

# 180°

“**REPENT,**  
FOR THE KINGDOM OF HEAVEN IS AT HAND.”  
MATTHEW 3:2

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## INTRODUCTION

# 180°

*“REPENT, for the Kingdom of Heaven is at Hand.” Matthew 3:2*

“Salvation of the soul is more than forgiveness of sins, it is also regeneration and reformation. When a person is truly born again everything changes.” Spurgeon says, “Christ saves people not only in their sins but from their sins.” When a person truly repents and makes Jesus the Lord of their lives and begins to follow Him, he will obey the Lord’s commands and a change will take place. Not only will the person turn a complete 180 degrees from their old way of life to a new path, but a transformation of who he is, at his very core, will begin to happen. Soon the earthly man will find himself on a journey of transforming into a heavenly man. In 2 Corinthians 3:18 it says, *“But we all, with unveiled face, beholding as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from glory to glory, just as by the Spirit of the Lord.”*

Ultimately, the only true Heavenly Man is Jesus Himself. Throughout our Christian journey the Holy Spirit transforms us into the image of Christ. As we yield to Him and His power, we will become more and more like Him. Over time, the words that we speak will be more Him speaking through us, than we ourselves. As we soak in His presence, what we think about and how we walk and even what we desire will begin to change. As we continue to gaze upon His lovely face, compassion will begin to spring up and we will find ourselves helping others to be loosed and set free. Then before you know it, the secret of our true joy will be revealed and worship will become our response as we advance forward.

It may take a lifetime but Philippians 1:6 assures of one thing, *“He who began a good work in you will complete it.”* And we rejoice in knowing that one day, as 1John 3:2 says, *“we shall be like Him, for we shall see Him as He is.”* Oh for the day of days when ultimately Christ will come in all His glory, in a twinkling of an eye, and we shall put off this mortal, decaying body. On that day that will have no more tomorrows, *“we shall see His face in righteousness and we shall be satisfied when we awake in His likeness.”* Ps. 17:15

Our prayer for you who have chosen to do this twelve week series, and who choose to turn 180 degrees from their old way of living is that you will learn **what it means to be Transformed from an Earthly man into a Heavenly man.** Our commitment to you as pastors is to join together to help, strengthen, encourage and to stay the course **“Until Christ is Formed in You.”**

*Let the Journey Begin,*  
**Pastors Frank and Parris Bailey &  
The Victory Fellowship Pastoral Staff**

*“My little children, for whom I labor in birth again until Christ is formed in you,” Galatians 4:19*

# REPENT

*“Repent for the Kingdom of Heaven is at hand.” Matthew 3:2*

*“In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of His grace.” Ephesians 1:7*

## LESSON OVERVIEW

In John 3:7 it says, “You must be born again.” What does it mean to be born again, to be made new, to be redeemed? Is it possible to walk free from the power of sin and darkness and into His marvelous light? Free from the bondage of sinful habits and loosed from the worldly passions that hold us at bay from our precious Savior and the life that He has empowered us to live? “We like Nicodemus struggle to understand, until the wind begins to blow. The wind of God finally awakens us to live this new life of the Spirit.”

“In Psalms 37:4 it says, “ Delight thyself also in the Lord and He will give you the desires of your heart”... The sure sign of someone’s conversion is their heart. You can mask your actions but changing the heart is not something that can be faked. That is the dilemma man finds himself in. His conscience may tell him what is right but his will is ensnared in sin and seems to always fall short. The sure litmus test of where our heart stands is our joy. Conversion touches this part of us and turns the focus of our joy from earthly things to spiritual things. The born again man can actually begin to delight in the Lord. The Lord Himself becomes his source and the focus of his joy. The unregenerate man does not know this delight in the Lord. (FB) But when an earthly man is born again he makes a 180 degree turn from his way to the Lord’s way and begins his journey into delighting in spiritual things and becoming a heavenly man.

But how can we even begin to turn in the right direction when we are marred by the filthiness of our sinful nature and our past that encumbers our lives? The answer is, we do so by first allowing the gentle winds of the Spirit to open our eyes to see His beauty and our ears to hear His sweet voice. We begin to yield to the gentle breeze that moves us to the cleansing fountain that flows from Immanuel’s veins. It is there we are washed. William Cowper tells us about this fountain in His timeless song: “There is a fountain filled with blood, drawn from Immanuel’s veins, and sinners plunged beneath that flood lose all their guilty stains. The dying thief rejoiced to see that fountain in His day; and there have I, though vile as he, washed all my sins away. Dear dying Lamb, Thy precious blood shall never lose it’s power, till all the ransomed church of God are safe, to sin no more. E’re since by faith I saw the stream Thy flowing wounds supply, redeeming love has been my theme, and shall be till I die. When this poor, lisping, stamm’ring tongue lies silent in the grave, then in a nobler, sweeter song, I’ll sing Thy pow’r to save.” (FB)

Have you been washed in the blood of the Savior? Have you experienced His redeeming love? “Have you tasted the power of redemption? Are you enjoying the benefits purchased for us by His precious blood?” Hopefully your answer is “YES.” If so, then it is possible for you to walk free from the power of sin and darkness, free from the bondage of sinful habits, and loosed from worldly passions. You can lay hold of our precious Savior and the life that He has empowered you to live. If your answer is “NO” then simply ask Jesus to be your Savior then the life described above can be yours. He has a solution for all of our lives. All we need to do is **repent**, turn 180 degrees, and begin to walk in His ways. Before you know it you will feel the gentle winds of the Holy Spirit blow once more, and you will be cleansed by His blood that was shed to set the captive free.



## NICODEMUS

### A PORTRAIT OF AN EARTHLY MAN TRANSFORMING INTO A HEAVENLY MAN

In John 3:1-15 it tells us about a man named Nicodemus who was a very religious man. The Bible says he was a Pharisee and a ruler of the Jews, yet he didn't understand what it truly meant to be born again. So, Nicodemus began to ask questions about the way of salvation. Earthly men who want to be transformed into heavenly men begin by searching for the whole answer to what it means to be saved, and what it means to be redeemed. Even the religious man would do himself well to ask "Have I really been born again?"

*Charles Spurgeon writes, "Beware, I pray, of presuming that you are saved. If your heart is renewed, if you hate the things that you once loved, and love the things that you did once hate; if you have really **repented**; if there is a thorough change of mind in you; if you be born again, then you have reason to rejoice: but if there be no vital change, no inward godliness; if there be no love to God, no prayer, no work of the Holy Spirit, then you saying "I am saved" is but your own assertion, and it may delude, but it will not deliver you." (abridged)*

## 1) WHAT DOES THE WORD REDEMPTION MEAN?

Where do we begin? We, like Nicodemus, start by asking questions about how can a man be born again and what does it really mean to be saved? What does the word redemption mean and what things must we do to see the fruit of salvation in our lives?

**Ephesians 1:7** "In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of His grace."

A Person without Christ is enslaved to sin. To be set free, a man must be born again. We are born again and redeemed through the blood of Jesus Christ that was shed on Calvary. Whoever believes in Him shall be saved.

Redemption means \_\_\_\_\_ from \_\_\_\_\_.

God's plan is astounding! He had plans in place for redemption long before we fell into sin. Redemption predates eternity by a length of time called eternity. Christ was slain as a sacrifice for fallen man before He created the universe with a word. Not only did He have plans for the fallen race. He also had thoughts and plans for you and me. These kinds of thoughts are too high for us, they are as endless as His love. As Jonathan Edwards often said, "His love is like an ocean without a bottom and without shores. We have been purchased from being slave minded, purchased from our sinful lifestyle. The price that was paid was the blood of Jesus." (FB)

## 2) WHAT WAS PURCHASED FOR ME?

### A. THE HOLY SPIRIT

**Eph. 1:13-14** "In Him you also trusted, after you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation; in whom also, having believed, you were sealed with the **Holy Spirit** of promise, who is the **guarantee** of **our inheritance** until the redemption of the purchased possession, to the praise of His glory."

The Holy Spirit is the third person of the Trinity. He is my inheritance. He is our engagement ring, the promise of a better \_\_\_\_\_ and a better \_\_\_\_\_. As we step into our inheritance His anointing comes upon us and we are enabled to live the life which we were meant to live. Free from the sinful life that enslaved us and held us down. We become free.

### B. SALVATION

**1 Peter 2:9** "But you are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, His own special people, that you may proclaim the praises of Him who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light"

**Acts 20:28** "Therefore take heed to yourselves and to all the flock, among which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers, to shepherd the church of God which He purchased with His own blood."

Jesus' blood purchased my soul from hell. I was lost and without hope. He purchased me and brought me out of \_\_\_\_\_. Our mind and emotions have been scarred perhaps from things like a divorce, abortion or even the terrifying things that we see on the news that are happening in our world today. He washes us clean and brings us into His glorious presence. We were caught up in fear but now our souls have been washed clean.

### C. HEALING

**1 John 3:2** "Beloved, now we are children of God; and it has not yet been revealed what we shall be, but we know that when He is revealed, we shall be like Him, for we shall see Him as He is."

He purchased our bodies permanently and eternally. In I John 3:2 it says, "We shall be like Him." We will have a resurrected body. The beauty shining out of you will be beautiful beyond compare. We will be His trophies of Redemption. Healing is a picture, a foretaste of what is to come. There is healing power in the name of Jesus. "Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all His benefits: Who forgives all your iniquities, who heals all your diseases." **Psalms 103:2-3**

### D. REDEEMED FROM POVERTY AND THE POWER OF SIN

**2 Corinthians 8:9** "For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though He was rich, yet for your sakes He became poor, that you through His poverty might become rich."

*Rich means to be "abounding, abundantly supplied."  
He has redeemed you from poverty. He wants you to prosper.  
The word prosper means "to have a good journey"*

There is \_\_\_\_\_ in the blood of Jesus. We have been redeemed from the power of sin. "He himself bore our sins in his body on the tree, that we might die to sin and live to righteousness. By his wounds you have been healed." 1 Peter 2:24 Sins of the eye, sins of the tongue and mouth, sins of the thoughts and heart, sins of actions-what we eat, what you drink, anger, malice, jealousy, sexual sins the list goes on and on. (FB A-D)

### **3) WHAT MUST WE DO IN ORDER TO SEE THE FRUIT OF REDEMPTION IN OUR LIVES?**

#### **REPENT!**

**Matthew 3:2** "Repent (think differently; change your mind, regretting your sins and changing your conduct), for the kingdom of heaven is at hand."

**Acts 3:19** "Repent, therefore, and turn back, that your sins may be blotted out, that times of refreshing may come from the Lord." Acts 3:19 In the Amplified Bible it says, "So repent (change your mind and purpose); turn around and return (to God)..."

According to LOUW and NIDA's Greek to English Lexicon, to "REPENT" means "to change one's way of life as the result of a complete change of thought and attitude with regard to sin and righteousness."

**STRONG'S-** (*metanoia*) means to change my mind, change the inner man particularly with reference to acceptance of the will of God.

**THAYER'S** -to change one's mind for the better, heartily to amend with abhorrence of one's past sins: to *repent* literally means to "think differently afterwards."

*"Repentance is a change of the will. Repentance and Regeneration are the work of the Holy Spirit. This is what grace is all about. He changes our will with a heavenly attraction- Amazing Grace."  
Pastor Frank Bailey*

To repent means to \_\_\_\_\_ and make a 180 degree turn from the path of sin you once walked to the new path of righteousness that God has paved for you. As His purchased possession your future is secure in the Lord's keeping and you are confident to follow Him where He leads. This is what it means to walk in newness of life, a life filled with purpose. (KB)

*"In the first place, when we call repentance 'a conversion of the life to God', we require a transformation, not only in the external actions, but in the soul itself; which, after having put off the old nature, should produce the fruits of actions corresponding to its renovation...."  
John Calvin*

#### **4) WHAT DOES IT MEAN THAT MY SINS WILL BE BLOTTED OUT?**

**Acts 3:19** *“Repent, therefore, and turn back, that your sins may be blotted out, that times of refreshing may come from the Lord.”*

“To wipe off, to wipe away, to cause something to cease by obliterating any evidence - to eliminate, to do away with, to wipe out.” LOUW and NIDA

**Hebrews 9:26** *“He has appeared once for all at the end of the ages to put away sin by the sacrifice of Himself.”*

#### **5) WHAT WILL COME AS A RESULT OF REPENTING?**

**Acts 3:19** *“So repent (change your mind and purpose); turn around and return [to God], that your sins may be erased (blotted out, wiped clean), that times of refreshing (of recovering from the effects of heat, of [a]reviving with fresh air) may come from the presence of the Lord;”*

**A. TIMES OF REFRESHING WILL COME.** A time to catch your breath. A time of renewal of the Spirit.

**LOUW AND NIDA-** “Relief from stressful, burdensome circumstances- relief, breathing space.”

**STRONGS-** “Properly, a recovery of breath. Figuratively, revival.”

**MOUNCE-** “Refreshing coolness after heat; refreshing, recreation, rest.”

#### **B. RESTORATION**

**Acts 3:21** *“Whom heaven must receive until the time for restoring all the things which God spoke by the mouth of His holy prophets long ago.”*

**LOUW AND NIDA-** “To change to a previous good state- to restore, to cause again to be, restoration. The times of restoring all things of which God spoke or until time of making all things new of which God spoke.”

**MOUNCE-** “Restitution or restoration of a thing to its former state; hence, the renovation of a new and better era.”

Restoring man to his place of intimacy with God, \_\_\_\_\_ what was lost at the fall. (FB 3-5)

#### **6) WHAT IS ONE OF THE FIRST THINGS YOU MUST DO AFTER BEING BORN AGAIN?**

**Acts 2:38** *And Peter said to them, “Repent and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.”*



**WATER BAPTISM** is an outward sign of the cleansing of our sins, a burial of our old life. Repentance and Baptism are closely joined together. Once you give your life to Christ and He becomes your Lord and Savior, your very next step is to bury your past in the watery grave of baptism so that you will rise to walk in newness of life.

## **7) WHAT TWO OTHER THINGS CAN WE DO TO HELP OURSELVES IN OUR JOURNEY OF BEING SET FREE?**

### **A. EMPTY YOURSELVES**

**Psalm 139:23,24** "Search me, O God, and know my heart; Try me, and know my anxieties; And see if there is any wicked way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting."

Perhaps you can't be filled because you are full, \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_. Maybe you are having trouble experiencing the renewal of the Holy Spirit. If that's the case maybe just maybe you need to be emptied first. Search your heart, is it full of God or full of other things? Sometimes we have to clean house, get rid of some junk in our lives so that we can really begin to receive from God. (FB)

### **B. REALIZE JESUS "THE BREAKER" HAS COME**

**Micah 2:13** "The Breaker has come up before them."

"This world is full of obstacles. Even though you are now saved, there will be many challenges and potholes along your path. It seems we often expect a life with no trials or problems as a Christian; that is just not a true picture of life. In the above Scripture it says, "the Breaker has come up before them." The Breaker, the Lord Jesus Christ, has gone before us to defeat **ALL** of our enemies. Our greatest enemy was \_\_\_\_\_ itself. Our nature was intertwined with sinfulness. Christ has not only forgiven us, the Breaker has broken the chains of sin off of our souls." (FB)

*Spurgeon writes, "Dost thou dread sin? He has nailed it to His cross. Dost thou fear death? He has been the death of Death. Art thou afraid of hell? He has barred it against the advent of any of His children.... Whatever foes may be before the Christian, they are all overcome. There are lions, but their teeth are broken; there are serpents, but their fangs are extracted; there are rivers, but they are bridged or fordable.... The sword that has been forged against us is already blunted; the instruments of war which the enemy is preparing have already lost their point.... For your fight shall be with a vanquished foe. His head is broken; he may attempt to injure you, but his strength shall not be sufficient for his malicious design. "Proclaim aloud the Savior's fame, who bears the Breaker's wondrous name; Sweet name; and it becomes Him well, who breaks down, earth, sin, death and hell."*

"Have you been touched by God? No really! If you have, there would be distinct changes in your life. He came to destroy the works of the devil. Have the works of the devil been destroyed in your life? ...Has the power of sin been broken on your life? I know no one is perfect, but I am talking about an habitual lifestyle of sin. Has that been broken? The touch of God breaks the power of sin and introduces you to life." (FB)



#### **Answers to Lesson One**

**1.** Purchased from Slavery; **2A.** Future, Life; **2B.** Darkness;  
**2D.** Power; **3.** Turn Around **5.** Recovering; **7A.** Full , Yourself; **7B.** Sin



# Receiving Grace That Transforms

*“But by the grace of God I am what I am, and his grace to me was not without effect. No, I worked harder than all of them—yet not I, but the grace of God that was with me.” 1 Corinthians 15:10*

## LESSON OVERVIEW

Grace has become a popular message recently. Actually the so called “grace message” has been used as a free pass from living a godly life. The Pauline message of grace does exactly the opposite. It not only reveals Christ to our hearts and His incredible love for sinners, it also delivers us from the shackles of a sinful lifestyle that has kept so many from living a holy life. I recently read a devotion from A. B. Simpson that spoke about this grace, here is a small sample:

“The word grace may be used in two senses. First, it points to the free and undeserved blessings bestowed on us by God, upon which we can always reckon and for which we should thank Him daily. Second, the word may be used of the divine power with which this compassionate love works within us. Grace is not merely an attribute of God, but a life power which works in us every day and every hour, giving us the power to do God's will.

Paul speaks of the goodness of God that made him, all undeserving, what he was. The grace that God bestowed on Paul was not in vain, because Paul worked “harder than all of them” in the service of the Lord. The divine power within him enabled him to do the work.”

The common definition of grace is the undeserved favor of God. That is true but doesn't go near far enough. The second part of the definition should include the supernatural influence of God on our souls. Grace is amazing because it opens our eyes to the reality of God working toward us, in us, and through us. It is grace that delivers us from sin. How does that happen? Grace makes Christ attractive and irresistible to us. This strange attractiveness deepens as we draw near to God. It actually brings us into a place of joy that flows out of this life of intimacy with God. It is this indescribable joy that delivers us from the foolish joys of this present life. Rather than giving us a free pass to sin, grace reveals sin for what it is; disgusting. So if you have been struggling with compromise don't buy in to the cheap version of grace that has no power to liberate, it actually makes you more vulnerable to sin. Drink from the historic cup of amazing grace, and sin will quickly lose its power over you.

**Pastor Frank Bailey**



## NOAH

### A PORTRAIT OF AN EARTHLY MAN TRANSFORMING INTO A HEAVENLY MAN

In Genesis 6 we find the story about a man named Noah who found grace in the eyes of the Lord. Noah was living in a time when the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every intention of the thoughts of men's hearts were evil continually. But the Bible says at that time in history Noah was a righteous man, blameless in his generation and that Noah walked with God. If an earthly man desires to be a heavenly man he must learn what it means to walk with God and to find the Lord's true transforming grace.

