

Being Diligent To Enter the REST



*“Therefore, as the Holy Spirit says: “Today, if
you will hear His voice, do not harden your
hearts....”*

Hebrews 3:7-8.

Teaching notes from the January 2016 SHILOH
International Apostolic Training School

Revival Ministries Australia

This Manual has been compiled with short hand notes from each publicly taught session of the SHILOH International Training School, July 2015
These notes can help as an aid with the CDs or DVDs for each session or they can be used as a guide to study the topics and verses mentioned.
This manual is also invaluable as a teaching aid for you to teach directly from the Scriptures, with the help of these notes.

Please note that there are no notes for sessions 13 and 19. There are DVDs for these sessions. One is a panel of people sharing and the other is a mission report.
Sessions 28 & 29 are teaching notes only [no DVD] by Paul Galligan.

Paul Galligan & Nicholas Jackson, apostles of Jesus Christ, are the principal teachers.
Session 6 – Pastor Janet Galligan. Session 19 & 22 – Apostle Rob Cochrane.
Session 23 – Apostle Alberto Florez Granados

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- Making disciples, Matt. 28:18-20,
- Training & equipping workers for the harvest, Matt.9:37–10:40, Lu.10:1-20
- Bringing the church to maturity by fathering sons, Gal.4:10 & 1Cor.4:14-17

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Being Diligent to Enter His Rest

**"Let us therefore be diligent to enter that rest..."
Hebrews 4:11**

**"Therefore, as the Holy Spirit says: 'Today, if you will hear His
voice, do not harden your hearts as in the day of rebellion...'
Hebrews 3:7**

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CONTENTS

1. Entering the Rest.....	4
2. The Messenger of YAHWEH.....	9
3. Ephesians 1.....	14
4. Being a "Timothy".....	18
5. Ephesians 2.....	24
6. The Renewing of the mind.....	29
7. The Word of God and the Testimony of Jesus Christ.....	34
8. My Gospel.....	40
9. Ephesians 3.....	44
10. Fasting.....	48
11. Empowered for the Greater Works.....	55
12. How to conduct yourself.....	61
13. Panel 'Aspects of being on mission' [No teaching notes, DVD only]	
14. Ephesians 4.....	65
15. Messages from Malachi.....	70
16. Keeping the Heavenly Focus.....	77
17. Ephesians 5.....	82
18. Knowing God by His name (Part 1).....	88
19. Report on Northern Trip - Rob Cochrane [No teaching notes, DVD only]	
20. Ephesians 6.....	93
21. Knowing God by His name (Part 2).....	99
22. Building the House of God.....	104
23. Sonship.....	108
24. Sons in Maturity.....	112
25. The Grace.....	119
26. The difference between a "Christian" and a Disciple.....	123
27. Go forth in His name.....	129
28. Ministry Gifts [there is no video for this teaching]	135
29. Revivals I have seen [there is no video for this teaching]	139

ENTERING THE REST

Hebrews 4:11

- ❖ be diligent to enter that rest
- ❖ the context of **Hebrews 3 & 4** is the writer sharing why the children of Israel did not enter
- ❖ **"diligence"** – to be eager, thinking and acting, to plan and produce, seeing a need and promptly doing something about it (we are to do it), we think and then act – inception (God speaking), action (obey), follow through
- ❖ Warning is **"lest we fall according to the same example of disobedience"**
- ❖ **Obedience** is about hearing – Gk word means to "hear under", "be submissive"

Psalm 95

- ❖ "Today, if you **will** hear My voice, do not harden your hearts"
- ❖ It is a decision of the will to hear God, He is speaking
- ❖ Make a decision not to harden your heart but soften your heart
- ❖ "I will" seek the Lord, "I will" hear His voice

Disobedience will cause us to not enter the rest

Hardness of heart will cause us to drop out of the rest

Obedience requires sustained effort, warfare, diligence to enter the rest

Hebrews 3:1

- ❖ this is written to **"holy brethren"**, you are holy brethren if you repent and get washed in the blood of Jesus
- ❖ "holy" = sacred, pure, undefiled
- ❖ **"partakers of the heavenly calling"** – **"partake"** is like eating, it becomes a part of you

Hebrews 6:4-5 – 5 aspects of how we partake in the heavenly calling

- ❖ **A)** being enlightened
- ❖ **B)** tasted heavenly gift
- ❖ **C)** partaken of Holy Spirit
- ❖ **D)** tasted the good word of God
- ❖ **E)** tasted of the powers of the age to come
- ❖ This is tasting and experiencing the kingdom of God
- ❖ There are many today who have experienced these but are dying or detached on the Vine
- ❖ **"heavenly calling"** is an invitation to **"come up here"** with Jesus (**Rev.4:1-2**)
- ❖ Finally God's destination for us is to sit on the Throne with Jesus (**Rev.3:21**)
This is a call of transformation – by the Word and the Spirit

As partakers of the heavenly calling we are to consider the Apostle and High Priest, Christ Jesus

- ❖ the context is entering the rest
- ❖ entering the rest begins with being established on the only foundation, Jesus Christ (**1 Cor.3:11**)
- ❖ We are to build on the only foundation, the Rock, Jesus Christ
- ❖ We begin with Jesus the Apostle
- ❖ We finish with Jesus the High Priest
- ❖ The "**Apostle**" brings God to the earth, so people can experience God in the earth and be built into His house in the earth, this ministry continues in the earth until there is a perfect church
- ❖ The "**High Priest**" brings us into the heavenly realm, the glory, the Throne of Grace (**Heb.4:14-16** – entering the rest fully) – He offered the perfect sacrifice and He intercedes now forever, for us at the right hand of God in the heavens
- ❖ Heaven and earth come together in Christ, this is entering the rest

Hebrews 3:2

- ❖ Jesus appointed by God and was faithful as Moses was faithful
- v.3** – Jesus has more glory than Moses because He is **the builder of the house**

v.4 – The builder of all things is God and Jesus built the house

- who is Jesus? He is God, the builder of the house

v.5 – Moses faithful as a **servant** in His house

v.6 – the house is owned by Jesus the **Son**

- we are His house if we hold fast the hope firm to the end

- the hope is to enter the rest
- we need to be taught about it in order to enter it
- hang in there, we need to keep hearing the words of eternal life

v.7 – "**Therefore**" – because of what has just been said

- "As the Holy Spirit says" – The Holy Spirit speaks through the Psalms
- "Today, if you will hear His voice, do not harden your hearts as in the rebellion"
- Because Jesus is building the house, we need to hear the voice of God
- because we are part of the house, we are part of the journey of entering the rest
- **1 Cor.12:13** – by baptism we are placed into the Body, the house, so we can begin to grow up in the house of God

WHEN IS TODAY? IT IS NOW!

2 Corinthians 6:2 – behold **now** is the accepted time, **now** is the **day** of salvation

- the “day” is the “time” – it is the appointed time
- why did you come to the school? To enter into a “time with the Lord”
- “Today if **you will**”
- we need to understand we have a will, we can change our mind, it is a decision of the will
- Faith is belief, believing in someone
- we do not have to live under oppression and sickness, do not own it
- It says “Today” 5 times – it is referring to now, we are to enter the rest “Today”

How do we enter the Rest?

It is based on hearing the voice of God

- ❖ Today if you will hear the voice
- ❖ It is a decision to hear God
- ❖ Make a decision to hear God, seek Him diligently, God will speak
- ❖ Acts 12 – they were praying but not really willing to hear the voice of God that they did not believe it when God answered
- ❖ Are you willing to hear the voice of God or are you going to stick to religious negativism

- ❖ “**Will** you hear His voice”? The 1st decision to hear his voice.
The 2nd decision = Do not harden your heart!

This means “obey”, do not disobey. Make a decision to obey.

We need to be willing to hear His voice and then obey

Remember Elijah when he ran away from Jezebel

- ❖ Fire, earthquake, storm – God was not in them
- ❖ But then Elijah heard “the still small voice” and God had some orders for him
- ❖ **1 Thess.5:17** – “pray without ceasing”, do not keep meditating on the problems but get your soul into obedience by praying
- ❖ **Jude20-21** – build yourself up by praying in the Holy Spirit – how do you get from doubt to faith? Pray in the Holy Spirit, build yourself up in the most holy faith

Hebrews 3:10-11 - God was angry with that generation

- ❖ So He swore in His wrath – He did something about it
- ❖ He judged “**They will not enter My rest**”
- ❖ God’s longsuffering ended with that generation

v.12 – beware then if there is in any of you an evil heart of unbelief

- an evil heart is **unbelieving**

v.13 – exhort one another daily why it is called “Today”

- each day is “Today”
- it is always living in the present
- watch your conversation (**Phil.3:20** – “citizenship” is “conversation”) your whole behaviour
- our behaviour is to be heavenly
- **2 Cor.10:1-6** – we can help each other in our prayers for each other, by pulling down strongholds

v.14 – we are partakers of Christ, that means, Christ is in us

- “If” we hold fast the beginning of our confidence steadfast to the end
- We are to keep a good confession
- We are to speak reality to each other
- this is diligence and hard work to hang in there; to bear up under trouble
- “blessed are those who are persecuted”

v.15 – we need to do this while it is still called “Today”

- We need to remain making decisions of the will to hear God

v.16 – If we do not, that is rebellion

- those who rebelled were all those who came out of Egypt led by Moses
- we need to repent, not muck around with the Word of God, but believe it

v.17-18 – they sinned, they did not obey, they did not enter the rest

v.19 – they did not enter because of unbelief

Hebrews 4:1

- ❖ there is still a promise of entering the rest
- ❖ we are to **fear** lest we fall short of it
- ❖ **2 Thess.1:7-10** – those who are judged include those who do not obey the gospel

Hebrews 4:2 – the gospel was preached to them but they did not mix it with faith

- the Word does not profit us if we do not mix it with faith
- the gospel for us is that Jesus is King and is inheriting the nations through us

v.3 – Again, God swore in His wrath they would not enter the rest

- God did this even though the works were finished since the creation of the world (taking us back to creation)

v.4 – There is a seventh day rest – God rested on the seventh day

- the rest is not a particular day of the week, religiously being kept
- it is the rest of God
- it is the same rest that God declared on the seventh day
- **Genesis 1** the first six days mentioned an evening and a morning
- **Genesis 2** – it speaks of a seventh day, it is not recorded that there was an evening or a morning
- it is an eternal day of rest, this is God's rest that He invites us to enjoy with Him
- it is speaking of eternal rest, eternal life, living by faith

v.6-7 – some must still enter the rest

- those who first heard it did not enter because of disobedience
- God designated a certain day called "Today"
- Said in David, "Today"
- we need to make a decision to soften our hearts

v.8-9 - there remains a rest for the people of God

v.10 – To enter His rest we cease from our own works, religiously, trying to figure something out in our own strength

- We are to be doing the good works that Jesus has prepared for us before –

Ephesians 2:10

- **John 5:17-19** – Jesus said His Father, God, was working on the Sabbath, these are the good works of God that help us enter the rest
- it is a Sabbath work – healing, deliverance = good works of God

Hebrews 4:11 – be diligent to enter that rest

v.12 – for the Word of God....

- the Word will release understanding that you do not need to live from the brokenness of your soul but you can live from your spirit hearing the Word
- This Word gets into your bone, joints and marrow

- the Word judges us, discerns our thoughts and motives

v.13 – nothing is hidden from God's sight

- all things are open to Him; come out of the cupboard
- we need God's revival in the land today, in our generation

Hebrews 4:14 – We have a great High Priest

- let us hold fast our confession
- He represents us in heaven, His blood is in heaven
- "I will hold fast my confession of Jesus Christ, the Apostle and High Priest, I will enter the rest and live in it"

v.15 – Jesus can sympathise with our weaknesses as the High priest

v.16 – Therefore – come boldly to the Throne of grace

THE MESSENGER OF YAHWEH

A revelation of Jesus Christ; Jesus is God manifested in the flesh.

The church is built on the revelation of Jesus and who He is.

Micah 5:2

- ❖ the One to be Ruler in Israel, whose going forth are from of old, from everlasting (from the days of eternity)

John 5:39

- ❖ the Scriptures testify of Jesus (from Genesis to Revelation)
- We are to look for Jesus to reveal Himself to us as we read the Scriptures.

The Angel of the LORD (Yahweh) first appears around the days of Abraham

Angel - *Malak(ch)* – a messenger, ambassador, someone dispatched to do a task or relay a message, messengers can be heavenly or earthly

The Angel of Yahweh – a title, the name given to a particular person

Malachi 3:1

- ❖ My messenger – speaking of John the Baptist
- ❖ The Messenger of the Covenant – speaking of Jesus

No one has seen God

John 1:18

- ❖ no one has seen God at any time. The only begotten Son, who is in the bosom of the Father, He has declared Him
 - ❖ the Son declares and makes God known
- The visible manifestation of God is the Son of God (Col 1:15, Heb 1:3)

Genesis 32:24-30

- ❖ Jacob had an amazing experience
- ❖ A Man wrestled with him
- ❖ The result of this wrestle was a change in Jacob
- ❖ **V.27-28** – Jacob's name was changed to Israel

- ❖ **V.29** – Jacob was beginning to realise who the Man was
- ❖ **V.30** – I have seen God face to face and my life is preserved – After wrestling with the **Man** Jacob said he had seen **God**
- ❖ Who did He see?

Hosea 12:3-5

- ❖ speaking of Jacob – he struggled with God
- ❖ **v.4** - Jacob struggled with the Angel (Messenger) and prevailed
- ❖ he wept and sought favour from Him
- ❖ Jacob saw God in the face of his brother Esau
- ❖ Jacob found the Messenger in Bethel – that is Yahweh God of hosts, Yahweh His memorable name
God appeared in the form of a man (God manifesting in a human form).

The Scriptures testify of Jesus.

2 Cor 4:6 – the light of the knowledge of the glory of God is seen in the face of Jesus Christ

- Jacob saw the face of Jesus
- The person Jacob wrestled with was called
 - a) **God**
 - b) **The Angel**
 - c) **Yahweh God of hosts**
 - d) **Yahweh His Memorable Name**

Genesis 31:11

- ❖ the Angel (Messenger) of God spoke to Jacob
- ❖ **v.13** – the Angel (Messenger) spoke and said, "I am the God of Bethel...I am the One you made a vow to" – **The Angel was God, the God of Bethel**

Genesis 28:20-22

- ❖ Jacob made a vow to tithe to the God of the House of God
- ❖ The Messenger is the God of the House of God
- ❖ Jesus is the Apostle, the builder of the House of God (**Heb 3:1-6**) – **He is the Son over His own house, the God of the house**
- ❖ The Sent One is found in the house of God

Genesis 48:15-16

- ❖ Jacob blessed Joseph
- ❖ **V.16** – Jacob says that this God is the Angel (the Messenger) who has redeemed him from all evil
- ❖ The God before whom Abraham and Isaac walked (**John 8:56-58**)

- ❖ Jesus Christ the same yesterday, today and forever (**Heb.13:8**)

Exodus 3:1-4

- ❖ the Angel of Yahweh appeared to Moses in a flame of fire from the midst of the bush
- ❖ v.4 – the Angel is now referred to as Yahweh (the Angel is Yahweh)
- ❖ God called to Moses from the midst of the bush through the Messenger

Exodus 3:14

- ❖ Moses asks the name of this Messenger
- ❖ I AM WHO I AM
- ❖ **John 8:58** – Jesus declared, “Before Abraham was, I AM”
- ❖ God is speaking again through the Messenger, He speaks **through the Son (Heb.1:2)**

The Angel carries the Name

Exodus 23:20

- ❖ there is a Messenger sent to keep us in the way and to bring us into the place He has prepared
 - ❖ **v.21** – beware of this Messenger, obey His voice
 - ❖ do not provoke Him
 - ❖ My name is in Him (in the Messenger)
 - ❖ My character, nature, authority is in Him
- Exodus 23:22** – the Messenger only speaks what God speaks (Jesus declared that He only spoke what the Father spoke)

- ❖ **V.22** – The **Messenger** will be an enemy to your enemies
- ❖ **V.23** – My Messenger will go before you and bring you into the land
- ❖ If you meet the Messenger, you meet God (**John 5:43**)
- ❖ When God came into the world as Jesus, He carried the name of the Father
Judges 2:1 – the Angel of Yahweh came up from Gilgal to Bochim. The Messenger said, “I led you up from the land of Egypt and brought you into the land of which I swore to your fathers” – **The Messenger was the One who delivered God’s people and led them out of Egypt! Jesus was there!**
- ❖ We are in covenant with the Messenger, the New Covenant with Jesus

The name of the Angel (Messenger) is Wonderful

Judges 13:6

- ❖ the Messenger of Yahweh appeared to the woman
- ❖ A Man of God came to me
- ❖ His countenance was like the countenance of the Angel of God
- ❖ **V.16** – Manoah did not know He was the Angel of Yahweh
- ❖ He was told to make sure he made his offering to Yahweh

- ❖ **V.18** – Why do you ask My name seeing it is **Wonderful** (to marvel, wonder, beyond human ability to grasp)
- ❖ **Isaiah 9:6** – the Name of the Son of God is **Wonderful** (Manoah met the same person)
- ❖ **Judges 19-22** – they worshiped
- ❖ they realised that they had seen God – they got a revelation
- ❖ **Matt 11:27** – the Son reveals God to whom He wills

Judges 6:11-15

- ❖ the Angel appeared to Gideon
- ❖ **Lord 'Adoni'** – Gideon talks to the Angel as Lord (sir, Mr), used of men and God
- ❖ **V.14** Yahweh appears (Yahweh revealed Himself and speaking through the Messenger)
- ❖ **V.15** – Gideon now says '**Adonai**' (referring to the LORD, the supreme ruler, only ever used of God)
- ❖ **When we see Yahweh in the Messenger we realise He is the Lord!**

Daniel 3

- ❖ Shadrach, Meshach and Abed-Nego went into the fire
- ❖ They confessed that God was able to deliver them, even if He didn't, they would not bow down
- ❖ **V.25** – 4 men in the midst of the fire
- ❖ The form of the fourth was like **the Son of God**
- ❖ **V.28** – Nebuchadnezzar has a change of heart – says that this **Son of God** is God's **Angel/Messenger**
- Col 3:3-4** – we have died and our life is hidden with Christ in God, we will appear with Him in glory

The Son of God appeared in the Old Testament as the Messenger

We are to be like the Angel

Zech 12:8

- ❖ in the context of nations coming against the Holy City
- ❖ the feeble among them will be like David
- ❖ the house of David will be like God, like the Angel of Yahweh before them
- ❖ our destiny is to bear the image of the Heavenly Man – **1 Cor.15:45-49**

Psalms 34:7 – The Angel encamps around those who fear Him!

Psalms 35:4-6 – let the Messenger of Yahweh chase and pursue them

- the Messenger of Yahweh pursues the enemy
- He causes your enemies to run away and He punishes them!

EPHESIANS 1

The excellency of Christ; Who we are in Christ

v.1 – what is an apostle?

One sent by a higher authority to represent the higher authority to fulfil the task that the higher authority sent them for

- ❖ Paul knew he was an apostle by “the will of God”
- ❖ All apostles must know it is the will of God for them, not the will of man
- ❖ Prophets can confirm this but not initiate it
- ❖ Paul writes to the “saints” (Gk. Hagios) = holy ones, sacred, pure, blameless, consecrated
- ❖ The saints are the church, the called out ones
- ❖ The ones in Ephesus were “faithful in Christ Jesus” – **Revelation 19:11**, “Faithful and True” (**Rev.3:14**)

v.2 – Grace and peace is being ministered

- From God, who is the Father of us and Lord Jesus Christ
- Greek language has no possessive pronoun, not “our Father” but “Father of us”
- “Grace” – it is a greater force in the universe than the “power” of God
- grace comes in you to change the inside of you, change your character, the fruit will come forth (**Gal.5:22-23**)

2 Corinthians 12:7-10 – because of the grace Paul would rather boast in his infirmities, persecutions, distresses etc because it drew Paul into the grace

- “Peace” – Shalom, comes from God
- we grow in grace as we grow in the knowledge of Jesus Christ

GOD – who is God?

1. The Father – the source of all things
2. The Lord (Adonai) – the Supreme Ruler and Owner of everything
3. Jesus – Yahweh saving us
4. Christ the Messiah, the King of kings (Micah 5:2, from eternity)

Eph.1:3 – Blessed be the God and Father of the Lord of us, Jesus the Messiah

- we are to look back and count the blessings

The Blessings

V.4 He chose me before the foundation of the world to be in Christ, holy and without blame

v.5 In love He **predestined** (to limit in advance, to predetermine, to mark out beforehand, to determine before) us to. **adoption – Gk. 'huiiothesia'** – adoption, the placement of the son, refers to Christian Sonship to God, not illegitimate children put into a family, it is to place us into maturity as a Son to receive the inheritance of the Father, this is the plan of God, not going to heaven but to become sons (**Romans 8:19-21** – all creation is waiting for you)

Ephesians 1:6 – this is to “the praise of the glory of His grace”

- important link between sonship and grace
- there is an increase of experiencing the grace of God by coming into sonship
- **Praise** – explain and explore and speak out positively the glory of God, the due acknowledgment of the exhibition of His attributes and His ways
- “by which He bestowed grace upon us and graced us with every grace”

v.7 – Redemption – the act of the ransom being paid in full to set a slave free

- the ransom for our life has been paid in full, Satan cannot keep us in the slave market, we are set free
- the price of the redemption is **the blood**; it results in the forgiveness of sins
- this is all in accordance with “**the riches of His grace**”,
- we have to have the right currency, the currency is “Grace”
- to be wealthy in God’s kingdom is based on how much grace you carry, because grace causes growth and change in our character
- grace becomes tangible, enables us to choose to not sin and do God’s will

v.8 – His grace “He made to abound toward us wisdom and prudence/understanding”

- it does not come by learning but by grace and grace is activated by faith
- ask in faith for these things and by grace God gives them to you

v.9 – By this wisdom and understanding He gives us He “**makes known to us the mystery of His will**”

- mankind loves the secret things, secret societies, cults
- God makes known to us the hidden secret (the mystery) of His will

1 Corinthians 2:6-7

- the wisdom is for the mature; not for babies, not found in "Bible College"
- not the wisdom of this age, but wisdom of God hidden in a mystery
- by coming into the knowledge of this mystery as a son, you begin to really know who God is
- this is all according to His good pleasure, which He purposed in Himself – it pleases God to make known to you the mystery

v.10 – in the "economy/dispensation" of the fullness of the times, God will gather together in Christ all things, things in heaven and on earth

- this is a snippet of the mystery

v.11 – In Christ we have obtained an inheritance (we are sons)

- being predestined – decided before by God
- He works all things according to the **counsel** (volition, advice and purpose) of His **will** (a determination, choice, purpose, decree, volition)
- God is serious about us obtaining the inheritance
- the work is in the earth, there is no work in heaven
- He wants us to obtain the inheritance in the earth

v.12 – that we who first trusted (previously believed) in Christ

Ephesians 1:13 – we heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation

- **sealed** – marked, branded
- with the Holy Spirit
- of **Promise** – all families of the earth would be blessed by Abraham's Seed, the promise of the Spirit
- this is the promise of something more

v.14 – this is the **guarantee** – earnest

- then we can know we will make it, the Holy Spirit seals us in the salvation and makes us know we will fully get there, He will get us there

- we are guaranteed until the redemption of the purchased possession – He bought us for a reason, He owns us

- **1 Peter 2:9** – “a special people” = God’s own possession, we are possessed by Him, you are marked with God’s signet

- again this is “to the praise of His glory”

v.15 – “love for all the saints”

love – a deliberate choice, benevolent, making a choice to love, to do good, to show mercy

❖ faith is toward God

❖ love is toward the brethren – we show our faith by our love for one another

v.16 – do not cease to give thanks for the saints (**Phil.4:6, 1 Timothy 2:1**)

- “make mention” – recollection or recital, only used for prayer in the Bible, we bring people to God’s remembrance

- “prayer” – refers to prayer to God, prayer is a sacred word referring to communicating with God

Who does he pray to?

v.17 – The God of our Lord Jesus Christ

- The Father of Glory

- that He gives us the spirit of wisdom and revelation

v.18 – “eyes” **Matt.13:16, Acts 26:18**

“enlightened” Heb.6:4 – rays of light come on your spirit person

❖ that we may “know” – Gk ‘eido’ – to know by perception, suggests fullness of knowledge,

❖ **John 8:55** – “**I know Him**” perfectly, “**You have not known Him**” (Gk. ‘Ginosko’ – coming to know)

❖ **Luke 1:1-4** – Luke said he had perfect understanding of all things, he had full knowledge

“the hope of His calling” – glory

❖ **glory – Gk. Doxa** – manifestation of His character, He puts this glory in us, He expects a return, He has invested this glory in us, the return is that you grow to maturity and release this glory to others

v.19 – what is the exceeding greatness of His **power – Gk. 1411 ‘Dunamis’** – force, supernatural power working in this lower world

- it is toward us who believe, tapped into by faith

- according to working of His mighty **power** – **Gk. 2479 'ischus'** – **Mark 12:30** – **"strength"**, forcefulness, we are to love God forcefully (**2Thess.1:9, 1 Pet.4:11 'ability'**)

Ephesians 1:20 – God worked (wrought) all these things (hope, riches of glory, power), when He raised Jesus from the dead and seated Him at the right hand (16 references to the right hand, **Heb.1:3, 12:2, 1 Peter 3:22, Col.3:1, rom.8:34, Acts 7:55-56, Acts 2:31, Lk.22:69, Lk.20:42**)

- in the heavenlies, above the sky, in heaven, in the celestial region

v.21 – far above all principality (chief, rule)

- above all power (Gk. exousia, authority, privilege, superhuman, potentate, power)

- might (dunamis)

- dominion (Lordship, mastery, government)

- above every name (other gods, "Allah", "Buddha", "Krishna")

- in this age and the one to come (forever, perpetuity)

v.22 – God has put all things under Christ's feet and gave Him as the head over all things

v.23 – the church is His Body, the fullness of Him who fills all things

- Jesus Christ expressed in His body fills all things

BEING A TIMOTHY

God wants us to come back to the apostolic way (the church being a family that is in Christ)

Acts 16

- ❖ Paul had already been sent out as an apostle
- ❖ Mark had left Paul and the team (**Acts 13:13**); Silas was with Paul

- ❖ **V.1** - A certain **disciple** named Timothy
- ❖ Timothy was being disciplined by the churches at Derbe and Lystra
- ❖ **2 Tim 1:5** – Timothy had grown up in the faith, now he was a disciple
- ❖ Many people grow up in Christianity but do not become disciples, Timothy made the decision to follow Jesus
- ❖ Timothy was disciplined by the churches
- ❖ **2 Tim 3:15** – Timothy knew the Scriptures (the Scriptures make us wise for salvation)
- ❖ Timothy was being disciplined to the word of God

Acts 16

- ❖ **v.2** – Timothy was well spoken of by the brethren. He had a good reputation (submitted to the body). He was properly submitted to elders in a discipleship relationship, learning from them
- ❖ **V.3** – Paul wanted Timothy to come on team with him (He recognised the calling on his life), it was time for training for the ministry

God is wanting a generation of disciples like Timothy to arise

Timothy was even willing to be circumcised for the call of God! He was not willing to let anything stop him from pursuing the call of God

What is the attitude of a disciple?

