# **Foundation Class**

By Vernon K. Williams

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# Love Tabernacle Ministries International

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4314 St Michaels Ct Sugar Land, Texas 77479-2986

E-mail: vwilliams@lovetabernacle.net

# Preface to Pastors and Ministers

I have written this Foundation Class material as the first part (or school) of a Bible School curriculum, which will have at least six school sections in it. My hopes are that it will be useful to pastors and ministers in teaching, preaching, and equipping the saints.

Whether the material is used "as is" to teach or preach, even copying and giving it to the saints, or it is used as a draft for pastors and ministers to write their own material, or just provokes to go further in their own studies, I pray that it will have an affect both upon the men and women of God who read this, and upon all who they minister it to. May faith come as the Word of God is both read and ministered to others, and may it change their lives forever, in Jesus' name.

If this material is taught as a class once a week, I recommend that it be broken up into two sessions. The first would be 11 weeks and the second would be 12 weeks. The whole of 13 weeks should cover a 3 month period. I further recommend that the Orientation class be combined with a breakfast or dinner gathering, including all staff and auxiliary head members, who can be introduced to the new members.

Additionally, there should be a means of allowing make-up of classes missed. While it should be communicated that personal commitment to attendance is important, we are not looking to penalize those who the devil may have hindered, but rather to strengthen, encourage, and equip. One option is to audio tape the classes, and allow the person to receive the tape and class material.

I recommend a graduation celebration, with certificates presented if possible, during the next Sunday service following the last class. This will reinforce accomplishment with immediate recognition, and encourage them and others to go further in the Bible School training.

I would also follow up in two ways:

- (1) by having a minister meet with each person or family to review their motivation gifts, in light of their serving interest, and quickly get them involved in the work of the church, thereby allowing them to be fulfilled by supplying their part to the Body. You might consider quarterly (that is, the month after completion of Foundation Class) having an Auxiliary Dinner, where you can encourage the saints to work in the church, and follow the dinner with having the auxiliary groups break into their own meetings in different rooms, allowing those who are interested a specific auxiliary to visit them and find out more.
- (2) find ways to personally encourage the saints, both individually and the church as a whole, to continue further in the Bible Schools, signing up for the next school, and their own studies of the Word.

As in all things, pray in the Spirit, being lead by the Spirit, as God would have you use this material. Remember to give your people some break time between schools or sessions, for holidays and vacations, or other planned church activities, remembering they need personal times of refreshing with God and their family as well. Be lead, be fruitful, be blessed.

Your servant in Christ Jesus,

Vernon Williams.

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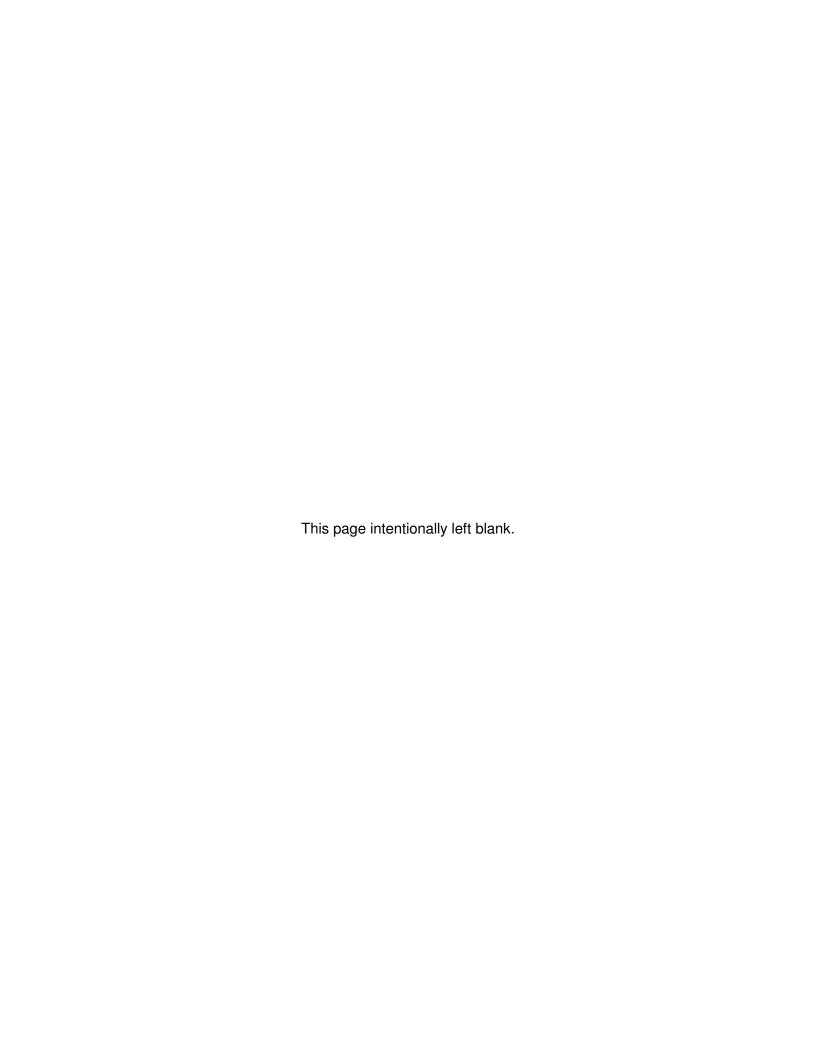
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# **ORIENTATION TO LOVE TABERNACLE**

# Welcome to Love Tabernacle:

Love Tabernacle Ministries International's (LTMI) vision is to "fashion vessels of honor to carry His Glory". That is:

- 1. Each one of us is a tabernacle (i.e., dwelling place) (2 Cor 5:1-4, 2 Pt 1:13-14) or vessel (Acts 9:15)
- 2. That must purify ourselves from sin unto honor (1 Thes 4:4, 2 Tim 2:20-21)
- 3. So that we may carry His Glory (manifested presence and power)

#### 1 Cor 3:16

Know ye not that ye are the temple of God, and that the Spirit of God dwelleth in you?

#### Rom 9:23-24

And that he might make known the riches of his glory on the vessels of mercy, which he had afore prepared unto glory, Even us, whom he hath called, not of the Jews only, but also of the Gentiles?

#### 2 Cor 4:7

But we have this treasure in earthen vessels, that the excellency of the power may be of God, and not of us.

His Presence is Love, and all else flows from there. As we learn to receive His Love and to allow His Love to flow thru us, to be moved by compassion, the Love of God in motion, that is, faith which works by Love (Gal 5:6), His power shall manifest in and thru our lives to us and to others. Then we shall be Love tabernacles, carry His Glory in the earth.

#### Eph 3:16-19

That he would grant you, according to the riches of his glory, to be strengthened with might by his Spirit in the inner man; That Christ may dwell in your hearts by faith; that ye, being rooted and grounded in love, May be able to comprehend with all saints what is the breadth, and length, and depth, and height; And to know the love of Christ, which passeth knowledge, that ye might be filled with all the fulness of God.

We endeavor to help you achieve spiritual stability, to provide a place for your spiritual growth and development, and to help you discover your purpose and calling in the body of Christ. We endeavor to:

- 1. Minister to the brokenhearted to bring the healing and deliverance of the Lord,
- 2. Teach you the Love of God, that God is Love, it is His very nature,
- 3. Teach you the Word of God, the precepts and principles of God so that you may be people of Love,
- 4. Teach and equip you to be able to flow with the Holy Spirit and in the gifts,
- 5. Equip you (the Body of Christ) to do the work of the ministry (Eph 4:11-16).
- 6. Activating you (the Body of Christ) and releasing you into your ministry and calling (1 Tim 4:14, 1 Cor 12:7).
- 7. Raise up ministries, such as helps, evangelism, intercession and deliverance,

- 8. Train and form fivefold ministers and raise up Bible training centers in the field (around the world), and
- 9. Minister to ministers to bring refreshing, activation, and into a higher level of ministry.

We endeavor to accomplish this thru local church worship services, bible studies, Bible Schools (including Foundation Class, School of the Spirit, School of Prayer, School of the Believer, School of Evangelism, and the School of Ministry), prayer groups, and other auxiliaries and activities as the Lord Jesus Christ leads.

Our vision includes international works such as raising up bible schools, mission activities, orphanages, printed material, and working with the local overseas churches in ways that facilitate them accomplishing their callings.

# CHURCH AUTHORITY AND GOVERNMENT

Of course, all authority comes from God the Father thru Jesus. God's authority in the church operates as a paternal structure, which is a "father" rule structure. That is,

- 1. In your own life, being part of the Church, which is the Body of Christ, you are subject to the authority of your Heavenly Father, Jehovah, thru your eldest brother (the firstborn among many brethren (Rom 8:29)) Jesus (Jehoshua (Joshua), Yeshua), thru the leading of the Holy Spirit.
  - Please note that among Elohim (the Godhead or Trinity) that all 3 are equal (Phil 2:6), but that there is an order (Matt 28:19) so that there would be order and productivity, instead of confusion (1 Cor 14:33, Jam 3:16). God the Father as delegated the authority to Jesus (Matt 28:18, 1 Cor 15:28).
- 2. In your family or household, while you are a spirit creature living in a body and there is neither male or female in the spirit (Gal 3:28), God chose you to walk in an "office" or "responsibility" as either male or female, and in the family as either husband or wife, father or mother. So your office does not make you greater or lesser in spiritual essence, only in level of responsibility of which you will have to give an account of to the Father (Rom 14:12).
  - Then in your household, the authority structure is paternal. The husband / father exercises authority and is symbolic of Christ and the church (Eph 5:23-32). There still is an order for productivity and protection (two parts of the covenant). He can delegate authority as in (1) when he is not home the mother rules, or (2) as to the eldest son (e.g., Joseph's coat of many colors).
- 3. In the church, which is the household of God the Father (Gal 6:10, Eph 2:19), the authority structure is paternal from the Father, delegated thru Jesus, lead by the Holy Spirit, thru the fivefold ministry (Eph 2:20, 3:5, 4:11-12) of apostles, prophets, evangelist, pastors, and teachers, which are the elders or presbyters of the church (1 Pt 5:1-5, 1 Tim 5:1, 5:17, Heb 13:17) (e.g., Peter 1 Pet 5:1, John 2 John 1, 3 John 1).

This fivefold government is also called an ecclesiastical government. This structure is a theocracy, not a democracy. That is, a theocracy is a body governed by God, with the Jehovah Father's will being manifested in the operations; thru the Lordship of Jesus Christ as administered by the fivefold ministry; and communicated and directed by the Holy Spirit thru the gifts of the Spirit.

#### 1 Cor 12:4-6

Now there are diversities of gifts, but the same Spirit. And there are differences of administrations, but the same Lord. And there are diversities of operations, but it is the same God which worketh all in all.

#### 1 Cor 12:28

God has appointed in the church, first apostles, second prophets, third teachers, then miracles, then gifts of healings, helps, administrations, various kinds of tongues. (NASU)

Our ministry staff consist of:

Vernon Williams apostle, pastor, and teacher

Uzoma Williams (co-pastor), prophet

# THE GIFTS OF THE SPIRIT

We believe in the operation of the gifts of the Spirit within the corporate body as is outlined in:

#### 1 Cor 12:7-10

But to each one is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good. For to one is given the word of wisdom through the Spirit, and to another the word of knowledge according to the same Spirit; to another faith by the same Spirit, and to another gifts of healing by the one Spirit, and to another the effecting of miracles, and to another prophecy, and to another the distinguishing of spirits, to another various kinds of tongues, and to another the interpretation of tongues. (NASU)

We also believe that all members of the body should be empowered and free to move in the gifts of the Spirit. However, all things should be done decently and in order that the corporate body may be mutually edified (1 Cor 14:39-40).

# **O**PPORTUNITIES TO SERVE AND FELLOWSHIP WITH OTHER BELIEVERS

The Lord has called the fivefold to equip the saints for the work of the ministry:

Eph 4:11-12

And He gave some as apostles, and some as prophets, and some as evangelists, and some as pastors and teachers, for the equipping of the saints for the work of service, to the building up of the body of Christ; (NASU)

Ministry of Helps - opportunities to serve the Lord with your gifts, talents and abilities. Thru the ministry of helps, you can give your time, energy and talents freely to the work of the ministry. We believe that everyone in the body has a specific purpose and task assigned by the Lord. You may not be called to a fivefold ministry, but everyone has the ability to serve in the ministry of helps. Helps can be thought of as **Having Enough Loving People Serving**.

These opportunities include:

- √ Prayer and intercessory ministry
- ✓ Praise team ministry
- √ Sound and equipment ministry
- ✓ Tape ministry
- √ Greeters ministry
- ✓ Ushers ministry
- √ Children's Church ministry
- ✓ Facility (1) presentation ministry and (2) maintenance ministry
- √ Church office ministry
- ✓ Publications ministry (books and Internet)
- √ Translation ministry (audio and video)

God has given us all motivational gifts, that as we work them, we find fulfillment that motives us to be an active part of the church. We will study these gifts and help you find your place of fulfillment and fruitfulness:

Rom 12:3-8

For I say, through the grace given unto me, to every man that is among you, not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think; but to think soberly, according as God hath dealt to every man the measure of faith. For as we have many members in one body, and all members have not the same office: So we, being many, are one body in Christ, and every one members one of another. Having then gifts differing according to the grace that is given to us, whether prophecy, let us prophesy according to the proportion of faith; Or ministry, let us wait on our ministering: or he that teacheth, on teaching; Or he that exhorteth, on exhortation: he that giveth, let him do it with simplicity; he that ruleth, with diligence; he that sheweth mercy, with cheerfulness.

# WHAT IS AVAILABLE TO HELP YOU GROW:

Foundation Class (Sunday evenings at 7:00)
Prayer (Sunday mornings at 10:30)
Sunday Worship Service (Sunday mornings at 11:00)
Midweek Bible Study (Wednesday evenings at 7:00)

Men's Bible Study
Women's Bible Study
Youth Meeting

Every other Saturday morning at 8:00
Every other Tuesday evening at 7:00
Every other Saturday evening at 5:00

Encounter Weekend Retreats (see schedule)

Personal prayer, counseling and mentorship(see pastor)

After completion of Foundation Class, you may enroll in a Ministry of Helps and/or a Bible School.

If you have a calling from the Lord Jesus Christ into the fivefold ministry, you may apply to the School of Ministry.

# **WORD STUDIES - PART 1**

In order for us to communicate effectively with each other, we must have a common language, or in simpler terms, a common understanding of words and their meanings.

Some of these words help us understand doctrine, and some are expressions of doctrine. Matter of fact, the previous sentence is an excellent example. What does doctrine mean?

A *doctrine* is a basic, fundamental, foundational teaching.

**Fundamental** is simply a beginning or foundation of something, in this case, a teaching. Fundamental math is arithmetic, 1+1=2, and we build upon this basic precept or teaching.

A *precept* is a foundational doctrine, teaching, or law. This is an important point, in that, a bible precept is a spiritual law. Like gravity is a natural law, spiritual laws control (and explain) how things work in the spirit realm.

Prov 4:1-2

Hear, ye children, the instruction of a father, and attend to know understanding. For I give you good doctrine, forsake ye not my law.

Isa 28:9-10

Whom shall he teach knowledge? and whom shall he make to understand doctrine? them that are weaned from the milk, and drawn from the breasts.

For precept must be upon precept, precept upon precept; line upon line, line upon line; here a little; and there a little:

So why is a foundational teaching, fundamentals, or doctrine so important. Because it establishes and teaches us "truth", which we believe in, measure everything too, and build upon.

If someone comes along and says that 2+2=6 (which is to build on something like 1+1=3), we are going to say "WHOA... STOP... WHAT IS THAT?". And we are not going to believe in or stake our lives on something that was built with that error.

So, Foundations Class teaches us doctrine that helps us to firmly understand what we believe, and helps us to act on what we believe. If I understand it better, I can act upon it better (that is, live it), and explain it to others better (evangelism). Again, even in this paragraph, we are using christian terms that should be explained.

**Truth** is the "Word of God". Jesus is the Truth / the Word manifested in the flesh (John 1:14, 14:6, 1 John 1:1-2).

Ps 119:43

And take not the word of truth utterly out of my mouth; for I have hoped in thy judgments. Ps 119:142

Thy righteousness is an everlasting righteousness, and thy law is the truth.

Ps 119:151

Thou art near, O LORD; and all thy commandments are truth.

**Evangel** means to announce or proclaim good news. An evangelist is a proclaimer of good news, specifically the gospel. Evangelical people are people who believe in the gospel thru evangelism. That is, someone has to tell you about Jesus, you have to hear, believe in your heart, and receive in your heart thru confessing with your mouth (Rom 10:8-17).

Gospel is a greek word meaning "good news", particularly, the good news of Jesus Christ.

The *devil* is an accuser using lies (John 8:44), specifically, one who seeks to cause humiliation or disgrace to by making malicious and false statements. He knows the importance of words (God's Word is His Law) and meanings and tries to change them to keep people in darkness.

Dan 7:25

And he shall speak great words against the most High, and shall wear out the saints of the most High, and think to change times and laws...

Isa 5:20

Woe unto them that call evil good, and good evil; that put darkness for light, and light for darkness; that put bitter for sweet, and sweet for bitter!

For example, "gay" used to refer to someone who was cheerful, joyous, happy. Joy comes from the Lord and the word "happy" *biblically speaking* (which means as the bible uses and means the word verse as the world uses and means the word) is the same word as "blessed". Only God can bless, but the devil has perverted the word to mean a cursed sexually-deviate sinner.

Did you know that biblically speaking the day starts at sunset (Gen 1:5, 1:8, etc.). It symbolizes man coming from darkness under sin to the light of the glorious gospel of Jesus Christ. But the devil has changed it to be midnight to midnight. Why? It is his dream that man go from darkness - into light - and back into darkness. Words and creation that God has made to proclaim Himself (Rom 1:20), the devil tries to pervert to keep man in darkness.

#### Rom 1:20

For the invisible things of him from the creation of the world are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even his eternal power and Godhead; so that they are without excuse:

#### 2 Cor 4:4

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

You see, *god* means creator. The devil is not the "god" of earth, that is the planet, but Jehovah (God, the Father) is (Gen 24:3). The devil is the "god" or creator of this world, that is the culture of man keeps people in darkness. It does not matter whether it is American culture or Nigerian culture or whatever, if you look at it, you will see how it is created to keep you in debt, sin, and darkness.

Which brings us to a good point. Who is God? But to be more precise of the christian: *Elohim* is the Hebrew word that we would translate as the Trinity. It means, that God - the Godhead (Col 2:9) - is made up of the Father (Jehovah), the Son (Jesus Christ - Jehoshua

Messiah), and the Holy Spirit. They operate in total unity as one entity, there common factor being Love (agape).

**Jehovah** is God, the Father, and means "I am that I am" (Gen 3:14, 6:13) or the "external existing one". There are may so called "gods" out there; to merely say "God" is not necessarily to convey Who we mean. If you say "God" to a muslim, he will be thinking "Allah" (a Babylonian Moon god), not "Jehovah" of Israel. They are not the same god, nor have the same words or way(s). The word "Jehovah" is in the Old Testament 5000 times, but is normally translated in the King James as "the LORD", which is misfortunate as it dilutes christians' knowing with surety the name of their God (5000 times). In contrast **Adonai** is the actual Hebrew word for "Lord" (a ruler) and is translated as "Lord" (notice the capitalization difference) in the King James.

**Jehoshua** (commonly shorted incorrectly to **Yeshua**), which means "Jehovah is salvation", is the Hebrew for **Jesus**, which is English for **Jesus** or **Jesus**, which is the Greek as in the original New Testament. If a Hispanic man's name is Juan, and if I speaking English ask him his name, he could say John, but his legal name is Juan.

The *Bible*, which means "holy book", does not give a personal name for the *Holy Spirit*. The King James inappropriately translates the Greek word pneuma, which is "spirit" as "ghost" (about 90 out of 388 times), don't know why. The New King James corrected this.

Our English language does not do a good job conveying the different meanings or types of love. The greek language uses at least four words:

**Agape** is the God-type of love. A love of commitment / of covenant, of giving your word and changing not, even if it means loss or hurt on your part to fulfill your word (2 Tim 2:13, Heb 13:8). Are you a person of your word? Did you know that all liars go to hell (Rev 21:8)?

What does it mean to love God? It does not mean a feeling as much as a commitment to obey His Word (1 John 5:3), because we know He loves us and His Word is where our protection and provision is (Deut 7:9). Ever tell your child not to play in the street? It was not a matter of feeling, but commitment for protection.

**Phileo** is the soulish or emotional type of love. It is what we "feel". It is used for any type of soulish affection, as father/mother, son/daughter, husband/wife, friend/friend.

*Eros* is the physical type of love. It includes sensual as well as sexual. A hug, a kiss, etc...

**Staroge** (spelling?) is the fatherly type of love. A father's love is strong, and corrects to protect, as well as imparts what he has or is... truth and life. John the Baptist came in the (Holy) spirit (attributes) of Elijah to turn the hearts of the fathers to the children. What did Elijah do? He established the School of the Prophets to impart what he had to the next generation.

Lets now concentrate on some words:

*Iniquity* - (Hebrew "avon") perverseness and/or crookedness of character, it conveys the idea of an arrow shaft that is crooked and will never hit the true target because it will always go astray due to its nature and character. This also could be see as immoral lusts.

(Isa 59:2-3, Jam 1:14-15)

**Transgression** or **trespass** means to revolt (to break away from just authority) or rebel against the commandment(s) of God. It is the actual act, not the motive or character. A person's iniquity would cause them to transgress, which is sin.

*Sin* comes from a root word meaning "to miss", conveying the meaning of the act of the arrow missing the target. So *sin* is the actual action (Jam 1:14-15). *Sin* is an offense (being offensive to God, and His commandments, in His Face) as is a crime that transgresses (or rebels) against a law.

**Death** is "separation". Physical death is separation of your eternal spirit/soul from your physical body. Marital death is separation of rib (wife) from rib cage (husband), because they were to be "one flesh". Spiritual death is separation of your spirit from intimate contact with God thru the Holy Spirit. (Isa 59:2-3, Jam 1:14-15)

**Life**, which we sometimes use the Greek word **Zoe** for, then means intimate union with. If you understand that biblically speaking the word **know** means an intimate experiential knowledge of (like a husband and wife know each other sexually) and not a head knowledge (as I know George Bush (who he is, but not personally)), then you can understand John 17:3, 17:21.

(Rom 8:2, 8:10)

*Grace* is normally defined as "favor". If you ask someone to give you something, if he is not a liar, his word is his will. If he says "yes", then you have grace (or favor) with that person. However, the Lord has taught me that His Grace includes the gift itself. That is, God's grace includes His capabilities. For example, the bible says faith comes by hearing (Rom 10:17) - that is, I did not have faith of my own capability, but had to receive it from the God of faith (Rom 4:17), that is, His capability or His grace, before I had it to use - by grace thru faith (Eph 2:8). So, if I find I cannot overcome my flesh (a lust or sin), or God asks me to do something that is beyond my capability, when I ask and receive His Grace, I receive His capability to overcome and perform His Will. The "Vernon Williams" definition of grace is "God's willingness to use ALL that He has and ALL that He is, upon your behalf, to make you a success in every endeavor, ALL His power, ALL His authority, ALL His kingdom, ALL His angels, whatever you have need of, He has committed to you (2 Cor 1:20)".

**Faith** is an action (and supporting actions of the first action) based upon a believe. If you believe a certain chair will not support you, you will not sit (act in faith) on it. But merely believing that a chair will support you is not faith, but the action of sitting down on the chair is faith (an action). If I am believing in faith for healing, I might have an initial action of faith of having my pastor pray over me, and I can continue to support that action of faith by speaking (which is an action) words of faith over my body (other supporting actions include fixed on hope, patience, etc.).

