

DR. RANDY BRODHAGEN



# Your Divine Nature

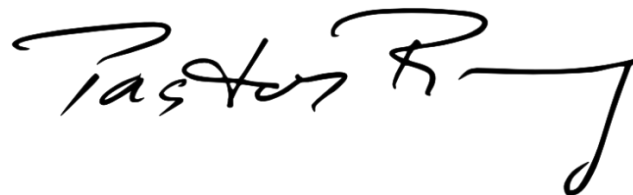
Embracing Your Identity  
as a New Creation in Christ

# Your *Divine* Nature

Embracing Your Identity  
as a New Creation in Christ

by

Dr. Randy C. Brodhagen

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Pastor R. Brodhagen". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a large, stylized 'R' and a long horizontal stroke at the end.

# YOUR DIVINE NATURE

Chapter One ..... 3

Chapter Two..... 20

Chapter Three ..... 34

Chapter Four..... 51

# YOUR DIVINE NATURE

## Chapter One

### JESUS DWELLS IN YOU

Jesus said, *"Very truly I tell you, whoever believes in me will do the works I have been doing, and they will do even greater things than these, because I am going to the Father. And I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son."* (John 14:12-13)

Jesus is doing it, and where is Jesus? In your heart. This is what the Bible reads, but, unfortunately, it has not been taught over the years, and people do not see it. They still think the Lord is "out there somewhere." The Bible says, *"Christ in me, the hope of glory."*

Jesus was preparing the disciples for His departure in order that the Holy Spirit could come. He said, "When you believe in Me, I come into your heart, and I will bring the Father and the Holy Spirit with Me, and we will dwell together in you." You are not a poor, miserable, weak, helpless, hopeless sinner anymore. You are saved by the grace of God, the gift of God. You cannot save yourself, and religious works will not do it.

### RELATIONSHIP, NOT RELIGION

I asked a certain fellow one week if he had Jesus in his heart, and he said, "No, I am not religious. There are so many phonies out there and people that profess things but do not live with any integrity. There is no character in them, and they say they are Christians."

I said, "It is not about those people, it is about the Lord loving you and wanting relationship with you. He came Himself to save you and to give you life with Him. It is about relationship, not religion." I told him that if it was religion, I would not be doing it either. It is man's ways, man's commandments. You know how the religious people treated Jesus as he walked the earth. They even told Him how to observe the Lord's holy seventh day Sabbath and told Him He was doing it wrong. He said to them, *"I am the Lord of the Sabbath, (I wrote the book),* and I certainly

know how to keep the commandment.” But they did not believe that. They did not believe He came from heaven.

## ACCOUNTABLE AND RESPONSIBLE

The Lord is holding people accountable and responsible for what they are doing and not doing in Jesus' name. People are responsible for their sin and their actions, their lives, whether they are doing what He wants or not. We are accountable and responsible.

The Lord's judgment begins first with the household of faith, and then it goes out to the world. Do you know judgment is happening right now on the world and on the church? The Lord is cleaning up His Church and getting it the way it is supposed to be. He is coming back for a holy bride. The Church is His Bride.

The Lord told me one time to talk to people like they understand. He said, "I can put Humpty Dumpty back together again, son." Do you remember that story? All the king's horses and men could not put Humpty back together again. But the Lord said, "I can."

Think about it, pride comes before the fall. What was an egg doing on the wall? What are people doing in their lives? Who do they think they are? The devil thought too much of himself, and he forgot that the Lord created him with all the beautiful attributes he was created with. He started thinking he could do it himself, and he wanted to take over the Lord's position. But Lord was not having anything to do with that.

## WHO YOU REALLY ARE IN CHRIST

Do you believe when you pray? It is not enough just to pray. Many people pray. Anybody can pray, but to *believe* the Lord will get you His results. To as many as received Him (Jesus), He gave the power to become sons and daughters of the Most High God, born of the will of the Spirit, not the will of man. "*Apart from Me,*" the Lord says, "*You can do nothing.*" (John 5:15)

The devil does not want you or me to know who we really are in Christ Jesus. If he cannot stop people from being born again (which is what he

is doing right now in the world), he is killing people right and left. The thief steals, kills, and destroys. (John 10:10)

*"My people perish for lack of knowledge"* (Hosea 4:6) is one of the ways that the devil steals from the Church and from people who do not know or understand. They still think they are sinners saved by grace. They run around being sin conscious, not knowing when they are going to sin again.

## WAYS WE ARE NEUTRALIZED

Distraction is one of the major tools the thief uses to demobilize, to neutralize, to sterilize, to make believers impotent as far as their witness and what the Lord would have them to do. Ignorance is right on the top, and then unbelief comes in. Right away, people act like, "Except I see the holes in His hands." I have heard people sitting in church say, "I'm just like Thomas," and I say, "God forbid." Thomas was ignorant, unbelieving, and arrogant about his stand that was totally not the Lord.

The Lord in His mercy showed up and spoke right to Thomas. You cannot run or hide from the Lord. What did Adam and Eve do when they sinned against God? They ran and hid, and tried to cover themselves up. The Lord truly knows us, right where we are. *"While we were yet enemies of the Lord, Christ died for us."*

2 Peter 1:8 in the Amplified Bible says, *"For as these qualities are yours..."* the Lord has given us all the qualities that are His, His divine nature. Qualities of faith, moral excellence, knowledge, knowledge of God in His Word, His ways, His workings, self-control, steadfastness, godliness, and brotherly affection. The highest form of maturity is sacrificial love (what Jesus did for us on the cross), giving ourselves for others as the Lord directs. We, as Christians, in these end times are not to get involved in the world's ways.

## THE LORD WANTS TO SAVE ALL

Jesus already saved the world. Therefore we are to be involved in getting the gospel to the world. It is the good news of what the Lord has done to save them. We are not telling them to do this and that and improve the

world. The world is going down fast, and there is no saving it. But the Lord wants to save the people.

The Lord Jesus has come to bring life, and life abundantly. (John 10:10) A heavenly life. The Lord's divine nature is "in the world, but not of it." Our role here as ambassadors for Christ (2 Corinthians 5) is to be about our Father's business, just like Jesus was, bringing people into the presence of the Lord, showing them the love of God, who the Father is, and what our Lord Jesus has done for them. Then all they need to do is receive and turn away from the old life, give up the self-life, the all-about-me life, and take on the Lord's life forever.

I was telling the man I met one week, "Yes, you had a good life, even before you received Jesus. Anything good that happens to you has come from the Lord." Before we were born again, He kept us alive long enough to hear the good news of Jesus, to be born again, and to receive the life of God. Some people do not realize that. They are legalistic as far as how things are done. The thief on the cross was not water baptized.

## FAITH AND OBEDIENCE

Water baptism does not save you. What saves you? Faith in Jesus, and if you have faith in Jesus, then you will be water baptized as the first sign of obedience after you received Him. Down under the water goes the old selfish person, dead, buried, crucified with Christ, and up comes the new, resurrected person in Christ. You have been raised from the dead. You are a walking, talking miracle set apart to the Lord. Why did He raise us from the dead? Our spirits were dead. And Adam's and Eve's spirits died when they went against the Lord and followed the devil, and were then under the devil's control. When we received Jesus, our spirits came alive to God. Where does the Lord live? In our new spirits.

## WE WERE GIVEN MORE

The Lord's fruit in us is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. He gave us those qualities, and they all came with Jesus. Have you ever prayed for patience? That is a big thing out there in the Christian world. But you already have patience according to the Word of God. The Lord gave it, and you need to develop

it. If the devil can stop you from developing it, you will never mature in the Lord. Through patience (James 1), perseverance is developed, which enables you to stand no matter what comes your way, and to overcome. *“Through faith and patience, we inherit all the promises of God.”*

We have already inherited the promises. They are ours. Every one of those promises are ours in Christ Jesus, and are given us by His divine power. (1<sup>st</sup> Peter 1:3 Amplified Bible), which He has absolutely bestowed on us.

The Lord has much more for us than we can imagine or think according to the power that works in us. We are not poor, miserable, wretched sinners. As a boy, the confession at the Sunday service would be: “I, a poor, miserable, wretched sinner, confess unto thee, O Lord, all my sins and iniquities which are ever before me.” God knows I want them gone! I want them behind me. I do not want them out ahead of me. I do not want to look forward to that. In Christ Jesus, we are free to see all the holy and blessed things that are before us in the Lord. I want to be eager to find out what those are.

What is the promise of God? *“Through true and personal knowledge of Him you were called by His own glory and excellence.”* The Lord did this for us. *“For by His glory and his goodness, He has bestowed on us His precious and magnificent promises of inexpressible value so that by the promises, you may escape from the immoral freedom that is in the world (the desires of the world) and become sharers of the divine nature.”* Sharers of the divine nature.

## GOD’S CALLING AND ANOINTING

The Lord is a jealous God. That is, there is a godly jealousy, but then there is the counterfeit of the devil. If you have ever been a jealous or envious person, you have what we call one of the poverty spirits, because it says you lack, and you want to be like somebody else. Anything good came from the Lord, and He makes good things happen in your life. He wants everyone to be saved, everyone to be loved, and everyone to be blessed.



The Lord is not jealous of anybody taking His position. When Aaron and Miriam said they had the same spirit as Moses and were equal to him, they were. But when the Lord showed up, He said to them, "I have not called you to do what I call Moses to do. I have not given it to you." Nobody can take to himself something the Lord has not given from heaven. You can go to Bible school, seminary, or college, but you cannot earn what He has given. It only comes by God's calling and anointing. For example, He chose Mary to be the carrier of the Lord Jesus Christ.

She pondered these things in her heart, because she could not figure them out. She did not fully understand who Jesus was. It has been taught that she did not have any other children, but it is stated there in the Word that she did.

The family came to take Jesus away at one point because they thought He had gone crazy. What was His response? *"Who is my mother, and my brothers and my sisters? Here are my mother and my brothers and sisters. Those who do the will of Him who sent me."* Those are his family. We are a part of his family. Joint heirs with Christ.

If you have Jesus in your heart, then all that the Lord has is yours. You just need to find out what He has given. You can see clearly that the promises of God are given in order that you might participate with Him in the divine nature. What does the thief want to steal from you?

## THE DEVIL WARRED AGAINST GOD

The devil did not really know who Jesus was when He came. He had some thoughts, but he did not really know. *"If you be the Son of God..."* Remember the temptations? *"Make this rock into a loaf of bread."* What was he doing? Appealing to the physical needs. (Matthew 4:3))

We all have physical needs, and the Lord knows what those needs are. He says not to worry about them. People are seeking money and seeking to be loved, and if you put those together, you have a disaster because you have a false god in your life. Hence, you lack. You have a poverty and jealousy spirit. When the Lord says, *"I am a jealous God,"* He is saying. "I will not permit or tolerate any false gods in My place. *"For there is none like unto Me."* There is none, so people fabricate gods. They

make idols. They make them out of stone or wood. Every culture since the fall of man has a set of gods.

When the angels were kicked out of heaven with the devil, all of them followed him to earth. The devil threw a tantrum, destroyed everything that was there, and that is how you get Genesis 1:2. *“And the earth was without form and void.”* Verse one said, *“The Lord created the heaven and the earth.”* Does God create “without form and void?” Absolutely not. The thief was kicked out of heaven because he warred against God. Pride comes before the fall.

Luke 10:18, *“I saw Satan fall from heaven like lightning,”* Jesus said. The devil was kicked out, and exposed to an open shame. All who followed him and believed in him were removed. The Lord will not put up with the nonsense.

## SAVED THROUGH FAITH IN JESUS CHRIST

*“The wages of sin is death.”* What is sin? Separation from the Lord. The nature of sin separates us from Him. That is what Adam and Eve experienced when they lost the God nature. However, when you receive Jesus, you receive the Lord's nature through the Blood of Jesus that was given. It is only through what the Lord did to save us that we have life with Him. All religions will not enable you to have the Lord in your life or with you. Hence, if you do not receive the promise in Jesus, you do not receive His life, you are under the wrath of the Lord, and you are still in your sin. You have to receive the Lord's one and only provision to remove that sin nature, which is faith in Jesus Christ and His Blood that was given. The payment broke the curse and removed it. But in Christ, we now have every blessing.

There are millions of people in churches who are not going to be with the Lord someday unless they hear this good news that we are talking about: That Jesus came to save them. They have to accept the salvation. They have to believe it. It is not doing religious works that saves you, but if you are saved, you will keep the Lord's Commandments. If you really are His, you will do what He says. How will you do it? By the power of the grace of God, the Holy Spirit working in you enabling you to do the good and right pleasing will of God. The Lord has prepared works for you to do

today. He has already planned and prepared them. People that are saved have divine appointments, nations to reach, and do what the Lord wants done in the earth. He anoints and calls people to do different things.

There is no jealousy amongst God's people because we realize that all we have come from the Lord, and we cannot do what somebody else has been given. On the other hand, we need to do what we have been given. I know all believers are to be praying for the sick, casting out devils in the authority of God, and believing for the Lord's best for everyone. Just because somebody has not yet received the Lord does not mean the Lord gave up on them. No, our part is to bring them the good news.

When Jesus comes back, it will be too late to receive. The Lord wants everyone to receive, and our role in this world is to tell them and to live the divine life that the Lord has given us in the power of the Holy Spirit, loving people and caring for people. That is what Christians are to be doing. We are not here to change anybody's mind about anything. We respect and honor everyone, and we must be about our Father's business.

Today is the day of salvation. If someone you talk to does not want it, then go on to someone else. Do not badger or beat them over the head with your Bible. The fellow I shared with thought that Christians worry about what they will eat, drink and wear, their health, their wealth. And they are cheap tippers.

## HIS QUALITIES WILL INCREASE

The Lord wants His qualities developed in us. He has given apostles, prophets, evangelists, pastors and teachers to equip the saints for the work of the ministry. (Ephesians 4)

We will not teach you how to cope with your sin or your worry, fear and anger. You will crucify that. Forget it all. It has crept into the Church, and it is not the way the Lord does things. One man said, "*Teach me how to divide my inheritance with my brother.*" Jesus said, "Go and figure it out yourselves. Who made Me your judge? I am not a referee." Stand up and start acting like godly people and doing what is right before the Lord.

I have spent my life learning those things, and am still learning. In our book out on the web, *The Real Lord of Job*, Job said, "I heard about you with the hearing of the ear, but now I know who you are." People need to know who the Lord really is, what He is about, why He does what He does. His ways are beyond our understanding.

1<sup>st</sup> Corinthians 2 says that the Lord will show you His innermost thoughts by the Holy Spirit. Why? So you can work the works of God the way Jesus did. He is our example.

His qualities are yours. Many people do not even know they have this. Have you ever prayed to be able to forgive somebody? Did you forgive them and then you took it back, and you had to do it again? You thought, "*Lord, they are not changing.*" It is not for you to change them. It is not for you to get yourself out of the will of God by not forgiving them. The devil knows if you do not forgive them for whatever they are doing, the Lord cannot forgive you.