## 1) WHAT IS TRUE SAVING GRACE?

**Ephesians 2:8-9** "For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God, not of works, lest anyone should boast."

Grace is commonly defined as unmerited favor. "His grace is amazing but it does more than just cover our sins. It's His grace that leads us to the born again experience. He is not happy leaving us as He has found us. He insists upon \_\_\_\_\_. Since we cannot change ourselves Divine intervention is essential... Grace does not give you a license to sin. Grace gives you power to live a different life....This grace will liberate and break the chains of bondage in your life. There will be a change from the person you use to be, into the man or woman He intends you to be." (FB)

*"Christ will be master of the heart, and sin must be mortified. If your life is unholy, then your heart is unchanged, and you are an unsaved person. The Savior will sanctify His people, renew them, give them a hatred of sin, and a love of holiness. The grace that does not make a man better... is a worthless counterfeit. Christ saves His people, not in their sins, but from their sins. Without holiness, no man shall see the Lord."*

*Charles Spurgeon*

## 2) WHAT IS THE SO CALLED GRACE MESSAGE BEING PREACHED TODAY ACROSS OUR NATION?

"Antinomianism is the so called grace message being taught in our churches across America. Antinomianism in the Greek means "lawless". It is the teaching that grace allows me to ignore the moral law." (FB) Put into simple terms, no matter what I do, God's grace will cover me and pardon me. I can continue to live in my sinful state, not change, not turn from my wicked ways and yet be assured of my salvation. This is a modern day heresy. (KB)

*In the 1840's Adam Clarke wrote the following about false teachers, "Hereby know we the Spirit of truth. The doctrine and teacher most prized and followed to the worldly man, and by the gay, giddy, and garish multitude, are not from God; they savor the flesh, lay on no restraints, prescribe no cross bearing, and leave every one in full possession his heart's lusts and easily besetting sins. And by this, false doctrine and false teachers are easily discerned."*

### **3) WHY IS JUST BELIEVING IN GOD NOT ENOUGH TO PROVE SALVATION?**

Because even the demons believe in God. (James 2:19) The true test if you are born again is that you love God, for the born again nature loves God. Loving God comes from the new nature and as a result the born again nature loves \_\_\_\_\_. If God resides inside in you (and God is love) then love (Himself) has made His dwelling place in you. (FB)

**1 John 4:7,8** *"Beloved, let us love one another, for love is of God; and everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. He who does not love does not know God, for God is love."*

### **4) WHAT ARE SOME PRACTICAL WAYS TO KNOW IF WE ARE REALLY SAVED?**

#### **A. TEST THE SPIRITS**

In 1 John 4:1 it says, *"Beloved, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits to see whether they God, for many false prophets have gone out into the world."* The word test (*okimazoce*) means to test, assay metals, 1Peter 1:7; to prove, try, examine, scrutinize, Lk 14:19; Rom 12:2; to approve after trial, judge worthy, Rom. 14:22; to decide upon after examination, distinguish. The verb means "to make a critical examination of something, to determine genuineness, to test or to examine. (NET NOTES)

#### **B. HARMONY OF THE WORD AND THE SPIRIT**

The Holy Spirit within you and the Word must bear \_\_\_\_\_.

**1John 4:2,3** *"By this you know the Spirit of God: every spirit that confesses that Jesus Christ came in the flesh is from God. And every spirit that does not confess Jesus is not from God. This is the spirit of antichrist, which you heard was coming and now is in the world already."*

#### **C. YOU WILL KEEP HIS COMMANDMENTS**

**1John 2:3-5** *"Now by this we know that we know Him, if we keep His commandments. He who says, "I know Him," and does not keep His commandments, is a liar, and the truth is not in him. But whoever keeps His word, truly the love of God is perfected in him. By this we know that we are in Him."*

## D. YOU WILL WALK JUST AS HE WALKED

**1 John 2:6** "He who says he abides in Him ought himself also to walk just as He walked."

## E. YOU WILL NOT LOVE THE WORLD OR THE THINGS IN THE WORLD

**1 John 2:15,16** "Do not love the world or the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him. For all that is in the world--the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life--is not of the Father but is of the world."

Simply put- "What we love changes. We begin to love God and His kingdom, and the \_\_\_\_\_ has looses its hold on you."

In 1833 Adam Clarke wrote the following concerning these verses, "For all that is in the world. All that it can boast of, all that it can provide is only sensual, transient gratification, and even this promise it cannot fulfill; so that its warmest votaries can complain loudest of their disappointment.

**a). LUST OF THE FLESH-** Sensual and impure desires which seek their gratification in women/men, in drink, delicious viands and the like.

**b). LUST OF THE EYES-** Inordinate desires after finery of every kind, gaudy dress, splendid houses, superb furniture, expensive equipage, trappings, and decorations of all sorts. (i.e. cars, jewelry, travel)

**c). PRIDE OF LIFE-** Hunting after honors, titles, pedigrees; boasting of ancestry, family connections, great offices, honorable acquaintance, and the like.

All of these are not of the Father. Nothing of these inordinate attachments either comes from or leads to. They are of this world; here they begin, flourish and end. They deprave the mind, divert Divine pursuits, and render it utterly incapable of spiritual enjoyments.

## F. YOUR LOVING GOD WILL RESULT IN LOVING ONE ANOTHER

"What an amazing truth, this love not only draws us it actually converts us and comes to loves inside of us.... He becomes the center of our world when we yield to His grace and love...This love that captured our hearts begins to fill our whole being. Suddenly, we are consumed with an incredible love for God. Not only do we love God, we begin to experience a supernatural love for \_\_\_\_\_. Those who once aggravated you now have a special place of affection in your heart. **This is the sure litmus test for conversion.**" (FB A-F)

**1 John 4:7,8** "Beloved, let us love one another, for love is of God; and everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. He who does not love does not know God, for God is love."

**John 13:34,35** "A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another; as I have loved you, that you also love one another. By this all will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another."

**1 John 4:20-21** "If someone says, "I love God," and hates his brother, he is a liar; for he who does not love his brother whom he has seen, how can he love God whom he has not seen? And this commandment we have from Him: that he who loves God must love his brother also."

## **5) HOW ARE WE ABLE TO LIVE THE ABOVE SIX PRACTICAL STEPS IN OUR LIVES ON A DAILY BASIS?**

**John 1:14,16** "And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth.....And of His fullness we have all received, and grace for grace."

Only through Christ alone and His amazing grace, that He gave and keeps on giving, can our lives be \_\_\_\_\_.

In John 1:14 it says, Jesus (the Word that became flesh) "was full of grace and truth" and verse 16 says and "of His fullness we have received grace for grace." Spurgeon says, "heap fulls, upon heap fulls." Spurgeon also said, " That He is full of grace and that He is overflowing with it. This grace, in covenant, He has given to us, it is ours to cleanse us, ours to keep us, ours to sanctify us, ours to perfect us, ours to bring us to glory- all this should tend to make us glad in Him."

*Jonathan Edwards said it like this, "Who are kept by the power of God through faith unto salvation." As grace is at first from God, so 'tis continually from Him, and is maintained by Him, as much as light in the atmosphere is all day long from the sun, as well as at first dawning, or at sun-rising.*

*Men are dependent on the power of God for every exercise of grace, and for carrying on the work of grace in the heart, for the subduing of sin and corruption, and increasing holy principles, and enabling to bring forth fruit in good works, and at last bringing grace to its perfection, in making the soul completely amiable in Christ's glorious likeness, and filling of it with satisfying joy and blessedness; and for the raising of the body to life, and to such a perfect state, that it shall be suitable for an habitation and organ for a soul so perfected and blessed. These are the most glorious effects of the power of God that are seen in the series of God's acts with respect to the creatures."*



### **Answers to Lesson Two**

**1.** Change; **3.** People; **4B.** Witness; **4E.** World; **4F.** People;  
**5.** Transformed

## You Can't Change on Your Own, You Need Help

*“Or do you suppose that the Scripture is speaking to no purpose that says, The Spirit Whom He has caused to dwell in us yearns over us and He yearns for the Spirit [to be welcome] with a jealous love?” James 4:5 (Amplified)*

### LESSON OVERVIEW

We tend to think of jealousy as a bad thing but this trait is burning in the heart of God. He is a jealous lover. As a matter of fact the Bible says, “The Lord your God is a jealous God.” He has created us for Himself and will settle for nothing else. He is after our hearts. He wants to have the first place of affection in our lives. That is where the problem starts, it's our heart that causes us a problem. Jeremiah said that man's heart is desperately wicked. No matter how hard we try, we don't have the capacity to change that. It is only by the work of the Holy Spirit at the new birth that we can be born again. The miracle of the new birth goes way beyond forgiveness of sins. It deals with the heart issue. Not only are we cleansed, but the power of the Spirit changes our very nature. At the root of this change is a heart that passionately loves God. This is the solution to our plight, this is the only solution. Andrew Murray spoke often about the work of the Spirit in our heart. Here is something he believed about the work of the Spirit in us.

“It is often said that the secret of success is to apply yourself, heart and soul, to your work. This is also true in the spiritual realm, especially when praying for the Holy Spirit to be present. I cannot emphasize it enough, that the Holy Spirit desires to possess you completely. He cannot be satisfied with less if He wishes to let His great power work in your life. He has the right to this because He is the almighty God. When you pray for the Holy Spirit, you are praying for the triune God to take possession of you. You cannot expect God to bring about just one or two changes and for the rest leave you free to further your own will. The Holy Spirit wishes to take complete possession of you. Perhaps you feel that this is the problem: You do not have such a burning desire for this as you should have. You do not see this as a reality in your life. Fortunately, God is aware of your inability and has therefore arranged it so that the Holy Spirit will work in you for everything that you need. What God expects of you, He will Himself bring to pass.”

This love for God often starts as a seed. It grows as it is watered by the Word and by the rain of His presence. As you consider this lesson today maybe you will feel some stirring in your heart. That is a very good sign. Now lets spend some time in His presence and let the heart change happen.

**Pastor Frank Bailey**



## PETER

### A PORTRAIT OF AN EARTHLY MAN TRANSFORMING INTO A HEAVENLY MAN

In Acts 2 we find the story about a man named Peter. His name means rock, but before being baptized with the Holy Spirit he was far from that description. He was an ordinary fisherman who left all to follow Jesus. Even though he was a follower of Christ, Peter lacked the power and strength to live the life of a true heavenly man. When Jesus said He had to die, Peter said the wrong thing. When asked if he was Jesus disciple before Christ death, Peter denied it. When Jesus was crucified on the cross, John and Mary stood at a distance but Peter was nowhere to be found. He was hiding cowardly filled with earthly fear. But that all changed in the Upper Room on the Day of Pentecost when he received what Jesus told him to wait for – the Promise of the Father. On that day he realized he would need Another Helper to accomplish that task which he was called to do. Peter was one of the 120 that were baptized with the Holy Ghost and power. In an instant, he was boldly preaching Christ with no concern of what would happen to him personally. Peter received power and strength to live the life of a true heavenly man.

## 1) WHAT DO YOU NEED TO BE ABLE TO CHANGE YOUR HEART?

“It takes \_\_\_\_\_ to truly convert a fallen being into a child of God. It takes \_\_\_\_\_ to deliver someone from the bondage to alcohol and lust. Only the \_\_\_\_\_ of God can heal the sick or change the course of someone's miserable life. If you stop for a moment and think about it, **the apostles didn't really change until they were filled with the Holy Spirit on the day of Pentecost.** After the disciples were baptized with the Spirit they became different kind of men.” You need the **HOLY GHOST GENERATOR** (a Holy Ghost “power source”) **to live this life. YOU NEED ANOTHER HELPER.** You cannot change on your own **YOU NEED HELP!!!**

“It is the power of God that saves us, delivers us, and heals us.”  
-Frank Bailey

**John 14:15-17** “If you [really] love Me, you will keep (obey) My commands. And I will ask the Father, and He will give you another Comforter (Counselor, Helper, Intercessor, Advocate, Strengthener, and Standby), that He may remain with you forever— The Spirit of Truth, Whom the world cannot receive (welcome, take to its heart), because it does not see Him or know and recognize Him. But you know and recognize Him, for He lives with you [constantly] and will be in you.” (Amplified)



**COMFORTER-** This has always been a beloved title and description of the precious Holy Spirit. He is the Comforter and comforts us in the midst of our troubles. There is nothing quite like the love of God coming upon us in our difficult days. He truly comforts us with supernatural comfort to sustain us in our darkest of times.

**COUNSELOR-** The Spirit of God gives us wisdom and counsel when we have no idea how to proceed. Not only does He give us the information we need, He is truly a counselor. His words are filled with therapy. Often, thousands of dollars are spent for professional counsel which can often bring great benefit. The counsel of the Holy Spirit is even greater than the counsel of a trained professional. His counsel is filled with supernatural life that brings healing to our soul.

**HELPER-** This is one of my favorite descriptions of the precious Holy Spirit. He helps us in all of our weaknesses. His help is so personal and so powerful because He works on the inside of us. Paul said that He helps us through groaning's and sighs as we yield to the Spirit in prayer. What kind of help do you need today? Yield to the Spirit as you pray, suddenly He will join together with you to help you overcome all of your challenges. He is our Helper, always present, always ready to help us.

**ADVOCATE-** This word is often used for legal counsel. Just as Jesus stands before the Father as our Advocate, the Holy Spirit is our Advocate on earth. He supports us, stands up for us, and orchestrates the events of our lives for us. The Holy Spirit is our heavenly Advocate on earth.

**STRENGTHENER-** There are so many challenges in this crazy world that tempt us to compromise our moral convictions. The Holy Spirit within us helps us by imparting divine strength into us on a continual basis. When facing the enemy, Paul told us to be strengthened (endunamoo) so that we can overcome the works of the enemy. The Holy Spirit helps us by strengthening us on the inside so that we can live godly lives in Christ.

**STANDBY-** We never know what each moment will hold for us but He is always there, on standby, for us. I can be ready for whatever life throws at me by staying filled with the Holy Spirit. (FB)

*“Once I give myself unconditionally to be led by the Holy Spirit in my daily life and conversations, the Holy Spirit will control my everyday life.... He corrects me when I am wrong, redirects me when I get off the path, strengthens me when I am weak or afraid, encourages me when I am discouraged; it is His nearness that defines my life.”*  
-Pastor Frank Bailey

## **2) HOW DO I GET BAPTIZED WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT?**

***You just have to ask!***

**Luke 11:9-13** "So I say to you, ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you. For everyone who asks receives, and he who seeks finds, and to him who knocks it will be opened. If a son asks for bread from any father among you, will he give him a stone? Or if he asks for a fish, will he give him a serpent instead of a fish? Or if he asks for an egg, will he offer him a scorpion? If you then, being evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask Him!"

### **3) WHAT IS THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN RECEIVING THE HOLY SPIRIT AND BEING BAPTIZED WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT?**

The word *baptize* in the Greek means to be saturated or \_\_\_\_\_. The baptism with the Holy Spirit is a saturation or immersion into the Holy Spirit. It is a distinct experience, separate from the new birth. When you accept Jesus Christ as Lord, the Holy Spirit comes to live inside you. He dwells within you. When you are baptized with the Holy Spirit, you are filled to overflowing with the power of God. This is oftentimes known as the infilling of the Holy Spirit or the Holy Spirit coming "upon" you.

The baptism with the Holy Spirit is the empowering of the Holy Spirit as He comes and equips us to live the kind of life that Jesus lived. We shall receive power, *dunamis*, to fulfill the Great Commission. (Read Acts 1:8)

The difference between initially receiving the Holy Spirit when you are born again and the baptism with the Holy Spirit is seen in the following Scriptures. John 20 refers to the day that Jesus rose from the dead, Easter Sunday. This event takes place in the upper room, the same place, where the disciples were on the day of Pentecost. (Read John 20:19-22) He breathed on the disciples and said, "Receive the Holy Spirit." They received the Spirit of God into their lives, becoming born again of the Spirit, the dwelling place of God Most High. Some 40 days after this, Jesus told them to wait in Jerusalem to receive the baptism with the Holy Spirit. (Read Acts 1:4-5; Luke 3:16) (Excerpt from ***The Holy Spirit the Promised One*** By Frank Bailey)

### **4) WHAT DID JESUS TELL THEM ON THAT SUNDAY EVENING?**

Even though the 11 disciples had received the Spirit of God into their lives on that Sunday evening, they were told by Jesus *in essence*, "There's something else you need: power to preach the gospel and touch the world in which you live. Don't leave Jerusalem until the power of the Holy Spirit comes upon you."

The disciples did just that. They "returned to Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet" and entered "the upper room where they were staying." (see Acts 1:12-13) Acts 2:1-4 describes what took place next. On the day of Pentecost, the disciples were baptized with the Holy Spirit and fire with the evidence of speaking in tongues.

"The people going into that upper room that day were normal people, but they came out of that room different." The disciples didn't change until they were \_\_\_\_\_ with the Holy Spirit. (Excerpt from ***The Holy Spirit the Promised One*** By Frank Bailey)

*Andrew Murray writes, "There can be no goodness or happiness in any human being, unless it is the breath, the life, the work of God within him. Goodness can only be in God and it cannot exist separate from Him. He can bless and sanctify by Himself becoming the blessing and sanctification of man. There is thus no goodness in the life of man from anything but the immediate indwelling and working of the Holy Trinity. Perpetual inspiration from the Holy Spirit is as necessary to a life of goodness, holiness, and happiness as the perpetual respiration of air is necessary to animal life."*

## 5) WHAT IS THE HOLY SPIRIT'S ULTIMATE PURPOSE?

"The Holy Spirit's ultimate purpose is to carry out the "pledge to the believer" to deliver us from sin, to purify our hearts, and to infuse \_\_\_\_\_ of the highest kind so much that He seals, anoints, leads, intercedes for us while being the unction and the witness." (Pastor Parris Bailey)

The Spirit teaches us that He delights in His work, His infinite sweet complacency in holding up the fort. He delights to be trusted, He delights to be appealed to, He delights to put forth his mighty hand when the cry of the tried soul comes up to Him for help, He delights to infuse His might into the weak human arm and enable it to drive the evil back. Who can measure the unsearchable riches of the love of the Spirit?" (C.R. Vaughan)

We can either button up "our spiritual overcoat" so to speak and forge on relying on our own abilities, or we can begin to understand the office of the Holy Spirit. He can cause the breakthrough that you have been seeking. He can fight your battles, as you through the Spirit see that He shall be in you! You are not alone and He understands what you are facing. There is enough anger, hurt, and misunderstanding in this world to fill all the oceans. Why not let the Holy Spirit do His thing? (Pastor Parris Bailey)

## 6) HOW WILL THIS WORK IN OUR LIVES BE COMPLETED?

**Philippians 1:6** "Being confident of this very thing, that He who has begun a good work in you will complete it until the day of Jesus Christ."

