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**WHAT THE BIBLE SAYS ABOUT . . .**

### THE BELIEVERS IDENTITY IN CHRIST JESUS

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#### UNIT I - IDENTIFICATION

##### A. GOD'S IDENTIFICATION WITH SINNERS

**Philippians 2:5-8, Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus: 6 Who, being in the form of God, thought it not robbery to be equal with God: 7 But made himself of no reputation, and took upon him the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men: 8 And being found in fashion as a man, he humbled himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross.**

God's identification with sinful man for the purpose of saving him from death and eternal destruction was **NO SMALL THING**.

In order to accomplish this It was necessary for the infinite God, the great I am, the creator of this universe to take upon Himself a human nature, human flesh, to become literally a human being subject to all the weaknesses, frailties, needs, emotions and temptations that are common to all humans. And while accomplishing this He must remain at all times fully God. This was a problem worthy of God. Amen.

##### 1. HOW WAS THIS ACCOMPLISHED?

**Galatians 4:4, "... when the fulness of time was come, God sent forth His Son, made of a woman, made under the law..."**

**Philippians 2:6-7, Jesus "Who, being in the form (Gk. morphe - true essence of being, true form) of God, thought It not robbery to be equal with God: But made himself of no reputation, and took upon him the form (morphe) of a servant, and was made in the likeness of man.,**

**Matthew 1:18. "... the birth of Jesus Christ was on this wise: When as His mother was espoused to Joseph, before they came together, she was found with child of the Holy Ghost."**

**Luke 1:35**, "And the angel answered and said unto her, The Holy Ghost shall come upon thee, and the power of the Highest shall overshadow thee: therefore also that holy thing which shall be born of thee shall be called the Son of God."

**John 1:1-3**, "In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. The same was in the beginning with God. All things were made by him; and without him was not any thing made that was made."

**Hebrews 1:8**, "But unto the Son *he saith*, Thy throne, O God, is for ever and ever: a sceptre of righteousness is the sceptre of thy kingdom."

**Hebrews 2:17-18**, "Wherefore in all things it behoved him to be made like unto *his* brethren, that he might be a merciful and faithful high priest in things *pertaining* to God, to make reconciliation for the sins of the people. 18 For in that he himself hath suffered being tempted, he is able to succour them that are tempted."

**Hebrews 4:15**, "For we have not an high priest which cannot be touched with the feeling of our infirmities; but was in all points tempted like as *we are*, yet without sin."

**Conclusions:** To accomplish this identification with man, God the Father, REDUCED THE **ONLY BEGOTTEN SON OF GOD, HIS BELOVED FROM ETERNITY** (the one of whom John 1:1-3 says was from the beginning, who was God, who created all things) to the size of a microscopic seed and planted that seed in the womb of the virgin Mary. In the womb of Mary that seed grew and became the baby Jesus. In this way the Son of God, who is also God the Son (Hebrews 1:8), **added to His already existing divine nature a human nature**. Now Jesus Christ is both God and man. As a true man Jesus identifies with man being subject to all the frailties and temptations of man.

## 2. PURPOSE

**Hebrews 2:17-18**, "Wherefore in all things it behoved him to be made like unto *his* brethren, that he might be a merciful and faithful high priest in things *pertaining* to God, to make reconciliation for the sins of the people. 18 For in that he himself hath suffered being tempted, he is able to succour them that are tempted."

**Galatians 4:5**, "To redeem them that are under the law. that we might receive the adoption of sons."

**John 3:16**, "God so loved the world. that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish. but have everlasting life."

## 3. IN WHAT WAYS DID JESUS IDENTIFY WITH MAN?

Jesus' identification with man was a complete identification. According to His humanity, Jesus had all the weaknesses, frailties and needs (emotional-psychological and physical) common to all men.

**Hebrews 2:11-18**, "Wherefore in all things it behoved him to be made like unto his brethren, that he might be a merciful and faithful high priest in things pertaining to God to make reconciliation for the sins of the people."

Including:

**Being tempted**

**Hebrews 2:18**, "For In that He Himself hath suffered being tempted He Is able to help them that are tempted."

**Hebrews 4:15**. "For we have not an high priest which cannot be touched with the feelings of our infirmities;but was in all Points tempted like as we are, yet without sin".

**CONCLUSIONS:** Jesus' Identification was real. He suffered, struggled, agonized over the temptations that Satan placed before Him. I have no doubt that like Eve, and all men, women and children since the time of

Eve. the thought was in His mind to taste the forbidden fruit. But unlike Eve and every one since, HE DID NOT YIELD, GIVE IN TO THE TEMPTATION, HE SAID NO TO THE SIN.

**Question:** Since Jesus was born 'holy' (Luke 1:35) He did not have a sin nature) therefore. not having a propensity to sin, that is to say, not having a natural Inclination or tendency to sin, not bent toward sin, HOW COULD THE TEMPTATIONS REALLY BEEN TEMPTING?

True, Jesus was born 'holy' not having a sin nature or a natural tendency to sin but neither did Adam and Eve have a sin nature or a natural tendency to sin, being created In the image of God In righteousness and true holiness (Ephesians 4:24), YET THEY SINNED.

The sin nature not an inherent/necessary/essential part of the human nature. The sin nature is inherited and is not a characteristic of the human nature.

But Jesus is God, therefore, He could not sin. True, Jesus Is God and God cannot sin. But Jesus was and still is a man and as a man, according to His human nature it had to be possible for him to sin. Otherwise, He would not have been like unto His brethern "In all things", nor would He have suffered and agonized over the temptation to sin.

Jesus did not make use of His divine nature when Hi resisted sin - said NO to the temptation to taste of the forbidden fruit.

### **Learning obedience**

Secondly, we see that Jesus identifies with man in that He also had to learn obedience. Here we, also, see the purpose behind our Father God allowing Adam and Eve, all men and Jesus to be tempted by Satan. So that we might learn to say no to sin through obedience. In this way He proves us.

**Hebrews 5:9, "Though He were a Son. Yet learned obedience by the things He suffered..."**

**Philippians 2:8, "And being found in fashion as a man, he humbled himself and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross."**

### **Dying to self will; desires/lusts of the flesh**

Jesus identified with us Is that He had to die to His own desires. This was an agonizing and painful process. He **suffered over** dying to **Himself. We see this when In** the Garden of Gethsemane. Jesus not wanting. not desiring to suffer the accursed death that was before Him prayed . . .

**Luke 22:42.44, "Father, if thou be willing, remove this cup from me: nevertheless not my will, but thine, be done . . . And being In an agony he prayed more earnestly: and his sweat was as it were great drops of blood falling down to the ground."**

**Hebrews 5:7, "Who In the days of his flesh, when He had offered up prayers and supplication: with STRONG CRYING AND TEARS UNTO HIM THAT WAS ABLE TO SAVE HIM FROM DEATH. AND WAS HEARD IN THAT NE FEARED."**

Jesus found like you and I, that dying to self is hard and painful, but unlike you and I, He was able to accomplish in the garden a complete and total dying to self, even to His desire to live. He was able to get control of one of the strongest desires of man, the survival Instinct.

### **Becoming a sinner**

Jesus having lived a sinless life as a man, in perfect obedience to the Father(John 8:29); having totally and completely died to Himself in the Garden of Gethssnane; was now ready to complete His Identification with man by **identifying with sin and dying the death of a sinner** on Calvary's Cross.

**2 Corinthians 5:21, "For He hath made Him (Jesus) to be sin FOR us, who knew no qin that we might be made the righteousness of God in Him."**

**Isaiah 53:6, "All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned every one to his own way; and the LORD HATH LAID ON HIM THE INIQUITY OF US ALL."**

Isaiah 53:12, ". . . he hath poured out his soul unto death; and he was numbered with the transgressors; and he bare the sins of many . . ."

**Matthew 8:17, "that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by Esaias the prophet. saying, Him-self took our infirmities. and bare our sicknesses."**

Hebrews 2:9. "But we see Jesus, who was made a little lower than the angels for the suffering of death, crowned with glory and honor; that he by the grace of God should taste death for every man."

Psalms 88:3,4,6-8, "For my soul is full of troubles and my life draweth nigh unto the grave. I am counted with them that go down into the pit . . . Thou hast laid me in the lowest pit, in darkness, in the deeps, Thy wrath lieth hard upon me with all thy waves."

1 John 2:2, "And he is the propitiation for our sins: and not for ours only, but also for the sins of the whole world."

Jesus fully and so completely identified with us in our lost and hopeless condition that He literally became sin in our place and then became the object or appeasement of God's wrath against sin by dying the death of a sinner. **AMEN! THANK YOU JESUS!**

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## **B. THE BELIEVER'S IDENTIFICATION IN CHRIST JESUS**

In this section we want to talk about being a partaker of the divine nature -OUR IDENTIFICATION WITH JESUS.

**2 Peter 1:4, "Whereby are given unto us exceeding great and precious promises; that by these ye might be partakers of the divine nature."**

**1 John 4:17. " . . .as he is (as Jesus is) so are we in this world." As Jesus is right now, so are we right now in this world.**

That's our identification that's who we REALLY ARE. AMEN!

When a person is born again a **divine nature is added to his already existing human nature.**

### **1. HOW DID WE BECOME PARTAKERS OF THE DIVINE NATURE?**

**John 1:12-13, "But as many as receive Him to them gave He power (authority) to become the sons (Lit. children) of God, even to them that believe on His name: which were born not of blood. nor of the will of man. but (born) of God."**

**John 3:3, 'Verily, verily, I say unto thee. except a man be born again he cannot see the kingdom of God."**

**2 Corinthians 5:17. "Therefore If any man be in Christ . he is a new creature (creation; old things have passed away behold ALL things are become new."**

Producing after its own kind, that is, taking on the nature and the characteristics of its parents or parent. is a principle established by God at creation, it is a universal *Law* of Nature. Refer to Genesis chapter 1.

Therefore when a person is born-again he becomes a partaker of the Divine Nature since he takes on the nature and character, the likeness of God who birthed him.

WE. THEN, ARE CHILDREN OF GOD, through the miracle of the new birth. We who have been born again have been recreated in the image of our Father. He who is the great I am, the creator of this universe, the God of gods and the Lord of lords, the King of kings -IS OUR **FATHER! Amen!!**

### **2. WHAT DOES IT MEAN FOR US TO BE PARTAKERS OF THE DIVINE NATURE?**

**2 Corinthians 5:11, "Therefore If any man be in Christ, he is a **new creature** (lit, a new creation); old things have passed away; behold, **all things are become new.****

If you are born again . . .

**YOU ARE A NEW CREATION**, a new life, you have a new birth, you are an entirely new person; (just as Adam and Eve were originally created in the image of God, so in the new creation you have been recreated after the image of God in righteousness and true holiness; being made a partaker of the divine nature; being like Jesus in this world.

### **OLD THINGS ARE PASSED AWAY**

**WHAT ARE THE OLD THINGS THAT HAVE PASSED AWAY?**

**THE SIN NATURE**, the old man

**Romans 6:6**, "Knowing this, that our old man is crucified with him that the body of sin might be destroyed. that henceforth we should not serve sin."

**GUILT AND CONDEMNATION** has passed any.

**Romans 8:1**. "There is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus . . ."

Because Jesus took upon Himself every sin which we have or will ever commit, being condemned in the flesh, and paying the penalty of death for those sins there is therefore now no condemnation for those who through faith have received Jesus Christ as their Savior. Since there is now NO SIN to condemn, there is no guilt and condemnation of sin.

**THE BONDAGE OF SIN** has passed away.

**Romans 6:11**, "Likewise reckon (take into account) ye also yourselves to be dead to indeed unto sin. but alive unto God through Jesus Christ our Lord."

**Romans 8:2**, "For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus hath made me free from the law of sin and death."

**Ephesians 4:24**, "And that you put on the NEW MAN which is created in righteousness and true holiness."

**1 John 3:9**, "Whosoever is born of God doth not commit sin; for His seed (God's seed. that is to say the nature of God) remaineth in him:and he cannot sin. because he is born of God."

The person who is not born again because of his sin nature is a slave to sin. he is in bondage to sin and can do nothing but sin. He is a sinner because his nature is sin.