Forgive others their trespasses as the Lord has forgiven yours. The Lord wants to increase His qualities in you, to grow towards spiritual maturity. The final stage of spiritual maturity in the Lord is that you are willing and able to lay down your life if the Lord should call for it to help and care for somebody.

## HE WANTS US TO BE LIKE HIM

We are crucified with Christ. The old self which was all about me is crucified. (Galatians 2:20) "*I am crucified with Christ. It is no longer I who lives, but Christ who lives in me. The life I now live, I live by the faith of the Son of God, [and the hope of the Son of God, the mercy of the Son of God, the goodness of the Son of God].*" All the promises of the Son of God are yes to me in Jesus.

I could not make that happen. The Lord did it Himself because He wants this. He wants me to be just like Him. What was the devil's temptation to Eve? "The Lord does not want you to become like Him." My Daddy is a whole lot bigger than that. The devil comes out of hatred and resentment towards the Lord because the Lord would not let him rule the heavens.

I do not rule the heavens as a Christian, the Lord rules the heavens. You have to know your place. I am junior, and I am very excited to be junior, one with the Lord. But He rules. He reigns. All the dominion is His, the power, the honor, the glory. I participate in giving Him that. Every time I obey Him.

Now, look at this. *“They [the qualities] will keep you from being useless and unproductive in regard to the true knowledge and greater understanding of our Lord Jesus Christ.”* These qualities will keep us from being ineffective. That is what the devil wants us to be, ineffective.

## LOOK WHAT THE LORD HAS DONE

I am a Christian. *Thank you, Lord, for all the good things you are doing for me and have done for me.* It is a revelation to many people sitting in church who do not know about the things the Lord has done for them. Compare it to a smart phone. Somebody called the phones smart. If you do not know how to operate them and you do not even know what they can do, then it profits you nothing.

*Okay, Lord, you healed me, I will take it from here.* No. What is the devil stealing? He is trying to steal the divine nature from us. He is trying to steal all of the knowledge of the Lord from us. All the promises, all the things the Lord has done. We are not under the curse, but some are still living like they are under the curse.

As long as we live thinking about ourselves and our lives, and afraid for our lives, Jesus says, *“...whoever finds their life will lose it, and whoever loses their life for My sake will find it.”* (Matthew 10:39)

And so, the Lord is not jealous about anybody taking His position. He was not intimidated or threatened by the devil when he tried to take it. He just said, "Out!" (Hallelujah.) There is none like unto the Lord. What art man that thou art mindful of him?

## HE ABSOLUTELY WANTS ME TO BE LIKE JESUS

The Lord created us for relationship with Him. Love needs to be given. It needs to be shared freely. That is why He made us with a free will.

Higher than the angels. The angels do not have what man has, and that is what the devil wants to steal from us. We have relationship with the Lord. The angels are servants of those who have received salvation, but not under our direction, as has falsely been taught. Some people worship angels. Of course the devil wants angels worshiped. He is an angel!

What does the devil want? *Here I am. Look at me, and I will give you this and I will give you that*, he says to Jesus in Matthew four (the temptations). He has been saying THAT to people ever since the Fall. "The Lord does not want you to be like Him." But you stand up and you say, "in Jesus name, He absolutely does want me to be like Him."

The Lord does want me to be like Him, and He gave me everything so I can be like Him in Christ Jesus, not by taking it to myself. I am not going to make the devil's mistake. A devil-thought is self-deception, which is one of the ways that he presents things. He can still present himself as an angel of light even though he is the angel of corruption. He can make himself look good. The Lord says to beware of the devil and beware of people that look really good, speaking smoothly but in their hearts there are abominations. In the devil's heart, he wants you dead, separated from the Lord, and not having anything good that the Lord has in store for you.

*"Love hates evil."* (1<sup>st</sup> Corinthians 13) The Lord hates evil. The devil is evil, stealing and killing and destroying the people the Lord loves. The Lord wants to bless people. He wants them to have everything He has as His dearly beloved children. *"How great is the love the Father has lavished on us, that we should be called children of God!"* (1<sup>st</sup> John 3:1)

We are His children through the blood of Jesus, and He takes care of everything in our lives. Do you sit around doing nothing? No, you sit around enjoying everything He is doing, and praising and thanking Him. *"Be about my Father's business."* Be as Jesus was: healing the sick, mending the brokenhearted, setting captives free. We are lights in the world all around us. Jesus also says, *"You are the salt of the earth."* Salt was a preservative in their day.

## DOING THE WILL OF GOD

We are saving people by sharing the goodness of God that Jesus saved them. We tell them about what He has done for us and for them, spreading good news. We are lights, bringing heaven into the earth.

There are millions of people who are sitting in churches praying, *"Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven,"* part of the "Our Father" prayer. But unfortunately, they are worshiping Mary. They are worshiping false gods. They will not be with the Lord. The Lord wants them saved. Who is going to tell them? The Pope is not going to tell them. According to what they teach and believe, the Pope can change the commandments of God. He was to be the Lord's ambassador on earth. But actually, people worship him too.

Jesus went to the cross for us, having never sinned. He was tempted as we are, but never gave in to doing His own will.

Not doing the will of the Lord is evil, and there are no degrees of evil. People think, *I'm not as bad a sinner as that person over there.* However, *"All have sinned and fall short of the glory of God. There is none that doeth good, no, not one."* That is why we need the Lord to come and save us. He became the perfect man that Mary carried. She was called and anointed of the Lord to be the mother of Jesus, the angel was saying that. It is what the Lord called her to, but He did not call anybody to worship her.

## COME BOLDLY BEFORE THE THRONE

You do not need any intermediary because Jesus says that the Father Himself loves you. (John 16) Do not pray to Mary. Do not pray to Jesus the man, for the Father Himself loves you, but Jesus has ascended back to His place as Lord of lords and King of kings. And in the name of Jesus, everything of the Lord is ours in Him.

We do not need an intermediary, a saint, or somebody to go through to reach the Lord. When Jesus said, *"It is finished"* the temple curtain was torn from the top down (which separated people from the Holy of Holies). Only the high priest could go there a couple times a year. The Lord removed that. Hebrews says that we can come boldly before the throne of grace because of the blood of Jesus with full, confident assurance of faith

as a child of the Most High. The Holy Spirit would have you separate the old you from the new. You are still susceptible to temptation. You may not know who you are in Christ Jesus, but Jesus knew who He was. That is why He did not have to prove to anybody who He was.

## BY GRACE STAY IN GOD'S WILL

First Corinthians 9.27 can be very helpful to us. Even though Jesus was everything we are talking about, as a man just like me, filled with the Holy Ghost, all from the Father was His. He operated in it fully. *What do You want, Father?* Was always on His lips. *How do You want to do it?* was always in His heart and thoughts and actions. He never did anything or said anything that the Father did not give Him to do or say. He was completely possessed with the Spirit of the living God, and that is what is ours in Christ Jesus.

If we are going to walk in it, we must be sober and vigilant, for our adversary, the devil, walks around like a roaring lion seeking whom he may devour, who resist steadfast in the faith. He wants the believers out because we are damaging his kingdom in the earth. (1<sup>st</sup> Peter 5:8-9)

Believers are telling others about Jesus, and the people are coming out of the devil's kingdom and into the kingdom of light of our Lord Jesus. Be sober, vigilant, watch and pray, (Matthew 26:41) lest you enter into temptation. We have to be on guard, realizing that even though Jesus had all this from the Father, He had a free will and he could have chosen to step out of the Father's will. He was like us in every way. Love has to be free will. He chose not to step out of God's will by the power of the grace of God working in Him. People think, *Oh, that was Jesus, not me. He did not sin.* For your and my salvation, he could not sin. Otherwise He would not have been the perfect sacrifice. *"No one doeth good."* It does not matter how many "Hail Mary's" you say, nobody can come to the Father except by what the Father has done for you in Jesus Christ. It is the only way to be saved.

*"Watch and pray, lest you inter into temptation. The spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak."* (Matthew 26:41) How many people sitting in church have used that as an excuse for their sin? *I am weak.* But Joel 3:10 says, *"Let the weak say I am strong."*



Saying things without the action behind it is what the fellow did not like. Christians talk, but they do not do what they say. There is no integrity." Think about it. What does the thief want to do? Distract. Get us off point. Get our eyes off Jesus. Get our eyes onto all the other things going on around us and to us. *"Be not overcome of evil."* It is all going on around, but we are not going to let it in. *"Overcome evil with good."*

People say, "The flesh is weak. I am just a sinner saved by grace," which is rationalizing and reasoning. What has the grace of God done for us and in us? The grace of God is the ability and favor of the Lord not to sin. It is the ability and favor of the Lord to work the works of God amidst all the corruption and evil of the world and to accomplish the purpose of God in spite of what is going on.

*"Watch and pray lest you enter into temptation."* Do not put yourself in temptation's way. That means that you have the power in the Holy Spirit not to go into the temptation. The Lord will actually keep you from sin.

## ON THE OTHER HAND

If you have experienced a time that you knew your desire was wrong, but you were kept from doing it. Even though part of you wanted to do it, you did not. It was like the Lord kept you from doing it. That is what the Holy Spirit will do. You see, many people make their own hell. Like the lamb led to the slaughter, they just go right into it. The Lord, many times, does not want the lamb slaughtered. At one point Paul wanted to go out and talk to the people about the truth. They would have killed him on the spot. And the disciples got him out of there. So he lived to share the Lord's truth another day with others.

Sometimes you get ideas in your own head. *I gotta do this, I gotta prove this.* Watch and pray, lest you enter into temptation. "The spirit is willing" is what the Lord showed me that day. Then the flesh is weak. If my spirit is willing, and I am obedient to my spirit rather than my flesh, the devil, or the world, then the flesh has no power over me anymore.

## I CHOOSE TO DO HIS WILL

We have to make a switch because of what Jesus said. He is saying your spirit is willing. *"If you are willing and obedient, you will eat the good things of the land"* (Isaiah 1:19), meaning the blessing portion. If I am willing to do what the Lord says, then nothing in hell can stop me from doing it. Because the Lord is enabling me to do it. I have free will, and it needs to be exercised towards the Lord. Jesus, with free will, and with all that was within Him went to the cross for us, the godly for the ungodly. He gave us his righteousness and took on all our sin and separation. Freely He chose.

You need to tell that devil, "I choose to do the will of the Lord. It is written, devil, I will not do what you say. I am going to do what the Lord says, freely with all my heart." Whatever you do, do it with all your heart in the name of Jesus to the glory of God, not, *Maybe I can do it later*. I will do it right now, in Jesus name. Paul talks about "daily I die to myself," and he says, *"I bring my body under subjection to my spirit, lest after I preach to everybody else, I myself get lost."* (1<sup>st</sup> Corinthians 9:27)

That one verse shoots down to hell the "once saved, always saved" doctrine. But the doctrine came into the church. It is a lie, saying you are okay. You can live like hell, but Jesus loves you and knows your heart. The problem has been your heart! You know He is not talking about a physical heart, He is talking about who you be, as your spirit is the heart. Are you the Lord's? Do you have the Lord's nature, or do you have the devil's nature? Which do you have? Are you alive to the Lord? Are you dead to the Lord?

Over time, monks and other people would whip themselves and beat themselves, taking this verse to mean that they had to break down their body to become more spiritual. But when one whips himself, emphasis is on the flesh, is it not? The Lord is looking for shepherds after His own heart that love the people and care for the people, but they do not put up with the sin of the people. They bring the holy standards of the Lord, and they help the people to get rid of their sin and live for God because we are not sinners anymore. Our nature is in Christ Jesus. When you receive Jesus, your nature changes from a sinner separated from God (a servant of the devil) to a child of the Lord with God's nature in you. Holy by the blood of Jesus, a whole different world.

Do Christians still sin? Yes, and I am showing you how that happens and why that happens. The devil tries to raise the old self, that weak, pathetic enemy of God again, to serve him. This happens through temptations, trials, tests, playing on old lusts, appetites, and desires of the flesh, of the world, to be like others, peer pressure, et cetera. There is much material on our website that will help you. Why do Christians sin? How to not sin as a Christian. It is there. It is there if you want to come into all the Lord has. If you were raised as being a poor, miserable, wretched, weak sinner, you become sin conscious, even if you do not know of something in yourself, you make up something.

Jesus says, "Confess your sins to the Father, and He will be faithful to forgive you." (1<sup>st</sup> John, chapter one) I do not have to confess my sin to somebody to receive absolution or forgiveness, but it is healthy to confess your faults one to another that you may be healed. (James, chapter five) Responsibility. I can help somebody not go back to their old ways. You can confess it to anybody, but first to the Lord. Then again, thank you, Holy Spirit. I am qualifying "anybody" because some people you tell things to want to tell everybody all over the town, and it is none of their business.

I am yielding my will more and more to the Lord every moment of every day. More than I was last week. I am drawing closer. I am forgetting the things behind, pressing ahead to the mark of the high calling of God that is mine in Christ Jesus.

## COME INTO ORDER WITH THE LORD

Jesus is coming back. And we are all going to be ready when He comes, keeping the Commandments by the grace of God. All of them, the way the Lord wrote them, not man's commandments, not man's religion. You do not have to beat yourself up anymore in guilt, condemnation, or shame. *"There is therefore now no condemnation to those who walk after the Spirit, and not after the flesh."* (Romans 8:1)

There is condemnation, there is guilt, there is shame if we walk after the flesh. That is why we quickly ask the Lord's forgiveness and are faithful to acknowledge our sin to God. He is faithful and just to forgive it and to

cleanse us from all unrighteousness, putting us back into the holy state. The sooner the better. (1<sup>st</sup> John 1-9)

Paul was talking about discipline for those running a race and getting the prize, and they do it to get a crown that will not last, but we do it to get a crown that will last forever. *“Therefore, I do not run like a man running aimlessly.”* The devil wants believers’ just aimlessly living life. Everything is in order with the Lord. Everything has a plan and a purpose.

We need to know what that is. Ask Him. Holy Spirit will show you, and you have the Word of God and the principles and promises of the Lord. We are not just running aimlessly. I do not fight like a man beating the air, which is futility. It is like trying to make myself good, trying to make myself worthy, trying to make myself holy. Jesus did all that, and I need to enjoy what He did for me, receive it, and understand it. Remember, spirit, mind, and body.

The body has appetites. Natural appetites. I need to make my body my slave, under my spirit. My spirit where the Lord is needs to rule my mind, my thoughts, and my body. But beating your body with whips like they did, trying to keep the flesh down does not do anything except cause pain. It is outward, not inward. The circumcision of the New Testament with Jesus is dealing with the spirit, the circumcision of the heart. You know which spirit is in me by what I say and what I do, and my body carries out the function of either the devil or the Lord, depending on what spirit I have, but their appetites are in the body for what? For sex, for food, for pleasure.

So how do you bring the body under control? Make it your slave, the slave to the spirit, so that *“after I have preached to others, I myself will not be disqualified for the prize.”* Realize this is the temple of the Holy Spirit and we do not want to defile it.