*"What was started by the power of the Spirit must be completed by the power of the Spirit. I think we are coming to a season that we will have no choice but to return to an emphasis on the power of the Spirit. There is too much sin, too much temptation, too much sickness to depend on human effort."*  
—Frank Bailey

"Our Christian walk is \_\_\_\_\_ from start to finish. As Paul said, He is the Author and Finisher of our faith. Our walk was started by the Lord through the Spirit and will be completed by the work of the Spirit. Man always tries to get involved by trying to "help the Lord" so to speak. The problem is this, we tend to mess things up as soon as we take over. Paul said we received the Spirit by faith and the Christian life continues through God's lavish supply of the Spirit. The word supplies can be defined as this—the supply of the Spirit- **EPICHOREGEO**- to lead, the chorus, to supply and lead fully....

The very nature of Christianity is characterized by miracles. Salvation is a miracle, sanctification is a miracle, the infilling of the Spirit; all of this is supernatural. This is the good news. The Lord loves to pour out His Spirit. When we look to Him there will never be a lack of supply. He pours out above and beyond what we can ask for or think of. He will pour out His Spirit to help us pray, He pours out His Spirit to help us through our weaknesses, He will even pour out His Spirit just because- *just because He loves to be with us and to display His glory*. So let Him lead the way! He will supply the Spirit in whatever you are facing." (FB)



### Answers to Lesson Three

1. Power, Power, Power;
3. Immersed;
4. Baptized;
5. Holiness;
6. Supernatural

# My Mouth Needs to Change

*“But ye have an unction from the Holy Ghost, and ye know all things.”  
1 John 2:20*

*“A HEAVENLY MAN SPEAKS A HEAVENLY LANGUAGE”*

## LESSON OVERVIEW

The Apostle John used the word **UNCTION** to describe the work of the Holy Spirit outpouring and anointing over our lives. The expression describes one pouring oil on the head of someone as an act of consecration or being placed into a particular office. The example in the Old Testament of course was David, when he was chosen by Samuel to be King. Oil was a symbol of being set apart. As a Christian we move from the symbolic to the real. Instead of oil, something indeed is impressed upon our hearts—the Holy Spirit Himself pours Himself upon us. When the Holy Spirit comes, power will be given to us and we will “know all things”.

We all know something amazingly supernatural happens when we are born again. But when we are filled with the Holy Spirit again and again, we will begin to “see into the unseen world.” Many of us have not continued to tap into this power of God. Yes, we become born again, and yes, maybe we say “Sha Na Na” a few times on a Sunday, but live out our Christian lives defeated, worn down with the cares of this world. To the church of Laodicea, they were to “anoint their eyes with eye-salve that they may see.” This church was in a state of extraordinary decline being described as neither cold nor hot. Almost as if their eyes had bandages on them and needed healing. The Holy Spirit comes into our lives to rip off those bandages of **HURT, PAIN, UNBELIEF and BITTERNESS OF SPIRIT.** He helps us see through the eyes of the Spirit.

The **UNCTION** of the Spirit causes us to “fly with the wings of the eagle and mount up” above the storms of this life, trials, and sufferings. He exercises through us the fruit of His Spirit giving us long-suffering, grace, faith, hope, joy, and gentleness to cause us to be “more than conquerors.” The test of life comes with sweetness and He gives us the energy to “run through a troop and leap over a wall.” If you allow this **UNCTION** to do its work in you, you will find that your character begins to change into a holy desire to please Him. Your prayer life changes into a worship experience desiring His presence even more, in fact all His energy (power) pours into your spirit, soul, and body. The natural man knows “not the things of the Spirit” but we can know God and His world. We begin a life long search into these precious promises.

Vaughan wrote, “A traveler with imperfect vision is passing through a landscape, charming with forest and field; bright glancing streams are gliding through orchards and meadows, sweet with bloom and verdure; fair human homes are here and there dotting the landscape, and the cattle are browsing knee-deep in the lush grass; but the dim-eyed traveler sees nothing, and his heart receives no pleasure from all this wealth of beauty. That unction of the Spirit which would enable the weak-eyed saint to see the things of Christ as they really are would be an inestimable blessing.”

**Pastor Parris Bailey**



## PAUL

### A PORTRAIT OF AN EARTHLY MAN TRANSFORMING INTO A HEAVENLY MAN

The Bible gives us an accurate portrait of the apostle Paul before his salvation. In Acts 9:1, 2 it says, "Now Saul, still breathing threats and murder against the disciples of the Lord, went to the high priest and asked him for letters to the synagogues at Damascus, so that if he found any belongings to the Way, men or women, he might bring them bound to Jerusalem." Paul, who was formally called Saul, had a problem with his mouth and was one mean individual. That all would change when the light shone from heaven while he was on the road to Damascus. Paul was an earthly man who suddenly turned 180 degrees in a different direction. His mouth instead of breathing curses, would now speak a new heavenly language and of heavenly things, full of "unction" that would reach the world of Christ.

## 1) WHAT IS ONE OF THE BEST WAYS TO TAP INTO THIS "UNCTION"- THIS POWER FROM GOD?

**Rom. 8:13** *"For if you live according to the flesh you will die; but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live."*

If we don't take care of our spiritual condition our passions for the things of this age will overrun our lives. Everything from catastrophic natural disasters, political failures, increasing sexual promiscuity, disease; the list is endless. If we get by the depression, we run right into temptation. Without spiritual help we are all doomed to fail miserably. That's where Romans 8:13 comes in. We can overcome all of these obstacles by the power of the Spirit. Paul said we could put to death the deeds or even tendencies of the body. There is a place of victory in Christ. The key element is being able to tap into the Spirit. **One of the best ways to do that is by using our heavenly language on a consistent basis.** When you pray in tongues your \_\_\_\_\_ is strengthened, helping you to overcome all of the obstacles to our faith. (FB)

## 2) HOW DOES THE SPIRIT HELP US?

**Rom. 8:26** *"In the same way, the Spirit helps us in our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but the Spirit Himself intercedes for us with groaning's too deep for words."*

### HE PRAYS THROUGH US.

The prayer language has become greatly misunderstood and the result is praying in the Spirit is highly under emphasized by the modern church. The consequences are staggering. Rather than a powerful church with signs and wonders we have become weak and immoral, making excuses for our lack of power and changing theological stances to allow for a carnal lifestyle. A return to the emphasis on the baptism in the Spirit followed by the evidence of speaking in other tongues is what we need if we want to receive the help from above to see \_\_\_\_\_ in our lives. (FB)

The Holy Spirit begins to pray through us in a language inexpressible in human words because our circumstances have no natural solutions. The Spirit takes us into the heavenly dimension and actually prays through us. These kinds of prayers carry supernatural power and are guaranteed to be answered. (FB)



*Here is how Adam Clarke described this divine help: “The word sunantilambanomai is very inadequately expressed by helpeth. It is compounded of sun, together, anti, against, and lambanomai, to support or help, and signifies such assistance as is afforded by any two persons to each other, who mutually bear the same load or carry it between them. He who prays, receives help from the Spirit of God; but he who prays not, receives no such help. Whatever our strength may be, we must put it forth, even while most implicitly depending on the strength of God himself.”*

*What a word! Sunantilambanomai. This word translated ‘helps’ in English describes the supernatural help we receive while praying in the Spirit. This prayer transforms us and affects our circumstances. This is how God helps us. So what are we waiting for? Let’s pray in our heavenly language and watch God take over. (FB)*

“Just as Jesus intercedes for us in heaven, the Spirit prays for us on earth. He prays supernatural prayers that actually are prayed through us. The Spirit moves upon us, we yield to Him by praying in the Spirit, He then begins to \_\_\_\_\_ our prayers to pray exactly what we need. We may not know how to pray in any given situation but the Holy Spirit knows all things and prays God’s will and purposes in and through us. (FB)

### **3) HOW DOES THIS CHANGE OUR EARTHLY SPEECH?**

**Romans 12:1-2** *“I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that you present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God, which is your reasonable service. And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God.”*

Paul urged us to be transformed, changed into a heavenly man in Romans 12. He said in view of the mercies of God, offer your bodies to the Lord, this is our spiritual worship. As we give ourselves to the Lord, renewal begins to take place. Renewal is the supernatural work of God in us. He uses the Word of God and visitations of His presence to change each of us from the natural man to the spiritual man, **from an earthly man to a heavenly man.**

Paul talked about one of the obvious changes we see in the heavenly man. **As the heavenly man prays in his heavenly language something supernatural takes place; his earthly language begins to change.** The natural man speaks of \_\_\_\_\_ things, coarse joking and worthless things, things that have no value. The heavenly man has a language characterized by thanksgiving. The heavenly man has been deeply impacted by God’s love. The perception of God’s goodness, holiness, power, and wisdom has impacted him to such a degree that his language has been affected. He is now speaking the heavenly language. (FB)

Our speech is not changed by human effort or will power but only by the power of the Holy Spirit. The Scripture says in Ephesians 5:18-20, *“And do not get drunk with wine, for that is debauchery, but be filled with the Spirit, addressing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody to the Lord with your heart, giving thanks always and for everything to God the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.”* This change of language happens by the impact of the Holy Spirit on our lives. As we sing, worship, and encourage ourselves and one another in the Word, the Holy Spirit begins to express Himself through us. (FB)

## 4) HOW DOES THIS TRANSFORMATION TAKE PLACE?

Luke 6:45 says, "out of the abundance of the heart his mouth speaks." Or put simply, "the mouth speaks what the heart is full of." We are defiled by what comes out of our mouths because what comes out of our mouths is a picture of what is really in our hearts. As we began to pray in our heavenly language the Lord begins to change our hearts. When the center of our being (our heart) is changed, what comes out of our mouths will \_\_\_\_\_ also. (KB)

Sometimes our mother tongue (English) cannot truly express the powerful feelings our heart begins to experience. There is an infinite ocean of emotion, God's love and joy that begins to flood our souls. This heavenly affection needs to be expressed through the supernatural prayer language.

**1 Corinthians 14:1,2** "Pursue love, and earnestly desire the spiritual gifts, especially that you may prophesy. For one who speaks in a tongue speaks not to men but to God; for no one understands him, but he utters mysteries in the Spirit."

Paul said we utter mysteries or intimacies (The Message Bible). Actually what he is describing is a private, daily, intimate communication with our Lord. This is the place of total satisfaction. This is the place our hungry hearts are longing for. In this place of divine intimacy, transformation takes place, we are being changed from glory to glory into the heavenly man. (FB)

*"May the Holy Spirit lead us these days into His purity, quietness, subduing every coarse, rude, harsh and unholy habit."*

—A.B. Simpson

## 5) WHAT ARE SOME PRACTICAL BENEFITS WE WILL RECEIVE AS WE PRAY IN OUR HEAVENLY LANGUAGE EACH DAY?

### A. IT BUILDS US UP AND JOINS US TOGETHER TO WALK IN UNITY AND FELLOWSHIP

**Jude 1:20-21** "But you, beloved, building yourselves up in the most holy faith, praying in the Holy Spirit, keep yourselves in the love of God, waiting anxiously for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ to eternal life."

### B. BRINGS YOU TO VICTORY IN AREAS OF WEAKNESS IN YOUR LIFE THAT YOU CANNOT OVERCOME ON YOUR OWN.

**Romans 8:26** "In the same way the Spirit also helps our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we should, but the Spirit Himself intercedes for us groaning's too deep for words."

The Holy Spirit grabs hold of you, pulling against something that's pulling against you. God \_\_\_\_\_ of you through the person of the Holy Spirit and pulls with you against a weakness that you have.



### C. PRAYING IN TONGUES IS THERAPEUTIC.

It's the therapeutic medicine of God! Our physical minds do not have all the answers. If you are experiencing stress, worry, and anxiety over a particular situation you need to pray in tongues in order to enter into God's therapy for your life. Therapeutic prayer brings rest, refreshing and peace to your soul. Psychiatrists and therapists can deal with the mind, but they do not know how to deal with the spirit of man. God deals with the root of the problem, which is the inner man. When we begin to pray in tongues, you will find rest you need.

### D. SPEAKING IN YOUR HEAVENLY LANGUAGE HELPS CONTROL YOUR TONGUE.

**James 3:2-5** *"For we all stumble in many things. If anyone does not stumble in word, he is a perfect man, able also to bridle the whole body. Indeed, we put bits in horses' mouths that they may obey us, and we turn their whole body. Look also at ships: although they are so large and are driven by fierce winds, they are turned by a very small rudder wherever the pilot desires. Even so the tongue is a little member and boasts great things. See how great a forest a little fire kindles!"*

James 3:2-5 compares the human tongue to a bit that we put into a horse's mouth to control its body and a rudder that steers a ship, directing the course of its destiny. The tongue directs our lives, but it also bridles our bodies. The tongue affects the human body. There is a connection between our tongue and our brain, and between our tongue and our nervous system. When we begin to pray in the Holy Spirit, we are yielding our tongue totally to God. We are not in control of it anymore, saying what we want to say or what our minds have conceived. Rather, we are saying what the Holy Spirit is saying through us. Our tongue is totally yielded to God. God is able to bridle our bodies. It is as if He gets on the horse and begins to ride. He then directs our lives in the paths they should go. (A-D Excerpts from **Holy Spirit, The Promised One** By Frank Bailey)

*(For 12 additional benefits you will receive by praying in the Spirit, speaking in tongues read **Holy Spirit, The Promised One** by Frank Bailey)*



#### Answers to Lesson Four

1. Inner Man; 2. Change, Direct; 3. Natural; 4. Change; 5B. Grabs Hold

# The Way I Walk Needs to Change

*“One thing I ask of the Lord, this is what I seek: that I may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life, to gaze upon the beauty of the Lord and to seek Him in His temple.” Psalm 27:4*

**“YIELD”!!!**

## LESSON OVERVIEW

Some of you have been born again and may have been baptized with the Holy Spirit at one time, but you haven't experience real breakthrough in your lives. “You might have walked close to the Lord at one time, but something happened; you allowed other things to come between you and Him. It seemed that you took your eyes off of Him for only a moment, but that moment turned into an hour, and the hour into days, weeks, months, perhaps even years. You used to hear His voice calling you back, but now all you hear is silence. You confess your sins, but you feel no release and you worry that somehow you've wandered so far away, or done something so terribly wrong....It is time to stop limping between the two lifestyles. It is time to stop being a person “unresolved under their convictions, unstable, and unsteady in your purposes.” It is time to stop being a person that “ begins well but doesn't hold on.” (Pastor Parris Bailey) Matthew Henry writes, “We mustn't be like a bird which perpetually flies from bough to bough, and never is still. If it keeps on doing this, it will never have a nest. And so with you; you keep leaping between two boughs, from one opinion to the other; you get no rest for the sole of your foot, no peace, no joy, no comfort, but are just a poor miserable thing all your life long.”

So what must we do if we want to see real and lasting change in our lives? We must **YIELD!!!** **YIELD!!!** Yes, He's talking to you. Control is one of the biggest issues in all of our lives. Christianity isn't you becoming a better you, it's about **YIELDING** to the Lord. It is about surrendering control of everything; your heart, your desires, your body, your tongue, your plans. It is about **YIELDING** control to our God. But here is the catch (or the blessing depending how you look at it), He changes the very fabric of our being starting with our will or desires. We began to want different things and we begin to love different things. (FB)

Andrew Murray writes, “When God's desire becomes our desire, these words also become our words: to dwell in His house, to gaze upon His beauty, and to seek Him in His temple. The more we realize God's desire to give rest and peace in our heart, and the more our desire is quickened to dwell with Him and behold His beauty, the more the spirit of intercession will grow upon us to claim all that God has promised in His New Covenant.”

“Wow! Actually what Murray is describing is the fruit of salvation. Salvation of the soul is more than forgiveness of sins, it is also **regeneration and reformation**. Everything is changed.” (FB) “No matter what you might have done, no matter how long it's been since you walked with the Lord, no matter how far you may have wandered from His presence, no matter what you may have said to Him in your anger, frustration, or disappointment, the truth is that God has never stopped loving you, and He will never give up on you. It's time to come home.” Pastor Parris Bailey “It's time to **YIELD!!!**”



## JACOB

### A PORTRAIT OF AN EARTHLY MAN TRANSFORMING INTO A HEAVENLY MAN

*In Genesis 32:24, it says, "And Jacob was left alone; and there wrestled a man with him until the breaking of the day. "All of us at some point will be arrested by the Holy Spirit. We don't set out in life to do so, but sooner or later we just get ahead of ourselves. The whole problem is we like Jacob, still maintain confidence in ourselves. But if we are to go forward things need changing. Real strength comes in divine weakness. In Jacob's nature his major propensity was to fight for what he desired and win what he aimed at. God shows us how utterly futile our skill and obstinacy are. How quickly he was mastered by the angel. It was this touch of the Almighty One that Jacob asks for a blessing. Jacob's whole nature goes down before God, as if he was thrown on his back. Like Jacob we pass from wrestling, to praying, to tears. Out of the "supplanter" comes a "Prince!" (Expositor Bible)*

## 1) HOW DID JACOB BECOME A YIELDED MAN?

**Genesis 32:24-25** *"Then Jacob was left alone; and a Man wrestled with him until the breaking of day. Now when He saw that He did not prevail against him, He touched the socket of his hip; and the socket of Jacob's hip was out of joint as He wrestled with him."*

Face to face with God hanging helpless with his arms around him! We see Saul in the New Testament having this same encounter! Are you ready for the angel to grab a hold of you?

Jacob finds that just as his grandfather Abraham learned the simplicity of humble dependence, just as Isaac learned absolute resignation as he lay himself in the altar. Abraham had to give up all possessions to live off of the dependency of God. Isaac had to give up life itself, whereas Jacob had to give up his self and abandon all dependence on his ability. He enters the new land not as Jacob but as Israel. He wasn't the same man that cheated Esau and outwitted Laban. He learned that the only way to receive from God is to just but ask. (Expositor Bible)

As Jacob passed from Peniel the sun rose upon him and he halted upon his thigh". What do you see when the darkness comes? Jacob saw the world shadowed by his guilt. Old memories awakened, old fears rose up from the past in which he had tried to bury them. He was in the grip of power which his self assurance could not match. Never again would he walk in such a lofty manner. **The shallow may ignore his sins, the cowardly many try to evade their consequences but an encounter with God will change us into another man.** That is the only way we can face our Esaus. My God grabbed a hold of your thigh and make you into another man. (PB)

*"Yield to me now, for I am weak,  
But confident in self-despair  
Speak to my heart in blessing seek  
Be conquered by my instant prayer."  
Charles Wesley*

## 2) WHAT DOES THE WORD YIELD MEAN?

The word yield comes from the Greek word "eiko". It means to give way, to submit, to give place to. Other definitions for this word is to surrender, give in, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, back down, raise the white flag, to admit defeat, to lay down one's arms.

