

# The value of a net or screen

- When we want to keep pests out.
  - *mosquitoes; flies; wasps;*
- When we want to catch or keep things in.
  - *fish; chicken; livestock*
- We use a net or screen
- With malaria mosquitos, the net will protect unless it is torn or ripped.
- If we see the chicken outside of the coop, we seek to find the tear or rip.

# This Concept used in Scripture

- *He saw James the son of Zebedee, and John his brother, who were also in the boat **mending** the nets. [Mk 1:19](#)*
- They knew their nets were worthless if they were torn. They could fish all night, but all the fish would swim through the tear.
- Simon Peter and Andrew had an intact net. They were fishing.
- *And as He walked by the Sea of Galilee, He saw Simon and Andrew his brother casting a net into the sea; for they were fishermen. Mark 1:16-17*

# Mend, Restore & Repair

- They had to restore the net to its original condition. So they took rope or twine and redid the loops to make it work like new.
- *katartizo* – to render fit, sound, complete; to mend, repair; put in order.
- They “mended” “repaired” and “rendered fit, sound and complete” in order to “put” the net back “in order”
- After they were finished, they could have gone fishing,

# Other Nets that Can be Torn & Mended

- **Our skin** keeping bacteria and germs out of our body. We use stitches.
- **MORE IMPORTANT–SPIRITUAL NETS**
- **Our conscience** screens out moral and spiritual defilement, but can be torn, seared or defiled. *1Tim 1:3-5; 3:9; 4:1-2;*
- **God's Word** screens out lies, error, or immorality. *2Tim 3:15-16; 1Th 5:21-22*  
Those with itching ears want to rip it. *2Tim 4:1-4*

# *Restorations in Scripture*

- *Brethren, if a man is overtaken in any trespass, you who are spiritual **restore** such a one in a spirit of gentleness, considering yourself lest you also be tempted. Gal 6:1*
- When the soul of a brother is torn by sin, through the power of the Scriptures we can help them to be restored and mended them.
- Mt 18:15-18; 1Cor. 5; 2Cor 7;



# Sound & Complete

- *Now I plead with you, brethren, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that you all speak the same thing, and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be **perfectly joined together** in the same mind and in the same judgment. 1 Cor 1:10-11*
- The unity of the church (Eph. 4:1-16) is based on the Scriptures.
- If human wisdom is allowed to enter the body will be torn and tattered. Only by having the same mind (facts from Scriptures) and judgement (opinions based on Scripture).

# God created the Gospel to Mend

- *But may the God of all grace, who called us to His eternal glory by Christ Jesus, after you have suffered a while, **perfect**, establish, strengthen, and settle you. 11 To Him be the glory and the dominion forever and ever. Amen. 1 Peter 5:10-11*
- *Mended and Whole” song 369*
- *Sweet the thought to me that my soul may be mended and whole by my Lord who was broken for me.”*

# When God's Natural Barrier are Intact

- *To the pure all things are pure: but to them that are defiled and unbelieving nothing is pure; but both their mind and conscience are defiled. Titus 1:15*
- The pure have all screens intact!
- Every command of God that has never been torn open by sin feels normal right and good. We all have many of these left in our heart!



# When God's Barriers are Torn

- *each one is tempted when drawn away by his own desires and enticed - when desire has conceived, it gives birth to sin; and sin, when it is full-grown, brings death Jas 1:14-15*
- Every enticement creates a potential to rip the screen given by God.
- BEFORE they are torn: Romans 7:7-11
- AFTER – Rom 7:21-25
- PROOF– We don't struggle with every law
- *but to them that are defiled and unbelieving nothing is pure; but both their mind and conscience are defiled. Titus 1:15*

# How the Barriers were Torn

- We opened the doors
- We violated our conscience
- We created the habits
- We damaged our heart
- We created or allowed weaknesses to grow
- To this degree we are responsible

*let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which so easily ensnares us, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, Heb 12:1-2*

# The Process of “Mending”

- *kat-artízō*, a compound Greek word.
- *artízō / ártios* – **complete, perfect of its kind, suitable, exactly fitted**” (Liddell & Scott).
- This is what a net or heart possessed before it was torn. Both exactly fitted to do as designed by their respective Creator.
- Once torn, we must add the prefix “*katá*”  
“— **in succession, in course, one part after another**” (Thayer).

# “Mending” Our Hearts

- *kat-artízō* — *to put a thing in its appropriate condition, refit, repair, mend that which is broken...*”
- “in the proper force of *katá* — *to make a perfect fit, suitable, such as one should be, deficient in no part.*” (Complete Word Study Dictionary: NT)
- This is what James and John were doing.
- Peter did not need to because his net was still *artizo*

# The Divine Plan for Mending

- *But to each one of us grace was given according to **the measure of Christ's gift.***
- *"When He ascended on high, He led captivity captive, And **gave gifts to men.**"*
- *And **He Himself gave** some apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, and some pastors and teachers, 12 for the **equipping/Perfecting** of the saints for the work of ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ, Eph 4:11-13*



# The Divine Plan for Mending

- **Jesus gave us gifts *to perfect the Saints* Eph 4:11-12**
  - **apostles and prophets (inspired revelation)**
  - **evangelists, shepherds (elders) & teachers**
- **Those who can preach the word; be urgent in season and out; who reprove rebuke & exhort today**

# No Matter What is Torn....

- It can be mended!
- The bigger the tear, the more difficult, time consuming difficult the mending.
- Scripture can show us the tools and methods, but we have to put forth the effort.
- If we are not yet where we ought to be, we can continue to put forth the effort and plead with God for mending.

# Two Prayers Revealing the Truth

- *Now may the God of peace who brought up our Lord Jesus from the dead, that great Shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant, 21 **make you complete** in every good work to do His will, working in you what is well pleasing in His sight, through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory forever and ever. Amen. Heb 13:20*
- *For what thanks can we render to God for you, for all the joy with which we rejoice for your sake before our God, 10 night and day praying exceedingly that we may see your face and **perfect what is lacking in your faith**? 1 Th 3:9-10*

# Never Forget

- *For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God, 9 not of works, lest anyone should boast. 10 For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand that we should walk in them. Eph 2:8-10*
- God will work with us and for us. What He needs from us is submission, endurance and commitment.

# God's Path to Mending Our Net

- The first step to mending, repairing and putting things in order is to obey the gospel.
- Faith comes by hearing [Rom 10:17](#)
- Without faith we cannot please God [Heb 11:6](#)
- Unless we believe Jesus we will die in sin. [Jn 8:24](#)
- Unless we repent we will perish; [Lk 13:3](#)
- God demands all men everywhere to repent [Acts 19:31](#)
- We must confess him before men. [Mt 10:32](#)
- He that believes and is baptized will be saved. [Mk 16:16](#)
- Repent and be baptized for remission of sins. [Acts 2:38](#)
- We were buried with him in baptism. [Rom 6:3-4](#)

Have we truly obeyed the gospel? Eternity is awaiting.