Read 1<sup>st</sup> Corinthians, chapter 3, sometime. The Lord says it is serious if you damage your body, for it is His temple now. You are the temple of the Holy Spirit. *“For you are bought at a price; therefore glorify God in your body and in your spirit which are God’s.”* (1<sup>st</sup> Corinthians 6:20)

# YOUR DIVINE NATURE

## Chapter Two

### PARTICIPATE IN THE DIVINE NATURE

Jesus honored His Father just like we honor the Lord Jesus now. We submit ourselves to Him, and the Lord gives us our position. He gives us His authority. He gives us all His promises.

We participate with Him in the divine nature. The Lord did all and gave it to us. Now we have an assignment from Him to be as ambassadors in this earth. Our position is seated with Christ in the heavenlies. *“Set your hearts on things above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. Set your minds on things above, not on earthly things.”* (Colossians 3:1-2)

We are in this world, but we are not of it. As Jesus walked the earth, He was our example of what it means to be a Christian. We will do what Jesus did, and we are able.

The law is not in opposition to us. It is not against us anymore because Jesus fulfilled it. That does not mean He did away with it, as has been falsely taught in Christian churches. When they say that we are not under the law anymore, they are basically saying that we are not to keep it. That is anti-nomianism, a fancy theological word for anti-law. It was present in the early church.

Errors opposed to the law of God came in, and have been present ever since. As you read the book of Romans and Galatians, you see that the Lord is not opposed to His law. His law is eternal. It is holy. Jesus observed it. We are able to keep it and not sin (Romans 8:4), just like Jesus did because our salvation is not based on what we do. It is based on Who we believe in and what Jesus did. As we understand that, we do works that the Lord has prepared for us.

*“But someone will say, ‘You have faith; I have deeds.’ Show me your faith without deeds, and I will show you my faith by my deeds.”* (James 2:18)

If you are really saved, Jesus comes into your heart (your spirit), which was dead. Your spirit was dead to the Lord because of the fall of man (Adam and Eve who submitted themselves to the devil). They lost the God-image they had, which Jesus now restores when we are born again. And so our spirit comes alive to God.

Paul says in Romans, chapter seven, *"I delight in the law of God after my inner man (my spirit)."* Therefore, your mind needs to be renewed by the Word of God. (Romans 12:1-2) Offer your body daily as a living sacrifice to the Lord for His purpose and use. You are the temple of God (1 Corinthians 6), *"For you were bought at a price; therefore glorify God in your body and in your spirit, which are God's."* (1<sup>st</sup> Corinthians 6:20) As we are His and He is ours, we are now one in Christ Jesus, AND He has given to us the divine nature of God.

## ONE WITH THE LORD

No sinner is going to enter into the kingdom of heaven. Remember, we are not just sinners saved by grace, as has been incorrectly taught. We are actually made saints by the Lord Jesus Christ through His blood.

We are one with the Lord and right with God. That is what the devil wants us *not* to have. He is trying to kill people off as quickly as he can now, because the time is short, the Lord is returning.

You will see the Antichrist, you know, but there have been many antichrists over the years. The real one that the Book of Revelation talks about (the coup de gras) is going to show up. Even the elect will almost be deceived. ("Almost." [But it ain't going to happen.]) This is why *"be even more diligent to make your election sure."* (2<sup>nd</sup> Peter 1:10)

You are to have the Lord's nature now. As you are born again, Jesus comes into your heart. *"I am crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God."* (Galatians 2:20) See, it is God's faith, hope, love, peace, patience, and joy. It is all the Lord's. You are completely possessed with the Holy Spirit of God. Your nature has been changed.

## KEEPING THE COMMANDMENTS

*"If you are righteous, then you do righteous things."* (1<sup>st</sup> John 3:4) What is righteous? Keeping the commandments of God. Jesus said, *"If you love Me, you keep My commandments."* You do not keep them for salvation. That is God's gift to you through faith in Jesus. I do not work for it. I do not earn it. But if I am saved, my nature is changed.

What does the Lord do? He keeps His own commandments. What He gives us is how He operates. What He does, He loves. Which is the greatest of the commandments? *"Love the Lord your God with all your heart, mind, and soul."* And the second, *"Love your neighbor as yourself."* This summarizes the Ten Commandments, and they are all about love.

Therefore, our nature is not to be bitter and angry, unforgiving, uncaring, having no compassion, or showing no mercy. Our nature is to love, to want the best for everybody. We don't have to strive, compete, or compare with anybody as the world does. Our worth is not based on what we do. It is based on who we are, children of God. The Lord makes us worthy as he is worthy. We are His children (1st John 4), *"How great is the love the Father has lavished upon us, that we should be called His children."*

The reason we are not under the law, as Paul was talking about in Galatians, is because a true Christian keeps the law of God, the whole law. There are Ten Commandments, not nine.

## BY HIS GRACE

People who choose what they are going to believe and not going to believe, what they will do and not do, are what Paul calls carnal (fleshly) Christians. They are not Christians. They are churchgoers with *"a form of godliness that denies the power of godliness."* What is the power of godliness? The grace of God, the ability that works by Him when we are saved. I have to specify which God, the Lord Jesus Christ. He told me years ago, "Call Me by My real name, the Lord Jesus Christ." He is now ascended. He is not the man Jesus or the baby Jesus anymore. Mary is the mother of Jesus, the man. She fulfilled the calling that the Lord called her to. She is not the mother of God. Jesus' Father is the Lord. Before Mary was Jesus was (God come in the flesh).

We all have a calling from the Lord, and by His grace, we are able to fulfill it with His ability and favor that is working in us now. Mary was just like any of us with a very special calling that was given to her, and she was faithful. She is sitting in Paradise waiting for Jesus to say to her, like all of the rest of them, *“Come on up, enter in to all My pleasures, which I have prepared for you.”*

Understand, if you really are a Christian, you will keep the Lord's commandments, but not for salvation. Keeping the Commandments is not what makes you a Christian. It just reveals who you are. Jesus said, *“You will know them by their fruit.”* You know what kind of tree it is by the fruit it is producing. A bad tree can not bear good fruit. The bad fruit will come out, it will show itself.

## THE LORD'S LOVE TRANSFORMS

The devil poses as the angel of light, even though he is not an angel of light anymore. There is a form he can take, and it looks really good, but eventually he will show his true colors and what he is. He is evil, but the Lord is good. The Lord has no evil in Him, nor can He do any evil. His nature is love. He gave me a little song once upon a time: “I am His beloved. I be loved. I be loved.” *“His banner over me is love.”* Therefore, what do I do? I love. I love. That is who I am in Christ Jesus. I changed, and I am a whole new creation. The old self is dead, that old self did not love, did not know love, could not experience love, could not give love, had no love. The world has no love. “What the world needs now is Love, sweet love.” That is why Jesus came. The Lord's love is the only thing that will transform anybody or anything.

The Lord wants to turn what was intended for evil, to break the curses, and to give us the life of heaven, the life of the Lord. That is what the promises of God are all about, so that we might participate with Him. You are divine now. (2<sup>nd</sup> Peter 1:1) You cannot say you are divine without receiving Jesus as Lord and Savior because you are deceived without Him. If you do not have Jesus, the Lord is not running your life. If Jesus Christ is my Lord, it means He runs every aspect of my life. As He walked the earth, He honored and always submitted Himself to His Father. He did not do or say anything that His Father had not given Him to do. In other



words, *"I come, Lord, to do Your will,"* not my will anymore. Not my wants, desires, dreams, or aspirations about life. Living is all about, "Lord, what do you want? And how do you want to do it?" It is Christ doing it in me and through me.

## LAW VS. LAWS

People nowadays have inherited centuries of man's traditions and teachings. These traditions and teachings are unfortunately in English law. The law in the Bible is the moral code, the Ten Commandments (the first four are about loving the Lord, the second six are how to love your neighbor as yourself).

In addition there were ceremonial laws and the blood sacrifice laws. These were done away with in Jesus because He is the final sacrifice.

Unfortunately, they are all called law. Paul was in opposition to some people who were saying that you had to be circumcised to be saved. (Physical circumcision was the outward sign in the Old Testament of a child of God.) Paul says in the book of Romans that true circumcision is not external (although it has good health benefits), it is spiritual circumcision. In other words, you do not have to be circumcised to be saved. It is a circumcision of the heart that shows a change of nature.

## HE CHANGED OUR NATURE

You cannot be a sinner and a child of God at the same time. Your new nature is different. Christians do sin upon occasion, but 1<sup>st</sup> John 3 tells us how you can know them by their fruit. If someone is acting like an unbeliever, then he is an unbeliever and is not born again (not saved). *"Know them by their fruit."* Saving works follow saving faith. What does that mean? There are works that the Lord has ordained for us to do (Ephesians 2:8-9), but we are saved by the grace of God through faith in Jesus, not by works, lest anyone should boast. It is the gift of God. We boast in the Lord. He has done it all.

Ephesians 2:10 says that because we are saved by the grace of God through faith in Jesus, we are God's good workmanship. He changed our nature, and our new nature is the Lord Jesus's nature. We are one. (John

17) Jesus' prayer to the Father makes us all one, glorifying us all. The ones who came after His disciples and down to us today, several thousand years later, *"glorify them all."* You will be with Him forever in the new heaven and new earth. In fact, we are on a mission to get everybody to come into the salvation Jesus has already provided. He is not going to the cross again. You cannot pray for the dead and see them come into anything. It is too late. Hebrews 9 27, *"It is appointed for a man once to die and then the judgment."*

After His crucifixion, Jesus went and preached to the dead in Paradise. Remember, He said to the thief on the cross (who believed and was born again), *"Today, you will be with me in Paradise."* (It is faith in the Lord Jesus that saves.) Then Jesus preached to everyone who had died believing for the Lord Jesus to come. They had died before they saw Him. It says He preached the gospel to them. The only time He preached the gospel was for people to be born again. (I know that if you are sitting in church, you do not need the gospel preached to you every week. If you are born again, you are born again. You do not need to get saved 100 times.)

## GROW UP IN THE FAITH

What you need to be taught is how to grow up in the faith and operate like a disciple of the Lord Jesus as He walked the earth. Blessed be the name of the Lord. For what did the Lord make His good workmanship? *"For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which were prepared in advance for us to do."* (Ephesians 2:10) So He has given us assignments.

Ephesians, chapter four, says that the Lord has given apostles, prophets, evangelists, pastors, and teachers to equip the saints for the work of the ministry.

The Lord made us saints in Jesus. He made us holy. Without holiness, we will not see the Lord. Yes, we are people, but the real you is spirit. (Before I was born again, I was not spiritual.) People always try to fill that spiritual vacuum. It is still dead to the real Lord. (Read online *The Real Lord of Job* book for these times.) Job represents the Church of our day,

which could say, "I have only heard about You with the hearing of the ear." Some know they are saved, but some do not.

The Lord has a purpose and a plan in all your ways. Acknowledge Him and give him thanks, and let Him direct your steps.

You will know them by their love and their care. This is very important. The devil has, throughout time, hoodwinked the Church on many issues. One of the good things that came out of the first Reformation in the 1500s (with Martin Luther and others) was "justification by faith." What was taught in the Catholic Church was "works."

How can I be a sinner if Jesus *took away* all my sin? Is that not what the Blood is all about? What the devil tries to do is make us impotent as far as working the works of God. Jesus said, *"I come to do Thy will, O Lord. Today, I must work the works of God."* Many people in church do not believe in miracles, signs, or wonders. They do not know if the Lord heard their prayer nor what the will of God is. What, you don't read the Bible? Sadly, that is the case. They do not know what it says. When they do read it, they do not interpret it the way the Holy Spirit interprets it. It is not a matter of your interpretation or my interpretation. The Holy Spirit has only one interpretation, and it can only be understood by the Holy Spirit.

When Paul says we are not under the law, what is he saying? He is talking specifically about circumcision in the book of Galatians. These circumcisers (they were called) got into the church, spreading the rumor that men had to be circumcised to be saved. Paul said they ought to have it cut off. Because if you are teaching that to people and they believe it, they will follow it. You are leading them off the Lord's track. The circumcisers were responsible and accountable for what they said, but you would also be accountable and responsible because you followed it and believed it.

## UNCHANGEABLE COMMANDS

I have asked people to show me anywhere in the Bible that the Lord changed His Sabbath. Seventh day. Sabbath means holy day, and there were many days, but the Lord's Day is in Isaiah 58. It is not the Sabbath of the Jews, for they did not observe it correctly. How do we know? They

kept finding fault with Jesus and how He observed it. He said, "*I am the Lord of the Sabbath.*" That meant He wrote the book. He certainly knew how to keep it holy. He said, "Keep it holy." That means to keep it the way the Lord set it down. We are able to because of Jesus in us. It is our desire. It is our nature. I love the Lord's Commandments. (See the booklet entitled, *The Lord's Day*. It shows how the commandments of God were changed by the Pope and the Emperor, even taking some commandments away. They shortened the Sabbath into *Remember the Sabbath day to keep it holy.*" Period. They left out "*Six days shall you work, but the seventh is holy.*" This clearly showed which day is the Lord's Day. They also deleted "*making graven images.*" They built many big cathedrals with graven images, and people worship those.

The spirit is renewed by the Word of God. Otherwise, you bring in all the old thoughts. Then you hear, "I am just human" (people making excuses), "Oh, I am not Jesus." What does Jesus intend us to become? "Just like Him," in relationship to the Father and in relationship to one another. "Just like Him" means the Lord's nature is working in you. "I am His good workmanship." Paul says in Philippians 1:6, "*Being confident of this very thing, that He who has begun a good work in you will complete it until the day of Jesus Christ.*" He is working in us and through us. I am not just a mere man. Paul uses that phrase in Galatians.

## FALSE BELIEF SYSTEMS

Jesus is not on the cross anymore. He is risen. He is risen indeed. And not just risen from the dead physically. He has ascended to his place as Lord of lords and King of kings. The book of Colossians shows Jesus as being the Creator of all that there is, not the little baby boy, not Jesus the man, or a great prophet or teacher as some belief systems say He is. No, He is God, the Lord of all, come in the flesh to save us. One of the ways you can tell if a belief system is false is if it does not acknowledge Jesus Christ as the Lord of the universe, or God come in the flesh to save us.

There are many bloodless religions and belief systems which say you are working your way to becoming whatever you are going to become. To say the Lord made you divine, you must realize you did not do it, but now you are to live in it. It is who He made us to be.

Some people have such a hard time forgiving someone. Did you forget you are love, you are forgiveness? As Jesus was giving Himself for us on the cross, what was He doing? *“Father, forgive them. They do not know what they are doing.”* That is my nature now. That is who I am. I love, I care. I believe for the impossible. Nothing is impossible to my Dad. It is not that the Lord is out there somewhere, and I am here. No, it is *“Christ in me, the hope of glory.”* It is what people sitting in churches need to get ahold of.