Luke 9:57-62

- ❖ Are you willing to be uncomfortable?
- ❖ Are you willing to forsake the cultural family ties for the sake of the gospel?
- ❖ Don't look back
- ❖ Don't put a condition on the decision – no excuses to opt out

Matt 10:24-25

- ❖ shows more of the attitude of a disciple
- ❖ there may be harsh things said and persecution from others (don't be surprised)
- ❖ a disciple is not above his teacher – if the teacher is ridiculed, you will be too

Acts 17

- Timothy became a part of an apostolic team
- he saw how to follow the Holy Spirit when wanting to preach the gospel
- they were forbidden by the Holy Spirit to preach the gospel in Asia (**Acts 16:6-10**)
- you learn lots of things by being on team
- Timothy witnessed Paul and Silas being persecuted (**Acts 16:16-34**)
- this is the way that the disciples learnt with Jesus
- we need to be willing to learn
- Timothy stuck with it even though it was tough
- the team went to Berea

Acts 17:14 – Silas and Timothy “**remained**” (**Matt 24:13** – same word as **endured** to the end) when Paul was sent away

- Timothy is learning to stand and to remain steadfast, to persevere (endure)

2 Tim 2:3 – **endure** hardship as a good soldier of Jesus Christ

- we are a family but we are also an army

Jesus requires obedience. We are to endure as good soldiers.

Acts 17:15

- ❖ Silas and Timothy were willing to receive commands from Paul
- ❖ God wants us to learn how to receive commands
- ❖ Timothy was willing to be told what to do

Acts 18

- ❖ Silas and Timothy meet up again with Paul
- ❖ **V.5** – when they came, Paul was “**compelled**” by the Spirit to testify that Jesus is the Christ
- ❖ Timothy along with Silas strengthened his apostolic father
- ❖ The presence of a Timothy brings strength to the apostolic father
- ❖ Jesus always sent people out 2 by 2

Compelled - to hold together, to grip tightly: The Spirit gripped Paul when Timothy came

Acts 18:11

- ❖ they continued in Corinth for a year and 6 months, teaching the word of God
- ❖ Timothy would have been learning much
- ❖ Don't rush the training

- ❖ There was 18 months of sitting under the teaching of the Word, learning

Ephesus

Acts 19:9-10

- ❖ the school of Tyrannus continued for 2 years, reasoning daily
- ❖ Timothy spent these 2 years in Ephesus
- ❖ **2 Tim 2:2** – the things that you have heard from me among many witnesses commit to faithful men who will be able to teach others
- ❖ another 2 years of sitting under the Word and most likely being sent throughout Asia on mission trips
- ❖ Guard the doctrine that has been delivered to you

Acts 19:22

Sent – apostello

- ❖ Timothy is being sent to Macedonia (Philippi, Thessalonica, Berea)
- ❖ He is going back to the churches that had persecuted Paul earlier
- ❖ Timothy was one who had ministered to Paul (he had served him), like Elisha did to Elijah (**2 Kings 3:15**)

Philippians 2

- ❖ this letter is speaking to the people that Timothy was sent to
- ❖ **v.19** – Paul could trust Timothy to go and find out how they were really going
- ❖ Timothy was not after his own ministry
- ❖ He took on the heart of Paul (he had the same mind), he had the same care and concern as his apostolic father
- ❖ **V.21** – all others seek their own, talking of other ministers
- ❖ **V.22** – you know his proven character, as a son with his father he served with Paul in the gospel
- ❖ A family together in the gospel, we are to be working together as a family in the gospel together

Philippians 1:1

- ❖ the letter was from Paul and Timothy (a father and son together – bondservants for the gospel), voluntary slaves for Jesus together

1 Thessalonians 1:1

- Paul, Silvanus and Timothy (an apostolic team)
- you became followers of us (an apostolic team)
- they functioned together
- **v.6** they modelled a lifestyle as a team of how to live for Jesus (an example for the whole church)

1 Thessalonians 2:6

- Timothy is called an apostle of Jesus Christ

- **v.8** – they imparted their own lives (shared the same heart)

1 Thessalonians 3:1

- Timothy is sent
- he is called a brother (same family) and fellow labourer (workers together)
- he was sent to establish them and encourage them in the faith
- Timothy was grounded in the faith and he knew how to teach the foundations (**Heb.6:1-3**)
- **v.6** – Timothy was faithful to come back and report what was happening
- he was accountable

Romans 16:21

- ❖ sons become fellow workers with their fathers
- ❖ (**John 5:17-19** – Jesus was a fellow worker with His Father)

1 Corinthians 4:16-17

- Paul sent Timothy so that the brethren would imitate him – receiving Timothy would enable them to imitate Paul!
- Timothy delivered faithfully what he had received from his apostolic father
- Timothy was beloved, his heart was in it, they had a strong relationship (like Jesus and the Father **Matthew 3:17**)
- Timothy was faithful, he could be trusted with the doctrine, not to bring his own thing

Hebrews 13:23

- ❖ Timothy had also suffered for the gospel, he had been imprisoned

2 Timothy 3:10

- Paul's last letter to Timothy
- Timothy had carefully followed:
 - a) **the teaching** of Paul
 - b) his **manner of life** – his conduct and behaviour as an apostle and man of God
 - c) his **purpose** – his reason for living and zeal for the gospel
 - d) his **faith** – how Paul sought God and heard from Him, what he believed

- e) his **longsuffering** – how he bore with saints, teaching them with patience and endurance
- f) his **love (2 Cor 5:14)** – how he loved the churches (**2 Cor.11:28**)
- g) his **perseverance** – how he never gave up despite many trials
- h) his **persecutions and afflictions** – how he used these to find more grace (**2 Cor.12:7-10**)

Carry the heart of Timothy so that you can carry the gospel in an apostolic way.

EPHESIANS 2

v.1 – “And” comes after the awesome verses in **Ephesians 1:20-23**

- **names “Allah”** (Muslims), **“Buddha”** (Buddhist), **“Krishna”** (Hindu) – are the three competing names in the world today

- **Jesus** is the name above all these names, He is **“Yahweh saving us”**

- **Philippians 2:9-11** – God gave Jesus the name above all names

- The names of Allah, Buddha and Krishna are names of demon gods

- God gave Jesus to be head over all things **to the church**

- **First of all**, God made Jesus to be head over everything – He is the Supreme Lord, Supreme Authority

- As this head He was given to the church

Eph.2:1

“And you” linking the 2 chapters together

- ❖ you who were dead in **trespasses** (a sideslip, often unintentional but still brings death, blunder, unintentional error, still needs to be repented of, can mean a wilful transgression)
- ❖ you were also dead in **sins**

v.2 – you once walked in this way

- according to the **age/course of the how the world operates**

- the **world** as being in opposition to God, because the rulers of this world fail to submit to God (**Psalm 2:1-3**)

- according to the **Prince** (**Gk. archon** – ruler, first in rank or power) of the power of the air

- the spirit of Satan is in them, the ones not made alive in Christ, not forgiven or having sins remitted

- this spirit rules their thinking and behaviour

v.3 – we all once conducted ourselves in the **lusts of our flesh** (any desire that is out of control that you want to gratify as part of your human make-up, an imposition on yourself not in faith)

- also the **desires of the mind** – we may have been “good people” but what about your mind?

- **Mind – Gk Dianoia** – the faculty of thought, we struggle in the mind
- by nature we were **children of wrath**
- **wrath** = anger seeking vengeance/revenge, only safe place for wrath is with God (**Rom.12:19**)
- we were under God's judgement, no matter how good we may have thought we were

v.4 "But God"

- no matter what the problem is **"But God"**
- even though we were under the control of Satan, in trespasses and sins, even without hope **BUT GOD!!!!!!**
- **who is rich in mercy**

2 Tim.1:16 – Gk. eleos – compassion, tender mercy, kindness, beneficence, an outward manifestation of pity

- because of the **Love** with which He loved us
- **LOVE Gk Agape** – undefeatable benevolence, unconquerable goodwill, always seeks highest good of other person no matter what he does, self-giving love that gives freely without asking anything in return, love by choice
- **Love as a verb – agapao** – unconditional love, love by choice, we need to decide in life to love

Eph.2:5 – even when we were dead in trespasses, made us alive – He revived us!

- **"together with Christ"** – born again and baptised, baptism puts us together with Christ
- not just good enough to be "born again", we must also be "baptised"
- baptism puts to death the old man of sin
- **"(by grace you have been saved)"** – grace is not only a "favour" but a "force", it is God's force changing you from the inside out

2 Cor.12:9 – "Grace" – Gk. 'Charis', God's unmerited favour, is that indeed – a manifestation of God's power, exceeding what we could achieve or hope for by our own labours. Not only is it mightily in effect for salvation, it is also a God-given resource that makes possible "holy-living" when our life, circumstances, or character is under fire by the Adversary

- **"saved"** – Gk. Sozo, new heart, new life

Eph.2:6 – "raised up together and made us to sit together in heavenly places in Christ Jesus"

v.7 – “that in the ages to come He might show the exceeding riches of His grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus”

- “ages” can mean “perpetuity”, for endless time God will show His grace in us
- God shows His grace in “kindness” toward us
- we can grow in grace, it can be seen on people, let us desire this grace
- even the last 2000 years has been a number of “ages”, God has been displaying His grace in kindness toward us through all ages

v.8 – “for by grace you have been saved through faith”

- **Saved** – protected, healed, saved from, rescued – it is past, present and future
- it was the force of God’s nature (grace) that saved you
- as soon as you believed the dam of grace burst forth into your life
- **“not of yourselves, it is the gift of God, not of works lest any boast”**
- cannot be bought by money, by taking vows, by works
- it is a gift!

v.10 – “For we are His workmanship”

- **“workmanship” – Gk ‘poeima’** – you are God’s poem, written by God in Messiah Jesus
- **“created”** - only used of God creating
- we are a **new creation, God created me in Christ Jesus**
- so that we can do good works that reveal His character and nature

Eph.2:11 – “Therefore” – the reason why we are saved

- **“remember that you, once Gentiles in the flesh – who are called Uncircumcision by what is called the Circumcision made in the flesh by hands”**
- the only difference between Jews and Gentiles is a little bit of flesh

v.12 – 5 aspects of the “Uncircumcision”

1. without Christ
2. aliens from the commonwealth of Israel
 - **“commonwealth”** – wealth of nation is to benefit all of the nation, is to be held in common
3. strangers from the covenants of promise
4. we had no hope

5. we were without God in the world

v.13 BUT NOW!!!

- "in Christ Jesus you who once were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ"

- particular talking to Gentiles

- **John 6:53** – unless you eat the flesh of Son of Man and drink His blood, you have no life in you, His blood refers to the propitiatory (mercy seat, atoning work of blood on the mercy seat) sacrifice

v.14 – "He Himself is our Peace" – Christ is our peace

- **He has made us both One** (both Jews and Gentiles are now One)

- They are both now **"in Christ"**, Christ covers them

- **"has broken down the middle wall of separation"**

- many Jewish brethren and Gentile Christians to this day make Gentile believers feel inferior and not quite right with God because of what they eat, keeping the Sabbath on a particular day etc...

- this is the wall of separation that Jesus broke down!

v.15 'having abolished in His flesh the enmity, the law of commandments in ordinances'

- if you do not do this or that "you are not part of the Bride"

- **"so as to create in Himself One New Man"**

- This is a new creation in Christ

- **"One New Man from the two, thus making peace"**

- by the blood, the enmity, the wall is taken away

v.16 – result = "reconciling us both to God in One Body through the Cross, putting to death the enmity"

- the blood of the Cross destroys the enmity

v.17 – "And He came and preached peace"

- the preaching of the Word is to come so we can receive the peace of the gospel

- **"preached to those afar off and to those who are near"** (Gentiles and Jews)

- We need to preach Jesus

- God Himself, Jesus, preached peace to us

v.18 “Through Him (Christ) we both have access by One Spirit to the Father”

- We need the Blood, it brings us near
- The Spirit then brings us **access**
- If you do not receive the Spirit you will find it hard to communicate with God
- the access, the phone number to connect with God, is by the Spirit

v.19-22

- because of coming near by the blood and having access by the Spirit...

“you are no longer strangers and foreigners, but fellow citizens of the saints and the household of God”

Everything in chapter 2 is leading us to this place of seeing ourselves set and placed in the house of God

v.20 – the household of God is built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Christ Jesus Himself the chief Cornerstone

- **1 Cor.10:4, 1 Cor.3:11** – through ministry of apostles and prophets (of the New Testament) Christ the Rock and Foundation is laid, He is also the Cornerstone and the Head
- New Testament revelation is that the house of God is a Body of people – **1 Peter 2:4-5**, living stones of people being built up a spiritual house
- evangelists, pastors and teachers are building us up into disciples

v.21 – the whole building, being fitted together, grows into a holy temple in the Lord

- this is the Church, the called out ones, not denominations, manifesting in every part of the world

v.22 – in Christ we also are being built together for a dwelling place of God in the Spirit

- also representing the local fellowship where you are fellowshiping with God in the Spirit
- the worldwide temple will emerge as the local fellowships are growing in the Spirit

THE RENEWING OF THE MIND

Romans 12:2

- ❖ be transformed by the renewing of your mind
- ❖ one of the main battlefields is the one of the mind
- ❖ we struggle with thoughts
- ❖ we can hold on to words people have spoken, think negatively about ourselves, hold on to hurts etc...
- ❖ this results in negative emotions leading to negative behaviour
- ❖ our mind is a minefield

Ephesians 4:23

- ❖ we are to be renewed in the spirit of our mind
- ❖ our minds can be renewed by the Spirit

To walk in the renewed mind we must cooperate with the Holy Spirit to function out of the renewed mind

Romans 12:1

- a) we are to do something – we are to **present our bodies**
 - ❖ we are to make an offering
 - ❖ this is a choice
 - ❖ this is speaking of the body as a whole, as the instrument of life, physical, soul and spirit body

- b) as a **living sacrifice** holy and acceptable to God
 - ❖ a sacrifice is where something dies
 - ❖ "holy" – something sacred, pure, blameless, God-likeness, God's innermost nature
 - ❖ God is holy, we are to be set apart for Him
 - ❖ God's innermost nature is to manifest in us, He is calling us to be holy
 - ❖ For this to happen we need to be willing to put to death what causes us to be the opposite of this

- c) **this is our reasonable service**
 - ❖ reasonable = rational
 - ❖ **Gk "logikos"** – comes from "logos", it is to do with receiving the Word of God, the renewal comes through the Word of God
 - ❖ **It has to do with our intellect**, it is to do with our minds
 - ❖ when the Word fills our mind we begin to think logically, rationally about the mercies of God
 - ❖ God's innermost nature is merciful
 - ❖ We make this sacrifice by the mercies of God
 - ❖ This is an "intelligent decision" to make this sacrifice, it is a choice, not a compulsion, not by ritual

- ❖ When we come to know God, we become new creations in Christ, out of the new spiritually intelligent mind we can make this decision
- ❖ "Service" = worship, offering ourselves as a living sacrifice

Romans 12:2

- a)** Do not be conformed to this world but be transformed by the renewing of your mind

Conformed – Gk. 4964 – conforming to outer fashion or outer appearance, accommodating oneself to a pattern or model – we are not to conform to the world, try to be like the world

Transformed – Gk 3339 – "metamorphoo" – transform, change, transfigure, complete change, happens by the power of God, finds expression in character and conduct, 'morph' lays stress on an inward change (**Matthew 17:1-5, 2 Cor.3:18** – beholding the glory, are being **transformed** into the same image...), only takes place by the Spirit of the Lord working in us

- ❖ there will be an outward change as a result of the inward change, as we manifest more and more of the God's innermost nature.

b) renewing of the mind

- ❖ we need the Spirit of God to be working in us
- ❖ **Titus 3:4-5** – "**washing of regeneration and renewing of the Holy Spirit**"
- ❖ "**renewing**" – renovation, restoration and transformation, change of heart and life, in Rom.12:2 it indicates a complete change for the better, an adjustment of one's moral and spiritual vision. In **Titus 3:5** it stresses the work of the Holy Spirit in transforming the life!
- ❖ **Continue to ask the Holy Spirit to come and help you, to walk in holiness**

1 Peter 1:13

- we are to gird up the loins of our **mind**
- "**mind**" – **Gk. Dianoia** – the gift of apprehension and the faculty of thought, it is to do with our thought processes, when this is renewed by the Holy Spirit, our whole mindset changes from the fearful negativism of the carnal mind to the vibrant, positive thinking of the quickened spiritual mind
- this is where the renewing is to happen, this is where darts get in
- our faculty of thought gets influenced by many areas of our life, upbringing and experiences we have had
- the outworking of this renewal is seen in our conduct, behaviour, speech etc..

Renewal of Mind from Kingdom Dynamics in Spirit Filled Life Bible – at Romans 12:2

- The "mind" constitutes the intellect and understanding but also includes all that is described in the word "mind-set", that is , the feelings and the will. Being "transformed" by

the renewal of the mind indicates a literal change in the form and formulas of thought or being. This describes redemptions provision of power to instill godliness in us...transforming our thoughts, purposes, actions producing character forming habits

1 Peter 1:14-15

- we are not to conform to the way this world works, not conforming to former lusts
- allow God's nature to manifest in us more and more
- As our mind is renewed we become more quick to identify what is of the flesh
- we must make deliberate choices to put on the new man and take off the old man

Ephesians 4:22-24

- put off concerning your former conduct, the old man
- be renewed in spirit of your mind
- **choose** to put on the new man

Colossians 3:10-16 – Characteristics of new man

a) **renewed in knowledge**, be disciples so you can receive and agree with the Word of God, **according to the image** of God

Put on:

- i) tender mercies; ii) kindness; iii) humility; iv) meekness; v) longsuffering
- vi) bearing with one another; vii) forgiving one another; viii) love, which is the bond of perfection; ix) let peace of God rule in your hearts; x) let Word of Christ dwell in you richly...renewing your mind, sing the Word to yourself, listen to worship songs, read the Bible

There is a warfare in the mind

2 Corinthians 10:3-6

- we are not to war according the flesh
- we have weapons that are mighty in God

These weapons:

- a) pull down strongholds/mindsets (can be cultural, religious)
- b) cast down arguments (arguing with the Word in our mind)
- c) cast down high things exalting themselves against God (prideful thinking, we must humble down and come back to the what the Word actually says)
- d) bringing thoughts (contrivances of the mind, triggers that put us into a place of downward spiral in our thinking) captive to obey Christ

What does the knowledge of God tell me?

We must believe the Word, the knowledge of God instead of our own thinking coming from our own mindsets

The Word of God tells me that I am loved, chosen, accepted, predestined, I have a future and a hope...

The Word of God says God has given me a Spirit of power, love and a sound mind

What are you going to believe? Your thoughts or the Word of God?

We are to bring our thoughts into **obedience** to Christ

- ❖ **"obedience"** – has to do with hearing, we need to hear what the Word says, then obey the Word
- ❖ when we walk in obedience then we qualify to punish the disobedience around us
- ❖ we need to know what the Word says so we can have an answer to the thoughts that come into our mind

Many people struggle with sleep because of their minds running with thoughts, worries, concerns

- ❖ we need to learn to take them **captive**, do not go down the track of the thoughts but **capture** them and bring them under Christ

This renewing of our mind takes place in our innermost being

- ❖ the mind is deep down inside of us
- ❖ **Revelation 2:23b** – Jesus searches our "minds"
- ❖ **"Mind" = "nephros"** – kidneys, the deep inward part of us that needs the Word of God to come into – **Ephesians 6:14, 1 Peter 1:13** – belt of truth, around the waist, "gird up the loins of the mind", the ancients believed the mind was in the deep part of us, the Word is to penetrate deep down inside of us establishing us in the truth

Romans 12:2

- ❖ we then **prove what is the good, acceptable and perfect will of God**
- ❖ **"Prove"** – test, approve, discern
- ❖ The will of God is **"good"** – that which is good, beneficial for us
- ❖ **"acceptable"** – fully agreeable, well-pleasing, with a renewed mind we will not be arguing with the will of God
- ❖ **"perfect"** – Gk. 'teleios' – complete, finished
- ❖ God's will is finished and complete, we are not to argue with it
- ❖ He wants us to discern His will so we can agree with His will and walk in His will

How do we walk in the renewed mind?

The key agents of walking in the renewed mind are **the Word and the Spirit**

1. Repent – we need to change our mind, 'metanoia', making a decision that results in a change of mind which in return results in a change of action

a) receive new knowledge

b) leads to regret for past behaviour

c) results in change of thinking and behaviour

e.g. **Acts 2:37-38**

- we need to acknowledge and recognize what we need to change

2. Receive the Word of God

Colossians 3:16 – spend time in the Word, read the Word, let the Word wash us

Ephesians 5:26 – we are washed by the water of the Word

3. Keep your focus on Jesus

Isaiah 26:3 – the one whose mind (creative imagination) is stayed on Him will be kept in perfect peace ('shalom shalom' implying health, happiness, well-being and peace), trusting in Him, Jesus

❖ it is easy to get into "poor me" attitude, but this leads nowhere

❖ focus on Jesus, that is where your help comes from (**Colossians 3:1-2**)

4. Do not be anxious but pray

Philippians 4:6-7 – in everything, pray, supplicate, give thanks, make requests to God

a) do not worry or be anxious about anything

b) pray about things that concern you

c) talk to God about your needs

d) be thankful, gratitude attitude, builds your faith, expresses confidence that God will do something

e) receive His peace as this is His promise in this verse

5. Meditate on Godly things

Philippians 4:8 – things that are true, noble, just, pure, lovely, of good report, virtue, things praiseworthy

❖ **meditate on these things**

We need to make the choice to walk in a renewed mind

The Word of God and the Testimony of Jesus Christ

Revelation 1:2,9

- ❖ we are here for the **Word of God** and for the **testimony of Jesus Christ**

Revelation 1:1

- ❖ The Revelation of Jesus the Messiah
- ❖ **"Revelation" – Gk. Apokalypsis** – an unveiling, or a disclosing of a reality that previously has not been perceived. The apocalypse came from God through Jesus Christ, whose past, present and future position and work is the content of this revelation, communicated by John by a messenger.
- ❖ This revelation is of Jesus
- ❖ It is also about things that must shortly take place
- ❖ **"angel" – Gk. Angelos** – messenger, purely a translator's choice as to whether it is a heavenly or earthly messenger
- ❖ **Apostles** are messengers of Jesus, Jesus cannot fulfil His purpose through "angels"

Revelation 19:9-10

- ❖ the "messenger" is speaking to John about the marriage supper of the Lamb
- ❖ Then John wanted to worship this "messenger/angel"
- ❖ The messenger said "I am your fellow servant, and of your brethren" – he was a man, not an "angel", but a human messenger
- ❖ This messenger had the **testimony of Jesus**

Revelation 1:2

- ❖ Jesus sent and signified by His messenger to His servant John
- ❖ John **"bore witness (Gk. martureo 3140, to witness, to testify, by divine revelation) to the word of God, and to the testimony of Jesus Christ"**

"Witness" – we are called and appointed to be witnesses

John 3:11

- ❖ Jesus is witnessing to Nicodemus
- ❖ **"We speak what We know and testify what We have seen"**
- ❖ "You do not receive Our **witness**"
- ❖ We are all empowered to witness where the Holy Spirit leads us to

John 5:31-32

- "If I bear witness of Myself, My witness is not true"

- "There is **another** who bears witness..."

- when we witness there is **Another** who speaks through us, we witness by the power of the One who witnesses through us

John 15:26

- "But when the Helper comes...the Spirit of truth...will **testify of Me (Jesus)**"

- Holy Spirit bears witness in us of Jesus!

Revelation 1:2 – bear witness to the Word of God

"Word" – 'Logos'

John 1:1 – The Logos was in the beginning and was **God**

John 1:14 – The Logos, who was God, became flesh and dwelt among us

Hebrews 4:12 – The Logos of God and quick and powerful, sharper than any two-edged sword...even getting into the joints and marrow of the bone

- ❖ the Word gets into our body, heals us, restores us and quickens us
- ❖ it also discerns our hearts

John 8:31-32

- ❖ if we continue in "My Logos" you will be My disciples

John bore witness to this "Word of God"

Revelation 1:2 – bore witness to the "testimony of Jesus Christ"

"testimony" = 3141 noun form "marturia" – witness, refers to historical attestation, a record that bears testimony to Jesus Christ

- ❖ the prophetic Scriptures bear witness, give testimony of Jesus Christ (**Is.9:6, Micah 5:2, Is.7:14...**)
- ❖ these are the historic facts/records of Jesus
- ❖ Testimony = evidence, judicial certification (used in court), a testimony based on what someone has seen, heard or knows
- ❖ **Rev.19:10** – the testimony of Jesus is the **Spirit of prophecy** – the Holy Spirit will help us testify of Jesus, we will be empowered by the Spirit

The preaching of the apostles (the first "witnesses")

Acts 2:22-36

- ❖ **v.22** introduces biography of Jesus of Nazareth

- ❖ **v.23** – testifies of His death
- ❖ **v.24** – testifies of resurrection
- ❖ **v.25-29** – uses Scripture to back up the testimony
- ❖ **v.30-32** – speaks of David’s prophecy
- ❖ **v.33-36** – testifies to where Jesus is seated and that He is Lord and Christ

Acts 5:42

- ❖ apostles just got beaten for Jesus and they were very happy about it
- ❖ then they did not **cease teaching and preaching Jesus the Christ**

Acts 9:20-22

- ❖ immediately Saul/Paul went to Synagogue preaching Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God

Acts 10:38

- ❖ testifies of the anointing of Jesus of Nazareth
- ❖ **v.36** – Jesus Christ is Lord of all
- ❖ **v.39** – “we are witnesses of these things”

Revelation 1:2 – “he bore witness **to all things that he saw**”

- ❖ we are responsible to bear witness to everything we see by revelation
- ❖ **2 Pet.1:20** – there is no such thing as a private revelation, it must be witnessed to by the Word and by Jesus Christ

What did John see?