(Jam 2:20-26)

**Righteousness** is normally defined as "right with God". But that is very limited. The American Heritage Dictionary defines *righteous* as "meeting the standards of what is right and just; morally right; guiltless". That is, *righteousness* is "meeting the standards of legal (according to God's Laws / Word) and moral justice in the high court of heaven", which has been done by the blood of Jesus (that is His death, the judgement or penalty for sin). Beloved, we are now the righteous, the guiltless in the eyes of God, Jesus having meet the standards of justice, bearing the penalty of our sin for us. We who are cleansed by His blood are now the righteousness of God, thru faith in Christ Jesus. (Rom 9:30, 1 Cor 1:30)

(Eph 4:24, Phil 3:9)

**Atonement** means "to cover", and is used to refer to the old testament sacrifices, which could not remove the conscience or memory of sin. But Jesus' blood **redeemed** us, that is, **redemption** means "ransom in full" as in buying back a slave (or something from the pawn shop), that is, Jesus paid the full price (for sin, which is death) to buy us back to God (bought with a price 1 Cor 6:20, 7:23). (Lev 1:4, Heb 9:25-10:4)

**Church**, which is the Greek word ekklesia, means "the called out". It refers to the believers in Jesus Christ, also called the **Body of Christ**, and is not a physical building (sanctuary or tabernacle). (1 Cor 1:2, 10:32, Eph 1:22)

**Sanctify** is to set apart for God's use alone. All believers are **saints**, those who are sanctified by the blood of Jesus. (Acts 26:18, 1 Cor 6:11)

*Glory*, from the Hebrew word *Shekinah*, means the physical presence of God being manifested in some tangible way. (Ex 16:10, 1 Kings 8:11)

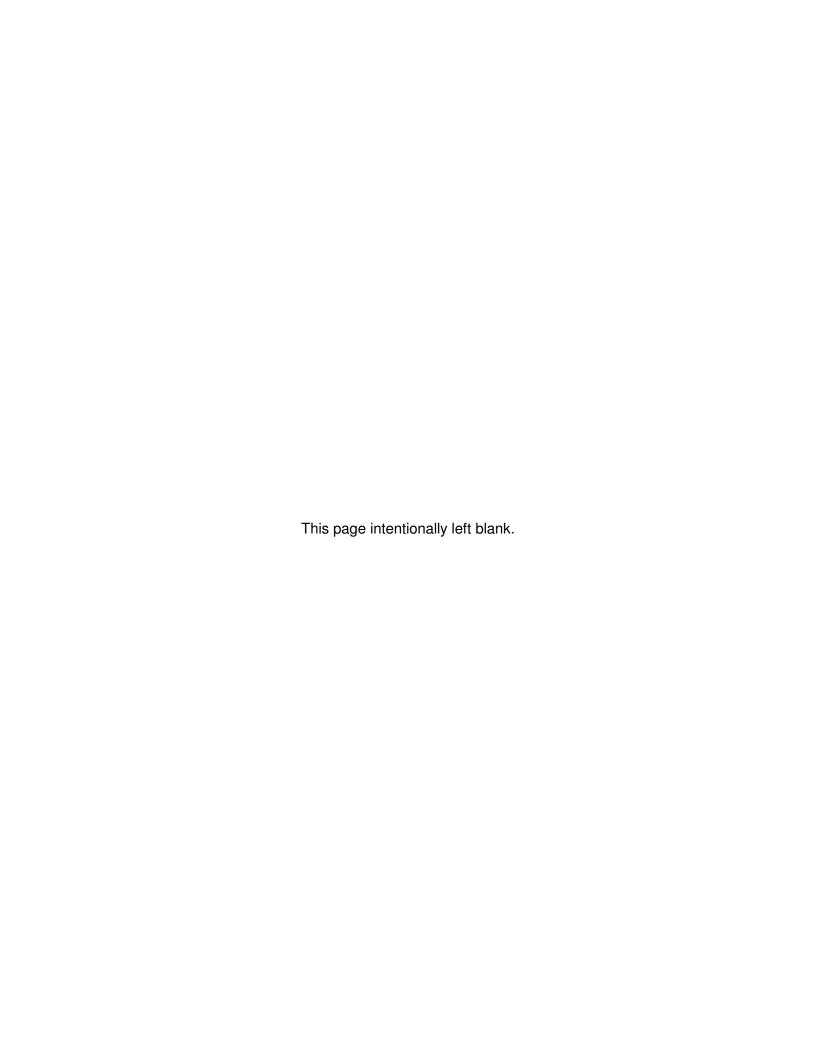
**Abba** - means Father, referring to Father, God. (Rom 8:15)

**Hosanna** - Hebrew word meaning "God saves" (Matt 21:9)

**Hallelujah** - Hebrew word meaning "SHOUT praise unto Jehovah", translated KJV as "Praise the Lord" (Ps 104:35; 116:19; 147:1)

**Prosperity** means to have an abundance. If you need 100% (whatever amount of money that is), if you have less than 100% that is **poverty**, but to have 100% or more is **prosperity**.

(Ps 35:27, 118:25, 3 John 2)



# **HOPE**

#### AN ARCHER OF GOD

To get the Word of God to work effective in your life, you need a clear and concise understanding of how the Word works. In particular, how hope, faith, and love work together. These three, working through you, can bring God's Word into physical manifestation in your life:

I Cor 13:13

And now abideth faith, hope, charity, these three; but the greatest of these is charity.

Gal 5:5-6

For we through the Spirit wait for the hope of righteousness by faith. For in Jesus Christ neither circumcision availeth any thing, nor uncircumcision; but faith which worketh by love.

Let me share an illustration, which the Lord gave me, concerning how these three work together to bring results into your life. In the sport of archery, you have three main items you are working with:

- 1. A TARGET
- 2. AN ARROW
- 3. A BOW.

The target is your goal. It is what you desire to hit or have. This represents your hope. The arrow is your faith. It must be active to be of any benefit to you, not just sitting idle in your quiver<sup>1</sup>.

The bow is the love of God shed abroad in your heart. It is God's love for you, and your confidence in Him, in His love, which gives strength to the arrow of faith to continue on until the hope is attained.

#### Several important points:

- (1) You must be strong in your confidence that God loves you, and that He will never leave you nor forsake you. He seeks to bless you and deliver you from trouble, fear, and defeat in every area of your life. This allows you to take a complete pull on the bow of love, ensuring your arrow of faith does not fall short, and ensuring your arrow of faith is not shaken by the winds of doubt blowing against it.
- (2) You must have developed your arrows of faith. You cannot run out and buy them. Nor can you pray them up. You are going to have to go out to the treasure fields of God², and collect into your quiver³, to be able to use them towards your targets of hope and against your enemy⁴.
- 1 that is, your heart or spirit.
- 2 the bible
- 3 your heart
- 4 the devil

- (3) You are going to have to go hunting for your targets yourself. Just like going hunting for game, it is not going to come and lie down in your lap and say, "Here I am"! You are going to have to decide what it is you want<sup>5</sup>. You are going to have to have the right kind of faith arrows for that game. And you are going to have to have a full assurance that God loves you and wants you to have that provision.
- (4) You are going to have to be single-eyed toward your target, before, during, and after you fire your faith arrow, or it will not land on the mark. If your sight is drawn off from the target, as Peter was as he walked on the water, taking his eyes off Jesus, and onto the wind and waves of doubt, you will miss your target.

Matthew 6:22
The light of the body is the eye: if therefore thine eye be single, thy whole body shall be full of light.

By learning God's love for you, through the Hope of His Word, and then walking in Faith, you will be an "archer of God".

#### WHAT IT IS:

Romans 8:24-25
For we are saved by hope: but hope that is seen is not hope: for what a man seeth, why doth he yet hope for?
But if we hope for that we see not, then do we with patience wait for it.

Hope is something not seen. That is, hope is something that I do not now have manifested in the nature realm, and therefore cannot see it, touch it, nor smell it. This is not to say that you don't possess it in the spiritual realm. For if it is according to God's will, which He has already stated and made provisions for, and you have asked for it by prayer and received it in faith, then you possess it spiritually. But you must have patience and steadfastness until it is physically manifested. Once you possess it physically, you don't hope for it anymore. You have it!

#### How do I get it:

Romans 15:4

For whatsoever things were written aforetime were written for our learning, that we through patience and comfort of the scriptures might have hope.

The only way to get hope is to get into the Word of God and find the promises of God for that desire of yours. Then start meditating on the promises.

The meditation will cause the following things to happen:

- (1) it will solidify your hope/vision/eyesight on the target
- (2) it will build up your faith by hearing the word
- (3) it will strengthen your confidence that God loves you

and that it is His will for you to have your desired target.

# How do I use it:

Romans 4:16-21 Therefore it is of faith, that it might be by grace; to the end the promise might be sure to all the seed; not to that only which is of the law, but to that also which is of the faith of Abraham; who is the father of us all, (As it is written. I have made thee a father of many nations.) before him whom he believed, even God, who quickeneth the dead, and calleth those things which be not as though they were. Who against hope believed in hope, that he might become the father of many nations, according to that which was spoken, So shall thy seed be. And being not weak in faith, he considered not his own body now dead, when he was about an hundred years old, neither yet the deadness of Sarah's womb: He staggered not at the promise of God through unbelief; but was strong in faith, giving glory to God; And being fully persuaded that, what he had promised, he was able also to perform.

You use your hope by holding onto it. You hold that target, that vision, that desire, up to God, in your heart, and continue holding it there until it is manifested. You use your hope as an anchor. You use that Word of God that you have fastened onto as anchor to prevent the waves and storms of doubt and unbelief from carrying you away from God's will in your life. His will is for perfect and total victory in every area of your life.

You use your hope by maintaining a singleness of heart, not double-minded, never receiving negative thoughts. I did not say that the negative thoughts would not come! I said do not receive them, nor meditate on them. When you meditate on them, instead of the Word of God, fear and doubt come in! When fear comes in, faith goes out. But praise God, when faith comes in, fear goes out! You choose which one! You choose life or death!

Isaiah 26:3 Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on thee: because he trusteth in thee.

#### CONTINUE IN YOUR HOPE:

Hebrews 10:35-36 Cast not away therefore your confidence, which hath great recompence of reward. For ye have need of patience, that, after ye have done the will of God, ye might receive the promise. If you do not under gird your hope or confidence with patience, it will eventually come falling to the ground. Without patience, you will grow weary in your mind and faint:

Hebrews 12:3 For consider him that endured such contradiction of sinners against himself, lest ye be wearied and faint in your minds.

That is why you need to renew your minds daily (Rom 12:1-2). Unless you faint, thereby releasing your hope, and never attaining it:

Proverbs 29:18 Where there is no vision, the people perish: but he that keepeth the law, happy is he.

Eph 2:12 That at that time ye were without Christ, being aliens from the commonwealth of Israel, and strangers from the covenants of promise, having no hope, and without God in the world:

#### THE RESULT OF LOST HOPE:

Proverbs 13:12 Hope deferred maketh the heart sick: but when the desire cometh, it is a tree of life.

Ezekiel 37:11

Then he said unto me, Son of man, these bones are the whole house of Israel: behold, they say, Our bones are dried, and our hope is lost: we are cut off from our parts.

# **FAITH**

#### WHAT IS IT:

Hebrews 11:1 Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen.

Faith is the basic building block in the spiritual realm. Like energy, which cannot be destroyed, but only changes forms<sup>6</sup>, and like electrons, which are not destroyed but only change atoms and effect - so faith is the basic building block in the spiritual realm. It comes out of your spirit man, and goes forth to perform whatever work you desire.

#### How do I get it:

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

The only way to get faith into your heart is by hearing the Word of God. And hearing, and hearing, and hearing... not just once, but continually. The hearing is internal and is in your spirit man. The hearing can come from reading the Word, confessing the Word, meditating on the Word in your mind, etc.... The physical confession is the strongest because it forces all of you<sup>7</sup> to line up at one time.

Luke 17:5-6
And the apostles said unto the Lord, Increase our faith.
And the Lord said, If ye had faith as a grain
of mustard seed, ye might say unto this
sycamine tree, Be thou plucked up by the root,
and be thou planted in the sea; and it should obey you.

First of all, you cannot get faith by someone praying it into you! Jesus did not pray for them to have faith! Second, Jesus did answer their request for an increase of faith. He spoke the Word to them, and by hearing and hearing and hearing, their faith increased. Notice faith comes in by hearing "words", and goes out by speaking "words". Jesus said if you had faith, you would "say"!

Luke 6:45
A good man out of the good treasure of his heart bringeth forth that which is good; and an evil man out of the evil treasure of his heart bringeth forth that which is evil: for of the abundance of the heart his mouth speaketh.

6 material, light, and heat 7 spirit, soul, and body

Once you have faith built up in your heart, then you will be able "speak" forth a thing, believing, and it will to pass. Why? Because of the abundance of the Word of God in your heart!

#### How do I use it:

Mark 11:22-24
And Jesus answering saith unto them, Have faith in God. For verily I say unto you, That whosoever shall say unto this mountain, Be thou removed, and be thou cast into the sea; and shall not doubt in his heart, but shall believe that those things which he saith shall come to pass; he shall have whatsoever he saith.

Therefore I say unto you, What things soever ye desire, when ye pray, believe that ye receive them, and ye shall have them.

Again, notice that Jesus said "say"! He instructed us to (1) ask and receive and (2) speak to the "mountain". Whatever is the obstacle in your life, speak to it! That is how you use your faith! Jesus said so! When you confess the Word of God, speaking to the mountain, your spirit man starts doing what is necessary to produce that result. Your angels start working to produce that result. And your God watches over His Word, which you spoke, to perform it! Hallelujah!

Proverbs 16:23
The heart of the wise teacheth his mouth, and addeth learning to his lips.

Romans 10:6-10 But the righteousness which is of faith speaketh on this wise, Say not in thine heart, Who shall ascend into heaven? (that is, to bring Christ down from above:) Or, Who shall descend into the deep? (that is, to bring up Christ again from the dead.) But what saith it? The word is nigh thee, even in thy mouth, and in thy heart: that is, the word of faith, which we preach; That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead. thou shalt be saved. For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.

Notice that the righteousness which is of faith "speaketh"! What does the righteousness of faith "speak"? The Word of God! Which is in your mouth and your heart! Amen!

Matthew 12:35-37
A good man out of the good treasure of the heart bringeth forth good things: and an evil man out of the evil treasure bringeth forth evil things. But I say unto you, That every idle word that men shall speak, they shall give account thereof in the day of judgment.
For by thy words thou shalt be justified, and by thy words thou shalt be condemned.

How many words will be judged? Every! How are you justified? By your words! Life and death, victory and defeat, are in the tongue! You choose your words. They are creative in force. You choose what you will have!

#### CONTINUE IN YOUR FAITH:

Hebrews 11:6 But without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him.

Faithfulness, being "full" of faith, that means continually believing and confessing for a "long" period of time. You must believe God is<sup>8</sup>, and you must believe He is a rewarder of those who "diligently" seek Him. Remember Abraham? God promised him a child. Abraham was 75 years of age. He believed God and continued in faith for 25 more years before receiving that promise. He continued confessing the promise of God, convinced of God's love toward him, for 25 years before he got the reward! Full of faith! Fully persuaded! Are you? Not without continually renewing your mind, refreshing your spirit man, increasing your hope hold, and building up your faith!

Hebrews 10:38-39 Now the just shall live by faith: but if any man draw back, my soul shall have no pleasure in him. But we are not of them who draw back unto perdition; but of them that believe to the saving of the soul.

John 8:30-32
As he spake these words, many believed on him.
Then said Jesus to those Jews which believed on him,
If ye continue in my word, then are ye my disciples indeed;
And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.

How did Jesus say you would get free? By knowing the truth. How did Jesus say you would know the truth? By continuing in His Word. Not only hearing it, but doing it. That is what makes a disciple.

# **LOVE**

God is Love (1 John 4:16)! It is not that He feels love every now and then, or that He is in the mood to love you today and not tomorrow. It is His very divine nature (2 Peter 1:4). He cannot turn from it (James 1:17) or deny it (2 Tim 2:13). God's Love is like the sun, whose very nature churns and moves and blows up on the inside. God's love constantly moves Him (Gal 5:6) to a reach you, and bless you, and make you a blessing in the earth. God's eyes go back and forth in the earth seeking to show Himself strong on your behave (Ps 34:15, Gen 6:8). God holds you as the apple of His eye (Ps 17:8, Dt 32:10), ever looking lovingly on you. His thoughts towards you are more than the sand of the sea (Ps 139:17-18), to give you a hope and a future (Jer 29:11). God loves you. He desires to show you lovingkindnesses (Ps 103:4, Ps 42:8, Isa 63:7), so that you will value His Love and fellowship with Him.

#### WHAT IS IT:

I John 4:16-17

And we have known and believed the love that God hath to us.

God is love; and he that dwelleth in love dwelleth in God, and God in him.

Herein is our love made perfect, that we may have boldness in the day of judgment: because as he is, so are we in this world.

God is Love! And the love He has shown toward us is to give up the most precious thing He had, His Son - Jesus, for us!

Eph 2:4 But God, who is rich in mercy, for his great love wherewith he loved us,

I John 3:1
Behold, what manner of love the Father hath bestowed upon us, that we should be called the sons of God: therefore the world knoweth us not, because it knew him not.

That we might become sons of God, full heirs of God's riches, with Christ Jesus! Whatever you have need of, He has already given it to you thru Jesus, because He loves you! He wants you to have an intimate relationship with Him!

### How do I get Him:

I John 4:15 Whosoever shall confess that Jesus is the Son of God, God dwelleth in him, and he in God.

You receive Him! Receive His love for you today! His love in your marriage, in your finances, in your total life! He loves you with an everlasting love! He seeks to bless you and comfort you! He desires to meet your every need! Call upon Him today!

#### How do I use Love:

I John 4:18

There is no fear in love; but perfect love casteth out fear: because fear hath torment. He that feareth is not made perfect in love.

You don't "use" love in the content of taking advantage of love or of someone. But you "use" love by calling upon it. Your children don't use you. They call upon you to help them, because they know you love them and care for them. Love is an open, honest, sincere need and desire to bless one another! We "use" love by opening up our hearts to it, and giving God free access to come in and meet the need. If your child refused to receive help from you<sup>9</sup>, then he is refusing your love, and there is no open access.

Knowing God's love for us allows us to have that complete confidence in Him, that He will not fail us. This allows us to hold onto our hope, and move in faith. It totally removes fear! The love of God gives strength to faith to totally drive fear out! Praise God!

Gal 5:6

For in Jesus Christ neither circumcision availeth any thing, nor uncircumcision; but faith which worketh by love.

Isaiah 43:26

Put me in remembrance: let us plead together: declare thou, that thou mayest be justified.

The way to put love to work, just like your child would put your love to work, is by making a call upon it. If your child's birthday was coming up, and they came and asked you for a little red bicycle, your love would cause you to say "yes". So God's promises are "yes" and "amen". Your child would not come up to you the second day and ask for a bicycle again. "Please, please, give me a bicycle?" Or the third day with tears in their eyes, hearts in anguish, kneeling on the floor, crying out to you! That would not be profitable. It would only continually tear your heart up and theirs for something that has already been granted. But if your child came up the second day and said, "I just wanted to tell you I love you and appreciate the things you always have done for me. And I specifically thank you for that bicycle! My joy is full because of it as I wait in anticipation for it!" Then the third day you go outside and hear your child saying to their friends, "I love my parents so much! They are buying me a brand new red bicycle for me for my birthday! Just because I asked! They really care for me and love me!" It would fill your spirit with joy! So it does your heavenly Father's!

Jeremiah 31:3

The Lord hath appeared of old unto me, saying, Yea, I have loved thee with an everlasting love: therefore with lovingkindness have I drawn thee.

Psalms 42:8

Yet the Lord will command his lovingkindness in the daytime,

and in the night his song shall be with me, and my prayer unto the God of my life.

Ezekiel 16:60 Nevertheless I will remember my covenant with thee in the days of thy youth, and I will establish unto thee an everlasting covenant.

Jeremiah 2:2
Go and cry in the ears of Jerusalem, saying,
Thus saith the Lord; I remember thee, the kindness of
the love of thine espousals, when thou
wentest after me in the wilderness, in a land that was not sown.

Acts 10:4
And when he looked on him, he was afraid, and said, What is it, Lord? And he said unto him,
Thy prayers and thine alms
are come up for a memorial before God.

A memorial! A remembrance! God remembers you. He remembers His covenant. He loves you!

Deut 7:13
And he will love thee, and bless thee, and multiply thee: he will also bless the fruit of thy womb, and the fruit of thy land, thy corn, and thy wine, and thine oil, the increase of thy kine, and the flocks of thy sheep, in the land which he sware unto thy fathers to give thee.

What is His will for you? The above verse says "and He will"! That is His "Will"! When you say you "will" do something, it is because that is your "will". When you say you "will not" or "won't" do something, it is because it is not your "will". God tells us clearly in His Word what His "Will" is. For His "Will" and His "Word" are one. Glory! It is God's Will to perform His Word in your life. He is faithful and just to perform it. We need to call upon Him, to confess His Word back unto Him. He has sent His Word. He expects it to dwell in us. As we "speak" His Word, it will not return void to Him, for He watches over it to perform it. He loves you!

Psalms 57:2 I will cry unto God most high; unto God that performeth all things for me.

Isaiah 44:26

That confirmeth the word of his servant, and performeth the counsel of his messengers; that saith to Jerusalem, Thou shalt be inhabited; and to the cities of Judah. Ye shall be built, and I

will raise up the decayed places thereof:

Isaiah 55:11

So shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth: it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it.

Jeremiah 1:12

Then said the Lord unto me, Thou hast well seen: for I will hasten my word to perform it.

Jeremiah 11:5

That I may perform the oath which I have sworn unto your fathers, to give them a land flowing with milk and honey, as it is this day. Then answered I, and said, So be it, O Lord.

#### COMPASSION:

God's love manifested as compassion moves men to faith. That is, God's love as compassion works faith:

(1) God's compassion towards men draws men:

Psalms 86:15

But thou, O Lord, art a God full of compassion, and gracious, longsuffering, and plenteous in mercy and truth.

Romans 2:4

Or despisest thou the riches of his goodness and forbearance and longsuffering; not knowing that the goodness of God leadeth thee to repentance?

(2) Jesus moved by compassion:

Matthew 14:14

And Jesus went forth, and saw a great multitude, and was moved with compassion toward them, and he healed their sick.

Mark 6:34

And Jesus, when he came out, saw much people, and was moved with compassion toward them, because they were as sheep not having a shepherd: and he began to teach them many things.

Love Tabernacle Ministries International Foundation Class - Love page 24 See: Mat 9:35-36, Mat 15:32, Mat 20:34, Mk 1:41, Lk 7:13-14.

#### (3) others moved by compassion:

Luke 10:33
But a certain Samaritan, as he journeyed, came where he was: and when he saw him, he had compassion on him,

Luke 15:20 And he arose, and came to his father. But when he was yet a great way off, his father saw him, and had compassion, and ran, and fell on his neck, and kissed him.

Matthew 18:27 Then the lord of that servant was moved with compassion, and loosed him, and forgave him the debt.

Matthew 18:33 Shouldest not thou also have had compassion on thy fellowservant, even as I had pity on thee?

See: Mat 18:33, Exodus 2:6.

#### DYNAMICS OF LOVE:

(1) God's love is our high tower:

Psalms 18:1-2
I will love thee, O Lord, my strength.
The Lord is my rock, and my fortress, and my deliverer; my God, my strength, in whom I will trust; my buckler, and the horn of my salvation, and my high tower.

As we dwell in the love of God, no storm, no affliction, no attack of the devil can touch us. Though Satan may cause all around us to be in turmoil, though he may have those close to us saying hurting and cruel things, as long as we dwell in the love of God, Satan cannot touch us. Then from this high tower, we can see how to meet the needs of these people, moved by compassion toward them, moved by love toward faith. We can see how these people, who are being used by Satan against us, are in utter darkness. We can see how they are hurting, without hope, reaching out and ever grasping. From the high tower of God's love, we can reach out to signing, dying, crying humanity and effectually bring them into the love and healing power of God.

(2) God's love protects us from injuries which cripple our faith:

Psalms 18:29 For by thee I have run through a troop; and by my God have I leaped over a wall.

One of Satan's tactics is to cause emotional hurt and despair, or anger and unforgiveness, or even empathy and indifference. Many times these come thru words and actions of others. Sometimes these are the very people who we are trying to help. Only thru dwelling in the love of God can we run thru the troop of evil spirits attacking us on every side, and not receive crippling emotional injuries which cause us to fall from a place of faith.

Then God's love, thru us, will allow us to leap over every wall Satan throws up to stop and hinder us. God's love, thru us, will even leap over the walls of hurt and fear in other people, enabling us to reach them. God's love will tear down those emotional separations, and enable us to draw those hurting people into the love and delivering power of God.