The person who is born again because he has the nature of God is not a sinner and therefore is freed from sin.

Therefore, being freed from sin also releases you from the bondage of sin. Sin is no longer your master--- you are free. As the Bible says, "**He whom the Son sets free is free indeed**" (John 8:36). Amen.

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### **3. DIFFERENT FACETS OF BELIEVERS' IDENTITY**

**THIS NEW IDENTITY WHICH WE HAVE IN CHRIST JESUS, LIKE A DIAMOND HAS A NUMBER OF FACETS OR SIDES.**

Now, in order that we might see all the facets of 'WHO WE ARE' in Christ Jesus, we will examine OUR NEW IDENTITY in accordance with **who we are in relationship to:**

The Word of God

God's Glory

The World

The Glory of His Word

The Authority Given

God's Personal Dealings

God's Plan

God Himself

God the Father

God the Son

God the Holy Spirit

The Glory of His Name

The Glory of Who He Is In Us

The Glory of Who He is with Us

### **1. Believers are SAINTS In Relationship to the Word of God.**

"To all that be in Rome, beloved of God, called *to be* saints: Grace to you and peace from God our Father, and the Lord Jesus Christ." Romans 1:7

"Unto the church of God which is at Corinth, to them that are sanctified in Christ Jesus, called *to be* saints, with all that in every place call upon the name of Jesus Christ our Lord, both theirs and ours:" 1 Corinthians 1:2

"Who hath saved us, and called *us* with an holy calling, not according to our works, but according to his own purpose and grace, which was given us in Christ Jesus before the world began," 2 Timothy 1:9

"For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: *it is* the gift of God:" Ephesians 2:8

"So then faith *cometh* by hearing, and hearing by the word of God." Romans 10:17

"That he might sanctify and cleanse it with the washing of water by the word," Ephesians 5:26

"Not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to his mercy he saved us, by the washing of regeneration, and renewing of the Holy Ghost;" Titus 3:5J

"Jesus answered, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born of water and *of* the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God." John 3:5

"Now ye are clean through the word which I have spoken unto you." John 15:3

### **SAINT DEFINED**

A saint by definition of the Greek word hagios translated 'saint' refers to one who is sanctified, Godly in nature and character and thus is HOLY, PURE, AND WITHOUT SIN. Cf. Hebrews 10:10,14.

"By the which will we are sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once *for all* . . . For by one offering he hath perfected for ever them that are sanctified." Hebrews 10:10, 14

"For if the firstfruit *be* holy, the lump *is* also *holy*: and if the root *be* holy, so *are* the branches." Romans 11:16

"Whosoever is born of God doth not commit sin; for his seed remaineth in him: and he cannot sin, because he is born of God." 1 John 3:9

"Likewise reckon ye also yourselves to be dead indeed unto sin, but alive unto God through Jesus Christ our Lord." Romans 6:11

"Now then it is no more I that do it, but sin that dwelleth in me." Romans 7:17

## 2. Believers are CHILDREN OF LIGHT in Relationship to the WORLD.

"This then is the message which we have heard of him, and declare unto you, that God is light, and in him is no darkness at all." 1 John 1:5

"Then spake Jesus again unto them, saying, I am the light of the world: he that followeth me shall not walk in darkness, but shall have the light of life." John 8:12

"I am come a light into the world, that whosoever believeth on me should not abide in darkness." John 12:46

"For God, who commanded the light to shine out of darkness, hath shined in our hearts, to *give* the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ." 2 Corinthians 4:6

"But ye *are* a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people; that ye should shew forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvellous light:" 1 Peter 2:9

"For ye were sometimes darkness, but now *are ye* light in the Lord: walk as children of light:" Ephesians 5:8

"Ye are all the children of light, and the children of the day: we are not of the night, nor of darkness." 1 Thessalonians 5:5

"Ye are the light of the world. A city that is set on an hill cannot be hid." Matthew 5:14

"Do all things without murmurings and disputings: 15 That ye may be blameless and harmless, the sons of God, without rebuke, in the midst of a crooked and perverse nation, among whom ye shine as lights in the world;" Philippians 2:14-15

### The Practical outworking of walking as Children Light in Relationship to the World.

"Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven." Matthew 5:16

"For so hath the Lord commanded us, *saying*, I have set thee to be a light of the Gentiles, that thou shouldest be for salvation unto the ends of the earth." Acts 13:47

"Be ye not unequally yoked together with unbelievers: for what fellowship hath righteousness with unrighteousness? and what communion hath light with darkness? . . . Wherefore come out from among them, and be ye separate, saith the Lord, and touch not the unclean *thing*; and I will receive you," 2 Corinthians 6:14, 17

## 3. Believers are RULERS in their Relationship to the AUTHORITY GIVEN.

"For if by one man's offence death reigned by one; much more they which receive abundance of grace and of the gift of righteousness shall reign in life by one, Jesus Christ." Romans 5:17

"And God said, Let us make man in our image, after our likeness: and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth." Genesis 1:26

"For thou hast made him a little lower than the angels, and hast crowned him with glory and honour. Thou madest him to have dominion over the works of thy hands; thou hast put all *things* under his feet:" Psalms 8:5-6

"*For the Son of man is* as a man taking a far journey, who left his house, and gave authority to his servants, and to every man his work, and commanded the porter to watch." Mark 13:34

"Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that believeth on me, the works that I do shall he do also; and greater *works* than these shall he do; because I go unto my Father." John 14:12

## ANARCHY? NO!!

"Let every soul be subject unto the higher powers. For there is no power but of God: the powers that be are ordained of God." Romans 13:1

"But I would have you know, that the head of every man is Christ; and the head of the woman *is* the man; and the head of Christ *is* God." 1 Corinthians 11:3

"Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ also loved the church, and gave himself for it;" Ephesians 5:25

"Wives, submit yourselves unto your own husbands, as unto the Lord." Ephesians 5:22

"Children, obey your parents in the Lord: for this is right." Ephesians 6:1

"And, ye fathers, provoke not your children to wrath: but bring them up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord." Ephesians 6:4

"Servants, be obedient to them that are *your* masters according to the flesh, with fear and trembling, in singleness of your heart, as unto Christ;" Ephesians 6:5

"And, ye masters, do the same things unto them, forbearing threatening: knowing that your Master also is in heaven; neither is there respect of persons with him." Ephesians 6:9

"Obey them that have the rule over you, and submit yourselves: for they watch for your souls, as they that must give account, that they may do it with joy, and not with grief: for that *is* unprofitable for you." Hebrews 13:17

Cf. Also, Hebrew 13:7; 1 Thessalonians 5:12; Acts 20:17, 28

"The elders which are among you I exhort, who am also an elder, and a witness of the sufferings of Christ, and also a partaker of the glory that shall be revealed: Feed the flock of God which is among you, taking the oversight *thereof*, not by constraint, but willingly; not for filthy lucre, but of a ready mind; Neither as being lords over *God's* heritage, but being ensamples to the flock." 1 Peter 5:1-3

"Submit yourselves to every ordinance of man for the Lord's sake: whether it be to the king, as supreme; 14 Or unto governors, as unto them that are sent by him for the punishment of evildoers, and for the praise of them that do well." 1 Peter 2:13-14

"Put them in mind to be subject to principalities and powers, to obey magistrates, to be ready to every good work," Titus 3:1

Cf. Also Romans 13:1-7

## BELIEVER'S SPHERE OF RULE

"For if by one man's offence death reigned by one; much more they which receive abundance of grace and of the gift of righteousness shall reign in life by one, Jesus Christ." Romans 5:17

"But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, Meekness, TEMPERANCE (SELF-CONTROL) . . ." Galatians 5:22-23

" LORD, I know that the way of man *is* not in himself: *it is* not in man that walketh to direct his steps." Jeremiah 10:23

"In those days *there was* no king in Israel: every man did *that which was* right in his own eyes." Judges 21:25

"Know ye not, that to whom ye yield yourselves servants to obey, his servants ye are to whom ye obey; whether of sin unto death, or of obedience unto righteousness?" Romans 6:16

"*He that is* slow to anger *is* better than the mighty; and he that ruleth his spirit than he that taketh a city." Proverbs 16:32



"He that *hath* no rule over his own spirit *is like* a city *that is* broken down, *and* without walls." Proverbs 25:28

"Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you." James 4:7

"Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that believeth on me, the works that I do shall he do also; and greater *works* than these shall he do; because I go unto my Father."  
John 14:12

"And these signs shall follow them that believe; In my name shall they cast out devils; they shall speak with new tongues; They shall take up serpents; and if they drink any deadly thing, it shall not hurt them; they shall lay hands on the sick, and they shall recover. Mark 16:17-18

Acts 3:1-16 - Peter, lame man healed.

Acts 5:16 - Peter and all Apostles, multitudes delivered from demons and sickness.

Acts 6:8 - Steven, great wonders and miracles.

Acts 8:6 - Philip, demons cast out, lame healed.

Acts 10:31,40 - Peter, Dorcas raised from dead.

Acts 14:8-10 - Paul, lame man healed.

Acts 16:16-18 - Paul, demon cast out,

Acts 20:9-10 - Paul, man raised from dead.

"And God blessed them, and God said unto them, Be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish the earth, and subdue it: and have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over every living thing that moveth upon the earth." Genesis 1:28

Matthew 8:26 - Jesus stills the storm.

Luke 5:6 - Great catch of fish at instructions.

John 21:6-11 - Jesus' catch of fish.

Matthew 17:27 - Tribute money in mouth of fish.

#### **4. Believers are SONS in Relationship to God's Personal Dealings.**

"But when the fullness of the time was come, God sent forth His Son, made of a woman, made under the Law. To redeem them that were under the law, that we might receive the ADOPTION OF SONS, And because ye are SONS, God hath sent forth the Spirit of His Son into your hearts, crying, Abba Father. Wherefore thou art no more a servant. but a SON: and if a SON. then an heir of God through Christ."  
Galatians 4:4-7

#### **When Jesus said:**

". . . and lo I am with you alway, even unto the end of the world." Matthew 28:20

#### **and again said**

". . . I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee." Hebrews 13:5,

#### **one of the things He meant was**

"I am going to be **INVOLVED** in your life."

"For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, they are the sons of God." Romans 8:14

"He restoreth my soul: he leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake." Psalms 23:3

"Being confident of this very thing, that he which hath begun a good work in you will perform *it* until the day of Jesus Christ:" Philippians 1:6

"And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to *his* purpose. For whom he did foreknow, he also did predestinate *to be* conformed to the image of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brethren." Romans 8:28-29

"Beloved, now are we the sons of God, and it doth not yet appear what we shall be: but we know that, when he shall appear, we shall be like him; for we shall see him as he is." 1 John 3:26

"For whom the Lord loveth he chasteneth, and scourgeth every son whom he receiveth. If ye endure chastening, God dealeth with you as with sons; for what son is he whom the father chasteneth not?" Hebrews 12:6-7

## 5. Believers are SERVANTS In Relationship to God's PLAN

"Wherefore be ye not unwise, but understanding what the WILL OF THE LORD IS." Ephesians 5:17

"And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the CALLED ACCORDING TO HIS PURPOSE." Romans 8:28

"Now therefore, I pray thee, if I have found grace in thy sight, SHEW ME NOW THY WAY, that I may know thee, that I may find grace in thy sight: and consider that this nation *is* thy people." Exodus 33:13

"For whom he did foreknow, he also did PREDESTINATE TO BE CONFORMED TO THE IMAGE OF HIS SON, that he might be the firstborn among many brethren." Romans 8:29

"But PUT YE ON THE LORD JESUS CHRIST, and make not provision for the flesh, to *fulfil* the lusts *thereof*." Romans 13:14

"My little children, of whom I travail in birth again until CHRIST BE FORMED IN YOU," Galatians 4:19

"But speaking the truth in love, MAY GROW UP INTO HIM IN ALL THINGS, which is the head, *even* Christ:" Ephesians 4:15

"But made himself of no reputation, and TOOK UPON HIM THE FORM OF A SERVANT, and was made in the likeness of men:" Philippians 2:7

"BEHOLD MY SERVANT, whom I uphold; mine elect, *in whom* my soul delighteth; I have put my spirit upon him: he shall bring forth judgment to the Gentiles." Isaiah 42:1

"BEHOLD, MY SERVANT shall deal prudently, he shall be exalted and extolled, and be very high." Isaiah 52:13

"He shall see of the travail of his soul, *and* shall be satisfied: by his knowledge shall my righteous SERVANT justify many; for he shall bear their iniquities." Isaiah 53:11

"Hear now, O Joshua the high priest, thou, and thy fellows that sit before thee: for they *are* men wondered at: for, behold, I will bring forth MY SERVANT the BRANCH." Zechariah 3:8

"For, brethren, ye have been called unto liberty; only *use* not liberty for an occasion to the flesh, but BY LOVE SERVE ONE ANOTHER." Galatians 5:13

"*For the Son of man is* as a man taking a far journey, who left his house, and gave authority to HIS SERVANTS, and to every man his work, and commanded the porter to watch." Mark 13:34

## DIFFERENT FACETS OF BELIEVERS' IDENTITY - PART 2

### 6. Believers are CHILDREN in Relationship GOD THE FATHER.

" But as many as received him, to them gave he power(authority) to become the SONS (CHILDREN) OF GOD (lit. Children - *teknia*, not *huios* - sons) *even* to them that believe on his name: Which were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God." John 1:12-13

(NOTE: The Greek word *teknon* - child & *teknia* children give prominence to the fact of birth. Whereas *huios* stresses the dignity and character of the relationship.