Revelation 4:1

- ❖ John saw a door open in heaven

Rev.1:12b

- ❖ John saw 7 golden lampstands and Jesus in the midst
- ❖ John was responsible to bear witness to all things that he saw

Rev.4:2

- ❖ immediately, because of what he saw, he **was in the Spirit**
- ❖ we get into the Spirit by what we see

Ephesians 1:17

- ❖ God will grant to us the **Spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of Him**
– we are to bear witness to the revelation we receive

Revelation 1:3

- ❖ blessing comes to those who read and keep (be obedient) those things that are written
- ❖ blessing comes to those who recognize the time is near, even now

Revelation 1:4

- ❖ John begins to write to the 7 churches in Asia
- ❖ These were real locations that John was writing to, they were named after their town/district
- ❖ These were real places
- ❖ What is **7 about?** Is a symbolic, qualitative number conveying the idea of completeness and when related to God, the idea of perfection

1. "Grace to you and peace" an apostolic ministry to us

2. "From Him"

- a) Who is
- b) Who was
- c) Who is to come

He is eternal, no beginning of days, no end of life, like Melchizedek

3. "From the seven Spirits who are before His Throne"

- complete and perfect Spirit of God

Isaiah 11:2 – The Spirit that would rest upon Messiah

Spirit of YAHWEH

Wisdom

Understanding

Counsel

Might

Knowledge

the Fear of the Lord

Luke 4:18-19 – seven aspects of the Holy Spirit resting upon Messiah

- a) **Spirit of YAHWEH**
- b) **Preaches gospel**
- c) **Healing broken hearted**
- d) **Proclamation of liberty**
- e) **Recovery of sight** – spiritual revelation
- f) **Set at liberty those who are oppressed**
- g) **To proclaim acceptable year of YAHWEH** – jubilee year, returning to inheritance

The manifestation of the Spirit is in and through Messiah

Revelation 1:5

"From Jesus Christ"

- a) **the faithful witness**

- b) **the firstborn from the dead – Col.1:18**
- c) **the Ruler (Archon – the Chief) over all the kings of the earth** – all presidents and Prime Ministers must submit to Him
- d) **the One who loved us and washed us from our sins in His own blood**

Revelation 1:6

“made us to be kings and priests to His God and Father”

❖ Jesus gets all the glory and the dominion forever and ever

Revelation 1:7

- a) **“He is coming with the clouds”** (cloud can be symbol of God’s Presence/Glory, but “clouds” can also represent “judgement” – **Matthew 24:30, coming to judge Jerusalem in AD 70**)
- ❖ **Zech.12:10** – prophetic Scripture talking of the One they pierced
- ❖ **All the tribes of the “earth”** (could well mean of the “Land”, referring to Israel)

Revelation 1:8

“I am the Alpha and Omega” – which is the first and last letter of the alphabet

“The Lord” is the One who is, who was and who is to come

v.11 – Jesus speaking **“I am the Alpha and the Omega”**

- “What you see, write in a book”
- the mysteries are open – **Revelation 15:5**, there is nothing hidden anymore, it has and is and will be revealed

Revelation 1:9

- ❖ John is our **brother and companion in the tribulation and kingdom patience of Jesus Christ**
- ❖ **Companion** = co-participant, co-sharer, partaking jointly with us
- ❖ **“in the tribulation”** – that is the pressure and hardship (**Acts 14:22**, through tribulation we enter the kingdom)
- ❖ **“in the kingdom”** – the victory, the inheritance
- ❖ **“in the patience”** – we have to stay under, endure and be constant under pressure, we have to grow in patience which happens through trials
- ❖ (**Colossians 1:11** – God will enable us and empower us to have patience, **James 1:2-4** – it will perfect our character)
- ❖ **“was on island of Patmos”** – prison house
- ❖ **“for the Word of God and the Testimony of Jesus Christ”**
- ❖ **Rev.12:11** – we overcome the devil by the **“word of our testimony”**
- ❖ **Acts 1:8** – (**martus 3144** – witness, came to mean a “martyr”) Holy Spirit makes us witnesses
- ❖ **Philippians 1:8** – God is my “record” (KJV) “witness” (NKJV)
- ❖ **2 Cor.1:23** – God is “witness/record” against my soul

What did all this lead to?

Revelation 1:10

"I was in the Spirit on the Lord's Day"

- ❖ being in exile, in prison for John was the doorway into the eternal day, in the Spirit, into the heavenly realm
- ❖ this led to John being in the Spirit
- ❖ John heard a voice **"I, I AM..." – Jesus identified Himself as the Eternal God**
- ❖ **This is the revelation of Jesus the Christ**
- ❖ John got a revelation of Jesus as the Eternal God, in the midst of the churches, the complete and perfect church, the worldwide temple being raised up in all the earth

MY GOSPEL

Rom 16:25

- ❖ ...according to my gospel
- ❖ Paul believed that God could establish the Roman believers according to his gospel
- ❖ The gospel was Paul's, it lived in him, it was his reason for being
- ❖ **1 Cor 9:16** – woe is me if I do not preach the gospel, necessity is laid upon me
- ❖ Paul knew that his gospel would transform people

Galatians 1 - Paul was fully persuaded, fully convinced of this gospel

v.6 – the Galatians were turning away from the truth of the gospel

- ❖ they were moving to a different gospel, a Judaistic religion which is happening today also. Religion always follows on the heels of revival to try to devour it; we must guard against this
- ❖ **Called** – the gospel calls us, **summons** us The gospel calls people to come and bow the knee to Jesus, not just an invitation to take or leave

v.7 – not another (this word means another of exactly the same kind)

- ❖ the gospel they were turning to was a completely different gospel

What is the gospel?

- ❖ the **"gospel of Christ"**, the gospel of the Messiah, the gospel of the Ruler of the kings of the earth

v.8 – even if we, or an angel from heaven, preach any other gospel to you than what we have preached, let him be accursed, damned forever

- ❖ Paul was so zealous for the gospel

V.9 – Paul says it again – let him be accursed who preaches any other gospel

- ❖ We are not to be swayed by men in the way that we present the gospel

Acts 17:6-7

- ❖ the gospel we preach is to turn the world upside down around us
- ❖ they were declaring that there was **another king – Jesus**
- ❖ the gospel is **the gospel of the Anointed King**
Gospel – historically in the Roman Empire, people who were proclaiming the gospel were proclaiming that there was a new king, a new emperor who ascended the Throne

There is meant to be a proclamation that there is a new king – Jesus. He is ruling over the kings of the earth. We will receive an inheritance in His kingdom if we receive Him.

We are to be fearless in proclaiming the gospel.

Galatians 1

v.11 – the gospel we preach is not according to man

v.12 – it came through the revelation of Jesus Christ

1 Peter 1:12

- we are meant to preach the gospel by the Holy Spirit sent from heaven
- this gospel is heavenly
- it releases the reality of the heavenly realm on the earth

Galatians 1

v.15-16 – Paul came to know the reality of the Son of God living in him, the grace of God transforming Him by the gospel

- ❖ **Acts 20:24** – none of these things move me
- ❖ The “**gospel of the grace of God**”, the gospel of the transforming force of God
- ❖ We are to preach the reality of Jesus living in us
- ❖ This gospel releases grace and people are transformed
Is this your gospel?

We are to testify of the power of the grace of God in our lives – a living testimony

Galatians 2:14

- ❖ Paul had to confront the apostle Peter
- ❖ Peter had been happy to have fellowship with Gentiles
- ❖ Peter then separated himself from the Gentiles when Jews came to Antioch
- ❖ Paul saw that they were not straightforward about the truth of the gospel (the reality of the one new man, no middle wall of separation between Jew and Gentile in Christ – **Eph.2:14-18**) – they were being hypocrites
- ❖ Paul was extreme for the truth of the gospel

2 Timothy 2:8-10

- be strong in the grace that is in Christ Jesus
- be diligent to teach the things that I taught you
- Paul knew the reality of what he shared, he knew that his gospel was real
- Paul tells Timothy to endure as a good soldier and not to get entangled with the affairs of this life
- v.8 – Remember that Jesus Christ, of the seed of David, was raised from the dead according to my gospel

- 1) This gospel is about **Jesus the Messiah** who saves people from their sins –
“**Jesus**” – HE will save, rescue, deliver is from sins
- And He is the “**Messiah**” – the Anointed King

- 2) Jesus the Messiah is **of the seed of David (Matt 1:1, Acts 2:29-30, 2 Sam 7:12-14, Jer 23:5-6)** – a Branch of Righteousness coming from David – the LORD our Righteousness) Many prophetic Scriptures spoke of the seed of David – the great King who was to come.
- Yahweh coming in the lineage of David to be King
- Rev 22:16** – Jesus is the Root and the Offspring of David

The gospel is a revelation of Jesus the Messiah.

- Jesus began David's lineage and He entered the world in David's lineage

3) **Raised from the dead according to my gospel**

- ❖ we need to preach the Resurrection
- ❖ the hope of the gospel is in the resurrection (not the rapture)
- ❖ **Acts 4:2** – the apostles preached in Jesus the resurrection from the dead (the power to break you out of trespasses and sins and make you alive from the dead – **Eph.2:1**)
- ❖ We get baptised into the death, burial and resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead – we are placed in to the resurrection of Jesus
- ❖ **Acts 4:33** – with great **power** they gave witness to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, great grace was released
 - **"power"**- 'dunamis', dynamic dynamite power exploded as they witnessed to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus
- ❖ **Acts 13:29-30** – But God raised Jesus from the dead
- ❖ This gospel raises the dead
- ❖ **V.34-39** – the sure mercies of David speak of the resurrection
- ❖ Jesus saw no corruption
- ❖ Through Jesus, is preached the forgiveness of sins
- ❖ If Jesus did not rise we would still be dead in our sins
- ❖ The resurrection justifies us and remits our sins

2 Tim 2:9

- the word of God is not chained
- the gospel cannot be stopped
- be ready to suffer for this gospel

2 Tim 1:8-10 – The Sufferings of the gospel

- do not be ashamed of the gospel
- share in the sufferings for the gospel according to the power of God
- When it becomes your gospel, you become willing to suffer for the gospel
- we experience the power of God at work through the sufferings in the gospel

v.10 – Jesus has abolished death and brought life and immortality to light through the gospel

- This gospel abolishes death and brings life from the dead!

Romans 2:12, 16 – My gospel is good news of God's judgement

- ❖ God will judge the secrets of men by Jesus Christ, according to my gospel
- ❖ Jesus Christ is the standard

- ❖ The gospel is the good news of judgement
- ❖ There will be judgement on all wickedness (it is good news of a new heaven and new earth where righteousness dwells – **2 Pet.3:13**)
- ❖ God will do it in that day
- ❖ Does your gospel warn sinners of judgement to come?

1 Tim 1:8-11

- the law is not made for a righteous person but for sinners...according to **the glorious gospel of the blessed God** which was committed to my trust
- this gospel convicts sinners of judgement according to this glorious gospel
- **Acts 17:30-31** – God has appointed a day in which He will judge the world by Jesus Christ – He has given assurance of this by raising Jesus from the dead
- **Acts 10:42-43** – Jesus was ordained by God – Judge of the living and the dead
- If we believe in Jesus we will receive remission of sins

Romans 1:1-4

- ❖ Paul was separated to the gospel of God
- ❖ Are you separated to this gospel?
- ❖ V.2 – this gospel was promised before by the prophets in the Holy Scriptures
- ❖ **Isaiah 40:9** – good tidings coming from Zion, the New Jerusalem
- ❖ We need to get revelation (up in the high mountain)
- ❖ The gospel comes with strength, a strong voice, to be spoken boldly without fear
- ❖ Behold your God! – this gospel unveils God
- ❖ **Isaiah 52:7** – a gospel of peace (peace with God)
- ❖ a gospel of good things, a proclamation of salvation
- ❖ the gospel of the King who reigns (the God who has come into flesh)

Romans 1:3

- the gospel concerns the Son of God, Jesus the Lord of us
- declared the Son of God with power, by the resurrection of the dead

Romans 10:14-16

- ❖ How shall they hear without a preacher?
- ❖ Our behaviour and conduct needs to be in line with the gospel
- ❖ But not only behaviour, **the gospel needs to be communicated. It needs to come out of our mouths.**
- ❖ Sent – going out with apostolic authority
- ❖ We have authority to share the gospel. We must be sent – having the authority of heaven behind us – **this gospel is official kingdom business**
- ❖ Preaching the gospel is to produce obedience to the gospel.
- ❖ The gospel is to be obeyed.

Let this gospel be to you “My Gospel”!

EPHESIANS 3

Context coming into Ephesians 3 is the revelation of the building of the house of God (**2:19-22**)

- ❖ apostles and prophets laying foundation of Christ, growing into a holy temple

Ephesians 3:1

"For this reason" – for the reason of the building of the house of God

"Paul, a prisoner of Christ Jesus, for us Gentiles"

Galatians 2

- ❖ Paul went up by revelation (**v.2**) to communicate the gospel he preached with the apostles in Jerusalem (Peter, John and James)
- ❖ They gave Paul the right hand of fellowship
- ❖ Paul's apostleship was to the Gentiles (**v.8-9**)

Ephesians 3:2

- ❖ **Paul** was given a dispensation, an empowerment, of the grace of God for the Gentiles

v.3 – this dispensation of grace released Paul to walk in '**revelation**'

- God made known the '**mystery**' by revelation
- Paul had written briefly of the knowledge of this mystery in chapter 1 and 2

v.4 – by reading we can "**understand his knowledge in the mystery**"

- we can draw on this dispensation of the grace of God to know the revelation of the mystery
- it is the "**mystery of Christ**"
- Paul freely gave it to us

v.5 – this mystery in "**other ages**"

- in history there are 2 major ages, former and latter days, before and after Jesus rose from the dead
- there have been many ages within these 2 major ages (e.g. Patriarchs, Noah, Abraham, Moses, Prophets...)

- even in history since Jesus rose from the dead there have been ages (when the printing press started printing Bibles brought the age of the "Reformation")
- now this **mystery is being revealed by the Spirit to His holy apostles and prophets**
- we need apostles and prophets to unveil the mystery
- we need the knowledge of the mystery, the Word of God unveiled
- this knowledge is given to apostles and prophets – **"holy apostles and prophets"**, they need to be set apart, holy
- there are many so called apostles and prophets but they do not speak the mystery – they are not **'holy'**, they are not listening to God
- true apostles bring the **"knowledge of the mystery"**
- true prophets are to bring the **"knowledge of the mystery"**

Ephesians 3:6 – what is the mystery?

"that the Gentiles should be fellow heirs, of the same body and partakers of His promise in Christ through the gospel"

- ❖ In **Eph.2:11-18** – this is what He has written of before
- ❖ We are **fellow heirs** with anybody else who is truly **in Christ**
- ❖ The first block in the building is that there is only **One Body**, no longer Jew nor Gentile, but **in Christ, no middle wall of separation**

v.7 – Paul was a minister **according to the gift of the grace of God given to me by the effective (energetically) working of His power**

Preaching to the Gentiles, How to change the world

v.8 – Paul had a good estimation of himself **"less than the least of all the saints"**

- the grace was given that Paul **should preach the unsearchable riches of Christ**
- you never finish preaching Christ, the riches are unfathomable, unsearchable, inexhaustible
- **"preach among the Gentiles"** - why Gentiles? That was who Paul's apostleship was to and also the Jews knew about "Christ" growing up with the knowledge of the Messiah
- The Gentile Christians have been only preaching a Saviour to take us to heaven, rather than the Messiah whose kingdom is taking over the earth

v.9 – we preach Christ to **"make all to see the fellowship of the mystery"**

- **1 Cor.2:7** – this mystery reveals the glory that we were ordained to walk in

- **"fellowship"** – is walking together in the mystery
- the mystery was from the beginning of the ages hidden in God, who created all things through Jesus Christ
- the mystery was hidden at creation, it was in the garden, it was in the tree of life
- if Adam and Eve had lingered at the Tree of Life they would have come to understand the mystery
- the mystery is still hidden in the tree of life, most Christians do not know the mystery because they do not eat at the Tree of Life
- we have different denominations – if we knew the mystery we would understand we are one in Christ
- The Tree of Life is Christ Jesus, Adam and Eve did not see Him, they went looking for the mystery in the wrong place (people look for it in secret societies, drugs, sorcery, witchcraft, psychics, fortune tellers, counterfeits) – brings bad fruit
- the fruit of the Spirit never goes off, never gets rotten
- the fruit of this mystery is fruit that last

v.10 – this is how we change the world

- by coming into the fellowship of the mystery, it is for a purpose
- it is for the **intent that now the manifold wisdom of God will be made known by the church to the principalities and powers**
- the anointed, revelatory, Spirit filled preaching, teaching, worship and prayer God is releasing His manifold wisdom, His authority
- it is being made known to the spiritual hosts of wickedness in heavenly places
- these are the spirits that work in world to make people disobedient, hating parents etc
- by preaching the mystery, we push them back

v.11 – God has already accomplished this victory through Christ Jesus

- Jesus and His church are far above them
- we need to enter into this by growing in the knowledge of the mystery

v.12 – how do we get into this mystery, this fellowship, this overcoming company?

- through boldness, access with confidence through the faith of Him and faith in Him

v.13 – this glory is released through suffering, so do not lose heart because of the suffering

v.14 "For this reason"

- we have to pray
- bowing the knee to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ

v.15 – from whom the whole family in heaven and earth is named

- not clear what the name is here, but it seems to be we are named after the **Lord Jesus Christ**

v.16 – Paul is in such a high place with God that he feels able to pray that God would grant us **“according to the riches of His glory” (Phil.4:19)**

- a) - Paul prays for them that from the glory they would be **“strengthened with might through His Spirit in the inner man**
- ❖ God strengthens us by His spirit
- ❖ He strengthens our inner man!
- b) – for Christ to dwell in our hearts through **faith**
- ❖ **Col.1:27**
- c) – that we be **rooted and grounded in love**
- ❖ then to be able to **comprehend** (to seize, to lay hold of, to not give up **Phil.3:12 “to lay hold of”**) with all the saints
- d) – to be filled with all the fullness of God – **John 1:16** – to receive an overflow of grace, **of His fullness (completeness 4138) we receive grace upon grace**

v.20 – Now to Him (**Jude24-25**) who is **able** to do exceedingly abundantly (**John 10:10**)

- Jesus gives life and life in abundance
- the devil rips us off, Jesus gives life
- God is able to do so much abundantly more than we can think, ask, pray
- this is according to the **power** – ‘dunamis’ – power that comes from the supernatural realm down to earth
- this power is at **work in us**
- do not look at yourself but look at Jesus

v.21 – To Him (God) be glory in the church by **Christ Jesus** to all generations, forever and ever. Amen.

- it is all about bringing glory to God by Jesus Christ in the church in our generation
- we need to be revivalists in our situation and our generation

FASTING

Joel 1:14

- ❖ **Consecrate a fast**
- ❖ "And cry out to YAHWEH"
- ❖ This call for a fast is in the midst of a day of destruction being at hand
- ❖ There was scarcity of food
- ❖ No joy and gladness in the house of God
- ❖ **V.13** – lament, wail, lie in sackcloth (humbling your soul)
- ❖ **Gather the elders and all the inhabitants of the land**

2:12

- ❖ turn to God with all your heart
- ❖ with fasting, with weeping and with mourning
- ❖ How do we do this? "This should not be so", crying over what is happening because it is not as it should be
- ❖ **Ezek.9:4** – the ones who mourned were marked by God to escape judgement
- ❖ **Matt.5:4** – we are blessed if we mourn for the state of society and the church, for we shall be comforted by God, He will answer
- ❖ **We need to mourn, lament, cry out, fast**

2:13

- ❖ rend your heart, not your garments
- ❖ keep looking normal but let your inward person be rent, broken
- ❖ we are in a society where people are pushing "transgender" and "homosexuality"
- ❖ we need to return to YAHWEH our God
- ❖ He is slow to anger and gracious

v.14

- how do we know we are pleasing to God?
- when there is plenty in the house for a grain and drink offering
- most sacrifices were the blood and the fat
- once you come through the blood, you offer the "fat", the "anointing", "worship"
- we worship
- it is ok to get fat in the Lord, the "fat" is the "worship", out of the overflow of receiving the Word and receiving the Blood, you become full

v.15

- "Blow the Trumpet"
- "consecrate a fast"

v.16-17

- Gather the people (corporate)
- Weep, "Spare Your people"

Why are we fasting?

It is a time to seek God

To enter the rest and cease from our own labours

It is time for God to add to His church another dimension of His revealed glory, to bring us further in this great work of restoration and release of revival

We are going to fast for 21 days, corporately, even across nations

It will be a special time, a considered time (prepare for it, get a journal and plan, set goals, write down prayers, goals for our part in the apostolic ministry worldwide, record what God is showing you)

This could be the release of the worldwide revival for our generation

"Today if you will hear His voice..."

Every generation needs a revival that spreads worldwide

This fast is to prepare us for the coming of the Lord

This fast is for people believing in the glorious church arising, the kingdom of God being established on the earth, being manifested through the corporate body of the church, that the glory of God will be seen on the earth

Jesus is coming to establish a permanent residence with His people on the earth

A study on Fasting

Matthew 4:1

- ❖ Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness
- ❖ **Mark 1:12** – The Spirit "**drove**" Jesus out into the wilderness to be tempted and to fast, Jesus was forced out
- ❖ Jesus **fasted** 40 days and nights to get **victory over the devil and temptation**
- ❖ **Luke 4:14** – Jesus was also **fasting** for the release of the "**power of the Spirit**"
- ❖ Through the fast Jesus got released into the **Isaiah ministry** of **Luke 4:18-19**, '**The Spirit of YAHWEH is upon Me...**' – the ministry of the gospel, power ministry

Matthew 6:16-18

- ❖ "**When**" not "if", "**you fast**"
- ❖ Guidelines
- ❖ i) do not be a hypocrite, look normal, do not try to draw attention
- ❖ ii) anoint your head, wash your face
- ❖ iii) your Father who sees in secret will reward you openly

Matthew 9:14-15

- ❖ Jesus did not want them fasting while He was with them because He was the "Bridegroom", not the time to fast
- ❖ Weddings are times of joy, feasting
- ❖ When we are with the Bridegroom then we do not need to fast
- ❖ Sons who are being led by the Spirit hear from God

Luke 18:12 – wrong fast

- ❖ the Pharisee prayed with himself
- ❖ said "I fast twice a week..."
- ❖ wrong motive, selfish

Acts 9:9

- ❖ Saul had a life-changing experience, forceful, had no control over, it wiped him out, and as a result he could not see and was told by Jesus to go and wait for instructions
- ❖ How did Saul wait for instructions?
- ❖ He fasted 3 full days, no water or food, preparing his heart to hear from Jesus
- ❖ **Acts 9:22** – result of his fast!

Acts 27:9

- ❖ "The Fast..." – referring to the Day of Atonement (**Lev.16**)
- ❖ Required of all the people to "afflict their soul" which came to be a fast
- ❖ This was a religious event, but if entered into by faith, there was a blessing

Acts 13:1-2

- ❖ prophets and teachers leading the church ministered to the Lord and **fasted**
- ❖ they are good leaders
- ❖ they set themselves apart to minister to the Lord with **fasting**
- ❖ the Holy Spirit then spoke through one of the prophets and started something new in the church
- ❖ the release of 2 new apostles! (**Acts 14:14**)
- ❖ History changed forever with this happening!
- ❖ Growth of church was released

Matthew 15:32

- ❖ a multitude of people followed Jesus for 3 days **and have nothing to eat**
- ❖ "**fasting**" – means not putting food in your mouth
- ❖ Fruit of the fast was they were with Jesus for 3 days! Feeding on Jesus!
- ❖ They enjoyed 3 days with Jesus!
- ❖ Jesus was so blessed with them that He gave them a big feed to end it!