#### CONTINUE IN HIS LOVE:

I John 3:18 My little children, let us not love in word, neither in tongue; but in deed and in truth.

# SIN

The following scripture shows the process of sin the best. It shows that when a person is draw toward a evil desire by his own lusts (which is iniquity), and acts upon the lust (the action itself being sin), it brings forth death (which is separation from God).

James 1:14-15

But every man is tempted, when he is drawn away of his own lust, and enticed. Then when lust hath conceived, it bringeth forth sin: and sin, when it is finished, bringeth forth death.

#### INIQUITY

If we continue the analogy of the archer, we can see that iniquity is a flaw in character (that is, a crooked arrow), that will always go astray.

Isa 59:2

But your iniquities have separated between you and your God, and your sins have hid his face from you, that he will not hear.

Evil lusts or desires are the same as iniquity, in that, the character flaw that allows a person, or draws a person, to do evil is iniquity.

Rom 6:12

Let not sin therefore reign in your mortal body, that ye should obey it in the lusts thereof.

Iniquity will always lie to you that it is not wrong ("how could something that fells this good be wrong?"), or that it is right (self-righteous).

Prov 30:20

Such is the way of an adulterous woman; she eateth, and wipeth her mouth, and saith, I have done no wickedness.

*Iniquity* - (Hebrew "avon") perverseness and/or crookedness of character, it conveys the idea of an arrow shaft that is crooked and will never hit the true target because it will always go astray due to its nature and character. This also could be see as immoral lusts.

Ps 119:133

Order my steps in thy word: and let not any iniquity have dominion over me.

Ps 18:23

I was also upright before him, and I kept myself from mine iniquity.

Ps 66:18

If I regard iniquity in my heart, the Lord will not hear me:

You see iniquity (or your desire) is a choice. You can take authority over your fleshy desires in the name of Jesus. Tell your flesh in the name of Jesus it will not desire that ungodly thing (binding / not permitting), and then tell it what to desire in Jesus' name (loosing / permitting).

(e.g., You will not desire that greasy cheeseburger in the name of Jesus. You will desire a salad in Jesus' name.) We talk about doing spiritual experiments. What that means is take the Word of God you have heard, and go try it!

Part of the problem can be where you have set your passion (or strong desire). Some have a passion for sports, or dancing, or whatever it is. You can take authority over your passion in the name of Jesus, but you have to redirect it into a godly passion or pursuit. But you have to exercise your passion to godliness... That is how you develop spiritual hunger. If you keep force feeding yourself in that area, your capacity for it and hunger for it will grow.

The way to fix this iniquity that is in the heart, is to recognize it, repent of it, and learn the true way that your character should be in that area from the Word of God, and command your flesh / your desires to line up with the Word of God.

Prov 16:6

By mercy and truth iniquity is purged: and by the fear of the LORD men depart from evil.

## SIN

Sin is iniquity acted upon. Sin is the action itself.

Sin brings a person out from under the protection and blessings of God. Sin brings condemnation ("you're guilty, you're guilty, you're guilty"), shame ("I am not worthy"), and broken fellowship with God. You see man was created for Spirit of the Living God to be inside of them. There is a place inside of you that only God can fell. No amount of drugs, or sex, or food, or anything else can fill that place. It is what the Far Eastern religions, being spiritually death (separated from God), when they look inside of themselves (their spirit man), they call the Great Void. Because only the Spirit of God, thru the blood of Jesus Christ, can fill that place. And sin separates a person from Him and the intimate fellowship that we were created for.

Sin brings fear. As there is a darkness out there, with horrible creatures (demons) in it, that will cause their servants of darkness to do terrible things. And there is a severe judgment (that man's spirit fears in physical death, no matter what his mind has said) for those who leave their physical body without receiving Jesus. But Jesus says "Fear not" for he has redeemed us.

*Sin* comes from a root word meaning "to miss", conveying the meaning of the act of the arrow missing the target. So *sin* is the actual action (Jam 1:14-15). *Sin* is an offense (being offensive to God, and His commandments, in His Face) as is a crime that transgresses (or rebels) against a law.

Sin is an offense. It is against somebody or some law. More specifically, it is against God, His commandment to us, His Law, and His Word. We should recognize that God's Word / Will / Law for us is a Law of Love, to protect us and provide for us. If we tell our children not to play in the street, it is not to be mean to them, but to protect them. However, if their desire to play "whatever" is stronger than their desire (or godly fear) to obey us (being receivers of our love), then they will act upon their desire, which is sin, an offense against the commandment.

Matt 13:41

The Son of man shall send forth his angels, and they shall gather out of his kingdom all things that offend, and them which do iniquity;

### Matt 16:22-23

Then Peter took him, and began to rebuke him, saying, Be it far from thee, Lord: this shall not be unto thee. But he turned, and said unto Peter, Get thee behind me, Satan: thou art an offence unto me: for thou savourest not the things that be of God, but those that be of men.

### Rom 5:17

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

#### Rom 4:25

Who was delivered for our offences, and was raised again for our justification.

If the government sets a speed limit, to protect its citizens from danger in accidents and pollution, and a citizen decides he does not value or need to honor that protection by speeding, then he offends against it and is irreverent to the authority. He could get a ticket and have to appear in court of the "offense" or crime. People say they "break" the law. But they cannot break it, as in making it void or of no effect, nor can they "put it back together" as you would with something broken. But they transgress the law.

God considers sin an offense against Him to His Face, as someone saying "we don't honor You, we don't respect You, we don't care what You say", literally spitting in His Face. Are you starting to get the idea of how repulsive sin is to God? And remember there is only one penalty for sin... DEATH. That is how serious God considers sin.

God counts it as hatred toward Him, and says He will repay:

### Deut 7:9-10

Know therefore that the LORD thy God, he is God, the faithful God, which keepeth covenant and mercy with them that love him and keep his commandments to a thousand generations; And repayeth them that hate him to their face, to destroy them: he will not be slack to him that hateth him, he will repay him to his face.

Who is it that love Him? Those who keep his commandments (1 John 5:2-3). God's commandments are not grievous in that they are love commandments to us and thru us to others. If a person concentrates on the "do not's" (similar to trying to fulfill the Old Testament laws), then they will be concentrating on trying to get the flesh to behave, which flesh cannot. A person must learn to concentrate on the "do's", as in loving others, to get into the flow of the Spirit and Life.

### TRANSGRESSION

When we sin, we transgress or trespass, which means to revolt against godly authority.

**Transgression** or **trespass** means to revolt (to break away from just authority) or rebel against the commandment(s) of God. It is the actual act, not the motive or character. A person's iniquity would cause them to transgress, which is sin.

### **D**FATH

When we sin is finished, it brings forth judgment, which includes death.

Isa 59:2

But your iniquities have separated between you and your God, and your sins have hid his face from you, that he will not hear.

Rom 6:23

For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Death** is "separation". Physical death is separation of your eternal spirit/soul from your physical body. Marital death is separation of rib (wife) from rib cage (husband), because they were to be "one flesh". Spiritual death is separation of your spirit from intimate contact with God thru the Holy Spirit.

# THE HALL OF FEAR AND DESTRUCTION

When Satan tempts a person with iniquity, he does not take the person down the "hall of fear and destruction" to show the person the just end of the action. Satan saying:

- "Oh, I got this one to smoke, now he is dying of cancer"
- "I got this one to allow that flirt and soft touch of another, to open up to fornication/adultery, now he is dying of AIDS"
- "I got this one to violate God's Loving Law in this area of pleasure, now he is dying, is mine (servant of sin), and I am going to take him to hell to torment (Hee, hee, haa, haa... Away we go... Down, down, down into the fire...)"

Sin destroys (brings death to) your fellowship with God (causing separation (every felt the Holy Spirit grieved in you)), destroys your witness and testimony, destroys your abundant life and blessings, destroys your family (passing it on to the 3rd or 4th generation (but generational curses can be stopped / broken in the name of Jesus), and destroy your spirit in hell.

Satan wants you to concentrate on the pleasure before you right now. And sin is usually pleasurable. Do you think that the devil is going to send a ugly girl by to tempt you, or show you a ugly dress at the store to spend your tithe money on, or is going to tempt you with a bad tasting piece of chocolate cake. No, of course not! Because you are drawn away (from who? God!) by your own (flesh, body, desires) lust to rebel. The devil does not show you where that is going to take you, or what it is going to cost you (the presence of God, the anointing, the power, the perfect Will of God in your life). No! But rather, Satan is right there with you saying "it feels so good", taking to you in first person ("I") rather than 3rd person ("you"), "I think I will...".

That is why you have to hold up the shield of faith against all the fiery darts of the enemy (Eph 6:16) (which are thoughts) and bring into captivity every thought unto the obedience of Christ

### 2 Cor 10:5

Casting down imaginations, and every high thing that exalteth itself against the knowledge of God, and bringing into captivity every thought to the obedience of Christ;

Satan wants you to listen to peer pressure, your friends at work. "It's all right to come drink one beer with us." (Never mind where they are going to drink it at.) Then they can say, "why should I listen to you... you come down and drink just like the rest of us." But don't worry, if you don't, they will hate you just like they hated your Lord Jesus Christ and wanted to kill Him. You can count on it.

#### James 4:4

Ye adulterers and adulteresses, know ye not that the friendship of the world is enmity with God? whosoever therefore will be a friend of the world is the enemy of God.

But God is always trying to get all things to work together for our good. But may people only quote the first part of this verse, leaving of "to them that love God", which is to keep His commandments.

Rom 8:28

And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose.

If a person is not trying to follow God, but rebelling in sin, then all things are not going to work together for their good. But if a person gets caught in sin and the curse, don't rejoice that they got what was coming to them, but use it as an opportunity for reaching them with the gospel.

Prov 24:17-18

Rejoice not when thine enemy falleth, and let not thine heart be glad when he stumbleth: Lest the LORD see it, and it displease him, and he turn away his wrath from him.

# SIN ONLY COMES IN ONE OF THREE WAYS

Sin came only come one of three ways.

1 John 2:16

For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world.

That is, (1) the lust of the flesh, (2) the lust of the eyes, and (3) the pride of life. Note that the devil is the god (creator) of this world (that is, the culture of man), not of the earth (that is, the physical planet), as the purpose of this present evil world is to blind the eyes and minds of men, to keep them in bond / subject to / servants of darkness / sin. Turn on the TV or look at the road signs as you drive, and see how they apply to the three ways of sin.

Gen 3:6

And when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was pleasant to the eyes, and a tree to be desired to make one wise, she took of the fruit thereof, and did eat, and gave also unto her husband with her; and he did eat.

Eve (1) saw that it was good for food (lust of the flesh), (2) that it was pleasant to the eyes (lust of the eyes), and to make one wise (pride of life)... she took.

When Satan came to tempt Jesus in the wilderness (Luke 4:2-13), (1) and Jesus hungered, Satan tried to get him to turn the stones into bread (lust of the flesh), (2) showed him all the kingdoms of the world (lust of the eyes), and (3) said "if thou be the Son of God" cast Yourself down (pride of life)... And when he was unsuccessful, he left for a season.

The devil knows where your weak points are? He will be back knocking on that old sin door that you used to let him in. He was back at the cross saying "if you be", come down from the cross. He does not have any other access but these three. Do you realize that holiness (that is, sinlessness) is only an issue when temptation (iniquity/lust) shows up? So, who is going to answer that door next time the devil comes knocking, Iniquity or the Spirit of Holiness that lives in you?

# **RIGHTEOUSNESS**

# **DEFINITIONS**

The American Heritage Dictionary defines righteousness as "meeting the standards of what is right and just; morally right; guiltless". Beloved, we are now the righteous, the guiltless in the eyes of God, Jesus having meet the standards of justice, bearing the penalty of our sin for us. We who are cleansed by His blood are now the righteousness of God, thru faith in Christ Jesus:

I John 1:9

If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

II Cor 5:21

For he hath made him to be sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him.

I Cor 1:30

But of him are ye in Christ Jesus, who of God is made unto us wisdom, and righteousness, and sanctification, and redemption:

I Peter 2:24

Who his own self bare our sins in his own body on the tree, that we, being dead to sins, should live unto righteousness: by whose stripes ye were healed.

Another definition for righteous is that "we are in right standing with God". This definition still reflects the fact of the standards of moral justice for our sin having been met in the high court of heaven by the blood of Jesus. It also reflects our relationship with our heavenly Father has been restored, with no enmity between Him and us. This righteous relationship allows intimate fellowship and friendship with God.

II Cor 5:17

Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.

Eph 4:24

And that ye put on the new man, which after God is created in righteousness and true holiness.

Eph 1:4

According as he hath chosen us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before him in love: In a marriage relationship, a woman becomes part of a covenant which entitles her to call on the man to meet her needs and desires. This relationship, and the rights stemming from it, did not previously exist between the two, though they were both alive. This is symbolic of Jesus and the Church. Though we were alive in the world, yet we were as dead to Christ in that we did not know Him in an intimate way and had not covenant rights to call upon.

After the relationship is sealed, any transgression which occurs does not break the relationship. That is, it does not make void the marriage covenant. But the transgression does affect the fellowship. When you have stumbled over into some sin, don't remain there, being separated from the intimate fellowship of Christ, but have confidence to enter in and ask for forgiveness. He is gracious and just to forgive you, for He loves you.

Hebrews 10:19-23

Having therefore, brethren, boldness to enter into the holiest by the blood of Jesus, By a new and living way, which he hath consecrated for us, through the vail, that is to say, his flesh; And having an high priest over the house of God; Let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled from an evil conscience, and our bodies washed with pure water. Let us hold fast the profession of our faith without wavering; (for he is faithful that promised;)

# By Faith, Not Works

In the old testament, righteousness was dependent on the standards of justice in the Mosaic covenant. That is, men were considered righteous if they meet the requirements of the law. These were based on works and could never make a man clean or justified of themselves, but merely atoned or covered sin until the Redeemer came.<sup>10</sup>

New testament righteousness is based on faith in Christ Jesus, and not by works:

Romans 9:30-32

What shall we say then? That the Gentiles, which followed not after righteousness, have attained to righteousness, even the righteousness which is of faith. But Israel, which followed after the law of righteousness, hath not attained to the law of righteousness. Wherefore? Because they sought it not by faith, but as it were by the works of the law. For they stumbled at that stumblingstone;

Romans 10:6,9-10

But the righteousness which is of faith speaketh on this wise... That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved. For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.

Even before the law and circumcision, righteousness was imputed<sup>11</sup> to Abraham because of his faith<sup>12</sup>. And truly, all those under the Mosaic covenant who attained unto life in Christ Jesus, the

10<sub>see Hebrews 9-10</sub>

11<sub>accounted to</sub>

12<sub>Romans 4:9-13</sub>

judges and prophets being among them, did not by the works alone, but by faith also in God and in what He had promised.

James 2:20-26

But wilt thou know, O vain man, that faith without works is dead? Was not Abraham our father justified by works, when he had offered Isaac his son upon the altar? Seest thou how faith wrought with his works, and by works was faith made perfect? And the scripture was fulfilled which saith, Abraham believed God, and it was imputed unto him for righteousness: and he was called the Friend of God. Ye see then how that by works a man is justified, and not by faith only. Likewise also was not Rahab the harlot justified by works, when she had received the messengers, and had sent them out another way? For as the body without the spirit is dead, so faith without works is dead also.

# UNTO RIGHTEOUS WORKS

While we are righteous in this present age, thru faith and not of works, yet we are called to do good works. Our works show not only our faith, which must be active to be alive, but also shows the world the love of God in us. Jesus commanded us to let our light shine, that men might see our good works, and glorify our Father in heaven. Thru these, men will see the love of God manifested in us, and all men will know you are Jesus' disciples because of this love.

Our works are called righteous because they come from the new standard, which is to apply mercy and justice thru love:

I John 3:7,10

Little children, let no man deceive you: he that doeth righteousness is righteous, even as He is righteous... In this the children of God are manifest, and the children of the devil: whosoever doeth not righteousness is not of God, neither he that loveth not his brother.

Matthew 12:7

But if ye had known what this meaneth, I will have mercy, and not sacrifice, ye would not have condemned the guiltless.

Luke 6:35-36

But love ye your enemies, and do good, and lend, hoping for nothing again; and your reward shall be great, and ye shall be the children of the Highest: for he is kind unto the unthankful and to the evil. Be ye therefore merciful, as your Father also is merciful.

James 2:13 For he shall have judgment without mercy, that hath shewed no mercy; and mercy rejoiceth against judgment. Eph 2:8-10
For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: Not of works, lest any man should boast.
For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them.

All things must be done thru faith in God. Anything not done in faith is sin:

Romans 14:23
And he that doubteth is damned... for whatsoever is not of faith is sin.

Hebrews 11:6
But without faith it is impossible to please him:
for he that cometh to God must believe that he is,
and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him.

I John 5:1 All unrighteousness is sin....

# PRAISE GOD

I John 1:9

If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

We are the righteous in our heavenly Father's eyes. He loves us with an everlasting love. He will never leave us nor forsake us. He has a yearning to bless us, to commune with us, to fellowship with us.

He made Adam so as to have fellowship with him, so as to walk with him in the cool of the evening. After Adam fell, God keep searching for a man to walk with Him, to fellowship with Him. God searched for seven generations, until He found a man, the 7th from Adam, Enoch. And it is written "Enoch walked with God" for three hundred years, "and he was not; for God took him"<sup>13</sup>. God loves us just as much as He loved Enoch. God seeks to walk with us every minute of the day. Let Him walk with you today. He is coming back for you, to take you with Him, just like Enoch, on that day when Jesus comes for His bride, because He loves you with an everlasting love<sup>14</sup>. Praise God forevermore! Amen!

# **BLOOD COVENANT**

# **DEFINING TERMS**

To gain an understanding of why the blood of Jesus works, we need to define some terms. First, what is "death"?

Isaiah 59:2 But your iniquities have separated between you and your God, and your sins have hid his face from you, that he will not hear.

2 Thes 1:8-9 (NAS)

dealing out retribution to those who do not know God and to those who do not obey the gospel of our Lord Jesus. And these will pay the penalty of eternal destruction, away from the presence of the Lord and from the glory of His power....

Death is "separation". Physical death is separation of the spirit and soul from the body. Marital death is separation of husband from wife<sup>15</sup>. Spiritual death is separation of man's spirit from God's Spirit.

When Adam sinned, God's Spirit could not continue to dwell with Adam, in man's original state of intimate fellowship, unless the glory of God consume him. Hebrews 12:29 says, "For our God is a consuming fire." And Isaiah 4:4 calls the Spirit of God "the spirit of judgment" and "the spirit of burning". Sin in the direct presence of God's glory would literally be burned up.

That is why God instructed for bells to be made in the high priest's garments. If the priest did not cover his own sins before entering the Holy of Holies, where the glory of God dwelled over the mercy seat, or if the priest touched the mercy seat, he died! Remember the priest was supposed to "sprinkle" the blood on the mercy seat, not touch it.

The same effect would happen to an unbeliever today if he touched the physical glory of God. But praise God we, the saints of God, have been washed clean from all sin and are the righteousness of God in Christ Jesus! We have nothing to fear, but can come boldly to the throne of God! Hallelujah!

# Understanding the Blood

According to the scriptures, the life of the flesh is in the blood. Your flesh and bone body cannot continue to exist eternally without the power of God, which comes from fellowship thru His Spirit. Adam was created eternal, but death and sickness entered in and reigned because of sin.

Lev 17:11
For the life of the flesh is in the blood: and I have given it to you upon the altar to make an atonement for your souls: for it is the blood

that maketh an atonement for the soul.

The blood is the only physical component in your body to flow to all parts or cells of your body, carrying life. Now there appears to be a spiritual essence associated with the blood. You could say that Adam, before the fall, had spiritually living blood. That is, he had intimate fellowship with God, spirit to Spirit, and was able to continue eternally because of the dunamis power of God flowing thru his blood, regenerating his body. After he had sinned, he had spiritually dead blood. That is, Adam was separated from God, and from the regenerating power.

Today, we know that the blood type of a child comes from the seed of the father. <sup>16</sup> If the remitting sacrifice for sin required spiritually living blood, then Adam and all of mankind after him, who came from his seed, could not produce the sacrifice needed, since they all had spiritually dead blood.

Therefore God sent His Seed, born of a virgin, into mankind, to provide the spiritually living blood for the redeeming sacrifice. Note that the difference between atoning<sup>17</sup> and redeeming or remitting<sup>18</sup>. Jesus' blood did not atone; it remitted.

Hebrews 9:13-14
For if the blood of bulls and of goats, and the ashes of an heifer sprinkling the unclean, sanctifieth to the purifying of the flesh:
How much more shall the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself without spot to God, purge your conscience from dead works to serve the living God?

Hebrews 9:22 And almost all things are by the law purged with blood; and without shedding of blood is no remission.

The "zoe" life of God in the blood of Jesus meet the moral standards of God, for the penalty for sin, and paid the redeeming price forever. That "zoe" life in the blood is what prevents Satan and his forces from crossing it, when you plead it over yourself and your family. Satan dares not touch the blood lest it consume him! Praise God forever more!

<sup>16&</sup>lt;sub>This</sub> is emphasized in law suits for paternal support of a child whose mother was unwed.

<sup>17&</sup>lt;sub>covering over, but not doing away with</sub>

<sup>18</sup> paying the price totally and thereby doing away with forever

# UNDERSTANDING THE BODY AND BLOOD IN THE COVENANT

It is extremely important to have a thorough understanding of covenants. We are in covenant relationship with God, through the blood of Jesus Christ.

Here are some covenant basics:

- 1. Covenants are like contracts, except contracts are based upon distrust, and covenants are based upon trust and/or love.
- 2. Covenant terms, ability to call upon them, and responsibility to provide them, are irrevocable. The only penalty for breaking covenant is death!
- 3. There were two basic parts of a covenant, the body and the blood, symbolized by the bread and wine.

Gal 3:15
Brethren, I speak after the manner of men;
Though it be but a man's covenant, yet if it be confirmed, no man disannulleth, or addeth thereto.

A covenant was typically like this:

There would be two nations, tribes, or families, which had different resources or talents, and a desire to join together. The desire being based not only on need, but on love or desire to provide for the other.

The covenant included not only the ability to access the strengths and assets of your covenant partner, but also responsibilities for their weaknesses and liabilities. This is best seen in a marriage relationship today, which is a covenant between husband and wife, and is a divine image of the covenant relationship between Jesus and His Church.

Another example is a covenant made between a warrior nation and a farming nation. The warrior nation pledges: "I will stand in the gap between you and your enemies, to protect you, even to the shedding of my blood", that is, physical death. The farming nation pledges: "I will provide your physical necessities (house, food, clothing...), to the giving up of my body", that is, physical death. Each covenant partner volunteered and was thereafter obligated to lay down his very life to meet the basic needs of his partner.

When Jesus became our covenant partner, He took our liabilities and weakness, our sins and unrighteousness, and gave us His righteous and power and authority.

II Cor 5:21 For he hath made him to be sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him.

I Peter 2:24
Who his own self bare our sins in his own body on the tree, that we, being dead to sins, should live unto righteousness: by whose stripes ye were healed.

Lets see how the warrior and farmer example applies to our relationship with Jesus:

Matthew 26:26-28

And as they were eating, Jesus took bread, and blessed it, and brake it, and gave it to the disciples, and said, Take, eat; this is my body.

And he took the cup, and gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, Drink ye all of it;

For this is my blood of the new testament, which is shed for many for the remission of sins.

I Cor 11:23-26

For I have received of the Lord that which also I delivered unto you, That the Lord Jesus the same night in which he was betrayed took bread:
And when he had given thanks, he brake it, and said, Take, eat: this is my body, which is broken for you: this do in remembrance of me.
After the same manner also he took the cup, when he had supped, saying, This cup is the new testament in my blood: this do ye, as oft as ye drink it, in remembrance of me.
For as often as ye eat this bread, and drink this cup, ye do shew the Lord's death till he come.

Jesus stood in the gap between us and our enemies, Satan, sin, and death, to the shedding of his blood to protect us and to save our lives<sup>19</sup>.