I am not a poor, miserable, wretched sinner, separated from the Lord anymore. I am His dearly beloved child in whom He is well pleased. I do not need somebody else to guilt me. If I sin as a believer, it is because I took my eyes off Jesus and put them on myself. Paul says, “Daily I have to die to the old self, lest after I preach to everybody else I am lost.” (This is a good verse to combat the “once saved always saved” belief, because apparently I can give up my salvation if I choose.) I still have a free will. The free will is meant to love. If there is no free will, there is no love involved. If you are coerced or compelled, you are guilted into something. There is no love in that obligation.

Christ freely gave Himself for us for the joy that was set before Him. (Hebrews 12) What was that joy? We being children of the Lord. That brings the Lord great joy when we succeed in Him and by Him, when we call upon Him in faith and truth. The Lord loves that we honor and reverence Him in our lives. See, my Daddy can do anything, and He has nothing to do with evil. His plans are for good. That is who Job learned the Lord is. *“I have heard about You by the hearing of the ear, but now my eyes see you.”* (Job 42:5) It is a personal relationship with the Lord, not religion.

## SALVATION VS. RELIGION

I was talking with the man at the gym one day who said, “I do not want anything to do with religion.” I said, “neither do I.” He said, “They are all a bunch of hypocrites, a bunch of phonies.” He had run into that. I have run into that. I told him, “It is not the Lord who is phony. He loves us. It is the people who say that Jesus is their Lord, but they are not living like He is their Lord. Those are the phonies. You know, if you are righteous, you live righteously. You will keep the commandments of God. (1<sup>st</sup> John 3 and

4) Not keep all the law, however. Many things are called law. But in the English language, the Bible simply reads “law.” Circumcision was one of those ceremonial laws. That is what Paul was telling the Galatians.

You are alive to Christ now, before you were dead to Christ. When you received Jesus into your heart, you heard the good news and how much the Lord loves you, came for you, and gave Himself for you. You said, “I want that. I believe that.” Then you invited Jesus into your heart. When He comes into your heart, you do not look any different. However, you start to think about others as more important than yourself. That is Jesus’ nature working in you. Consequently, you do not want to lie, you do not want to cheat or steal, you do not want to do anything that will harm anybody. Above all, you want to love the Lord. You will love with all your heart because you are so thankful to Him for what He has done for you. It is exciting to be sons and daughters of the Most High.

## LIVE BY FAITH IN JESUS

In the book of Galatians, some were saying that in addition to salvation, you had to keep all the ordinances to be saved. If that were the case, we would go right back under the old “works” salvation, in which case nobody would ever be saved because no one can earn their way to God. No one could please God even with the most wonderful works. He is not pleased through our works. (I know “Do-gooders” who come up with things that they think will be good, as if the Lord needs their assistance.) *“Humble yourself under the mighty hand of God.”* (1<sup>st</sup> Peter 5:6) That is, submit yourself to the Lord. *What do you want, Lord? How do you want to do it in this situation? “In due season, He will exalt you”* means He will bring to pass His will and purpose.

1<sup>st</sup> Peter 4:7 says, *“Cast all your care upon the Lord, for He affectionately cares for you and watches over you.”* It means I cannot help God do it. He is doing it. *“To them that believe, the works I do, you will do also, and greater works than these you will do because I go to the Father.”* (John 14:12) *Whatever you ask in My name, I will do that the Father be glorified in the Son.”* (John 14:13) I cannot do it, but Jesus can. I am out of the picture, aren’t I? *“It is no longer I who lives, but Christ lives in me. The life I now live, I live by the faith of the Son of God.”* (Galatians 2:20) See, I am

a spiritual being, born of heaven now. The first birth is physical that we may have opportunity to be born again spiritually.

What happens when children are done away with? The Lord receives them to Himself. Were they born in sin? Yes. Was it sin that took their life? Yes. But here is where God's grace and mercy comes in. No one can please God with the most wonderful works. He is not pleased through our works, but through our faith in Jesus Christ. In other words, God gave you faith to believe that Jesus Christ is Lord, and He will give anyone that faith. *"Faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the Word of God."*

Do you understand what Galatians is all about and why it is written that way? Paul was hammering that faith is the only way to salvation in Christ Jesus. Believe what Jesus did was for you and receive it. He did it. *"We are more than conquerors through Christ Jesus who loves us."* He did it for you. It is not your religious works. If I am a Christian, I desire to do the will of the Lord. His commandments are not external, they are now internal. They are in my heart. They are written on my heart. My new spirit.

## NOT A MERE HUMAN BEING

In your new spirit, the Holy Spirit will come to live where Jesus lives. Remember, Jesus says, *"You believe in Me. I will bring the Father and the Holy Spirit, and we will all live in you."* Wow! *"Christ in us, the hope of glory."* Think about that and realize you are not just a mere human being anymore. That is why Paul was asking, *"Who has bewitched you that you would believe this now that you are a Christian?"* Millions of people are sitting in churches every week and none of them are going to be with Jesus when He comes back in the judgment. They are deceived in worshipping false gods and believing false things. It is also a reason why many people do not get healed. They do not know if the Lord wants them healed or not. They do not know what is theirs in Christ Jesus.

We have been freed from everything that is not of God in Christ Jesus. He took the curse away. Sickness, disease, poverty, chaos, wars, and selfishness came after Adam and Eve followed the devil. The thief hates us all and wants us going to the fire with him. Every day he is trying to

raise up the old selfish self to put our will against the Lord's will and step out from His protection.

## THE LORD'S WAY

*"That which I feared the most is that which came upon me."* (Job 3:25)  
Fear is not of the Lord. Worry is not of the Lord. Job stepped out from the Lord's hedge of protection, and the only way the hedge could have been removed is that Job feared. He daily offered sacrifices to the Lord, perchance his children would sin. They had sinned, and he knew they had sinned and he was trying to cover for them. Understand this, only the blood of Jesus can cover. In regard to these sacrifices which people sitting in church do, the Lord says, *"obedience is better than sacrifice."* In one day, everything Job had was taken away from him. The thief came and stole and killed and destroyed, but the Lord put a hold on him. The devil could not take his life. If the Lord had not done that, Job would have died too.

The church has believed the lie Job said about the Lord, and because the church is believing it, people do not see the power of God. They do not know about the power of God. They think there may be answers to their prayer (yes, no, maybe.). No, He always answers my prayers. In Jesus. *"I know you hear me always,"* Jesus said to the Father. He asked the Father what He wanted and how He wanted to do it. He knew what the Father wanted because He knew His Father.

When the devil came with temptations, like, "I will give you everything the world has to offer," Jesus was not going to obey him. He would not do what the devil wanted him to do. Instead, *"I come, O, Lord, to do Your will."* That is what I want to do. What My Father wants. That is what I want as a Christian, a real Christian. Jesus is Lord. To follow the Lord means there are no other options, that is the way it is. I do the Lord's way out of love and thankfulness (not out of obligation, compulsion, guilt, or fear that if I do not do what the Lord says, He will strike me down).

## LOVE FOR GOD REPLACES SELFISHNESS

I have heard these wrong beliefs from people sitting in church. They think that the Lord put a heart attack or a cancer on them. I say, "No, the thief



did it to steal and to kill you.” Jesus says, *“I have come that you might have life, an abundant life.”* That means they did not have an abundant life before they received Jesus into their hearts. They are still trying to live their own lives, and do what they want. Some people receive from the Lord and feel good. Then they say, “Lord, I will take it from here.” Were there not 10 healed, and only one came back to give thanks to God? (Luke 17:11-19)

My life is one of thanksgiving and love for what the Lord has done. That is why I keep the Commandments of God. The Lord first loved me and now has given me the ability to love Him. Selfish people have no love in them. They are self-motivated. Bottom line, it is all about what they want and when they want it and how they want it to be. But in Christ Jesus, in His love, He sacrificed Himself for us. Therefore, no we prefer others more important than ourselves. But we are not a servant to the people. We are servants to the Lord, and we follow His directions. There are many people who will make you crazy with all their selfish desires and how they want you to be conformed to their image. In fact, they rebel, or they get more steeped in their ways. I share God's truth with some people, and they lock down even harder on their false beliefs. I am believing that the Lord can unlock them. They have to hear truth so that someday the Holy Spirit has something to work with.

The Holy Spirit will call things back to your remembrance. It is one of the functions He will do, but you have to put something inside for Him to call back. Therefore, you need the Word of God in you. It is spiritual food. *“My words are spirit and life,”* Jesus says. Your words are spirit and life, and will draw people closer to the Lord. You are responsible for what you share with people.

Were you taught that Mary, Jesus’ mother, did not have any other children? The fact is Jesus’ brother James was the head of the church at Jerusalem.

There are a million and one voices out there in the universe, and they all purport to share the truth. Just because somebody says something does not mean it is true. The Lord confirms His Word with signs and wonders following. You will know them by their fruit (their example, their fruit of life).

## LOOK TO JESUS

Have you ever noticed that your eyes go outward?

I need the Holy Spirit to show me insight. Examine yourself, (2 Corinthians 13:5), whether you be in the faith. Ask the Lord to show you your motivation. People say, "The Lord knows my heart." I am thinking, He does, but do you?

Jesus is coming back and He is coming back soon. We have to get the gospel out there, the good news of Jesus. We have people to meet and to share the love of God with, and give them opportunity to receive Jesus into their hearts. Then we are to live the life of love with people, respecting, and honoring everyone, and loving like Christ loved. "*While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.*" (Romans 5:8) That is all we are supposed to be doing. We are not to be caught up in the world because the world is going down, and the Church of the Lord is going up. We have people to see and things to do, and we cannot be distracted. We cannot get caught up in all of it because it takes our eyes off Jesus and off our purpose. The thief wants us upset. He wants us worried. He wants us fearful.

You cannot do what you do out of fear. I understand there is no condemnation, no guilt or anything about it, but we need to get the Lord's results. I do know I am in the Lord's hand, and whatever I do while I am here in the present, I will do with all my heart in the name of Jesus, out of thankfulness to the Lord to His glory.

# YOUR DIVINE NATURE

## Chapter Three

### THE RIGHTEOUSNESS OF GOD IN CHRIST

The Lord gives you a promise before the results happen. You needed the promise, and then it was time to put faith and trust in the Lord. That is the provision. The Word of the Lord is the provision in the situation, and you receive it by faith in Jesus' name. I give Him all the praise and the glory.

We have established a few things: We identify with the Lord's crucifixion (that all our sin is taken away, and our separation from the Lord is removed). No more guilt. No more curse. No more shame. I am free in Jesus now. It is the verdict the Lord puts forth, and it has to be established in our hearts.

As the Lord is renewing His Church, His Body, around the earth, people have to understand they are not just sinners saved by grace. The Lord has made us saints in Him, the righteousness of God in Christ Jesus. (2 Corinthians 5:21) Jesus took our sin and was made sin for us, that we might be made the righteousness of God in Him. It is all in Christ Jesus. He has given us His righteousness by the grace, ability, and favor that He has with the Father. Understand, it was Jesus the man as He walked the earth who put aside His position as Lord of lords and King of kings and submitted Himself to the heavenly Father to do His will. That is our example. Though He be the Lord of all, He humbled Himself and became a man. As full man, He was tempted and tested as we are. But He never gave in to sin. He never separated Himself from His Father. Why not? His Father's seed was in Him. His Dad was the Lord of lords. His Heavenly Father, whom He loved.

Mary was given the ministry of carrying the child Jesus, but the Father is Jesus' Dad. Mary was the mother of Jesus the man, but she was not who the church has taught her to be, the "mother of God." Make the distinction, make it clear. Otherwise, we are dealing with idolatry. She is not the Lord. Neither am I, neither are you, but we all have assignments from the Lord, and the Lord has given us His divine nature now.

## HAVING THE LORD'S NATURE

Everybody has to be born again to have the Lord's nature. When we have the Lord's nature, we identify with His resurrection. In the resurrection life, we are changed, no longer being the selfish, separated-from-the-Lord person. We are now one with the Lord. By the grace of God, we are saved through faith in Jesus, not by works, lest anyone should boast. It is the gift of God.

As we have discovered, many people have trouble with the fact that we have a divine nature because they think they are still sinners. It is what has been taught in the churches, and that is why many go to confession every week to confess their sins. They are sin conscious, while the Lord wants them to be righteousness conscious. That is who He made us to be. We are not a makeover, we are not a rebuild, we are a whole new creation in Christ Jesus. (2<sup>nd</sup> Corinthians 5:17)

Jesus was raised from the dead, the first born from the dead, and we in turn will follow. He is our example. *“To as many as received Him (Jesus), He gave the power to become sons and daughters of the Most High God, born not of the will of man nor of the flesh of man, but born of God's Spirit.”* (John 1) Heavenly, heavenly. I am heavenly divine now in Christ Jesus. When I tell people this, they look at me like, *No, I'm not worthy.*

Who is worthy?

The Lord Jesus is in His ascended place as Lord of lords and King of kings, and He is worthy. He has made us worthy through His Blood given on the cross. He did it for us. (See Isaiah 53:5-6). He has borne our griefs in the physical realm. He has carried our sorrows in the emotional realm. The chastisement of our peace was upon Him in the spiritual realm. He made us alive to God, and by His stripes we are healed.

*“Since you then be risen with Christ, set your mind (your heart) on things above, not on things beneath.”* (Colossians 3:1-2) We are here in this world on assignment from the Lord. We are saved by His grace, but now He has given us works to do. (Ephesians 2:8-10) *“We are God's good workmanship.”* (verse 10) That excites me. Whatever else you think

about yourself, you are deceived if you do not think you are God's good workmanship. Don't listen to anybody else because, what do they know?

## SANCTIFICATION

You have to know that the Lord began the good work in you, and He is faithful to perfect and complete it. (Philippians 1) What does that mean? That means all self-effort is out of the picture. Jesus makes you a Christian, and He is continuing to make you a Christian. It is called sanctification, the work of the Holy Spirit. Jesus made you holy by His blood, and He is daily making you holy. Walk according to the will of God like Jesus did. He did not say anything, do anything, or think a thought that was not from His Father in heaven.

He had a free will just like we have. We are free, truly free, to either serve the Lord or go back to our old ways, whatever we want to do. Before you received Jesus, you were not free to do anything except the will of the devil. Hence, he has stolen, killed, destroyed, used, abused, and thrown people away, but in Christ Jesus, there is a whole new thing. Say aloud, "I choose to love my Father in heaven now." I keep the commandments out of thankfulness to the Lord for who He is and what He has done in my behalf. I choose to serve Him because He first chose me. *"Many are called, but few are chosen."* The Lord saved everyone, but few receive the call and become chosen. Anyone can turn his life to Jesus, turn from his old ways (repent) and be a chosen one.

The Lord enables us to do that. It is by grace. He enables us to receive all He has through faith in Jesus. You have nothing to do with it except choose to believe what Jesus did, and He did it for me and for you. That is the message we share. It is the gospel to others so they can have the life of heaven too. The Lord gives saving faith which you cannot earn, and you cannot work for it. I receive the gift of the love of God. He makes me His child. I am loved with a love that is beyond understanding.