*A.W. Tozer writes the following: "Unless the sinner is willing to reform his way of living he will never know the inward experience of regeneration...." .... "The faith of Paul and of (Martin) Luther was a revolutionizing thing. It upset the whole life of the individual and made him into another person..."*

*He continues... " Faith now means no more than passive moral acquiescence in the Word of God and the cross of Jesus. To exercise it we have only to rest on one knee and nod our heads in agreement with the instructions of a personal worker...Such a faith does not perturb people. It comforts them. It does not put their hip out of joint so that they halt upon their thigh; rather it teaches them deep breathing exercises and improves their posture."... "They do not inherit a new name as Jacob did, nor do they limp into eternal sunlight...the faith of Christ will command or it will have nothing to do with man."*

*"Christ is both Savior and Lord. A sinner may be saved by accepting Him as Savior without yielding to Him as Lord....This notion...is a modern day heresy, and has had evil consequences among Christians...It is altogether doubtful whether any man can be saved who comes to Christ for His help but with no intention to obey Him (make Him Lord).*

*(The Best of A.W. Tozer- condensed)*

## 3) WHAT ARE THREE BLESSINGS YOU WILL RECEIVE WHEN YOU BEGIN TO YIELD TO THE HOLY SPIRIT IN YOUR LIFE?

**A. HE WILL NOT LEAVE YOU AS ORPHANS. He will not leave you helpless.**

**John 14:18** "I will not leave you as orphans; I will come to you."

**B. HE WILL TEACH YOU ALL THINGS AND BRING TO YOUR REMEMBRANCE HIS WORD.**

**John 14:26** "But the Helper; the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My name, he will teach you all things, and bring to you remembrance all things I said to you."

**C. YOU WILL RECEIVE SUPERNATURAL PEACE.**

**John 14:27** "Peace I leave you , My peace I give to you; not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your heart be troubles, neither let it be afraid."

#### **4) WHEN WE BEGIN TO YIELD AND UTTERLY DEPEND ON GOD WHAT WILL THIS CHANGE IN OUR LIVES?**

"This sudden revelation of God's nearness changes everything. It \_\_\_\_\_ the way we live our lives, the way we view others, and most of all, the way we look at the Lord. He is not uninvolved and uncaring. He is up close and personal and involved in all the details of our lives... He is aware of your pain, your doubts and even your secret sins. Nothing escapes His notice." (FB) **So when we become utterly dependent on Him and yield control of our lives. He steps in and begins a good work in us which He promises to complete.**

#### **5) WHEN YIELDED TO THE LORD, WHICH PART OF OUR LIVES WILL HE DEAL WITH MOST OF ALL?**

Consider the story of the paralytic man in Mark 2:3-5, "Then they came to Him, bringing a paralytic who was carried by four men. And when they could not come near Him because of the crowd, they uncovered the roof where He was. So when they had broken through, they let down the bed on which the paralytic was lying. When Jesus saw their faith, He said to the paralytic, "Son, your sins are forgiven you."

If you really think about it, we are all like this paralyzed man. Some are paralyzed with **fear**, others with their **anger** and **un-forgiveness**, somehow the circumstances of life have gotten the best of us. This man had a physical handicap, but his real problem was lurking just below the surface. From what Jesus said to him we see that he needed more than just a physical healing, he was dealing with a \_\_\_\_\_ problem. Jesus didn't just deal with the obvious symptoms, He went to the heart of the matter. This paralyzed man had some hidden secrets in his life that had left him incapacitated. If you really think about it, just fixing the circumstances in our lives will seldom solve the problem, we often need something more than the obvious. We need The Lord to work on the hidden man of the heart. ...Often times, it is our misery that brings us to God. If you are the "paralyzed man" today know that there is recovery for you from whatever brought your conditions to the fore front. You may find yourself laying at the feet of Jesus, that is best place on this earth to be. (FB)

#### **6) WHAT DID JACOB DO TO MAKE THINGS RIGHT BETWEEN HIM AND HIS BROTHER ESAU?**

Just like the paralytic, Jacob had some hidden secrets that he had to deal with. Yes, he had an encounter with God at Bethel when he was young. Yes he had learned to walk in the Lord's way, but when a person turns 180 degrees and repents of his sins, there will be a whole lot more involved than just admitting our wrongs and asking for forgiveness. To the paralytic Jesus said, "go and sin no more". In Jacob's case, he had to go back (20 years later) and face the one he wronged- Esau. (You can read the story of what happened in Genesis 32 & 33). If you want to see true **RESTORATION**, **REFORMATION** and **REVIVAL** in your life, you might have to make **RESTITUTION** with the past. Going back and asking forgiveness, giving back what you stole, paying what you owe would be a great start. (KB)

## 7) WHAT HAPPENED WHEN JACOB MET ESAU?

Jacob was terrified to face Esau that day, after all Esau was coming to meet him with 400 of his men, but the Lord was with him. In Genesis 32, it describes the scene- angels met him there. In Song of Solomon 6:13, it speaks about the “dance of the two camps”- *Mahanaim*. Matthew Henry says, angel's in front and angel's behind. Angels swirling around bringing him to the place of restoration, what a thought! It was that night, the way Jacob walked would be changed forever (Gen. 32:24-25). He would grab hold of God and not let go until the Lord blessed him. In the morning, what was sure to be a devastating meeting with the one he wronged turned into a time of **RESTORATION**. In Genesis 33:3-4 it says, “*Then he crossed over before them and bowed himself to the ground seven times, until he came near to his brother. But Esau ran to meet him, and embraced him, and fell on his neck and kissed him, and they wept.*” (KB)

*“The Master of Breakthrough has gone before you and is marching above the circumstances and will bring a mighty deliverance.”*

*—Pastor Parris Bailey*

Pastor Parris Bailey writes, “Christ truly redeems our lives from destruction. Redemption doesn't \_\_\_\_\_ at salvation but He gives us a crown of loving-kindness.” Spurgeon says, “Our Lord does nothing by halves, He will not stay His hand till He has gone to the uttermost with His people. Cleansing, healing, redemption, are not enough, He must needs make them kings and crown them...” Psalm 103:4 says, “*He redeems thy life from destruction; who crowns thee with loving-kindness and tender mercies.*”

## 8) WHAT IS THE TRUE WAY TO GLORIFY GOD?

A \_\_\_\_\_ is the only way to glorify God. Here is the way A.B. Simpson puts it, “The true way to glorify God is for God to show His glory through us, to shine through us as empty vessels, reflecting His fullness of grace and power. The sun is glorified when it has a chance to show its light through the crystal window, or in reflection from the spotless mirror or the glassy sea. There is nothing that glorifies God so much as for a weak and helpless man or woman to be able to triumph through His strength in places where the highest human qualities will fail us, and to carry on in divine power through every form of toll and suffering. A spirit naturally weak, irresolute, selfish, and sinful, transformed into sweetness, purity and power, and standing victorious amid circumstances from which its natural qualities must utterly unfit it brings glory to God. A mind not naturally wise or strong, yet directed by a divine wisdom and carried along the path of a great and mighty plan, being used to accomplish stupendous results for God and man-this glorifies God.”



### Answers to Lesson 5

2. Give Up the Struggle; 4. Changes; 5. Sin; 7. Stop; 8. Yielded Life



# My Mind Needs to be Washed

*“And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God.”  
Romans 12:2*

*So if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed. John 8:36*

**“BE TRANSFORMED BY THE RENEWING OF YOUR MIND”**

## LESSON OVERVIEW

The gospel is so simple that even a child can grasp it; yet it is so profound that the most intelligent often miss it. We are saved and set free from the bondage of sin by faith in the sacrificial death of Jesus Christ. It is the same old story, but with those who have ears to hear it, it is new and refreshing every day. We are all effected daily by the culture that we live in; from off color comments to complaining, from temptations to catastrophic news, it is easy to fall under the sway of this world. The new old story found in the gospel will cleanse us and settle us, there is life and power in the word of God. Here is how Martin Luther explained it in his day.

“True freedom is being free from sin. How does this happen? It happens when we hear his Word—Christ was born of Mary, suffered, was crucified, died, was buried, and rose again from the dead on the third day. “Oh,” we might say, “I know that message well. It is a very familiar sermon.” But let’s learn this lesson again from our children, for it tells us how we can be saved and be set free. “Yes,” we might even say, “This teaching is too simple. That’s why it won’t work.” But it’s a virtue that children can pray these words and understand them so easily. We are old fools. The more educated and intelligent we become, the less we know and understand. So we must sit with the children by the stove and learn the lesson again. There are some who say they have already been taught the message and think they know everything about it. But when troubles come, they desperately need someone to recite these words to them again. They end up needing a four-year-old child to show them how to believe.”

So maybe you are down in the dumps or struggling with compromise and sin. The solution is the same as it has been from ancient days, look to God’s word. It may be old fashioned but it is alive and as new today as it was when it was first written down. Delight yourself in His Word, you will suddenly have a new way to look at everything.

**Pastor Frank Bailey**





## JOHN THE BELOVED

### A PORTRAIT OF AN EARTHLY MAN TRANSFORMING INTO A HEAVENLY MAN

John the Beloved had a revelation of the Word of God. He said in John 1:1-4;14,16 *In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things were made through Him, and without Him nothing was made that was made. In Him was life, and the life was the light of men.... And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth....And of His fullness we have all received, and grace for grace. John knew that the transformation of an earthly man into a heavenly one begins with a Revelation of Jesus Christ and who He is. Jesus is the Father's idea of Himself in human flesh.*

## 1) HOW ARE WE SET FREE BY THE WORD OF GOD?

**John 8:31-32** *"If you continue in My word, then you are truly disciples of Mine; and you will know the truth, and the truth will make you free.*

*For the Word of God is living and powerful (active and effective), and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the division of soul and spirit, and of joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart. Hebrews 4:12*

The Bible says that if you \_\_\_\_\_ in My Word, the truth will set you free. And the Bible also says that the Word is living and powerful, active and effective. So why isn't everyone set free? The problem comes in with the hearers of the Word not the Word itself. The hearers who do not let the Word emotionally affect them will never be changed. So let the Word of God dwell in you richly and let the Word accomplish its perfect work in your life and you shall be set free. Here is what Jonathan Edwards had to say about the Word of God and its affect on people.

Many people hear the Word of God, but what they hear has no effect on them and neither their natures nor their behavior is changed, because they are not emotionally affected by what they hear. They hear of God's infinite goodness and mercy; they hear of the great works of God's wisdom, power, and goodness; they especially hear of the unspeakable love of God and Christ, and of the great things that Christ has done and suffered; they also hear the commands of God, His gracious counsel and warnings, and the gospel's sweet invitations. They hear all these things, and yet remain as they were before, with no change in their feelings, because they are not emotionally affected by what they hear. Until they are affected, they will never be changed.

Jonathan Edwards- *Religious Affections* (Abridged)

## 2) HOW DOES MEDITATING ON THE WORD OF GOD EVERYDAY TRANSFORM AND EFFECT OUR EVERYDAY LIVES?

**1 Peter 1:22-25** *Since you have purified your souls in obeying the truth through the Spirit in sincere love of the brethren, love one another fervently with a pure heart, having been born again, not of corruptible seed but incorruptible, through the word of God which lives and abides forever, because "All flesh is as grass, And all the glory of man as the flower of the grass. The grass withers, And its flower falls away, But the word of the Lord endures forever." Now this is the word which by the gospel was preached to you.*

We have been born again by an incorruptible seed through the Word of God which lives and abides forever. The word "incorruptible" means "imperishable". And the Bible says that the Word is "living" –zoe, the supernatural power in His Word which generates the life of God in us. This Word "abides"- dwells, it comes to live inside of us and remains. It is planted and is germinated in us, strengthened within us and grows like a strong tree bearing much fruit. This eternal, impenetrable Word abides forever. As we meditate on the Word daily it begins to take root and effect us in our emotions. Deep inside the Word begins to take action and produces \_\_\_\_\_ within our very being and causes us to live a life set apart in the kingdom of God. (FB)

### **3) WHAT COMMAND ARE WE GIVEN CONCERNING OUR RELATIONSHIP WITH THE WORLD?**

**Romans 12:2** *"And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is the good and acceptable and perfect will of God."*

We are not to be conformed (fashioned after) the world, but rather transformed by the renewing of our minds. 1 Peter 1:13 gives us some practical steps on how to keep our minds in check. It says, *"Therefore gird up the loins of your mind, be sober, and rest your hope fully upon the grace that is to be brought to you at the revelation of Jesus Christ."*

#### **A. GIRD UP THE LOINS OF YOUR MIND**

Getting your minds spiritually sharp; to get ready for action. In the old days men would wear tunics. To run or to work they had to tie up their tunics with a belt, so they could run without tripping and being hindered. (FB) So it is like saying tie a belt around your minds. Let the Word hold you together tightly -especially the inner, private parts of our lives, so that you don't trip up or be hindered in doing the Lord's will for your lives.

#### **B. BE SOBER MINDED**

Be sober means primarily, in a physical sense, as opposed to excess drink, but passing into the general sense of self- control and equanimity. (Vincent's Dictionary)

#### **C. DON'T BE CONFORMED TO YOUR FORMER PASSIONS**

1 Peter 1 goes on to say in verses 14-16 *"as obedient children, not conforming yourselves to the former lusts, as in your ignorance; but as He who called you is holy, you also be holy in all your conduct, because it is written, "Be holy, for I am holy."*

Conformed means to \_\_\_\_\_ in accordance with or to assimilate one's self to. In your former ignorance means while you were in your inexcusable moral blindness.

#### **D. BUT BE YE TRANSFORMED**

Romans 12:2 adds *"And do not be **conformed** to this world, but be **transformed** by the renewing of your mind"*

"Transformed" comes from the Greek word *metamorphoó*: It is where we get our word "metamorphized" from. It means to change after being with, transfigured.

**2 Corinthians 3:18** *"But we all, with unveiled face, beholding as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from glory to glory, just as by the Spirit of the Lord."*

## F. BE HOLY

**1 Peter 1:15-16** *"...but as He who called you is holy, you also be holy in all your conduct, because it is written, "Be holy, for I am holy."*

We are commanded to be like Christ.

SO HOW IS IT POSSIBLE TO BE HOLY? THE WORD OF GOD ENABLES US \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_. (FB A-F)

**Psalms 119:11** *"Your Word have I hidden in my heart, that I might not sin against You."*

## 4) WHY IS IT SO IMPORTANT TO HAVE OUR MINDS AND OUR WAYS CHANGED BY THE WASHING OF THE WORD?

**1 Peter 1:17-19** *"And if you call on the Father, who without partiality judges according to each one's work, conduct yourselves **throughout the time of your stay here in fear**; knowing that you were not redeemed with corruptible things, like silver or gold, from your aimless conduct received by tradition from your fathers, but with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot."*

Our souls need to be purified. In a legal sense we have been justified. We stand in right standing with the Father. But in a very real practical sense there needs to be a change in who I am and the way I live.

Why? Because you will be \_\_\_\_\_. If you continue in your sinful ways there will be consequences. The good news is that we do not have to stay in bondage to our sinful lifestyles. We have been redeemed from our futile (our idle, ineffective, worthless, useless, fruitless, unprofitable, corrupt, perverted) ways by the precious blood of Christ. (FB)

## 5) HOW CAN MY SOUL BE WASHED CLEAN?

**Ephesians 5:25-27** *"...just as Christ also loved the church and gave Himself up for her, so that He might sanctify her, having cleansed her by the washing of water with the word, that He might present to Himself the church in all her glory, having no spot or wrinkle or any such thing; but that she would be holy and blameless."*

**OUR SOUL- OUR MIND, OUR WILL AND OUR EMOTIONS...** The things we think about, the things we meditate on, the things we imagine and dream about all need to **CHANGE!** The way our souls are sanctified and washed is by the **Word of God**. **Our minds need to be washed** \_\_\_\_\_.

## **6) HOW CAN I BE ASSURED THAT THE WORD WILL BE EFFECTIVE IN MY LIFE?**

### **A. IT IS PROVEN AND ENTIRELY TRUTHFUL**

**Psalm 18:30** "As for God, His way is perfect; The word of the Lord is proven; He is a shield to all who trust in Him."

**Psalm 119:160** "The entirety of Your word is truth, And every one of Your righteous judgments endures forever."

### **B. HIS WORD HEALS AND DELIVERS US FROM DESTRUCTION**

**Psalm 107:20** "He sent His word and healed them, And delivered them from their destructions."

### **C. IT WILL ACCOMPLISH WHAT IT SET OUT TO DO**

**Isaiah 55:11** "So shall My word be that goes forth from My mouth; It shall not return to Me void, But it shall accomplish what I please, And it shall prosper in the thing for which I sent it."

## **7) HOW ARE WE TO LIVE OUR LIVES?**

### **A. MAN SHALL LIVE BY EVERY WORD THAT PROCEEDS FROM THE MOUTH OF GOD**

**Matthew 4:4** "It is written, 'Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceeds from the mouth of God.'"

### **B. THE WORD BECOMES A LAMP UNTO OUR FEET AND A LIGHT TO OUR PATH**

**Psalm 119:105** "Your word is a lamp to my feet And a light to my path."

### **C. WE HOPE IN THE WORD**

**Psalm 130:5** "I wait for the Lord, my soul waits, And in His word I do hope."

### **D. THE WORD PRODUCES JOY**

**Jeremiah 15:16** "Your words were found, and I ate them, And Your word was to me the joy and rejoicing of my heart;"



### **Answers to Lesson Six**

**1.** Continue; **2.** Holiness; **3C.** Fashion; **3F.** Not To Sin; **4.** Judges; **5.** Daily

# But Lord You Have to Do Something About My Heart

*“Delight thyself also in the Lord.” Psalm 37:4*

***“THE PURSUIT OF PLEASURE”***

## LESSON OVERVIEW

Psalm 37:4, *“Delight thyself also in the Lord”*, is one of the great litmus tests of the Bible. The unregenerate man cannot delight in The Lord. He delights in food, he delights in sex, he delights in his career, his good fortune, his accomplishments; he even delights in his family. Delighting in God, is totally off his radar. Delight and God are at opposite ends of the spectrum of the natural man.

But take a look at the born again man. His world has been turned 180 degrees around. He has actually discovered another kind of joy, a joy that comes from heaven. He has discovered the supernatural joy that accompanies God and all that He is involved in. Here is how Charles Spurgeon described this verse.