He gave His body to be broken for us, that we might have all our physical needs meet. This is very graphic in the Jewish Passover supper. In the supper, there are three individual pieces of unleavened bread. Unleavened bread looks like a large cracker with holes and stripes, symbolizing Jesus being pierced and scourged. According to 1 Peter 2:24, we are healed by the stripes of Jesus.

The three pieces are placed into a bag with three individual compartments, representing the Trinity being three-in-one. Then the father of the house takes the middle piece out, raps it in fine white linen, and hides it in the house somewhere. This represents the middle part of the Trinity, Jesus, leaving His divine place and being buried after the crucifixion. At the end of the supper, the buried piece is resurrected.

The father holds the piece flat on the palm of one hand and smites it with the fist of the other hand. The piece is literally shattered. Then the family eats of the shattered piece with the third cup of wine. The piece being smitten represents God, our Father, smiting Jesus, that we can partake of His body for every physical need. The third cup is the last cup and is when Jesus stated at the last supper that this is His blood of the new covenant.

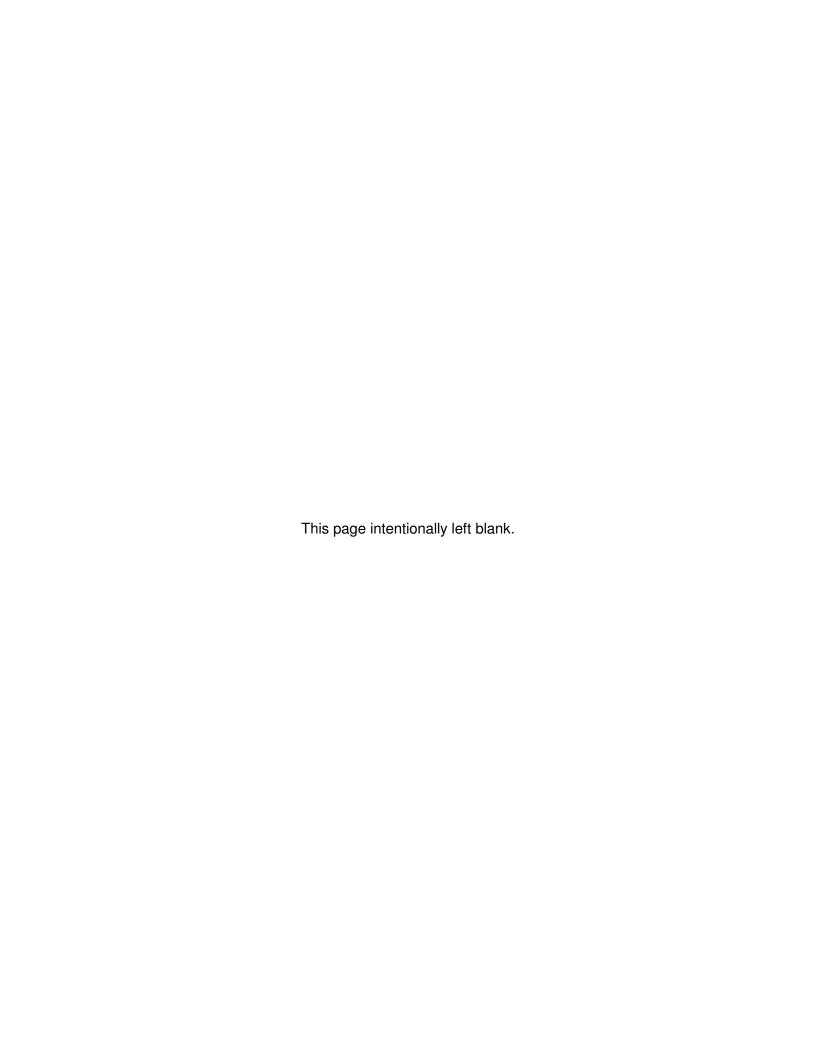
Jesus gave up His riches, His glory, and His divine health to come to earth to be the sacrificial Lamb of God.

II Cor 8:9
For ye know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that, though he was rich, yet for your sakes he became poor, that ye through his poverty might be rich.

Praise God! Not only did Jesus meet our need, but God has raised Him from the dead, healed every wound on Jesus, and given Him all power, authority, and dominion in heaven and earth. He is the risen Lord of Glory! He is sat down in His Father's throne.

We are seated in heavenly places with Him, even in His throne. We have been given His power, authority, and dominion. And we are now manifested sons of God, sharing in the inheritance, as equal heirs with Christ Jesus!

God seeks to bless you. He desires to meet your every need. Call on Him today! Whatever it is that you have need of, He is faithful. He cannot lie nor deny Himself. If He spoke it, if He promised it in His word, which is the covenant, then He will perform it. Put yourself in remembrance today of your Heavenly Father and call upon Him. For He loves you!



# WHO WE ARE IN CHRIST JESUS

### INTRODUCTION

Praise God! It is good to have the opportunity to share the Word of God with you! May God, our Father, give you revelation knowledge of who you are in Christ Jesus as we continue, in Jesus' mighty name! Amen!

In Hosea 4:6, God said, "My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge". Satan comes to blind the minds of believers as to who they are in Christ Jesus. Satan desires to prevent the believer from coming boldly to the throne of grace in the time of need to receive the delivering power of God. He seeks to keep the believer from learning convenant truths, and to prevent the believer from walking in full manifestation of his sonship and delegated authority.

But praise be to God, who always causes us to triumph in Christ Jesus!

In this lesson, we discuss many of the facets of who we are in Christ Jesus. With the Holy Spirit's guidance, we seek to clarify our position in Christ Jesus and the high calling of God in Him. It is our desire that we all come into the fullness of knowing who we are in Christ Jesus, and into full maturity as the Body of Christ.

# THE FORGIVEN

We are forgiven of our sins and washed clean by His Blood from all unrighteousness.

I John 1:9

If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

We have forgiveness for our sins by the washing of the blood of Jesus. We have to willfully receive the blood of Jesus and accept Him as our Lord and Savior.

Rev 1:5

... Jesus Christ, who is the faithful witness, and the first begotten of the dead, and the prince of the kings of the earth. Unto him that loved us, and washed us from our sins in his own blood,

Rev 7:14

... And he said to me, These are they which came out of great tribulation, and have washed their robes, and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.

Colos 1:14

In whom we have redemption through his blood, even the forgiveness of sins:

## A GOOD CONSCIENCE

Before we were born-again and reconciled to God thru the blood of Jesus Christ, we had an *evil* conscience. That is, we were still conscience of our sins and of our unworthiness to enter into an intimate relationship and fellowship with God.

Hebrews 9:9

Which was a figure for the time then present, in which were offered both gifts and sacrifices, that could not make him that did the service perfect, as pertaining to the conscience;

Hebrews 10:1-4

For the law having a shadow of good things to come, and not the very image of the things, can never with those sacrifices which they offered year by year continually make the comers thereunto perfect. For then would they not have ceased to be offered? because that the worshippers once purged should have had no more conscience of sins. But in those sacrifices there is a remembrance again made of sins every year. For it is not possible that the blood of bulls and of goats should take away sins.

Yet born-again believers have their sins purged, not only from before God, that He has no more remembrance of them, but also from their own conscience, in that they should not have any condemnation or shame.

Hebrews 9:14

How much more shall the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself without spot to God, purge your conscience from dead works to serve the living God?

Hebrews 10:16-23

This is the covenant that I will make with them after those days, saith the Lord, I will put my laws into their hearts, and in their minds will I write them; And their sins and iniquities will I remember no more. Now where remission of these is, there is no more offering for sin. Having therefore, brethren, boldness to enter into the holiest by the blood of Jesus, By a new and living way, which he hath consecrated for us, through the vail, that is to say, his flesh; And having an high priest over the house of God; Let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled from an evil conscience, and our bodies washed with pure water. Let us hold fast the profession of our faith without wavering; (for he is faithful that promised;)

Before rebirth, our conscience was aware of the guilt of our sin, and of the fear of God's wrath toward that sin. We were not able to come boldly to God because our inner man told us and bore witness that there was enmity between us and God.

When the Holy Spirit revealed to us that the sin problem had been taken care of by Jesus on the cross, then we were able to come in to God boldly, receive sonship thru adoption, and become partakers of His divine nature. This removed the old sin nature. That is to say, both the desire to commit sin and the remembrance of past sins committed. The Holy Spirit bearing witness in us to our sonship and fellowship with the Father.

## THE REDEEMED

We were all born into sin and lived in times past in it, following the lustful desires of this world. During which time our hearts cried out to God for help and mercy. Or we may have attempted thru good deeds, such as paying tithes and feeding the poor, to make peace with God for our sins.

However anything we did, as sinful human beings, trying to approach a just God to clear our sins, was as filthy rags compared to the righteousness of God. That is, whatever we did in and of ourselves was not sufficient to pay the penalty of the right judgment of God for sin in the high court of Heaven. And what we had to offer in comparison to the required payment was as filthy rags.

But after Jesus came and offered His holy blood for us, and after we as individuals have received Him, we are born again and are become new creatures, even the sons of God. No longer are we trying to establish our own righteousness, that is to pay the price for our sin separate from God, but we have received His righteousness, His just payment for sin, and are not separate, but one with God, partakers of what He has done thru Christ Jesus.

Jesus came to redeem us from the curse of the law, paying the price for sin, and becoming accursed for us:

Gal 3:13

Christ hath redeemed us from the curse of the law, being made a curse for us: for it is written, Cursed is every one that hangeth on a tree:

Now while Jesus became accursed for us and received the penalty for sin, that is death, yet God raised Him from the dead, making Him alive and ruler of all.

## THE RIGHTEOUS

As stated in the earlier Righteousness class, righteousness (or being righteous) is "meeting the standards of what is right and just; morally right; guiltless". We are now the righteous, the guiltless in the eyes of God, because Jesus has meet the standards of justice in the high court of heaven, paying the penalty for our sin. We are now cleansed by His blood and are now the righteousness of God, thru faith in Christ Jesus:

II Cor 5:21

For he hath made him to be sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him.

I Cor 1:30

But of him are ye in Christ Jesus, who of God is made unto us wisdom, and righteousness, and sanctification, and redemption:

# THE RECONCILED, A NEW CREATION

We are become new creatures, a new creation, a type of species that never existed before, when we are born again into Christ Jesus. We passed from death into life, from darkness into light. The Holy Spirit regenerated our spirit man into a new creation, baring witness to it as the Spirit of Adoption, crying *Abba, Father* in our hearts.

*Reconciliation* is a legal term meaning to make peace between two parties which were at odds with each other. Because of our sins and our old nature, we were at odds against God<sup>20</sup>. But God provided the means of reconciliation, the remitting price for sin, thru Jesus Christ, our Lord.

The Greek term translated as *peace* in the new testament cares this meaning. That is, the Greek term is made up of two root words. The first meaning "to have quietness or tranquillity". The second meaning "to join". So we have been joined to God, with quietness and tranquillity, thru the blood of Jesus Christ.

Romans 5:1

Therefore being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ:

Colos 1:20-22

And, having made peace through the blood of his cross, by him to reconcile all things unto himself; by him, I say, whether they be things in earth, or things in heaven. And you, that were sometime alienated and enemies in your mind by wicked works, yet now hath he reconciled In the body of his flesh through death, to present you holy and unblameable and unreproveable in his sight:

II Cor 5:17-18

Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new. And all things are of God, who hath reconciled us to himself by Jesus Christ, and hath given to us the ministry of reconciliation;

Gal 6:15

For in Christ Jesus neither circumcision availeth any thing, nor uncircumcision, but a new creature.

Eph 4:24

And that ye put on the new man, which after God is created in righteousness and true holiness.

This is why the angels sang:

Luke 2:14

Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men.

Because it was God's glory, His honor, His plan of the ages, toreveal the mystery of redemption thru Jesus Christ, our Lord, bringing peace on the earth by reconciling men to Himself. God'sgood will toward men. Hallelujah!

## A MEMBER OF CHRIST

We, who are in Christ, make up the *Body of Christ*. We are held together by one Spirit, the Holy Spirit, as a spiritual house or dwelling place, in which the Godhead dwells and communes with us. The life, the love, the power, the very essence of the Trinity lives and moves thru our spiritual being in this house.

We are the members of the Body of Christ. Individually, each one of us is a member or part of that Body. Yet as the finger cannot live nor function without the rest of the body, so are we in the Body of Christ. We need each other and are given to each other for help and support.

I Cor 12:13-14,18-20 For by one Spirit are we all baptized into one

body, whether we be Jews or Gentiles, whether we be bond or free; and have been all made to drink into one Spirit. For the body is not one member, but many... But now hath God set the members every one of them in the body, as it hath pleased him. And if they were all one member, where were the body? But now are they many members, yet but one body.

We must remember to love one another, strengthen one another, and help one another grow. For we receive our nourishment from other parts, and we hear and see from other parts. Only together are we whole.

If any one member of your physical body is not functioning properly, lets say a wrist is broken, the rest of the body suffers, due to the lack of the normal use of that part. Moreover, the rest of the body modifies its normal functions to compensate for the injured one. For example, the body would use more of the legs and back to pick up heavy loads, compensating and protecting the broken wrist. The body further extends itself to protect the injured member, by acting and reacting abnormally to danger, purposely placing health members in harms way, to keep the damaged wrist safe. This continues until the wrist is healed and restored.

So we should act in love toward each other, to nourish, protect, and restore the damaged, hurt, or underdeveloped members of Christ. We who are strong should bear them up until they can stand with us again, for we have need of them. So love one another, for you are one Body.

# A SAINT

We are *saints* of God, holy and pure, blameless in His sight, set apart for His eternal purpose. The word *saint* literally means one who is sanctified, set apart from the world and its sinful lusts. To sanctify a thing is to consecrate it to God, to make it clean and pure, and to set it apart for His use only and none other.

So we are! We are washed clean, blameless and pure, by the blood of Jesus. We are set apart from all uncleanness and unrighteousness of the world, to serve the Living God, and none other.

I Cor 1:2

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

Phil 1:1

Paul and Timotheus, the servants of Jesus Christ, to all the saints in Christ Jesus which are at Philippi, with the bishops and deacons:

A saint is not one who is dead, nor one who is already gone into Heaven. For what is there in death or in heaven which is evil that you must be separated or sanctified from it. But it is in this world and in this time that God, thru His power and His love, and by His Word, separates us from the sinful world.

Thes 4:3

For this is the will of God, even your sanctification...

# THE CALLED OUT

The Greek word for *church* literally means *to be called out*. So are we called out of darkness and sin unto His marvelous light. As Abraham was called out from his relatives in their idolatrous world, and as Israel was called out from Egypt and told to stay away from the practices of the Canaanites, so God has called us out, the Church, from the idolatrous practices of this world, to serve Him in truth and holiness all the days of our lives.

Acts 20:28

Take heed therefore unto yourselves, and to all the flock, over the which the Holy Ghost hath made you overseers, to feed the church of God, which he hath purchased with his own blood.

Eph 5:27

That he might present it to himself a glorious church, not having spot, or wrinkle, or any such thing; but that it should be holy and without blemish.

# A SON OF GOD

We are now the sons of God, thru the Spirit of Adoption, crying Abba-Father in our hearts.

John 1:12

But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name:

The name *Jesus*, which is Greek for Joshua, means *God who is salvation*. There is no other god that can save, and no other name given under Heaven for whereby men can be saved. As many as believe, even on the name, that is *God who is salvation*, will be saved.

Gal 3:26

For ye are all the children of God by faith in Christ Jesus.

Eph 3:14-15

For this cause I bow my knees unto the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, of whom the whole family in heaven and earth is named,

We are not only one Body with Christ, but we are also one family, known by the name of Jesus, God who is salvation, with Jehovah as our Father. We are sons now, even on earth, and are know by His name throughout all creation.

I John 3:2

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

And we receive the power for sonship thru the Holy Spirit of regeneration.

Gal 4:5-6

To redeem them that were under the law, that we might receive the adoption of sons. And because ye are sons, God hath sent forth the Spirit of his Son into your hearts, crying, Abba, Father. Wherefore thou art no more a servant, but a son; and if a son, then an heir of God through Christ.

Romans 8:15-16

For ye have not received the spirit of bondage again to fear; but ye have received the Spirit of adoption, whereby we cry, Abba, Father. The Spirit itself beareth witness with our spirit, that we are the children of God:

Colos 1:13

Who hath delivered us from the power of darkness, and hath translated us into the kingdom of his dear Son:

Eph 2:19

Now therefore ye are no more strangers and foreigners, but fellowcitizens with the saints, and of the household of God;

You are fellow citizens of a Heavenly city, New Jerusalem, with Christ Jesus. Hallelujah!

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# **PRAYER - PART 1**

# WHAT IS PRAYER?

<u>Prayer is communion with God, specifically, communication with God, thru talking to and listen to God.</u> It can be spoken with the mouth, or spoken in the heart. It can be in your natural language (e.g., English) or in your spiritual prayer language (i.e., tongues).

Prayer is simply talking with God. It is not some strange or ritualistic event, which must be done in one method or style alone. It is not some mystical exercise or occurrence, which requires you to be in a certain physical place, or in a certain physical position, or a certain frame of mind. It is merely communication with God, our heavenly Father.

God created man, and put man in the Garden of Eden, so that God could come down and visit man. God wants to walk with you, and talk with you, and spend quality time with you face to face, hearing from you and speaking to you. It is a two-way conversation.

Gen 3:8-9

And they heard the voice of the LORD God walking in the garden in the cool of the day: and Adam and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the LORD God amongst the trees of the garden. And the LORD God called unto Adam, and said unto him, Where art thou?

Acts 13:2

As they ministered to the Lord, and fasted, the Holy Ghost said, Separate me Barnabas and Saul for the work whereunto I have called them.

More specifically, prayer is to Jehovah, the Father, in the name of Jesus, the Son, with the help of the Holy Spirit.

John 16:23

And in that day ye shall ask me nothing. Verily, I say unto you, Whatsoever ye shall ask the Father in my name, he will give it you.

<u>Prayer is extremely powerful</u> in bringing results, because you are asking God to move and work on your behave. So it is God doing the work, not you, at your prayer request.

James 5:16

Confess your faults one to another, and pray one for another, that ye may be healed. The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much.

What we pray should be the Word of God (which is the same as the Will of God), that is, calling on the terms of the covenant. For example, if you need healing, then look up the scriptures on healing (or at the Healing class notes) and pray using those scriptures.

1 Tim 4:5

For it is sanctified by the word of God and prayer.

John 15:7

If ye abide in me, and my words abide in you, ye shall ask what ye will, and it shall be done unto you.

### 1 John 5:14-15

And this is the confidence that we have in him, that, if we ask any thing according to his will, he heareth us: And if we know that he hear us, whatsoever we ask, we know that we have the petitions that we desired of him.

#### 2 Cor 1:20

For all the promises of God in him are yea, and in him Amen, unto the glory of God by us.

#### Mark 11:24

Therefore I say unto you, What things soever ye desire, when ye pray, believe that ye receive them, and ye shall have them.

### Isa 55:11

So shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth: it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it.

#### Jer 1:12

Then said the LORD unto me, Thou hast well seen: for I will hasten my word to perform it.

God's Word returns to Him when you pray it. It does not return void, but in faith, causing God to effectually work His Word on your behave.

And when we know not what to pray, then we pray in the spirit, that is, in tongues. The Holy Spirit helps us pray the perfect will of God as we roll our concerns over on Him and yield to Him in the flow of tongues.

### Rom 8:26-27

Likewise the Spirit also helpeth our infirmities: for we know not what we should pray for as we ought: but the Spirit itself maketh intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered. And he that searcheth the hearts knoweth what is the mind of the Spirit, because he maketh intercession for the saints according to the will of God.

Your spiritual prayer language can be activated simply by saying "Father God, I roll this concern over on You and ask You to help me pray concerning it by Your Spirit". The tongues, as a river of living water, will start flowing out of your inner being. Simply yield and flow along with the Holy Spirit until the tongues stop. This is what is called "praying through"... that is, until they stop. It may be long or short, but stay in there working with the Holy Spirit.

## Jude 20

But ye, beloved, building up yourselves on your most holy faith, praying in the Holy Ghost,

<u>Prayer should not be religious.</u> That is, place, time, and physical positions in prayer don't matter. If a certain place or type of position, such as kneeling or walking, helps you draw closer to God, or helps you get into and stay in the anointing or presence of God, then that is fine for you. But it may not be the same for your brother.

### Matt 6:7

And when you pray, do not use vain repetitions as the heathen do. For they think that they will be heard for their many words.

#### Matt 15:8

This people draweth nigh unto me with their mouth, and honoureth me with their lips; but their heart is far from me.

I don't say be disrespectful to God, no more than to be disrespectful to your earthly father. But I do say - don't be spooky or religious about prayer, making the traditions of men more important than the fellowship of God. What would your earthly father think if he called you up and said, "lets go for a walk, or sit down awhile and talk about the things going on in your life", and you replied, "Oh, I can't do that, your too high and lifted up for me to approach you", or "Oh, I can only talk to You on my knees"?

Or how about, "oh, I can talk to You, but You cannot talk to me. You don't speak to Your children on the earth anymore."? Now when did God ever, in any part of the Bible, New or Old Testament quit speaking to His people in any age, or say that He was going to. What would you think if someone told you that they talk to their earthly father, but he does not talk to them? I would think that there is something seriously wrong with their fellowship!

But God does still talk to His people, directly and indirectly. He said that He would never leave us nor forsake us. Jesus said His sheep know His voice and would not follow another, which implies that we have to hear His voice. Jesus said that He would send the Holy Spirit, who would teach us, speaking nothing of Himself, but only of Jesus. The Holy Spirit would speak!

So approach your Heavenly Father, knowing that He loves you! Knowing that He cares for you. Approach Him and talk to Him just like you would a loving and caring earthly father. Talk to Him all thru the day, over every circumstance and concern, for He is concerned for you. And wait on Him, listen, be quiet, and He will speak to you! You are special to Him, and He has a place in His heart, in His kingdom, and in His ministry just for you!

## SEVEN FORMS OF PRAYER

Eph 6:19

Praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, and watching thereunto with all perseverance and supplication for all saints;

1 Tim 2:1

I exhort therefore, that, first of all, supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks, be made for all men;

I once asked the Lord how many types of prayer there are. He said seven and proceed to explain them to me this way.

# Worship

Worship is defined as "worth - ship". That is, what do you can worthy. What do you spend your time, efforts, attention, and money on? That is what you count worthy. If you read the newspaper, or what television for 2 hours a day, but do not read your Bible, what did you count worthy? You see our communion and communication is not just what we say, but our very lives. That is why the Bible says,

1 Thess 5:17

Pray without ceasing.

Eph 5:18-21

And be not drunk with wine, wherein is excess; but be filled with the Spirit; Speaking to yourselves in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord; Giving thanks always for all things unto God and the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ; Submitting yourselves one to another in the fear of God.

Col 3:16-17

Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom; teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord. And whatsoever ye do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God and the Father by him.

Matt 22:37-38

Jesus said unto him, Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. This is the first and great commandment.

Worship includes doing all in the name of the Lord... All of your life... Not just a "worship" time on Sunday morning before the preaching of the Word of Life.

### **Praise**

Praise is ministering to God concerning "who He is", that is "bless His name" and "praise the name". But it should be in first person nouns, such as "You are Jehovah-Jireh, God my Provider", since you are talking to Him directly. If you said "to" your wife, "she is a good cook" instead of "you are a good cook", your wife might ask you who are you taking about.

Ps 100:4

Enter into his gates with thanksgiving, and into his courts with praise: be thankful unto him, and bless his name.

Ps 69:30

30 I will praise the name of God with a song, and will magnify him with thanksgiving.

# **Thanksgiving**

Thanksgiving is ministering to God concerning "<u>what He has done</u>", or in faith "what He is going to do". When we give God thanksgiving, we "magnify" Him in what He has done for us.

Ps 100:4

Enter into his gates with thanksgiving, and into his courts with praise: be thankful unto him, and bless his name.

Ps 69:30

30 I will praise the name of God with a song, and will magnify him with thanksgiving.

Col 4:2

2 Continue in prayer, and watch in the same with thanksgiving:

Phil 4:6-7

Be careful for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God. And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.

1 Thess 5:18

In every thing give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you.

Thanking God for what He has already done raises your faith level, and after asking in prayer, thanking Him for what He is going to do helps you receive it in faith and enter into the peace of God as you wait in patience and confidence for Him to manifest it.