Acts 10:30

- ❖ Cornelius was fasting
- ❖ Angel came to him and told him what to do
- ❖ Cornelius was a devout man (**v.2**), prayed and fasted

- ❖ It seemed like it was his habit in the morning to pray until a certain time and then ate later
- ❖ He was not yet born again, but he sought the God of the Jews by prayer and giving
- ❖ Result of this was Peter the apostle came and preached Jesus in his house and they were all filled with Holy Spirit
- ❖ **Fasting was part of his lifestyle**

Acts 14:23

- ❖ Paul and Barnabas appointed elders with prayer and **fasting**
- ❖ **God helped them through fasting to know who the elders were and then pray with anointing**

1 Cor.7:5

- fasting includes abstaining from sexual relations

Daniel 1

- ❖ not a fast but a special diet
- ❖ only vegetables
- ❖ no delicacies or wine
- ❖ the result was prospering in physical, intellectual and spiritual health
- ❖ be instructed by faith in God, we must mix what we hear with faith
- ❖ be healthy and strong for the kingdom

Daniel 6:18

- ❖ King Darius **fasted** all through the night
- ❖ He was fasting because he made a big mistake, being tricked into condemning his best friend to death
- ❖ No entertainment or food that night
- ❖ Even this pagan king had been influenced by Daniel in a godly way

Daniel 9:3

- ❖ set his face toward Lord God
- ❖ request by prayer, supplications
- ❖ with **fasting**
- ❖ **prayed and made confession** (we are to make confessions in our fasting)
- ❖ seeking fulfilment of Word of God
- ❖ seek understanding and fulfilment of Word – a legitimate goal for a fast

Psalms 35:13

- ❖ context from **v.11-12** – fierce witnesses against him
- ❖ David **fasted** for his enemies when they were sick
- ❖ Did not seem to get much breakthrough for them

Psalm 69:10

- ❖ **v.9** – due to zeal for the house of God and persecution
- ❖ **response is to “weep and fast”**
- ❖ he chastened his soul with fasting
- ❖ he was in trouble for his zeal for God’s house
- ❖ fasting is part of our equipment and weaponry
- ❖ if you do not know what to do, stop eating and seek God
- ❖ Let God invade your world through fasting

Psalm 109:24

- ❖ what is he lacking?
- ❖ He was lacking “fatness” – “anointing”
- ❖ If you want more “anointing”, **fast**

Fast – Hb. Means ‘cover your mouth’, stop eating

- ❖ GK. Means “abstinence from food”

Jeremiah 14

- ❖ great drought in the land
- ❖ they tried to fast
- ❖ **v.12** – when they fasted, God would not hear them
- ❖ the way to break a drought is to make sure you tithe, bring it into the storehouse – **Malachi 3**
- ❖ what was wrong with the people in Jeremiah’s day? Because these people were religious, wrong motives, giving credence to false prophets

Jeremiah 36:6

- ❖ the people had “a day of fasting”
- ❖ every month they were fasting
- ❖ God told Jeremiah to send the Word to the brethren on the day of fasting
- ❖ No use in this fasting because they would not hear the Word
- ❖ It was a “religious nothing” of a fast
- ❖ They were in disobedience to the Word

Joel 1:14, 2:12-13,15

- ❖ calling a fast to be consecrated
- ❖ result was that **“in the last days God would pour out His Spirit on all flesh”**
- ❖ we fast for revival – (from Jan 25- Feb 14)

Jonah 3:5

- all the people of Nineveh **fasted as a result of hearing the word through Jonah**
- ❖ because of this they were spared judgement from God (also e.g. Esther, 3 day full fast – no water, no food)

- ❖ ward off national and city-wide disaster

Zechariah 7:5

- ❖ religious fasting with wrong motives

Zechariah 8:19

- ❖ the fasts shall be joy and gladness and feasting
- ❖ restoration
- ❖ if the fasts are done genuinely God will accept them
- ❖ join **"loving truth and peace"** with fasting, God will release joy and gladness

Judges 20:26

- ❖ fasting caused success in war
- ❖ God dealt with enemy

1 Samuel 7:6

- people of God under Samuel fasted and acknowledge their sin
- God worked mightily and dealt with the enemy

1 Samuel 31:13

- book ends with a 7 day fast

2 Samuel 1:12

- David fasted in grief for death of Saul

2 Samuel 12:21-23

- David fasting for a baby son who was passing away

2 Chron. 20:3

- **seeking YAHWEH** because of being threatened
- because of fast God brought the victory

Ezra 8:21

- ❖ fast to humble themselves before God and to seek from Him the right way
- ❖ God answered (**v.23**)

Isaiah 58:3-14

- ❖ **v.3-5** – what is not acceptable in fasting

- ❖ **v.6-7** – 8 aspects of God's fast
- ❖ **v.8** – do not hide yourself from your own flesh, still supply for your family
- ❖ **v.9-10** – **rewards with "ifs"**
- ❖ **v.11-13** – reward of "Repairer of the Breach (**v.13**)
- ❖ **v.14** - you will ride on the high places with God

Some types of fast

1. Total fast up to 3 days, no food or drink
2. Full fast = no food, water only
3. Normal Fast = no food, but juices, broth, beverage, water up to 40 days
4. Partial Fast = 1 less meal a day, can be special diet like Daniel, can be a simple vege diet
5. Special Fasts
 - a) fasting in sexual relations in marriage by agreement
 - b) fasting certain foods and drinks
 - c) fasting television, electronic games
6. A Fast led by the Lord
7. Supernatural Fast – that is Moses

Planning 21 day fast

- a) 1 set meeting each day for prayer, worship, Lord's Table and Bible reading
- b) There will be a chapel area at SHILOH
- c) A place where people can come to sit in the Presence of the Lord
- d) Set Bible readings
- e) Psalm 119 done again, 1 stanza a day (2 on the first day)
- f) Totally voluntary

EMPOWERED FOR THE

GREATER WORKS

John 14:12

- ❖ key is "believe" in Jesus
- ❖ if you believe in Jesus you will do the works Jesus does
- ❖ you will also do **"greater works"**
- ❖ 'because I go to My Father"
- ❖ The greater works are when Jesus left the earth
- ❖ Now we can walk as Christ did in the earth

Jesus is our pattern

- ❖ look at Jesus to know how we should walk on the earth
- ❖ we are His disciples

Colossians 1:18

- ❖ Jesus is the Head of the Body
- ❖ He is the Beginning
- ❖ He is the Firstborn from the dead, He is risen by power of Holy Spirit
- ❖ Jesus is the One who has Pre-eminence
- ❖ All things are for the glorification of Jesus, that He be exalted

Romans 8:29

- ❖ Our destiny is to be conformed to the image of God's Son – like Jesus
- ❖ He is the **Firstborn among many brethren**
- ❖ Jesus went first, we follow Him, we pattern ourselves after Him, we imitate Him
- ❖ If He had not gone first we could not follow Him

John 8:31

- ❖ We are His disciples if we **abide in His word**
- ❖ We are to believe and receive His Word
- ❖ We are to be looking forward to the fulfilment of the promises of God's Word
- ❖ We are to abide in His Word that we will do "greater works"
- ❖ We are to come up to the standard of the Word

How can we do these works and greater works?

- ❖ All things Jesus did; preaching, healing, delivering, raising dead...
- ❖ We are to do these things and greater works
- ❖ We need to be willing to die to ourselves and live for Him

How did Jesus do it?

Matthew 3:1-6

- ❖ John the Baptist prepared the Way for Jesus, preaching the kingdom of heaven, telling people to "repent"
- ❖ All Judea and all the region of Jordan came out to John and were baptized by him confessing their sins
- ❖ John the Baptist was speaking by the unction of the Holy Spirit

v.11 – John baptized with water

- but the One after John is **"Mightier"** than John
- The Mighty One will **"baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire"**
- we need to be seeking God for His Spirit, for His fire

v.13 – then Jesus turned up to be baptized

v.14-15 – John did not want to baptise Him but it was the righteous thing to do

v.16-17 – Spirit of God descended like a dove and alighted upon Jesus

- the Voice declared Him as the Son of God
- supernatural signs and wonders confirmed His word

Acts 1:21-22

- ❖ there were those who had accompanied Jesus all the time, beginning from the baptism of John...
- ❖ the apostles saw the baptism of Jesus
- ❖ they were witnesses, they saw this awesome event

3 supernatural things happened to Jesus

1. Heavens opened

2. Holy Spirit descended upon Him (could be seen, "bodily" – Lu.3:22)

3. Voice declared Him as Son of God

People saw this, it was not simply internal

Luke 4:1

- ❖ Now Jesus is **filled with the Holy Spirit**
 - ❖ Jesus then was led by the Spirit into wilderness, then fasted 40 days, overcame devil
- v.14** – Jesus then returned in the **"power of the Spirit"**

- He became famous, teaching in their Synagogues and He was glorified by all

Before this there is no record of Him preaching, healing, delivering

It was only after He was empowered by the Spirit

Luke 4:16-21

- ❖ In the Synagogue he got up and read from **Isaiah 61:1-2**
- ❖ The Spirit of YAHWEH was upon Him, this is God's Holy Spirit
- ❖ Who anointed Jesus? God, the Father
- ❖ Why did He need that power? To preach, heal, bring liberty, recovery of sight to blind, to set free, to proclaim the acceptable year of the Lord
- ❖ We need the manifestation of the anointing upon us to preach the gospel
- ❖ Each one of us walking in the power of the Holy Spirit, not only the "ministers"
- ❖ It is for all of us because we are His Body

Luke 4:14

- ❖ **"Power" – Gk. 1411, 'dunamis'** – force (not weak), special miraculous power, almost always points to new and higher forces that have entered and are working in this lower world, power in action, seen and experienced, miracles, signs, wonders

Luke 4:18

"anointed", Gk. 5548 – to smear or rub with oil, to consecrate to an office or religious service, for a work, to set apart to an office, giving the necessary powers to fulfil the administration

- ❖ He wants to pour out His Spirit today, giving us all the necessary power to fulfil the administration!

Why did God anoint Jesus?

Acts 10:38

- ❖ How God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with Power
- ❖ He went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil
- ❖ Because "God was with Him"
- ❖ There is nothing wrong with experiencing His Presence but do not just stay there, seek to carry it and release it to others
- ❖ We are not anointed to "feel good", it is to set people free, minister to others
- ❖ Jesus did many signs and miracles on the earth
- ❖ He said we would do greater works

The Disciples

Luke 9:1-6

- ❖ gave 12 disciples **"power and authority"**
- ❖ this was before Jesus went to the Father
- ❖ the power and authority was over **all demons and to cure diseases**

- ❖ He sent them to preach the kingdom of God and heal the sick
- ❖ Jesus **gave them** this authority
- ❖ They did it! They went "preaching the gospel and healing everywhere"

Luke 24:46-49

- ❖ Jesus' commission, final command given to the disciples/apostles
- ❖ They were to be "witnesses"
- ❖ Need to be **"endued with power from on high"**
- ❖ Jesus made provision for them, gave them instructions
- ❖ They had to wait in Jerusalem until this happened
- ❖ They did not know what was really going to happen

Acts 1:4-8

- ❖ Again Jesus was recorded as telling them He would **send the Holy Spirit, the Promise**
- ❖ They totally missed what He said, "what about the kingdom being restored to Israel?"
- ❖ **"But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you and you shall be witnesses..."**
- ❖ Holy Spirit enables us to be witnesses in the earth – focus on this!
- ❖ Do not bow to intimidation, be a witness by the power of the Holy Spirit

Acts 2

- ❖ disciples were obedient; they believed and obeyed
- Acts 2:1-2** – "suddenly" to 120 people, a sound from heaven was heard
- 120 people were waiting and received this
- v.3-4** – awesome signs, they were all **"filled with the Holy Spirit"**

3 supernatural occurrences happened

- 1. sound from heaven like a mighty rushing wind** (unmistakable)
- 2. tongues as of fire appeared** (a visible manifestation)
- 3. they began to speak with other tongues** (the voice from heaven is now speaking out of the vessels He has chosen)

- Just like Jesus had 3 supernatural signs

Acts 2:6

- ❖ those outside heard this supernatural occurrence
 - ❖ they heard 120 people speaking in their languages the wonderful works of God (**v.11**)
- v.12** – they were amazed and perplexed
- when the Holy Spirit is poured out there will be mocking and rejection
 - do not be shocked by it

What happened?

- ❖ people were convicted and repented

Acts 2:14 – now Peter is filled with the power of the Holy Spirit

- ❖ Peter had not long before denied Jesus 3 times
- ❖ He has been restored, forgiven and now filled with the power of the Holy Spirit
- ❖ He preached the gospel to them with power, might, authority and boldness

v.14-39

- Peter declared the Scriptures, declaring Jesus as the Messiah
- He was a witness!

What was the outcome?

Acts 2:37

- ❖ the people hearing were “cut to the heart”
- ❖ when Holy Spirit comes people will be convicted of sin, seeing their need for being saved and delivered

Acts 2:38-39

- ❖ the Promise of the Holy Spirit is for us if we come in the right way
- ❖ we can be like Peter

Acts 3:1-6 – the first record of Peter and John walking in the power of Holy Spirit healing

Acts 4:8-10

- ❖ they were arrested and brought before the religious rulers
- ❖ Peter was “filled with the Holy Spirit”

The rest of the New Testament is filled with testimony of people’s lives changed by the power of the Spirit

Acts 6:8-10

- ❖ Stephen, a man full of the Holy Spirit who could not be resisted

Acts 10:44

- ❖ when Peter was still speaking **the Holy Spirit fell upon all those who heard the Word**
- ❖ **v.45-46** – Holy Spirit poured out on Gentiles, spoke with tongues

Do we lack power to preach, witness, to see the sick healed, to see demons cast out?

- ❖ we are to come up higher

Luke 11:5-13

- ❖ how many times have people come to us and we felt we have lacked the power to help?
- ❖ We need to be persistent
- ❖ Ask, seek, knock
- ❖ You will receive
- ❖ You will find
- ❖ You will have the door opened
- ❖ Not “maybe”, you “will”
- ❖ **What are we to ask for? Ask the Father for the Holy Spirit!**
- ❖ Be persistent in asking, seeking and knocking for the infilling to walk in the greater works

Sometimes we think we do not need constant filling

Acts 4:31

- ❖ when apostles prayed
- ❖ **place shaken**
- ❖ all filled with Holy Spirit (again)
- ❖ they spoke word with boldness
- ❖ get out of mindset of thinking “I have already been filled, I do not need it again”
- ❖ we need to be filled and filled and filled...
- ❖ pour the oil into the empty vessels, if there are empty vessels there will always be more oil available

Jesus lives and walks in us

He wants His kingdom to be manifest and seen in us

He wants us to be bold, confident, not afraid or intimidated

Preach the gospel – the power is to preach the gospel

HOW TO CONDUCT YOURSELF

1 Tim 3:15

- Paul writing to Timothy (a young apostle)
- that you may know how you ought to **conduct yourself** in the house of God
- we need instruction on how to conduct ourselves in the house of God which is the church of the living God, the pillar and ground of the truth
- the church is the example for how to live in the truth
- v.16 – we are representatives of the mystery of godliness
- our conduct is to manifest the truth that God was manifested in the flesh

Conduct – KJV - behave SC Gk#390 – to busy oneself, that is to remain or live, a lifestyle

- ❖ conduct refers to how we behave
- ❖ God is interested in our behaviour
- ❖ God wants consistent behaviour
- ❖ Our conduct can provide great strength

Heb 13:18

- ❖ conduct – **“to live honourably”**
- ❖ a lifestyle that is honourable (upright)
- ❖ a **good conscience** towards God

Having a good conscience

- Acts 24:16

- ❖ I always strive to have a conscience without offense toward God and men
- ❖ We live this way in light of the resurrection and judgement to come
- ❖ When there is something wrong, do what you can to make it right

- 1 Tim 1:5

- the purpose of the teaching of the word of God is to produce love from a pure heart and a good conscience (the right conduct)

2 Cor 1:12

- how we conduct ourselves as a team together is important
- we need to learn how to fit in with the whole body
- my boast is the testimony of our conscience

HOW WE ARE TO CONDUCT OURSELVES

1) simplicity – singleness of mind, without another motive or agenda (straightforward); generosity, not holding anything back from one another (being open)

2) godly sincerity – 1 Cor 5:8 WW – lit. 'judged by sunlight', transparent honesty, genuine purity, manifested clarity, and unsullied innocence, not afraid of having motives and intents examined, nothing to hide; allow the word to judge the thoughts and intents of your heart (**Heb.4:12**)

3) not with fleshly wisdom – **James 3:13-15** – our good conduct will be shown by us acting in wisdom

James 3:14 – bitter envy and self-seeking (don't give in to this fleshly wisdom)

- ❖ This wisdom is earthly, sensual and demonic (confusion and every evil thing are there)
- ❖ Ask for the wisdom that is from above (**v.17**)

4) By the grace of God

- ❖ we get the grace by humbling ourselves
- ❖ **1 Peter 5:5** – submit yourselves to your elders, be submissive to one another, and be clothed with humility
- ❖ God resists the proud but gives grace to the humble

WRONG CONDUCT

2 Peter 2:18

- word for conduct is translated '**to live in error**'

Error – Jude 11 WW – a wandering, going astray, an error, In the NT the straying is in respect to morals and doctrine

- great swelling words of emptiness
- a conduct that is in error
- false teaching leads to wrong conduct

2 Peter 2:7

- Lot was oppressed by the filthy conduct of the wicked

1 Peter 1:17

- **conduct yourselves in godly fear**
- **v.18** – knowing that you were not redeemed with corruptible things
- We fear because we realise the value of the blood of Jesus
- we have been bought with such a valuable price

- **aimless conduct** is 'empty, futile, walking by the traditions of our fathers', religious works
- God wants our conduct to be purposeful, full of substance, with conviction, based on living faith in the Word

Psalm 37:14

- ❖ the wicked want to slay those who are of **upright conduct**
- ❖ **upright** – means straight, proper, fitting, level, right
- ❖ be willing to be persecuted for living in an upright way
- ❖ **Conduct** – SC Heb #1870 – *Derek* – a road (as trodden), translated mostly 'the way', fig. a course of life or mode of action
- ❖ We are to conduct ourselves like Jesus (Jesus is the Way **Jn.14:6** – conduct)
- ❖ This word first appears in **Gen 3:24** – a flaming sword to guard the way to the tree of life
- ❖ **Matt 7:13-14** – the way is narrow, straight – it leads to life
- ❖ Our conduct has to do with us coming into life (coming to Jesus, eating of Him)
- ❖ A lifestyle of eating His word, of prayer, of celebrating the Lord's Table, of fellowship (**Acts 2:42**)
- ❖ **Revelation 2:4-7** – repent and do the first works – the promise is to eat of the tree of life
- ❖ What we do has implications for our relationship with God

Gen 18:19

- ❖ God speaking to Abraham
- ❖ God knew the way Abraham lived
- ❖ That they **keep the way of Yahweh** ("the way" = conduct)
- ❖ Abraham taught his children and servants how to **keep the way of Yahweh** (to do righteousness and justice)
- ❖ Living by faith and then acting out what you hear from God
- ❖ To do justice – to make the right decisions
- ❖ God wants obedient households who hold to the conduct of Yahweh

Psalm 50:23

- ❖ God will show His salvation to those who **order their conduct aright**
- ❖ Salvation for spirit, soul and body
- ❖ **Order your conduct aright** and God can show you His salvation in every area of your life
- ❖ **Order** – to set, appoint, direct, to do with making a decision
- ❖ we are to make decisions for how to behave ourselves

1 Sam 18:14

- David behaved wisely in **all his ways** (conduct) and God was with him
- our conduct is to be circumspect, intelligent, to act with insight

Phil 1:27

- ❖ Gk#4176 – **conduct** – to behave as a citizen, to administer civil affairs, to manage the state

- ❖ We are to behave as a citizen managing the affairs of the kingdom
- ❖ A position of administration of the kingdom of God, thus realising the official capacity that we are to function in
- ❖ **Let your conduct be worthy of the gospel of Christ**

THE WAY OUR CONDUCT IS MEANT TO BE

- 1) stand fast in one spirit (don't break from the anointing that we carry)
- 2) with one mind
- 3) striving together for the faith of the gospel
- 4) v.28 – not in any way terrified by our adversaries (a proof of your salvation)
– **do not fear the enemy**

Phil 3:20

- ❖ our conduct (citizenship, conversation) is in heaven
- ❖ our conduct is to be heavenly
- ❖ the kingdom will be manifest and seen through our conduct
- ❖ our conduct is in view of the coming of the Lord
- ❖ when He comes, He will transform even our lowly bodies
- ❖ walking into transformation

Order your conduct aright and uphold the truth.

EPHESIANS 4

The end of chapter 3 is Paul's second great prayer in the book of Ephesians

❖ we have this privilege as a generation to give God all the glory

v.1 "Therefore" – as a result of this prayer of what God wants to do and be in us

"prisoner of the Lord" – probably literally a prisoner (**Eph.3:1, 6:20** – still functioning as an apostle while in prison, in chains)

- Paul was a "bondservant" whether literally in prison or not, a voluntary slave

"beseech" – passionately appeal to someone on righteous grounds

"walk worthy of the calling"

- ❖ **Romans 8:29-30** – the calling is to be conformed to the image of His Son
- ❖ God predetermined those called ones, then He called them
- ❖ After calling them He **justified** them, by making it known to them that if we repent and believe we will be forgiven
- ❖ Those He **justified** He also **glorified**, become a mature son in the earth carrying God's glory

v.2 – walk in the calling with:

"all lowliness and gentleness, with longsuffering, bearing with one another in love"

❖ look up all these words, they are very rich

"lowliness" – humility, modesty, absence of arrogance, conceit and haughtiness

"gentleness" – even tempered disposition, tranquil (in active peaceful sense)

"longsuffering" – having a long temper, takes a while to get angry, God is longsuffering but it does eventually run out if unrepentant

"bearing with one another" – to hold up, hold each other up

v.3 "endeavour to keep the unity of the Spirit"

"endeavour" – make every effort, strain every nerve

"keep the unity of the Spirit" – we are to be in the Spirit together, built together as dwelling place for God in the Spirit, we learn to live and walk in the Spirit with our brothers and sisters in Christ, no longer seeing each other after the flesh but after the spirit

- ❖ we are perfect in the spirit but it is our souls that need the help
- ❖ this is not "agreeing to disagree", it is bearing with one another until people get the revelation and change
- ❖ only if you are a repentant, baptised, Spirit-filled believer can you walk in the Spirit together
- ❖ unity of Spirit is walking in perfection in Christ

v.4- 6: outworking of the unity of the Spirit

"One body, One Spirit, One hope, One Lord, One faith, One baptism, One God"

- ❖ when we walk in unity of the Spirit we come to know by revelation that there is One....
- ❖ **"One faith"** – do you believe the Word of God? The Scriptures we have received – 'the Textus Receptus', the 'Received Texts'
- ❖ Even in **2 Peter 3:16**, Peter said the writings of Paul were "Scripture"
- ❖ We receive the Bible as the Word of God, not all these new translations that leave some Scriptures out
- ❖ **"One baptism"** – means immersion, not sprinkling, not pouring
- ❖ **"One God and Father of all"** – His name is not "allah", He is the **God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ – YHWH**

Eph.4:7 "But..."

"to each one of us grace was given"

- ❖ because of the great need to walk in the One Spirit together and the seven ones **we need grace**
- ❖ **I have received grace**

v.8 "Therefore"

"When Jesus ascended on high, He took captivity captive (He took all that the devil had held in darkness and He took that captive) and then He gave gifts to men

v.9-10 How did Jesus, by descending and then ascending, plan to fill all things with His Presence?

v.11 – by giving apostles, prophets, evangelists, pastors and teachers (to bring us to the revelation of the One body, One Spirit...)

v.12 – "to perfect the saints"

"perfect" – to set the church in order to function, like healing a broken bone that was out of place

"for the work of ministry" – the five ministry gifts are given to do the work of the ministry, all ministries are to be functioning to bring us to maturity

"to build up the body of Christ" – to grow the body in the grace of the ministries given

v.13 "till we all come to the unity of the faith"

- till we all come to believe the Word as it is written
- there is nothing wrong with the Bible, there is only something wrong with us, The Bible, the Word of God will fix us
- **Jude 3** – contend for the **faith**

"till we all come to the knowledge of the Son of God"

- ❖ the church is to be brought to the deep revelational knowledge of the Son of God
- ❖ the key is **1 Timothy 3:16** – God manifested in the flesh
- ❖ also **John 1:1,14** – The Word, who is God, became flesh and dwelt among us
- ❖ the One God manifested in the flesh, and we call Him the **Son of God**
- ❖ **Luke 1:35** – will be called the Son of God

"to a perfect man"

- ❖ the corporate church coming to maturity and full functionality, knowing what we are meant to be doing
- ❖ the many membered body walking in a functional maturity, walking as sons together, to happen on the earth, to get us ready for Jesus to come, to be married to Him as the Bride

"to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ" – how awesome is that!

Eph.4:14 – "no longer be children tossed to a fro..."

- we are to grow up and discern the "tricksters"

v.15-16

- again a picture of a functional body
- joints supplying, teams going to bless other parts of the body
- every part is to do its part – "parts" are groups

v.17 "Therefore" – as a result of what was just shared...

"you should no longer walk as the rest of the Gentiles (the church today) walk in the futility of their mind"

"futility" – vanity, depravity

- ❖ many get confused these days about judging homosexuality, it is unacceptable to God, it is a perversion

v.18 – “having understanding darkened, alienated from life of God, ignorance in them, blindness of heart”

v.19-21

- The truth is in Jesus

- we are to be taught by Him, learn from Him, hear from Him
- It is Jesus!
- many try to come into a “Christ” consciousness but do not know “Jesus”
- many talk about “God” but do not mention “Jesus”
- the name is “Jesus”

v.22 – put off old man, put on new man

v.23 “renewed” – renovated, reformed, direct its bent and energies toward God

- **‘we are to be renewed in the spirit of our mind’**
- stop and direct your mind God-ward

v.24 – be clothed with the new man

“created according to God in true righteousness and holiness”

v.25 – put away lying

- speak truth with your neighbour
- if we do not tell our neighbours about Jesus, we are telling them lies
- we need to come up front about Jesus
- stop lying and talking about everything else

v.26 – “wrath” – irritation, exasperation and embitterment that attaches itself to something that has even caused righteous anger

- be angry and do not sin
- do not try to go to sleep with “wrath” in your heart
- being angry is not a sin, but getting irritated and exasperated is

v.27-28

- you should work and be able to have enough to help others

v.29 – edification is necessary

- we need brothers and sisters to edify us
- speak Godly words that release grace to the hearers, bringing strength

v.30 – do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God

- we are sealed with the Holy Spirit, so behave yourself properly, behave yourself in line with the Holy Spirit
- we are never “off duty”, speak up
- do not disobey Him

v.31 – ‘evil speaking’ – blasphemia – vilification, railing

‘clamour’ – 3709 – desire, reaching forth, desire of mind,

‘anger’ - as strongest of all emotions, violent passions (**Mark 3:5** – Jesus looked around in “anger”)

v.32 – be kind, tender-hearted, forgiving...