Thus believers are *teknia* - Their BIRTH is in and of God; they are born/birthed of God. God, then is not our spiritual Father, but rather our new-birth Father.

"And call no *man* your father upon the earth: for ONE (GOD) IS YOUR FATHER, which is in heaven."  
Matthew 23:9

"Now we, brethren, as Isaac was, are the CHILDREN OF PROMISE. But as then he that was born after the flesh persecuted him *that was born* after the Spirit, even so *it is* now. Nevertheless what saith the scripture? Cast out the bondwoman and her son: for the son of the bondwoman shall not be heir with the son of the free woman." Galatians 4:28-30

"And God said, Sarah thy wife shall bear thee a son indeed; and thou shalt call his name Isaac: and I will establish my covenant with him for an everlasting covenant, *and* with HIS SEED AFTER HIM." Genesis 17:19

"The Spirit itself beareth witness with our spirit, that WE ARE THE CHILDREN OF GOD: and if CHILDREN, THEN HEIRS: heirs of God, and joint-heirs with Christ; if so be that we suffer with *him*, that we may be also glorified together." Romans 8:16-17

"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." John 14:2

"Blessed *be* the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, which according to his abundant mercy hath **BEGOTTEN ( BEGET/BIRTHED) US AGAIN** unto a lively hope by the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, To an inheritance incorruptible, and undefiled, and that fadeth not away, reserved in heaven for you,  
1 Peter 1:3-4

### 7. Believers are JOINT-HEIRS in their Relationship with GOD THE SON, OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST.

"And if children, then heirs; heirs of God, and **JOINT-HEIRS WITH CHRIST**; if so be that we suffer with *him*, that we may be also glorified together." Romans 8:17

"Hath in these last days spoken unto us by *his* Son, whom he hath appointed **HEIR OF ALL THINGS**, by whom also he made the worlds;" Hebrews 1:2

"**THE SILVER IS MINE, AND THE GOLD IS MINE**, saith the LORD of hosts." Haggai 2:8

"The **EARTH IS THE LORD'S**, and the fulness thereof; **THE WORLD**, and they that dwell therein." Psalms 24:1

"For **EVERY BEAST** of the forest *is* mine, *and* **THE CATTLE** upon a thousand hills. I know all the fowls of the mountains: and the wild beasts of the field *are* mine. If I were hungry, I would not tell thee: for **THE WORLD IS MINE**, and the fulness thereof." Psalms 50:10-12

"But my God shall supply all your need according to **HIS RICHES** in glory by Christ Jesus." Philippians 4:19

"For ye know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that, though he was rich, yet for your sakes he became poor, that **YE THROUGH HIS POVERTY MIGHT BE RICH**. 2 Corinthians 8:9

## **8. Believers are DISCIPLES in RELATIONSHIP with God the Holy Spirit.**

**Disciple defined:** The Greek word *mathetes* translated disciple means a **LEARNER**, from the Greek *manthano*, to learn. *Manthano* has its root in the Greek word *math*, which has the meaning of "thought accompanied by endeavour."

Thus a **DISCIPLE is a LEARNER** (one who is teachable) who is **following the teaching of his teacher.**

"Take my yoke upon you, and **LEARN OF ME**; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls." Matthew 11:29

"Then said Jesus unto his disciples, If any *man* will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and **FOLLOW ME.**" Matthew 16:24

"Then said Jesus to those Jews which believed on him, If ye **CONTINUE** in my word, *then* are ye **MY DISCIPLES** indeed;" John 8:31

"Herein is my Father glorified, that ye bear much fruit; so shall ye be **MY DISCIPLES.**" John 15:8

"But the **COMFORTER**, *which is* the Holy Ghost, whom the Father will send in my name, he shall **TEACH YOU ALL THINGS**, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you." John 14:26

"But when the **COMFORTER** is come, whom I will send unto you from the Father, *even* the Spirit of truth, which proceedeth from the Father, he shall **TESTIFY OF ME:**" John 15:26

"Howbeit when he, the **SPIRIT OF TRUTH**, is come, he will **GUIDE YOU INTO ALL TRUTH:** for he shall not speak of himself; but whatsoever he shall hear, *that* shall he speak: and he will shew you things to come." John 16:13

"But ye have an **UNCTION (ANIONING)** from the Holy One, and ye know all things . . . But the anointing which ye have received of him abideth in you, and ye need not that any man teach you: but as the same **ANOINTING TEACHETH YOU** of all things, and is truth, and is no lie, and even as it hath taught you, ye shall abide in him." 1 John 2:20, 27

Believers, then, are **DISCIPLES, LEARNERS/STUDENTS, FOLLOWERS of the TEACHINGS/LIFE/WAYS OF JESUS** and the **HOLY SPIRIT is the ANOINTING** and the **TEACHER.**

## **9-12. Believers' IDENTITY in Relationship to the GOD'S GLORY.**

### **INTRODUCTION:**

God's Glory defined; as to **WHAT WE MEAN WHEN WE MAKE REFERENCE TO GOD'S GLORY.**

"Then a cloud covered the tent of the congregation, and the **glory of the LORD** filled the tabernacle." Exodus 40:34

**A. God's Glory speaks of the nature and acts of God as demonstrated to us in Who He Is and in What He does and particularly in the Person Of Christ. In Christ, God's Glory has forever shone forth and will forever do so.**

Jesus is the **BRIGHTNESS** of God's Glory and the **EXPRESSED IMAGE OF GOD.** During Jesus' earthly Ministry God's Glory was EXHIBITED in HIS CHARACTER and ACTS.

" And now, O Father, glorify thou me with thine own self with the glory which I had with thee before the world was . . . Father, I will that they also, whom thou hast given me, be with me where I am; that they may behold my glory, which thou hast given me: for thou lovedst me before the foundation of the world." John 17:5, 24

"Who being the brightness of *his* glory, and the express image of his person, and upholding all things by the word of his power, when he had by himself purged our sins, sat down on the right hand of the Majesty on high;" Hebrews 1:3

" And the Word was made 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." John 1:14

"This beginning of miracles did Jesus in Cana of Galilee, and manifested forth his glory; and his disciples believed on him." John 2:11

"Jesus saith unto her, Said I not unto thee, that, if thou wouldest believe, thou shouldest see the glory of God? Then they took away the stone *from the place* where the dead was laid. And Jesus lifted up *his* eyes, and said, Father, I thank thee that thou hast heard me. And I knew that thou hearest me always: but because of the people which stand by I said *it*, that they may believe that thou hast sent me. And when he thus had spoken, he cried with a loud voice, Lazarus, come forth. And he that was dead came forth, bound hand and foot with graveclothes: and his face was bound about with a napkin. Jesus saith unto them, Loose him, and let him go."

John 11:40-44

"And after six days Jesus taketh Peter, James, and John his brother, and bringeth them up into an high mountain apart, And was transfigured before them: and his face did shine as the sun, and his raiment was white as the light. And, behold, there appeared unto them Moses and Elias talking with him. Then answered Peter, and said unto Jesus, Lord, it is good for us to be here: if thou wilt, let us make here three tabernacles; one for thee, and one for Moses, and one for Elias. While he yet spake, behold, a bright cloud overshadowed them: and behold a voice out of the cloud, which said, This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased; hear ye him."

Matthew 17:1-5

"For he received from God the Father honour and glory, when there came such a voice to him from the excellent glory, This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased." 2 Peter 1:17

"Therefore we are buried with him by baptism into death: that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life." Romans 6:4

"Who by him do believe in God, that raised him up from the dead, and gave him glory; that your faith and hope might be in God." 1 Peter 1:21

#### **B. God's Glory speaks of the character and ways of God as EXHIBITED thru Christ TO AND THROUGH BELIEVERS.**

" But we all, with open face beholding as in a glass the glory of the Lord, are changed into the same image from glory to glory, *even* as by the Spirit of the Lord."

2 Corinthians 3:18

"For God, who commanded the light to shine out of darkness, hath shined in our hearts, to *give* the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ." 2 Corinthians 4:6

#### **C. God's Glory speaks of the STATE OF BLESSEDNESS, that is to say, the GLORY into which believers are to enter when Jesus returns and takes them unto Himself.**

" For the earnest expectation of the creature waiteth for the manifestation of the sons of God . . . Because the creature itself also shall be delivered from the bondage of corruption into the glorious liberty of the children of God." Romans 8:18, 21

"Who shall change our vile body, that it may be fashioned like unto his glorious body, according to the working whereby he is able even to subdue all things unto himself." Philippians 3:21

"The elders which are among you I exhort, who am also an elder, and a witness of the sufferings of Christ, and also a partaker of the glory that shall be revealed: . . . But the God of all grace, who hath called us unto his eternal glory by Christ Jesus, after that ye have suffered a while, make you perfect, stablish, strengthen, settle *you*."

1 Peter 5:1, 10

"And there came unto me one of the seven angels which had the seven vials full of the seven last plagues, and talked with me, saying, Come hither, I will shew thee the bride, the Lamb's wife. And he carried me away in the spirit to a great and high mountain, and shewed me that great city, the holy Jerusalem, descending out of heaven from God, Having the glory of God: and her light *was* like unto a stone most precious, even like a jasper stone, clear as crystal;" Revelation 21:9-11

**D. God's Glory speaks of the SUPER-NATURAL BRIGHTNESS and SPLENDOR which emanates from God the Son at His appearing,**

"And, lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them, and the glory of the Lord shone round about them: and they were sore afraid." Luke 2:9

"And as he journeyed, he came near Damascus: and suddenly there shined round about him a light from heaven:" Acts 9:3

"And when I could not see for the glory of that light, being led by the hand of them that were with me, I came into Damascus." Acts 22:11

"Looking for that blessed hope, and the glorious appearing of the great God and our Saviour Jesus Christ;" Titus 2:13

"And the city had no need of the sun, neither of the moon, to shine in it: for the glory of God did lighten it, and the Lamb *is* the light thereof." Revelation 21:23

**9. Believers are LIVING EPISTLES in Relationship to the GLORY OF GOD'S WORD.**

"Ye are our **EPISTLE** written in our hearts, known and read of all men:"  
2 Corinthians 3:2

"I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me." Galatians 2:20

"As thou hast sent me into the world, even so have I also sent them into the world . . . And the glory which thou gavest me I have given them; that they may be one, even as we are one:" John 17:18, 22

"Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you always, *even* unto the end of the world."  
Matthew 28:19-20

" And he said unto them, Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature." Mark 16:15

"And that repentance and remission of sins should be preached in his name among all nations, beginning at Jerusalem." Luke 24:47

"Then said Jesus to them again, Peace *be* unto you: as *my* Father hath sent me, even so send I you . . . Whose soever sins ye remit, they are remitted unto them; *and* whose soever *sins* ye retain, they are retained." John 20:21, 23

"But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be **witnesses unto me** both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth." Acts 1:8