Now, what do I do? I work the works of my Father, as He directs. Some born again children of God have become confused because part of them says, "I'm not worthy." That is true. I was not worthy of anything the Lord did for me, but He is worthy, and He chose to make me worthy. Jesus chose to come and give His life and Himself to settle my debt. He paid my

ransom. I am free. He chose, then, to make me an heir of all that is His, a child of God.

Just bask in that for a moment. All the Father has is ours in Christ Jesus through what He did. Paul says that we are more than conquerors through Christ Jesus who loves us. (Romans 8) He was the Conqueror. We are coming into all He did, and He gave it to us freely. No strings attached. The devil gives things with strings attached, because he owns people. But the Lord does not own us. He just makes us one with Himself. We have to get this inside of us because when it comes to thinking of having the divine nature, churchgoers say, "I'm just human. I'm weak. I can't do that." On your own, you cannot.

## NOT BY SELF-EFFORT

The key is whether we are attached to the Vine. (John 15) When attached to the Vine, the life of the Lord flows through us. I am the branch. The branch makes no self-effort to make fruit come out. We simply stay attached to Jesus. Do not let Him go. Nothing can take your salvation away, but you can let it go. Choose not to let it go. Choose to do the will of the Lord. Choose to obey.

I lovingly and joyfully submit to obey my Father in heaven. We are not operating by self-effort. Many people are still trying to be Christians, trying to be good, but Jesus made me good. He said, "A good tree cannot bear bad fruit" because it is a good tree. Jesus made us good. We are His branches, united with Him. The fruit of love, joy, and peace are the Lord's love and joy and peace that flow out of us when we are attached.

If you should get into self-effort (and you can usually tell quickly, because you become angry, worried, fearful, confused or upset), you need to reconnect. That is where 1 John 1:9 comes in. *"If we are faithful to acknowledge our sin to God."* We are attached. Then we love and forgive people. If we are not attached, we go the other direction. Quickly say, *Father, forgive me in Jesus' name.* Then pray a blessing and speak life. Receive the forgiveness, and He is faithful to forgive and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness, like it never happened, friends. See, the Lord's love does not keep a record of wrongs. So if you are keeping a record of wrongs, whether about yourself or about somebody else, say, "Lord,

forgive me in Jesus' name right now," and get rid of it. Let it go right now. It is just that fast. It does not take five seconds to do it. Instantly, the Spirit of God cleanses and forgives and removes it from the record. By His grace, He enables us not to go there again.

## THE LORD WORKING IN US

*"Watch and pray, lest you enter into temptation."* (Matthew 26:41) The Lord is watching over us. That makes it easy to watch and pray because as I am tuned into the Spirit of God, I am watching. But it is not just me watching. The Lord is watching over me. *"Cast your cares on Him, for He affectionately cares for you and watches over you."* (1 Peter 5:7) Has the Lord thwarted a temptation before it happened? Did He keep you from entering into it? That is the work of the Holy Spirit, who is active to work in those who have been filled with the Spirit. We operate by the Spirit of God and the Word of God, not the flesh or the will of man, not my own will.

The old self is dead, crucified with Christ. (Galatians 2:20) *"And the life I now live, I live by the faith of the Son of God. It is no longer I who lives, but Christ who lives in me."* The divine nature is working there. He is in us, we are possessed. (When I say that word, immediately people think about demon possession. They think back to some movie they saw. Understand, when a person is demon-possessed, he or she is completely controlled by the devil. They do not have a will of their own. It is the devil flowing through them. However, he is a counterfeit). What we have to do is let Jesus out.

The Lord wants to completely possess us, not in a controlling, abnormal way, but in the way of the divinity that He has given us, which is always love and goodness and power. The way to do good is, to have power to love, to change what is intended for evil to good. That is working in us now, daily. The Lord is working in us. This is very simple. The devil blinds the minds of unbelievers to keep them from coming to know the Lord and His love for them. The devil keeps them from knowing that Jesus died for them, rose from the dead for them, and ascended on high, that they can become whole new creations, born of heaven, born of God, and good things are able to come. Apart from Jesus there is no love in a person's life.

## FAITH TO BELIEVE AND TO HEAL

The devil tries to make believers unprofitable, to get us to think that we are still unworthy, to get us to think that we can't do this and we are weak. Jesus says you will lay hands on the sick, and they will get better. You know it. It happens. Praise God. It works in the name of Jesus. Only in the name of Jesus. (John 14:12 and following. *"To them who believe, the works I do, you will do."*) You will do these things. If you believe. You receive Jesus with the same faith it takes to be healed or in finances and relationships. It is the same God and God-promises.

People seem to have a hard time with that, because they have to see it. They have to feel it. Paul teaches by the Spirit of God in 2 Corinthians 2, *"We do not walk by sight [or feelings]. We walk by faith."* Whose faith? It is the faith of the Son of God, the Lord's faith. Jesus' faith. And where is it? It is in me.

## ONE WITH THE LORD

The Lord wants us to be completely possessed by his Spirit so that He cannot tell any difference between us and Him. The religious people are up in arms when they hear that because they think we are saying that we and the Lord are the same. Absolutely that is what I am saying. It is all because of Jesus, not I being self-proclaimed. The devil was self-proclaimed. Do you realize that before you received Jesus, that is what you were doing every day of your life? You were choosing what you were going to do and say and not do and not say, and you had authority issues because you did not want anybody telling you what to do.

That was the devil's issue. He has an authority problem with the Lord. If you did something without shame, you basically told people you were going to do what you wanted to do. That is what a two-year-old does, but *"Train up a child in the way of the Lord and when they are older, they will not depart from it."*

Why would people have trouble when the Lord says, "I made you divine—" (John 17:11). In John, chapter 17 Jesus was praying that we be one. (Philip had asked him, *"Show us the Father."* Remember the distinction between "God out there somewhere" and us here. It is Christ in us, the



mystery of the gospel.) When you receive Jesus, He comes inside you. Then you are possessed by the Holy Spirit of God, the Lord Jesus Christ. Always go by what Jesus says. What is the Word of God and what is the Spirit of God saying? *"I can do all things through Christ Jesus who strengthens me."* It is not, "I can do all things by myself."

*"Apart from Me, you can do nothing,"* Jesus said, "My Spirit and My will are flowing through you as you are attached to Me." We submit our wills to the Father. *"Not my will,"* Jesus said, *"but Your will be done, Father"* in the garden of Gethsemane. You ask the Father in the name of Jesus, and Jesus says, "I will do the work." Who is doing the work? Jesus is.

In the second deliverance situation I did, there was a guy who was completely possessed. The devil in him didn't see me. It said, "Have you come to torment me before the time?" I realized, *Ah, he's not talking to me.* I remembered the man who was in a gathering with Jesus, and Jesus said to him, *"Come out of him."* I realized the possessed guy was not talking to me. I was not casting this devil out of him. Jesus in me was.

## JESUS DID IT ALL

The thousands of people we have seen healed over the years, whether it was through hands placed on them, the spoken word, or just simple direction from the Lord, who was it that did it all? Jesus.

A friend of Diana's lived in San Francisco. Diana and I arrived at her place, and the friend was there with her roommate. The gal was a model, and she had a photo shoot the next day. Suddenly, she started breaking out in hives. (And it wasn't because Diana and I showed up.)

So, I told the model with hives, "We can do something here if you want. We can pray." And so we prayed in Jesus' name, and cursed it off. She went to the emergency room, they did a couple things and sent her home. The next day, she was completely clear. You could say, "Well, the doctor did something," but she knew differently. I asked her what happened, and she said, "You healed me." How would she know that we healed her if she was thinking otherwise? Now, the Lord absolutely uses the other ways to heal under His direction.

If the Lord is directing you to do something, you do what He directs you, whether you can figure it out or not. *“Go and wash in the Jordan seven times, and your flesh shall be restored to you, and you shall be clean.”* (2<sup>nd</sup> Kings 5:10) The fellow with leprosy was thinking (in his own understanding) that he had clean rivers back home. Why should he do what he was told? Somebody encouraged him by saying that he came all that way, he might as well bathe seven times. He was healed of the leprosy as he followed (specifically) the instruction that the Lord gave through the man of God.

To this model, I said, “No, I didn't heal you. Jesus healed you.” Then she asked Jesus into her heart that morning, and went off on her photo shoot with very clean, healed skin.

Glory always has to go to the Lord. It wasn't me that healed. It was me doing what Jesus said to do. Pray, believing. Don't just pray. Believe. It is when you believe that you receive. The moment you believe the Lord, it starts coming out of the spiritual realm into the physical realm. See Hebrews, chapter 11. Maybe instantly. Maybe in 30 days, or 30 years.

## THE PROMISE COMES TO PASS

Isaac, the child of promise to Abraham, was born 30 years after the promise was given. The Lord said, “No hurry.” He knows the right time for the promise (God's provision) to come to pass. It is in the fullness of days in the Lord's mind. If you thought it should have been done earlier, you are leaning to your own understanding. That is not divine. That is flesh. *Lord, forgive me for leaning to my own understanding.*

Have you prayed your own will? Rather, ask the Lord what He wants, and how He wants to do it. The Lord says, *“Do not be covetous,”* but you say, “I am so lonely. I am all alone.” As a believer, you are never alone! Don't look at other sources. The Lord will never leave you nor forsake you. It is His promise. He tells us exactly what He will do. So many times I have heard from people sitting in church, “I don't know what the will of the Lord is.” Did you read the promises? You were never alone. If you are running around saying “I'm all alone,” who is influencing you? The pathetic self, and some devil talking to you, telling you, “You are all by yourself.” What are you going to do?

Say, "Blessings will overtake me. They will come for me. All the Father has for me will come to me." Jesus said that everything good from the Father will come. In its time. He makes all things beautiful in its time. Therefore, since the Lord won't leave me or forsake me, I will boldly say my part by the Spirit. It is the Lord in me doing it because He is the one who is enabling me to believe.

## NOTHING SHALL BE IMPOSSIBLE

Unbelievers have no use for spiritual things from the Lord, and do not want to hear it. It is just nonsense to them, and they say, "You are a weak person, you need the Lord as a crutch." No, I need Him as my life. He is not assisting me, nor am I assisting Him. His will will either be done in me and through me or not, depending on what I believe. Be it done to you according to your faith. So whose report will you believe? To believe the Lord's report, I have to know what that report is. Ask. Ask the Lord. *Doesn't He already know what we need?* He is just waiting for us to ask, to enter in. What is attached enters in, what is not attached, just goes right out.

I want to be quick about getting right with the Lord. It is the Holy Spirit working in me through the law of God that shows me my sin when I am separated. Sin is separation from the Lord. Another version says sin is the transgression of the law. What is the law? The will of God. If someone is doing differently, they don't want to hear the will of God. They don't want to do it. Then they are not attached. It is called presumption.

The children of Israel, remember, are children of the Lord. He is going to do good to them. That is covenant. When they were out of the will of God, they tried to go back in and take the land after they had said, "We don't believe we can take it." Then they decided that they wanted to go in, but the Lord wasn't with them. They were not attached.

When Caleb was asked which land he wanted, he said, *"If the Lord is with me, I'll take the land where the giants are."* The Lord had designated which land the others were to live in. Caleb was given a choice. He was one of the two believing spies that went into the land. The Lord gave him a choice, and he chose the best. The giants lived on the best land, and who

put that on his heart? The Holy Spirit. With the Lord, nothing is impossible. (Matthew 20:27) If you have mustard seed faith, *“Nothing shall be impossible to you.”*

## YIELD TO THE LORD

We submit ourselves to the will of God. (1<sup>st</sup> Peter 5:6-7) That is our part. Really, when you get right down to it, and you say Jesus is Lord, you are yielding your life to Jesus as your Lord. That means He runs and controls your whole life. Every decision, from beginning to never ending. I don't want my own will anymore. I give it up to the Lord.

Trust and obey,  
There is no other way,  
To be happy in Jesus  
Just trust and obey.

That is what we are dealing with. *“Humble yourself under the mighty hand of God, and He will exalt you.”* (1<sup>st</sup> Peter 5:6) You and I, as true believers, are not concerned about being exalted, but what did the devil want? To be exalted. He wanted to be worshipped. We Christians realize we are here to the praise of God's glory, and He gets all the honor. He gets all the power. The dominion glory is His. The power He gives us is His, but He wants us to use it to accomplish His works. *“I must work the works of My Father who sent Me,”* Jesus as man said.

As you watch Jesus the man, you see how we are to be living as Christians in the abundant life and living. Exactly how He lived is how we are to live, submitted to the Father. And He will exalt us.

What happened to the devil? He got kicked out of heaven, and, really, he lost the earth too. At the cross, he was defeated. He is still the lord of this world, as Jesus and Paul said, and he is still trying to be worshipped and get people to serve him through pride and self. He covers up his place in people's life. However, the Lord wants to be acknowledged in our lives. The devil seeks to hide in the lives of unbelievers so that they think, *I'm God. I'm doing this. I make my destiny. You know, I am the master of my own ship. I'm the commander.* No, you are a pawn in the devil's playground, being used and abused. Ultimately, he will throw you away.

You know, he can give you everything the world has to offer, but remember that Jesus did not want anything the devil was offering. He wanted only what His Father was offering because He knew His Father is love and goodness, true and just and wonderful. He knew the devil as being who he was. *“I saw Satan fall from heaven like lightning.”*

Jesus became a man for us. Beforehand He was the Creator of the universe, the Lord Himself. Father, Son, Holy Spirit — one God, unified. Then he humbled Himself and became a man.

Are we still mere men? The Word would say “no.” We are spiritual, born of heaven. That is our position. (Colossians 3:1-2) I am not the Lord, but He and I are one. Heresy is the term they used about that kind of thing. They said that about Jesus, didn't they? How did they know that He and the Father were one, and how did they know He brought us relationship with the Father? The Pharisees and Sadducees had religion, rituals, rites, do's and don'ts, touch this, don't touch that.

## A DAILY ACTION

If we are keeping the law of God, we are not under it. When Paul said that we are not under the law, he was talking about not needing circumcision, a physical outward sign. Some Jews had said men must be circumcised to be saved. Paul's response was they should have it cut off.

Rather, there must be circumcision of the heart. Romans 12:1-2: Daily submit (offer) your body, and renew your mind. We are the temple of the Holy Spirit *“bought with a price; therefore honor God with your bodies.”* (1<sup>st</sup> Corinthians 6:20) He possesses His temple. Every room. I don't have a closet for me. I only want His desire to fill my heart, my mind, my body. Keep it clean before the Lord.

Paul says, *“I discipline my body and bring it into subjection, lest, when I have preached to others, I myself should become disqualified.”* (1 Corinthians 9:27) Friends, there are ministers out there in the Body of Christ that are falling right and left, dying or falling into temptations that are overwhelming them. We need to be praying. We need apostles, prophets, evangelists, pastors, and teachers that the Lord has called and that the Lord keeps in order to get the truth to the people in these times.

Anybody can give themselves a title or have a certificate, but the Lord confirms His Word with signs and wonders following. I am living proof that the Lord does what He says He will do. It is not just talk. It is based on track record and testimony. And it is all because of the Lord and His goodness. It has nothing to do with me.

