation, to discover His ways... as we daily keep walking... headed toward our Father in heaven.

badala ya kulia darasani mchana kutwa, sawa?

Hivi Naamini, bosi yeyote kazini... angependelea wafanyakazi wake wote wa *METANOEO*... kila siku katika mahala pa kazi... wanapo fikiria *upya*... au waza *upya*... au kujifunza-upya... jinsi bora ya kukuza biashara zao, sawa? Badala ya kulia na kulalamika wanaposubiri malipo!

Na kama nikidhani, kila mzazi anayemlea mtoto nyumbani... pia wangetaka watoto wao mara kwa mara *kufikiri upya*... au *waza upya*... au *ku-badili mawazo*... jinsi ya kuboresha jina la familia kwa umma; badala ya kuchafua jina nakujihusisha na maovu katika mtaa... au katika baa mitaani wakati wote.

Unajua, zaidi kwa uhakika... 2/3-theluthi ya mda katika Agano la Kale, Mungu... ndiye anashinda akifanya hili ambalo lili tafsiriwa vibaya! Nami sijapata hisia kwamba Bwana Mungu ni mnyonge wa wakulia-lia.

Mfano ni kumbukumbu katika Amos 7, ambapo Mungu anaongea na nabii Amos kuhusu hali fulani... na ni wazi, mara 2... Bwana Mungu anafikiria nini Amos alisema... na kubadili akili yake. Je anaweza kubadilisha mawazo yake, au hawezi? Au ni huo ni uamuzi pekee... ya wenye akili ndogo wanaoishi chini hapa?

Jambo moja nimejifunza kuhusu Yesu... ambaye Yohana anamwita: *Neno la Mungu*; jambo moja nimejifunza kuhusu Mwalimu wetu mkuu ni... kwamba yeye ameweka vipindi vya *METANOEO*... juu ya kila ukurasa wa Neno lake.... ambayo ni vigumu kuwa barua iliyokufa. Kama nilivyosema, Yesu ni stadi!

Na vipindi hivyo vya *METANOEO*... ni kwa ajili ya wanafunzi wake ambao huchukuwa mda kuangalia... katika kila kizazi, kugundua njia zake... tunavyo endelea kutembea... kuelekea kwa Baba yetu aliye mbinguni.

From that time (...when John the Baptist was imprisoned)

Jesus began to preach,

and to say, METANOE (...**RETHINK!** Change your thinking! I love the Spanish word: **REPENSAR!** If you and I do that every day of our lives... what a different world we will discover;

a world where Paul to the Romans wrote: *much more they which receive the abundance of grace... and the gift of righteousness... shall reign in life—this life here and now... through one Jesus Christ.*

Well, those promises are for the students learning their lessons... from the great Teacher; from the One who said: My sheep hear My voice... and they follow Me! From the same One who said, I will build My Church... and the gates of hell.... try as they may... shall not prevail against it.)

Jesus began to preach,

and to say, METANOE... **RETHINK! RECONSIDER!:**

for the kingdom of heaven is at hand (...where God our heavenly Father rules... and His influence is made known... Jesus says: *it is very near.* Deuteronomy 30 was quoted in Romans 10: *But the righteousness which is of faith speaks on this wise, Say not in thine heart, Who shall ascend into heaven? (that is to bring Christ down) or who shall descend into the deep (that is to bring Christ again from the dead) But what saith it? The word is nigh thee, even in thy mouth, and in thy heart: that is, the word of faith, which we preach: If thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised Him from the dead, thou shalt be saved!*

Tokeo wakati huo (...wakati Yohana Mbatizaji alifungwa)

Yesu alianza kuhubiri,

na kusema, METANOE (...**FIKIRIA UPYA!** Badili mawazo yako! naipenda neno hili kwa lugha ya Kihispania: **REPENSAR!** Kama mimi na wewe tungelifanya hivyo kila siku ya maisha yetu... tutaligundua dunia tofauti; Dunia ambayo Paulo kwa Warumi aliandika: Zaidi pia wapokeao wingi wa neema... na kile kipawa cha haki... watatawala katika uzima—hii maisha hapa na sasa... kwa njia ya moja kwa Yesu Kristo.

Naam, ahadi hizo ni kwa ajili ya wanafunzi wanaojifunza masomo yao... kutoka kwa Mwalimu mkuu; toka kwa yule aliyesema: Kondoo wangu huisikia sauti yangu... na wao hunifuata Mimi! toka kwa yule aliyesema, nitalijenga kanisa langu... na milango ya kuzimu... hata ijaribu... halitalishinda.)

Yesu alianza kuhubiri,

na kusema, METANOE... **FIKIRIA UPYA! Badili mawazo!:**

kwa maana ufalme wa mbinguni umekaribia (...ambapo Baba Mungu wetu wa mbinguni anatamalaki...na ushawishi wake unalijitambulisha... Yesu anasema: **ni karibu sana.** katika warumi 10 kuna kunukuliwa wa Kumbukumbu la torati mlango 30.... Hivi 10: *Bali ile haki ipatikanayo kwa imani yanena hivi, Usiseme moyoni mwako, Ni nani atakayepanda kwenda mbinguni? (Yaani, ni kumleta Kristo chini) Au au, Ni nani atakayeshuka kwenda kuzimuni? (Yaani, ni kumleta Kristo juu, kutoka kwa wafu.) Lakini yanenaje? Lile neno li karibu nawe, katika kinywa chako, na katika moyo wako; yaani, ni lile neno la imani tulihubirilo: Kwa sababu, ukimkiri Yesu kwa kinywa chako ya kuwa ni Bwana, na kuamini moyoni mwako ya kuwa Mungu alimfufua katika wafu, utaokoka!*

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And I might add: Saved... without any whining or crying going on!).