**10. Believers are AMBASSADORS in Relationship to the GLORY HIS NAME.**

"Now then we are **AMBASSADORS** for Christ, as though God did beseech *you* by us: we pray *you* in Christ's stead, be ye reconciled to God." 2 Corinthians 5:20

"And he said unto them, Go ye into all the world, and **preach** the gospel to every creature . . . And these signs shall follow them that believe; In my name shall they cast out devils; they shall speak with new tongues; They shall take up serpents; and if they drink any deadly thing, it shall not hurt them; they shall lay hands on the sick, and they shall recover." Mark 16:15, 17-18

"For the Son of man is as a man taking a far journey, who left his house, and gave **authority** to his servants, and to every man his work, and commanded the porter to watch." Mark 13:34

"Then Peter said, Silver and gold have I none; but such as I have give I thee: In the **name** of Jesus Christ of Nazareth rise up and walk." Acts 3:6

"And this did she many days. But Paul, being grieved, turned and said to the spirit, I command thee in the **name** of Jesus Christ to come out of her. And he came out the same hour." Acts 16:18

"When they heard *this*, they were baptized in the **name** of the Lord Jesus."  
Acts 19:5

**The GLORY OF HIS NAME IS BEST SEEN IN THE COMPOUND NAMES OF JEHOVAH in the Old Testament. These compound names of Jehovah also related to the 7 Covenants of CALVARY. The 7 Covenants of Calvary is then our message, which we as AMBASSADORS, in the Name of Jesus,are to take to THE WORLD.**

#### COMPUND NAMES OF JEHOVAH

Jehovah-Tsidkenu

Jehovah-N'kaddesh

Jehovah- Rapha

Jehovah-Ji reh

Jehovah-Rohi/Jehovah-Shalom

Jehovah-Nissi

Jehovah-Shammah

#### CALVARY COVENANT

Justification

Sanctification

Divine Healing

Divine Health and Prosperity

Rest and Peace

Resurrection Life

Glory of God

**Believers, then, are both the message (LIVING EPISTLES) and the messenger (AMBASSADORS)**

#### **11. Believers are CO-LABOURS tn Relationship to the Glory of WHO HE IS WITH US.**

" For we are **LABOURERS TOGETHER** with God: ye are God's husbandry, *ye are* God's building." 1 Corinthians 3:9

(Note: As Co-labours with God~in Partnership with God we need to understand that God Is the SENIOR PARTNER and that Believers are JUNIOR PARTNERS. God is the CEO. Chief Executive Officer, in this Relationship. As CEO, God gives the Instructions, the direction, the method of operation. the work assignments and through the Holy Spirit gives each Believer the ability, authority, equipment to carry out His instructions and guarantees success.)

"But ye have an unction from the Holy One, and ye know all things . . . But the anointing which ye have received of him abideth in you, and ye need not that any man teach you: but as the same anointing teacheth you of all things, and is truth, and is no lie, and even as it hath taught you, ye shall abide in him." 1 John 2:20, 27

"And God *is* able to make all grace abound toward you; that ye, always having all sufficiency in all *things*, may abound to every good work:" 2 Corinthians 9:8

"And, behold, I send the promise of my Father upon you: but tarry ye in the city of Jerusalem, until ye be endued with power from on high." Luke 24:49

"But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth." Acts 1:8

"Then he called his twelve disciples together, and gave them power and authority over all devils, and to cure diseases." Luke 9:1

"Behold, I give unto you power to tread on serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy: and nothing shall by any means hurt you." Luke 10:19

"I have given them thy word; and the world hath hated them, because they are not of the world, even as I am not of the world." John 17:14

"And the glory which thou gavest me I have given them; that they may be one, even as we are one:" John 17:22

"And I say also unto thee, That thou art Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it. And I will give unto thee the keys of the kingdom of heaven: and whatsoever thou shalt bind on earth shall be bound in heaven: and whatsoever thou shalt loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven." Matthew 16:18-19

**Believers are co-labours with God in the WORK of establishing His Kingdom in the hearts of men.**

## **12. Believers are GLORY CONTAINERS in Relationship to the GLORY OF WHO HE IS IN US.**

" For God, who commanded the light to shine out of darkness, hath shined in our hearts, to *give* the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ. But we have this treasure in earthen vessels, that the excellency of the power may be of God, and not of us." 2 Corinthians 4:7

"To whom God would make known what *is* the riches of the glory of this mystery among the Gentiles; which is Christ in you, the hope of glory:" Colossians 1:27

"For in him dwelleth all the fulness of the Godhead bodily." Colossians 2:9

**Therefore when we say we are the GLORY-CONTAINERS of God's GLORY, we then are saying, ALL THAT GOD'S GLORY means and speaks of is in the believer and therefore through the believer for the world to see and receive.** [id-index.htm](#) [id-u1-2.htm](#) [id-u1-4.htm](#) [index.htm](#)

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## **4. SUMMARY: WHO ARE YOU? WHAT IS YOUR IDENTITY IN CHRIST JESUS? YOU ARE:**

**a PARTAKER OF THE DIVINE NATURE, being born of God;**

**as Jesus IS**

**an entirely new creation**

**a SAINT in Relationship to God's Word**

**a CHILD OF LIGHT in Relationship to the World**

**a RULER in Relationship the Authority Given**

**a SON in Relationship to God's Personal Dealings**

**a SERVANT in Relationship to God's Plan**

**a CHILD in Relationship to God the Father**

**a JOINT-HEIR in Relationship to God the Son, our Lord Jesus Christ**

**a DISCIPLE in Relationship to God the Holy Spirit**

**a LIVING EPISTLE in Relationship to the Glory of God's Word**



**an AMBASSADOR in Relationship to the Glory of God's Name**  
**a CO-LABOR in Relationship to the Glory of God with You**  
**a GLORY CONTAINER in Relationship to the Glory of God in You**

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## **UNIT II - PUT ON THE NEW MAN**

### **INTRODUCTION**

If it is true (it is true since the Bible says so) that we who have been born again now have the nature of God and are thus righteous and holy, being like Jesus. WHY is it necessary, as the Word says in Ephesians 4:24, to "**Put on the NEW MAN**", since that is who we are already?

The answer is seen when we rightly divide the Word of truth, specifically rightly dividing between the Spirit, Soul, and Body.

**Hebrews 4:12.** "For the Word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit. and of the joints and marrow. and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart."

**A. In our Spirit we are like Jesus and God-conscious. This is who we are.**

**B. In our soul we are self-conscious and are being conformed into the image of Jesus** (Romans 8:29, 1 John 3:3).

"For whom he did foreknow, he also did predestinate *to be* conformed to the image of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brethren." Romans 8:29

"And every man that hath this hope in him purifieth himself, even as he is pure."  
1 John 3:3

The make-up of our soul (mind, will and motions) determines our individual personalities).

**C. Our bodies are world-conscious and are waiting to be redeemed** (1 John 3:2).

"Beloved, now are we the sons of God, and it doth not yet appear what we shall be: but we know that, when he shall appear, we shall be like him; for we shall see him as he is." 1 John 3:2

With this understanding we see that since we are already like Jesus in our spirit, that it is our soul/soul life that needs to "...**put on the NEW MAN. which after God is created in righteousness and true holiness.**"

**Lazarus, in John 11:39-44.** Is a gives us a picture of the new birth and the spiritual condition of the soul of the new born child of God. He is alive, because he has the life of Jesus in him and in his spirit he is like Jesus. However, in his soul he is still bound up in the stinking graves clothes, and has the smell of death all over him.

Like Lazarus, the new born child of God comes forth bound from head to foot and he cannot think, talk, walk or work. That is, he cannot function as a child of God because his thinking pattern. his mind-set, his ways are of the world and not of God.

Thus like, Lazarus, the child of God must be loosed from the graveclothes. He must "**...put on the new man,..**" so that he can begin to function. that is to say, think, talk, walk and do the works of a child of God, to be who he really is In Christ Jesus.

The graveclothes in which he is bound-up, is the **habit of sin dwelling in him** and this habit of sin is keeping him from putting on the new man in his soul/soul life..

"For the good that I would I do not: but the evil which I would not, that I do. Now if I do that I would not, it is no more I that do it, but sin that dwelleth in me."  
Romans 7:19-20

## **A. RE-PROGRAMING OF THE MIND**

Now. the starting place to be loosed, or freed. from the habit of sin (graveclothes) so that you might "put on the new man is with the **RENEWING OF THE MIND.**

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

**"And be renewed in the spirit of your mind;" Ephesians 4:23**

Just as Lazarus was called forth by Jesus and had to submit to being loosed from his graveclothes, just so, we must come forth and submit ourselves to the BRAIN WASHING of the Word of God. Jesus would sanctify and cleanse us with the washing of water by the Word, but we must come forth and submit ourselves to this cleansing of our mind by the Word.

Most believers, and all of us to some extent, have an identity crisis, instead of identifying with who they are in Christ Jesus, they are identifying with the old nature.

**We need to allow the Word of God to wash our brains of the stinking thinking - the low self-image, the self-condemnation which Satan has laid on us.**

**Then, we need to let the Word of God re-program, renew our minds as to the Identity of this NEW CREATION which we have become through our new birth, so that, we might identify with and function according to OUR NEW IDENTITY in Jesus Christ.**

## **REPENT AND BE CONVERTED**

Acts 3:19, "Repent ye therefore. and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out, when **the times of refreshing shall come from the presence of the Lord.**"

### **INTRODUCTION**

Previously we have talked about changing *your* thinking about yourself by renewing your mind. That is, reprogram your mind with correct information from the Word of God about your true nature and character, as one, who has been born of God through the process of the new birth; who has become a totally and completely a new creation in Jesus Christ.

This renewing your mind as to who you are is your true identity, and is the **FIRST STEP** in the transformation, sanctification, or metamorphosis (the physical transformation, say. of the caterpillar to the beautiful butterfly) PROCESS. A process where you are being delivered from the control of the sin that dwells in you. Delivered from the thinking patterns, mind set, habits and attitudes of the World.

This transformation process must be going on in our life if we are to live and enjoy the abundant life which our Father made possible for us through the giving of His own precious Son, Jesus.

### **REPENT AND BE CONVERTED**

The **SECOND STEP** in this process of sanctification, which we want to begin talking about this lesson is **REPENTING OF AND BEING CONVERTED FROM** those things - attitudes, habits, thinking patterns, and mindsets - which do not conform to who we really are in Christ Jesus. Repenting of and being converted from those things, influences in our life which came from our former life which was under the control of sin and Satan, who is sin personified.

### **TWO KINDS OF REPENTANCE.**

There is **TRUE GODLY REPENTANCE** and there is a **WORLDLY REPENTANCE**. We need to be able to tell the difference. Therefore, let us spend a little time analyzing and comparing true repentance and worldly repentance.

## 1. WORLDLY REPENTANCE takes on several forms.

There is a worldly repentance which results from being caught with your "hand in the cookie jar." That is being caught in the act of doing something wrong and saying "I'm sorry, I will not do it again" with the hope of not being punished. He is sorry for being caught, but not necessarily, sorry for **the wrong act**.

Worldly repentance or false repentance, is also being sorry for something which you have done which cannot be changed or undone.

We see an example of this with Judas in Matthew 27:3-4, "Then **Judas**, which had **betrayed him**, **when he saw that he was condemned, REPENTED HIMSELF and brought again the *thirty* pieces at silver to the** chief priests and elders. Saying, I have sinned in that I have betrayed the innocent blood . . ."

Judas had not intended that Jesus should be condemned to death. When he realized what he had done, he regretted it (the word translated, "repent" in verse 3 means "having regretted it"). Then, he attempts to undo what he had done. Failing to undo the consequences of his act of betrayal, Judas goes into his poor little me ( I can't do anything right, things never turn out right for me) MODE. And In a state of hopelessness hangs himself.

Worldly repentance is often an emotional, tearful experience. According to Hebrews 12:16-17, we see that Esau's shedding of many tears did not bring repentance. The prevailing attitude here is, if I act sorrowful enough, if I shed enough tears everything will be alright, that God will hear me and feel sorry for me and change the situation to be in my favor, if I cry and cry and cry over the situation.

Worldly repentance is often associated with carrying out some special religious rite or ordinance."the doing of penitence". The attitude here is that if we do something good we can make up for the bad which we have done; that we can appease God for our "sin" by doing something.