#### Intercession

Intercession is praying for someone else. It is "standing in the gap", and "making up the hedge" of protection. If a big mean dog was running at your young child, you would enter into the gap, or intercede, between the dog and child to stop the dog and save the child. This is what we do when we (1) call out to God for mercy for the unsaved, and (2) fight spiritual warfare against the demonic forces. Note that "spiritual warfare" is not considered "prayer" since you are not talking to God during "spiritual warfare", but rather commanding / binding / casting out the demonic forces.

Eph 6:18

Praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, and watching thereunto with all perseverance and supplication for all saints;

Phil 1:4

Always in every prayer of mine for you all making request with joy,

Ezek 13:5

Ye have not gone up into the gaps, neither <u>made up the hedge</u> for the house of Israel to stand in the battle in the day of the LORD.

Ezek 22:30-31

And I sought for a man among them, that should <u>make up the hedge</u>, and <u>stand in the gap</u> before me for the land, that I should not destroy it: but I found none. Therefore have I poured out mine indignation upon them; I have consumed them with the fire of my wrath: their own way have I recompensed upon their heads, saith the Lord GOD.

Isa 58:6 Is not this the fast that I have chosen? to loose the bands of wickedness, to undo the heavy burdens, and to let the oppressed go free, and that ye break every yoke?

Isa 58:12 And they that shall be of thee shall build the old waste places: thou shalt raise up the foundations of many generations; and thou shalt be called, The <u>repairer of the breach</u>, The restorer of paths to dwell in.

Isa 58:14 Then shalt thou delight thyself in the LORD; and I will cause thee to ride upon the high places of the earth, and feed thee with the heritage of Jacob thy father: for the mouth of the LORD hath spoken it.

Isa 59:16

And he saw that there was no man, and wondered that there was <u>no intercessor</u>: therefore his arm brought salvation unto him; and his righteousness, it sustained him.

Isa 64:7

And there is none that calleth upon thy name, that stirreth up himself to take hold of thee: for thou hast hid thy face from us, and hast consumed us, because of our iniquities.

Isa 66:8

Who hath heard such a thing? who hath seen such things? Shall the earth be made to bring forth in one day? or shall a nation be born at once? for as soon as Zion travailed, she brought forth her children.

# Agreement

Prayer of Agreement is praying with 1 or more other people. There is more faith and more power in joining with others to pray.

Matt 18:19-20

Again I say unto you, That if two of you shall agree on earth as touching any thing that they shall ask, it shall be done for them of my Father which is in heaven. For where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them.

Eccl 4:12

And if one prevail against him, two shall withstand him; and a threefold cord is not quickly broken.

(while this verse is actually on the curse side, you should have better on the blessing side:)

Deut 32:30

How should one chase a thousand, and two put ten thousand to flight, except their Rock had sold them, and the LORD had shut them up?

Phil 1:27

Only let your conversation be as it becometh the gospel of Christ: that whether I come and see you, or else be absent, I may hear of your affairs, that ye stand fast in one spirit, with one mind striving together for the faith of the gospel;

Acts 1:14

These all continued with one accord in prayer and supplication, with the women, and Mary the mother of Jesus, and with his brethren.

# **Supplication**

Supplications is asking for "supplies". What is it you have need of?

Phil 4:6

Be careful for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God.

Phil 1:19

For I know that this shall turn to my salvation through your prayer, and the supply of the Spirit of Jesus Christ,

Eph 6:18

Praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, and watching thereunto with all perseverance and supplication for all saints;

2 Cor 9:8

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

## **Dedication**

Dedication includes many types of prayers or actions where you are dedicating yourself in some way to God. These include salvation, sanctification (maybe for ministry and deeper holiness), vows, fasting and prayer, etc...

#### Phil 2:12

Wherefore, my beloved, as ye have always obeyed, not as in my presence only, but now much more in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling.

### Acts 13:2

As they ministered to the Lord, and <u>fasted</u>, the Holy Ghost said, Separate me Barnabas and Saul for the work whereunto I have called them.

Obviously some of these <u>types can work together</u> and/or occur as a flow during your prayer time. For example, the following lists a possible prayer order and compares it to the Lord's Prayer:

### Matt 6:9-13

- 9 In this manner, therefore, pray: Our Father in heaven, Hallowed be Your name.
- 10 Your kingdom come. Your will be done On earth as it is in heaven.
- 11 Give us this day our daily bread.
- 12 And forgive us our debts, As we forgive our debtors.
- 13 And do not lead us into temptation, But deliver us from the evil one. For Yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

kingdom and the power and the giory forever. Amen.				
Possible Order of Prayer	Lord's Prayer in Matt 6:9-13			
Thanksgiving for what God has already done				
enter into Praise	Praise (verse 9)			
if someone is with you - then you are already				
in Agreement				
Intercede for others	Intercession (verse 10)			
(sowing seeds of faith for others To reap				
back to you)				
then into Supplication for yourself	Supplications (verse 11)			
	Dedications (verse 12)			
Spiritual Warfare (binding/loosing, etc.)	Spiritual Warfare (verse 13)			
again to Thanksgiving to God for His	Thanksgiving (verse 13)			
answering the prayer requests	,			

Depending on where a person is in need and growth, they might start at Dedication and then go to Supplication. A person should stay open to flow as the Spirit leads in prayer.

You should stay in Praise at the beginning until you have either (1) an open heaven, or (2) are at the Throne (in the throne room). You might here the Father saying "Ask what you will". Don't be in a hurry, particularly, at the end to leave. Jehovah Father might have something to say to you. With experience, you will become sensitive to the Holy Spirit as to when you have a release from prayer, that is, when you are finished.

These seven types of prayer <u>can be understood in groups</u>, with the higher the group, the higher the anointing and presence. The highest group is Worship, Praise, and Thanksgiving, which are to God and about God in adoration of Him. The next group is Intercession and Agreement,

where you are praying for someone else other than yourself. The last group is Supplication and Dedication, where you are praying for yourself.

God has also taught me that in our <u>"worship" times</u>, that:

- (1) when people sing or minister "about" Him, usually in 3rd person nouns, such as "He is worthy" or "come let us worship", it is exhortation, in that, you are exhorting the people to come and actively enter into "worship" of Him, but you are not speaking to Him, but to the people,
- (2) when people sing or minister "to" Him, in 1st person nouns, such as "You are worthy", they are entering His gates in Thanksgiving, ("Thank You, Lord"), and are entering His courts with Praise ("You are worthy").

If you become sensitive to this, you will notice

- (1) a higher anointing, or more of His Presence when you sing "You" verse "He",
- (2) a frustration of the people when a song, or series of songs, move from "You" back to "He" or back and forth, because the song(s) are taking the people in and out of the courts of the Lord. They know they were just there in His Presence, and then they are not, but they do not know why. This will tend to get people into the flesh as they try to reenter in.

### Remember this:

**Deut 7:9** 

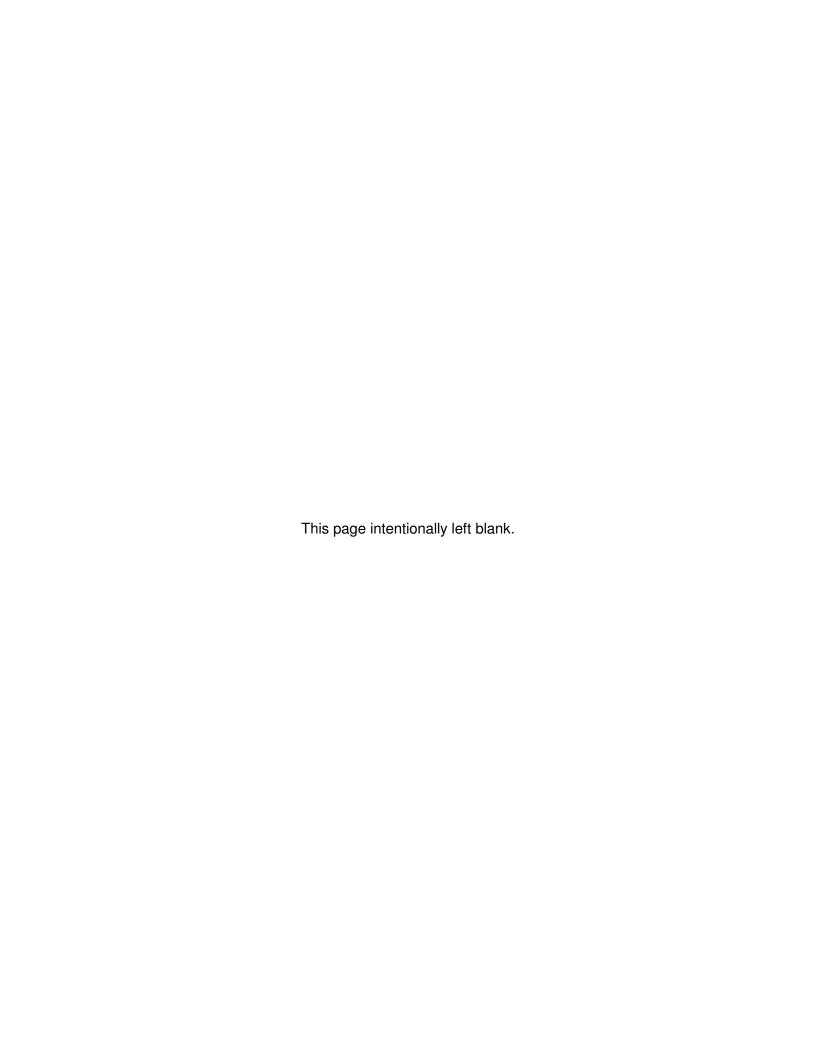
Know therefore that the LORD thy God, he is God, the faithful God, which keepeth covenant and mercy with them that love him and keep his commandments to a thousand generations;

2 Tim 2:13

If we believe not, yet he abideth faithful: he cannot deny himself.

1 Thess 5:24

Faithful is he that calleth you, who also will do it.



# **PRAYER - PART 2**

# TRUTH, FACT, LIE

In the Word Studies - Part 1, we defined **Truth** as the "Word of God".

Ps 119:43

And take not the word of truth utterly out of my mouth; for I have hoped in thy judgments.

Ps 119:142

Thy righteousness is an everlasting righteousness, and thy law is the truth.

Ps 119:151

Thou art near, O LORD; and all thy commandments are truth.

Jesus is the Truth / the Word manifested in the flesh.

John 1:14

And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and <u>truth</u>.

John 14:6

Jesus said to him, "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me.

It is the Truth of the Word that will change things and set a person free.

John 8:31-32

Then said Jesus to those Jews which believed on him, If ye continue in <u>my word</u>, then are ye my disciples indeed; And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.

We define **Lie** as anything that does not line up with the "Word of God". All lies come from the father of lies, the devil. The devil and demons cannot speak Truth and will always have a Lie in whatever they say.

John 8:44

Ye are of your father the devil, and the lusts of your father ye will do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and abode not in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaketh a lie, he speaketh of his own: for he is a liar, and the father of it.

1 John 2:21

I have not written unto you because ye know not the truth, but because ye know it, and that no lie is of the truth.

1 John 2:27

But the anointing which ye have received of him abideth in you, and ye need not that any man teach you: but as the same anointing teacheth you of all things, and is truth, and is no lie, and even as it hath taught you, ye shall abide in him.

### Titus 1:2

In hope of eternal life, which God, that cannot lie, promised before the world began;

#### James 3:14

But if ye have bitter envying and strife in your hearts, glory not, and lie not against the truth.

### Acts 5:3

But Peter said, Ananias, why hath Satan filled thine heart to lie to the Holy Ghost, and to keep back part of the price of the land?

#### Rom 1:25

Who changed the truth of God into a lie, and worshipped and served the creature more than the Creator, who is blessed for ever. Amen.

We define **Fact** as a person's physical circumstances. The Fact or circumstances either line up with the Truth or the Lie. Lets look at two examples

• If a person has cancer in there body, that is a Fact. If the person is not a believer, that is - they are still in their sin, then the Fact lines up with the Truth, because they are under the curse of the law. You see, all sickness and disease carries the seed of death, which is the curse of the law.

Deut 28:58-63

"If you do not carefully observe all the words of this law that are written in this book, that you may fear this glorious and awesome name, THE LORD YOUR GOD, then the LORD will bring upon you and your descendants extraordinary plagues -- great and prolonged plagues -- and serious and prolonged sicknesses. Moreover He will bring back on you all the diseases of Egypt, of which you were afraid, and they shall cling to you. Also every sickness and every plague, which is not written in this Book of the Law, will the LORD bring upon you until you are destroyed. You shall be left few in number, whereas you were as the stars of heaven in multitude, because you would not obey the voice of the LORD your God. And it shall be, that just as the LORD rejoiced over you to do you good and multiply you, so the LORD will rejoice over you to destroy you and bring you to nothing; and you shall be plucked from off the land which you go to possess.

However, we as believers can intercede for that person to see them healed and saved.

• If a person has cancer in there body, that is a Fact. If the person is a born-again believer, they have been redeemed from the curse of the law:

Gal 3:13-14

Christ has redeemed us from the curse of the law, having become a curse for us (for it is written, "Cursed is everyone who hangs on a tree"), that the blessing of Abraham might come upon the Gentiles in Christ Jesus, that we might receive the promise of the Spirit through faith.

1 Peter 2:24

who Himself bore our sins in His own body on the tree, that we, having died to sins, might live for righteousness -- by whose stripes you were healed.

and the Fact lines up with the Lie. So, we can take the Truth (the Word of God) and use it against the Lie to change the circumstances / Fact.

# THREE THINGS WE SPEAK TOO

In "praying" and applying the Truth of the Word of God to a circumstance to change it, we normally speak to three things, in this following order. You will notice that we always pray and speak the Word of Truth to each of the three.

# We pray to the Father, in the name of Jesus.

John 15:7

If you abide in Me, and My words abide in you, you will ask what you desire, and it shall be done for you.

John 16:7

Nevertheless I tell you the truth. It is to your advantage that I go away; for if I do not go away, the Helper will not come to you; but if I depart, I will send Him to you.

John 16:23-24

"And in that day you will ask Me nothing. Most assuredly, I say to you, whatever you ask the Father in My name He will give you. Until now you have asked nothing in My name. Ask, and you will receive, that your joy may be full.

### 1 John 3:22-23

And whatever we ask we receive from Him, because we keep His commandments and do those things that are pleasing in His sight. And this is His commandment: that we should believe on the name of His Son Jesus Christ and love one another, as He gave us commandment.

# 1 John 5:14-15

Now this is the confidence that we have in Him, that if we ask anything according to His will, He hears us. And if we know that He hears us, whatever we ask, we know that we have the petitions that we have asked of Him.

In the example of cancer: "Father God, I thank You that You sent Your Word and healed me, that Jesus took my sicknesses and carried my sorrows, and with whose stripes I was healed. Father God, I ask You to enforce Jesus' victory over sickness and disease and death, and manifest Your power and anointing thru the Holy Spirit in my body, to destroy every yoke of sickness and disease, and to manifest / create / cause healing and continual divine health in my body, with your Spirit quickening my mortal body, in Jesus' name. I receive it of you, Father, in Jesus' name, and I praise You and thank You for it, in Jesus' name. Amen (SO BE IT!)."

# We bind and loose (i.e., fight Spiritual Warfare)

Most circumstances (if not all circumstances) that line up with the Lie are due to demonic spiritual forces (e.g., witchcraft) and spirits (e.g., demons) operating against the person. In order to change the circumstances, we must first **bind** the demonic forces / spirits that are at work. To bind means not only (1) not to permit, but also (2) to literally bind or chain so as not to allow free movement (or attack against the person). We call the spirit by what it is doing (e.g., spirit of cancer). So we bind the demonic force **and cast it out**.

Luke 11:20-22

But if I cast out demons with the finger of God, surely the kingdom of God has come upon you. When a strong man, fully armed, guards his own palace, his goods are in peace. But when a stronger than he comes upon him and overcomes him, he takes from him all his armor in which he trusted, and divides his spoils.

Luke 13:16

16 And ought not this woman, being a daughter of Abraham, whom Satan <u>hath bound</u>, lo, these eighteen years, <u>be loosed</u> from this bond on the sabbath day?

Matt 13:30

Let both grow together until the harvest: and in the time of harvest I will say to the reapers, Gather ye together first the tares, and <u>bind them</u> in bundles to burn them: but gather the wheat into my barn.

Then we loose the person from the demonic hold, and we loose the Holy Spirit, the anointing, the power of God. We loose whatever the person needs, for example, healing.

Luke 13:10-13

And he was teaching in one of the synagogues on the sabbath. And, behold, there was a woman which had a spirit of infirmity eighteen years, and was bowed together, and could in no wise lift up herself. when Jesus saw her, he called her to him, and said unto her, Woman, thou art loosed from thine infirmity. And he laid his hands on her: and immediately she was made straight, and glorified God.

So we see Jesus loosing the woman from the demonic spirit and loosing or applying the power of the Spirit thru laying on of hands.

Jesus gave us authority to operate in His name, in His authority, and He said He would back up what we said. The word "ask" in the following verse is actually "demand" in the original Greek. Jesus is not talking about prayer, because in prayer, the Father gives or does it, and it is "asked" for - not "demanded". However, here Jesus is saying He will enforce His authority when you "demand" demonic forces to loose someone, in Jesus' name.

John 14:13-14

And whatever you <u>ask</u> in My name, that I will do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son. If you <u>ask</u> anything in My name, I will do it.

Matt 16:19

And I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven."

## Matt 18:18

"Assuredly, I say to you, whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven.

In the following verse where it says "might destroy" the works of the devil, the Greek word is "loose". So we see that Jesus came to loose people from the works of the devil, and he has command us to do the same, in casting out devils, in that Jesus said in Luke 11:20-22 that you must bind before you can cast out.

### 1 John 3:8

He that committeth sin is of the devil; for the devil sinneth from the beginning. For this purpose the Son of God was manifested, that he <u>might destroy</u> the works of the devil.

## Mark 16:15-18

And He said to them, "Go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature. He who believes and is baptized will be saved; but he who does not believe will be condemned. And these signs will follow those who believe: In My name they will cast out demons; they will speak with new tongues; they will take up serpents; and if they drink anything deadly, it will by no means hurt them; they will lay hands on the sick, and they will recover."

In the example of cancer: "I bind every demonic force and spirit, including the spirit of cancer, sent against this person, in the name of Jesus. I cancel your assignments against this person, negating every witchcraft and every negative and evil thing said / sent / spoke against this person, that not even the tongue of a dog may rise against this person, in Jesus' name. I cast out the demonic forces and spirits (either (1) into the abyss (bottomless pit, which is a prison for demons - Luke 8:30-31, Rev 9:1-3), or (2) that they go and never return to this person again (Mark 9:25), in Jesus' name. I loose this person from their holds / devices / effects, in Jesus' name, and I loose healing to follow into this person, in Jesus' name. I loose the anointing and power of God that destroys this yoke of bondage (Isa 10:27, Isa 58:6) and that heals and restores (Acts 10:38), in the name of Jesus'. "

# We speak to the circumstances

Last, we speak to the circumstances themselves and command them to line up with the Word of God.

Mark 11:20-23

And in the morning, as they passed by, they saw the fig tree dried up from the roots. And Peter calling to remembrance saith unto him, Master, behold, the fig tree which thou cursedst is withered away. And Jesus answering saith unto them, Have faith in God. For verily I say unto you, That whosoever shall say unto this mountain, Be thou removed, and be thou cast into the sea; and shall not doubt in his heart, but shall believe that those things which he saith shall come to pass; he shall have whatsoever he saith.

Luke 17:5-6

And the apostles said unto the Lord, Increase our faith. And the Lord said, If ye had faith as a grain of mustard seed, ye might <u>say unto this sycamine tree</u>, Be thou plucked up by the root, and be thou planted in the sea; and it should obey you.

Jesus did not say that you need a "mountain of faith", but only the littlest of faith - a seed, using it in action to speak to the circumstance. Jesus said that whatever the HUGE circumstance that is in your life, that seems that impossible to move or overcome or get around, whatever that mountain of Fact is, if you will speak to it, it will obey, that is, it will obey the Word of God and name of Jesus, and be removed.

Mark 4:39-40

And he arose, and rebuked the wind, and <u>said unto the sea</u>, Peace, be still. And the wind ceased, and there was a great calm And he said unto them, Why are ye so fearful? <u>how is it that ye have no faith</u>?

Remember that God is a God of faith, that speaks to the circumstances Himself.

Heb 11:3

Through faith we understand that the worlds were framed by the word of God, so that things which are seen were not made of things which do appear.

Heb 1:3

Who being the brightness of his glory, and the express image of his person, and <u>upholding all things by the word of his power</u>, when he had by himself purged our sins, sat down on the right hand of the Majesty on high;

Rom 4:17

(As it is written, I have made thee a father of many nations,) before him whom he believed, even God, who quickeneth the dead, and <u>calleth those things which be not as though they were</u>.

Gen 1:3

And God said, Let there be light: and there was light.

God created us in His image, and gave us creative power in our words.

## Prov 18:21

Death and life are in the power of the tongue: and they that love it shall eat the fruit thereof.

### 2 Cor 4:13

We having the same spirit of faith, according as it is written, I believed, and therefore have I spoken; we also believe, and therefore speak;

### Acts 9:34

And Peter said unto him, Aeneas, Jesus Christ maketh thee whole: arise, and make thy bed. And he arose immediately.

If you are born-again, then you received that miracle by (1) believing in your heart, and (2) confessing with your mouth. In the first century, Christianity was known as the "great confession".

In our example of cancer, you have to understand that Jesus is not "going" (future tense) to heal you; He already has (past tense) healed you (1 Peter 2:24). You need to receive it. Put another way, the doctor does not need to create "pills", but you need to receive them. If you take a concordance (such as Strong's Concordance of the King James translation of the Bible, which lists every word and its scripture locations) and study "save" and "heal", you fill find that biblically speaking (that is to say, it is in the Bible) people cried out to God to "save" them and "heal" them before the cross. However, biblically speaking you will not find in the Bible where people cried out "save" me or "heal" me. I did not say that people do not still do that, but I am saying it is not Biblical because Jesus has already "saved" them and "healed" them. They need to receive it and walk in (maintain) that victory.

In the example of cancer: "I command this body to line up with the Word of God, in Jesus' name. With whose stripes you were healed, Jesus Christ makes you whole, be thou whole, in Jesus' name."

Then get the person to do something that they could not do before. It is important in healing and deliverance that the people act on the faith that has been released (Matt 9:6-7, Acts 3:6-8)

**After having spoke** to the three things, maintain your believe (your faith). As Smith Wigglesworth used to say, "only believe".

John 11:40

Jesus saith unto her, Said I not unto thee, that, if thou wouldest believe, thou shouldest see the glory of God?

Heb 11:6

But without faith it is impossible to please Him, for he who comes to God must believe that He is, and that He is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him.

Rom 4:20-21

He did not waver at the promise of God through unbelief, but was strengthened in faith, giving glory to God, and being fully convinced that what He had promised He was also able to perform.

If a doctor gave a person a bottle of pills and said take one of these every morning for 30 days, they would get up every morning and take that pill believing that it will change their circumstances, even though they may not at first see any change, they will be faithful in believing and taking that pill till it manifest. How much more should we believe in the Word of God and continue in faith in His Word until it manifest!

# **SPIRITUAL WARFARE - PART 1**

## WE HAVE AN ENEMY

We have an enemy, whose name was Lucifer, son of the morning (i.e., son of the dayspring), that is, he was created by Jesus, to reflect light as the moon does the Sun. But Lucifer was not the Light.

Isa 14:12-15

How art thou fallen from heaven, O Lucifer, son of the morning! how art thou cut down to the ground, which didst weaken the nations! For thou hast said in thine heart, I will ascend into heaven, I will exalt my throne above the stars of God: I will sit also upon the mount of the congregation, in the sides of the north, I will ascend above the heights of the clouds; I will be like the most High. Yet thou shalt be brought down to hell, to the sides of the pit.

You will notice the five "I will" statements. Lucifer moved in pride trying exalt self over God.

We refer to him as Satan (which means the adversary (who attacks)) and the Devil (the slanderer (who lies), the accuser).

Luke 10:18-19

And he said unto them, I beheld Satan as lightning fall from heaven.