MESSAGES FROM MALACHI

1. YAHWEH CHOSE US IN LOVE TO BECOME HIS SONS

Malachi 1:2

1st message is that YAHWEH (the Eternal God) loves you

- ❖ **How did YAHWEH love us?**
- ❖ Because He **chose** us – **Eph.1:4**

v.3-5 – God chose Jacob and hated Esau

- Esau became a people called “Edom”
- they were at enmity with Israel, even to this day
- God chose Jacob and rejected Esau
- Esau does not want to change and will not accept that judgement (**indignation forever, v.4b**)
- when God corrects you, obey Him
- Esau/Edom called the “Territory of Wickedness” forever

v.5 – Yahweh be magnified beyond the borders of SHILOH!

- worship expands us to be able to receive more of the Word, makes us bigger, able to receive more, well is enlarged
- The Word comes from above

v.6 – The Book of Malachi is addressed to “priests”, “Levites”, “ministers” (**Rev.1:6, 5:10** – we are kings and priests)

- **Ephesians 1:4-5** – God chose us in Christ, to become sons...
- God has revealed His love to us in salvation, and He has revealed Himself as Father through the “adoption”
- apply to Malachi understanding from all the rest of the Bible, seeing God’s eternal purpose
- most people do not understand the Bible
- people read the book with a pre-conceived idea, taking what you already believe and putting it on the Word

Matthew 24

v.40 – 2 in the field, one taken and the other left (this is used as a primary verse telling us about the 'rapture')

what is the context?

Begins in v.36 and ends in v.44

- ❖ take time to study the chapter word by word, verse by verse
- ❖ find out what it is teaching you (Jesus is answering 3 questions that are at the beginning of the chapter – **Matt.24:2-3**)

Malachi 1:6

- ❖ the people of God lacked the revelation of the Sonship, they did not have the Spirit of sonship
- ❖ the antidote for the problem in Malachi is for you and I to receive the Spirit of adoption (**Rom.8:15, Eph.1:5, Gal.4:6-7**)

2. THE ALTAR = THE TABLE OF THE LORD

Malachi 1:7

- ❖ they were offering "defiled food on My altar"
- ❖ "The Table of YAHWEH is contemptible"
- ❖ The Table of the Lord is the altar of the New Testament
- ❖ You bring an offering to an altar, they were bringing impure, defiled, lame offerings (**v.8**)
- ❖ They were offering faulty gifts to God

v.9 – The answer = entreat God's favour that He may be "gracious"

- present your lives to God as a living sacrifice – **Romans 12:1**
- **Zephaniah 1:7** – Be silent in the Presence of the Lord (**Adonai**) GOD (**YAHWEH**), Yahweh has prepared a sacrifice, you are **invited**
- You are invited to the Lord's Table, to the place of remembering the sacrifice of Jesus

What causes us to bring deficient offerings to the Lord?

- denominations have made the Lord's Table their own, exclusive, have to be members of their particular group

3. WE ARE TO GIVE GLORY TO THE NAME OF YAWHEH

Malachi 1:11

- ❖ What is the problem with the name?
- ❖ We have inherited an over 2000 year tradition of translating the name as "Lord" instead of God's name "YHWH"
- ❖ We need to repent of this tradition

- ❖ We are to magnify God's name
- ❖ When He uses "Adonai" it means the Supreme Lord
- ❖ But when "YHWH" is used He is revealing His personal, eternal name (over 6800 times)
- ❖ God is complaining "My name is to be praised"!!!
- ❖ God was upset with the people in the days of Malachi because they did not praise, extol and acknowledge His name
- ❖ "Baal" means "Lord"; that's why we should not change the name of YHWH to "Lord"
- ❖ Jesus taught us to "**hallow His name**" (**Matt.6:9**)
- ❖ Moses was disciplined for not "hallowing" God in the sight of the people of God
- ❖ Give glory to God's name, the I AM, Jesus (Yeshua)
- ❖ We are fasting for restoration and revival or "revival so that restoration can take place"
- ❖ It is time for God to add another dimension of His revealed glory to the church
- ❖ Much of His glory is revealed through His name
- ❖ We need to **fear** the name – **Isaiah 11:2**

v.12

- the name of YAHWEH of Hosts is profaned
- How? The Table of YHWH is defiled

4. THE COVENANT WITH LEVI

Malachi 2:4

- ❖ God wants to continue His covenant with Levi

v.5 – God's covenant with Levi is **life and peace**

- This is His covenant with us
- Levi feared and was reverent toward His name

v.6 – this is how priests are to behave themselves

- law/teaching of truth was in his mouth
- no injustice in his lips
- walking with God in peace and equity (fairness)
- turn many away from iniquity
- this is for all of us, this is what we are to do
- if we are born again, baptised and filled with Holy Spirit we are consecrated as priests

v.7 – lips of priests should keep knowledge

- people should seek the teaching from priests

- we are meant to be "messengers" of YHWH of hosts, priests are the "messengers" of YHWH

- **Matthew 13:39** – reapers are the messengers ('angels', Gk 'angelos' means "messenger" NOT necessarily a heavenly messenger)

❖ **we are the messengers that God will send to get rid of the wickedness in the world**

Who loves the law of God?

Vines' "torah" – means direction, teaching, instruction, because of lack of understanding the "law" we have seen it negatively

- ❖ comes from word meaning "to point out, to project"
- ❖ "torah" points out or indicates God's will for man – "do not kill", this is God's direction to man
- ❖ To be regarded as a course of guidance from above, is much more than a set of rules or "law"
- ❖ Israel fell into trap of trying to keep the law/torah as something "imposed" rather than a means of becoming what God intended for her (we are intended to be a glorious church, to love His name, walking in His kingdom)
- ❖ Torah is the means by which one can reach a goal or ideal
- ❖ Torah became an external body of rules which was a heavy weight on the people, rather than a freeing and guiding power
- ❖ Torah is a synonym for "the Word of God"
- ❖ **Isaiah and Micah** both prophesied in the last days that the "Law/Torah" will go forth from Zion (kingdom) and the "Word of YHWH" from Jerusalem (church) – **Is.2:2-4, Mic.4:1-4**

5. GOD'S ATTITUDE TO DIVORCE

Malachi 2:10-11

- God hates divorce; it is a terrible thing
- these priests were divorcing their wives to marry the daughter of people who worshiped foreign gods

Mal.2:12 – only marry in the Lord

- as a priest you can do nothing else
- is better not to marry than to marry someone not in the Lord

v.13-16 – YHWH expresses His hatred of divorce

- it affects the spirit of all involved and it takes a lot to recover

- ❖ **1 Peter 3:7** – written to husbands,
- ❖ a) "dwell with your wife with understanding"
- ❖ b) honour your wife
- ❖ c) she is "weaker vessel" physically, subject to menstrual cycle

- ❖ d) recognize we are "heirs together" of the "grace of life" – this means husband and wife are equal (**Gal.3:28 – all one in Christ**)
- ❖ e) if we mistreat people in relationships, our prayer will be hindered

6. THE MESSENGER

Malachi 3:1

- ❖ "messenger" refers to prophets, priests and kings as well as heavenly messengers
- ❖ This Messenger will prepare the Way for Me
- ❖ **Isaiah 40:3** – "the voice of One crying in the wilderness, 'Prepare the way of YHWH..."
- ❖ **Matthew 3:1-3** – John the Baptist came preaching, the one spoken of through Isaiah the prophet – "Prepare the way of **YHWH**" = John was preparing the way for JESUS, the Eternal God
- ❖ **Mark 1:2-3** – Mark picks up on the prophecy from **Malachi 3:1 and Isaiah 40:3** – "Prepare the way of **YHWH**" – Jesus is being referred to here as YHWH coming in the flesh
- ❖ Also **John 1:23 & Luke 2:4** refer to Jesus as **YHWH**

Malachi 3:1b

- ❖ The **Lord** (Hb. Adon 335 times used – can mean "Sir", can refer to men or God, sometimes nothing more than a title of respect, can also mean "Master")
- ❖ Other word for **Lord** (**Hb. Adonai 439 times used**, exclusively a Divine title, only used of God, Supreme, Master; name as well as title)
- ❖ Other word **Baal** (means Lord, Owner in a controlling way, possessed)

When did the Lord come into His temple?

- ❖ When He was dedicated in the temple by Joseph and Mary
- ❖ This is the **Messenger of the Covenant**
- ❖ Jesus said "This is the cup of the **New Covenant**"
- ❖ Jesus came with the New Covenant, He brought the word of the New Covenant and so He established it, the old is obsolete (**Heb.8:13**)
- ❖ Jesus is the Messenger of the Covenant
- ❖ "Behold He is Coming"

Malachi 3:2-3

- ❖ He will be a purifier, a Refiner
- ❖ He will purify the priests!
- ❖ He will purify us

7. TITHES AND OFFERINGS

Malachi 3:7

- ❖ Return to God and He will return to us
- ❖ "In what way shall we return?"
- ❖ God's answer is that 'You have robbed Me'
- ❖ How? In tithes and offerings
- ❖ For that reason the people of God are cursed
- ❖ Imagine if the 23 million Australians tithed, the whole nation would prosper

- ❖ Our nation is running a deficit
- ❖ Germany after 2nd world war began to support Christian missions – they have become a powerful economy
- ❖ We return to God by bringing our tithes to the storehouse – where there is spiritual food

Every Christian has 2 rights –

- i) you can put your money (tithe and offerings) where you know the real work of mission is being done and withhold it where you see corruption
- ii) you can attend where God places and you can withdraw in the will of God

What is God's response to people tithing?

Malachi 3:10

- ❖ it will rain, the floodgates of heaven will open
- ❖ what were they to do with their "seed", keep it to sow for another harvest
- ❖ you do not "sow" into ministry, "sow" it into your business to produce more so that you can get a bigger harvest and thus a bigger tithe to give
- ❖ God will bless us in the field, rebuke the devourer

v.12 - we will be touched by the glory, all nations will call you blessed

- just give to God, do not give to get

8. A BOOK OF REMEMBRANCE

Malachi 3:16

- ❖ there was a certain group of people who feared the Eternal God and who meditate on His name

v.17 – they shall be His, He will make them His jewels

- He will spare them as a son

v.18 – this will cause a discernment between the righteous and the wicked

We are a covenant people

The glue that holds us together is the love of God

Love is the greatest thing, it covers a multitude of sins, correction will come from God through us loving each other

We need to throw our lot in with the brethren, be part of the apostolic company

We are to consider what is important to God

Then you will be able to discern who is fearing and serving God (in reality, not denominationally)

9. THE SUN OF RIGHTEOUSNESS

Malachi 4:2

- ❖ to you who fear My name
- ❖ the day which is coming will burn up the wicked (**2 Peter 3:9-13**)
- ❖ but to the ones fearing His name the "Sun of Righteousness" will rise with healing in His wings
- ❖ you shall go out and grow fat like stall fed calves
- ❖ we are to be "fat" in the anointing, well fed, shiny

What will these people do?

They will trample the wicked – **Matthew 13:36-43**

10. SENDING ELIJAH

Malachi 4:4-6

- ❖ remember the Law/Torah (#8541 in Hb) of Moses
- ❖ Behold God will send Elijah the Prophet
- ❖ The effect of the ministry will be the turning of the hearts of fathers with children and children with fathers
- ❖ Coming of Elijah - **Luke 1:17, Matt.3:1-3, Mark 9:12-13, Matt.11:7-15, 17:3**

KEEP THE HEAVENLY FOCUS

We need to keep a heavenly focus today.

The heavenly realm is more real than what we see around us.

Rev 4:1

- ❖ John saw a door open in heaven
- ❖ A voice saying, "Come up here"
- ❖ God wants to lift us up into the heavenly realm (to see beyond the veil)
- ❖ **V.2** – John was in the Spirit
- ❖ What the Holy Spirit shows us comes from heaven
- ❖ The heavenly realm is in the Spirit

Exodus 24:10

- ❖ they saw the God of Israel
- ❖ a paved work of stone, like the very heavens in its clarity (like the substance of heaven)
- ❖ Heaven has substance. It is real.

Colossians 3:1-2

- ❖ we are to keep our mind set on things above, where Christ is
- ❖ seek those things which are above
- ❖ be heavenly minded

1) THERE ARE HEAVENLY THINGS THAT JESUS WANTS US TO UNDERSTAND

Heavenly – SC GK #2032 – lit. above the sky, what pertains to or is in heaven

- ❖ Jesus wants us to understand heavenly things
- ❖ Heavenly things will change the earth we live in

a) John 3:12 – Jesus is talking to Nicodemus

- ❖ Jesus was speaking of heavenly things by giving earthly examples (being born again)
- ❖ Same word used for wind and spirit
- ❖ **V.10** – teachers of the people of God need to know these things so that they can teach the people
- ❖ We testify what we know and we speak what we have seen (**John 3:31-33**)
- ❖ Jesus testified of heavenly things. He walked a heavenly life on the earth.
- ❖ **V.13** – No one has ascended to heaven but He who came down from heaven, that is, the Son of Man who is in heaven
- ❖ The One who came down from heaven is in heaven (at the same time)
- ❖ Jesus was walking on earth while He was in heaven
- ❖ Heaven is another realm that is right here, but we need to have eyes to see it (spiritual eyes)

b) Hebrews 8:4-5

- ❖ the priests that were on the earth served in the copy and shadow of the heavenly things
- ❖ Moses was instructed to build the Tabernacle according to the pattern of the heavenly things that he saw
- ❖ The heavenly things have to do with the dwelling place of God, the House of God in the earth
- ❖ God is revealing heavenly things – there is a Tabernacle made of living stones

Hebrews 9:23

- ❖ copies and shadows of the heavenly things were purified with animal sacrifices
- ❖ the heavenly things were purified with the blood of Christ
- ❖ Christ has entered into heaven itself
- ❖ Jesus is in the midst of His lampstand
- ❖ We can come into the place of the altar of incense
- ❖ All the furnishings of the earthly tabernacle are pointing us to heavenly realities

2) WE HAVE A HEAVENLY FATHER

Luke 11:13

- ❖ Our heavenly Father will give the Holy Spirit to those who ask Him
- ❖ Our Father is in heaven, belonging to the eternal realm of heaven
- ❖ Keep looking at your heavenly Father

Matt 15:13

- ❖ our heavenly Father likes to plant things in the earth
- ❖ Our heavenly Father plants sons who will remain in the earth
- ❖ God's plan is for the earth to be heavenly
- ❖ He will uproot and remove from the earth what He has not planted
- ❖ **Isaiah 51:16** – Are the Father's words in your mouth? God wants to plant the heavens. He wants to establish the heavens in the earthly realm. The people of Zion are those who He plants in the earth.

Matt 6:14

- ❖ if you forgive, your heavenly Father will also forgive you
- ❖ the nature of our heavenly Father is to forgive
- ❖ we are to pray to our Father in heaven
- ❖ We have been begotten of the Father

Matt 6:26, 32 – He knows all our needs, seek first the kingdom and His righteousness

3) WE ARE TO OBEY THE HEAVENLY VISION

Acts 26:19

- ❖ Paul was not disobedient to the heavenly vision
- ❖ We are to obey the heavenly vision (it is a choice)
- ❖ **V.18** – Paul was sent to open eyes, to turn people from darkness to light, from the power of Satan to God...
- ❖ **Vision** – a spectacle, a sight
- ❖ **V.20-21** – obeying the heavenly vision will be costly (it was for Paul)
- ❖ The heavenly vision sustains us in persecution (**Acts 7:55-60**)

4) THERE IS A HEAVENLY CALLING

Calling – an invitation to partake

Hebrews 3:1

- ❖ partakers of the heavenly calling
- ❖ **partakers** – a participant, associate, a sharer, a partner, a companion
- ❖ we are companions of the heavenly calling
- ❖ we need to have revelation of Jesus as the Apostle and High Priest in order to partake in the heavenly calling
- ❖ we are continuing to go up (to move forward in the heavenly calling)
- ❖ walking under an open heaven
- ❖ the Apostle brings heavenly realities into the earth
- ❖ Jesus the High Priest leads us into the heavenly realm

Phil 3:14

- ❖ this is to be our heart (our attitude)
- ❖ press toward the prize of the upward call of God
- ❖ going up and growing up into Christ Jesus – the Head (**Eph 4:15**)
- ❖ the upward call is going into the resurrection
- ❖ **Rom 8:29-30**

5) THE HEAVENLY MAN

1 Corinthians 15:48-49

- as is the heavenly Man, so also are those who are heavenly
- we shall also bear the image of the heavenly Man
- this is in the context of the resurrection
- v.42 – the body is raised in incorruption, glory, power – **a spiritual body**
- v.45 – the last Adam (Jesus) became a **life-giving Spirit**
- v.46 – the natural is first, then the spiritual
- the second Man is **the Lord** (which means He is God) from heaven
- we are to bear the image of the heavenly Man (in our character and body)
- the Holy Spirit is given as a guarantee that we will receive a habitation from heaven (**2 Cor 5:1-5**)

6) THE HEAVENLY KINGDOM

Kingdom – means royalty, rule, a realm, sovereignty, royal power, dominion

2 Tim 4:18

- the Lord will preserve (the word for 'saved') me for His heavenly kingdom
- He delivers and preserves us

- **Matt 4:17** – Jesus came preaching that we must repent for the kingdom of heaven is at hand

- the heavenly kingdom is what will remain, we must undergo change to enter and live in it

1 Cor 15:50

- we have to bear the image of the heavenly Man to fully inherit the heavenly kingdom

- flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God

- we are to inherit the heavenly kingdom in our bodies

- **1 Thess 5:23** – our spirit, soul and body preserved blameless at the coming

7) THE HEAVENLY

Ephesians 1:3

- ❖ blessed with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly in Christ
- ❖ if you are in Christ, you are in the heavenly realm and you can partake of the spiritual blessings
- ❖ in Christ is in the heavenly
- ❖ **v.20** – God raised Christ from the dead and seated Him at His right hand in the heavenly
- ❖ **Ch 2 verse 6** – we are seated in the heavenly in Christ Jesus (far above all principality and power, might and dominion)
- ❖ **Ch 3 verse 10** – the manifold wisdom of God is to be made known by the church to the principalities and powers in the heavenly
- ❖ The sovereignty and royal dominion of Christ is to be exercised by the church, displacing the usurped dominion of the devil in the heavenly

8) THE HEAVENLY JERUSALEM

Hebrews 12:22

- ❖ you have come to Mount Zion and to the city of the living God, **the heavenly Jerusalem**

Hebrews 11:10

- ❖ Abraham waited for the city which has foundations, whose builder and maker is God (**Rev 21:14** – the foundations = the 12 apostles of the Lamb)
- ❖ This heavenly city has an apostolic foundation
- ❖ **V.14** – they knew that their origin was not from the earth
- ❖ **V.15-16** – they desired a better, a heavenly homeland (not going to heaven but seeking the heavenly origin and seeing it revealed on the earth)
- ❖ God has **prepared** a city for them
- ❖ This is about finding our origin, our homeland, where we were born from (a heavenly origin)
- ❖ **Prepared** – **Rev 21:2** – the New Jerusalem coming down out of heaven , prepared for her husband

Where are you being prepared?

- we are being prepared in heavenly places (**Eph.2:6**) and this is being revealed in the earth

Keep your mind focused on the heavenly things. We are not to disobey the heavenly vision. We have a heavenly calling.

EPHESIANS 5

Ephesians 5:1

"Therefore" – in light of all the teaching in chapter 4

"be imitators of God as dear children"

WALK:

1. In love

Jesus Christ has made the sweet smelling aroma

- ❖ a sacrifice and an offering
- ❖ now we can walk in love
- ❖ "Love" – agapao, that determined choice to love

V.3 - We are then warned against fornication (not making love, cheap, easy, no commitment, done for selfish reasons), sexual intercourse outside of marriage

- ❖ Not to be named among you

V.4 - Turn all negative talking around by "giving thanks"

v.5 – no fornicator...no covetous man (who is an idolater – being covetous is equal to idolatry)

- the modern world has turned "consumerism" into idolatry
- have to have some particular items, jeans, make-up
- such people have **no inheritance in the kingdom of God (1Cor.6:9-10** – unrighteous will not inherit the kingdom of God, "fornicators, idolaters, adulterers, homosexuals, sodomites, thieves, covetous, drunkards, revilers, extortioners will not inherit the kingdom of God)
- **1 Cor.6:11** – such were some of you **BUT** you were washed, sanctified and justified by the name of Lord Jesus and by the Spirit of God
- warning but availability of grace and forgiveness

v.6 – let no one deceive you with empty words

- do not participate with sons of disobedience who will only experience the "wrath of God" – #3709 – anger as the strongest of all emotions, violent passion, abhorrence, punishment

2. Walk in Light

v.8 – you were darkness **BUT** now “Light in the Lord”

- “walk as children of Light”

What does it mean to walk in the light?

a) in the Spirit

b) produce fruit of Spirit – manifest in all **goodness, righteousness and truth**

goodness = godliness manifest

righteousness = faith in obedience, obeying God

truth = the Word of God

- ❖ seek to do good
- ❖ seek to live by faith
- ❖ seek to walk in the truth of the Word

Eph.5:10 - find out what is acceptable to the Lord

- **1 Tim.2:1-3** – prayer for all men and those in authority to be saved: this is **good and acceptable to God our Saviour who wants all men to be saved (v.4-7)**

v.11

- have no fellowship with unfruitful works of darkness
- expose these works
- God has unveiled the darkness of “Freemasonry” in our recent time, they involve themselves in darkness
- witches covens are involved in unfruitful works of darkness, lots of abuse
- they need to be exposed

v.12-13

- expose them by walking in the Light
- whatever makes manifest is Light
- walk in the Spirit and you will expose these things
- darkness will be exposed

v.14

- the Anointed King will give you light
- He is alive and He will give you life

3. Walk in wisdom

v.15 – walk circumspectly

- "circum" – around "spectly" – looking
- we are to have a good look around, do not rush in

v.16 - do not waste time, take every opportunity

v.17 – understand what the will of the Lord is

- disciples know the will of the Lord because they grow in the Word, which reveals the will of God
- no matter what age you are you can be in the will of God

v.18 – a) not the will of God to be drunk

b) it is God's will to be filled with the Holy Spirit

v.19 – c) the will of God is to speak the Word of God to each other

- reading and singing the Word to one another
- make melody in your heart

v.20 – d) the will of God is to give thanks in all things for all things to God the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus

v.21 – e) the will of God is to submit to one another in the fear of God

- **Isaiah 11:2** – part of ministry of Holy Spirit is to teach us the fear of God

MARRIAGE

This is the context now in which Paul addresses marriage – all members of the body submitting to one another

v.22 – wives submit to your husbands; "husbands" here are practicing **v.18-21**

- wives with that sort of husband have no trouble submitting to them
- wives submit to him as to the Lord – therefore do not submit to him if he is acting like the devil, rebuke him instead
- husbands are to be acting like the Lord

Eph.5:23 – husband is head of wife as Christ is head of church

- What sort of a head is Jesus? He laid down His life for us

- husbands as head of wife are meant to be like Jesus
- husbands are not to be controlling heads, but to lay down our lives for their wives
- **1 Corinthians 11:3** – head of man is Christ, head of woman is man, head of Christ is God – a “head” like Christ lays down His life
- God created an order – the man was responsible for the wife, he was instructed by God what to do; it seems that Adam was responsible to instruct Eve
- that order fully restored in Christ
- this is not domination or hierarchy but God’s order
- how does a divorcee or widow function in the church? People exclude women in ministry because of verses in **1 Cor.11, 1 Cor.14, 1 Tim. 2**
- **Gal.3:28** – **we are all one** - male & female
- but there is still an issue of “headship”
- women still need to be “covered”
- why do they need to be covered? Because of the angels, to stop demonic attack (**1Cor.11:10**)
- how do women stay covered? Be in apostolic order, be related to an apostle who “covers” you to walk under an open heaven!

Eph.5:24

- wives be subject to husbands in everything
- but before that, we all as the church need to be subject to Christ in **everything**

“subject” – subordinate, obey

Vines: means arranging troop divisions in an orderly fashion, military order = getting the house organised, knowing everyone’s roles and responsibilities, to win the war

*also means a **voluntary** attitude of giving in, of cooperating, of assuming a responsibility or carrying a burden*

this word “subject” is very different in meaning to what we have assumed!

v.25

- husbands are to love their wife as Christ loved the church
- the command to wives was to “subject” themselves, cooperate and assume responsibility and carry the burden

- the command to husbands is to "love their wives"
- "Love" – agapao – in a self-sacrificial way, laying down life for her

What about single women?

- still be properly "covered", under the "headship" of the local fellowship, the elders
- if they are in proper apostolic order, you will be under the covering
- women should not be head of a ministry without accountability to a man
- this brings security and success in ministry and fellowship will be in order
- when woman steps out of that covering, strange fire happens

Eph.5:26

- what comes out of His sacrificial death?
- that He might sanctify and cleanse her by washing of water by word

"washing" – sacrifices had to be washed, priests had to be washed

- ❖ the washing is to prepare us as sacrifices acceptable to God, seasoned with salt also
- ❖ we are washed by the **Word – "rhema"** – the word that proceeds in a direct instant from the mouth of God (**Matthew 4:4**)
- ❖ **Heb.10:22** – having our bodies **washed** with pure water, talking of our "soul body", mind, will and emotions need to be prepared for sacrifice
- ❖ **Titus 3:5** – "**washing** of regeneration and renewing of the Holy Spirit – this is the regeneration to be born again, it washes you, the burden of sin was washed away
- ❖ this happened in an instant of time

v.27 – that He might present her to Himself a glorious church...

v.28 – husbands should love wives as their own bodies

- husbands are to nourish and cherish their wives as their own bodies (**v.29**)

v.30 – we are members of His body, "of His flesh and of His bones"

- this sounds like what Adam said in **Gen.2**
- the church is to Christ what Eve was to Adam when he first saw her
- she was part of him, we are part of Christ!
- we are members of His body

v.31

- Paul quotes what God said about marriage in **Gen.2**

v.32

- all this passage is to teach us about our relationship with Christ as the church
- it is revealing a mystery

v.33

- 2 vital components to a successful marriage
1. Husbands love your wife
 2. Wives respect your husband

KNOWING GOD BY HIS NAME

We are to know God by His name.