Another good example of worldly repentance is seen in King Saul, 1 Samuel 15:3-30. God had sent King Saul to utterly destroy the Amalekites and all their live stock. Saul disobeyed God. His men took the best of the animals for themselves and Saul, himself, took King Agag prisoner. When the prophet Samuel confront Saul, he admitted that he was wrong, that he had sinned, and then, in verse 30 asked Samuel to act as if he had *done* nothing wrong.

The attitude here is that. yes, I have sinned. I admit it, so lets just put it behind us and go on as if nothing has happened. This attitude says, I don't need to correct the wrong or face the consequences of my sin.

An example of having to pay the consequences of sin is seen in the girl or women who goes out and through the act of sexual immorality gets pregnant. Or the person who goes out and commits a crime against society. In either case it is just not enough to say, yes, I have sinned, so let us forget it. The girl or women is still pregnant and must live with it (**note**: abortion is not the answer, since that would be adding the sin of murder on top of the sin of fornication or adultery). The person who committed the crime still must suffer the consequences of his act of crime. He owes society. against whom he sinned, a debt which he must pay.

### RESULTS OF WORLDLY REPENTANCE

According to 2 Corinthians 7:10, **WORLDLY REPENTANCE(SORROW) BRINGS DEATH**. While Godly sorrow and repentance brings life, and salvation.

**"For godly sorrow worketh repentance to salvation not to he repented at: BUT THE SORROW OF THE WORLD WORKETH DEATH."**

## 2. TRUE REPENTANCE

The word repent in Acts 3:19 from the Greek means to have a change at mind as to what you have done. It is to make a inward decision to change your mind. While the word converted means to take the necessary action to correct the situation. Literally. to "turn again".

The incident of the Prodigal Son in Luke 15:11-32 is an example of true repentance. Here we see **FIVE ELEMENTS** that make up true repentance.

The first being "**he came to himself**" (verse 17). True repentance begins by "coming to yourself", that is realizing, I have sinned and because of my sin I am in a sorry situation. Sin, my actions, have come between me and my Father God. and possibly others.

Secondly (verse 18). The prodigal son said, "**I will arise and go to my father . . .**" Here is the firm inward decision (a decision of the mind and not an emotional, tearful decision based on feelings) to do something about his situation.

Thirdly (verse 20). "**And he arose, and came to his Father . . .**" He put action to his inward decision. He didn't put off till later what he knew he must do.

Fourthly (verse 21). "**And the son said unto his Father, I have sinned against heaven and in thy sight, and am no more worthy to be called thy son" ;verse 19,"make me as one of thy hired hands." Here is true sorrow, Godly sorrow for what he had done. This we see by his willingness to take the consequences of his actions and make the best of the situation.**

Fifthly (verse 21). "**Father, I have sinned against heaven and in thy sight.**" True repentance sees that sin, every sin is **AGAINST GOD**. Psalm 51:4 says, "**Against thee, thee only. have I sinned, and done this evil in thy sight**"

If sin then, is against God, then repentance is as Acts 20:21 says, "**. . . REPENTANCE TOWARDS GOD.**"

Repentance accomplishes its perfect work when it brings about in us a broken and a contrite heart, as it did in King David, Psalm 51:17, "The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit: a broken and a contrite heart. O God. thou wilt not despise."

Repentance is a necessary part of the sanctification process. We need to place our lives under the microscope of God's Word, letting the Word search our hearts and minds to see if there be any wicked way in them (Psalm 139:24). Then, as the word reveals the sin, we need to pray that God would give unto us the gift of true, Godly repentance and sorrow over our sin. Repentance and conversion will bring us into the refresh presence of our Father.

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## **REPENT AND BE CONVERTED - PART 2**

Acts 3:19, "Repent ye therefore, and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out, when the times of refreshing shall come from the presence of the Lord."

### **INTRODUCTION**

In previous lessons we have talked about who we are - OUR TRUE IDENTITY:

that we are the sons of God (John 1:12,13)

that we are partakers of the Divine nature, for when we were born again we added to our existing human nature a divine nature (1 Peter 1:4)

that as Jesus **IS** so are we (1 John 4:17)

that we have been re-created, an entirely new creation, after the image of God in righteousness and true holiness.(2 Cor. 5:17, Eph. 4:24)

**THE PROBLEM** IS that most born-again children of God, and to some extent every child of God needs to have his MIND CONVERTED, because either, they do not know who they really are, or, they have not fully grasped the full reality of who they are - their true identity is hid from them because their minds have been blinded by the god of this world, Satan. (2 Corinthians 4:4).

**In whom the god of this world hath blinded the minds of them which believe not, lest the light of the glorious gospel of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine unto them.**

Because your mind has been blinded with unbelief, to a more or less degree you still identify with the old nature (which no longer exists) as a sinner. Your lifestyle is still controlled by the thinking pattern (mind-set) of the world, of which Satan is still the ruler. (2 Corinthians 4:4).

**SOLUTION:** YOU NEED TO BE CONVERTED IN YOUR MIND - or as Paul in Romans 12:2 says -

**". . . be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove (*demonstrate by your lifestyle*) what is that good and acceptable will of God."**

### **CONVERSION OF THE MIND**

Conversion, or the renewing of the mind has its beginning in repentance - Acts 3:19,

**"Repent ye therefore, and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out, when the times of refreshing shall come from the presence of the Lord. "**

**Repentance MUST** take place before conversion or the renewing of the mind can take place.

QUESTION!! **Of what do we need to repent?** Of sin, YES, specifically of the SIN of allowing our minds to be controlled, brainwashed by the stinking thinking, the thought patterns, the mindset of the world. In other words, repent of allowing Satan to control so much, or even a little portion of our thoughts and thus our lifestyle or habits.

You see as children of God, our thinking, thought patterns, mindset, and lifestyle is to be controlled by our spirit, which is in perfect harmony with the Father being directed by the Holy Spirit, AND NOT BY OUR SOUL, which is so easily influenced by Satan.

**Galatians 5:25 says, "If we live (*have our new life, our new existence - if our new being as children of God is by the Spirit*) by the Spirit. Let us also walk in the Spirit (*live our lives according to the directing of the Spirit*)."**

ANYTHING LESS IS SIN!! AMEN! Sin is foreign to our new nature as children of God. Sin is an affront (an open insult) to our Father God. It is a slap in God's face.

**God spoke to me very clearly, saying,** "For one of My children to continue in the thinking and lifestyle of the world is saying to Me, their Father: "THANK YOU FATHER FOR ALL YOU HAVE DONE FOR ME - giving me son-ship through the new birth, making me your heir, and a joint heir with Jesus. desiring for me an abundant life of health and prosperity. THANKS. BUT NO THANKS, I prefer my old way of thinking. I sort of like my old habits. At least I am comfortable with my old thinking and habits. I really don't want to give them up. Besides this dying to that old self is just too hard. Father, I will do the best I CAN with what I've got and just hang on. I really prefer to live by my feelings and emotions, letting my soul (my self) do its own thing. Yes, I know that Satan has a lot of influence over my feelings and emotions. over my soul life. BUT FATHER. you know you have to take the bad with the good. And Father, I do a lot of good things, I know I'm not perfect. but I kind of like who I am. So, Father, if you would, please, get off my back. When I feel the need for a change, then I will change. In the meanwhile. I sort of like the sewer and like eating corn husks. Besides I am saved that's all that really matters anyway, isn't it?"

We need to repent and be converted. We need to change our **ATTITUDE** concerning **SIN. SIN IS AGAINST GOD, OUR FATHER! IT IS AN AFFRONT TO HIM!**

We must let our minds be converted, renew our minds, re-program our minds, NOT TO JUST FEEL BAD, OR HATE SINNING. BUT WE ARE TO HATE THE SIN with the same passion and hatred that our Father God hates sin.

We must learn to hate what God hates and love what God loves. Psalms 97:10 says,

**"Ye that love the Lord, hate evil . . ."**

Romans 12:9 says, **"Abhor that which is evil..."**

**SIN IS EVIL. EVEN WHAT WE MIGHT THINK IS A LITTLE SIN, IS EVIL AND IS AGAINST GOD, OUR FATHER.**

When we begin to hate sin as much as God hates sin, then we will have Godly sorrow which leads to true repentance. This true repentance will then bring about a renewing (conversion of the mind).

**WHY DOES GOD HATE SIN?** There are many reason. But, one reason is that sin takes us His children out of His presence, puts a wall between God and His beloved children.

**HOW MUCH DOES GOD HATE SIN?** Enough to give His Son, our Lord Jesus Christ as a ransom for sin. To make Jesus the **SIN-BEARER** for all mankind...

As we see Jesus hanging on the cross as our substitute it should bring us to our knees in Godly sorrow knowing it was our sins for which HE BLED AND DIED.

OH, HOLY SPIRIT. RIGHT NOW, CONVICT ME - INSTILL WITH-IN MY HEART A HATRED OF SIN - BREAK ME THAT I WEEP AND MOURN OVER SIN - AND CLEANS ME WITH THE RIVERS OF LIVING WATER FLOWING THROUGH ME. GIVE ME O LORD, THE GIFT OF REPENTANCE, THAT I MIGHT BE CONVERTED. AMEN. THANK YOU JESUS.

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### **PUT OFF LIFE-STYLE OF OLD MAN**

**Ephesians 4:22.** "That ye put off concerning the former conversation the old man, which is corrupt according to the deceitful lusts;"

When you have repented for living in the pigpen, the sewer of the world's thinking and attitudes, eating with the pigs, the next **STEP** in the **TRANSFORMATION PROCESS IS TO PUT OFF THE FORMER LIFE AND WAYS OF THE OLD MAN.**

#### **QUESTION - How can you accomplish this?**

You must **learn to** recognize the life-style, thinking patterns and attitudes **of the old man** when they raise their ugly heads in your new life. The Apostle Paul makes several lists of the ways *and* attitudes of the old man. Ways and attitudes which are sin and are of Satan.

1 Corinthians 3:3, "For you art yet carnal(worldly):for whereas there is envying, and strife, and divisions, are you not carnal and walk as men?"

1 Corinthians 5:9-11, "I wrote to you in an epistle not to company with fornicators (*a fornicator is one who is involved in any kind of sexual immorality*)...or with the covetous, or extortioners, or with idolaters. . or a railer (*one who screams and yell at people*) ,or a drunkard. . with such an one no not to eat (*do not have social relationships*)."

2 Corinthians 6:14, "Be not unequally yoked together with unbelievers . . ."

2 Corinthians 10:7. "Do not look on things after the outward appearance . . ."

Galatians 5:19-21, "Now the works of the flesh are manifest (*revealed, plain*) which are these; Adultery (*sexual immorality with a married person, to whom you are not married*), fornication (*any form of sexual immorality or sexual perversion*), uncleanness, lasciviousness (*excessiveness, the absence of restraint*) idolatry, witchcraft, hatred, variance (*being partial a segregationist, racist*) emulations (*jealousies*), wrath, strife, sedition (*causing divisions*), heresies (*teaching a lie as the truth*), envyings, murders, drunkenness. revellings, and such like. . ."

Ephesians 4:25-31, "Wherefore putting away lying . . . be ye angry. and sin not: let not the sun go down upon your wrath: Neither give place to the devil...steal no more . . . Let no corrupt communication proceed out of your mouth . . . Let all bitterness, and wrath, and anger and clamor, and evil speaking, be put away from you, with all malice.

Ephesians 5:3-5, "Neither filthiness, nor foolish talking, nor jesting which are not convenient(suitable) , . ."

2 Corinthians 13:7, here Paul summaries saying - "**now I pray to God that ye do no evil . . ."**

If you are ever in doubt as to whether something is of the old man or not - just as yourself. "Is **this something that Jesus would think or do?** If the answer is **no or possible no** - it is without a doubt of the old man and his stinking thinking and doing.

On the question: How can we accomplish this? We are to renounce the **sin** when we recognize that it has been part of our thinking and doing.

We need to develop a **hatred for** the sin.

We must **repent** of the specific sin - this means to make a conscious decision to change. A conscious, determined effort **not to allow this thing in our thinking or doing**. We must put away and not reserve the right to ever do it again under any circumstance.