Always keep yourself submitted to and humbled before the Lord. It is not false humility. It is nauseating to say, "I'm so unworthy. I can't do this. I feel so inadequate." Many Christians, supposedly, are talking like this. However, if you cross them on it and say, "You know you are right," all of a sudden, the prideful self comes up and is offended that you think that way about them. "You said you were like that. I just went by what you said. Did you really mean what you said or are you putting on the humble pie act to get people's attention?"

If you are Christ's new creation, you do not have to draw attention to yourself. Being a Christian is very attractive. The people the Lord wants to touch (believer and unbeliever alike) are drawn to you. They see the goodness of God. You want them to see Jesus, not you.

Submit daily to the Lord. (Matthew 6) Don't worry about what you will eat, drink, and wear. Seek first the kingdom of God, be about the Father's business, and honor God with your tithes and offerings. Just do what He says to do. It is very simple. And He will do everything He says He will do.

## WE LIVE BY PROMISES AND PRINCIPLES

Unbelievers seek after things, but did Jesus ever lack anything as he walked the earth? Never. He even got his tax money from a fish. Do you know He didn't owe that tax money? It was a temple tax that He did not owe. I say the Lord is pretty big.

Because of God's goodness and power, He has given us promises of participating in the divine nature. (2<sup>nd</sup> Peter 1) We live by the promises. And they show how the Lord operates. We can now do that in Christ Jesus, only through Christ Jesus. In Jesus' name the power is released. Not in my name.

When you come to receive from the Lord in the prayer line, it is like going to the Lord's ATM (His account). He has given the password in Jesus' name. He only gives this to his children. If you are not a citizen of heaven, you have no right to anything from the Lord. That is the way government should work, too. In any case, it will be what it will be. I am not to get messed up because of what the world is doing.

What are we as believers to do? Tell people the good news about Jesus. Get them born again. Tell them what you have seen, heard, and know is true. That is it. Present the present. You cannot make people receive or do anything, just let them receive. *"Faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the Word of God."* We are to be lights for Jesus in the earth, loving and caring for people, doing good as the Lord directs by His power in obedience.

We are not "do-gooders," coming up with our own ideas about what would be good. That is fruitless. Usually, it is for attention and to be recognized as spiritual. Jesus said that they loved to be heard in the marketplace and noticed for their long prayers and long robes. They thought they were godly, but inside they were rotting and stinking, whited sepulchres on the outside, with nothing on the inside. (Matthew 23)

I have Jesus inside, and I need to let Him out. Obey what the Spirit of the Lord directs. We live by the principles and promises of the Lord, and we do what the Lord directs, not what we ourselves or anybody else directs. That means that sometimes authorities will not say what the Lord is saying. The Word says to submit to the king whether he is evil or good, as to the Lord, and submit your cause to the Father who judges justly. (1<sup>st</sup> Peter 2) Ultimately, we must obey God rather than men. That is where persecution comes. Daniel, Shadrach, Meshach, Abednego, and hundreds of thousands of Christians over the years have given their lives by not compromising the truth of the Lord in their lives. They loved not their lives to the death. What did they receive? A much higher crown from the Lord. Note, it is God's goodness and power that gave the promises. Give credit where credit is due. The glory is all the Lord's. You cannot touch His glory, His money, or His people. (Romans 8:4)

Though we be divine in Jesus, it is Jesus who does the works in and through us. He is our example. Some were saying, "You are trying to

make a show of yourself,” but He said, “No, it is not Me. It is My Father who is doing these works in Me and through Me.” Understand, the devil forgot who gave him everything he was, and he thought, *Look at me. Look at what I do and what I can do. I think I need to be running the show.* (It is like the creation telling the Creator how to run it.)

## JESUS FULFILLED THE LAW

*“For what the law was powerless to do because it was weakened by the flesh...”* (Romans 8:3) It was the sinful nature that weakened the law because nobody could keep the law of God. It is spiritual and it is holy, and they were not spiritual and not holy. In fact, their spirits were dead to the Lord.

But in Christ Jesus, we are raised from the dead. Our spirits are alive to God. Now we are spiritual. What do spiritual Christian do? They love to keep the Commandments of God. They delight in the law of God after their inner man. If you are not doing the law of God, then you are under the law, and the law will drive you to the cross and show you sin. That is its function.

We wrote a book, *Law and Gospel*, which shows how they work together in the Lord. You cannot be saved by the keeping of the law: *“Not by works.”* (Ephesians 2:9) It is only through faith in Jesus. We were powerless, but God saved us by sending His own Son in the likeness of sinful man. He became a sin offering, and so He condemned sin in sinful man in order that the righteous requirements of the law might be fully met in us.

Jesus said that He fulfilled the Law. Then people say, “He fulfilled it, so I don't have to.” It is like they are still blinded by the devil and do not understand the Word of God. (Of course, you can only understand it by the Holy Spirit.) “You know, Jesus did away with the Seventh-day Sabbath,” others say, but Jesus said, *“I am the Lord of the Sabbath.* I wrote the book. I put the Commandment down. I observe it.” It was given before the law of God was given to people, and it will be observed in the new heaven and new earth. (Isaiah 56 & 66)

## LIVE ACCORDING TO THE SPIRIT



Jesus never did away with the Law. (Matthew 5) Man did away with it and lost the power when they changed it. The righteous requirements of the law might be fully met in us. Who is "us?" I make a distinction between people sitting in church and the real believers who do not live according to the sinful nature, but according to the Spirit. They are living according to the Spirit of God and not the flesh. See, the flesh is weak. But the Spirit is willing. You do not have to sin anymore in Christ Jesus, as you are operating in the Spirit. (Romans 8.1) *"Therefore, if any is in Christ,"* you are attached. *"There is therefore now no condemnation to those who are in Christ Jesus, who walk after the Spirit and not after the flesh."* We have to get ahold of this, friends, because the Lord is not coming back for a disconnected Bride. It is all in Christ Jesus. *"Hid with Christ in God."* (Colossians 3:3)

Though Jesus be God, He humbled Himself and became a man, but He never did what the sinful nature was doing. He had the Lord's seed in Him. The Father God was His Dad. (The seed is from the dad, not the mom.) When you are born again, and Jesus is in your heart, you are born again of incorruptible seed. Born again of heaven. God's seed is in you in Christ Jesus because Jesus did what He did, and you believe what He did.

You will know you are a Christian by what you do. This is the real test. The devil, who wanted to be God, wanted to be independent of God. We are dependent on God, all glory to the Lord, daily submitted to Him. *What do You want, Lord, and how do You want to do it?* That is how we live. When you look at yourself in the mirror, who do you see? Your physical body. But here is spiritual truth: What you see isn't the real you. How did the disciples feel when Jesus got spiritual with them and told them, *"Unless you eat my body and drink my blood, you won't enter into the kingdom of heaven?"* In the natural the people thought, *We cannot handle this.* And they left. Jesus had said, *"You only follow me because I fed you."*

## BELIEVE FOR A HEAVENLY LIFE

How are people to be fed? *"Man does not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth forth from the mouth of God."* Unless people

have the life of God in Jesus (are born again), you are just preserving them to go to hell. You know, their life is hell right now because *"Apart from Me, you can do nothing,"* Jesus says (John 15), *"but with Me, all things are possible."* He has assignments for each of us, what He wants us to do in His family business. You are part of that. And He wants us to work to His glory. So the real me is my born-again spirit, alive to God.

Then the mind has to be renewed by the Word of God, or it will think in the old ways and in the world's ways. That is why you see people who have received Jesus, but they have not renewed their minds with the Word. They are not experiencing the abundant life the Lord has, and they are weak and miserable and wretched. Back when I was a boy, the confession of our church every week was true, unless you realized that the Blood of Jesus had made you a child of God, taking away your separation from Him, and giving you the life of heaven. Everything the Lord has is mine. A heavenly life right now.

People pray the prayer that Jesus taught His disciples. It is a teaching model, but if you want to know how Jesus really prayed to the Father, read John, chapter 17. You will see the intimacy. In the model prayer, *"Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven,"* how many millions of people in church say that prayer, yet don't believe it and are not seeing it happen? In heaven there is none of the mess you see in the world. None of it. No sickness, no disease, no poverty, no striving, no competing, hatred, wars, bitterness, or unforgiveness. They pray, *"Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven."* If you believe it, you will see it for yourself.

## HOUSING FOR THE LORD

Remember Jesus said to the disciples, *"The kingdom of heaven is within you."* He did not say it is within the world. He said it is within "you who believe in Me." We are lights in the darkness. The world is the darkness. We, as God's children, dearly loved, shine as lights in this dark world, bringing God's faith, God's hope, God's love to people. That is our assignment. It is not about, *Lord, bless me and my family spiritually, mentally, emotionally, physically, financially, in relationship. Just us four, no more.* No, it is not about taking care of my needs and dwelling on myself. In fact, if folks were taught properly, they would be taught by the apostles, prophets, evangelists, pastors, and teachers. The Lord's

ministers have the power and the authority to equip the saints for the work of the ministry.

If people were actually about the work of the ministry rather than thinking that they needed to be ministered to, they wouldn't have all the issues they have. This was something the Holy Spirit taught me many years ago: "Teach the people to be about My business, and they will not have all the problems they have." What are they thinking about? *Me, myself, and I. Oh my, oh my.* You know, the lion in the Wizard of Oz needed a badge to make him courageous but the Lord had already given him courage. The king, the lion of Judah, is the real King and Lord of lords. His name be praised. He is the One that the people will see in you. You are the housing for the Lord to work.

*"Many will come to Me in that day, Jesus says (when He returns), and they will say, 'Lord, Lord, didn't we do this in Your name and that in Your name?' And He will say, 'Depart from Me, you workers of iniquity. I don't know who you are.'" "These people honor Me with their lips, but their hearts are far from Me." (Mark 7:6)*

The real you is spirit, and out of the spirit proceeds the life of God. *"You will know them by their fruit."*

*"You teach for doctrine the commandments of men"* which have no effect or power to do anything other than the Commandments of God. I am referring here to the moral law, the Ten Commandments. The first four are about loving the Lord. The second six are about loving your neighbor as yourself. They have the power to change the world. It is all from the love of God because He first loved us. We are now able to love what He is doing in us and to love others as well.

# YOUR DIVINE NATURE

## Chapter Four

### The Mind

#### WHAT DID JESUS DO?

Let us look at the mind of Christ today, for the nature of Christ is in us now. Before we were Christians, being in the fallen cursed line of Adam, we had no contact with the Lord. Basically, we were separated.

Man is made up of spirit, mind, and body. That is how the Lord made us. When Adam went against the Lord, his spirit died to the Lord. That meant he consisted only of mind and body, cursed under the devil's rule, separated from the Lord forever. But in God's love and mercy He stepped in and came to save us through our Lord Jesus Christ. Jesus is the Lord Himself come in the flesh to save us. Think of all the miraculous things about Him. Jesus, the man, is my example of how to live the Christian life. He submitted himself to the Father God, though He had the divine nature, He did not use his place and power as the Lord Himself. He submitted to the Father that He might be full man, just like us.

#### ALIVE IN CHRIST AND CHRIST ALIVE IN US

Heaven is our position now, seated with Christ in the heavenlies. (Colossians 3:1-2) *"Since you then be risen with Christ, set your heart and your mind on things above, not on the things beneath,"* not on the world or on the flesh. The selfish self is dead. The old man is dead. That is the old man whose spirit was not alive to the Lord. But in Christ we are alive to the Lord. Our spirit is resurrected from the dead. I am raised from the dead through faith in Jesus, which is a spiritual resurrection. Soon to come, there will be a physical resurrection if we remain here before Christ returns. Our bodies will be instantly changed, and we will rise to meet the Lord with a spiritual body to match our new spirit. We are a spirit, not just a mind and body. Our spirit is the real us.

#### WHOM DO YOU FOLLOW?

We are called to renew our minds through the Word of God that we might know what is the good and pleasing and acceptable will of the Lord. 1<sup>st</sup> Corinthians 2:16 says that the Lord has given us the mind of Christ. When the curse that was on Adam and his line was broken, the law of life and health flows through our bodies. Jesus has become our second Adam, the new Adam. We in turn follow Him, and we will rise from the dead as He is risen. He has ascended to His place as Lord of lords and King of kings. Now we are here on this earth. In it, but not of it. We are about our Father's business, carrying on where Jesus left off.

A question that often comes up is "Where does the Lord leave off and I take over?" Never do I take over because I am not ruling my life that you take over your life is a deception, because you either follow the devil or you follow the Lord Jesus. It is one or the other. In Galatians 2 20 *"I am crucified with Christ,"* I identify with the crucifixion. Jesus did it for me. *"It is by His grace that we are saved, not by our works, lest anyone should boast, it is the gift of God."* Clearly a gift.

All religious activity that is not directed by the Holy Spirit is nothing. It will not be blessed by the Lord. It will actually cause great harm because it is working against the Lord's purpose in people's lives. If somebody is under the judgment of the Lord, you cannot help them by enabling them.

## WALK AFTER THE SPIRIT

In these last days we need the Body of Christ to be reformed and return into the image of the Lord, the way He intended His Church to be. There are many things that go into religion, like getting our relationship in place with the Lord again, and people living and walking as Jesus did on the earth. In the process, we have to realize that as born again Christians with the divine nature we cannot continue to run our own lives by our own understanding. I died. *"It is no longer I who lives, (Galatians 2 20) but Christ who lives in me and the life I now live, I live by the faith of the Son of God."* As Paul wrote, every day I have to put this body under subjection, this mind under subjection, and the spirit will follow the Lord. The spirit is willing. (Matthew 26 41) *"Watch and pray, lest you enter into temptation. The spirit is willing (and able, by the way), but the flesh is weak."* The flesh is weak when the spirit is willing and strong, if we operate by the spirit and not by the flesh.

(Romans 8:1-2) *“There is therefore now no condemnation to these who are in Christ Jesus who walk after the Spirit and not after the flesh.”* That means daily I have to put down the selfish self when it rises up. Understand this, I am not battling with the old self because it is dead unless I allow the temptations of life, the world, and my own fear for my life to get into my head and heart. *“Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good,”* (Romans 12:21) not letting the outside in. I need to let the Lord out. We are Spirit, mind, body, the temple of the Holy Spirit, possessed by the Spirit of the living God. We can make choices every day because we have a will. We have the mind of Christ and we need to operate in it. *“Trust in the Lord, lean not to your own understanding, acknowledge Him in all your ways and He directs the path.”* (Proverbs 3:5-6) Lord, what do you want and how do you want to do it today in Jesus name? We have been given all the authority of heaven, all the power over the devil in Jesus name.

## OUR NEW NATURE

The divine nature is in us. Our sin has been taken away. Therefore, our nature is not a sin nature. It is the Lord's holiness and righteous nature in Christ Jesus. *“Therefore, if any is in Christ, they are a new creation. The old passed away, the new has come forth”* to serve the Lord, and to be to the praise of His glory. Christ in us, the hope of glory, working. Nothing shall be impossible to you in Christ Jesus. (Matthew 20:17) This is how it works.