Rev 12:7-9

And there was war in heaven: Michael and his angels fought against the dragon; and the dragon fought and his angels, And prevailed not; neither was their place found any more in heaven. And the great dragon was cast out, that old serpent, called the Devil, and Satan, which deceiveth the whole world: he was cast out into the earth, and his angels were cast out with him.

## HE SEEKS TO KILL YOU

The devil is not a respecter of persons. He seeks to kill and destroy every person on the face of the earth. He seeks to kill you!

John 10:10

The thief cometh not, but for to steal, and to kill, and to destroy: I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly.

The devil tries to attack like a wolf against sheep. The first thing the devil wants to do is separate/steal a person/sheep from the flock, to isolate them (possibly through offense or sin) from the support and protection of the shepherd and other sheep. The devil will then run the sheep until it is so tired that it roll over and say "kill me" ("I cannot go on any more", "I just want to die", etc)... that is, they give up to the fear/doubt/offense/sin, which stills the Life of Jesus away, and brings judgment. And the devil will try to take their eternal spirit to hell to be destroyed.

Why? Because each and every person has the capability to receive Jesus as Lord and walk in the authority of Jesus' name in victory over the devil and all his forces. But you have to know the Word and enforce the victory!

I Peter 5:8

Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour:

You notice that it says "may" devour. He cannot go about doing whatever he wants. He has to find those who are either in sin (under judgment), or in fear, or in unbelief. But if you are born-again, don't have to allow him to touch anything of yours, because you have authority over him using Jesus' name!

## WHAT HIS WEAPONS AND TACTICS ARE

The Word says that we are not ignorant of the devil's devices (weapons) or wiles (tactics).

2 Cor 2:11

Lest Satan should get an advantage of us: for we are not ignorant of his devices.

Eph 6:11

Put on the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil.

Below we will examine some of the devil's weapons and tactics, while at the same time discussing some of our godly weapons and tactics that bring victory against these.

Jer 9:5-6

And they will **deceive** every one his neighbour, and will not speak the truth: they have taught their tongue to speak **lies**, and weary themselves to commit **iniquity**. Thine habitation is in the midst of deceit; through deceit they refuse to know me, saith the LORD.

## **Deception**

One of the main weapons of the devil is deception (go astray, deceive, err, seduce, wander, be out of the way). He was deceived himself, when he thought that the could exalt himself ("I will") and be like God (or supplant Jesus specifically) (see Isa 14:12-15, Eze 28:11-19, Job 38:4-13).

Rev 12:9

And the great dragon was cast out, that old serpent, called the Devil, and Satan, which deceiveth the whole world: he was cast out into the earth, and his angels were cast out with him

The devil deceived Eve in the Garden.

1 Tim 2:14

And Adam was not deceived, but the woman being deceived was in the transgression.

He will try to misquote and change what God has said, or intended, to make it seem to mean something else. In Genesis 3:1, the devil said "Yea, hath God said"? to bring doubt.

You have to recognize that Eve was not created yet (Gen 2:21-22) when God gave Adam the commandment not to eat of the tree (Gen 2:16-17). So it is important that we clearly communicate God's Word and instructions to people, to not give room to the devil to try to confuse and pervert the real intent. It is equally important that each one of us know the Word intimately and thoroughly.

The devil tried the same tactic on Jesus in the wilderness. The devil misquoted and left sections out of scripture that he spoke to Jesus. But Jesus, knowing the Word, rebuked the devil using the Word.

The devil try to convince you think it is all right to lie, just this time, to take that small drink or fruit or whatever it is that does not belong to you, no one will see you. It is all right to lie down next to that person, to have sex, just this one time, after all, you like/love this person, you want them to like/love you, so... just this time, no one will know. Its all right to talk about that person, you know / saw / heard what they did, besides, you don't like / respect them anyway.

### Titus 3:4

For we ourselves also were sometimes foolish, disobedient, deceived, serving divers lusts and pleasures, living in malice and envy, hateful, and hating one another.

We have to know, believe, and act on the Word. It takes all three of these or we deceive ourselves.

#### Matt 24:5

For many shall come in my name, saying, I am Christ; and shall deceive many.

#### Matt 24:11

And many false prophets shall rise, and shall deceive many.

## 2 Tim 3:13

But evil men and seducers shall wax worse and worse, deceiving, and being deceived.

#### Eph 4:14

That we henceforth be no more children, tossed to and fro, and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the sleight of men, and cunning craftiness, whereby they lie in wait to deceive:

## James 1:22

But be ye doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving your own selves.

## James 1:26

If any man among you seem to be religious, and bridleth not his tongue, but deceiveth his own heart, this man's religion is vain.

## 2 Peter 2:13

And shall receive the reward of unrighteousness, as they that count it pleasure to riot in the day time. Spots they are and blemishes, sporting themselves with their own deceivings while they feast with you;

This is why you must personally know the Truth, the Word of God, and apply it. A person can have an "attitude" or thought process (i.e., a stronghold) that is not in line with the Word of God. This attitude or thought process is a deception, that will hold them in bondage. Usually, the greater the deception or stronghold, the less the person can see it in themselves (that is, greater darkness in that area / less light on that area).

Strongholds are built up by receiving thoughts from the enemy (lies).

## 2 Cor 10:3-6

For though we walk in the flesh, we do not war after the flesh: (For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal, but mighty through God to the pulling down of strong holds;) Casting down imaginations, and every high thing that exalteth itself against the knowledge of God, and bringing into captivity every thought to the obedience of Christ; And having in a readiness to revenge all disobedience, when your obedience is fulfilled.

Let me be very bold with you. Every person hears demonic voices! When a demon speaks to you from the spirit realm into your spirit's hearing, it enters your soul as a thought. That is why the Word says hold up the shield of faith against all the fiery darts of the enemy, which are thoughts. All those thoughts that you get are not your thoughts. Some are from the Holy Spirit or ministering angels, some are from demons, and some are your thoughts. You have to examine EVERY thought in light of the Word of God, and those thoughts that don't line up with the Word, you have to cast down. You can even say "I stop that thought and thought process, in Jesus' name. Spirit and mind, I command you not to receive or think on those thoughts, in Jesus' name". That is why the Word says think on good things (Phil 4:8):

#### Phil 4:8

Finally, brethren, whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report; if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, think on these things.

Note that demonic thoughts don't come as "you should" or "you are" (which is 3rd person pronoun), but come in "I am" or "I will" (which is 1st person pronoun) or "he is" about someone else, to make you think that it is your mind and your thought (e.g., "I thought it, so I might as well say it"... NO, NO!). Recognize that if a person starts receiving thoughts on a certain area, and not that examining them, then a stronghold can build up. An example, the devil starts telling a young girl "I am so ugly", "I will never accomplish anything", "No one (or he) will ever love me"... After a while, she starts believing those thoughts and thinking that way and acting in ways to support that... At that point, it has become a stronghold.

So tear down ungodly strongholds, build up godly strongholds, by memorizing, meditating and acting on the Word of God.

## Lies

In the previous section "Prayer - Part 2", we defined Truth, Fact, and Lie. The devil is a liar and the author of all lies. We define **Lie** as anything that does not line up with the "Word of God". All lies come from the father of lies, the devil.

### John 8:44

Ye are of your father the devil, and the lusts of your father ye will do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and abode not in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaketh a lie, he speaketh of his own: for he is a liar, and the father of it.

### 1 John 2:21

I have not written unto you because ye know not the truth, but because ye know it, and that no lie is of the truth.

The devil and demons cannot speak Truth and will always have a Lie in whatever they say. This is an important point when examining thoughts or when performing deliverance where demons are speaking through people. Whatever the demon says, if you examine it closely, you will always discover a lie in it.

Again, the lies are fiery darts thoughts of the devil. (The devil only has some many weapons, and most of them, he needs you to agree with. (e.g., "Oh, I don't think I feel very well today." You just agreed with the devil and sickness and disease.) Look at the armor against lies that God wants you to walk in:

## Eph 6:13-18

Wherefore take unto you the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand. Stand therefore, having your loins girt about with truth, and having on the breastplate of righteousness; And your feet shod with the preparation of the gospel of peace; Above all, taking the shield of faith, wherewith ye shall be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked. And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God: Praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, and watching thereunto with all perseverance and supplication for all saints;

- (1) Truth is the Word... Renew your mind.
- (2) Righteousness is being blood washed... As we have previously defined righteousness, but you must KNOW it... Have it in your thoughts... To protect your heart from the accuser of the brethren.
- (3) Gospel of peace... The word "peace" in the greek is made up of two parts (1) a legal settlement in court (or treaty) between two warring groups, and (2) tranquility or quietness. You must be prepared (thoughts) to tell people about Jesus. Thinking all the time about how to reach them, how to bless them... Instead of what they did evil, or how I feel about them.
- (4) Faith comes by hearing the Word... It is action on the Word.
- (5) Helmet of salvation is protecting the mind... I have the mind of Christ... A sound mind...
- (6) Sword is the Word... Thinking on the Word... Praying / Confessing the Word...
- (7) Praying always....

These are (1) a process, and (2) thoughts leading to Words and Faith actions.

# **Temptation and Sin**

The devil will use all he can to get you into compromising thoughts, situations, and sin.

James 1:12-16

Blessed is the man that endureth temptation: for when he is tried, he shall receive the crown of life, which the Lord hath promised to them that love him. Let no man say when he is tempted, I am tempted of God: for God cannot be tempted with evil, neither tempteth he any man: But every man is tempted, when he is drawn away of his own lust, and enticed. Then when lust hath conceived, it bringeth forth sin: and sin, when it is finished, bringeth forth death. Do not err, my beloved brethren.

Lets define some things. God "tests" the hearts of men. But these tests are not dealing with sin, but obedience. God tested Abraham by asking Abraham to offer up Issac. I sure there was nothing in Abraham's flesh that found pleasure in wanting to kill his son. If God asks you to do something, it is usually against our flesh-nature. The devil "tempts" our flesh-nature with things it likes. (What are those? See lust of the flesh in Gal 5:19-21) Lets define "lusts" also by noting that it is the same greek word translated as "desires"... Meaning that there are godly desires and ungodly (as noted in Gal 5:17). You can take authority over you lusts or desires using the name of Jesus. Speak to yourself and command your flesh "In the name of Jesus, you will not desire that ungodly thing, but you will desire godly things". (Here is a spiritual experiment: When your body desires a food or drink, bind that desire in Jesus' name, tell your body that it will not desire that, and then tell it another food or drink you want it to desire in Jesus' name.)

So, you are trying to walk in holiness (that is, sinlessness... Which is ONLY an issue when temptation comes), and this great looking person walks by... You think the devil was going to send an ugly person by? Or, you just happen to bump into your old drinking buddy. Use the name of Jesus over that lust!

If a person is in sin, then they are working with the devil, and the devil does not need to send great demons against them, because the person is already defeated, defeating themselves, and in agreement with the devil.

Remember in our study on "Sin", temptation came only come one of three ways.

1 John 2:16

For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world.

That is, (1) the lust of the flesh, (2) the lust of the eyes, and (3) the pride of life.

# The Curse of the Law (Death)

God is a legal God, the Judge of All. God has sworn a covenant that includes blessings and cursings. It is His covenant. He is responsible for the blessings, in which He cannot lie. He is also responsible for the cursings, in which He cannot lie. Read Deut 28:15-68, and Deut 32:39-41.

## Deut 28:63

And it shall come to pass, that as the LORD rejoiced over you to do you good, and to multiply you; so the LORD will rejoice over you to destroy you, and to bring you to nought; and ye shall be plucked from off the land whither thou goest to possess it.

## Deut 32:39-41

See now that I, even I, am he, and there is no god with me: I kill, and I make alive; I wound, and I heal: neither is there any that can deliver out of my hand. For I lift up my hand to heaven, and say, I live for ever. If I whet my glittering sword, and mine hand take hold on judgment; I will render vengeance to mine enemies, and will reward them that hate me.

In Deut 28:63, God said He would rejoice over you to destroy you if you turn back to sin. Why? Because God rejoices in righteous judgment! If you study "throne" in the bible, you will find it is a throne of "judgment", for righteous judgment, for blessings to the saints and curses to the sinners. Let me reinforce this for you: (1) where did the plagues / curses on Egypt come from when God sent Moses there, (2) where did the leprosy come from on Miriam when she spoke against Moses, who cried out to God to heal her "now", and God said even if her father had spit in her face she would be unclean for a week, (3) who is putting the judgments/curses of Revelation on the world?

## Gal 3:13-14

Christ hath redeemed us from the curse of the law, being made a curse for us: for it is written, Cursed is every one that hangeth on a tree: That the blessing of Abraham might come on the Gentiles through Jesus Christ; that we might receive the promise of the Spirit through faith.

If you are redeemed from the curse of the law (Gal 3:13) by the blood of Jesus, then you were not redeemed before receiving the blood, that is, the curse applied, but now the blessings apply (Gal 3:14). This is true also for being delivered from the authority of darkness in Col 1:13 and the authority of death in Heb 2:14-15.

### Matt 13:15

For this people's heart is waxed gross, and their ears are dull of hearing, and their eyes they have closed; lest at any time they should see with their eyes, and hear with their ears, and should understand with their heart, and should be converted, and I should heal them.

You see that some people could not (because of a process of rejecting the Truth and staying in lusts and sin) or would not perceive/receive Truth, and therefore would not receive the blood to redeem from the curse, and therefore could not be healed from the curse of sickness, because they would not convert.

So, if the devil can deceive a person with lies and temptation, then he can legally bring death and destruction to them. An example, if an unbeliever has cancer in their body, that according to the Word is Truth (not a Lie), because they are under the curse.

#### James 1:15

Then when lust hath conceived, it bringeth forth sin: and sin, when it is finished, bringeth forth death.

### Rom 7:11

For sin, taking occasion by the commandment, deceived me, and by it slew me.

## 1 Cor 6:9

Know ye not that the unrighteous shall not inherit the kingdom of God? Be not deceived: neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor effeminate, nor abusers of themselves with mankind.

## 2 Thess 2:10

And with all deceivableness of unrighteousness in them that perish; because they received not the love of the truth, that they might be saved.

Through the curse, the devil will bring sickness, disease, poverty, homeless, shame, emotional wounds, depression, etc. But Jesus has redeemed us from the curse of the law, by taking the penalty of death for us.

## Heb 2:14-15

Forasmuch then as the children are partakers of flesh and blood, he also himself likewise took part of the same; that through death he might **destroy him that had the power of death, that is, the devil**; And deliver them who through fear of death were all their lifetime subject to bondage.

# Oppression

If the devil cannot afflict a person legally, then he will try illegally, through oppression. That is, to press on a person or their affairs. Oppression is against righteousness (that is, the right judgment of God, being that a saint is blood washed, redeemed from the curse, and redeemed to the blessings).

Acts 10:38

How God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Ghost and with power: who went about doing good, and healing all that were oppressed of the devil; for God was with him

There is also a process that goes from <u>obsession</u> (where a person continually thinks thoughts of something), that leads or opens the door to <u>oppression</u> (where a person is directly afflicted by demonic spirits), and possibly <u>possession</u> (where a demon has entered the person's body and is influencing or exercising direct control over the person).

Lets clarify that if a "sickness" (e.g., cancer) is caused by a demonic oppression, then a believer can be oppressed (e.g., have cancer (Fact)) thru a demon entering their body, but that is not "possession". Possession takes control over a person so that the person cannot operate in free-will.

If a person is being afflicted or oppressed by a spirit of "whatever" (e.g., adultery), whether it was in their body or around their body (who cares... we are going to cast it out), and we cast that spirit out and away from them, it does not mean necessarily that the person was thinking or acting or involved in "whatever" (e.g., adultery). So don't personalize it. If a person is being afflicted with a spirit of "cancer", that does not make the person "cancer" or make it "their cancer". It is a spirit... deal with the spirit that is causing the oppression.

We fight against oppression and enforce our victory thru the name of Jesus and using the Word of God.

## Fear and Intimidation

The devil is not afraid of you, but of God in you, and you taking the name of Jesus and the power of the anointing (the anointed Word) against him. Do you realize the devil does not have faith, but only fear? He is a god of fear (trying to create fear in you and others), and he is himself full of fear and afraid. But like any oppressor or bully, he puts up a good front to make you think that you should be afraid of him.

1 Sam 17:10-11

And the Philistine said, I defy the armies of Israel this day; give me a man, that we may fight together. When Saul and all Israel heard those words of the Philistine, they were dismayed, and greatly afraid.

1 Sam 17:16

And the Philistine drew near morning and evening, and presented himself forty days. 1 Sam 17:24

And all the men of Israel, when they saw the man, fled from him, and were sore afraid. 1 Sam 17:45

Then said David to the Philistine, Thou comest to me with a sword, and with a spear, and with a shield: but I come to thee in the name of the LORD of hosts, the God of the armies of Israel, whom thou hast defied.

The devil will use anything he can to intimidate you from doing the will of God in your life. The Holy Spirit might urge you to speak to someone about the gospel, but you are afraid (in effect ashamed of the gospel... of what people might say).

Rom 1:16

For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek.

There is an old story of how lions hunt. When a lion gets too old to chase and catch the prey, and there are young lions that are unskilled, the young lions will lay in tall grass and wait. Then the old lion will go on the other side of the prey and roar. The prey will run from the roaring lion, into the tall grass for safety, and be killed by the young lions. The point is run towards the roar, towards the fear, and overcome it. How do you overcome fear? Speak the Word to it, bind it and cast it out, loose boldness...

2 Tim 1:7

For God hath not given us the spirit of fear; but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind.

But don't be afraid, for God is with you and for you... Press thru, using the name of Jesus, to bring victory to many.

Ps 23:4

Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me.

# **SPIRITUAL WARFARE - PART 2**

## WE ARE AT WAR

There is a spiritual war going on. There are battles in the heavens over your country, state, city, and neighborhood. That the devil has specific (familiar) demons and plans assigned to you for your defeat.

2 Cor 10:3

For though we walk in the flesh, we do not war after the flesh:

Eph 6:12-18

For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places.

2 Tim 2:3-4

Thou therefore endure hardness, as a good soldier of Jesus Christ. No man that warreth entangleth himself with the affairs of this life; that he may please him who hath chosen him to be a soldier.

When I used to be in the martial arts, our attitude was "today is the day that you will meet the enemy that will (try to) kill you". The intent was... Are you ready? Are you in top shape? Have you trained your best? Have you done everything that you could have done to be ready for this single-most-important life-altering event that is going to take place NOW?

Well, child of God, today is the day that the enemy that wants to kill you is seeking you! Are you ready? When you get wounded (e.g., sick), will you roll over and be sick, or will you rise to the occasion and fight thru. I have two scriptures for you:

Prov 24:10

If thou faint in the day of adversity, thy strength is small.

2 Sam 23:9-10

And after him was Eleazar the son of Dodo the Ahohite, one of the three mighty men with David, when they defied the Philistines that were there gathered together to battle, and the men of Israel were gone away: He arose, and smote the Philistines until his hand was weary, and his hand clave unto the sword: and the LORD wrought a great victory that day; and the people returned after him only to spoil.

The men of Israel were gone away, that is, they ran away, leaving Eleazar alone. This one man rose in faith to the occasion, bringing victory to many, who return afterwards for the blessings. It only takes one to bring the victory and spoil for others. Have you strengthened yourself and exercised yourself in the Word of God to your very best to bring victory to others? Then praise God and lets move forward and take the land, in the name of Jesus.

## WHAT OUR WEAPONS AND TACTICS ARE

The good news is that Jesus has won the victory for us.

Col 2:13-15

And you, being dead in your sins and the uncircumcision of your flesh, hath he quickened together with him, having forgiven you all trespasses; Blotting out the handwriting of ordinances that was against us, which was contrary to us, and took it out of the way, nailing it to his cross; And having spoiled principalities and powers, he made a shew of them openly, triumphing over them in it.

### 1 Peter 3:22

Who is gone into heaven, and is on the right hand of God; angels and authorities and powers being made subject unto him.

The meaning of the greek words and writing of this section convey that Jesus not only won, but that he took captive the devil and his forces, and in Roman style, stripped them naked, removing all their weapons / armor / clothes, and made a show / parade of them for all to see that they were defeated and humiliated.

Jesus has made us more than conquerors by giving us His victory and His weapons to enforce the victory.

Hebrews 10:12-13

But this man, after he had offered one sacrifice for sins for ever, sat down on the right hand of God; From henceforth expecting till his enemies be made his footstool.

# Victory thru the Blood, the Word, and Laying Down our Lives

We overcome the devil thru using the blood of the Lamb, the word of faith confession (testimony), and not loving our fleshly self-centered life.

Rev 12:11

And they overcame him by the blood of the Lamb, and by the word of their testimony; and they loved not their lives unto the death.

## The Blood

First, we overcome by the blood of the Lamb. As discussed in the Blood Covenant section, the "zoe" life of God in the blood of Jesus meet the moral standards of God, for the penalty for sin, and paid the redeeming price forever. That "zoe" life in the blood is what prevents Satan and his forces from crossing it, when you plead it over yourself and your family. Satan dares not touch the blood lest it consume him! Praise God forever more!

When you "plead" the blood of Jesus over your life and ministry, over the work of your hands, and over your relationships, and your health and finances, in Jesus' name, (1) you make a legal plea (of innocent or pardoned) in the High Court of Heaven, putting the devil in remembrance that you are blood bought and blood washed by the blood of Jesus, with the right judgment having been declared, and are thereby free from all curses,

Job 16:21

O that one might plead for a man with God, as a man pleadeth for his neighbour!

Ps 35:1

Plead my cause, O LORD, with them that strive with me: fight against them that fight against me.

Ps 119:154

Plead my cause, and deliver me: quicken me according to thy word.

Isa 3:13

The LORD standeth up to plead, and standeth to judge the people.

(2) you activate faith in the blood:

Rom 3:25

Whom God hath set forth to be a propitiation through faith in his blood, to declare his righteousness for the remission of sins that are past, through the forbearance of God:

and (3) you apply the blood over yourself (as the Israelis did their doors in Egypt) and God will not let the devil (destroyer) touch you.

## The Word

Second, we overcome by the word of our testimony. This is not getting up a church to "testify" that God saved you, woke you up this morning, gave you breath today... though God did all that, but that is giving Him thanksgiving. The word of our testimony is our faith confession, our faith declaration (SHOUT IT OUT!)...

"Devil, you cannot touch me for I am blood bought and blood washed, me and all my household are saved (Acts 11:14), and delivered from the power of darkness (authority of darkness) (Col 1:13, 2 Tim 1:7), and translated into the kingdom of God's dear Son, Jesus Christ, in Jesus' name (Col 1:13), no curse can land without cause (Prov 26:2), and I shall not be visited with evil (Isa 54:14), for no evil shall befall me (Ps 91:10), in Jesus' name."

God said in Isa 55:11 that His Word would not return void, but accomplish and prosper that which He please. God's Word returns to Him when it comes out of your mouth, when you give it Life / Breath. That paper and ink book you have in your hand that you call a Bible is not sharper than a two-edged sword, the Word is sharper than a two-edged sword when it comes out of your mouth! It is not your word (e.g., "Oh, I don't feel so good today."), but His Word in your mouth (e.g., "with whose stripes you were healed... be strengthened with might by his Spirit in the inner man", in Jesus' name).

### Rom 10:8

But what saith it? The word is nigh thee, even in thy mouth, and in thy heart: that is, the word of faith, which we preach;

### 2 Cor 4:13

We having the same spirit of faith, according as it is written, I believed, and therefore have I spoken; we also believe, and therefore speak;

## Rev 2:16

Repent; or else I will come unto thee quickly, and will fight against them with the sword of my mouth.

The two witnesses in Revelation could not be killed until they finished their testimony (Rev 11:7) including doing signs and wonders. How did they do signs and wonders? How did people hear their testimony? By the words of their mouth.

The testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy (Rev 19:10). Prophecy is something in the future, that the Word either (1) revealed or (2) is causing to come to pass. Therefore, you take the Word in your mouth and speak to the circumstances and cause what you want to come to pass. Remember according to Proverbs 18:21, death and life are in the power of your tongue. How did you get born again? By believing in your heart and confessing with your mouth.