We must learn to say **no to sin, to** the voice of Satan, the ways and thinking of the old man and of the world.

**Ephesians 4:22. "That ye put off concerning the former conversation the old man, which is corrupt according to the deceitful lusts;"**

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## **RENEW THE SPIRIT OF YOUR MIND**

**Ephesians 4:23, "And be renewed in the spirit of your mind;"**

In this lesson we want to see that the **NEXT STEP** in the **PROCESS OF PUTTING ON THE NEW MAN**, which according to Ephesians 4:23. is **"Be renewed in the spirit of your mind."**

Now, just as we must learn to recognize the ways, thinking patterns and attitudes of the old nature before we can put him off; it is through the educating of our minds that we will renew our minds and thus learn to recognize the ways, the thinking patterns and attitudes of the NEW NATURE, THE NEW MAN, which after the image of God is created in righteousness and true Holiness.

The simple fact is, that just as, the god of this world, that is Satan, has to a more or less degree **blinded our** minds to the ways, attitudes and thinking patterns of the old nature (of which he is the father, John 8:44); he, also, has **blinded** our minds to a more or a less degree to the ways, attitudes and thinking patterns of the new man (of which God is the Father, John 1:12-13).

**Hosea 4:6 says, "my people am destroyed for the lack of knowledge."**

Many of God's children are being destroyed through the deception of Satan because they do not know the ways of the new man. We must know the ways of this new creation. this new person that we have become before we can walk in them. Amen.

### **WHERE DO WE GO FOR THIS KNOWLEDGE?**

To the Bible of course, which is the **WORD OF GOD**. We must study the Word of God to learn the ways, the attitudes and thinking patterns of the new man which through the new birth has taken on the nature and character of his Father God. Just as a child must learn and be taught the things we as parents want them to know, even so, we must be taught and learn the things our Father wants us to know and **DO**.

Now those things which we are to learn, He, our Father. has revealed to us in His Word, the Bible.

**Specifically, what topic or subject matter DO WE STUDY TO LEARN ABOUT THE NEW MAN.**

Ephesians 5:1 gives us a clue for it says, **"Be ye, therefore followers of God. as dear children."**

Thus as God's children, our Father desires that we follow in His ways. Literally. the Greek word which is translated followers, means to be an imitator. We, then, are to imitate the attitudes, thinking patterns and ways of our Father.

Thus, if we according to our new nature as children of God are to be imitators of God. then, we must learn to know the nature and character of God, that we might imitate Him.

Therefore, as you study the Bible specifically to learn the nature and character of your Father, you also need to be conscious of the fact that what you are learning about God's nature and character is also the nature and character of your new nature as a child of God.

Remember, you have been recreated after the image of God in righteousness and true holiness and that you are studying in the Bible the nature and character of God to find out what it means to be created in righteousness and true holiness. Why? Because that is who you are and you are really studying to discover, to learn about the attitudes, thinking patterns, and ways of this new person you have become through the new birth in Jesus.

When we know who we are, that is, what our true nature and character is, then we will be able to make the corrections and changes necessary in our life-style, thinking, and attitudes when we find ourselves identifying with the old man, the old nature.

**That's all well and good, however, the Bible is a big book.**

**Where do we go to learn about God, our Father?**

Let me first emphasize the fact that the whole Bible from Genesis through Revelation will teach you about God. Therefore, you need to study all the Bible.

**For a quick short course on who God is**, that is, His nature and character, you can study the LIFE OF JESUS in the four Gospels. In fact I would suggest that at least half of your Bible study time be in the Gospels. **John 14:7 tells us that if we know Jesus, then we will know the Father.**

When we get to know our Jesus, we will know our Father. And when we know our Father then our minds will be renewed and we will know the nature and character of this new person we have become. We will know what our attitudes, thinking patterns and ways are.

Now before we go to the next lesson, let us look at Jonah 4:2 where we find in a nut shell a concise description of God and thus a description of ourselves as His children.

**Jonah 4:2, ". . . I knew that thou art a gracious God, and merciful, slow to anger, and of great kindness, and repentest thee of the evil."**

These are qualities which we as children of God already have. Not qualities which you need to seek. The thing we need to do is to exercise them in our living. **YOU ARE AS YOUR FATHER IS:**

**gracious** - This means that in relationships, you, as God has for you, can give to those around you that which they do not deserve.

**merciful** - You have the Quality of character, like your Father, NOT to give people what they deserve.

**slow to anger** - Here is the ability to control anger.

**a person of great kindness** - This means that you have a servant's heart.

**a person who has the capacity to be forgiving in any situation.**

**That's who you are:**

**Ephesians 4:23,"And be renewed in the spirit of your mind;"**

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## **BEING FOLLOWERS OF JESUS**

**Ephesians 5:1, "Be ye therefore, followers (*literally imitators*) of God as dear children."**



To imitate God in your daily life is to make **JESUS** your pattern for living, that is to say, do the things that Jesus did and **NOT DO** the things Jesus would not do. In this way you are putting on the new man.

Since making Jesus the pattern for our living is the way to put on the new man, we then, need to look at the things Jesus did, His works, so that we can imitate them.

Now the works of Jesus had their beginning and can be said, that they flowed out of **AN ATTITUDE OF OBEDIENCE TO THE WILL OF HIS FATHER**. Jesus' attitude toward life was one of desiring to always do the will of His Father and to please Him.

**John 4:34** say of Jesus, ". . . My meat (*that which fills me up, my desire* ) is to do the will of him that sent me . . ."

**John 8:29**, ". . . I (*Jesus*) do always those things that please Him (*the Father*)."

How did Jesus know the will of the Father and how to please Him? John 5:19 gives us the answer and is to be **our example**.

**"The Son can do nothing of Himself, but what he SEETH the Father DO; for what things soever he DOETH, THESE ALSO DOTH THE SON LIKEWISE."**

**Jesus never did anything on His own, He was not an independent thinker or doer. Rather than thinking and doing for Himself, He watched His Father and did what He saw His Father do.**

An attitude of obedience, total submission of His own will to the will of the Father, watching the Father and then doing only what the Father did **WORKED FOR JESUS and IT WILL WORK FOR YOU. AMEN.**

**Being obedient** to the Father, that is, doing the things He tells us to do, when He tells us to do them, the way He tells us to do them, without question **IS BEING A FOLLOWER (IMITATOR) OF JESUS**. And as we IMITATE JESUS we are becoming more like Him in our daily life. As we become more like Jesus, we will begin to enjoy a deeper and closer relationship with our Father. Which relationship will then result in us being moved more and more into the abundant life of health and prosperity which our Father God wants for us.

**Being obedient to** the will of the Father **IS TO PLACE YOURSELF UNDER THE AUTHORITY OF GOD**. It means to SUBMIT to God's authority. This means having absolute trust and confidence that God's way is the right way and that God has your **best interest at heart**. **TO BE SUBMISSIVE IS TO HAVE AN ATTITUDE OF OBEDIENCE.**

Let us look at an example of obedience from the Bible which results in the best and then an example of disobedience that brings bad results.

#### **EXAMPLE ONE:**

In John 2:6 we hear Mary the mother of Jesus saying to the servants, ". . . **Whatsoever he (Jesus) saith unto you, DO IT.**"

In verse 7, Jesus says to the servants, ". . . **fill the water pots with water. . .**" **The servants with unquestioning obedience**, ". . . **filled them up to the brim.**"

In verse 8, "**And he (Jesus) saith unto them, Draw out now, and bear unto the governor of the feast. AND THEY BARE IT.**"

The obedience of the servants resulted in that the governor of the feast was pleased with the fine taste of the water made into wine and the bridegroom was praised for having saved the best wine for the last.

**"Whatsoever He saith to you, Do IT."** **BEING OBEDIENT IS THE KEY TO RECEIVING THE BEST FROM OUR FATHER GOD.** ". . . Behold, to obey is better than sacrifice . . ." we are told in 1 Samuel 15:22.

#### **EXAMPLE TWO**

1 Samuel, chapter 15, in verse 3, Samuel says to King Saul, "**Now go and smite Amalek utterly destroy all that they have, and spare them not; but slay both men an woman, infant and suckling, ox and sheep, camel and ass.**" **Saul is instructed to destroy ALL - there was to be no spoils of the battle.**

BUT WHAT DID HE DO?

Verses 14-15 show that he allowed the men to spare the best of the sheep and oxen to sacrifice on GOD'S Altar.

In verse 20 we see that King Saul had taken Agag the king of Amalek as a prisoner instead of killing him as he was told to do.

No where in God's instructions to Saul did God tell Saul to bring Him Agag or for the people to take spoils of the sheep and oxen for a sacrifice. Yet Saul in verse 20 says, "Yea, I have obeyed the voice of the Lord." **Saul must have had a hearing problem. He only heard what he wanted to hear.** Saul did not have an attitude of obedience. His attitude was, and **ours also too much of the time.** "I'll do what God wants me to do, but I WILL DO IT MY WAY. We must interrupt God's word in the light of the circumstances. in light of the situation. God didn't really mean for us to destroy all those perfectly healthy sheep and oxen It will please Him (God) when we offer them to Him as a sacrifice.

**Now comes verse 22 - "...To obey is Better than sacrifice..."**

Saul's disobedience cost him the privilege of being King of Israel. Let us understand that disobedience will always cost us something. **And that giving an offering to God can not make up for an act of disobedience.** Only repentance will blot out the sin and bring us into that place of the refreshing presence of our Father God.

**WHEN CAN WE KNOW THAT WE ARE MOVING INTO THE REALM OF OBEDIENCE?**

When we are wanting to do something and have made up our mind that we are going to do it "come hell or high water" - when we are set on a course of action or going in a certain direction -**AND GOD SAYS, DON'T DO IT or SAYS, GO THIS WAY**, and we listen to God, rather, **than to our own WANTS**; then we are moving into the realm of obedience. We are developing an **ATTITUDE OF OBEDIENCE**.

**We must become sensitive to the prompting of the Holy Spirit - open minded to whatever the Lord would have us do. WE MUST BE WILLING TO OBEY.** To do things the way God wants them done, NOT the way we think He wants them done. Or the way we want God to want them done. Amen.

Even Jesus had to say (Luke 22:42) - ". . . Not My will, but thine be done . . ." We are also told of Jesus in Hebrews 5:8, ". . . though He (Jesus) were a son, yet LEARNED He obedience by the things he suffered."

Obedience is learned. Thank you Jesus that you learned the way of obedience. That you learned it so well, and was so submissive to the Father, that you humbled yourself and became obedient unto death, even the death of the CROSS.

Jesus is our example, even as He learned obedience, we too can learn obedience. Total and complete submission to the Father and be **an imitator of God as children of God**. In this way we will be **WALKING IN THE WAYS OF THE NEW MAN**

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## **DEVELOPING GODLY HABITS - PART 1**

The **NEXT STEP** in the putting on of the new man **IS developing good, godly "THINKING HABITS", thinking patterns.**

The Apostle Paul in Philippians 4:8 says, **"...think on these things."**

**THINGS WHICH ARE:**

**true** - instead of lies, things false, deceptions of Satan

**honest** - instead of using people, getting something for nothing stealing

**just** - instead of judgmental , unfair

**pure** - instead of impure things thoughts of sexual lust

**lovely** - instead of the bad things of days gone by, ugliness of the world and it's ways

**of good report** - instead of the bad thing going on around us, people's faults

**things having virtue** (goodness & worth) - instead of worthless, useless, self gratifying things

**praise worthy** - instead of things in people to condemn or complain about

**2 Corinthians 10:5 says, ". . . bringing into captivity every thought to the obedience of Christ."**

Simply this means that every thought which comes into your mind which would NOT be a thought Jesus would think on you are to get rid of it. **If Jesus would not think on it, then, you are not to think on it.**

You are to **REPLACE** all bad thoughts (thoughts Jesus would not think on) with these **GOOD THOUGHTS**. In this way you are developing godly though habits and thought patterns - which is putting on the new man.

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## **DEVELOPING GODLY HABITS - PART 2**

The **NEXT STEP** in the putting on of the new man is that of **developing good godly habits of DOING TO REPLACE** the bad, sin habits of the old man we are putting off.