“The teaching of these words must seem very surprising to those who are strangers to vital godliness, but to the sincere believer it is only the inculcation of a recognized truth. The life of the believer is here described as a delight in God, and we are thus certified of the great fact that true religion overflows with happiness and joy. Ungodly persons and mere professors never look upon religion as a joyful thing; to them it is service, duty, or necessity, but never pleasure or delight. If they attend to religion at all, it is either that they may gain thereby, or else because they dare not do otherwise. The thought of delight in religion is so strange to most men, that no two words in their language stand further apart than holiness and delight. But believers who know Christ, understand that delight and faith are so blessedly united, that the gates of hell cannot prevail to separate them. Such joys, such brimful delights, such overflowing blessedness, do the saints discover in their Lord, that so far from serving him from custom, they would follow him though all the world cast out his name as evil. We fear not God because of any compulsion; our faith is no fetter, our profession is no bondage, we are not dragged to holiness, nor driven to duty. No, our piety is our pleasure, our hope is our happiness, our duty is our delight.”

To me, this is how I really know if someone is born again. Not that they go to church or have “prayed the prayer”, but is there a real enjoyment found in their godly pursuits? When church, reading the Bible, worship, and even sharing their faith is filled with joy, then I know something real is going on.

**Pastor Frank Bailey**



## HEZEKIAH

### A PORTRAIT OF AN EARTHLY MAN TRANSFORMING INTO A HEAVENLY MAN

Hezekiah was a king in Judah that knew what it took to transform an earthly kingdom into a heavenly one. He knew what it meant to turn 180 degrees in the right direction and what steps it took to accomplish the task. His father King Ahaz was wicked. He closed down the temple, offered his sons to be human sacrifices by fire, made priest ordinary people and he let idolatry run rampant. The Bible says that "he did evil in the eyes of the Lord." When Hezekiah took over the kingdom from his father, Hezekiah was determined to clean things up and to rule the kingdom according to the ways of the Lord. Hezekiah himself decided to set his affection on the house of the Lord (the temple) and he instituted sweeping reforms. He led one of the greatest revivals in history. In 2 Kings 18:5 it says, "he trusted in the Lord the God of Israel; so that there was no one like him among all the kings of Judah after him, or among those who were before him"

## 1) WHAT HAD TO CHANGE IN HEZEKIAH'S LIFE FOR TRUE REFORMATION AND TRANSFORMATION TO TAKE PLACE?

Hezekiah had all the riches and pleasures of the world at his beckoning call. Whatever he desired he could have. What Hezekiah wanted and desired and found pleasure in had to change. The difference between his father and in Hezekiah was a heart change. Hezekiah unlike his father began to set his affection upon the \_\_\_\_\_ of the \_\_\_\_\_. In doing so he found the path of life, a fullness of joy and true pleasures forevermore.

**Psalms 16:11** "You make known to me the path of life; in your presence there is fullness of joy; at your right hand are pleasures forevermore."

*"TRUE SAINTS center their attention on Christ, and His beauty transcends all others; His delight is the source of all other delight; He in Himself is the best among ten thousand and altogether lovely. These saints delight in the way of salvation through Christ, because it demonstrates God's perfection and wonder; they enjoy holiness, wholeness, while they take no pleasure in sin; God's love is a sweet taste in their mouths, regardless of whether their own interests are met or not. They rejoice over all that Christ has done for them, but that is not the deepest root of their joy. No, they delight merely because God is God, and only then does their delight spill over onto all God's works, including their own salvation"*  
—Jonathan Edwards -*Religious Affections (Abridged)*

## 2) WHAT IS MAN'S PRIMARY PROBLEM TODAY AND WHAT IS THE SOLUTION ?

Let's face it, \_\_\_\_\_ is pleasurable. There I said what everyone knows and pretends to not notice. The common approach for a Christian to avoid temptation is self denial. That seldom works for very long. **The biblical solution to overcoming temptation is not the denial of pleasure but the pursuit of pleasure, it's just the pursuit of a different kind of pleasure.** Actually it is a greater pleasure that the Bible challenges us to pursue. It's the pleasure that comes from intimacy with God. (FB)



### **3) HOW DO WE GO FROM BEING AN EARTHLY MAN DESIRING AND DELIGHTING IN EARTHLY THINGS TO DESIRING AND DELIGHTING IN HEAVENLY THINGS?**

**Our HEART needs to CHANGE.** What we \_\_\_\_\_ needs to change. The earthly things we take pleasure in needs to turn 180 degrees. The things we delight in must begin to transition from the earthly to the heavenly things. "Following your heart can be quite confusing. Sometimes our heart can be quite deceiving, especially to ourselves." (FB)

*"HAVING OUR HEARTS CHANGED IS  
AT THE VERY CENTER OF WHAT THE  
CHRISTIAN LIFE IS ALL ABOUT."  
—PASTOR FRANK BAILEY*

So how can we change our heart? That is impossible on our own!!! Ultimately what we really need is not just a renovated heart but an altogether new one. But blessed be the Lord God our Savior, when we are redeemed that is just what the Lord gives us. In Ezekiel 36:26 it says, "I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit within you; I will take the heart of stone out of your flesh and give you a heart of flesh." ...And with this new heart transplant, Pastor Frank writes, "**the very fabric of what we love is changed by the power of God's love, and He loves us into this new life of obedience.**"

### **4) WHAT PROMISES ARE WE GIVEN IF WE OBEY THE LORD?**

**John 14:21** "He who has My commandments and keeps them, it is he who loves Me. And he who loves Me will be loved by My Father, and I will love him and manifest Myself to him."

**John 14:23** Jesus answered and said to him, "If anyone loves Me, he will keep My word; and My Father will love him, and We will come to him and make Our home with him."

Here is how Dane Ortlund explains it in his book about the preaching of Jonathan Edwards. "Obedience does not come out of a new raw power to now do what we don't want to do; obedience comes because we now delight to do what we hated before. To obey is thus not to mechanically force our behavior into line with God's moral law so much as it is living out a new delight in God

### **5) WHAT STEPS DID HEZEKIAH TAKE IN OBEYING GOD, WHAT STEPS DID HE TAKE TO REPAIR THE TEMPLE AND THE KINGDOM IN WHICH HE RULED?**

#### **A. HE OPENED AND REPAIRED THE HOUSE OF GOD**



**2 Chronicles 29:3** *"In the first year of his reign, in the first month, he opened the doors of the house of the LORD and repaired them."*

The Bible says in 1 Corinthians 6:19, *"do you not know that your body is the **temple of the Holy Spirit** who is in you, whom you have from God, and you are not your own?"*

The question is, has your \_\_\_\_\_ fallen in disrepair? Has your relationship with God fallen in disrepair? It is time to follow the example of Hezekiah and to focus our attention on repairing the temple and getting our hearts in right order before the Lord.

Just like when Naomi (Ruth 1) returned from Moab (the place of desolation) back to Bethel the house of bread, so did Hezekiah turn his focus on Bethel. Bethel is a picture of the local church the house of bread. Returning to and repairing the house of God is the first step in repairing our own personal temples that have suffered from years of neglect. (KB)

## **B. HE CALLED THE PRIESTS TO CONSECRATE THEMSELVES TO THE LORD - PRIESTHOOD OF THE BELIEVER**

**2 Chronicles 29:4-6** *"He brought in the priests and the Levites and assembled them in the square on the east and said to them, "Hear me, Levites! Now consecrate yourselves, and consecrate the house of the LORD, the God of your fathers, and carry out the filth from the Holy Place. For our fathers have been unfaithful and have done what was evil in the sight of the LORD our God."*

**1 Peter 2:9** *"But you are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, His own special people, that you may proclaim the praises of Him who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light;"*

If your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit and every believer is a priest, what command did Hezekiah give to the priest of his day that we too must obey. \_\_\_\_\_! What does the word consecration mean? It means, "to set apart, to dedicate your life in worship to God, to perfect (to mature)."

## **C. PURIFIED GOD'S HOUSE**

**2 Chronicles 29:5** *"Hear me, Levites! Now consecrate yourselves, and consecrate the house of the LORD, the God of your fathers, and carry out the filth from the Holy Place."*

In Hezekiah's day, they were to carry out the filth from the Holy Place. Today we not only need to carry out the filth in our own personal lives but we also need a restored **PASSION FOR \_\_\_\_\_ IN THE HOUSE OF GOD.**

At one time, drinking in the church was nonexistent. Homosexuality, sex outside of marriage, lewdness were all considered sins that separate you from God. But today, the church worldwide has accepted things as ok **that are not ok** and that are against God's Word. This needs to change! **IT IS TIME FOR CONSECRATION!**

**“THERE WILL NEVER BE A MOVE OF  
THE HOLY GHOST  
WITH SINFULNESS IN THE  
HOUSE OF GOD.”**

—Pastor Frank Bailey

#### D. RESTORED THE BLOOD SACRIFICES

**2 Chronicles 29:20-24** *“Then Hezekiah the king rose early and gathered the officials of the city and went up to the house of the LORD. And they brought seven bulls, seven rams, seven lambs, and seven male goats for a sin offering for the kingdom and for the sanctuary and for Judah. And he commanded the priests, the sons of Aaron, to offer them on the altar of the LORD....and the priests slaughtered them and made a sin offering with their blood on the altar, to make atonement for all Israel”*

**“If we remove the blood from the message,  
we have no message. ”**

—Pastor Frank Bailey

The old classic hymn says, “What can wash away my sin? Nothing but the blood of Jesus. What can make me whole again? Nothing but the blood of Jesus. Oh precious is the flow that makes me white as snow. No other fount I know, nothing but the blood of Jesus.” Robert Lowry 1876

#### E) RESTORED DAVIDIC WORSHIP

**2 Chronicles 29:29-30** *“When the offering was finished, the king and all who were present with him bowed themselves and worshipped. And Hezekiah the king and the officials commanded the Levites to sing praises to the LORD with the words of David and of Asaph the seer. And they sang praises with gladness, and they bowed down and worshipped.”*

Worship in the temple was restored. It was a celebration of joy. They sang praises with gladness.

#### F) RESTORED PASSOVER CELEBRATION

**2 Chronicles 30:10,12-13** *“So the couriers went from city to city through the country of Ephraim and Manasseh, and as far as Zebulun, but they laughed them to scorn and mocked them....The hand of God was also on Judah to give them one heart to do what the king and the princes commanded by the word of the LORD. And many people came together in Jerusalem to keep the Feast of Unleavened Bread in the second month, a very great assembly.”*

#### G. TORE DOWN THE IDOLS

**2 Chronicles 31:1** *“Now when all this was finished, all Israel who were present went out to the cities of Judah and broke in pieces the pillars and cut down the Asherim and broke down the high places and the altars throughout all Judah and Benjamin, and in Ephraim and Manasseh, until they had destroyed them all. Then all the people of Israel returned to their cities, every man to his possession.”*

What is an idol? \_\_\_\_\_ that takes first place in your heart.

#### H. SET THE PRIESTS IN ORDER TO MINISTER TO THE LORD

**2 Chronicles 31:2** “And Hezekiah appointed the divisions of the priests and of the Levites, division by division, each according to his service, the priests and the Levites, for burnt offerings and peace offerings, to minister in the gates of the camp of the LORD and to give thanks and praise.”

Hezekiah set the priest and the Levites division by division. A priest helps build a \_\_\_\_\_ between God and man or us and God. It is time to find your place of service in the body of Christ. We must love people, touch people, help people, restore people and bring people to a place of repentance. This is our duty as a priest in the kingdom of God, to build a bridge to help people to get to God. We become like Christ in doing so, because Jesus is the ultimate bridge that spans the gap between God and man.

#### I. TITHING RESTORED (FB A-I)

**2 Chronicles 31:4-10** “And he commanded the people who lived in Jerusalem to give the portion due to the priests and Levites, that they might give themselves to the Law of the LORD. As soon as the command was spread, the people of Israel gave in abundance the firstfruits of grain, wine, oil, honey, and of all the produce of the field. And they brought in abundantly the tithe of everything. And the people of Israel... brought in the tithe of cattle and sheep, and the tithe of the dedicated things that had been dedicated to the LORD their God, and laid them in heaps. In the third month they began to pile up the heaps, and finished in the seventh month. When Hezekiah and the princes came and saw the heaps, they blessed the LORD and his people. And Hezekiah questioned the priests and Levites about the heaps. ...The chief priest... answered him, “Since they began to bring the contributions into the house of the LORD, we have eaten had enough and have plenty left, for the LORD has blessed His people, so that we have this large amount left.”

### 6) HOW DO WE PRACTICALLY DELIGHT IN GOD?

It is a challenge to live a Christ-like life in our polluted world. Our lives are constantly bombarded with ungodly influence. It's in the culture that we live in. It's in the movie and television world, the advertising, and also in many of the people we associate with every single day of our lives. Without continual divine intervention we are all going to come under the influence of the world. How do we avoid that? Jonathan Edwards used to say **“WE HAVE TO PUT OURSELVES IN THE PLACE OF SPIRITUAL ALLUREMENT”**. What did he mean by that? To Edwards, reading the Bible, worship, and prayer were the highest forms of enjoyment. This is where we discover the pleasures of God. So it is in prayer, Bible reading, church attendance, and small group meetings that we meet with God, come to enjoy these spiritual endeavors, and come under the influence of the Spirit that keeps us from the pollution of this world. (FB)



#### Answers to Lesson Seven

1. House, Lord; 2. Sin; 3. Desire; 5A. Temple;  
5B. Consecrate Yourselves; 5C. Holiness; 5G. Anything; 5H. Bridge

## Casting Off the Works of the Darkness

*“The night is far spent, the day is at hand. Therefore let us cast off the works of darkness, and let us put on the armor of light. Let us walk properly, as in the day, not in revelry and drunkenness, not in lewdness and lust, not in strife and envy.” Romans 13:12-13*

*“Finally, grow strong in the Lord and in the strength of his power. Put on the full armor of God, so that you may be able to stand against the schemes of the devil.” Ephesians 6:10-11*

### LESSON OVERVIEW

I remember hearing John Osteen (Joel Osteen's Holy Ghost dad) talk about Christians and their response to demonic attack. Brother Osteen had a way of making complicated issues very simple. He said that if you keep the skillet hot, the flies won't land on it. In other words, if you stay full of the power of the Spirit, the enemy will stay far away from you. There is more wisdom than you can imagine in that short statement. Paul gave us similar instructions in today's verse. He said that we are to be “strong in The Lord” when dealing with the enemy. The phrase “be strong” is the Greek word “*endunamoo*.” Wuest gives us some insight to this passage with his explanation of the word “*endunamoo*.”

“*Endunamoō*” means, “be strong, to make strong, to endue with strength.” The idea is, “to clothe one's self with strength as one puts on a garment.” Here the verb is in the passive voice, “be continually strengthened.” The qualifying phrase, “in the Lord,” defines the strengthening as Christian strengthening, such as can take effect only in union with the Lord (Expositors). The rendering, “be strong,” could encourage one to self-effort at being strong, whereas the translation “be strengthened,” causes the saint to depend on the Lord for the supply of that strength.”

The point is this, we are engaged in a spiritual conflict. We need more than ingenuity, slogans, or formulas. Human wisdom and talent is helpless in the war we are engaged in. What is needed is an infusion of power in order to deal with the spiritual conflicts that we deal with on a daily basis. Practically speaking, how can I be clothed with this power that Paul was describing in this passage? Actually, this power is closely related to the prayer language. Now don't get me wrong, this is not another formula to set in motion. No, this is the passionate cry of deep calling out to deep as we stir up the gift of God in our lives on a daily basis praying in the Holy Spirit. Praying for extended periods of time in the Spirit will bring you to the realm of the Spirit. This is where “*endunamoo*” happens. This is the place where we put on the clothes of the Spirit, this is where we are literally clothed with power from on high. There is no fly that is a match for a hot, fiery skillet. That fly will land anywhere else but he won't land on you.

**Pastor Frank Bailey**



## BLIND BARTIMAEUS

### A PORTRAIT OF AN EARTHLY MAN TRANSFORMING INTO A HEAVENLY MAN

*In Mark 10:46-52 it tells us of a blind man named Bartimaeus who cried out to the Lord as He was passing by, "Son of David, have mercy on me." And mercy is just what he received. Jesus stopped and healed Blind Bartimaeus that very day. And after being healed by Jesus along the road in Jericho, Bartimaeus immediately took off his blind beggars coat and discarded it and the Bible says he began to follow Jesus. In doing so he learned what it meant to put off the past, to put off his old identity and to put on the Lord Jesus Christ. He learned the first lesson in how to be transformed from an earthly man into a heavenly one, you must turn away from your past. You must take on a new identity- the identity of Jesus Christ and follow Him wherever He goes.*

## 1) HOW DOES A PERSON BEGIN THE CHRISTIAN LIFE?

**Romans 13:14** *"But put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to fulfill its lusts."*

What a beautiful description of the Christian life. It's not me being a better me, its putting off my old life and putting on Christ. Its not me at all, this new life is all of Christ. Often times, sermons in our hip, twenty first century world, take on the persona of self improvement. Our self doesn't need improvement, it needs \_\_\_\_\_ !!! Paul tells us to put off the old man and to put on Christ. This is actually what happens when we begin to draw near to Him, abide in Him, and stay full of the Holy Spirit. (FB)

## 2) WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO PUT ON CHRIST?

John Gill writes "As a man puts on his clothes when he rises in the morning: the righteousness of Christ is compared to a garment, it is the best robe, it is fine linen, clean and white, and change of raiment; which being put on by the Father's gracious act of imputation, covers the sins and deformities of his people, defends them from divine justice, secures them from wrath to come, and renders them beautiful and acceptable in his sight: which righteousness being revealed from faith to faith, is received by faith, and made use of as a proper dress to appear in before God; and may be daily said to be put on by the believer, as often as he makes use of it, and pleads it with God as his justifying righteousness, which should be continually: moreover, to put on Christ, and which indeed seems to be the true sense of the phrase here, is not only to exercise faith on Him as the Lord our righteousness, and to make a profession of His name, but to imitate Him in the exercise of grace and discharge of duty; **to walk as He walked**, and as we have Him for an example, in love, meekness, patience, humility, and holiness:"

## 3) HOW DO WE PUT ON CHRIST?

People are often looking for something they can "do" to make things better. We do this by pressing into God. Pressing in? What is that? Exerting our energy and passion in the pursuit of God in **His Word, in worship, and in prayer**. When you start your day put on your best set of clothes this morning. \_\_\_\_\_ !!!