The old nature is dead. Through temptations, life trials, tests, and commotion the devil tries to bring pressure to get us to worry, fear, become overwhelmed and depressed (not believe God) in order to get us outside of our position in Christ Jesus. In Christ we are invincible. Greater is He that is in us than whatever is in the world. We do not need to be overcome by that, for the world is really not our issue. And we are not here to save the world because Jesus already did that. Whoever believes on the Lord Jesus Christ will not perish, but will have everlasting life. The Lord loves everyone and He wants everyone to be with Him.

## A RIGHTEOUS HOLY STATE

Who has the kingdom of heaven? The ones who believe in Jesus and what He did for them. My works do not save me, but when I am saved, there will be saving works from the Lord that follow. Jesus says, *"If you love me, you keep my commandments, you do what I say."* For that to happen, I have to guard my spirit. It is where the issues of life come in. Nobody can take my salvation away, but I can give it up. I can choose to walk away from the Lord. God forbid. We say, "Holy Spirit, override me," just as in an electrical panel, there is an override. I say, "Shut me down before I get out there where I do not need to be." The devil is trying to resurrect the old self that served him, that was cursed and under the curse. Have you ever been tempted with "get me back to the old ways?"

The Lord has given us a safety guard. (1 John 1:9) *"If we are faithful to acknowledge our sin to God, He is faithful and just to forgive us and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness."* He will put us back into the right holy state through the blood of Jesus. But that is the exception because the Lord's desire and requirement for us is that we live holy as He is holy.

## HOLY AS HE IS HOLY

Previously man could not keep the law. It was not that the law was bad, the law is holy, but there were no holy people that could keep it. In Christ Jesus, I can keep it because He kept it *"that the righteous requirement of the law might be fully met in us, who do not live according to the flesh but according to the Spirit."* (Romans 8:4)

Truly I love not what I am doing within myself, but what the Lord is doing in me. (Philippians, chapter 1) The Lord has begun the good work in me, and He is faithful to perfect and complete it. He is doing it by His grace, His power, His ability, and His favor. He loves me and He wants me with Him forever. As Jesus said many times, *"I must be about my Father's business."* Before you received Jesus, the Lord was not your Father, but people often say that. Jesus made it clear. He told the Pharisees, *"Your father is the devil because you do not believe in Me and you do not follow what I say. But if you follow Me, believe Me, and do what I say, then the Lord is your Father and I will bring Him into your heart and the Holy Spirit also. Together We will live within you."* (John 8:42-47) What you see is not all that you are. You are a walking, talking miracle.

Jesus makes us worthy. He makes us holy. He gives us the ability not to sin. That is what grace is all about. We will live to the praise of the Lord's glory as a witness, as a light in this world, as salt in this earth. Jesus says, "You are the salt of the earth. You are the light of the world." What did He say about Himself? *"I am the Light of the world."* Why are we the same? Because Jesus is in our hearts. When we asked Him to come in, we believed that what He did for us on the cross is what saves us. He rose from the dead so our faith is not in vain. He ascended to His place as Lord of lords and King of kings. Now He is anticipating and waiting for the time to come back and get the rest of us. We are looking forward to that!

In the meantime, what are we going to do? We will guard our spirits (Proverbs 4) because the issues of health and life are there. We will feed our spirits the Word of God, because, as Jesus said, *"My words are spirit and life."* The spiritual man understands the Bible and judges everything accordingly from the Lord's perspective. *"Do not judge according to appearance, but judge with righteous judgment."* (John 7:24)

We are looking at things from the Lord's perspective now. You cannot get any higher than Jesus made you to be. Nobody can take to themselves something the Lord has not given. You can go to school, get a certificate, and receive credentials, but they mean nothing without the anointing and call of the Lord to do what you are given to do. The Lord has given me and everyone else something to do in the Body of Christ. When all the parts are working together (team) then the Lord is honored and glorified and gets all the praise. I don't need or want the praise. It belongs to the Lord. It is about the Lord.

## THE LORD ALWAYS HAS A PROVISION

When you are going through life, it is not about what you are going through. It is not about you. It is about what the Lord wants to do with you in the position you are in, whatever it might be. He has gone ahead, and He knows your beginning from your end. He knows everything about you. He knows what you will do before you do it, and He always has a provision waiting. It will be unveiled at the point you need it. He has already given everything I need for life and godliness. (2 Peter 1:2)



I am not needy. I do not have to run around worrying about what I will eat, drink, and wear. I do not need to worry about reputation or recognition. I am a child of the Lord. He is working mightily in me. He is my life. He is my Savior. He is my Life-giver, my Caretaker. He is my Protector, Defender, Provider. He is my all. In Jesus' name. Tell the Father "You take very good care of me."

Have the mind of Christ. You may at times be carnal, but that is not really who you are. People who are born again have issues and problems because they are not doing what the Lord says. The Lord told me back in 1978 that carnal believers are fleshly. It is impossible for them to keep the Lord's seventh day Sabbath because they have one foot in heaven and one foot in the world. The flesh separates the true believers from the false ones.

## UNDERSTAND YOUR POSITION

There is a promise from heaven that we might participate with the Lord in the divine nature and overcome the corruption that is in the world. (2<sup>nd</sup> Peter 1) What do we do with that? The mind is the realm of the intellect, emotions and will. Now you can understand why the devil wants to blind the minds of people. (2<sup>nd</sup> Corinthians 4) He wants to keep us from being born again and becoming divine in nature. The devil hates us and wants to steal that divine nature from us. He wants to steal.

We are going to rule as kings and priests with the Lord, under the Lord. We are not the Lord, but we are His children. Understand your position, your place. Jesus, when he walked the earth, never took to making decisions on His own or doing anything without His Father directing and guiding Him in His perfect will. False teaching makes everybody feel unworthy: *How am I ever going to do His perfect will?* You have to listen today when you hear His voice. Harden not your heart. Harken to the voice of the Lord and let it get down in you deep. *How can I ever do that?* Through Christ Jesus, the Holy Spirit and the heavenly Father's grace and desire. If God be for you, who can be against you? You cannot even be against yourself if you rely on the Lord. It is impossible for the old self to rise back up and take power unless you let it. (Colossians 3:16) *"Let the Word of Christ dwell in you richly."* Allow it. You do not have to be afraid, for your life is in the Lord's hand.

Nobody can take you out. No devil can. The Lord will not leave you or forsake you. Do not set your heart on things other than the Lord. You might be by yourself, but you are not alone. The Lord is with you. He will never leave you, will never forsake you. *"Therefore, we can boldly say, 'the Lord is my Helper.'"* You are not a "poor, miserable, despicable, pathetic" you. No, you are loved and blessed forevermore. Thank you, Jesus.

## I DELIGHT TO DO HIS WILL

I love to keep the Commandments of God because I do it out of thanksgiving to the Lord for all He has done for me. I love to do His will and His purpose. The thief tries to neutralize believers so that they are not effective anymore. If they are not operating by the Spirit of the Lord, they are operating by self, doing religious deeds, and they are worthless to the Lord.

Someday He will give out rewards to those who have done what He said to do. *"Didn't we do this in your name and that in your name?"* The people will say when Jesus comes back, and He will say, *"Depart from Me, you workers of iniquity. You call Me Lord, but your hearts are far from Me and you are working evil."* What is evil? Not doing the will of the Lord, but doing your own will.

Love has to be from a free will. God doesn't make you love Him. Say aloud, "I'm not a robot. I delight in the Lord on His holy day I am delighting in Him." You are living in the Spirit of God in the moment, not in the past, not in the future, just enjoying life in the Lord in this moment. Can't beat that. You are not concerned about your life or what you will eat, drink, and wear.

Seek first the kingdom of God (Matthew 6), and do what Jesus did and told us to do. I am not interested in what unbelievers think about. That has no place or power. I am not interested in money, making money, or saving money. I am interested in doing what the Lord says to do with the money He has given me and entrusted to me to take care of. I give where the Lord directs me, when He directs me. Jehovah Jireh, one of the Lord's names, says, *"I am the Lord who gives an offering."* He gives me the

money so I can give it out as he directs. And it keeps coming. Everything I need for life and godliness, He has already given so I can be about my Father's business, not being caught up in worrying and thinking about that. All the Father has for me comes to me, Jesus said. That is why I say, "Money cometh to me." Because where is it coming from? My Father in heaven. *"Give and it will be given unto you, pressed down, shaken together, it comes to you so you can give more"* from people that the Lord has put on their hearts to give.

What does the world do? Manipulate and control. Show starving babies and appeals like "We are going off the air if we don't get your 10 bucks today." Well, go off the air. You know, you do not belong on the air if the Lord is not paying for it. He pays for what He wants. He makes a way. The children of Israel had no need for all the gold, the linens, and the wonderful goods that the Egyptians loaded on them to get rid of them. When Moses saw that it was time for the tabernacle to be made, the Lord called for an offering. Moses called for it, and all the people kept giving. That could have been the most wonderful time of generosity, but we know those Israelites were just happy to get rid of the gold and all the things they had to carry with them. It is quite humorous, actually.

However, that is not our heart. (2 Corinthians 9) The Lord loves cheerful, hilarious givers. When you give a little, you reap a little, when you sow a lot, you reap a lot. Tithes and offerings is where the blessing is, and it is between you and the Lord. He will make a way.

## IN ALL CIRCUMSTANCES GIVE THANKS

I am renewing my mind with the Word of God. In Galatians, chapter 5, find the fruit of the spirit: love, joy, peace, etc., which are the spiritual qualities that the Lord has put in us. It is not, "I am loved," or "I am not loved, poor me." No, it is eternal, everlasting love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, gentleness. These are the Lord's qualities, not emotions based on how many people run their lives. These kind of people are not believing God. They are happy when everything is going well but not when things are not working. What am I going to do? Rejoice in the Lord always. That is a command. Always, no matter what the circumstance, no matter what the situation, *"In all circumstances give thanks to God."* In these situations the Lord is greater than what is happening, and somehow

He will make a way to turn what is intended for evil around to good to the glory of God. He gets the praise for how He worked it out for you.

*Thank you, Lord, I am not You.* But He is in me, and as I acknowledge Him, He will rise up and come forth. That is how it works. I am not leaning to my own understanding about the situation, trying to figure it out.

## BACK TO WHERE YOU BELONG

Have you heard this one? “When all else fails, pray.” (I didn’t know there were any other options.) The Lord says, “If you are in trouble, pray.” Not try this, try that, do this, do that, run here, run there. No, the Lord says, “Run to Me.” How about it? *“Call unto Me in the day of trouble and I will answer you and show you great and mighty things, things you know not of. And I will help you from above.”* Is the Lord out there somewhere, and I am here? (As has been taught in churches.) They do not know if the Lord hears them when they pray. Of course He hears you. He even hears you cursing, and He hears your unbelief, your fear, your worry. He is the Lord. But what does He want? He wants us to believe Him and turn to Him. Repent, and turn to the Lord. Get back where you belong. That is the Spirit of God saying, “Get back where you belong in the Lord. Get out of that fear, worry, depression, commotion.”

A Christian should never ever be in that state. Is the Lord not in your life? *“Put on the whole armor of God that you might be able to stand in the evil day.”* Evil days happen, and more will happen as you believe the Lord more because the thief wants you to fall and fail. He wants you dead and gone. A while ago, he came as an angel of light to me and tried to sweet talk me out of this life. It did not work. Then in December, 2023 he came with an all-out killing attack. Understand, that is what the Lord said the devil is doing nowadays. He is not messing with unbelievers. He is flat out killing people. You know, he used to play with them, use them, abuse them, and then throw them away. Now he is killing because he does not want people to be born again. He does not want them receiving Jesus and being saved. He is going after the millions of people who are hailing other gods, sitting in church thinking that they are serving the Lord Jesus Christ. You cannot be “hailing” anybody other than Jesus and be saved.

The Lord loves the people. He wants them to remove the lies which will hinder them from working miracles in Jesus' name. *"Apart from Me, you can do nothing."* It is all in Jesus' name, but under the direction of the Holy Spirit. This is where people get it wrong. They go out in Jesus' name, and see somebody with a problem. They *quickly* go out there to save them and fix them before they even ask, "Lord, what do you want? And how do you want to do it?" The reason Jesus got 100 percent results was because he always sought the Father about what to do and how to do it. He never stepped out and did anything on his own. The religious people of His day were saying, "You are doing this on your own to get glory for yourself." But Jesus said, "No, all I do comes from the Father. I do not do anything on my own." Jesus was not trying to convince anybody of anything. He was speaking the truth in love, *"Let the blind lead the blind, let them all fall in the ditch."* Jesus also said to His disciples, *"Stay away from those people. They will take the life of heaven away from you."* The kingdom of heaven is not in the world. It is only in the people who truly have received Jesus as their Lord and Savior.

Jesus told them, *"The kingdom of heaven is at hand."* (Matthew 3:2) He said, *"To them who believe the works I do, you will do and even greater works than these you shall do because I go to the Father, and whatever you ask in My name, I will do."* (John 14:12-14) I am not doing it, and the results are not up to me. I am doing what the Lord Jesus says to do in His name.

Moses asked that Miriam be delivered of the leprosy when she had gone against the Lord and against Moses, and the ministry of God. The Lord told Moses that Miriam was to stay outside the camp for seven days. It taught her a lesson, and she was received back. She did not ever challenge Moses or the authority of God again. She and Aaron had the same spirit, but they were not given what the Lord had given Moses to do. Know your place. Know your position, and you cannot take to yourself something the Lord has not given from heaven, John the Baptist said (John 3:27)

## TRULY LOVE JESUS AND PEOPLE

How then am I going to know what to do and how to do it? I will ask the Lord. Jesus said, "I will do it, that the Father be glorified in the Son." That

brings glory to the Lord, and we are blessed. Why? Not because devils fear and tremble, not because we lay hands on the sick and they get well, but because of the Lord's grace is working, and because we were obedient to the Lord to do what he said in the way He said to do it. It is why we see such great results around here. Through His Word He will bring spirit and life, with His results.

Intellect can get in the way (emotions and feelings), taking you right out of the will of God quickly. The thief is trying to get you focused on the pain and to take your eyes off the Lord by your feelings. *I don't feel loved.* Once a guy was running around saying, "Where is the love? Where's the love?" It was all about others loving him. I told him, "Well, bro, where is *your* love?" In other words, in a relationship, love has to go both ways. First we received the love of God in Jesus and now we have the ability to love as the Lord has loved us. The Lord does not want to enable people to receive freedom without responsibility. Many times people have said, "Okay, I'm healed now, I'll just go back to my old ways." They might as well have died and gone to hell than to receive from the Lord but go back to their old ways. The end is the same. There has to be a change, there has to be a difference. *"You will know them by their fruit."*

We are dealing with the will. What will we do with the will? If I and the Lord ask, "What did you do with the people?" and you say, "I loved everybody except one person. I just had a serious issues there," the Lord will say, "How would it be if I loved everybody except you?"