Paul in Ephesians chapter 5, equates this developing, putting on of godly habits of doing as **WALKING**

**walking in love** (verse 2)

**walking as children of light** (verse 8)

**walking circumspectly** (verse 15)

**Walking in LOVE then, is to be, the **FIRST** godly habit that you and I as children of God are to develop and exercise.** It is worthy to note that in Galatians 5:22, that the **first fruit of the spirit is LOVE.**

The nature and character of God, and therefore, of God's children can be summarized in **LOVE**.

In Romans 13:8-10 Paul says in verse 8 that we have a **debt of love** toward one another. And in verses 8 and 10 he says that **loving one another is the fulfilling of the Law.**

And in John 13:34, Jesus says to us,

**"A new commandment I give unto you, that ye love one another, as I have loved you, that ye also love one another."**

We are to **LOVE, develop** a habit of loving one another that is like the love with **which Jesus has loved and does love us. WHOA!!!** That is a big order, **BUT IMPOSSIBLE? NO!** For if it were impossible then we would not have been told by **Jesus** to do it.

### **WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO LOVE AS JESUS LOVED US?**

In Ephesians 4:32 we have in a nut shell a picture of what it means to love as Jesus loved.

**"Be ye therefore, followers (imitators) of God as dear children; And WALK IN LOVE."**

In this verse the "**be ye therefore**" refers back to chapter 4:32 which says,

**"And be ye kind one to another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God for Christ's sake hath forgiven you.~"**

Therefore being:

**kind to one another,**

**being tender hearted toward one another,**

## **FORGIVING one another as God has forgiven us**

### **IS WALKING IN LOVE.**

We will now analyze these three elements, or three phases which summarizes the love with which Jesus loved us and therefore the love with which we are to **love one another**.

#### **THE FIRST ELEMENT OF GODLY LOVE ACCORDING TO EPHESIANS 4:32 IS "BE YE KIND TO ONE ANOTHER."**

Being **KIND** means according to the Greek word here translated "kind" is to be **serviceable**. Serviceable according to Websters Dictionary means, 1. that can be of service; ready for use; useful; usable; 2. that will give good service; durable service; 3. willing to serve; attentive and obliging.

To have the heart of a servant, Galatians 6:13 says, **"...to serve one another by love."** We are to be usable - a slave - for one another. **So to love is first of all to be servant to one another looking for a opportunity to serve.**

In Philippians 2:7 we see that Jesus who is the God of gods, equal in all ways to the Father, ". . . took upon Himself the **FORM of a servant . . .**"

The word "form" in this verse is the Greek word *morphe*, meaning that the form taken was actually the true nature or essence of whatever . . . Thus the true nature of Jesus, and therefore of God is that of a servant. A nature of being kind, being serviceable.

Since, you and I through the new birth have the nature of God, **OUR TRUE NATURE THEN IS THAT OF A SERVANT.** Thus we are according to our new nature serviceable.

**We, therefore, need to develop this quality of being kind to one another because it is a part of our new nature. That's who we are.**

We do this by actually serving one another's need. Not just serving those who deserve to be served, or those who will and do serve us - BUT we are to exercise grace and serve the ones who do not deserve to be served. We are not to reserve the right to pick and choose whom we are to serve.

#### **THE SECOND ELEMENT OF LOVE IS, "BE YE TENDERHEARTED."**

The Greek word in Ephesians 4:32, which is translated tenderhearted comes from the same root word, which in other passages of Scripture is rendered "**compassion**". Compassion is a description of feelings which comes from deep within a person which moves that person to action.

Thus to be tenderhearted towards one another means to have deep feelings of compassion which will move us with a sense of urgency to help our brothers and sisters who are in a needful situation. It is to be tender toward one another. Being sensitive to each others needs.

From the life of Jesus we see **three areas of need in which we are to have compassion.**

**1. Matthew 9:36 says of Jesus, "But when He saw the multitudes. He was MOVED WITH COMPASSION an them, because they fainted, and were **SCATTERED** having **NO SHEPHERD.**"**

Therefore, to love as Jesus loved is to have a burden, to be moved with compassion for those who are spiritually weak and scattered and floundering having no shepherd to guide them and to feed them. They need to be reconciled to their Father and we are to be those ministers of reconciliation.

**2. Matthew 14:14, "And Jesus went forth, and saw a great multitude, and was MOVED WITH COMPASSION toward them, and He **HEALED THEIR SICK.**"**

Our Father God wants to give us a burden for those who are sick, He wants us to be moved with compassion for them. To visit the sick, encourage them, to lay hands on them and pray for their healing. To do what ever we can to give them relief and help. This is **loving as Jesus loved us.**

**3. Matthew 15:32, "Then Jesus called his disciples unto Him, and said, I HAVE COMPASSION on the multitude, because they continue with me now three days, and have nothing to EAT; and I will not send them away fasting. lest they faint in the way."**

We are to be concerned about the physical needs of our brothers and sisters. We are to have compassion for them and be moved with an urgency to help them in their physical needs of food, shelter and clothing. To love them as Jesus loves is to do all that we can to help them,

James 2:15-16, "**If a brother or sister be naked and destitute of daily food, and one of you say unto than. Depart in peace, be ye warned and filled; notwithstanding ye give than not those things which are needful to the body; WHAT DOTH IT PROFIT.**"

Loving them is to help them- we are not loving them when we sympathize with them and then say to them, "God will provide"; "God bless you." **WE ARE TO BE TENDERHEARTED TOWARD ONE ANOTHER.**

### **THE THIRD ELEMENT OF LOVING AS JESUS LOVED US WHICH WE ARE TO WALK IN, IS THAT OF FORGIVING ONE ANOTHER.**

The literal translation of Ephesians 4:32 where it says "forgiving one another" is not "forgiving one another" but rather, "**forgiving yourselves.**"

**We see from this translation three areas of forgiveness.**

1. We are to **forgive ourselves.** That is we are to consciously pronounce upon ourselves that we are forgiven of all our sins. past, present and future. That in Jesus Christ we are forgiven. If you have not done this, you will not be able to be a minister of reconciliation and forgive others.
2. When one of our brothers or sisters is being weighted down by the burden of sin and guilt we are to ministers of reconciliation and pronounce upon **them the forgiveness of their sins.** This pronouncing upon our brothers and sisters that their sins are forgiven is part of the great commission which Jesus gave to us in John 20:21-23.
3. You, yourselves are to forgive those brothers and sisters who have wronged, sinned against you. It does not matter what they have done to you, how badly they may have treated you. To love as Jesus loved constrains you to forgive them. And secondly, if you do not forgive them bitterness will be structured in you soul which will result in separating you from fellowship with your Father God. And very likely will result in sickness in your body.

**To forgive means** that you will put whatever you are forgiving them of **BEHIND YOU**, and that you will **NOT LOOK UPON IT EVER AGAIN.** It means that you will not **ALLOW** this thing that they have done in any way to **INFLUENCE YOUR RELATIONSHIP** with them.

**To forgive as God has forgiven you is to act toward that person as if the wrong which they committed, NEVER HAPPENED.**

**WALKING IN LOVE THEN, IS TO BE, THE FIRST GODLY HABIT THAT YOU ARE TO DEVELOP AND EXERCISE.**

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### **DEVELOPING GODLY HABITS - PART 3**

Now the **second** area in which we are to develop and practice good, godly habits Paul in Ephesians 5:8 describes as **WALKING AS CHILDREN OF LIGHT.**

Walking as children of light has to do with our **RELATIONSHIP WITH THOSE WHO ARE STILL IN DARKNESS.**

Those who are still in darkness are the ones who have not been born again or who are born again and have made the decision, have chosen to live in the kingdom of darkness serving sin and thus Satan, instead of serving their Father God.

Now our **relationship** - that is the relationship of those who have through faith received Jesus Christ as their Savior and have decided to follow Jesus, making Him the Lord of their life - is described in Ephesians 5:11 as one of having **NO FELLOWSHIP.** **Here then we have A RELATIONSHIP OF SEPARATION**

**In this lesson we want to talk about:**

**the PRINCIPLE of separation**

**the PURPOSE of separation**

**an EXAMPLE of separation**

**THREE AREAS of separation for the child of God**

**THE PRINCIPLE OF SEPARATION** is given in Genesis 2:24,

**"Therefore shall a man leave his father and his mother, and shall cleave unto his wife: and they shall be one flesh."**

The primary application of this passage has to do with the marriage of a man and a woman. However Paul in Ephesians 6:31 quotes this passage from Genesis chapter 2 and in verse 32 applies it to our relationship with Christ. He says,

**"This is a great mystery: but I speak concerning Christ and the church."**

With this understanding the **separation from your father's** house would then refer to the house of darkness into which you were physically born and lived until you were translated into the Kingdom of Light by the new birth in Jesus Christ. Thus because you became one flesh with Jesus in the new birth you are to separate yourself from your former life-style, your former father, the devil, from his house and those that are his.

This separation is necessary because you no longer related to them. You are a child of God. They are the children of Satan. You are now in the kingdom of light. They are in the kingdom of darkness, which is ruled by the Devil. Your attitudes are not their attitudes. Your thoughts are not their thoughts. Your ways are not their ways. There is no plane of agreement between you and them. Therefore there is no **RELATIONSHIP**. Amos 3:3 puts it this way,

**"Can two WALK together, except they agree."**

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Aaron and his sons were separated to be priests before God for ever.

1 Peter 2:9 says that we who are the children of God are a **royal priesthood**. We have been sanctified (set apart for God) and are being sanctified - **separated from the people unto God** - as priests forever. Why are we sanctified and separated unto God? In order that we might "burn incense" that is be **intercessors** for **the people**; that we might "**minister unto Him**" by **serving one another in love**; that we might "**bless in His Name**" (bless and be a blessing to) **our brothers and sisters and those in the world of darkness with whom we have contact**.

**AN EXAMPLE OF SEPARATION AS SEEN IN ABRAHAM**

**In Genesis 11:27 - 13:18** we see God calling Abram to separate himself from his father's house.

**Verses 27-30** is introductory to what is about to take place. In verse 31 we see Terah, Abram's father, leaving the place of his birth to go into the land of Canaan - is the **land of promise, and** represents to us the **place of rest**.

We note that Terah began this journey to the promise land but that he stopped in Haran and never resumed his journey to the promise land. He died in Haran (vs. 31).

Like Terah, there are many children of God who begin the journey to the promise land, to that place of rest, the abundant life in Jesus which our Father has for us, **BUT**, who, also, like Terah stop before they reach that place of rest. The reasons are varied and many, but the point is, they miss out on God's abundant blessings for them because they do not continue the journey with God.

**Now in chapter 12, verse 1** we read that God spoke to Abram saying,

**"Get thee out of thy country and from thy kindred and From THY FATHER'S HOUSE, unto a land that I will show thee. And I will make of thee a great nation, and I WILL BLESS THEE. and make thy name great; and thou shalt be a blessing."**

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Egypt through out the Bible represents the world with Satan as the ruler. So Abram went up out of Egypt, **BUT HE S STILL HANGING ON TO LOT** (Lot represents that old way of thinking, old way of doing, old relationships).

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Like Abraham you will not be able to move into the full, abundant blessing of your Father God until there has been a separation from the world, and the ways of the world. Your relationship to the world and those in the world is to be a **RELATIONSHIP OF SEPARATION.** There will be an association with the world and contact with those in the world but we are not related to them.