## A. PUTTING ON CHRIST- THE WRITTEN WORD!

*"But put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to fulfill its lusts."*  
Romans 13:14 What a powerful thought from Paul, put on Christ like you would put on a new set of clothes. From the day of your conversion until you stand before The Lord, we must put on Christ everyday. Like a fresh garment of clothes, we must put on Christ. The Word of God is the vehicle the Holy Spirit uses in putting on Christ in our daily lives. We may not be "feeling" His presence but His Word is strong and always new. It is alive and active and brings us into contact with the Living God everyday. (FB)

### AUGUSTINE'S CONVERSION

Here is the historic conversion of Augustine as recorded in Barclay's commentary on Romans. Enjoy! "The last verses of this passage must be forever famous, for it was through them Augustine found conversion. He tells the story in his Confessions. He was walking in the garden. His heart was in distress, because of his failure to live the good life. He kept exclaiming miserably 'How long? Tomorrow and tomorrow - why not now? Why not this hour an end to my depravity?' Suddenly he heard a voice saying, 'Take and read; take and read.' It sounded like a child's voice; and he racked his mind trying to remember any child's game in which these words occurred, but could think of none. He hurried back to the seat where his friend Alypius was sitting, for he had left there a volume of Paul's writings. 'I snatched it up and read silently the first passage my eyes fell upon: 'Let us not walk in revelry or drunkenness, in immorality and in shamelessness, in contention and in strife. But put on The Lord Jesus Christ, as a man puts on a garment, and stop living a life in which in which your first thought is to gratify the desires of the Christless human nature'. I neither wished nor needed to read further. With the end of that sentence, as though the light of assurance had poured within my heart, all the shades of doubt were scattered. I put my finger in the page and closed the book: I turned to Alypius with a calm countenance and told him.' Out of his word God had spoken to Augustine. It was Coleridge who said that he believed the Bible to be inspired because, as he puts it, 'It finds me.' God's word can always find the human heart."

The Lord is always speaking from His written word. Go ahead, give it a try, open up your Bible and listen for His voice. You can put on a new suit of clothes that will prepare you for your day. (FB)

## **B. WORSHIP AND PRAYER**

**Psalm 37:4** "Delight yourself also in the LORD, and He shall give you the desires of your heart."

Worship and prayer are two main ways we delight ourselves in the Lord. In doing so we get wrapped up in God. Wrapped up, like a person who is clothed in a winter coat which protects him from the elements of the day. (KB)

Jonathan Edwards used the term "**swallowed up in God**". What a powerful thought. He described losing his own identity and taking up his new identity in Christ as he began singing words of Scripture to himself. This reminds us of Paul's words in Ephesians, "singing to yourself in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs". And David's instruction to us to "sing a new song to The Lord".



Edwards learned to pray in a new way with a new affection in his prayers! Wow! Spirit anointed worship and Spirit anointed prayers..... Remember how we started this lesson? *endunamoō ... To be strong, to endue with strength, to be continually strengthened, to clothe one's self with strength as one puts on a garment... An infusion of power happens when praying for extended periods of time in the Spirit. This is one of the ways that will bring you into the realm of the Spirit.* Maybe it is time to \_\_\_\_\_ your old coat for a new one. It is time to be wrapped up and swallowed up in God Himself. Start your day delighting in God, you might just get the desires of your heart. (FB)

#### **4) WHAT WILL THIS GARMENT OF PRAISE HELP YOU TO OVERCOME?**

**Isaiah 61:3** "To console those who mourn in Zion, To give them beauty for ashes, The oil of joy for mourning, The garment of praise for the spirit of heaviness; That they may be called trees of righteousness, The planting of the LORD, that He may be glorified."

**THIS IS HOW WE OVERCOME**  
**A SPIRIT OF HEAVINESS,**  
**DEPRESSION**  
**and HOPELESSNESS!**

#### **5) WHEN WE PUT ON CHRIST THROUGH THE WORD, WORSHIP AND PRAYER WHAT WILL WE FIND**

##### **OURSELVES CLOTHED IN?**

WE WILL FIND OURSELVES BEING CLOTHED IN THE ANOINTING!

**2 Kings 2:13-14** "He also took up the mantle of Elijah that had fallen from him, and went back and stood by the bank of the Jordan. Then he took the mantle of Elijah that had fallen from him, and struck the water, and said, "Where is the LORD God of Elijah?" And when he also had struck the water, it was divided this way and that; and Elisha crossed over."

Like Elisha who picked up the mantle of Elijah, you will find yourselves experiencing the \_\_\_\_\_ working power of Jesus Christ in you and through you.

#### **6) WHAT ARE WE TO CAST OFF TO EXPERIENCE THIS ANOINTING/ "ENDUNAMOO" IN OUR LIVES?**

WE ARE TO \_\_\_\_\_ THE WORKS OF DARKNESS!

**Romans 13:12-13** “The night is far spent, the day is at hand. Therefore let us cast off the works of darkness, and let us put on the armor of light. Let us walk properly, as in the day, not in revelry and drunkenness, not in lewdness and lust, not in strife and envy.”

- **REVELRY** - KOMOS – Noisy band of revelers roving through the streets!
- **DRUNKENNESS** - METHE – The Greeks drank diluted wine because the water supply was inadequate and dangerous. Drunkenness was particularly shameful!
- **LEWDNESS** - KOITE – The desire for the forbidden bed. Speaks of a man who has no value for fidelity and seeks his pleasure when and where he will!
- **LUST** - ASELGEIA – Shamelessness. One of the ugliest words in the Greek language. A person with no shame, who will do what he wants publicly for others to see!
- **STRIFE** - ERIS – Unbridled and unholy competition. Desire for power and prestige and hatred of being surpassed.
- **ENVY** - ZELOS- Someone not content with what they have and looks with a jealous eye on the things of others. (FB)

Col. 3:1; 4:18 “If then you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth. For you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. When Christ who is your life appears, then you also will appear with him in glory. **Put to death therefore what is earthly in you: sexual immorality, impurity, passion, evil desire, and covetousness, which is idolatry.**”

## 7) WHAT ARE WE TO PUT ON?

Colossians 3:10-17 says “...**PUT ON THE NEW SELF**, which is being renewed in knowledge after the image of its creator. Here there is not Greek and Jew, circumcised and uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave, free; but Christ is all, and in all.

**PUT ON** then, as God's chosen ones, holy and beloved,  
**COMPASSIONATE HEARTS,**  
**KINDNESS,**  
**HUMILITY,**  
**MEEKNESS,**  
and **PATIENCE,**  
**BEARING WITH ONE ANOTHER**  
and, if one has a complaint against another,  
**FORGIVING ONE ANOTHER;**  
as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. And above all these  
**PUT ON LOVE,**  
which binds everything together in perfect harmony.

**Romans 13:12** “The night is far spent, the day is at hand. Therefore let us cast off the works of darkness, and let us put on the armor of light.”

**PUT ON THE ARMOR OF LIGHT** and you will receive **PROTECTION FROM THE ENEMY**

**1 Peter 5:5** "Likewise you younger people, submit yourselves to your elders. Yes, all of you be submissive to one another, and be **CLOTHED WITH HUMILITY**, for God resists the proud, but gives grace to the humble."

## **8) WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS OF BEING CLOTHED IN HUMILITY?**

**1 Peter 5:5-10** *Clothe yourselves, all of you, with humility toward one another, for "God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble." Humble yourselves, therefore, under the mighty hand of God so that at the proper time he may exalt you, casting all your anxieties on him, because he cares for you. Be sober-minded; be watchful. Your adversary the devil prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour. Resist him, firm in your faith, knowing that the same kinds of suffering are being experienced by your brotherhood throughout the world. And after you have suffered a little while, the God of all grace, who has called you to his eternal glory in Christ, will Himself **re-store, confirm, strengthen, and establish you.***

The Lord, Himself, promises to  
**RESTORE, CONFIRM, STRENGTHEN and ESTABLISH YOU.**  
**RESTORE-** *katartizo-* to adjust and repair, to knit together  
**CONFIRM-** *sterizo-* to set fast, to make steadfast  
**STRENGTHEN-** *sthenoo-* to make strong  
**ESTABLISH-** *themeleo-* to make a foundation  
(like a house built upon a rock) (FB)

## **9) WHEN THE LORD RETURNS, HOW ARE WE TO BE DRESSED?**

We want to be dressed in \_\_\_\_\_.

**Luke 12:35-36** "Let your waist be girded and your lamps burning; and you yourselves be like men who wait for their master, when he will return from the wedding, that when he comes and knocks they may open to him immediately."



### **Answers to Lesson Eight**

**1.** Annihilation; **3.** PUT ON CHRIST; **3B.** Exchange; **5.** Miracle;  
**6.** CAST OFF; **9.** Readiness

## It is Time to Take Off the Grave Clothes

*Jesus said to her, “I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in Me, though he may die, he shall live.”*

*John 11:25*

### LESSON OVERVIEW

This was one of the greatest miracles in the ministry of Jesus. It was like the final crescendo of a great orchestral piece, the defining moment of a classic game, the final argument for a lawyer before the jury. It was Jesus' exclamation point of His life and ministry. Two statements thunder through the ages. **“I AM THE RESURRECTION AND THE LIFE”**. The second statement stands with the first, **“LAZURUS, COME FORTH”**. When LAZURUS came bounding from his darkened tomb, you and I came with him. No longer bound by death, no longer captive to our fears, and no longer slaves of the prince of darkness. We have stepped into the liberty of sons and daughters. We have entered into a brand new life. Johnson's commentary on John has the following powerful observations on this miracle.

“I am the resurrection, and the life. She (Martha) had declared her belief in the resurrection. Christ makes the grand, striking declaration that **HE IS THE RESURRECTION AND THE LIFE**, words that never could have fallen from the lips of a sane mortal. These words mean that He is the power which opens every grave, gives life to the sleepers, and calls them forth to a new existence; that the life that endows men with eternal being is in Him and proceeds from Him. In the light of His own resurrection, these words mean that when He burst open the tomb He did it for humanity and in Him humanity has won the victory over death. His utterance was far above what mere man could utter; it proclaimed a divine being and power, but the resurrection of Lazarus, a few moments later, was the demonstration of the truth of His words. His utterance was grander than man, Godlike, but immediately followed by a Godlike act in demonstration. It is another mode of declaring the same truth uttered when He told the Samaritans that He was the Water of Life, or the Galileans that He was the Bread of Life.”

What kind of tomb are you in today? Are you bound by fears of what tomorrow may hold? Maybe you are ensnared by the attractions of this life. Perhaps your tomb is one of addiction or an addictive lifestyle. Regardless of what the source of your bondage may be, Christ is the Resurrection and the Life. One word from Him and you will step into His freedom. If you listen carefully there is activity outside your tomb. Can you hear it? Just as Mary and Martha were interceding for their brother, someone is calling out to The Lord for you. The next sound? It's the creaking of the stone as it rolls away from your tomb. Now comes the climax, **“COME FORTH!”** He is calling for you. Your days of darkness are over, it's time for you to step into the light.

**Pastor Frank Bailey**



## LAZARUS

### A PORTRAIT OF AN EARTHLY MAN TRANSFORMING INTO A HEAVENLY MAN

Lazarus was an ordinary, earthly man that lived in Bethany with his two sisters Mary and Martha. Lazarus knew what it meant to be in a helpless and hopeless condition. One day he died and was put into a tomb, buried for four days. He was beyond help. His sister Martha said it well, "He stinketh". But when Jesus came on the scene and raised His voice to heaven and said, "Lazarus Come FORTH." Lazarus learned what it meant to be a heavenly man for Lazarus experienced what all heavenly men experience and will experience "Resurrection Power."

## 1) WHY DID LAZARUS' FAMILY LOSE HOPE THAT LAZARUS COULD BE HEALED?

**John 11:39** Jesus said, "Take away the stone." Martha, the sister of him who was dead, said to Him, "Lord, by this time there is a stench, for he has been dead four days."

Because \_\_\_\_\_ had set in. His own sister said, "Lord, by this time he stinks." He was too far gone. Lazarus symbolizes many in our lives who we believe have no spiritual life what so ever. Corruption has set in. Spurgeon describes them like this, "their character has become abominable, their language is putrid, their spirit loathsome.... They are so far gone from righteousness as to be an offense to all and it does not seem possible that they should ever be restored to purity, honesty or hope."

## 2) WHAT DOES IT TAKE TO RAISE A DEAD MAN BACK TO LIFE?

**John 11:43, 44** "And when He had thus spoken, He cried with a loud voice, Lazarus, come forth! And he that was dead came forth, bound hand and foot with grave clothes: and his face was bound about with a napkin. Jesus said unto them, Loose him, and let him go."

It amazes me that humans actually think they can \_\_\_\_\_ themselves. If we believe what the Bible says; man is dead in his trespasses and his sins. Dead people have no chance of fixing anything. If that is the case, recovery from our dilemmas in life are dependent on intervention, divine intervention. Whether your issue is substance abuse, moral issues, financial problems (fill in the blanks); the source of our problem is internal. It is called the depravity of man.

We are all born with an eternally fatal flaw, without divine intervention we are stuck in an endless treadmill of ineffective self help programs, never to find freedom or satisfaction in life. Jesus performed a miracle on a helpless dead man named Lazarus. He raised him from the dead. Obviously, the man couldn't help himself and no other person could help him. It took divine intervention through God's anointing. We all are **Lazarus**. When Christ called us out of darkness into life, that was just the beginning. This is the place where miracles begin. (FB)

*“However far gone a man may be, he cannot be beyond the reach of the Lord’s right arm of mighty mercy! The Lord can change the vilest of the vile into the most holy of the holy!” (C. Spurgeon)*

### **3) HOW DID JESUS RAISE LAZARUS FROM THE DEAD?**

*“And when He had thus spoken, He cried with a loud voice, Lazarus, come forth! And he that was dead came forth, bound hand and foot with grave clothes: and his face was bound about with a napkin. Jesus said unto them, Loose him, and let him go.” John 11:43, 44.*

“The \_\_\_\_\_ of Him who wept was heard in the chambers of death and forth came the soul of Lazarus to live again in the body!...”

**“The power to quicken the dead lies not in the wisdom of words but in the Spirit of the living God!** The voice is Christ's voice and the Word is the Word of Him who is the Resurrection and the Life, and therefore men live by it! Let us rejoice that it is not necessary that you and I should become orators in order that the Lord Jesus should speak by us—let the Spirit of God rest upon us and we shall be endowed with power from on high so that even the spiritually dead shall, through us, hear the voice of the Son of God—and they that hear shall live!” (C. Spurgeon)

### **4) WHAT WAS THE LIGHT SHINING IN LAZARUS TOMB A PICTURE OF?**

#### **THE LORD'S MERCY**

You see, all of us were a lot more messed up than we realized. It wasn't until the cure began deep within our soul that we began to realize the sorrowful condition that our souls were trapped in. Sin had taken its toll on all our lives, only when the solution called salvation began to settle in, did we begin to understand the depth of our need. It was the greatness of His salvation that began to awaken us to the depth of our depravity. The first rays of His light began to expose the depths to which we had fallen. The light of His glory also began to reveal the greatness of His salvation. His \_\_\_\_\_ was greater than our need. The light had come, our long night was over. Maybe you haven't yet realized just how great this Christ is. His love is greater than your hurt, His grace is bigger than your sin, His power is bigger than your need. Maybe you also had no idea how far sin had taken you, that's okay, His mercy is more than enough for you. (FB)

### **5) WHAT DID THE MIRACLE REQUIRE?**

“It required a \_\_\_\_\_. The man was wholly raised, but not wholly freed! Look, here is a *living man in the garments of death!* ... It is a wretched sight to see a living man wearing his shroud. Yet we have seen, in this Tabernacle, hundreds of times, people quickened by Divine Grace with their grave clothes still on them! Such was their condition that unless you observed carefully, you would think them still dead, and yet within them the lamp of Heavenly Life was burning. Some said, “He is dead, look at his garments.” But the more spiritual cried, “He is not dead, but these bands must be loosed.”



“I have seen him determinedly give up his sin and crush a bad habit under his foot—and yet he could not lay hold on a promise or receive a hope! Lazarus was free enough in one way, for he came out of the tomb, but the blinding napkin was about his head and, even so, it is with many a quickened sinner, for when you try to show him some cheering Truth of God, he cannot see it.” (Charles Spurgeon)

## **6) WHAT WAS LAZARUS STRONG ENOUGH TO DO YET WEAK ENOUGH NOT ABLE TO DO?**

“Moreover, here was a man *strong and yet helpless*. He was strong enough to come forth from his grave and yet he \_\_\_\_\_ take the napkin from off his head, for his hands were bound and he could not go to his house, for his feet were swathed. Unless some kind hand unbound him, he would remain a living mummy!” (CS)

## **7) WHAT ARE SOME THINGS THE GRAVE CLOTHES REPRESENT?**

**John 11:44** *“And he who had died came out bound hand and foot with graveclothes, and his face was wrapped with a cloth. Jesus said to them, “Loose him, and let him go.”*

Some of them are blindfolded by the napkin about their head—they are very **ignorant**—sadly devoid of spiritual \_\_\_\_\_ and, therefore the eye of faith is darkened. Yet the eye is there and Christ has opened it. And it is the business of the servant of God to remove the napkin which bandages it, by teaching the Truth of God, explaining it, and clearing up difficulties. This is a simple thing to do, but exceedingly necessary. Now that they have life, we shall teach them to *have purpose*.

Besides that, they are bound hand and foot, so that they are compelled to \_\_\_\_\_ we must show them how to work for Jesus!

Sometimes these bands are those of **sorrow**, for they are in an awful terror about the past we have to unbind them by showing that the past is blotted out. They are wrapped about by many a yard of **doubt, mistrust, anguish and remorse**. “Loose them, and let them go.”

Another hindrance is the band of \_\_\_\_\_. “Oh,” says the poor soul, “I am such a sinner that God must punish me for my sin.” Tell him the grand Doctrine of Substitution! Unwrap this *cerement* by the assurance that Jesus took our sin and that, “by His stripes we are healed.” It is wonderful what liberty comes by that precious Truth of God when it is well understood!

Souls are very often bound with the grave clothes of **prejudice**. They used to think such -and-such before conversion and they are very apt to carry their dead thoughts into their new life. Go and tell them that things are not what they seem—that old things have passed away—and behold, all things have become new! The days of their ignorance God winked at, but now they must change their minds about everything and no more judge according to the sight of the eyes and the hearing of the ears.

Some of them are bound with the grave clothes of evil \_\_\_\_\_. It is a noble work to aid a drunk to unwind the accursed bands which prevent his making the slightest progress towards better things. Let us tear off every band from ourselves, that we may the more readily help *them* to be free! The bonds of evil habits may still remain upon men that have received the Divine Life until those habits are pointed out to them and the evil of them is shown. And so they are helped by precept, prayer and example, to free themselves. Who among us would wish Lazarus to continue wearing his shroud? Who would wish to see a regenerate man falling into evil habits? When the Lord quickens men, then you and I can come in to loose every bond which would hamper and hinder the free action of the Divine Life. (Charles Spurgeon)

## **8) WHAT MUST OUR DESIRE BE?**

John 11:41, 44 "Then **they took away the stone** from the place where the dead man was lying. And Jesus lifted up His eyes and said, "Father, I thank You that You have heard Me....And he that was dead came forth, bound hand and foot with grave clothes: and his face was bound about with a napkin. Jesus said unto them, **Loose him, and Let him go.**"

***"Do you remember when somebody lent a hand to take the grave clothes off of you? Therefore let it be your desire to loose the grave clothes off of others." Charles Spurgeon***

The Lord commanded us to make disciples, to involve our lives in the lives of others. The perfect place to help others take the grave clothes off and to get some help with your own is **in the small group setting.**

It is interesting to note, in Psalm 37:4-6 it says, "Delight yourself in the LORD; and He will give you the desires of your heart. **COMMIT** your way to the **LORD**, Trust also in Him, and He will do it. He will bring forth your righteousness as the light and your judgment as the noonday." That word "commit" (*gol*) comes from the Hebrew root word "*galal*," which could be rendered as "roll away" or "heap" (*gal* means a heap or pile of stones.) John Gill writes, it means to "roll they works upon the Lord". The Pulpit Commentary says, the meaning is, "Cast thyself and thy life unreservedly upon God - yield thyself wholly to Him - look to Him for support and guidance." It is the same word for "*trust*," and conveys the idea of rolling your burdens, your pile of rocks, the injustices done to you upon the Lord, and leaving with Him to carry.