## Not Loving Our Lives unto Death

Second, we must lay down our lives, what we think we are or should be (pride of life), and what we think we want (lust of the eyes & lust of the flesh). If a person stays in their live, that is, live of sin, they will go to hell. Or if a person wants to do something their way, rather that The Way, it will fail. Jesus said:

Luke 9:23-26

And he said to them all, If any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross daily, and follow me. For whosoever will save his life shall lose it: but whosoever will lose his life for my sake, the same shall save it. For what is a man advantaged, if he gain the whole world, and lose himself, or be cast away? For whosoever shall be ashamed of me and of my words, of him shall the Son of man be ashamed, when he shall come in his own glory, and in his Father's, and of the holy angels.

## And Paul:

1 Cor 15:31

I protest by your rejoicing which I have in Christ Jesus our Lord, I die daily.

2 Cor 11:28

Beside those things that are without, that which cometh upon me daily, the care of all the churches.

# Victory thru Knowing the Word

The only thing that is going to keep you is the Word of God. It's the Word, It's the Word, It's the Word...

God said His people are destroyed because of a lack of knowledge... of Him and His Word.

Hos 4:6

My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge: because thou hast rejected knowledge, I will also reject thee, that thou shalt be no priest to me: seeing thou hast forgotten the law of thy God, I will also forget thy children.

When Jesus was tempted by the devil in the wilderness, Jesus quoted the Word in answer to him (Matt 4:4, 7, 10) "... it is written...". You have to use the Word of God too as a weapon of warfare against the devil and his forces. God's Word is the sword of the Spirit that we are to wield against the devil.

Eph 6:17-18

And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God: Praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, and watching thereunto with all perseverance and supplication for all saints;

Heb 4:12-13

For the word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any twoedged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart. Neither is there any creature that is not manifest in his sight: but all things are naked and opened unto the eyes of him with whom we have to do.

Why? Because God hastens to perform His Word.

Jer 1:12

Then said the LORD unto me, Thou hast well seen: for I will hasten my word to perform it.

Isa 55:12

So shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth: it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it

Ps 147:15

He sendeth forth his commandment upon earth: his word runneth very swiftly.

How do you know if you are getting the good thing from God, or a bad thing? By knowing the Word. If it is a bad thing, it is a curse, which you are redeemed from. You must know the Word, believe the Word, pray the Word (when you have a need, find the covenant promise in the Word, and pray it), speak the Word...

# Victory thru the Name of Jesus

(See "Prayer - Part 2" on speaking to the circumstances.)

You have authority in the name of Jesus, over demons, over sickness and disease, over every curse. Jesus inherited all power and authority in Heaven and on earth after His resurrection, and has given that authority to us, as delegated kings and ambassadors on the earth. But we must take it and use it. We must go looking for the enemy, to destroy his works and set the captives free.

Luke 9:1-2

Then he called his twelve disciples together, and gave them power and authority over all devils, and to cure diseases. And he sent them to preach the kingdom of God, and to heal the sick.

Psalms 91:13

Thou shalt tread upon the lion and adder: the young lion and the dragon shalt thou trample under foot.

Luke 10:17-19

And the seventy returned again with joy, saying, Lord, even the devils are subject unto us through thy name. And he said unto them, I beheld Satan as lightning fall from heaven. Behold, I give unto you power to tread on serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy: and nothing shall by any means hurt you.

Mark 16:15-18

And he said unto them, Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature. He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned. And these signs shall follow them that believe; In my name shall they cast out devils; they shall speak with new tongues; They shall take up serpents; and if they drink any deadly thing, it shall not hurt them; they shall lay hands on the sick, and they shall recover.

Acts 3:6

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

Acts 3:16

16 And his name through <u>faith in his name</u> hath made this man strong, whom ye see and know: yea, the faith which is by him hath given him this perfect soundness in the presence of you all.

Sometimes, you just need a witty idea of how to use the name of Jesus in your situation. For example, you can speak to your mind, will, or emotions and command them to change in the name of Jesus. You don't have to be depressed. You don't have to be lead around by your fleshy or soulish desires. You can take authority over them, in the name of Jesus. I tell people to do spiritual experiments to prove the Word. For example, the next time you get hungry for a particular type of food, speak to your soulish will (i.e., the will is in the soul) and demand in the name of Jesus for it to desire some other type of food. Your desire (and the taste in your mouth) should instantly change. If not, keep practicing it till it does. This is

how you develop yourself in <u>faith in the name</u> of Jesus, by using it. (This is also how you enforce being spirit-led (the Holy Spirit leading your spirit) to rule over your soul (verse soul-lead) and flesh (verse flesh-lead). We will address this in much more detail in the School of the Spirit.)

Most everyone who knows me knows my "roach" story. I have a friend named Stephen, who has a friend who was reading Mark 11:23 ("whosoever shall say.. not doubt... shall have..."). As he read, he saw a roach crawling on the wall. He got up and went over to the roach and started commanding it to die and fall off the wall. He stood there and commanded it, in the name of Jesus, over 500 times. And it fell off the wall, dead. Stephen says he has seen this friend walk up to a roach on the wall and speak to it, ONE TIME, and it fall dead off the wall. Why? Because he has developed his faith in the name. I said "this is great" as I don't like roaches. So when I got home, I started looking for a roach. The next time I saw one, I started speaking to it. Ten times, fifteen times, twenty times, twenty-five times, twenty-eight times... man, this is work (Yes, developing faith is work)... So I stopped at twenty-eight times. BUT since that time, I find roaches at the door or window edge, dead. There was an authority and anointing that was developed and resided there. On extremely rare occasions, I will see a live one late at night. I will speak once to it, go to bed, and in the morning there it is, legs up, dead.

I have another friend who used to shoot flies out of the air with the name of Jesus. You say, now that is getting weird, what good is that. Well, get up and start shooting the spirit flies (demons) from the Lord of the Flies (the devil) out of your air space (priesthood) and enforce your victory, in the name of Jesus!

The name of Jesus works!

# Victory thru Binding and Loosing

(See "Prayer - Part 2" on Binding and Loosing)

Matthew 12:29

Or else how can one enter into a strong man's house, and spoil his goods, except he first bind the strong man? and then he will spoil his house.

Mark 3:27

No man can enter into a strong man's house, and spoil his goods, except he will first bind the strong man; and then he will spoil his house.

Matthew 16:19

And I will give unto thee the keys of the kingdom of heaven: and whatsoever thou shalt bind on earth shall be bound in heaven: and whatsoever thou shalt loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven.

Matthew 18:18

Verily I say unto you, Whatsoever ye shall bind on earth shall be bound in heaven: and whatsoever ye shall loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven.

Raise up early every morning and seek God's presence. Praise Him for who He is, Thank Him for what He has done, intercede for others, and ask for what you have need of believing you receive it when you ask.

Then go on the offense and seek Satan! Bind his forces that afflict and oppress you and your family. Bind depression, bind anger, bind poverty and sickness! Bind strife and rebellion in your children! Loose peace, loose the apage love of God! Loose the Holy Spirit you move on your behalf, in the name of Jesus. Loose unity in your house. Loose your children from Satan's hold. Loose your finances. Command your blessings to be loosed and to come forth and be manifested, in the name of Jesus!

# **Victory thru Praise**

When it seems that the battle is too great for you, then enter into Praise.

Ps 50:23

Whoso offereth praise glorifieth me: and to him that ordereth his conversation aright will I shew the salvation of God.

The word "glorifieth" in the Hebrew literally means to make heavy or weighty. God's anointing and His glory (His manifested presence) can have a weight that is sometimes felt to them. The anointing at times will feel like a mantle or blanket throw over you, at other times the anointing will feel like oil running down your forehead, at other times it can fell like hot oil poured or brushed own your body somewhere.

The main point is, that as you praise God, even in the middle of a battle that seems to strong for you, He will manifest Himself to bring (show) His deliverance (salvation) to you.

In the Hebrew words for salvation and deliverance are the same. When Jesus came to save you, He delivered you from all evil.

Luke 1:74

That he would grant unto us, that we being delivered out of the hand of our enemies might serve him without fear,

Col 1:13

Who hath delivered us from the power of darkness, and hath translated us into the kingdom of his dear Son:

Remember Israel was delivered from an army to great for them:

2 Chron 20:14-22

Then upon Jahaziel the son of Zechariah, the son of Benaiah, the son of Jeiel, the son of Mattaniah, a Levite of the sons of Asaph, came the Spirit of the LORD in the midst of the congregation; And he said, Hearken ve, all Judah, and ve inhabitants of Jerusalem. and thou king Jehoshaphat, Thus saith the LORD unto you, Be not afraid nor dismayed by reason of this great multitude; for the battle is not yours, but God's. To morrow go ye down against them: behold, they come up by the cliff of Ziz; and ye shall find them at the end of the brook, before the wilderness of Jeruel. Ye shall not need to fight in this battle: set yourselves, stand ye still, and see the salvation of the LORD with you, O Judah and Jerusalem: fear not, nor be dismayed; to morrow go out against them: for the LORD will be with you. And Jehoshaphat bowed his head with his face to the ground: and all Judah and the inhabitants of Jerusalem fell before the LORD, worshipping the LORD. And the Levites, of the children of the Kohathites, and of the children of the Korhites, stood up to praise the LORD God of Israel with a loud voice on high. And they rose early in the morning, and went forth into the wilderness of Tekoa: and as they went forth, Jehoshaphat stood and said, Hear me, O Judah, and ye inhabitants of Jerusalem; Believe in the LORD your God, so shall ye be established; believe his prophets, so shall ye prosper. And when he had consulted with the people, he appointed singers unto the LORD, and that should praise the beauty of holiness, as they went out before the army, and to say, Praise the LORD; for his mercy endureth for ever. And when they began to **sing and to praise**, the LORD set ambushments against the children of Ammon, Moab, and mount Seir, which were come against Judah; and they were smitten.

Think of Paul in prison in Philippi:

Acts 16:25-26

And at midnight Paul and Silas prayed, and sang praises unto God: and the prisoners heard them. And suddenly there was a great earthquake, so that the foundations of the prison were shaken: and immediately all the doors were opened, and every one's bands were loosed.

And begin to Praise and Worship your God, the God of Hosts, Who is greater than all, and He will begin to fight for you, for you are His, and He will bring forth and show His salvation unto you!

2 Cor 2:14

Now thanks be unto God, which always causeth us to triumph in Christ, and maketh manifest the savour of His knowledge by us in every place.

Now it is time for you to take the weapons of our warfare, and go forth and prove them by using them until you become effective and victorious with them. As Romans 12:2 says, that you must prove... You must produce the results, the victories, by taking God's Word and weapons forward into the battle.

## OFFENSIVE WARFARE

As an overcomer, you need to do more than just sit around waiting for the devil to attach you or your family. You need to fight offensive warfare by (1) maintaining and protecting your ground, and (2) going after the enemy's ground. Remember that Jesus came to destroy the works of the devil (Acts 10:38, 1 John 3:8), and we are to carry that fight forward (Matt 10:7-8, Mark 16:15-18). Jesus said that the gates of Hell would not prevail (Matt 16:18), remember gates are only good for keeping someone out, not for advancing an army or conquering territory, that is, the devil is trying desperately to keep what he has stolen, but Jesus said the gates would not prevail, but that we take it from the devil by force (Matt 11:12) thru the Word of God.

One way to maintain and protect your ground is thru daily confession of the Word. Christianity in the 1st century was called the Great Confession. Remember that the way you got born-again was through believing in your heart and confessing with your mouth (Rom 10:9-10), so believing was not enough, but you received the miracle of being born-again through confession of your mouth. Below is an example of a daily confession that you could use. Note that most of this is simply quoting/confession the Word, which are your weapons of warfare against the devil.

Father, I ask You to forgive us individually and corporately (me and my household) of all sin. I receive and appropriate the Blood of Jesus that washes us clean from all sin,

1 John 1:9

in Jesus' name.

John 14:13, 16:26

I plead the Blood of Jesus over us individually and corporately, and over all our lives and ministries, and the work of our hands, and over our relationships, and our health and finances, in Jesus' name.

Rev 12:11

I surround us with an impregnable hedge of protection and shield of faith, in Jesus' name.

Job 1:10, Ps 3:3, 18:35, 115:9-11

And peace, peace, peace, And grace, grace, grace,

Prov 16:7, Rm 14:17 Ester 2:7, Ps 84:11, Zech 4:7

And favor, favor, favor as a shield,

Prov 3:3-4, Ps 5:12, Luke 2:52, Act 7:10

in Jesus' name.

I shut and condemn every tongue risen in judgment against us,

Isa 54:17

A Lu

And those that sent evil maliciously, I surround with a hedge to hedge up their way so that the demonic spirits that have been operating with them cannot visit them or operate with them anymore forever, in the name of Jesus.

Hosea 2:6-7

Father God, I ask you in the name of Jesus, to bless them with salvation, that You turn their hearts unto You, as rivers of water, that You give them eyes to see, ears to hear, and a heart to receive the engrafted Word, which is able to save their souls.

Matt 4:55
Prov 21:1
Duet 29:4
Jam 1:21

I negate every negative and evil word said, sent, or spoken against us,

That not even the tongue of a dog shall rise against us, In Jesus' name. Ex 11:7 I bind every demonic and/or evil force and/or spirit sent against us, Matt 16:19, 18:18 in Jesus' name. Mark 16:17

every principality, and power, and ruler of darkness, and spiritual wickedness in heavenly places sent against us, in Jesus' name, Eph 6:12
And I cast them out away from us, Mark 16:17

Love Tabernacle Ministries International Foundation Class - Spiritual Warfare - Part 2 page 90 And into the abyss (bottomless pit, a prison), in Jesus name, Luke 8:31. Rev 9:1-3 And demand that they and their kind never return to us again, in Jesus' name. Mark 9:25

No weapon formed or fashioned shall prosper against us,

Isa 54:17

Though a thousand fall at my side, and ten thousand at my right hand, no sickness, no disease, no poverty, no lack, no witchcraft, no evil may come near me nor my family nor dwelling place: Ps 91:7

for me and all my household are saved:

Acts 11:14

and delivered from the power of darkness (authority of darkness), Col 1:13, 2 Tim 1:7 And translated into the kingdom of God's dear Son, Jesus Christ, in Jesus' name; Col 1:13 No curse can land without cause.

Prov 26:2

And I shall not be visited with evil: for no evil shall befall me, in Jesus' name.

Isa 54:14 Ps 91:10

I command wars to cease against me.

Ps 46:9

For we are no longer under the dominion of sin, death, or darkness,

Rom 6:9, 11, 7:1

but under the Spirit of Life and Liberty in Christ Jesus, in Jesus' name.

Rom 8:2, Rev 11:11, 2 Cor 3:7, Luke 4:18, Gal 5:13

I am blessed, blessed, blessed, Deut 28:8 and cannot be cursed, in Jesus' name. Gal 3:13 I am the head and not the tail. Deut 28:13 I am above only and not beneath, in Jesus' name. Deut 28:13 Blessings coming upon me, and overtaking me, in Jesus' name. Deut 28:2 I have Life and have it more abundantly, in Jesus' name. John 10:10

I loose the Spirit of God, and the Shekinah Glory of God,

the anointings of God (which destroy every yoke and drives out every evil spirit), Isa 10:27 and the presence and power of God to minister for us and to us and thru us, in Jesus' name. Isa 45:11

I demand that there be an open heaven above us now and continually, in Jesus' name.

Deut 28:12 (compare to 28:23), Matt 3:16

I loose guarding, ministering, and warring angels to camp round about us,

to drive out and keep out every evil spirit,

Psalms 91:11

and to minister for us and to us as heirs of salvation, in Jesus' name.

Heb 1:13-14

Father God.

I thank you that greater is He that is in me than he that is in the world. 1 John 4:4 and that there are more for me than against me, in Jesus' name. 2 King 6:16

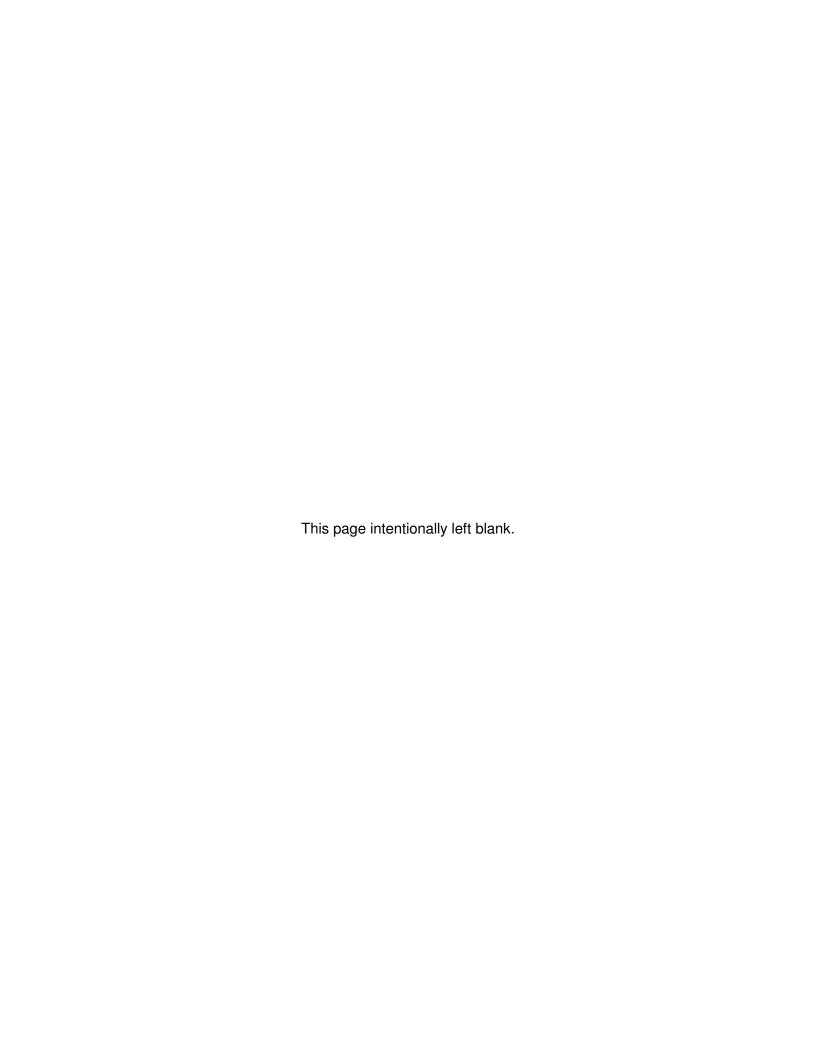
So fight the good (victorious) fight of faith, so at the end you can say, like Paul, that I have kept the faith.

## 1 Tim 6:12

Fight the good fight of faith, lay hold on eternal life, whereunto thou art also called, and hast professed a good profession before many witnesses.

### 2 Tim 4:7

I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith:



# STRONG HOLDS

## **D**EFINITION

In the old testament, strong holds were towers, fortresses, fortified caves or mountains that protected the occupants from attack. King David both lived in strong holds and captured strong holds:

1 Sam 23:14

And David abode in the wilderness in strong holds, and remained in a mountain in the wilderness of Ziph. And Saul sought him every day, but God delivered him not into his hand.

2 Sam 5:7

Nevertheless David took the strong hold of Zion: the same is the city of David.

In the spirit realm, strong holds are belief systems, thought processes, or opinions. Your actions reflect these strong holds. These could be godly strong holds, or ungodly. Strong holds are built up by receiving and/or meditating on thoughts. These thoughts build thought patterns or processes, cause imaginations, and become beliefs that you act upon.

Prov 23:7

For as he thinketh in his heart, so is he:

For example, a man may believe that God does not heal today, that his grandfather had cancer, his father had cancer, and he will get cancer. (It is a fact that over 90% of cancer patients received the thought earlier in their lives that they would have cancer in their lifetime.) He will start having visions of himself in the hospital, and seeing himself with the same symptoms as his father. The devil will start giving him pains like his father, and the man will start saying "see, see" and calling it "my pain". He will literally speak it into existence and/or give access to the spirit of cancer to come upon him. "Well, brother, I don't believe that", and that's your problem, your unbelief system, an ungodly strong hold.

You try and tell a person who believes in healing (and particularly one who has been healed by God) that he will have cancer. "Well, you might, brother, you never now...". "I will not, you lying demon, Jesus took my infirmities, and bore my sickness, and with stripes I am healed, not going to be healed, am healed, in Jesus' name. I am redeemed from the curse of the law, and I will never, ever, have cancer, in Jesus' name." Now that is a godly strong hold, based upon a belief system found in the Word of God.

A thought is a powerful think, because it can become a belief. Our thoughts must be examined in the light of God's Word, the Bible. If our thoughts don't line up with the Word, we need to change our thoughts. Begin to meditate on the Word of God, the covenant promise of God, of what He said about you, and has said He has provided for you. Believe Him, who cannot lie, and let it manifest thru you in your life. That is, why the Word says:

Rom 12:2

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

You have to prove, you have to produce proof, thru your beliefs and actions, what is the good, acceptable, and perfect will of God. For example, it is God's good will for all to be healed (you got to believe that you are going to get healed, and not die) even if you are believing in the doctors and medicine; but without faith, it is impossible to please God (acceptable, that God is going to heal you); but the greatest is to walk as Jesus walked, in the perfect will of God, in perfect continual divine health (i.e., heal-eth). Take the Word and produce the proof in your life.

## **D**EVELOPMENT

Strong holds come into existence from thoughts that we receive or plant (meditate upon).

2 Cor 10:3-6

For though we walk in the flesh, we do not war after the flesh: (For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal, but mighty through God to the pulling down of <u>strong holds</u>;) Casting down <u>imaginations</u>, and every high thing that exalteth itself against the knowledge of God, and bringing into captivity every <u>thought</u> to the obedience of Christ; And having in a readiness to revenge all disobedience, when your obedience is fulfilled.

Stong holds develop in this order:

- 1. Thoughts
- 2. Imaginations
- 3. Strong holds

# **Thoughts**

The Word says bring into captivity every thought. That means to you must examine the thoughts that enter your mind. And you must know the Word to have something to examine it against.

Many people think that all the thoughts that come inside of them, or that they "hear" or think inside them are just thoughts of their brain or mind. That is not so. Some people say, "well, I thought it, I might as well say it". Oh, NO, you don't. That is why the bible says hold up the shield of faith against all the fiery darts of the devil.

Eph 6:16

Above all, taking the shield of faith, wherewith ye shall be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked.

Because most of those thoughts are fiery darts from the devil. You have to examine them and bring them into captivity. You have life and death in the power of your tongue (Prov 18:21). You cannot just be speaking death out every time a demon gives you an evil thought. You would be just like a talking doll. All the demon has to do is pull your string (give you a thought) and out it comes. People who live like that have their lives and the lives of those around them constantly torn up.

Luke 6:45

A good man out of the good treasure of his <u>heart</u> bringeth forth that which is good; and an evil man out of the evil treasure of his <u>heart</u> bringeth forth that which is evil: for of the abundance of the <u>heart</u> his mouth speaketh.

You see, the thoughts are in your heart (spirit), not mind (soul). I heard of someone who once taught that the devil cannot hear you in your mind, which may be so, but he can hear you in the spirit realm. If you speak in the natural realm, natural creatures hear you. If you speak in the spirit realm, even silently within yourself (so you think), it is heard in the spirit realm.

Gen 17:17

17 Then Abraham fell upon his face, and laughed, and said in his heart, Shall a child be born unto him that is an hundred years old? and shall Sarah, that is ninety years old, bear?

Gen 17:19

And God said, Sarah thy wife shall bear thee a son indeed; and thou shalt call his name Isaac: and I will establish my covenant with him for an everlasting covenant, and with his seed after him.

God called the child "Isaac", meaning laughter. Because God hear Abraham Spirit to spirit when Abraham spoke in his heart. And again with Sarah.

Gen 18:12-13

Therefore Sarah laughed within herself, saying, After I am waxed old shall I have pleasure, my lord being old also? And the LORD said unto Abraham, Wherefore did Sarah laugh, saying, Shall I of a surety bear a child, which am old?