*"Love keeps no record of wrongs."* (1<sup>st</sup> Corinthians 13) Each person stands responsible for his own life and actions. There are no excuses in Christ Jesus. The Lord says to forgive, *"If you do not forgive others their sins, your Father will not be forgive your sins."* (Matthew 6:15) *"If you do not love your brother or your sister, how dwells the love of Christ in you?"* (1<sup>st</sup> John 5) The Lord loves everybody. He wants the best for all people, and He wants them saved. I know that not everybody will be saved. That is just a fact, but it is not our concern. Our concern is to get the good news of what the Lord Jesus has done so that people have opportunity to receive Him and be saved. Then we are to be an example of the love that Jesus showed in thought, word, and deed.

## HARDEN NOT YOUR HEART

Thoughts from the mind are a real issue. What is in a person is shown by what they say and do. The mind will override the spirit if you allow it, and you can be at war within your spirit and your mind. *"The good that I would, but I don't..."* (Romans 7:19) And it is possible I won't because I don't want to. *"Stubbornness is as iniquity and idolatry."* (1<sup>st</sup> Samuel 15:23) Both are out of sorts. Stubbornness says, "My will will be done on earth."

If you willfully, knowingly continue to practice sin, you are not a Christian, you are not a born again believer. *"You are of the devil,"* Apostle John told some in the church. (1<sup>st</sup> John 3:8) Do not be deceived, you are not of God. When you willfully, knowingly continue to go against what the Lord says, *"Today, if you hear His voice, do not harden your heart."* (Hebrews 4:7) That is what has happened. To harden your heart is what the devil wants. Then there will be no blessing coming from heaven on the giving. As long as you are doing what the Lord directs, and are giving out, you are blessed. When a gift is coming from the Lord and you pocket it for your own personal use, it stops coming from heaven. You are no longer the Lord's steward of His abundance. (See 2<sup>nd</sup> Corinthians 1-9) Spend much time looking at that. What are you going to choose?

When a temptation comes to worry it is just as easy to say, "No, my God takes care of all my needs in Christ Jesus." I come back with the Word of God like Jesus did. He is our example. Jesus challenged the fear. Many of the fears you have never happened. Fear is the devil's tool to open the door to make it happen. *"That which I feared the most"* (Job 3.25), *"is that which came upon me."* It starts with a fear that opens the door to the thief being able to steal. Even if you have challenges in your life, it is not necessarily touching you. Don't let it get in your head or heart. It is just happening around you.

## LAY DOWN YOUR WILL

Humble yourself under the mighty hand of God and cast all the care on Him, for He affectionately cares for and watches over you. (1<sup>st</sup> Peter 5:6-7, Amplified Bible). The Lord takes the cares. I am not the one to try to figure it out. He will make a way where there is no way. Just think about Moses. He was out in the wilderness with a million people and all their

goals. He had to get them out of Egypt. The sea was in front of them, and Pharaoh's army was coming up behind them. How did Moses deal with it? He inquired of the Lord. The Lord said, *"Stretch forth your staff."* The intellect would think that would not work, but nothing is impossible to God. Everything He says to do is the way it needs to be done. I am always amazed at what the Lord does and how he does it. I do not know anything before He does it. What I know is somehow, some way He will make a way and work it out because his plans are for good, not for evil. Distractions are thrown at us to get us off the Lord's path and our eyes off Jesus. He is my only hope, my only answer in my life. If I go, I go to Him with a promise too, and I rest secure in it. Whether I live or I die, I am the Lord's. You have to know that.

Through the Word of God, my will and the Lord's will are becoming one because I do not want my own will. I yield my will. In a love relationship it has to be free will, both ways, both parties. You have to lay down your will and prefer the other before yourself, and the other do the same. Then neither one has a will of his or her anymore. They submit themselves to the Lord.

Whose will is going to be done in a relationship? The Lord's will will be done, because both are submitting themselves to Him and to one another in love. *"Without pride, there is no contention."* The number one thing people come to me about is relationships because they cannot figure out intellectually how to deal with it. Emotionally, it is a mess when there are two selfish people together. All hell breaks loose. I have seen two-year-old tyrants controlling the whole household. That should not be so. The Lord has measures to be done. Do what the Lord says, and you will get the Lord's results. *"Train up a child in the way of the Lord and when he is older he will not depart from it."*

I am divine now, and I am asking the Lord what He wants and how He wants to do it.

## SPIRITUAL TOOLS

The Lord can use anything for His purpose, and there is a message in everything. Praise God when we ask Him for what He wants, and how He wants to do it, and we will get His results. The Lord has given us spiritual



tools like the armor of God. Some of the spiritual weapons and tools are the sword of the Spirit, and the shield of faith. And we pray in tongues by the Holy Spirit. His Spirit has filled us because we wanted Him to fill us and we invited him in.

Acts, chapter eight, talks about being filled with the Holy Spirit as a separate working. Peter and John were specifically sent to Samaria so the people there could receive the Holy Spirit with the evidence of speaking in tongues. This is the only New Testament evidence that people have received the Holy Spirit. However, people with their intellect say that it does not compute, it is just crazy emotion, and they do not want it. (1<sup>st</sup> Corinthians 14:14 Amplified Bible) says that when you pray in an unknown tongue it is unknown to you. The language is not unknown. It says, *“I speak with the tongues of men or angels.”* My mind is not praying, my spirit is praying by the Holy Spirit in me. My body is involved because I am speaking. It is there whenever I want to speak to the Lord.

Languages change as the Lord gives the utterance using somebody's language somewhere, maybe an ancient language, maybe modern. The Lord can use anything he wants. I pray, “Lord, give me the words to pray for this situation, this person.”

*“Likewise, the Spirit helps our infirmities (our weaknesses) when we do not know how to pray, the Spirit will give you the words to pray according to the perfect will of God.”* For the Father searches the mind of the spirit according to the will of God. *“...and all things work together for good to those that love the Lord and are called according to His purpose.”*  
(Romans 8:26-28) It is perfect prayer, according to the perfect will of God.

The Lord does not leave me in distress. No stress, no mess with the Lord and the Holy Spirit. No commotion and no empty religious motion. A guy in Mark, chapter nine, brought his boy to see Jesus. The boy had a devil which threw him into the fire or into the water to drown him. The dad heard about Jesus and came while He was on the mountain of transfiguration. The disciples down below could not do anything because of their unbelief. They were in strife because they didn't get to go up on the mountain with Jesus. Healing the boy was a perfect opportunity for the Lord to be glorified. They had cast out devils before, and they could have done this, but they were out of sorts among themselves.

Lord, forgive the Body of Christ for being all about themselves and not about Your will and purpose in Jesus' name. Just because there is a need or somebody is sick does not mean they want to get well. Do-gooders run over "in Jesus' name," but they do not even ask the Lord what He wants.

We had a prayer line one day, and a young man came up, probably about 18 or 19 years old. He had mental retardation issues and other health problems. It was evident. Everybody was thinking that he was going to get healed and delivered. I asked him, like the Lord always taught me, "What do you want?" (Not what your mom or your dad or your uncle Henry or the people want.) He said, "I want a train set." Unbeknownst to anybody else about two weeks prior, somebody who was not known by us and didn't know this fellow brought in a super deluxe choo-choo train with smoke and bells. I mean, all the bells and whistles, top of the line, in a big box. They said, "Just give it as the Lord directs you, Pastor." So I looked at the usher and said, "Go get the box." I said, "Here, special delivery from the Lord to the glory of God." Thank you, Jesus. Yes, we also prayed over the young man. And he lived for many more years being a blessing to many people, which he was not supposed to do. Years later his mother came to service and still has the train set. It was set up and it runs. To the glory of God. Hallelujah. Supernatural ministry, Holy Spirit ministry. We have a supernatural Lord. Anybody can talk, but does the Lord confirm that Word with signs and wonders following?

## TIME FOR THE CHURCH TO GROW UP

We need to grow up in the faith and come into all that the Lord has. (Ephesians 4) The Lord is doing it right now around the earth. There is a movement of the Holy Spirit to grow up the Church into the image of Jesus, to operate like Jesus did when He walked the earth. Power, wisdom, love, joy.

Paul wrote to us, *"Rejoice in the Lord always."* (Philippians 4:4) *"Do not worry about anything. Present your requests to God. And the peace of God which transcends all understanding will guard your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus."* (Philippians 4:6-7) It is abundant living when nothing that happens phases you. The Lord has it all. But it takes courage to step out. What if it does not happen?

One time there was a flaming devil who talked to me when I first started praying for sick people. A person with a knee condition wanted prayer. I heard the audible devil voice. (I hear them all. The angels, the devils, the Lord's voice.) And he said, "What if it doesn't work?" Now, where did that voice come from? Remember, the devil is not the Lord. He can't read your thoughts. He does not know what you are going to do until you do it, but he puts out some provocation. Seeds of doubt. It went on. "You will make a big fool of yourself in front of all these people." When I am talking to a devil, it is always out loud and very affirmative in the spirit. I said that he had to go and that what he wanted would not happen in Jesus' name. Not that he doesn't have power. He does have power, but the Lord has given us His authority and His power over all the things of the devil. I said, "I don't care what is going to happen. I am just responsible to say in Jesus' name, 'Be healed.' And that is what I will do." I said this while everybody was there. Bam, the guy started walking without the limp. The knee was restored, and away he went, happily ever after.

When you first came to the Lord, you received answers right away, and things happened. Then you found it was not happening. What is it that says, "It is not happening?" The intellect. See, we do not walk by sight. We walk by faith. *"Except I see the holes in his hands and his side. I won't believe,"* Thomas said. Jesus showed up and said, *"Thomas, blessed are they who have not seen, but still believe."* When you pray, believe you have received and you will see it. I don't care how many people are praying. That means nothing to me. I have seen how people pray. The Word says, "When you pray, believe." Believing is everything. Believe what? That you receive. Right now. It has to happen. Pastor, you are putting conditions on it. No, it is what the Lord wants and how He wants to do it. Look at Jesus' life. He didn't pray the same way every time. The Lord is big. How does the Lord want it, and what does He want to do?

We know that it is His will to heal. It is His will to remove the devil from people's lives. Yes, absolutely. To set the captives free. (Isaiah 61, Luke 4) Jesus quotes Isaiah 61, *"The Spirit of the Lord is upon me. He has anointed me to preach good news to the poor,"* not the poor in money, but the poor in spirit, the ones who do not have the Lord's provision and blessing. Preach the gospel to folks that are not saved. If somebody is

preaching the gospel to me, it is clear to me they are not directed by the Holy Spirit because I am already saved and I know it. If you do not know you are saved, there is something wrong with what you are believing.

## STEP OUT IN FAITH

You have to know when you pray that the Lord answers and does great things. Jesus does what He says He will do. If you never step out and do it, nothing will happen. If you do not believe for anything, you won't see anything. Nothing to see. The reason we do not see it right away sometimes is because it has to come out of the spirit realm into the physical realm. *"Faith is substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not yet seen"* (Hebrews 11:6), but we will see it. Keep the hope, but wishing and hoping does not do it. Hope gives you opportunity and it takes you out of the depression, out of the doldrums. *"Hope in God and I will yet praise Him,"* David said. Faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not yet seen. It has to come out of the spirit realm into the physical realm. Then you will see it. You will see it. That is all you need to know. We will act on the faith.

The final stage of faith is peace. I am not praying 20 times a day for something to happen. Did I pray but not believe? The result happens the moment you believe. Did you say prayers, and one day you believed? Then it happened. It is not released from the Lord until there is God-faith. *"Have the Godlike kind of faith."* (Mark 11:22) Speak to the mountain, "Move." Do not doubt in your heart. Believe that those things you say will come to pass. You will have whatsoever things you say.

## PURSUE SPIRITUAL MATURITY

*"So then, my dear ones, just as you have always obeyed my instruction with enthusiasm, not only in my presence, but how much more in my absence, continue to work out your salvation."* (Philippians 2:12-13, Amplified Bible) Continue to work out your salvation now. Cultivate it. Bring it to full effect, actively pursue spiritual maturity with awe inspired fear. It is reverence and honor to the Lord, worship of God, and trembling. Use serious caution and critical self-evaluation to avoid anything that might offend God or discredit the name of Christ. The Lord is doing that today in the Body of Christ. He is bringing us back into the holiness of the

Lord. The church is not a country club, social club, or a meet-and-greet game place. We have come to worship the living God, the Creator of the universe, the one who loved us so much that He gave Himself for us. He is strengthening, energizing, and creating in us a longing, a desire, and the ability to fulfill our purpose, the one that the Lord has given to us. It is not your desire for what you do in life, but what the Lord wants. *Lord, what do You want me to do with my life? How do You want me to serve You?*

Because we are lights, the Lord puts us in different places to reach different people, with the ability to fulfill our purpose for His good pleasure. Do everything without murmuring or questioning the providence of God. I want to do whatever the Lord says. "I do not hear the Lord like you do, Pastor." Yes, you do. You just have to learn to recognize His voice. It comes like thoughts. The devil puts thoughts in your head too. It is similar to that cartoon with an angel on one shoulder and the devil on the other whispering into your ear. Which one will you follow? You have to start somewhere. If you are afraid that you will miss God, then you have already missed it. How so? You are afraid. The Lord will not find fault with you if you do not hear it right. You will just experience whatever you're going to experience by hearing it wrong. But He is going to make sure that you hear it right.

Find out what is right, and then by the Lord's grace, do it. Say, "I have the ability to do it now. For it is the Lord in me, enabling me to will and to do his good pleasure." Make it happen. Nothing should be impossible to you in Christ Jesus.

He sent me back from near death again to give these messages. Let me tell you, I have never in my almost 60 years of ministry shared this message this way. This is end times, friends. I surely hope that you are treasuring every moment of it because you are not hearing it out there. It is cutting edge revelation. There is no new revelation. There are fresh revelations, and the Lord will confirm them.

## **YOUR DIVINE NATURE**

- John 1                      We have God's Nature.
- Philippians 1 /  
Ephesians 2:10              Operate by the Spirit and the Word of God,  
not flesh (the will of man).
- John 15                      The attached life flows, apart from Jesus you can  
do nothing.
- John 14:12-15              Ask Jesus. He will do it.
- Philippians 2:20              Be not covetous, but devoted to others' interests.
- 1 Peter 5:6-7              Submit will to God.
- Romans 12:1-2              Daily submit and offer your body, renew your mind  
and body.
- Matthew 6                      Seek first the kingdom.
- 2 Peter 1                      God's goodness and power has given promises for  
us to participate in the divine nature.
- Romans 8:4                      Though we be divine in Jesus, it is Jesus who does  
the works in and through us.
- Philippians 2                      Though Jesus be God, He humbled Himself, unlike  
the devil who wanted to be God and independent  
of God. We are dependent on God. All glory to  
the Lord! We are to daily, constantly be in  
submission to God. Ask Him, "What do you want?  
How do you want to do it?"