In Jeremiah 11:20, it says, "For to **YOU** have I committed my case." That is not always easy to do. Sometimes we need help to "commit," to roll away the stone (our case, our situation) that has entombed us in despair. When we allow others to minister to us, soon the light of His righteousness will shine as the noonday, and He will do what you cannot, set you free to walk in His established steps. (KB)

## **9) WHEN WILL I BE ULTIMATELY AND FINALLY BE TRANSFORMED INTO HIS LIKENESS, NEVER TO TASTE DEATH AGAIN?**

**1 Corinthians 15:51-54** *"Behold, I tell you a mystery: We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed--in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed. For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal must put on immortality. So when this corruptible has put on incorruption, and this mortal has put on immortality, then shall be brought to pass the saying that is written: "Death is swallowed up in victory."*

***When He returns, our bodies will immediately be made like His body. We will experience this glorious transformation in a twinkling of an eye. Since Christ is risen, my resurrection is assured. (FB)***



### **Answers to Lesson Nine**

- 1. Corruption; 2. Fix; 3. Voice; 4. Solution; 5. Finishing Touch; 6. Could Not;**
- 7. Perception, In-action, Fear, Habits**

# We Need to Respond in Worship

*“Pleasant words are like a honeycomb,  
Sweetness to the soul and health to the bones.” Proverbs 16:24*

## LESSON OVERVIEW

The Bible says that humans are fearfully and wonderfully made. We are, as it were, finely tuned instruments designed to play heaven's songs. Our whole being; our spirit man, our souls, and our physical bodies are intended to flow together to communicate God's great love song to our hurting world. Our human spirit becomes the dwelling place of the Holy Spirit, our soul is the unique vehicle that His Spirit flows through, and our body, of course, is the physical temple where this great chorus is expressed. Each part of our being is important and needs to be healthy to communicate and express God's songs.

Jesus said that unless we are born again we cannot even see His kingdom. The spiritual awakening begins in our spirit, our inner man, where Christ's love begins to awaken our soul. This work then is followed by our soul, in our mind, will, and our emotions. This part of us can easily be corrupted and thrown out of harmony if we become involved in the excesses of this life, like for example alcohol and substance abuse, sex outside of marriage, along with other things. How can we sing His songs when we are clouded by worldly behavior. Finally, our body is the stage where His songs are sung. We must take care of this temple, it is the only one we have. Here is how A. B. Simpson describes this beautiful balance.

“Spiritual conditions are inseparably connected with our physical life. The flow of the divine life-currents may be interrupted by a little clot of blood; the vital current may leak out through a very small wound. If you want to keep the health of Christ, keep from all spiritual infections, from all heart wounds and irritations. One hour of worry will wear out more vitality than a week of work; one minute of malice or jealousy or envy will hurt more than a drink of poison. Pleasantness of spirit and joyousness of heart are essential to full health. Quietness of spirit, gentleness, tranquility and the peace of God that passes all understanding are worth more than all the sleeping pills in the country. We do not wonder that some people have poor health when we hear them talk for half an hour. They have enough dislikes, prejudices, doubts and fears to exhaust the strongest constitution. **My friend, if you would maintain God's life and strength, keep out the things that kill it.** Keep yourself for Him and for His work, and you will find enough and to spare.”

So go ahead and sing God's songs, paint His works of art, and write His love songs. As Paul told us, we are His workmanship (His work of art), created in Christ for this very purpose. There is a uniqueness in each one of us that is a part of His overall masterpiece. We are singing this song together, it is actually a great orchestra singing His wonderful songs of love.

**Pastor Frank Bailey**



## DAVID

### A PORTRAIT OF AN EARTHLY MAN TRANSFORMING INTO A HEAVENLY MAN

David was an earthly man who by the power of God did extraordinary things. At a young age he knew what it meant to be overlooked by man, but not God. He was chosen to be king and experienced the anointing of God being poured upon his life. The Lord became his refuge when fleeing from the enemy, his rod and his staff when all else had abandoned him, his defender when others talked against him, his restorer when David himself sinned... All throughout his life, David learned the secret of being a heavenly man. A heavenly man turns away from the temptation of being an earthly man by rising above to become a worshipper throughout all the days of their lives.

## 1) HOW DID DAVID RESPOND TO THE GRACE OF GOD IN HIS LIFE AND HOW MUST WE RESPOND?

For those of us who have tasted the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, we find ourselves in the same position as David. We have to worship. We must respond to His ceaseless love with a lifestyle of \_\_\_\_\_. Just a few songs at church on Sunday will never do for me, I have tasted His greatness and worship is our only option. David got it. He saw the greatness of God, that's why it was said David was a man after God's own heart. The Lord gets it. He knows His own greatness, He also knows the benefits that come to His sons and daughters when they step into this new way of life.

*“The same grace that flows into us at salvation flows out of us in worship.”  
—Pastor Frank Bailey*

## 2. WHAT IS AT THE HEART OF OUR WORSHIP?

*Sing aloud, O daughter of Zion;  
Shout, O Israel!  
Rejoice and exult with all your heart,  
O daughter of Jerusalem!  
The LORD has taken away the judgments against you;  
He has cleared away your enemies.  
The King of Israel, the LORD, is in your midst;  
You shall never again fear evil.  
On that day it shall be said to Jerusalem:  
“Fear not, O Zion; let not your hands grow weak.  
The LORD your God is in your midst,  
a Mighty One who will save;  
he will rejoice over you with gladness; he will quiet you by his love;  
he will exult over you with loud singing. Zephaniah 3:14-17*

At the very heart of our worship is **JOY**. Zephaniah is saying, Sing O daughter of Zion, Sing O "Gospel Church", Sing and rejoice with all your heart, "O chosen one", for the Lord has taken away your judgments. In Colossians 2:15 it says, "He has disarmed the rulers and authorities and put to open shame, by triumphing over them" (every enemy that has come against you) in Him. He has cast out and cleared away your enemy. And the greatest reason to worship and rejoice is that **the LORD HIMSELF is in your MIDST!**

*"He is in the very center of your lives and you shall see disaster no more. You will not face anything in your life that He will not be right there with you to handle, for He will save. He has saved you from your sin. He is saving you now. He will save you in the future. Sin makes a man miserable, but He will SAVE (YASA) rescue you and He will deliver you."  
—Pastor Frank Bailey*

The root meaning of the word "saved" comes from the Arabic word *TWOT* which means to "make wide" or "make sufficient". This root is in contrast to *sarar* "narrow," which means "be restricted" or "cause distress." That which is wide connotes freedom from distress and the ability to pursue one's own objectives.

### **3) WHAT IS THE MOST UNFATHOMABLE THOUGHT OF ALL FOUND IN ZEPHANIAH 3:17?**

**Zephaniah 3:17** "He will **REJOICE** over you with gladness, He will quiet you with His love, He will **REJOICE** over you with singing."

In the SPIRIT FILLED LIFE BIBLE "3:18 joy, gil (geel); Strong's #1523: To joy, rejoice, be glad, be joyful. Gil contains the suggestion of "dancing for joy," or "leaping for joy," since the verb originally meant "to spin around with intense motion." This lays to rest the notion that the biblical concept of joy is only "a quiet, inner sense of well-being." The Lord is \_\_\_\_\_ over you, what a thought!

God dances for joy over Jerusalem and because of His people (Is. 65:19; Zeph. 3:17). The righteous Messiah shall rejoice in God's salvation with an intensity that the psalmist cannot find words to describe (Ps. 21:1). In turn, His redeemed citizens are joyful in their King; they praise Him with dances, with instruments, and with singing (Ps. 149:2, 3). We find this same word "rejoice" in Habakkuk 3:17-18, "Though the fig tree may not blossom, Nor fruit be on the vines; Though the labor of the olive may fail, And the fields yield no food; Though the flock may be cut off from the fold, And there be no herd in the stalls--Yet I will rejoice in the Lord, I will joy in the God of my salvation." Although everything is wrong in Habakkuk's external world, he is leaping for joy over his fellowship with Yahweh." And then finally in Zephaniah 3:17 it says, "He will quiet you with His love", you will enter into the rest of God as you worship and He will renew your spirit.



*“WORSHIP IS SIMPLE AND PURE  
DEVOTION TO JESUS.  
IT IS UNCOMPLICATED. IT IS HERE THAT  
WE CAN BE AT REST. RELIGION IS INCREDIBLY  
EXHAUSTING, WORSHIP IS NOT.”*  
—David Ruis

#### **4) WHAT EFFECT WILL WORSHIP HAVE ON THE ENEMIES OF OUR SOULS OR THE CIRCUMSTANCES OR PEOPLE THAT COME AGAINST US ?**

Throughout life an earthly man will face people and circumstances that come against us that we are \_\_\_\_\_ to deal with or overcome. And most of the time the greatest enemies that we face are **our own enemies of our souls, bitterness, un-forgiveness, lust, envy, hatred, anger, selfishness, overindulgence and the list goes on and on.**

Consider Jehoshaphat and what he did when he and his people encountered an enemy they could not defeat. First he cried out to God and said, “O our God, will You not judge them? For we have no power against this great multitude that is coming against us; nor do we know what to do, but our eyes are upon You.” 2 Chron. 20:12 Then it says “And Jehoshaphat bowed his head with his face to the ground, and all Judah and the inhabitants of Jerusalem bowed before the Lord, worshiping the Lord.” 2 Chronicles 20:18 The next day “he appointed those who should sing to the Lord, and who should praise the beauty of holiness, as they went out before the army and were saying: “Praise the Lord, For His mercy endures forever. Now when they began to sing and to praise, the Lord set ambushes against the people of Ammon, Moab, and Mount Seir, who had come against Judah; and they were defeated. 2 Chronicles 20:21-22 You can read this fascinating account of this story in 2 Chronicles 20:15-30.

#### **5) OCCASIONALLY, ON OUR JOURNEY AS WE ARE BEING TRANSFORMED FROM THE EARTHLY MAN TO THE HEAVENLY MAN WE GET DISCOURAGED. WHAT WILL HELP US GET BACK ON TRACK?**

**Acts 16:25-26** “Having received this order, he put them into the inner prison and fastened their feet in the stocks. About midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to God, and the prisoners were listening to them, and suddenly there was a great earthquake, so that the foundations of the prison were shaken. And immediately all the doors were opened, and everyone's bonds were unfastened.”

Paul and Silas found themselves chained to unfavorable circumstances that would have sent the best of us into a state of depression and unbelief. But instead of succumbing to their situation they decided to pray and \_\_\_\_\_ hymns to God. This not only set them free in the inner parts of their soul but the chains of oppression were literally broken as well.

Listen to this quote from Pilgrim's Progress when Christian and Hopeful found themselves in Doubting Castle; "At midnight on Saturday, despite their wounds, Christian and Hopeful began to pray (like Paul and Silas in Acts 16:25), and they continued this prayer throughout the night. Then we read of the amazing escape: "Now a little before it was Day, good Christian, as one half amazed, brake out in this passionate speech; 'What a fool,' quoth he, 'am I, thus to lie in a stinking dungeon, when I may as well walk at liberty? I have a key in my bosom, called Promise, that will I am persuaded open any lock in Doubting-Castle.' Using the key, Christian and Hopeful escaped."

Wow, what promise have you lying in your bosom? Such a vast treasury of Scripture that we can RECALL TO MIND. I pray your memory gives you hope and not discouragement, life and not fear, freedom and not bondage. *Psalms 77:6,11 "I call to remembrance my song in the night: I commune with mine own heart: and my spirit made diligent search.... I will remember the works of the LORD: surely I will remember thy wonders of old."* (FB)

## **6) WHAT HEALTH BENEFITS WILL YOU RECEIVE AS YOU WORSHIP?**

**Proverbs 17:22** *"A merry heart doeth good like a medicine."*

"King Solomon left among his wise sayings a prescription for sick and sad hearts, and it is one that we can safely take. A merry heart doeth good like a medicine. Joy is the great restorer and \_\_\_\_\_. Gladness of spirit will bring health to the bones and vitality to the nerves when all other tonics fail and all other sedatives cease to quiet. Are you ill? Begin to rejoice in the Lord, and your bones will flourish like an herb, and your cheeks will glow with the bloom of health and freshness. **Worry, fear, distrust, care are all poisonous! Joy is balm and healing, and if you will but rejoice, God will give power.** He has commanded you to be glad and rejoice, and He never fails to sustain His children in keeping His commandments. Rejoice in the Lord always, He says. This means no matter how sad, how tempted, how sick, how suffering you are, rejoice in the Lord just where you are-and begin this moment." A.B. Simpson

## **7) WHERE DOES WORSHIP BRING US INTO?**

**INTO THE PRESENCE OF THE LORD – God is enthroned in praise and worship.**

**Psalm 22:3** *"But You are holy, Enthroned in the praises of Israel."*

Since God is enthroned in the praises, **worship is the key to entering fully into His presence.** The concept here is that praise releases God's glory, thus bringing to the worshipers actualized responses of His kingly reign. His enthroned responses through the Holy Spirit can take many forms, such as prophecy, healings, miracles, affirmation to individual hearts, a call to reverential silence and awe, conviction of sin, and salvation of sinners. This verse should be a guiding goal for all personal and corporate worship times.

The verb “enthroned” indicates that wherever God's people exalt His name, He is ready to manifest His kingdom's power in the way most appropriate to the situation, as His rule is invited to invade our setting.... God awaits the prayerful and praise-filled worship of His people as an entry point for His kingdom to “come”—to enter, that His “will be done” in human circumstances. (See Luke 11:2–4 and Ps. 93:2.) We do not manipulate God, but align ourselves with the great kingdom truth: His is the power, ours is the privilege (and responsibility) to welcome Him into our world— our private, present world or the circumstances of our society.” (KINGDOM DYNAMICS)

***“WORSHIP IS NOT CREATING AN  
ATMOSPHERE FOR THE LORD TO COME  
BUT RATHER A RESPONSE OF HIS  
PRESENCE IN OUR MIDST.”  
—DAVID RUIS***

Note: When we worship corporately with our brothers and sisters in Christ in our local church we come together to enter His presence together. Here in the body of Christ we come together Black, White, Asian, Hispanic, Poor and Rich alike and we worship in one accord with one voice to worship our King. Here in this place, “every tongue, tribe and nation not losing your identity but coming together to produce one sound and one \_\_\_\_\_.” (David Ruis)

***If we come together and worship together, we must walk in forgiveness continually.***

## **7) WHAT IS WORSHIP SIMPLY ACCORDING TO DAVID ?**

The word worship strong's # 4352 *proskuneo* comes from the original word meaning to kiss, like a dog licking his master's hand. The simple idea of worship is “adoring” the one you are with. Fall down to kiss the feet of the one you love. David taught us through his book of psalms and hymns to worship the Lord just because we enjoy being with Him, because He is great and because it is the only way to be fulfilled and soak in His love.

### **A. THE ENJOYMENT OF GOD**

**Psalm 149:1-4** *“Praise the LORD! Sing to the LORD a new song, and His praise in the assembly of saints. Let Israel rejoice in their Maker; Let the children of Zion be joyful in their King. Let them praise His name with the dance; Let them sing praises to Him with the timbrel and harp. For the LORD takes pleasure in His people; He will beautify the humble with salvation.”*

**Psalm 43:4** *“Then I will go to the altar of God, To God my exceeding joy; And on the harp I will praise You, O God, my God.”*

## B. OUR RESPONSE TO HIS GREATNESS

**Psalm 8:1-9** “O LORD, our Lord, how excellent is Your name in all the earth, who have set Your glory above the heavens! Out of the mouth of babes and nursing infants You have ordained strength, because of Your enemies, that You may silence the enemy and the avenger. When I consider Your heavens, the work of Your fingers, the moon and the stars, which You have ordained, what is man that You are mindful of him, and the son of man that You visit him? For You have made him a little lower than the angels, and You have crowned him with glory and honor. You have made him to have dominion over the works of Your hands; You have put all things under his feet, all sheep and oxen— Even the beasts of the field, the birds of the air, and the fish of the sea that pass through the paths of the seas. O LORD, our Lord, how excellent is Your name in all the earth!”

## C. WORSHIP IS HOW TO DRINK AND SOAK IN HIS LOVE

**Psalm 63:1-5** “God—you're my God! I can't get enough of You! I've worked up such hunger and thirst for God, traveling across dry and weary deserts. So here I am in the place of worship, eyes open, drinking in your strength and glory. In your generous love I am really living at last! My lips brim praises like fountains. I bless you every time I take a breath; My arms wave like banners of praise to you. I eat my fill of prime rib and gravy; I smack my lips. It's time to shout praises!”

**Psalm 27:4** “One thing I have desired of the LORD, That will I seek: That I may dwell in the house of the LORD All the days of my life, to behold the beauty of the LORD, and to inquire in His temple.”



### Answers to Lesson 10

1. Worship; 3. Dancing 4. Unable; 5. Sing; 6. Healer; 7. Song

# We Need to Advance

*“Therefore leaving the principles of the doctrine of Christ, let us go on unto perfection” Heb. 6:1*

## LESSON OVERVIEW

Many times we can find ourselves just plain stuck. Frank and I call it Groundhog Day. In the movie, Bill Murray finds himself living the same day over and over again. If we don't watch ourselves we land in a deep rut and then the trouble really begins. Compromise, boredom and offenses are sure to follow. Sometimes we just have to fight to hold onto our joy. We simply cannot listen to the voice of the stranger in our inner ear. Everyday we find the PORTAL so to speak in which we can learn to see the beauty of Christ in everything. Yes, I said in everything. Daily I must choose to taste and see that The Lord is good, for He is working in me a “far weightier glory”. For how long do we press on? “Till we all come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ: That we henceforth be no more children, tossed to and fro, and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the sleight of men, and cunning craftiness, whereby they lie in wait to deceive.” (Ephesians 4:13, 14)

“Therefore leaving the principles of the doctrine of Christ, let us go on unto perfection” Heb. 6:1 Simpson says it this way. “**Let us now advance**, let us make progress, let us grow in grace, let us not be easily satisfied with present attainments, for, **unless we go on we shall surely go back**. It is not safe to lose an inch of ground. “We are not of them who draw back unto perdition.” The faintest drawing back may land us in perdition. There is no portion of the Holy Scriptures so filled with impressive warnings against backsliding as this. In two of its leading chapters, the sixth and tenth, we are told of the peril of the soul that falls away, and the only remedy against falling away is to go forward. Are we going on? And are we going unto perfection? Is our goal the very highest? Are we aiming at nothing less than the highest possibilities of a life of faith and service for God? Nothing less is safe, and nothing less is worthy of our high calling and our exceeding great and precious promises.”