Verse ¹⁸ And Jesus, walking by the sea of Galilee, saw two brethren,

Simon called Peter, and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea: for they were fishers.

¹⁹ And He saith unto them, Follow Me, and I will make you fishers of men.

²⁰ And they straightway (...immediately) left their nets,

and ‘followed’ him (...this word is: *akoloutheo*... G. Campbell Morgan points out this particular word has in focus: the road being traveled. More clearly, this verse could read...)

they immediately left their nets... and joined Him in the way He was going.

Verse ²¹ And going on from thence,

He saw other two brethren (...John Wycliffe, the great reformer from the 1300's called these brothers... cousins of Jesus),

James the son of Zebedee,

and John his brother (...who became known as the disciple whom Jesus loved),

James... and John his brother... in a ship with Zebedee their father, mending their nets;

and ‘He called’ them (...the Greek is: *kaleo*.... Later Jesus says, I will build My church... using the word: *ek-kle-sia* = out-called-ones.

Na naweza kuongeza: utaokoka... bila kunung'unika, wala kilio kinachoendelea!).

Mstari ¹⁸ Yesu alipokuwa akitembea kando ya bahari ya Galilaya, aliona ndugu wawili, Simoni aitwaye Petro, na Andrea nduguye, wakitupa jarife baharini; kwa maana walikuwa wavuvi.

¹⁹ Akawaambia, Nifuateni, nami nitawafanya kuwa wavuvi wa watu.

²⁰ Mara (...mara moja) wakaziacha nyavu zao,

‘wakamfuata’ (...neni hili ni: *akoloutheo* ... G. Campbell Morgan anasema neno hili hasa katika mtazamo. Barabara linalo tumiwa kwa usafiri. Zaidi, aya hii inaweza kusoma...)

mara wakaziacha nyavu zao... na kujiunga naye katika njia ambayo alikuwa anaenda.

Mstari ²¹ Akaendelea mbele kidogo,

akaona ndugu wengine wawili (...Johana Wycliffe, mzushi mkubwa kutoka miaka ya 1300 aliwaita hao wandugu... binamu wa Yesu),

Yakobo mwana wa Zebedayo,

na Yohana ndugu yake (...ambaye akawa anajulikana kama mwanafunzi aliyependwa na Yesu), **Yakobo... na nduguye Yohana... ambao walikuwamo chomboni pamoja na Zebedayo baba yao, wakizitengeneza nyavu zao;**

‘akawaita’ (...Kigiriki ni: *kaleo*... Baadaye Yesu anasema, nitalijenga kanisa langu... kwa kutumia neno: *ek-kle-sia* = *nje-kuitwa-walio*.

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In those days, the caller is someone... who was simply walking through the streets... calling people to come out of their homes... and pay attention).

He called them

²² And they immediately left the ship and their father (...who was probably more than a little annoyed... having to cope with all the stinking, broken fishing nets... as his sons),

joined Him in the way He was going.

Verse ²³ And Jesus went about all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues, and preaching the gospel of the kingdom,

and healing all manner of sickness and all manner of disease among the people.

²⁴ And his fame went throughout all Syria (...which makes you wonder: what happened?):

and they brought unto him all sick people that were taken with divers diseases and torments, and those which were possessed with demons,

and those which were lunatic, and those that had the palsy;

and He healed them.

²⁵ And there *joined Him in the way He was going...*

great multitudes of people from Galilee, and from Decapolis (...in the north),

and from Jerusalem, and from Judaea (...in the south),

and from beyond Jordan (...in the east).

Katika siku hizo, anaye ita ni mtu... ambaye alikuwa tu akitembea barabarani... akiwaita watu watoke nje ya nyumba zao... na kusikiliza).

Akawaita

²² Mara wakakiacha chombo na baba yao (...ambaye alikuwa pengine kidogo kaudhika... kwa kukabiliana na, kuvunjwa nyavu zilizotoboka toboka za uvuvi... na pia wanawe),
wakajiunga naye katika njia aliyokuwa anaenda.

Mstari ²³ Naye alikuwa akizunguka katika Galilaya yote, akifundisha katika masinagogi yao, na kuihubiri Habari Njema ya ufalme,
na kuponya ugonjwa na udhaifu wa kila namna katika watu.

²⁴ Na habari zake zikaenea katika Shamu yote ya Asiria (...ambayo hufanya ajabu: Kile kilichotokea?):
wakamletea wote waliokuwa hawawezi, walioshikwa na maradhi mbalimbali na mateso,

na wenye mapepo wenda wazimu, na wenye kifafa, na wale waliokuwa kupooza;

naye Yesu akawaponya.

²⁵ Na huko wakajiunga naye katika njia ya aliyokuwa anaenda...

makundi mengi ya watu kutoka Galilaya, Dekapoli (...eneo la kaskazini)

na kutoka Yerusalemu, Yudea (... kusini)

na kutoka ng'ambo ya mto Yordani (...katika eneo la mashariki).