Come to know His character so that we can relate to Him properly.

We put our faith in the name of who He is

Matt 6:9

- ❖ Our Father in heaven **hallowed be Your name**
- ❖ Set apart the name
- ❖ Believing in all of who He is

In the person of Jesus is everything of who God is

Colossians 2:9 – in Christ dwells all the fullness of the Godhead bodily

- ❖ all of who God is dwelt in Christ bodily (nothing was left out)
- As we study the names of God, we need to recognise that all of who God is, was in Christ.

We are told in the NT to pray in the name of Jesus.

John 14:14

- ❖ If you ask anything in My name, I will do it
- ❖ Ask according to His character, His nature, "His name"
- ❖ God will not deny who He is
- ❖ If you have a revelation of who He is, He will manifest

1) GOD MOST HIGH – EL ELYON

Genesis 14:18-20

- ❖ Abram had just gone out to rescue Lot
- ❖ V.18 they come out of that battle with much spoil
- ❖ Abram met Melchizedek – priest of God Most High
- ❖ **El** – means God, a god-like one, a mighty one, strength
- ❖ **Elyon** – Most high, uppermost, pertaining to the heights, in the highest (**Luke 2:14** – angels singing at the birth of Messiah – glory to God in the Highest), supreme, lofty, elevated, high in rank, exalted, derived from the verb meaning 'to ascend'

Melchizedek came representing El Elyon. He came revealing the God Most High

Genesis 14:19

- ❖ God Most High possesses heaven and earth

- ❖ He blesses through His appointed priest
 - ❖ V.20 – He delivers our enemies into our hands
- Psalm 97:9** – Yahweh, Most High over all the earth, exalted far above all gods

Eph 1:20-21 – Jesus – the Most High God (seated at the right hand, far above all principality, might and dominion, above all gods)

Jesus is El Elyon appearing in the flesh!

Jesus ascended and sat down at the right hand.

Psalm 47:2

- ❖ Yahweh Most High is awesome, the great King over all the earth
 - ❖ Who is the great king over all the earth?
 - ❖ **Rev 1:5** – Jesus Christ...the Ruler over the kings of the earth
- Psalm 7:17**
- ❖ sing praise to the name of Yahweh Most High

Who is the possessor of heaven and earth?

Psalm 2:7-8

- ❖ the Son of God has been given the nations for His inheritance and the ends of the earth for His possession
- Matt 28:18** – all authority in heaven and on earth has been given to Jesus – **Jesus is El Elyon manifesting in the flesh**

2) GOD ALMIGHTY – EL SHADDAI

Shaddai – (WW - Psalm 91:1) it means all powerful, omnipotent, when it appears as El Shaddai, it is "God Almighty"; mighty, unconquerable, indicates God's greatness and strength, His everlasting nature, the all-sufficient God, eternally capable of being all that His people need

- (from Vines) Shaddai indicates the fullness and riches of God's grace. He is never weary of pouring forth His mercies on His people. He is more ready to give than we are to receive.

Exodus 6:3

- ❖ God appeared as El Shaddai, but by the name Yahweh He was not known to Abraham, Isaac and Jacob
- ❖ God hadn't revealed Himself to Abraham according to that name
- ❖ We need to have God's name revealed to us
- ❖ God revealed Himself to Moses as I AM
- ❖ Knowing God by His name in this instance was directly related to God making covenant with them
- ❖ What name do we know in the New Covenant? **Jesus!**
- ❖ We know God by the name of Jesus
- ❖ In the name of Jesus is all the fullness

Genesis 17:1

- ❖ Yahweh appeared to Abraham
- ❖ He revealed Himself as El Shaddai
- ❖ **V.2** – this was the covenant name that Abraham knew God by (the mighty, unconquerable one who will do everything He has promised)
- ❖ **V.4** - El Shaddai is the one who brings forth eternal destinies
- ❖ **V.5** – El Shaddai changed Abram's name according to the destiny that He had for him
- ❖ We are His workmanship, created for good works which God prepared before hand that we should walk in them (**Eph.2:10**)
- ❖ In Christ Jesus we will fulfil our destiny
- ❖ Sarah also received a change of name
- ❖ Abraham still hadn't received the fulfilment of the promise at that time
- ❖ El Shaddai comes to comfort and encourage us that He will bring to pass what He has promised

Genesis 28:3

- ❖ Jacob is in a difficult situation
- ❖ Isaac is blessing Jacob and sending him out
- ❖ May God Almighty bless you
- ❖ Isaac blessed in this name, he had revelation of this name
- ❖ God Almighty fulfils every promise

Genesis 49:25

- ❖ this is Jacob blessing Joseph
- ❖ profound blessings come through El Shaddai
- ❖ God Almighty will help us
- ❖ God Almighty blesses with the blessing of heaven above and of the deep that lie beneath
- ❖ God blesses us with every spiritual blessing in Christ Jesus (**Eph.1:3**)
- ❖ He enables us to be fruitful and to multiply (spiritual children)
- ❖ **Matt 28:19** – He helps us to make disciples
- ❖ **Jesus spoke as the Almighty**
- ❖ He is with us and will be our sufficiency

Revelation 1:8

- ❖ I, I am the Alpha and the Omega...the Almighty
- ❖ **V.11** – the Son of Man is the Alpha and the Omega, **the Almighty**
- ❖ We can pray in His name
- ❖ **Jesus is the Almighty God**

3) THE MIGHTY GOD – EL GIBBOR

Gibbor – means powerful, warrior, strong one, valiant, brave man, champion, a hero
God wants to fight on our behalf.

Isaiah 9:6

- ❖ *Mighty God* – the name of the Son of God, the Child is God incarnate, the omnipotent One, the Lord is the infinite hero of His people, the Divine Warrior who has triumphed over sin and death

Jeremiah 32:17-18

- ❖ there is nothing too hard for Him
 - ❖ the Great, the Mighty God whose name is Yahweh of Hosts
- The Son of God is Yahweh of Hosts, the one who made the heavens and the earth. Nothing is too difficult for Jesus.

Jeremiah 20:11

- ❖ Yahweh is with me as a mighty awesome One
 - ❖ Jeremiah knew Yahweh with him as a champion
 - ❖ Persecutors will stumble and will not prevail because of the Mighty One
- When we go out in the gospel we need to know the Mighty One with us

Zeph 3:17

- ❖ He brings safety and fights for us
- ❖ He delivers us (saves us) and sings over us with rejoicing and victory

Titus 2:13 – we are looking for the appearance of our Great God and Saviour – Jesus

4) THE LIVING GOD – EL CHAY

Chay – comes from the verb 'to live', 'to revive'

The living God is the God of revival, the God who brings life

Psalm 42:1-2

- ❖ my soul thirsts for **the living God**
- ❖ we need life in our soul
- ❖ we are to thirst for the living God who brings life and causes us to drink

1 Sam 17:26

- David goes to fight Goliath in the **name of the Living God** who has armies
- the Living God is raising up an army
- **v.36** – armies of the living God
- **Ezek.37**, God breathes life into dead bones to bring forth an army, revived

Hosea 1:10

- ❖ sons of **the Living God**
- ❖ sons who manifest the God who is alive

Matt 16:16

- ❖ Peter got a revelation
- ❖ He saw Jesus – **the Son of the Living God**
- ❖ When Peter got this revelation Jesus declared that He could now build His church
- ❖ **1 Tim 3:15** – the House of God is the church of the **Living God**
- ❖ **Jesus is the manifestation of the Living God**
- ❖ We become the church (the army) of the living God when we receive a revelation of Him

2 Corinthians 3:3

- clearly you are an epistle of Christ
- written by the **Spirit of the Living God**
- You have the Spirit of the Living God in you
- This reveals Jesus the Messiah in you, the Living God!

2 Corinthians 6:16

- the temple of God has no agreement with idols (idols are dead)
- we are the **temple of the living God**
- we are built on and into **a living stone (1 Pet.2:4)**
- Jesus is alive!

Hallow His name and receive Him according to who He is.

EPHESIANS 6

This is in the context of **Ephesians 5**

Paul had just dealt with husbands and wives, now he deals with children

Ephesians 6:1

- ❖ children are to be taught from their earliest days to be **obedient**
- ❖ "obey parents in the Lord, **this is right**"
- ❖ "obey" – 'hear under', when a child there is no choice for them, they have to learn to obey
- ❖ Children at young age do not need negotiation but simply taught obedience
- ❖ **"right" – Word Wealth in Matthew 1:19** – "just", upright, blameless, righteous, conforming to God's laws and man's laws. Children can learn righteousness by obeying mum and dad and enjoy the peace this brings.
- ❖ In training children to obey, you have to be clear with instructions

Ephesians 6:2

- quotes Exodus 20 – "Honour your father and mother"
- this is the first commandment with promise

v.3

- what is the promise? – it will be well with them
- no matter what age we are, we are to honour our parents
- it is an awesome privilege to honour our parents
- may we be delivered from being rebellious children

v.4

- Paul addresses fathers
- do not provoke children to wrath
- **"provoke"** – enraged
- fathers can often have too high an expectation of their children
- **"wrath"** – strong anger

v.5

- Paul addresses bondservants

- "bondservant" – Gk 'doulos' – slaves
- in modern time we can relate this to employees, workers
- make a commitment to serve in the job you have with fear and trembling, in sincerity because of Christ
- **"fear" – Gk. Phobos**
- **"trembling" – quaking**
- we should have a healthy fear of God and our boss to be good workers
- a good day's work for a good day's pay
- a lot of people do not work hard nowadays

v.6

- not with eye service
- not men-pleasers
- we should do all things for Christ
- This affects our behaviour towards whoever is over us
- it is good to work, you work for a living; you work for Jesus
- if you are unhappy in your work, complain to Jesus, not to anyone else, He is the One who gave you your job
- commit yourself and submit to God to serve Him in your job without complaining

Eph.6:7

- with goodwill doing service; do service to the Lord
- go to work serving the Lord in your heart

v.8

- whatever good you do, the Lord will do the same to you

v.9

- Paul addresses Masters, bosses; masters are to do the same, be obedient to God as servants of God; there is no partiality in heaven with God
- He uses the same standard with the employees and the bosses

SPIRITUAL WARFARE

Eph.6:10

- **"Finally"** – after 5 chapters and 9 verses of chapter 6, we are finally ready to enter into spiritual warfare
- "spiritual warfare" is not for babies, babies need protection
- **be strong 1743** – empowered, made strong
- **power – 2904 – Gk. Kratos**, vigor, dominion, manifested power
- **might – 2479 – Gk. Ischus**, forcefulness, love God with all "strength", forcefulness

v.11

- put on whole armour of God; stand against wiles of devil

v.12

- our wrestle is not against humans, flesh and blood
- the wrestle is in the "2nd heavens" – cosmic powers, fallen angels, spiritual hosts of wickedness in heavenly places (**Eph.1:21**)
- these ones fell with Satan, seeking to govern all peoples, the world
- they are totally deceived and they try to cause trouble for the church that is obeying the Great Commission
- this is in the context of the whole church
- The Church needs to stand against these powers, it is not individuals standing against these powers

v.13

- take up the whole armour of God to withstand in the evil day
- **"withstand" – Gk. Anthistemi** – vigorously opposing, bravely resisting, standing face to face with the adversary
- it does not say to attack but to withstand
- we are moving in the gospel and these powers come against us to try and stop what we are doing – **we are to withstand, push him back, oppose him**
- do not go looking for a fight, you may get hurt very badly
- we are never told to go out and fight the powers

1. Having girded waist with truth

Eph.6:14 -

- gird our loins with truth; Truth is the Word (**Jn.17:17**)
- how do you put the truth in your loins, the lower inner parts of your body
- the mind of the spirit, the inner person is in your belly
- Greeks think with their heads, Hebrews think in their belly, in their inward parts
- Greeks are all about educating your head, Hebrews are about teaching you how to live
- **1 Peter 1:13** – gird up loins of your mind – the mind is in the deep down centre of the human being where you just “know” things
- depression comes on your head, not in your inner person, it comes from the devil, we need to learn to drop down into our spirit man with truth

2. Put on breastplate of righteousness

- we believe in our heart and we are righteous (**Rom. 10:9**)
- we must believe in your heart, not mental assent to facts
- breastplate covers your heart, it is believing in your heart

3. Feet being shod with gospel of peace

v.15 - walk in the Word; it is a path of peace

- **Isaiah 26:3** – He will keep your mind in perfect peace when your mind is fixed on Him

4. Take up the shield of faith

v.16 - faith comes by hearing the Word – **Romans 10:17**

- believe the Word of God
- The Word speaks with authority
- receive the Word when the enemy penetrates you – **it quenches the fiery dart**
- we can overcome what the devil shoots at us by receiving the quickened word in the battle

5. Helmet of salvation

v.17 - it goes on your head

- what does the head represent?
- the head is the authority
- we can make godly decisions, make plans in God, out of the truth within you, the righteousness received, the peace you walk in, the faith being your shield

- take stock of your situation, as the head make decisions in Christ
- think "because I am saved" I will do this or that because it is pleasing to God

6. Take up the Sword of the Spirit which is the Word of God

- **Word = Gk. "Rhema"** – the quickened word
- this is the only attacking weapon so far
- the devil has to get out of your way
- with the sword you cut the devil's tongue off before he even speaks
- it is the quickened word of God
- read the Bible every day and when God speaks to you out of the reading of the Word, that is your Word for today, follow that word for the day

7. Praying always with all prayers and supplications in the Spirit

v.18 - supplicate for all the saints;

persevere in this; we are to pray for each other all the time, when you are alone, when you are at home

- **supplication** = serious prayer; praying in tongues is essential and certainly included in "praying in the Spirit"

Jude 20-21 – build yourselves up on your most holy faith, praying in the Holy Spirit

Pray for the apostle

v.19 "And"... still important in spiritual armour

- pray for the apostle, men and women entrusted to be preaching the gospel
- pray for boldness to make known the mystery of the gospel

v.20

- Paul was an ambassador for the gospel even while he was in chains
- this seems like he was in prison
- he is still speaking the Word, writing letters

Final words

v.21-22

- Tychicus was like another "Timothy"
- beloved brother

- faithful minister in the Lord
- Paul entrusted this man with his own affairs
- Onesimus was like this also (**Philemon**)
- anyone of us can step into this sort of relationship
- in some version says "(written by Tychicus)"
- **Romans** was written by "Tertius" – faithful scribes recording what Paul said
- Paul wanted his spiritual children in Ephesus "to know his affairs", he was a family minded man

v.23-24

- Peace to the brethren
- Love
- with faith
- from God, Father and Lord Jesus Christ
- literally in Greek it says that God is Father and God is Lord Jesus Christ
- Grace
- with all those who love the Lord of us, Jesus the Messiah
- in **sincerity** = incorruptibility, immortality, unending existence

Thanks be to God!

KNOWING GOD BY HIS NAME

PART 2 *This is a continuation of lesson 18*

Knowing who God is and how He wants us to relate to Him

Praying in the name means praying in the fullness of who God is.

Colossians 2:9 – All the fullness of God dwells in Jesus

5) THE EVERLASTING GOD - EL OLAM

Olam – means long duration, time out of mind, eternity

God cannot be calculated by our minds. He is outside of our thinking.

Genesis 21:33

- ❖ Abraham called on the name of Yahweh El Olam – **Yahweh the Everlasting God**
 - ❖ He made an everlasting covenant with Abraham
- Everlasting ordinances were given to Aaron by the Everlasting God.

Psalms 90:2

- ❖ from **everlasting to everlasting You are God**
 - ❖ He always has been and always will be God
- He is an everlasting witness to the covenant made through Jesus Christ.

Jeremiah 10:10

- ❖ Yahweh is the true God
- ❖ the living God and **the everlasting King**
- ❖ He is the King forever
- ❖ At His wrath the earth will tremble

Micah 5:2

- ❖ a prophetic scripture about the King
- ❖ ...out of you shall come the One to be Ruler in Israel, whose goings forth are from of old, **from everlasting (Matt 2:5-6** – this One is Jesus the Messiah)
- ❖ **Jesus the Messiah came from everlasting**
- ❖ **Jeremiah 10:10 – Jesus is El Olam in the flesh**

1 Timothy 1:17

- now to the **King eternal**, immortal, invisible, to God...
- this is Jesus

Romans 16:25-26

- ❖ ...according to the commandment of **the everlasting God**, for obedience to the faith among all nations for His name
- ❖ He has commanded that the prophetic Scriptures be made known to all nations
- ❖ Through Christ we can fulfil the command of the everlasting God to preach the **everlasting gospel (Revelation 14:6)**
- ❖ Are you being obedient to the Everlasting God to preach the gospel

The Everlasting God is the One who gives everlasting life.

By believing in the Son of God, everlasting life is released to us.

John 6:54

- Whoever eats the flesh of Jesus and drinks His blood has everlasting life.

Jesus is the everlasting God in the flesh. **If you partake of Him, the Everlasting God will come inside you.**

6) THE TRUE GOD – EL EMETH

Jeremiah 10:10

- ❖ But Yahweh the true God (Yahweh El Emeth)

2 Chronicles 15:3

- Israel had been without the true God. The word of God had not been there (**John 17:17** – Your word is truth)
- The true God is known by the word
- There was no teaching of the word, therefore the people did not know the true God
- We need teaching priests/ministers
- We need to be a people who teach the truth of the word so that people can know the true God.

Jeremiah 10:8

- ❖ Idols are worthless doctrines
- ❖ **Worthless** – an empty teaching, no substance, not real or genuine
- ❖ **True** – real, genuine, authentic, substantial
- ❖ There are many worthless doctrines today
- ❖ We need to know the true God

Emeth – means stability, certainty, truth, trustworthiness, right, faithful

- ❖ **Rev 19:11** – John saw a Man on a white horse, His name was called **Faithful and True**

- ❖ **Rev 19:13** – His name is called **the Word of God**
- ❖ Knowing the true God brings certainty and stability to our lives.
- ❖ When we know the truth, we can stand.

John 3:33

- ❖ If you have received Jesus' testimony, you have certified that God is true.
- ❖ We will only know the true God if we receive the testimony of Jesus.

1 John 5:20

- Jesus is the true God and eternal life
- the Son of God came to give us an understanding that we may know Him who is true
- we are in Him who is true, in His Son Jesus Christ

Jesus Christ is the true God.

1 Thessalonians 1:9

- you turned to God from idols to serve **the living and true God**
- idols are worthless doctrines (like evolution and philosophies...)
- we need to turn from worthless doctrines
- we are to wait for His Son, Jesus who delivers us

(Ephesians 4:21 – the truth is in Jesus)

Speak the Word (**1 Timothy 1:3** – teach no other doctrine)

7) GOD-WHO-FORGIVES – EL NASA

Nasa - means to lift, to bear up, to carry, to take, translated sometimes as carry away, forgive, lift up

Psalm 99:8

- ❖ You were to them God-Who-Forgives
- Exodus 34:7** – God forgives iniquity, transgression and sin

Leviticus 16:22

- ❖ in the context of the Day of Atonement when all sin was dealt with for the year
- ❖ this is talking about the scapegoat
- ❖ The goat shall bear (nasa) on itself all their iniquities
- ❖ God forgives our sins by carrying them for us
- ❖ God bears on Himself all our iniquities and sins
- ❖ Sin was dealt with and judged because God carried our sins

Isaiah 53

- ❖ v.12 - ...He bore (nasa) the sin of many and made intercession for the transgressors
- ❖ Jesus fulfilled this
- ❖ Jesus is El Nasa coming in the flesh to bear the sins of many

Why was Jesus manifested?

1 John 3:5 – He was manifested to take away our sins and in Him there is no sin

1 Peter 2:24 - who Himself bore our sins in His own body (speaking of Jesus)

Do you know El Nasa? Do you know Him by His name?

He has always been the God who would carry our sins.

8) THE BLESSED

Blessed - Gk#2128 – means adorable, to be adored, to receive adoration and praise

Mark 14:61

- ❖ Are You the Christ **the Son of the Blessed?**
- ❖ Jesus answered and said, "I, I AM"
- ❖ Jesus was being emphatic about Himself being the Eternal God

Luke 1:68

- ❖ **Blessed** is the Lord God of Israel

Romans 1:25

- ❖ **the Creator is blessed forever**
- ❖ God is also **the Creator**

2 Corinthians 11:31

- the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ is **blessed** forever

Romans 9:5

- ❖ Christ is over all, **the eternally blessed God**
- ❖ Christ the Messiah is over all. **Christ is the eternally blessed God.**

9) THE STRENGTH OF ISRAEL

1 Samuel 15:29

- The Strength of Israel will not lie nor relent
- He will not change His mind

Strength – means eminence (**Colossians 1:18** – Jesus is to have pre-eminence), perpetuity (strength that does not change or give way), victory (**2 Corinthians 2:14** – He always leads us in triumph), a goal (like a bright object in the distance that you are travelling towards), confidence

Jesus is our victory.

He will lead us into the goal that He has for us.

1 Chronicles 29:11

- Yours, O Yahweh, ...is **the victory**

2 Timothy 4:17

- ❖ The Lord Jesus Christ stood with Paul and **strengthened Him**
- ❖ He strengthened Him so He could preach the gospel
- ❖ **Jesus is the Strength of His people!**

Look for God's names as you are reading the Scriptures. You will be blessed. Pray in His name.

BUILDING THE HOUSE OF GOD

God is building His house all through the world, in every nation

We are to have a vision for the house of God being established in every nation

Hebrews 3:1-6

What is the house?

Who is building it?

What part are you playing in building it?

Jesus is not just bringing people together, He is building a house

We need to recognize the house

What is the house?

The house is the people of God, the holy brethren, the people of God, the dwelling place of God

- ❖ it is the place where God dwells

Who is building the House?

- ❖ Jesus, the Christ, is building the House
- ❖ Jesus the Christ is God and He is building it
- ❖ **Heb.3:3b-4** – He (Jesus the Apostle) who built the house..
- ❖ He who built all things is God!

What is the foundation of the house?

Matthew 16:13-19

- ❖ the house is shaped by the foundation
- ❖ the house reveals the foundation
- ❖ the foundation is under the ground
- ❖ we are meant to reveal the foundation
- ❖ The revelation of Jesus as the Christ (**the Anointed King**), the Son of the living God (**God in the flesh**), is the **Rock**, that the **church that Jesus is building**, will be built upon
- ❖ **Jesus said "I will build My church"**
- ❖ It is Jesus' church, not denominational
- ❖ The gates of Hades will **NOT** prevail against the church that Jesus is building

- ❖ The religious spirit, the Pharasaical spirit that still permeates denominational churches, will be prevailed against by the gates of Hades
- ❖ The called out ones, the ones who have the revelation of who He is, is the church that Jesus is building
- ❖ **1 Timothy 3:16** – early church confession “God was manifested in the flesh”...
- ❖ **You recognize the house by the foundation**
- ❖ As His disciples we need to acknowledge who Jesus really is
- ❖ If Jesus is not God, than His sacrifice is not sufficient – He has to be God, perfect, without blemish, to be the sacrifice for our sins

Galatians 1:8-9

- ❖ do not get taken away by a different gospel
- ❖ if they or an angel from heaven preaches any other gospel, Paul said to them that they should be “accursed”

Building on the right foundation

1 Corinthians 3:9-11

- We are God’s fellow workers
- We are God’s field
- We are God’s building
- Paul was a wise master builder, he laid a foundation
- The foundation he laid was “Jesus Christ”
- must take heed on how to build on the foundation
- down through the ages this foundation has never changed
- the church has one foundation! It is **Jesus Christ**

Ephesians 2:19-22

- ❖ foundation of **apostles and prophets**
- ❖ Jesus Christ is the Chief Cornerstone
- ❖ Where you see “Christ”, realise and even speak “Messiah” or “the Anointed King” to get you out of religious thinking and into the kingdom

The Builder

John 2:13-22

- ❖ “Destroy this temple and in three days **I will raise it up**”
- ❖ Jesus will raise the temple!
- ❖ He was speaking of the temple of His body
- ❖ The temple is His Body
- ❖ We are the temple, we are the Body, we are the house
- ❖ We are the Body of the Messiah that He is raising

The Cornerstone

Isaiah 28:14-17

- ❖ A stone is laid in Zion
- ❖ A stone for a foundation
- ❖ A precious **Cornerstone**

Matthew 21:33-46

- ❖ The Stone which the builders rejected has become the Chief Cornerstone
- ❖ Jesus did not pull back from declaring the Word of the Lord
- ❖ The people He was speaking to were meant to be the "builders" but He showed them they were rejecting the "Chief Cornerstone" of the building
- ❖ Whoever falls on the Stone will be broken – means if we fall upon Jesus, we will be broken but find mercy
- ❖ If do not fall upon the Stone, the Stone will fall on you, and grind to powder
- ❖ **Jesus is the Chief Cornerstone** – everything on the building is taken from the cornerstone
- ❖ Jesus is the pattern, we are built according to Him
- ❖ We are to give Jesus pre-eminence in all things, and obey the Builder
- ❖ With the Builder, we are builders

Ephesians 2:19-22

- ❖ Jesus the Messiah Himself being **the Chief Corner** (stone – not there in Gk.)
- ❖ In whom the whole building is being fitted together
- ❖ If you do not believe Jesus is the Anointed King, God in the flesh, then your building will be crooked
- ❖ If you are not built on the foundation of apostles and prophets, the building will not be right

1 Peter 2:4-10

- Jesus the Messiah is the **"Living Stone"**
- It is not a dead temple stone, physical building
- we come to a "Living stone", the One who was raised from the dead
- He was and is and is to come
- when we come to Him, we become **"living stones"**
- we have come to the Life-Giving Spirit Himself – life now dwells in us
- we become part of God dwelling in the earth
- we are being built up a "spiritual house"...offering spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus the Anointed King

Ephesians 2:19-22

- ❖ 'members of the household of God'

In whom the whole building being fitted together – we are not a heap of living stones in a pile

- ❖ There is an order in the house of God, assembled properly, put in place, fitted together
- ❖ We are to be with a company of people, being fitted into the building
- ❖ Jesus has given the five ministries to fit us together (**Eph.4:11-12**)
- ❖ When we are fitted together properly, we can be God's dwelling place
- ❖ We are fitted to function

Grows into a holy temple in the Lord

- ❖ this temple "grows"
- ❖ it is a living, moving, growing, dwelling place of God
- ❖ many stones being added to it every day
- ❖ not only growing in numbers
- ❖ each stone that is being fitted in is growing also
- ❖ everything the Lord allows you to go through, you can grow through

We are to consider our ways - **Haggai1:5,7**

- ❖ if we are not growing and not moving on in God, we need to consider
- ❖ if we are not doing work, we need to consider our ways

Haggai 2:4

- ❖ God will be with us to make us strong to do the work of God
- ❖ We need to consider our ways if we are not doing the work
- ❖ We are to be found growing in the Lord
- ❖ Is there anything stopping you growing up in the Lord and going out for Him

SONSHIP/ADOPTION

What does the sonship/adoption mean to the people of God?