God creates in us a hunger that only He can fill. He wants us to stretch ourselves into deeper realms of glory, deeper realms of reaching out to people. Groundhog Day just isn't acceptable to the Christian. Our battle cry is still the same! Reaching out to a dying world with the message of Redemption. My advice to you if you feel bored? Dive into the Word of God, find a good church that will actually challenge you and **PRAY THAT THE LORD WILL SEND HIS FIRE! FRESH WIND FROM HEAVEN**. Anything else is just not acceptable.

**Pastor Parris Bailey**



## THE LEPER

### A PORTRAIT OF AN EARTHLY MAN TRANSFORMING INTO A HEAVENLY MAN

*In Luke 17:12-19 we read the account of ten men that were healed of leprosy. When Jesus told the group to go show themselves to the priest, they all went running. Along the way, the men were healed. Only one out of the ten, stopped and turned to thank Jesus for the miracle he had received. We do not know this mans name, but his life is a portrait of an earthly man transforming into a heavenly man. He taught us that to advance, we must stop and ask are we running in the right direction? He taught us that to advance, we must not ever forget what the Lord has done.*

## 1) HOW ARE WE LIKE THE LEPERS IN THE STORY IN LUKE 17?

**Luke 17:12** *"Then as He entered a certain village, there met Him ten men who were lepers, who stood afar off."*

Leprosy is a physical picture of the spiritual condition of \_\_\_\_\_. We, like the Leper, were all born into sin. We like these men in the story all were standing far off. Sin puts us in this place, separated from God. But the Lord hearing their cries for mercy walked amongst them, touched and healed them of their disease. The Lord hears us when we cry out for mercy. We have been redeemed and brought near to the Lord by the precious blood of Christ. We, like the ten men were once a stranger and alien, without God and with no hope. But that all changed when the Lord walked into our place (our leper colony). Our stain of leprosy has been forever cleansed. We have been clothed with His righteous garments. We can now worship Him in boldness. (FB)

## 2) WHAT IS THE ONLY WAY FOR A SINNER TO BE HEARD BY GOD?

**Luke 17:13-14** *"And they lifted up their voices and said, "Jesus, Master, have mercy on us! So when He saw them, He said to them, "Go, show yourselves to the priests." And so it was that as they went, they were cleansed."*

The Holy God is unapproachable by sin. The only way for a sinner to be heard by God is to cry out in mercy. God is the only one who can authorize mercy. He fulfills justice and extends His hand of mercy to all who call out to Him. And then the Bible records when the men cried out for mercy... "He saw them".

*"Behold, the eye of the Lord is on those who fear Him, on those who hope in His mercy"*  
*Psalm 33:18*



He saw them in their sinfulness and hopelessness. He saw you. His eye is fixed on you. The eyes of the Lord are searching to see those who seek Him. In 2 Chronicles 16:9 it says, "For the eyes of the Lord run to and fro throughout the whole earth, to show Himself strong on behalf of those whose heart is loyal to Him. (whose heart is perfect toward Him)" Nothing escapes His eye. His eye is on the sparrow and He watches over you. He tells them to, "Go show yourselves to the priest". And so it was, as they went their way they were cleansed." (FB)

### **3) WHAT DID ONE OF THE TEN DO WHEN HE REALIZED THAT HE WAS HEALED?**

**Luke 17:15** "And one of them, when he saw that he was healed, returned"

When one of the guys realized that he had been cleansed of leprosy, he stopped and realized he was running in the \_\_\_\_\_... he "turned back toward the village, and ran as fast as his legs would carry him back to the feet of Jesus. He got it. Why go to the ceremonial priests when the Great High Priest was right there. Jesus didn't have the robes and the air of self-importance like most preachers have, He was cloaked in humility, yet He was authentic. He was the High Priest that all others just shadowed. He was going to show himself to the heavenly High Priest." (FB)

In order for us to advance in the kingdom we must continually go show ourselves to our High Priest. We will find Him upon His mercy seat. We too have been cleansed. We cried for mercy and He heard us, He saw us and we were brought near to His throne of grace. Salvation comes in an instant and many when they are saved go off to walk the path that seems right to them. But for those who want to experience real and total deliverance, they will stop turn 180 degrees and begin to run towards Christ. Showing ourselves to our High Priest becomes a daily delight. As we gaze in His eyes, we began to change into His likeness. (KB)

### **4) WHAT SECRET DID THE ONE MAN REALIZE THAT THE OTHERS DIDN'T?**

The other nine were only concerned with their own healing. They couldn't run fast enough to get to where they were going. But as David Ruis said, "sometimes we are so engaged in what is going to happen in the future, you miss the **NOW**." Christ Himself, the Healer was standing right in front of them. They would have done well to say when He said, "go show yourselves to the priest"... "we have none in heaven or under heaven but **YOU**."

Psalms 73:25-26 says it like this, "Whom have I in heaven but You? And there is none upon earth that I desire besides You. My flesh and my heart fail; But God is the strength of my heart and my portion forever." In looking forward in anticipation to what God is going to do, let us realize "**GOD IS COMING, GO IS HERE!!!**" (DR)- In waiting for what is coming next, let us be grateful and thankful for what He has done and is doing in our midst right now. (KB)

## 5) WHAT DID JESUS DO FOR THIS MAN?

**Luke 17:15-19** *And one of them, when he saw that he was healed, returned, and with a loud voice glorified God, and fell down on his face at His feet, giving Him thanks. And he was a Samaritan. So Jesus answered and said, "Were there not ten cleansed? But where are the nine? Were there not any found who returned to give glory to God except this foreigner?" And He said to him, "Arise, go your way. Your faith has made you well.*

That day, ten men were physically healed of leprosy. Nine of the ten men continued to go their way. We don't know what happened to those nine. Yes they obeyed Jesus initial command, but salvation and healing is so much more than being saved from your sin or healed physically. If we don't continue to press towards Christ and \_\_\_\_\_, we all are in danger to simply accept His gift of salvation but to go right back to our old lifestyles. Right back to groundhog's day. Jesus you solved my problem so I now can get right back to what I was doing. Heaven forbid! Let us take heed to A.B. Simpson's advice "**Let us now advance**, let us make progress, let us grow in grace, let us not be easily satisfied with present attainments, for, **unless we go on we shall surely go back.**"

But one out of the ten, got more than he asked for. When he actually turned (180 degrees) and began to run in the right direction Jesus told him (only) – Your faith has made you well." This man was physically healed but much more than that, he was healed Spirit, Soul and Body. In Hebrews 7:25, it says, "He is able to save to the uttermost." Uttermost means "**TOTALLY AND FINALLY; COMPLETELY AND ONCE AND FOR ALL.**" The Lord wants to do so much more for you than just to save you from your sins. He wants to save you Spirit, Soul and Body. He wants to **RESTORE** your mind and your entire being. He wants to make you **WHOLE**. (FB)

## 6) WHAT BENEFITS DID THIS ONE MAN FIND DAILY?

**Psalms 68:19** *"Blessed be the Lord, Who daily loads us with benefits, The God of our salvation!"*

Most people are like the 9 men, being cleansed of their sins is all they are looking for. Salvation is just a get out of hell card. But for the ONE out of the ten, who turns back and encounters Jesus face to face there is a whole lot more available. That person, finds that His mercy is not for just a day, but that there are \_\_\_\_\_ available every morning and that His faithfulness is great. (KB)

**Lam. 3:22,23** *"Through the LORD'S mercies we are not consumed, because His compassions fail not. They are new every morning; great is Your faithfulness."*

Every morning we wake up to the new mercies of God. As I open my eyes, new mercies are falling; when I get out of bed, new mercies; as I head off to face whatever today holds; fresh mercies. Our biggest challenge is seeing them. Our lives are daily loaded down with His benefits. So as we start a new day today let's pray; Lord, open my eyes and open my heart. Let me see all of your goodness that's falling on me today. As I become aware of your incredible endless love aimed at me, forgive me for being ungrateful. Amen. Blessings are falling on you today, stop and drink them in. (FB)

## 7) IF WE WANT TO ADVANCE, WHAT CAN WE LEARN FROM THIS MAN'S ACTIONS THAT WILL HELP US PROGRESS IN THE KINGDOM?

**Luke 17:14** So when He saw them, He said to them, "Go, show yourselves to the priests." And so it was that as they went, they were cleansed."

### A. ACT ON WHAT WE BELIEVE

Jesus told the ten to go show themselves to the priest. As they began to run they were all healed. But only one turned "for he saw the substance of the heavenly High Priest was better than the shadow." We too are commanded to show ourselves to our High Priest Jesus. We are invited to come into His presence daily. We can come boldly to His throne of grace and find mercy (daily) in our times of need. It is essential to our Christian walk to act on what we believe. They had to roll away the stone for Lazarus to come forth. The man with the withered hand had to stretch it out. The paralytic had to pick up his bed and walk. And even before, his friends had to tear off the tiles of the roof to get their friend to the place where the Lord was performing miracles. Peter had to get out of that boat. (FB) If we are to advance in the kingdom of God we must act on what we believe. We must walk forward until Christ is formed in us.

### B. WE NEED TO DAILY GLORIFY GOD AND GIVE THANKS

**Luke 17:15** "And one of them, when he saw that he was healed, returned, and with a loud voice glorified God, and fell down on his face at His feet, giving Him thanks."

But this man did more than recognize Jesus as His Heavenly High Priest. When he saw that he was healed, he returned, and with a loud, very expressive voice he glorified God. He fell face down and he gave thanks. His praise was "\_\_\_\_\_". It is like the man who was healed in Acts 3. After he was healed he went...

**WALKING  
AND LEAPING  
AND PRAISING GOD.**

*Let this be your daily response to His goodness in your life. (FB)*

### C. JESUS SENT HIM ON HIS WAY

**Luke 17:19** And He said to him, "Arise, go your way. Your faith has made you well."

Go your way, in the way He tells you to go and tell those around you what the Lord has done in your life. Tell them of His wonderful plan of redemption. How you were cleansed and purchased by the precious blood of the Lamb and they too can come face to face with the One who redeems. Tell them of His love and His power to transform an earthly man into a heavenly one. Tell them that we must advance and that when He comes we shall arise and we shall be like Him. (KB)

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*“While the work of SALVATION is complete and nothing can be added.., the work of the Holy Spirit in us is not perfect—it is continually carried on from day to day—and will need to be continued throughout the whole of our lives.*

*SO ONWARD AND UPWARD!!!....”*

*(Charles Spurgeon)*



#### Answers to Week Eleven

1. Sin; 3. Wrong Direction; 5. Advance; 6. New Mercies;  
7B. Exceptional Praise

# A Portrait of the Heavenly Man

*“Until Christ is formed in You.” Galatians 4:19*

## LESSON OVERVIEW

### JESUS IS THE HEAVENLY MAN

In our journey of turning 180 degrees from an earthly man into a heavenly one we have to only look at the life of Christ on earth to see what we are becoming. It may take a lifetime but we are assured of one thing, *“He who began a good work in you will complete it.” Philippians 1:6* And we rejoice in knowing that *“when we see Him, we shall be like Him.” 1 John 3:2.* Oh for the day of days when ultimately Christ comes in all His glory and we shall put off this mortal, decaying body and *“we shall awake in His likeness.” Psalm 17:15.* Let's take one last look at the end result. The following is the final portrait of **THE HEAVENLY MAN.** (KB)

## 1) THE HEAVENLY MAN IS A REDEEMED MAN

### JESUS CHRIST IS THE REDEEMER

**Col. 1:13-14** *“For He rescued us from the domain of darkness, and transferred us to the kingdom of His beloved Son, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.”*

## 2) THE HEAVENLY MAN HAS NOT ONLY RECEIVED A GRACE THAT PARDONS BUT GRACE THAT TRANSFORMS

### JESUS HIMSELF IS FULL OF GRACE AND GIVES GRACE THAT TRANSFORMS

**John 1:14-16** *“And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth....And of His fullness we have all received, and grace for grace.”*

## 3) THE HEAVENLY MAN IS BAPTIZED WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT

### JESUS HIMSELF WAS FILLED WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT

**Luke 4:1** *“Then Jesus, being filled with the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan and was led by the Spirit into the wilderness,”*

## **4) THE HEAVENLY MAN SPEAKS IN A HEAVENLY LANGUAGE**

**JESUS ONLY SPOKE WHAT HIS FATHER IN HEAVEN GAVE HIM TO SAY THE LANGUAGE OF HEAVEN.**

**John 12:49** *"For I have not spoken on My own authority; but the Father who sent Me gave Me a command, what I should say and what I should speak."*

**Jude 1:20-21** *"But you, beloved, building yourselves up in your most holy faith and praying in the Holy Spirit, keep yourselves in the love of God, waiting for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ that leads to eternal life."*

## **5) THE HEAVENLY MAN IS A YIELDED MAN**

**JESUS DID NOTHING IN HIS OWN STRENGTH.**

**John 5:19** *"Then Jesus answered and said to them, "Most assuredly, I say to you, the Son can do nothing of Himself, but what He sees the Father do; for whatever He does, the Son also does in like manner."*

## **6) THE HEAVENLY MAN IS WASHED BY THE WATER OF THE WORD**

**JESUS HIMSELF IS THE WORD.**

He sanctifies and cleanses us by the washing of water by the word.

**John 1:1,14** *"In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God....And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,..."*

**Ephesians 5:26** *"that He might sanctify and cleanse her with the washing of water by the word,"*

## **7) THE HEAVENLY MAN PURSUES PLEASURE IN CHRIST ALONE**

**JESUS IS THE OBJECT OF OUR PURSUIT. IN HIM ARE PLEASURES FOREVERMORE.**

**Psalms 16:11** *"Thou hast shown me the path of life. In thy presence is fullness of joy, in thy right hand are pleasures forevermore"*

## **8) THE HEAVENLY MAN PUTS OFF THE FLESH AND PUTS ON CHRIST, HE IS CLOTHED IN THE ANOINTING**

**JESUS CHRIST IS THE ANOINTED ONE AND WAS ANOINTED WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT AND WITH POWER.**



**Acts 10:38** "...how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power, who went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with Him."

**Galatians 3:27** "For as many of you as were baptized into Christ have put on Christ."

**Romans 13:14** "But put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to fulfill its lusts."

## **9) THE HEAVENLY MAN HELPS OTHERS TAKE OFF THE GRAVE CLOTHES**

### **JESUS' SET OTHERS FREE AND COMMANDS US TO DO THE SAME**

**Luke 4:18-19** "The Spirit of the Lord is upon Me, because He has anointed Me to preach the gospel to the poor; He has sent Me to heal the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to set at liberty those who are oppressed; To proclaim the acceptable year of the Lord."

**John 11:44** "And he who had died came out bound hand and foot with grave-clothes, and his face was wrapped with a cloth. Jesus said to them, "Loose him, and let him go."

## **10) THE HEAVENLY MAN'S RESPONSE TO BEING MADE NEW IS WORSHIP**

### **JESUS CHRIST WAS A WORSHIPPER**

To be a worshipper is much more than singing songs and hymns. To be a worshipper is to live a life so connected to Christ that every part of our lives becomes a love song to the Father. Jesus was the perfect example on how to live. He lived a lifestyle of worship here on earth. Our worship is a response to the love that has been shed abroad in our hearts that adores Him for who He is and what He has done. Our response can be in the songs we sing, the words we speak and the deeds that we do. However, His acceptance of our worship is not based on our performance but rather on His unconditional love for us.

## **11) THE HEAVENLY MAN IS READY FOR WHAT IS TO COME AND ADVANCES**

### **JESUS WENT AHEAD TO PREPARE A PLACE FOR YOU**

**John 14:1-4** "Let not your heart be troubled; you believe in God, believe also in Me. In My Father's house are many mansions; if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you, and if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and receive you to Myself; that where I am, there you may be also. And where I go you know, and the way you know."

**Revelation 19:7** "Let us rejoice and exult and give him the glory, for the marriage of the Lamb has come, and his Bride has made herself ready;"

## **12) THE HEAVENLY MAN NO LONGER LOOKS LIKE AN EARTHLY MAN, EVERYTHING ABOUT HIM HAS CHANGED INTO THE LIKENESS OF CHRIST**

**Galatians 4:19** *“My little children, for whom I labor in birth again until Christ is formed in you,”*

**Corinthians 3:18** *“But we all, with unveiled face, beholding as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from glory to glory, just as by the Spirit of the Lord.” 2*

**Psalms 17:15** *“As for me, I will see Your face in righteousness; I shall be satisfied when I awake in Your likeness.”*

**1 John 3:2** *“Beloved, now we are children of God; and it has not yet been revealed what we shall be, but we know that when He is revealed, we shall be like Him, for we shall see Him as He is.”*

Fill in YOUR NAME in each of the blanks.  
Read and ask yourself how you are doing in your pursuit to become like Him.

## **WHAT DOES A HEAVENLY MAN LOOK LIKE?**

1. \_\_\_\_\_ IS A REDEEMED MAN/WOMAN
2. \_\_\_\_\_ HAS NOT ONLY RECEIVED A GRACE THAT PARDONS BUT GRACE THAT TRANSFORMS
3. \_\_\_\_\_ IS BAPTIZED WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT
4. \_\_\_\_\_ SPEAKS IN A HEAVENLY LANGUAGE
5. \_\_\_\_\_ IS A YIELDED MAN/WOMAN
6. \_\_\_\_\_ IS WASHED BY THE WATER OF THE WORD
7. \_\_\_\_\_ PURSUES PLEASURE IN CHRIST ALONE
8. \_\_\_\_\_ PUTS OFF THE FLESH AND PUTS ON CHRIST, HE/  
SHE IS CLOTHED IN THE ANOINTING
9. \_\_\_\_\_ HELPS OTHERS TAKE OFF THE GRAVE CLOTHES
10. \_\_\_\_\_ RESPONDS TO BEING MADE NEW IN WORSHIP
11. \_\_\_\_\_ IS READY FOR WHAT IS TO COME AND  
ADVANCES
12. \_\_\_\_\_ NO LONGER LOOKS LIKE AN EARTHLY MAN/  
WOMAN EVERYTHING ABOUT HIM/HER HAS  
CHANGED INTO THE LIKENESS OF CHRIST