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Then in **verse 14** still speaking concerning **UNBELIEVERS** we read,

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This **HABIT** of being separated from unbelievers, brothers and sisters living in sin, and those teaching contrary to the word, is one which we need to develop and put into practice if we are going to successfully **PUT ON THE NEW MAN and WALK AS CHILDREN OF THE LIGHT.**

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#### **DEVELOPING GODLY HABITS - PART 4**

**THE FINAL STEP** in Putting on the New Man, Paul in Ephesians 5:15 describes as **WALKING CIRCUMSPECTLY.** He says,

"See then that ye **WALK CIRCUMSPECTLY, not as fools, but as wise . . .**"

To walk circumspectly means to walk carefully. Psalms 119:105 say,

"**The word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path.**"

We are to let the Word of God reveal to us **the specific details of our walk**, our living as children of God, and then we are **to give careful attention to those details.**

Therefore **WALKING CIRCUMSPECTLY (CAREFULLY)** has then to do with **GIVING ATTENTION** to the **DETAILS** of our **Christian Walk, our lifestyle.**

Since our Father God is concerned about the details of our walk He follows up the instructions to walk carefully with the details to which He would have us give careful attention in our lives. Thus in the remaining verses of Ephesians chapter five and through verse eighteen of chapter six He outlines for us **seven specific areas of our life about which we are to give careful attention.**

1. In **verse 17** He says, **UNDERSTAND THE WILL OF GOD.**
2. In **verse 18** we are to **BE FILLED WITH THE SPIRIT.**
3. **Verse 19** speaks about **GETTING THE RIGHT THINGS DOWN IN YOUR HEART.**
4. **Verse 20** says, **GIVE THANKS ALWAYS FOR ALL THINGS.**
5. **Verse 21** speaks of **SUBMITTING YOURSELVES TO ONE ANOTHER.**
6. **Verses 22-6:9** gives **DETAILS CONCERNING RELATIONSHIPS.**

wives to husbands

husbands to wives

children to parents

fathers to children

employees to employers

employers to employees

7. **Verse 10, chapter 6** tells us to **BE STRONG IN THE LORD.**

verses 11-18, Shows us **why** we need to be strong in the Lord and **how** to be strong in the Lord.

HERE THEN ARE **SEVEN AREAS OF OUR CHRISTIAN WALK** TO WHICH WE ARE TO GIVE CAREFUL ATTENTION. LET US NOW LOOK AT EACH ONE MORE CLOSELY.

1. **FIRSTLY**, we are to have **UNDERSTANDING** as to what the will of God is for us. We are not just to know His will for us **BUT**, we are also to having understanding concerning His will. Of course understanding must start with knowledge. Do you know the will of God for you? If you don't there is no way you can understand.

Simply, God's will for **you is that you be conformed to the image of Jesus Christ** so that He will not only have His Son Jesus to give Him pleasure and joy but He will have many more just like Jesus. Romans 8:29.

"For whom he did foreknow, he also did predestinate *to be* conformed to the image of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brethren."

We are to know and understand that we are being **transformed into the image of Christ**. If we understand this, then, we know whatever is going on in our lives, good or bad, that our Father is using these circumstances and situations, even permitting them, to bring about this **TRANSFORMATION.**

If we understand this we can then rest in total and complete confidence and trust that our Father God is in control, That He loves us. That He knows what is best for us. And that He will give us the grace and strength to get through it. In fact, to more than just get through problems and adverse circumstances. He will give us the grace to say with the Apostle Paul, "none of these things move me." Amen. Thus we will be able to rejoice and have joy in the midst of the stormy trials of live. In fact we will be able to say when the going gets hard. "Lord, turn up the fire, because I want to be more like Jesus."

That's all well and good, but does it mean that in our every day life and activities that we are left to do what we think is right? **NO!** For not only has our Father God revealed His will, His goal for our lives and is in fact accomplishing it in us, But, He also has clearly given us His will for our day to day activities.

We see this will of God expressed in His commandments. Therefore God's commandments are to be the guide for our day to day activities.

Now Paul in Galatians 5:14 gives us **UNDERSTANDING** concerning the how of letting God's commandments direct our lives - instead of them burdening us down with a bunch of rules and regulations, of do's and don'ts. **We are to UNDERSTAND that love "is the fulfillment of all the commandants. For all the law is fulfilled in one word, even in this; Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself."**

When we understand this, it truly simplifies our lives. For we know and understand that when all the activities of our lives, of our calling are governed by being kind, tenderhearted, and forgiving to those with whom we are placed in contact, that we are walking in love. Since love is fulfilling the Law we then are being led by the will of God.

2. **SECONDLY** we are to give careful attention is to **OUR RELATIONSHIP WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT**. Ephesians 5:18 says, "...be filled with the Spirit." Luke 11:13 tells us that the Father will give the Holy Spirit to them that ask him, We understand by this that our Father wants us to have the fullness of the Holy Spirit operating in our lives and He will give Him to those who ask for this precious gift.

Now if you do not have the gift of the Holy Spirit, better know as being **baptized with the Holy Spirit**, this is a detail to which you need to give special attention. [For information about the Baptism with the Holy Spirit, refer back to lesson 14 in the Foundation Series.]

If you have been baptized with the Holy Spirit you need to give careful attention to not grieving Him or quenching His operating freely in your life. **You need to daily ask the Father to fill you to overflowing with the Holy Spirit.**

3. **THIRDLY**, Ephesians 5:19 says, "Speaking to yourselves in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord." There are many applications which could be made from this verse, **BUT** the one thing the Lord is saying to us concerning this Scripture, the thing He wants us to give careful attention to is simply this: **WE ARE TO BE CAREFUL ABOUT WHAT WE ARE PUTTING INTO OUR HEARTS,**

" . . . for out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaketh."

Much too often we are very careless about what comes out of our mouths. Therefore, if we are speaking to ourselves in psalms, hymns and spiritual songs and the melody in our heart is to the Lord, then that, which comes out of our mouths will be edifying to us and those around us and our Father will be glorified. Because, in this way we are filling our hearts with the things of God, Amen.

4. **FOURTHLY**, we are to be careful in our **THANKSGIVING**. Ephesians 5:20 puts it this way, "Giving thanks **ALWAYS FOR ALL THINGS** unto God and the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ." Concerning this 1 Thessalonians 5:18 says, "**IN EVERY THING** give THANKS: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you."

Thus we learn that the details of thanksgiving to which we are to carefully do is to **always give thanks to our Father God in and for ALL THINGS.**

If you can not thank your Father regardless of what the circumstances may be - especially the bad - then you are blaming Him. And you do not understand the will of your Father God. **THANKSGIVING IS THE ATTITUDE OF GRATITUDE.**

5. **THE FIFTH** area of our walk as children of God to which we are to carefully give attention has to do with **SUBMISSION**. Ephesians 5:21 says, "Submitting yourselves one to another in the fear of God."

**SUBMISSION TO ONE ANOTHER** has to do with how we see ourselves relative to our brothers and sisters in the Lord, The Greek word translated submitting means to rank under. Practically applying this in our relationship with one another means, that we consider our brothers and sisters and their needs before we give consideration to ourselves and our needs.

Galatians 5:13, ". . . by love serve one another."

6. **SIXTHLY**. Ephesians 5:22-6:9 lists **SIX RELATIONSHIPS AND GIVES SPECIFIC DETAILS FOR THE GOVERNING OF THEM.** [Refer to the Bible Study entitled Higher Powers (Authorities) - Part 4- "<http://bibleinst.com/BibleSchool/POWERS.htm>"]

Relationship of a **WIFE TO HER HUSBAND**. Ephesians 5:22, "Wives, SUBMIT yourselves unto your own husbands, as unto the Lord." The wife is to find her place under the headship and covering of her husband as a helpmate. [Refer to lesson 27 and 49 in The Foundation Series.]

Relationship of a **HUSBAND TO HIS WIFE**. Ephesians 5:23;25, "...the husband is the head of the wife . . . Husbands, LOVE your wives, even as Christ loved the church, and gave Himself for it." We would also note concerning the relationship of husbands to their wives, that since they are the head of the wife this places them in the position of serving their wives and DOES NOT place them in a position of being served. Matthew 20:21, here Jesus says, "And whosoever will be chief (head) among you, let him be your SERVANT." This applies in the relationship of a husband to his wife.

Relationship of **CHILDREN TO PARENTS**. Ephesians 6:1-3. "Children, OBEY your parents in the Lord: for this is right. HONOR thy father and mother . . ." Children who CAREFULLY give attention to obeying and honoring their parents will be blessed with a long abundant life.

Relationship of **FATHERS TO THEIR CHILDREN**. Ephesians 6:4, "...fathers, provoke not your children to wrath (don't be too soft nor too harsh in your relationship with your children, BUT love them - don't be afraid to use the rod of correction BUT use it in love): but bring them up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord."

Fathers teach your children both by example and through the Word the ways of your Father God. Teach them and encourage them to PUT ON THE NEW MAN WHICH IS CREATED IN RIGHTEOUSNESS AND TRUE HOLINESS.

Fathers this is your responsibility not your wife's. You are the head, she is a helpmate, a partner but you are to take the responsibility and lead in the bringing up of your children.

[Refer to Bible Study Training up Children  
"<http://bibleinst.com/BibleSchool/PARENT.htm>"

Relationship of **EMPLOYEES TO EMPLOYERS**. Ephesians 6:5, "Servants. be obedient to them . . . as unto Christ . . . Not with eye-service, as men pleasers, but as the servants of Christ, doing the WILL of God from the heart. Employees are to give a day's work for a day's pay without grumbling and complaining. Doing what their employer says to do the way he tells them to do it.

Relationship of **EMPLOYERS TO EMPLOYEES**. Ephesians 6:9, " And, ye masters (employers), do the same things unto them, forbearing threatening: knowing that your Master also is in heaven . . ." Employers are to give their employees a fair and substantial days pay for a days work, RESPECTING THEM AND THEIR **NEEDS**.

7. THE SEVENTH AREA of walking circumspectly we see in Ephesians 6:10, "Finally, my brethren, **BE STRONG in the Lord, and in the POWER of His might.**"

To be strong in the Lord means that we must realize and be conscious of the fact that we are nothing without Jesus, and that we can do nothing of ourselves. That we are weak and helpless and that if our Father was not watching over us and caring for us that we would perish.

Thus to be strong in the Lord is to know and understand that we go in the power of His might. In His strength, not in our strength.

2 Corinthians 13:4, " For though he was crucified through weakness, yet he liveth by the power of God. For **we also are weak in him, but we shall live with him by the power of God toward you.**"

Therefore, "Put on the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil." Ephesians 6:11.

If we are careless about going in God's strength and power; if we do not put on the armour of God which God in His grace has given us; we will not be able to stand when Satan comes against us with his schemes to entrap us.

Let us, therefore, give special attention to the details concerning the armour our Father has given us and carefully put on all this armour and leave it on.

Ephesians 6:14-18, "Stand therefore, having your loins girt about with **TRUTH**, and having on the breastplate of **RIGHTEOUSNESS**; and your feet shod with the preparation of the **GOSPEL OF PEACE**: above all, taking the shield of **FAITH**, wherewith ye shall be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked. And take the **HELMET OF SALVATION**, and the **SWORD** of the spirit, which is the **WORD** of God. **PRAYING** always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, and watching there unto with all perseverance and supplication for all saints."

If you are going to put on the new man and walk in righteousness and true holiness before your Father and enjoy the abundant life of health and prosperity which He desires for you, then you must learn the godly habit of walking circumspectly, **CAREFULLY, PAYING ATTENTION TO THE DETAILS OF YOUR LIFE, ACTIVITIES AND RELATIONSHIPS AS GOD'S VERY OWN DEAR CHILDREN.**

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### **YOUR CONFESSION OF IDENTIFICATION**

The following Confession of Identification, is a confession of who you are in Christ Jesus,

I am a **BELIEVER in Jesus** Christ. I believe that the Word of God is true and that every **promise** in the Bible belongs to me. The Bible says, that I am a child of the most high God . That I am an heir of God, joint-heir with Jesus Christ, The Bible says, because I am a believer, that I am the head and not the tail, that I am from above and not from beneath, that I am blessed as I go out, as I come in, as I sit down, as I arise, as I walk in the way. The blessing of God shall over take me, because I am a believer

When the enemy comes in like a flood, the Spirit of the Lord, will lift up a standard against him, for He that is within me, is greater, than he that is in the world.

I am being changed from glory to glory by the Holy Spirit - old things are passed away, and the new life is in bloom, Because I am a believer, the Bible says, that I am the righteousness of God, in Christ Jesus. That I am what I am by the grace of God.

Thanks be to God, who always causes me to triumph in Christ Jesus - I am hid with Christ in God, Satan can not touch me as I remain in my safe hiding place, because I am a believer.

Thanks be to God who gives me the victory - in all things I am more than a conqueror. If God be for me who can be against me. YES, I am hid with Christ in God, safe and secure in Him. To know God is to love Him. Praise the Lord, "In Him I live and move and have My being." AMEN and AMEN!!