- ❖ we need to know what it is so we can access the grace of being a son
- ❖ if we do not know, we will not realize what the Father has given us and made us to be

When the Spirit of Sonship is received it changes people forever, it transforms people forever

Sonship/Adoption

- ❖ Vines Dictionary – a legal act of becoming a 'son' to someone, it has a natural and spiritual meaning in the Bible
- ❖ In the Spiritual, it is a further work in the lives of believers
- ❖ In our normal understanding 'Adopted' children have the same rights as natural children
- ❖ "adoption" in the Scripture actually has to do with "coming to age of maturity"
- ❖ In Greek **adoption = "huiiothesia"**, a 'huios' is a 'son', 'thesia' is the 'placement' = the placement of a son
- ❖ This term "sonship" is a work of grace by faith (**John 1:12**), it involves the dignity and honour of being a son
- ❖ God wants us to be restored to Him through "adoption"

As the apostles' doctrine is being restored to the church, the Spirit and power of Elijah is being restored to the church (**Mal.4:5-6, Lu.1:17**)

The value of "adoption" has no price, it cannot be valued

The days are now for us to receive this

The need for fathers

It "turns the hearts of the fathers to the children and the children to the fathers"

In the natural there is a lack of fathers; In the church there has been a lack of fathers

Malachi 4:5-6

- ❖ God is raising children
- ❖ He is releasing His Spirit to the church

1 Cor.1:9 – we are called to fellowship with God's Son in the unity of the Spirit

Through the adoption God is restoring what He originally created us for – **Hebrews 2:6-10**

The message of the Cross is that Jesus died to bring forth many sons to glory – **Hebrews 2:10**

We need to seek a deeper wisdom, wisdom for the mature, to understand the mystery of Jesus being God in the flesh – **1 Cor.2:6-8** – to receive and enter His glory

Romans 8:29 – Jesus is firstborn among many brethren

The goal of the gospel is to make you in the image and likeness of God

God wants to fill the earth with sons in His image and likeness

God wants Christ to be formed in each one of us – **Galatians 4:19**

God said He would send the Spirit of Elijah – **“Elijah”** – means “God is YAHWEH”, the Spirit of God, the Spirit of Jesus

Firstborn sons had the right to receive the inheritance – **Deut.21:17**

We are heirs of the kingdom – we have the right to receive the inheritance

The message of adoption breaks and pulls down religious mind sets, human/carnal mind sets

Elijah knew his authority as a son

1 Kings 17:1

- Elijah stood before YAHWEH
- he knew it would not rain except at “his” word
- Elijah knew the authority of a son
- this is the right of a mature son

Elijah found Elisha and taught him to serve

We are to learn to serve others in the house of God – **1 Kings 19:21**

This was part of the training to become a “son”

Elisha wanted the inheritance of a firstborn – he wanted a “double-portion” of Elijah’s spirit

Three stages of growth - 1 John 2:12-14

When we are born again we have the right to become a son – **John 1:12**

As **children** we are to be fed with milk – **1 Pet.2:2**

Then we are to become youths who can defeat the wicked one by having the Word abiding in us

As **“young men”** we are to learn to serve by the power of the Holy Spirit

As **Fathers** (this is walking as mature sons who can father others) we have the revelation (not the information) that God is our Father

- ❖ this releases a grace in us that can even help us forgive people from deep hurts – being like our Father in heaven
- ❖ we have the revelation of who the Father really is
- ❖ we need to come to maturity, walking in the placement of the adoption

Religion puts you into a state of fear

The Spirit of Adoption reveals God as a Father to us

- ❖ **Rom.8:15** – released from bondage to fear by the Spirit of Adoption
- ❖ **The King is our Father**

God gives us spiritual fathers to raise up spiritual children to have a relationship with the Father

When we know our Father, we become secure

Sons are heirs together with Jesus

Suffering is a part of growing into the adoption – **Romans 8:16-17**

We must grow from children to sons if we are to inherit – **Galatians 4:1-7**

Prosperity and Rapture doctrines weaken the church, telling the church there is no suffering to go through – it is a lie

True sonship involves going through Suffering

Why Sonship/Adoption?

1. His will is to “adopt” us as sons – **Ephesians 1:5** – we are predestined for this purpose, to become sons
2. His main purpose is to bring many sons to glory through Jesus Christ – **Hebrews 2:10** – God wants sons to reveal His glory in the earth
3. We are born again to become sons, this is His goal – **John 1:12**
4. His goal is oneness in Him – **Eph.4:16**, sons growing to maturity together

5. we are to grow from children to sons – we are predestined to be conformed to the image of His Son – **Romans 8:29**
6. We are to grow up as sons so we can receive the inheritance
7. We are to be manifested as sons of God to all creation – **Romans 8:18-21** – we are to reach all nations, the commission is not an option, not a choice, it is an obligation
8. The finality of the adoption as sons is the redemption of our bodies – **Romans 8:23, Phil.3:20-21**

We are heirs because there is an inheritance to receive

There is a difference between “reward” and “inheritance”

Inheritance is to be received in the earth – **Matthew 5:5** – meek will inherit the earth

Rewards are in heaven – **Matthew 5:12** – great is your reward in heaven

Our inheritance is in the earth and it is incorruptible...**1 Peter 1:4-5** – it is in heaven but we receive it on the earth

Moses did not inherit the land, he was the greatest servant

Mature sons receive and enjoy the inheritance

Daniel 7:27 – our inheritance is to receive the kingdom

- we are to inherit the kingdom in the earth – **Romans 14:17** – the nature of the kingdom is not religious, but righteousness, peace and joy in the Holy Spirit

Righteousness – 1343 – the character or quality of being right or just, duty to neighbour, to God

Peace - 155 – eirene – the relationship between men, nations, God and men through the gospel (rest)

Joy - 5479 – chara – delight, joy, gladness, lovely, pleasure – only God can bring this joy

This is the kingdom of God which is promised to us as sons

SONS IN MATURITY

It is war! God is raising His army by bringing many sons to glory

Why did Jesus die? - Hebrews 2:10

- ❖ "Captain" – 'author, source'
- ❖ to bring many sons to glory
- ❖ To redeem you so you can become sons – **Galatians 4:5**

Why sons to glory?

- ❖ to have dominion in the world to come
- ❖ **Hebrews 2:5** – the world to come is not put in subjection to angels, it is put in subjection to man/sons (**v.6-8**)
- ❖ **Sons are to rule the world to come for Him**
- ❖ God created man to have dominion
- ❖ "age" = "world"

There is a new world

2 Peter 3:13

- new heavens and new earth where righteousness dwells
- not talking about going to heaven and living with God there
- it is a new creation

The new age is given to men (male and female)

2 Peter 3:12

- we are looking for and hastening the coming of the day of God
- **v.11** – because of our conduct/behaviour, we can hasten the day of God coming
- we have an opportunity in this awesome time of going to nations, preaching the gospel, preparing the world for the age to come
- we can release revival to prepare the world

There will be a great change

Some of us will be alive in this body to see it

In the twinkling of an eye, everything will change

The dead in Christ will rise in new bodies, glorious bodies fit for the new age

Who will have dominion in the age that is coming?

Sons of God

What is the main characteristic of the new age?

Righteousness

Hebrews 2:6-8 quoting from Psalm 8

Man's place in God's creation

- ❖ God's creational purposes are for man to govern God's creation
- ❖ Beastly government is human government that is against God and His Messiah
- ❖ He has set man over the works of His hands
- ❖ He subjected all things under man's feet (**Genesis 1:28**)
- ❖ **Genesis 1:26** – man was to have dominion over every living thing

Man's fall brought forth the sin nature

- ❖ man fell into sin by turning away from the One who created him
- ❖ man ate from the wrong tree and received something from the devil and God's image in man was corrupted
- ❖ man took on something of the nature of the devil, his new father
- ❖ man started to behave like the devil (murderous, envious, carnal, demonic)
- ❖ **John 8:44** – "You are of your father, the devil..." – man became like the devil

Jesus came so we could become the sons of God

Hebrews 2:8c-9a

- ❖ But now we do not see all things put under him (man)
- ❖ **But we see Jesus!**
- ❖ God's promise in **Acts 3:21** = "the restoration of all things"
- ❖ Until that restoration comes Jesus is retained in heaven – He cannot come back until all things are ready (**Acts 3:20**)
- ❖ God is doing this restoration through Jesus Christ – God literally came to the earth in Jesus (**1 Timothy 3:16**)
- ❖ He came to the earth to redeem (buy back) the earth and its inhabitants
- ❖ So now God is bringing many sons to glory through Jesus

First born - Romans 8:29

- ❖ We are predestined to be conformed to the image of God's Son
- ❖ That Jesus might be the **Firstborn** among many brethren
- ❖ We are going to be made like Jesus
- ❖ That is why God manifested in the earth, to have many sons conformed to the image of His Son

Suffering - Romans 8:17

- ❖ we can only become those sons through sufferings
- How does suffering help us to grow up in Christ?

- ❖ it humbles us
- ❖ we learn obedience
- ❖ we learn patience

God was manifested as a Son in the earth

He was not only the Son of God but also became the Son of Man

Now we are being set apart, made holy

Sanctification

Ephesians 5:26 – Jesus is sanctifying and cleansing the church by the washing of the water of the word

- ❖ this is what Jesus is doing now! He is still doing this
- ❖ He is doing this through the "Rhema" word, making the word alive to us, quickening it to us

Hebrews 2:11

- ❖ He who Sanctifies and those who are being sanctified are all of One
- ❖ He is not ashamed to call us brethren
- ❖ Jesus is sanctifying; We are being sanctified; We are all One
- ❖ Jesus is not ashamed to call us a brother or sister – The Great I Am who came in the flesh became our brother

Hebrews 2:12

- ❖ Jesus speaking "I will declare Your name in the midst of the ecclesia/church/assembly"
- ❖ Jesus leads the worship, leading us up into the Throne of God

Galatians 4:5

- ❖ Jesus redeemed us from being under the law of sin and death
- ❖ So that we might be placed as sons!

In what way are we the brethren of Jesus?

- ❖ He has made us sons, therefore we are His brothers and sisters

1. Jesus came so we could become sons
2. Jesus came to manifest as Son in the earth
3. Jesus came to reveal the Father

Jesus is found in the midst of the church and He is at work in us to bring many sons to glory

Jesus is our Father! He has children! - Hebrews 2:13

- ❖ Jesus says (quoting from Old T) "I will put My trust in Him (YHWH)
- ❖ And then quoting from **Isaiah 8** "Here am I and the children whom God has given Me"

God's purpose can only be achieved through Jesus and what He accomplished through the Cross and Resurrection

Perfected - Hebrews 10:14

- ❖ by the one offering of Jesus for sins forever
- ❖ He has **perfected** forever those who are being sanctified
- ❖ Sons **to glory = perfected!**

Those who submit themselves to discipleship, being sanctified, will be perfected

- ❖ Ask God to deal with you today
- ❖ Do whatever it takes to get the flesh out of us!

What does the word "adoption" mean in the New T?

- ❖ placement of a Son in maturity

Jesus is our Father

- ❖ we are His children
- ❖ **Galatians 3:29** – we are Abraham's Seed, "heirs according to the promise"
- ❖ **Romans 8:17** – "heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ"

Children cannot inherit

- ❖ **Galatians 4:1-2** – we need to go through a time of tutelage as children to get us ready for the placement as sons
- ❖ **V.3-7** – sons in maturity know that the Spirit of the Son Himself is working in us
- ❖ this is the Spirit of Jesus, the Son in maturity, working in and through us
- ❖ Jesus became the Son so that we could know the Father
- ❖ We are destined to be sons, not to remain as servants only

What is the difference between servants and sons?

- ❖ servants cannot inherit
- ❖ sons have special and exclusive relationship with Father
- ❖ Sons inherit
- ❖ Sons have ownership
- ❖ Sons know Father's plans, servants only know part

Jesus is seated far above

Ephesians 1:20-23

- ❖ Jesus is seated at right hand
- ❖ Far above all powers and names
- ❖ Jesus as head over all those things has been given to the church
- ❖ His church is His Body filling all things with Himself – this is sons manifesting the glory, filling all things with the glory of YHWH (**Habakkuk 2:14**)

Ephesians 2:6 - we are sitting together with Christ

How can the church be victorious in this age?

- ❖ accepting the word that we are seated with the One who is over all things
- ❖ Jesus is waiting for all the enemies to make His footstool – this will happen through the church, the Sons

There is a purpose in God saving us

- ❖ **Ephesians 4:15** – so we could grow up in all things into Christ, the head
- ❖ **Ephesians 2:7** – so that in the ages to come God could show His grace in His kindness toward us in Christ/Messiah Jesus
- ❖ **God wants to demonstrate His grace (His wealth) in us in the ages to come**
- ❖ **God will always have a great reputation through His children!**

Who were the first sons?

Adam and Eve

Luke 3:38 – “son of Adam, son of God” - Adam was the first son

What do we learn about sons?

They are not born, they are created/made

Isaiah 9:6 – Jesus was born but at the age of maturity **“He was given as the Son”**

- ❖ Sons are not born but given/placed

Adam and Eve were created in maturity, not babies

- ❖ **Genesis 1:27-28, 5:2** – they were created in the image and likeness of God
- ❖ God created Man in the likeness of God, He created them male and female

As sons Adam and Eve were to rule and reign in God’s creation

- ❖ they were to do this by having children to fill the earth
- ❖ the children were to also be brought up in the image and likeness of God

Jesus grew to age of maturity

In His growth we have one note of Him when He was 12

- ❖ **Luke 2:41-52** – Jesus growing into a young man
- ❖ Jesus said “Do you not know I must be about My Father’s business”
- ❖ However, it was not time for Him to work in “His Father’s business”
- ❖ He went back and worked with Joseph
- ❖ **Luke 3:23** – Jesus at 30 years of age began to walk as a Son

Can you identify **3 stages of growth** in Jesus?

1. childhood
2. training
3. manifesting as son, walking in inheritance, ministry

How did Jesus manifest as Son of God?

- ❖ by manifesting the fullness of the Holy Spirit – **Matthew 3:16-17**

Spirit of adoption - Romans 8:15

- ❖ we are to receive the Spirit of "becoming a son"
- ❖ we cry "Abba Father"
- ❖ **v.16-17** – we are heirs, have a future, but are still children

Galatians 4:1-2

- ❖ as children we must be trained and learn to serve
- ❖ this is necessary part of growing to maturity to receive the adoption as sons
- ❖ we have to be under that training until the time appointed by the Father
- ❖ He leads us with compulsion to come to the place of understanding "I am a son" and then we can receive the Spirit of His Son into our lives
- ❖ This enables us to know our Father in a much deeper way
- ❖ When we grow up our relationship with our Father grows, becoming more mature

Why must we grow up to receive the inheritance?

- Because it is not given to children or servants

What is the role of a servant?

- It is to serve in the house of God
- Look for something to do in the house of God

But we are to come to the place of walking as sons

Many emphasise being servants of God and have no vision beyond being a servant – this blocks us from receiving the adoption

God wants us to walk with Him as a mature son

Sons only need to do what the Father tells them

Servants are known for their ambition

Sons see the kingdom as our inheritance

Walking as sons

- ❖ Jesus reveals Himself as the Everlasting Father
- ❖ Sons walk by revelation
- ❖ Sons are led by the Spirit – **Romans 8:14, John 5:19**

What are 2 characteristics of a son?

1. led by Spirit
2. do what Father shows them

There is a future

2 Peter 3:4

- mockers, doubters scoff at the promise of Jesus' coming
- but things will not always continue as they were from the beginning of creation
- the change to come is almost indescribable

v.13 – a new heavens and new earth where righteousness dwells

v.14 – look forward to these things

- be diligent to be found in His peace

Sons are planted in the earth to demonstrate and show forth His righteousness in the earth

– **Matthew 13:36-43**

- ❖ they will shine forth as the sun in the kingdom of their Father
- ❖ the sons will shine forth – then the new age will finally come

How will the new age be manifest in the earth?

Through the Sons!

THE GRACE

The apostle Paul ministered grace at the beginning and end of his letters.
All the correction and rebuking was done in grace.
You can only do it by grace. We need grace.

1 Corinthians 1:3

- Grace to you and peace from God, the Father of us and Lord Jesus Christ
- Grace comes from God
- We need to come to God to receive grace

Who does grace come to?

To the church of God – **1 Corinthians 1:2**

We need to firstly receive the grace, so that we can then receive the word.

By being set apart to Jesus we are in the right position to be receiving grace.

(In Christ Jesus)

John 1:16 – and of His fullness we have all received grace upon grace (grace for grace)

Grace enables us to walk in the fullness of Christ. It is received by those sanctified in Christ Jesus.

1 Corinthians 1:2

- those sanctified in Christ Jesus are called saints
- saints have an inheritance (a gift of grace) – **Daniel 7:22,27**
- to all who call on the name of Jesus Christ our Lord

The first mention of grace in the Bible - Genesis 6:8

- ❖ things were looking very dim for mankind
- ❖ But, **Noah found grace** in the eyes of Yahweh
- ❖ Grace can be found
- ❖ This grace saved Noah and his family
- ❖ V.9 – Noah was a righteous man
- ❖ Righteousness comes by finding grace
- ❖ **Romans 5:17** – we have received of the abundance of grace and the gift of righteousness
- ❖ Grace enables us to walk in righteousness
- ❖ Perfect (blameless, having integrity) in his generation
- ❖ God wants us to find grace so that we can walk in integrity and righteousness in our generation
- ❖ **Genesis 6:9** – Noah walked with God because he found grace

Grace – SC #2580 – means graciousness, that is kindness, favour, objectively it means beauty

Comes from #2603 – meaning to bend or to stoop in kindness to somebody inferior to you, to bestow

There was something about **Jesus. He walked in grace.**

John 1:14 – and the Word became flesh and dwelt among us and we beheld His glory...full of grace and truth

Sons are to manifest the glory. **The glory is full of grace and truth.**

Jesus came and humbled Himself. He became a man and showed us how to walk with God. That is grace.

God wants to give Himself to you and bestow His glory on you.

Exodus 33:12

❖ Moses (the one through whom the law came) **found grace**

V.13 – Moses is saying, “On the basis that I have found grace in your sight, show me your way, that I may know You”

2 Peter 3:18 – **grow in the grace** and knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ

God wants us to grow in grace and the knowledge of who He is.

Grace is tangible. It can be felt and enables us to receive more of God.

Grace is given to the humble.

Exodus 33:14

- ❖ My presence will go with you and I will give you rest
- ❖ By grace we experience the presence of God
- ❖ The presence of God gives us rest.
- ❖ We can cease from our own labours and rest.
- ❖ The name of Noah meant ‘rest’

V.16 – the presence of God among us testifies to God’s grace being upon us

❖ **Ephesians 2:7** – God wants to keep demonstrating the exceeding riches of His grace

V.16 – the grace of God separates me from the rest of the world (it is not the licence to do whatever you want)

- ❖ Grace changes you and brings the presence of God on your life
- ❖ We can be a separate people because of the grace of God upon us

V.17-18 – the grace brings us into the glory

- ❖ If we are to experience the glory, it will be a manifestation of God’s grace.
- ❖ God releases His power by His grace.
- ❖ When we see the power of God move, we need to recognise that it is because of the grace of God.

God is gracious

V.19 – I will be gracious to whom I will be gracious...

- ❖ God shows grace to whomever He wants to show it
- ❖ We can draw on the grace by humbling ourselves

Psalms 45:2 - the king – Jesus

- ❖ You are fairer than the sons of men
- ❖ **Grace is poured upon Your lips**

- ❖ Grace comes from the mouth of the King
- ❖ Jesus imparts grace through His word
- ❖ When the word is ministered, it should impart grace (explaining the truth and showing how they can act on it)
- ❖ The Pharisees did not bring the Word of God with grace. They were blinded from the glory of God.
- ❖ All of us can impart grace to one another
- ❖ **Ephesians 4:29** – let no corrupt word proceed out of your mouth, but what edifies that it may impart grace to the hearers
- ❖ Speak edification to others. Impart grace.
- ❖ Imparting grace will help release people into their destiny.

Jeremiah 31:2

- ❖ the people who survived the sword **found grace in the wilderness**
- ❖ if you have survived, you are in the place to find grace
- ❖ **the grace was found in that desert**, dry place
- ❖ God's grace can touch you no matter where you are
- ❖ Grace leads us to the rest
- ❖ God extends the hand of grace and brings us into His rest
- ❖ Keep walking in the grace

Acts 20:24 – we are to minister the gospel of the grace of God, testifying to our experience of His grace

Zechariah 4:7

- ❖ in the context of the rebuilding of the house of God
- ❖ the capstone (the final stone to be put in the building) will be brought forth with shouts of **"Grace, grace to it!"**
- ❖ Prophetic of the house of God, the church of the living God
- ❖ Zerubbabel is a type of the apostle (He has been given the responsibility to build the house – a gift of grace) – **1 Cor.3:10**
- ❖ Every mountain of opposition will become a plain
- ❖ The gates of hell will not prevail against the church that Jesus is building
- ❖ The house of God is made up of living stones (sons of God)
- ❖ **Ephesians 1:5-6** – predestined to adoption as sons by Jesus Christ to Himself...**to the praise of the glory of His grace**
- ❖ We have been graced with every grace in the beloved (accepted in the beloved)
Eph 1:6
- ❖ The house of God is a house of sons, which will come forth with shouts of **"Grace"**

When the prodigal son came home, he was given grace from the father

Zechariah 12:10

- ❖ I will pour...**the Spirit of grace and supplication**
- ❖ God is the Spirit of grace
- ❖ When the grace comes on you, it often causes us to mourn and weep
- ❖ Grace always causes a response
- ❖ The word supplication comes from the same root word as grace
- ❖ God will pour out the spirit of grace so that we can keep asking for more grace
- ❖ That they may look on Him who was pierced and mourn for Him

- ❖ Grace reveals what Jesus did for us on the Cross

Grace in the NT comes from a root word that means 'joy'
When we receive grace, finally we receive joy.

Titus 2:11

- ❖ the grace of God that **brings salvation** has appeared to all men
- ❖ the grace of God is visible
- ❖ Jesus appeared. He is grace in the flesh.

V.12 – grace teaches us

- ❖ All the ministry gifts are given by grace and they impart grace (**Eph.4:7,11**)
- ❖ The grace of God teaches us to deny ungodliness
- ❖ The Bible does not teach us that the grace of God is a licence to sin
- ❖ The grace teaches us to deny worldly lusts, to live soberly (to live out of a saved mind), to live righteously and godly in the present age
- ❖ The grace teaches us to look for the blessed hope and glorious appearing of the glory of the great God and Saviour of us, Jesus

Acts 20:32

- ❖ I commend you to God and to **the word of His grace**, which is able to build you up and give you an inheritance...
- ❖ **Receive the grace**

THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN A CHRISTIAN AND A DISCIPLE

Matt 28:18-20 The commission

- ❖ all authority has been given to Jesus in heaven and on earth
- ❖ go and make disciples of all nations
- ❖ baptising and teaching them all that Jesus commanded

Today the word 'christian' can mean so many different things. The world is confused about what makes a Christian. We need to understand that Jesus asked us to go and make disciples.

Matt 16:24-25 - take up your cross

- ❖ Jesus is speaking
- ❖ If we want to follow Him we need to take up our cross, deny ourselves and follow Him
- ❖ Whoever loses his life for My sake will find it
- ❖ This is being a disciple

Disciple – a learner, adherent

Jesus wants us to decide to be a disciple.

A disciple means a learner.

A disciple is willing to humble themselves and obey.

A disciple sticks to the one who is teaching them. They learn from the teacher. They imitate the teacher.

A disciple follows the way the teacher lives (follow the lifestyle).

They put into practise the lifestyle and teaching of the teacher.

Christians are happy to have a ticket to heaven (so they think!)

Disciples want to see the life of Jesus manifest (revealed) on the earth.

Jesus does not want us living comfortable, materialistic, selfish, demonic lives. He wants us to be like Him.

The gospel is actually a call to come out of what you want and find what Jesus wants.

Christians are generally quite individualistic ('me' gospel).

Disciples are learning to lay down their lives for the brethren. They have revelation of the body of Christ.

Christians go to church and then leave God behind for the rest of the week. Disciples are endeavouring to be the church.

Acts 1:14-15 - the church began as a group of disciples

- ❖ Peter stood up in the midst of the disciples.
 - ❖ There were about 120 disciples
 - ❖ They were together. Disciples love to be together.
 - ❖ They were in one accord in prayer and supplication
- Disciples are serious about seeking God. They are obedient to Jesus.

Disciples are on the cutting edge.

- v.16 – the disciples were reading the Scriptures
- what was about to take place had never happened before (the outpouring of the Holy Spirit)

Disciples are willing to come together and to wait on God for what He is about to do.

The glory of the latter house will be greater than the glory of the former.

We are waiting for the Holy Spirit to come and to breathe on the apostolic work in a way we have never experienced before!

How do disciples conduct themselves?

Acts 2:41

- ❖ when disciples hear the word of God they want to be obedient
- ❖ that day about 3000 souls were added to them
- ❖ they were baptised

v.42 - they **continued steadfastly** in the apostles' doctrine, fellowship, the breaking of bread and in prayers

Disciples love to be around each other. Do not forsake the assembling of yourselves together. Disciples love to continue daily.

Acts 5:41-42

- ❖ making disciples – showing people how to continue in the lifestyle of a disciple
- ❖ daily in the temple and in every house, they did not cease teaching and preaching Jesus as the Christ

Acts 6:1

- ❖ the **disciples were multiplying** - Jesus wants to see disciples multiply.
- ❖ there were some problems among the disciples (the widows were being neglected)
- ❖ the 12 called the multitude of disciples
- ❖ the disciples obeyed and came

v.3 disciples are the brethren (Isaiah 8:18 – Jesus' disciples are His children/ brethren)

- ❖ the disciples brought out 7 men to appoint over the business (serving tables) – the disciples worked with the apostles

Acts 6:7 - then the word of God spread

- ❖ the fruit of disciples is the word of God spreading
- ❖ disciples testify of following Jesus
- ❖ **v.7** – the **number of disciples multiplied** greatly in Jerusalem
- ❖ when the word of God spreads, more disciples are made
- ❖ **v.7** – a great many of the priests were obedient to the faith
- ❖ discipleship brings obedience to the faith, even from religious leaders
- ❖ Jesus wants obedience to the faith.

Disciples are not bound by denominational rules and regulations. They are free to remember Jesus through the breaking of bread in their own homes.

John 8:31-32

- ❖ Jesus said to the Jews **who believed** in Him, "If you remain in My word, **you will be My disciples**. You shall know the truth and the truth shall make you free."
- ❖ Disciples are free because they know the truth

Acts 8:4

- ❖ persecution arose after Stephen was martyred
- ❖ **the disciples** were scattered and went everywhere preaching the word
- ❖ disciples take every opportunity to preach the word
- ❖ disciples need to be able to teach the word
- ❖ Make disciples to the word of God
- ❖ Our relationship is in the Word
- ❖ Together, we are accountable to the word of God
- ❖ This produces a strong body of people

Acts 9:1 - severe persecution

- ❖ Saul was breathing threats and murder against the disciples of the Lord
- ❖ It can be dangerous to be a disciple
- ❖ "Christians" are no problem to the enemy but disciples are
- ❖ Disciples need to be willing to suffer persecution for the sake of the Lord
- ❖ Disciples become obedient to Jesus and challenge people's thinking

V.10 – there was a certain disciple

- ❖ Jesus is looking for certain disciples that He can speak to
- ❖ Ananias was in a position of hearing
- ❖ Jesus was able to give him clear instructions
- ❖ Ananias was willing to go
- ❖ Disciples are in a position to hear
- ❖ Disciples are willing and ready to go at the call – “Christians” are doing worldly things and have no time for Jesus to speak to them
- ❖ Ananias was obedient. He prayed for Saul and baptised him. Saul received his sight and he received the Holy Spirit – **Disciples can minister the foundations to others**

V.19 – Saul spent some days with the disciples at Damascus

- ❖ Saul was received by the disciples
- ❖ Disciples love to gather together and help each other, living together

V.20 - Saul then went out and preached Jesus the Messiah

V.25 – the disciples helped Saul escape

- ❖ Disciples are willing to risk their lives for other disciples

V.26 – Saul tried to join the disciples at Jerusalem, but they were cautious and did not believe he was a disciple

Acts 14:19-20

- ❖ the multitudes were motivated by the Jews and stoned Paul
- ❖ he was left for dead
- ❖ **the disciples gathered around him** – “Christians” probably would have run away!
- ❖ he rose up and went into the city
- ❖ the next day he started travelling (he continued in the work)
- ❖ **when disciples gather together there is resurrection life**, faith and believing in Jesus
- ❖ disciples love their apostolic fathers, pray for them and know they can do the works of Jesus

Acts 14:21 – they preached the gospel and made many disciples (they were obedient to Jesus’ command)

v.22 – they strengthened the souls of the disciples

- ❖ the ministry of Paul and Barnabas was to the disciples
- ❖ we need to continue to go around to the disciples, strengthening them in the faith, teaching them
- ❖ it is through many tribulations that we enter the kingdom of God

v.26-27 – they gathered the church together (they got the people together), they reported back and stayed there a long time with the disciples

- ❖ disciples are connected to and receive apostles
- ❖ **wherever disciples are, the ministries can have a home**

In Christianity ministries have become a vocation, a career, in offices, rather than accessible to and with the brethren

We have to come back to the NT reality of the church.

Acts 11:27-29

- ❖ the disciples received the ministry gifts - prophets

Acts 16:1

- ❖ a certain disciple named **Timothy**

v.3 – Timothy was willing to forsake everything for the call of God (**Luke 14:26, 27, 33**)

- ❖ God wants to place in us the attitude of a disciple

Luke 6:40 - perfectly trained

- ❖ a disciple is not above his teacher
- ❖ everyone who is perfectly trained, will be like his teacher
- ❖ disciples put themselves under a teacher and learn to be like them

Acts 19:1 - need to be disciples of Jesus

- ❖ Paul found some disciples (adherents of John the Baptist)
- ❖ They had not made the transition to become disciples of Jesus yet
- ❖ They had the right heart
- ❖ They were willing to hear the apostle tell them about Jesus
- ❖ They received the word and were baptised into Jesus

Acts 19:9 – Paul **withdrew the disciples** when he was rejected by the religious leaders – disciples come out of religious systems to get together “daily”

- ❖ They began reasoning daily in the word of God (continuing for 2 years)

Through disciples

V.10 – as a result, **all who dwelt in Asia heard the word** of the Lord Jesus

- disciples are radically committed to spreading the Word

Acts 20:1

- ❖ there was a great uproar that happened in Ephesus because **people were becoming disciples**
- ❖ Paul had to leave there
- ❖ Paul called the **disciples** to himself
- ❖ He embraced them (they had a heart relationship) – not a “minister/priest/pastor” relationship with the “congregation”

V.7 – the disciples came together to break bread (Luke 22:11 – Jesus wants to break bread with us as disciples)

- ❖ Disciples have a living relationship with Jesus
- ❖ They come to eat the bread and drink the cup in a life-giving way

GO FORTH IN HIS NAME

Exodus 3

- ❖ Moses is being SENT in His name
- ❖ Moses was SENT by God to go forth in His name
- ❖ Moses knew the importance of going forth **in His name**
- ❖ Moses needed to have the name clear

v.10 – the mission

v.11 – Moses and often servants of God are very reluctant

v.12 – God assures Moses He will be with him, Jesus will be with us (**Matt.28:20**)

- God goes with the ones He sends
- the proof will be that you will bring the people back to where God was meeting Moses

v.13 – “What is the name” of the God who is sending me

- Moses was brought up in Pharaoh’s house

v.14 – God gives the revelation of His name

I AM who I AM or I AM that I AM

- I AM is the One; this confession of God gives us the basis of understanding His personal name

- “**I AM**” has SENT me... - that will suffice
- “YHWH” – we tend to say “YAWHEH”
- older English version was “Jehovah” which is more correctly “Yehovah” as no “J” sound in Hebrew; “YAHWEH” comes from the verb “to be”
- “I AM” means He is the “Eternal One” or the “Self-Existent One”
- His nickname is “YAH”, if you are very good friends with God, you can call Him by His name “YAH”

v.15 – “YAHWEH, God of your fathers, God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob...”

- this is the memorial name for all generations
- YHWH is His memorial name

Moses understood the importance of being sent in the name!

We are unashamedly, purposely, not interested in denominational "church"

When Jesus appeared to Paul Galligan in 1998, at the beginning of the apostolic ministry, Jesus then spoke **Joshua 1:1-9** to Paul

- ❖ **Josh.1:2** says "Moses My servant is dead"
- ❖ When Jesus spoke this to Paul he knew Jesus was speaking about denominations, historic denominations are "dead"
- ❖ They had been His servants for many years, even centuries, but their time is over
- ❖ Moses was a great servant, but he was dead and not able to take the people into the land
- ❖ As an apostolic ministry we are to take people into the land in the name

YHWH is mentioned over 6800 times

Most Bibles do not even translate the name

- ❖ in English translations it is overwhelmingly translated as "LORD"

Today God is restoring the knowledge of His name

- ❖ He wants us to know His name

Elijah faced an issue in his generation that the people were worshipping "Baal" which means "Lord"

- ❖ Elijah means "God is Yahweh"
- ❖ Elijah's name was the message of his ministry – He came to restore people back to "YHWH" as God, and the only Lord

Genesis 12:8b - Abram called on the name of YAHWEH

- ❖ When Abram came to Bethel he "called on the name of YHWH"
- ❖ He established his mission in the name, walking into Canaan

3 John 5-8 "because they went forth for His name's sake"

- we send people forth in His name
- as an apostolic ministry, we are apostles of Jesus Christ, we are disciples of Jesus Christ
- this was an apostolic team that went forth for Jesus name

Romans 1:5 - grace and apostleship for the sake of His name

- ❖ through Christ we have received
- ❖ the great work of the apostolic ministry is to make known the name of Jesus in every nation; apostles have the responsibility to make known Jesus the Messiah

The name in Baptism

Matthew 28:19

- ❖ **baptising** them in the **name** of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit
- ❖ **"baptism"** means "immersion" – not pouring or sprinkling
- ❖ **"in the name"** = "into the name, into the Person of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit"
- ❖ **Bible never says God is three persons**
- ❖ God is only ever referred to as One person in the Scriptures
- ❖ "name" – Gk 'onoma', Hb 'shem' – have same meaning, much more powerful than the "name" in English
- ❖ 'name' is referring to who that person is, their rank, character, reputation, standing
- ❖ Baptising into the 'name' is immersing people into the character, honour, reputation and authority of God
- ❖ **Colossians 2:9** – Paul brings a correction to philosophical understandings (**Col.2:1-2** – a great struggle to explain the mystery of God)
- ❖ The **fullness of the Godhead dwelt bodily in Christ**
- ❖ Baptising into the name of Father, Son and Holy Spirit – who is the One who is the fullness of God? The Messiah Jesus is the fullness – baptism into Jesus is into the fullness, Father, Son and Holy Spirit

Who did Jesus command to baptise in Matthew 28:19? Answer: the apostles

How did the apostles obey Jesus?

- ❖ **Acts 2:36-38** – Jesus is Lord (Supreme One) and Christ (Messiah), people were cut to the heart
- ❖ Peter told them to repent and be **"baptised into the name of Jesus the Christ"** for remission of sins and you will receive the gift of Holy Spirit
- ❖ This was very humbling for Jews to accept that they would need baptism

Confirming verses of baptising in the name of Jesus (the fullness of God)

- ❖ this is a major issue today

Acts 8:16

- ❖ only been baptized in the **name of the Lord Jesus**

Acts 8:35

- ❖ Philip **preached Jesus** to the Ethiopian man
- ❖ Man wanted baptism
- ❖ **V.37** – "I believe that Jesus the Christ is the Son of God"
- ❖ **What name did he get baptized in?**

Acts 9:5

- ❖ "Who are You Lord?"
- ❖ I, I AM Jesus
- ❖ What name do you think He got baptized in?
- ❖ The **Lord Jesus**

Acts 9:18-22

- ❖ Paul was clear that you preach Jesus the Christ

Acts 10:48

- ❖ Peter commanded them to be baptized **in the name of the Lord**

Acts 16:31-33

- ❖ believe on the **Lord Jesus Christ** and you will be saved
- ❖ he and all his family were baptized
- ❖ what name? the name they believed in!

Acts 19:3-6

- ❖ they had John's baptism
- ❖ they had to believe on **Messiah Jesus**
- ❖ they were then **baptized into the name of the Lord Jesus**

**We should obey Him in the same way
that the apostles obeyed Him in the Bible**

Majority of even Pentecostal churches today do not baptise properly

The name in healing!

Acts 3:6

- ❖ **in the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth** rise up and walk
- ❖ **v.16 – His name, through faith in the name of Jesus, he was healed**

Acts 4:12 - there is **no other name** that can bring salvation

Acts 5:28

- ❖ the council strictly commanded them **not to speak in this name**
- ❖ they filled the city with the doctrine
- ❖ this High Priest knew the power of the name of Jesus
- ❖ the doctrine of the name of Jesus!

v.41 - rejoicing for being counted worthy to **suffer shame for His name**

Mark 16:17-18

- ❖ **In My name (Jesus)** you shall cast out demons
- ❖ all believers should know their authority in **the name** to deliver from demons
- ❖ if you do not know that authority, ask God for an encounter with a demon to learn the power of the name

In Jesus name we are to speak in new tongues

- ❖ tongues is a sign of believing in Jesus

Drink deadly poison, take up serpents

- ❖ e.g. a friend who took chemo would quote this verse before he took it

Sick will recover through laying on of hands in the name

The Supremacy of the name!

Philippians 2:5

- ❖ Let this mind be in you which was also in **Messiah Jesus**
- ❖ Get out of the habit of saying "Jesus Christ" – He is Jesus the Christ, or Jesus the Messiah
- ❖ We are to have His mind

v.6

- who **being (existing)** in the **form of God**
- Jesus before He manifested in the earth was with God, in God, because He actually was God, so He looked like God
- **John 1:1-2** – Jesus existed forever in the form of God
- because of that He did not consider it robbery to be equal with God, it was correct for Jesus to consider Himself as God – He was not usurping authority

v.7

- Jesus chose to make Himself of no reputation
- He was in the form of God but He chose to take on the form of a bondservant]
- He decided to appear as a Man

Philippians 2:8

- He was found in the appearance of a man
- He looked like a normal person
- He fully humbled down, even to obedience to death

v.9

- Therefore God highly exalted Him
- He was given **"the name"**
- this **name** is above every other name

v.10

- that at the **name of Jesus** every knee shall bow
- all in the heaven (principalities and powers...)
- all in the earth (humans)
- all beneath the earth (demons of hell)
- Jesus has ultimate authority in all realms of creation

v.11

- all these realms will confess Jesus **as Lord**
- **"Lord"** – can refer to "Sir", can refer to "YHWH", can refer to "Adonai" of Old T
- Jesus is **"Adonai"** – only ever used for God, the Supreme Ruler, in majesty, honour and glory
- This Jesus is the Lord
- this is to the glory of God the Father

When Jesus is honoured and submitted to, the invisible God, the Father, is glorified

We are sent forth in the name of the **Lord Jesus the Messiah, the Son of God**

MINISTRY GIFTS

CREATIONAL OR MOTIVATIONAL GIFTS – born with these gifts; what you are motivated to do - **Romans 12:6-8**

- prophecy = natural insight, just know what to do
- ministering/service = to help, loves to put things in order and serve people
- teacher = wants to instruct people in the correct way
- exhortation = encouraging, overlooking problems to see good in people
- giving = always looking for the opportunity to give and be generous
- leadership = organising everybody to play a meaningful part so that the job gets done well
- shows mercy = bringing comfort

These are grace gifts

Rom.12:4 – members of Body have different roles in the Body

v.6 – these gifts differ according to the grace given

- we can access all these gifts now by grace
- in Christ you can learn to function out of these graces

God gives us one or more of the natural gifts of Romans 12:6-8 when we are born

- in Christ we can call on God's grace to function in any one of them that we need

SPIRITUAL GIFTS - 1 Corinthians 12

v.4-6

- diversity of gifts – same Spirit (**9 gifts in v.8-10**)
- differences of ministries – same Lord (**5 gifts mentioned in Eph.4:11**)
- diversities of activities (operations/functions); same God (**7 gifts of Rom.12:6-8**)

v.7 – manifestation of the Spirit is given for the profit of all – **spiritual gifts**

- you can feel it, hear it
- it is supernatural

Luke 1:67

- Zacharias was "filled with the Holy Spirit"
- he "prophesied" – he exercised the "gift of prophecy"
- this was a spiritual gift

John 11:49-50

- Caiaphas was high Priest "prophesied"
- but this was not by the Holy Spirit, probably by **natural gift of "prophecy"**, he saw with insight that it would be the best thing for the nation

1 Corinthians 12:8

1) Word of wisdom

- John 8:1-12

- woman caught in adultery brought to Jesus, tricky situation
- **v.7** = the "word of wisdom" – defused the situation, set the woman free and convicted all the others; shows us what to do

2) Word of knowledge

- **John 4:16-18** - Jesus had knowledge by the Spirit about the woman's life

3) gift of Faith

- e.g. **John 11** – Lazarus rising from the dead required a "gift of faith" that activated the supernatural to work above the natural laws

4) gifts of healings

- "healings" = "cures"
- some times people have a particular gift of healing for certain conditions

5) works of power/miracles

- turning water to wine is a miracle
- walking on water
- multiplying bread
- creative miracles, body parts coming back

6) prophecy

- speaking the things of God under the power and anointing of the Holy Spirit

- **Rev.19:10** – testimony of Jesus is the Spirit of prophecy
- this does not make someone a “prophet”
- this is to build up (edification), encourage (exhortation) and console (comfort) –
(1 Corinthians 14:3)

7) discerning of spirits

- why is the person behaving the way they are?
- discerning what spirit is working

8) speaking in tongues

- bringing a message to the brethren in another language
- this is not the personal gift of tongues for ourselves
- breaks through into the spirit, breaks through the mind
- sometimes the tongue can be a human language

9) interpretation of tongues

- can sometimes come in parts
- 2 or 3 may bring the whole message together

1 Corinthians 12:11

- One and the same Spirit works distributing these gifts as “He wills”
- We are told to desire the gifts, “especially prophecy”

Two things that stop the gifts being released in your life

1. religion
2. involvement with other gods and the occult

A FURTHER 'GIFT' LIST - 1 Corinthians 12:28

- **3 gifts from Eph.4:11** – apostles, prophets, teachers
- **3 gifts from 1 Cor.12:8-10** – miracles, gifts of healings, tongues
- **2 gifts** – “helps”, “administrations”

“helps” – e.g. servants, deacons

“administrations” (Gk. ‘pilotage’, a pilot of a ship, ability to steer things in the right direction)
– delegated position of authority to serve the ministries, organising so the church can go forward

THE FIVE FOLD MINISTRY GIFTS - Ephesians 4:11

Jesus gave these gifts when He ascended to right hand of God

❖ this puts to rest any ideas that there are no more apostles today (**Acts 13:1-3, 14:14**
– **Paul and Barnabas**)

- Apostle
- Prophet
- Evangelist
- Pastor
- Teacher

v.7 – these are “grace” gifts

v.12 – we need them to

- i) perfect the saints
- ii) for work of ministry
- iii) to build up the Body

v.13 – how long do we need them for?

Until we come to unity of the faith...

REVIVALS I HAVE SEEN

We have been declaring that God is releasing a world-wide revival that will bring us into another dimension of His glory

Where are we at? Where are we going? What is God saying?

2 Pet.1:12 – the **Present Truth** is the truth that is present among us now

- the Word that God is emphasising now

There are seasons in God; There are “ages” in God

We are living in the big “end of the age” but we are also going through ages where God was doing something particular

“Revival” does not appear but “revive” does, it is also translated “live”

Hb SC 2421 “chayah”

The verb that describes God as eternal One is ‘hayah’

The word “revive” means “to live”; The church needs to “live”!

Ezekiel 37

Key passage about understanding revival

v.3 – Can these bones **live**?

- Ezekiel is called “**Son of Man**”; Jesus took on this title “**Son of Man**”

- **John 11:23-26** – Jesus is the Resurrection and the Life - when we meet Jesus we are born again, that is, we receive life, spiritual life. We are revived

v.4 – ‘O dry bones, hear the Word of the YAHWEH’

- revival will come by someone preaching the Word of God

- Revival is the Word bringing people to life in Christ

- we first got revived when we were born again

- the Word of God hits our spirit, it revives us and changes us forever

v.9 – prophesy to the ‘breath’ (spirit); Spirit, breathe on these slain that they may

live

v.10 – so Ezekiel prophesied with great zeal and enthusiasm

- 'breath' (Spirit) came into them; they **lived** (revived)
- the bones got up and stood, an exceedingly great army

Things that impacted me, Paul, when God was drawing me to Himself

1. realised Jesus was "Lord" – not Krishna, Buddha or anyone else
2. conviction of sin
3. heard a man speak in perfect Latin, a language I had studied at university. When I asked the man about his speaking in Latin, he said was speaking in tongues. This was a sign to me (**1Cor.14:22**)

3 questions to be asked in leading someone to Jesus

- a) do you believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God
- b) do you believe Jesus Christ died on the Cross to forgive your sins
- c) are you ready to invite Jesus Christ into your life

When I was asked these three questions, and I was able to answer positively by the grace of God, I was born again.

This was the **first revival in my life, being born again**. I was a lost man coming alive.

God then **convicted me of the need for water baptism**, and I began seeking the Holy Spirit for **baptism in the Holy Spirit** as well.

Revival is meeting God 'for real'!; He can step into your consciousness at any time He chooses

The "wineskin" of "church" that I, Paul, was born again into, in 1974, was one where people were coming together from various denominations into spirit-filled meetings. There was much emphasis on being led by Holy Spirit and the gifts were always manifested in the meetings.

There was no one to disciple us in those days, but in 1978 I, Paul, met an amazing Bible Teacher and was able to spend a few days with him. He taught me how to study the Bible, using Strong's Concordance and Vines Expository Dictionary.

No one actually disciplined me but God did, giving me a great love for His word.

What was the result of the revival in the 1970s and 80s?

The **result was worldwide evangelism**

- ❖ tens of thousands were born again, Spirit-filled and many water baptised

- ❖ many new churches arose
- ❖ in Australia Christian Outreach Centre developed, and other new churches
- ❖ This was called the "charismatic" movement
- ❖ Also a move to function in community as believers developed
- ❖ A move to bring the church back into New Testament fellowship
- ❖ Also many Christian Schools developed

late 1980s- early '90s

- ❖ dry time spiritually
- ❖ the edge of the revival of the 70s into early 80s had waned [result was Paul resigned from the ministry]
- ❖ walls went up between denominations again; people who came out of denominations with the move of Holy Spirit went back into denominational groups

1995

- ❖ Paul was back in ministry and called a prayer meeting for those hungry for God
- ❖ Localized revival broke out among us
- ❖ Many came and saw and got mightily touched by the anointing
- ❖ In that season we saw partly an international break out as there were revivals in Toronto, Canada and in Pensacola, Florida. This revival touched millions. It was characterised by experiencing love of the Father and awesome anointings
- ❖ Some of us knew that this was preparing for the great revival that was still coming, but when persecution came many drew back, again into the broken wineskin of denominationalism.
- ❖ Paul and others went through into the "apostolic"; There was a remnant through that revival that went into the land, which was into the greater dimension of apostolic revelation. This also brought persecution.

The experience of January 1995, when revival came in our midst as we humbly sort the Lord, propelled us for the following five years. We travelled much in Australia and began going to the nations. There were often mighty signs and wonders and we faithfully taught the word of God everywhere we went.

5 words

1. Revival; 2. Renewal; 3. Restoration; 4. Reformation; 5. Transformation

These words are all very meaningful and need to be studied in the Scriptures.

THE NEXT REVIVAL WAS A "HIDDEN" REVIVAL

2002

- ❖ this revival was the release of the "Spirit of Sonship/ adoption"
- ❖ becoming sons; coming home to Father; becoming secure. This Spirit of adoption spread as we preached and taught the word from **Romans 8:14-23, & Galatians 3:26 - 4:7, Eph.1:5-6, Heb.2:10**; as we taught the story of the prodigal son from **Luke 15:11-32**
- ❖ Sonship, being placed in the reality of knowing you are a son and being able to walk in the inheritance is "transformational"
- ❖ Sonship is "personal", it can happen to anybody
- ❖ As we experience the spirit of adoption God gave us the vision for full maturity as sons (**2 Kings 2:1-11**)

- ❖ This word went to nations, was resisted in North America by some, but received readily in the nations of Africa especially, and Asia and South America.
- ❖ So often the sharing of this word concerning becoming the sons of God, brought the break-through in the spiritual realm, as brethren received and experienced the spirit of adoption, being released from a servant-hood mentality, and realising that we are not predestined to be servants, but we are predestined to be sons.

We are children of revival

I am a child of the **Acts 2** revival, and the **Acts 6** revival

I was born into a Catholic family, but when I was born again, I became a part of the protestant reformation.

However I did not stop at the reformation, as I am also a child of the Anabaptists, who practice full immersion for baptism.

I am a child of the Holiness movement, and of what God began to pour out in the Welsh revival. I am a child of Azusa Street and the Pentecostal revival of the early 20th Century.

I am a child of the Latter Rain revival, which first found expression in the worldwide Charismatic movement. I was blessed to receive the deeper Biblical teaching of the Latter Rain revival of 1948.

Every revival brings some measure of restoration

Revival means to live again, God has faithfully brought revivals down through history to keep causing the church to live again and move by faith into another realm through the recovery of truth

We preach the Word of God that brings life and we carry the Spirit of Sonship to help others be a son, coming out of bondage to slavery

Revival brings renewal

Churches are renewed but if the church stays with renewal only, it does not really change and the denominational way will continue to rule and reign.

"Methodist/Wesleyan" revival brought about by God through John Wesley and George Whitfield changed history for the English speaking peoples of the world.

It is said that one in four colonists of the thirteen American colonies were born again through the preaching of Whitfield in the mid-18th Century.

The Methodist revival brought knowledge of the "new birth" to the world; and those who received the word were changed; they were revived.

Revival should at least bring renewal but revival can also bring "reformation" and "restoration"

"Reformation" = re-forming how we do things

"Restoration" = coming back to the original

"Transformation" = knowing the power of the Word and the Spirit working in our individual lives to make us into the image and likeness of God.

In January 2016, we have declared a fast for twenty-one days from January 25th to February 14th. At the time of writing these notes, we are on day eight and we are very blessed as we are all experiencing change and break-throughs, not only individually but even in nations. Brethren have joined us in a number of nations to keep the fast and we are experiencing a measure of revival. We are believing God to enter fully into His last days great revival that will bring forth His glorious church in the earth.