You are a spirit creature that lives in a body. You are a spirit, which has a soul, not a soul that has a spirit. According to the original Hebrew of Gen 2:7, God spirited (breathed) into man and man became a spirit(-ual) soul. The soul came into existence because of the spirit entering the body. The soul is the connection between spirit and body. As you hear someone in the natural, and it goes thru your soul to your spirit. How can someone say something, and you be grieved in the spirit, if the spirit does not hear it? You can bring to remembrance (from the memory is in the mind) what was said, but it is now playing over and over in your heart (spirit), not in the natural ear that you originally heard it with.

Your spirit communes and exists in contact with the spirit realm / world all the times, just as your flesh / skin is in contact with the natural world all the time, feeling and sensing the atmosphere and activities (sound (thoughts), sight (imaginations), smell, feel of the air or touch, etc...) of the things around you. Your flesh (or body, it is the same word in the Greek) communicates this information to your soul (mind, will, and emotions), which communicates them to your spirit. Your spirit man touches and receives information from the spirit realm and communicates that to your soul also.

Most thoughts that you hear inside you are actually spoken words in the spirit realm by either (1) the Holy Spirit (or angels), or (2) demons. Think of a time when the Holy Spirit has been talking to you, and you see that it is as thoughts (we will get into distinguishing between other spirits, your spirit and your soul in School of the Spirit). Think of when you hear the Holy Spirit starting to pray in tongues inside of you, it sounds like "thoughts". The mind is a storehouse or databank of information, but your conscience (area of processing thoughts) is your spirit or heart (, but what is called your "sub-conscience" is the Holy Spirit).

#### Luke 2:19

But Mary kept all these things, and pondered them in her heart.

### Matt 13:15

For this people's heart is waxed gross, and their ears are dull of hearing, and their eyes they have closed; lest at any time they should see with their eyes, and hear with their ears, and should understand with their <u>heart</u>, and should be converted, and I should heal them.

### Ps 14:1

The fool hath said in his heart, There is no God.

## Mark 11:23

For verily I say unto you, That whosoever shall say unto this mountain, Be thou removed, and be thou cast into the sea; and shall not doubt in his <u>heart</u>, but shall believe that those things which he saith shall come to pass; he shall have whatsoever he saith.

The Word is the discerner, the examiner, of the thoughts of the <u>heart</u> (in the spirit).

## Heb 4:12

12 For the word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any twoedged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the <u>heart</u>.

You must begin to study, memorize and know the Word of God concerning your situation and life, in order to have victory and overcome the strong holds of the devil.

# **Imaginations**

Like a castle wall is built up a brick at a time, stone upon stone, line upon line, thought processes or belief systems are built up a thought at a time. These thoughts build upon and reinforce previous thoughts. They lead to vain imaginations (visions) that give even greater strength to the strong hold.

Matt 15:19

For out of the heart proceed evil thoughts, murders, adulteries, fornications, thefts, false witness, blasphemies:

A theft will begin to see himself stealing that thing he is thinking on. A false witness will imagine the trouble he will cause those he is lying about. Murder can be in vision or imagination form, as well as adulteries and fornications.

Matt 5:28

28 But I say unto you, That whosoever looketh on a woman to lust after her hath committed adultery with her already in his heart.

These images that play over and over in a person's head (heart) become very strong imprints on them. For example, you angry at someone, everybody was sure to come by and share what the other person said or did, to be sure to rehearse it, over and over again to you, it seems to play over and over before your eyes in your head... See the process happening.

Or maybe its worries about finances, "how am I going to pay (the bills)". (Note: The devil never talks to you in 3rd person, like "how is he ...", but in first person "how am I ...", so that you will think it is your own thought, and receive it.) "You know, my parents were always poor, I have always been poor, and I am never going to get out of this, I am never going to be able to move from this area, I am never going to be able to..." And you see yourself in that poor job, in that poor car, in that poor house... Start looking up from where your help comes from, and see what God sees for you. Ask the Holy Spirit to give you a vision of what He has for you, and wants you to start meditating on and believing for.

We must guard intensely our imaginations. Sometimes the devil will give you dreams to back up and strengthen the strong hold. "I dreamed my car broke down". Lying devil, I don't have breakdown's, in Jesus' name. I remember I started having dreams about some monster chasing me. About the 3rd night it happened, in my dream with me a sleep, my spirit man took over the dream, and I stopped running, turned around and shouted "in Jesus' name". The monster stopped, the dream ended, and never came back.

Start seeing yourself in that place that God wants for you, in that new job, in that new house, in that place of ministry. Allow vision, hope, and faith to start rising up in you. Dream big dreams, and begin to speak to them to come to pass, in Jesus' name.

# **Strong Holds**

Strong holds are the end result of uncontrolled thoughts and imaginations. The resulting belief system will determine a person's future actions. Strong holds are belief systems, that the enemy imparts into one, to cause that individual to begin to acquire his thoughts, to bring one to hopelessness and discouragement, and ultimately away from the intimate knowledge of Jesus Christ and how He walked here on earth. Once he gets into one's belief system, he stops that individual from patterning his or her walk after Christ. He begins to speak into that mind and control it.

For example, a young girl's father leaves the family when she is young. She misses him, she feels rejected, not cared for, the devil tells her "it was my fault", "I must have don't something", "nobody loves me", "nobody will ever love me"... See grows up to be a beautiful woman, but cannot see herself beautiful because she <u>sees</u> herself as unworthy / unlovable. When people start getting close to her, something always happens, because she is rejecting them "after all, they will never accept me". It is a strong underlying belief that is destroying her live. BUT GOD says you are worthy, because He chose you to set His love upon you, and that you are accepted in the beloved. Amen.

So the thought process has to change. Some times ungodly strong holds have to be torn down a thought at a time, as we build up godly strong holds in their place, a thought at a time, with supporting visions and dreams and imaginations, until I know that I know the will and Word of God for me in this area, and cannot be moved or shaken from it, in Jesus' name.

Nah 1:7

The LORD is good, a strong hold in the day of trouble; and he knoweth them that trust in him.

Some times strong holds are what we think about all the time. It is what we value or count worthy.

Matt 6:21

21 For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also.

For example, one person loved baseball. That is all they thought about, dreamed about, imagined about as they walked around. They could not wait till the evening and weekends when they could go play baseball.

It consumed them and controlled them. It does not matter if it is baseball, or shopping, or being mad with someone, or TV / Playstation / porn; if it is consuming you, your thoughts and imagination, it is controlling you... for the purpose of keeping you away from godly strong holds, and thereby defeated.

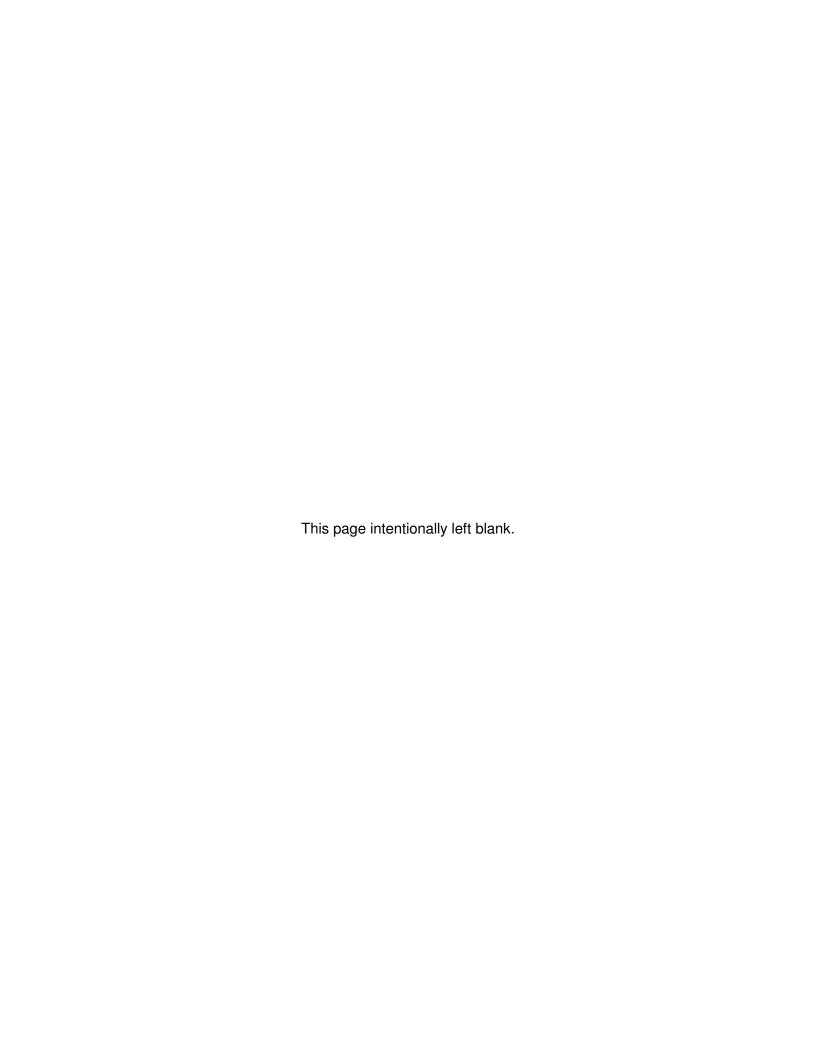
Begin to use the name of Jesus to break its power. Begin to curse that ungodly lust that is drawing you or driving you, evening in your thoughts toward that thing, and command it to wither and die out of your life, in Jesus' name.

Begin to replace it with God's Word. Begin to speak the Word over your self and situation, in the name of Jesus. Begin to see your self in that place of victory. And allow God to build

you up into that man of God that He has destined you to be since before the foundation of the world, in Jesus' name!

Luke 8:15

But that on the good ground are they, which in an honest and good heart, having heard the word, keep it, and bring forth fruit with patience.



# **HEALING**

## SICKNESS AND DEATH... THE CURSE OF THE LAW

When Adam sinned, death entered in.

Gen 3:19

In the sweat of thy face shalt thou eat bread, till thou return unto the ground; for out of it wast thou taken: for dust thou art, and unto dust shalt thou return.

Rom 5:12

Wherefore, as by one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned:

Remember that the definition of "death" is separation.

Isa 59:2

But your iniquities have separated between you and your God, and your sins have hid his face from you, that he will not hear.

Our sins separated us from intimate contact with God, and His healing power. Every sickness and disease carries the seed of death and is part of the curse of the law.

Deut 28:58-61

If thou wilt not observe to do all the words of this law that are written in this book, that thou mayest fear this glorious and fearful name, THE LORD THY GOD; Then the LORD will make thy plagues wonderful, and the plagues of thy seed, even great plagues, and of long continuance, and sore sicknesses, and of long continuance. Moreover he will bring upon thee all the diseases of Egypt, which thou wast afraid of; and they shall cleave unto thee. Also every sickness, and every plague, which is not written in the book of this law, them will the LORD bring upon thee, until thou be destroyed.

Rom 6:23

For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.

# PROMISED HEALING IN JESUS

Jesus has redeemed us from the curse of the Law:

Gal 3:13

Christ hath redeemed us from the curse of the law, being made a curse for us: for it is written, Cursed is every one that hangeth on a tree:

God sent His Word (Jesus) to heal us:

Mal 4:2

But unto you that fear my name shall the Sun of righteousness arise with healing in his wings;

Ps 107:20

He sent his word, and healed them, and delivered them from their destructions.

Even has He promised and prophesied,

Isa 53:4-5

Surely he hath borne our griefs, and carried our sorrows: yet we did esteem him stricken, smitten of God, and afflicted. But he was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace was upon him; and with his stripes we are healed.

Matt 8:16-17

When the even was come, they brought unto him many that were possessed with devils: and he cast out the spirits with his word, and healed all that were sick: That it might be fulfilled which was spoken by Esaias the prophet, saying, Himself took our infirmities, and bare our sicknesses.

1 Peter 2:24

Who his own self bare our sins in his own body on the tree, that we, being dead to sins, should live unto righteousness: by whose stripes ye were healed.

You will notice in Isaiah 53:5 the verb is "are", indicating future tense, but in 1 Peter 2:24, the verb is "were" indicating past tense. You were healed on the cross by Jesus' sacrifice. You merely need to believe and receive... The work is already done ("It is finished").

# GOD'S WILL TO HEAL

It is God's will to heal you of ALL your diseases:

Ps 103:2-3

Bless the LORD, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits:

Who forgiveth all thine iniquities; who healeth all thy diseases;

Because it is His desire that you prosper and be in health (that is, heal-eth):

3 John 2

Beloved, I wish above all things that thou mayest prosper and be in health, even as thy soul prospereth.

The name Jehovah-Rapha reveals part of God the Father's character and his desire or will to heal us.

Ex 15:26

And said, If thou wilt diligently hearken to the voice of the LORD thy God, and wilt do that which is right in his sight, and wilt give ear to his commandments, and keep all his statutes, I will put none of these diseases upon thee, which I have brought upon the Egyptians: for I am the LORD that healeth thee.

Promised as part of Old Covenant

Ex 23:25

And ye shall serve the LORD your God, and he shall bless thy bread, and thy water; and I will take sickness away from the midst of thee.

Deut 28:1-4

And it shall come to pass, if thou shalt hearken diligently unto the voice of the LORD thy God, to observe and to do all his commandments which I command thee this day, that the LORD thy God will set thee on high above all nations of the earth: And all these blessings shall come on thee, and overtake thee, if thou shalt hearken unto the voice of the LORD thy God. Blessed shalt thou be in the city, and blessed shalt thou be in the field. Blessed shall be the fruit of thy body, and the fruit of thy ground, and the fruit of thy cattle, the increase of thy kine, and the flocks of thy sheep.

As God lead them forth from Egypt, not one was sick (or feeble).

Ps 105:37

He brought them forth also with silver and gold: and there was <u>not one feeble person</u> among their tribes.

## JESUS WAS SENT TO HEAL

Part of the Kingdom message that Jesus preached and brought:

Luke 4:18

The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he hath anointed me to preach the gospel to the poor; he hath sent me to heal the brokenhearted, to preach deliverance to the captives, and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty them that are bruised,

Matt 9:35

And Jesus went about all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues, and preaching the gospel of the kingdom, and <u>healing every sickness and every disease</u> among the people.

To destroy the work of the Devil, including sickness due to the curse of sin:

1 John 3:8

He that committeth sin is of the devil; for the devil sinneth from the beginning. For this purpose the Son of God was manifested, that he might destroy the works of the devil.

Acts 10:38

How God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Ghost and with power: who went about doing good, and healing all that were oppressed of the devil; for God was with him.

Part of the covenant, even the bread:

Matt 15:24-28

But he answered and said, I am not sent but unto the lost sheep of the house of Israel. Then came she and worshipped him, saying, Lord, help me. But he answered and said, It is not meet to take <u>the children's bread</u>, and to cast it to dogs. And she said, Truth, Lord: yet the dogs eat of the crumbs which fall from their masters' table. Then Jesus answered and said unto her, O woman, great is thy faith: be it unto thee even as thou wilt. And her daughter <u>was made whole</u> from that very hour.

Part of the great commission:

Mark 16:15-18

And he said unto them, Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature. He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned. And these signs shall follow them that believe; In my name shall they cast out devils; they shall speak with new tongues; They shall take up serpents; and if they drink any deadly thing, it shall not hurt them; they shall lay hands on the sick, and they shall recover.

Not that "may" recover, or that they "should" recover, but that they "shall" recover. (Think of using these words to instruct your child to clean his room.)

### Jesus' will is to Heal

Jesus never refused anyone to be healed, but was moved by compassion, by the love of God to heal them.

Mark 1:40-41

And there came a leper to him, beseeching him, and kneeling down to him, and saying unto him, If thou wilt, thou canst make me clean. And Jesus, moved with compassion, put forth his hand, and touched him, and saith unto him, I will; be thou clean.

Matt 14:14

And Jesus went forth, and saw a great multitude, and was moved with compassion toward them, and he healed their sick.

## Jesus' healed them ALL

Matt 4:23

And Jesus went about all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues, and preaching the gospel of the kingdom, and healing <u>all manner of sickness and all manner of disease</u> among the people.

Matt 8:16

When the even was come, they brought unto him many that were possessed with devils: and he cast out the spirits with his word, and <u>healed all</u> that were sick:

Matt 9:35

And Jesus went about all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues, and preaching the gospel of the kingdom, and <u>healing every sickness and every disease</u> among the people.

Matt 12:15

But when Jesus knew it, he withdrew himself from thence: and great multitudes followed him, and he <u>healed them all</u>;

## GOD HAS EMPOWERED US TO HEAL

Besides being part of the great commision or command to us, God has given us authority thru the name of Jesus and empowered us to heal.

Disciples, which includes us:

Matt 10:1

nd when he had called unto him his twelve disciples, he gave them power against unclean spirits, to cast them out, and to heal all manner of sickness and all manner of disease.

Matt 10:7-8

And as ye go, preach, saying, The kingdom of heaven is at hand. Heal the sick, cleanse the lepers, raise the dead, cast out devils: freely ye have received, freely give.

Mark 6:13

And they cast out many devils, and anointed with oil many that were sick, and healed them.

#### Use the name of Jesus:

Acts 3:6

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

Acts 9:34

And Peter said unto him, Aeneas, Jesus Christ maketh thee whole: arise, and make thy bed. And he arose immediately.

## The gifts of healing:

Luke 5:17

And it came to pass on a certain day, as he was teaching, that there were Pharisees and doctors of the law sitting by, which were come out of every town of Galilee, and Judaea, and Jerusalem: and the power of the Lord was present to heal them.

1 Cor 12:9

To another faith by the same Spirit; to another the gifts of healing by the same Spirit;

Call the elders (prayer of faith, not a gift operating):

James 5:14-16

Is any sick among you? let him call for the elders of the church; and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord: And the prayer of faith shall save the sick, and the Lord shall raise him up; and if he have committed sins, they shall be forgiven him. Confess your faults one to another, and pray one for another, that ye may be healed. The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much.

### WHAT THE SICK SHOULD DO

Besides calling for the elders and confessing their sins (Jam 5:14-16), they should come to **HEAR** (faith comes by hearing - Rom 10:17) **and be HEALED**.

Luke 5:15

But so much the more went there a fame abroad of him: and great multitudes came together to hear, and to be healed by him of their infirmities.

Luke 6:17

And he came down with them, and stood in the plain, and the company of his disciples, and a great multitude of people out of all Judaea and Jerusalem, and from the sea coast of Tyre and Sidon, which came to hear him, and to be healed of their diseases;

Luke 9:11

And the people, when they knew it, followed him: and he received them, and spake unto them of the kingdom of God, and healed them that had need of healing.

# **PROSPERITY**

## **POVERTY**

**Poverty** is "not having enough". Simply put, when you need 100%, you have or get less than 100%. There is no way to succeed in any activity when you always have less than 100% of the resources to get the job done.

Poverty is a curse, even the curse of the law:

Gen 3:17-19

And unto Adam he said, Because thou hast hearkened unto the voice of thy wife, and hast eaten of the tree, of which I commanded thee, saying, Thou shalt not eat of it: cursed is the ground for thy sake; in sorrow shalt thou eat of it all the days of thy life; Thorns also and thistles shall it bring forth to thee; and thou shalt eat the herb of the field; In the sweat of thy face shalt thou eat bread, till thou return unto the ground; for out of it wast thou taken: for dust thou art, and unto dust shalt thou return.

Deut 28:28-29

The LORD shall smite thee with madness, and blindness, and astonishment of heart: And thou shalt grope at noonday, as the blind gropeth in darkness, and thou shalt not prosper in thy ways: and thou shalt be only oppressed and spoiled evermore, and no man shall save thee.

Prov 13:18

Poverty and shame shall be to him that refuseth instruction: but he that regardeth reproof shall be honoured.

Poverty or lack can be spiritual (lack of wisdom / knowledge (Hosea 4:6), lack of the Word), soulish (a lean soul... not "happy" (which is the same word as "blessed"), or physical (finances, health, success).

Poverty can also manifest in a person's mindset or thought process. That is, a person always assumes that they will not have enough, will not get paid enough, will not have the resources to do a job (so they never start the job or business), etc.... It is faith in the curse, faith in the lack, faith in the obstacle, faith in the failure... all of which is fear (fear is faith in the curse, the opposite of faith in the Word that has redeemed you from the curse.) A person must break their mental attitude of poverty before they can stand in a place of faith to receive the blessings of prosperity.

Poverty is the opposite of prosperity.

## REDEEMED FROM POVERTY

But Jesus has redeemed us from the curse of the law, including poverty (that is, to be poor).

Gal 3:13-14

Christ hath redeemed us from the curse of the law, being made a curse for us: for it is written, Cursed is every one that hangeth on a tree:

That the blessing of Abraham might come on the Gentiles through Jesus Christ; that we might receive the promise of the Spirit through faith.

2 Cor 8:9

For ye know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that, though he was rich, yet for your sakes he became poor, that ye through his poverty might be rich.

Jesus gave up all of His rule of all of creation, all of heaven, all of earth, all of New Jerusalem with streets of gold, to become poor... that is, to take the penalty of sin for you... that you might be rich / prosperous. ("might" in that - be it according to your faith, per Rom 12:2, that you prove what is the good, acceptable, and perfect will of God is... You have to produce the proof by believing, praying and receiving, and confessing the Word, and acting on it thru supporting actions of faith... including diligence.) Jesus has redeemed you from that curse, forever, so that you could inherit rule over of all of creation, all of heaven, all of earth, all of New Jerusalem with streets of gold, because God created it all for YOU.

Jesus took the curse of poverty for you, when they planted that crown of <u>thorns</u> on His head (Mark 15:17) against the "thorns also and thistles shall it bring forth to thee" (Gen 3:18). That crown of thorns caused the blood of the puncture wounds (the blood that redeems you) to mix with "the sweat of thy face" (Gen 3:19), there by taking the curse of poverty for you. So that you can go free (John 8:32) and be a partaker of the blessings of Abraham.

Remember that God made Abraham rich, that is, the blessing of Abraham makes rich.

Gen 13:2

And Abram was very rich in cattle, in silver, and in gold.

Prov 10:22

The blessing of the LORD, it maketh rich, and he addeth no sorrow with it.

God is trying to bless you. His eyes go to and fro in the earth looking for someone He can bless... Because He is a Blesser!

Gen 12:1-3

Now the LORD had said unto Abram, Get thee out of thy country, and from thy kindred, and from thy father's house, unto a land that I will shew thee: And I will make of thee a great nation, and I will bless thee, and make thy name great; and thou shalt be a blessing: And I will bless them that bless thee, and curse him that curseth thee: and in thee shall all families of the earth be blessed.

Gen 22:16-17

And said, By myself have I sworn, saith the LORD, for because thou hast done this thing, and hast not withheld thy son, thine only son: That in blessing I will bless thee, and in

multiplying I will multiply thy seed as the stars of the heaven, and as the sand which is upon the sea shore; and thy seed shall possess the gate of his enemies;

### Deut 7:12-13

Wherefore it shall come to pass, if ye hearken to these judgments, and keep, and do them, that the LORD thy God shall keep unto thee the covenant and the mercy which he sware unto thy fathers: And he will love thee, and bless thee, and multiply thee: he will also bless the fruit of thy womb, and the fruit of thy land, thy corn, and thy wine, and thine oil, the increase of thy kine, and the flocks of thy sheep, in the land which he sware unto thy fathers to give thee.

His heart cries out for children to love and bless... Because He takes pleasure in blessing His children, and He addes no sorrow with it.

#### Ps 35:27

Let them shout for joy, and be glad, that favour my righteous cause: yea, let them say continually, Let the LORD be magnified, which hath pleasure in the prosperity of his servant.

## **PROSPERITY**

**Prosperity** is "having an <u>abundance</u>". Simply put, when you need 100%, you get 100% plus some left over. Whether it is 101% or 110%, it is "more than enough" and is therefore an abundance.

#### John 10:10

The thief cometh not, but for to steal, and to kill, and to destroy: I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly.

That is why Love never fails (1 Cor 13:8), because it always gives an <u>abundance</u>, more than enough, running over/pressed down/shaken together.... Both in spiritual things, and in natural things.

## Ex 1:7

And the children of Israel were fruitful, and increased <u>abundantly</u>, and multiplied, and waxed exceeding mighty; and the land was filled with them.

#### Deut 28:47

Because thou servedst not the LORD thy God with joyfulness, and with gladness of heart, for the <u>abundance</u> of all things;

## Ps 36:8

They shall be <u>abundantly</u> satisfied with the fatness of thy house; and thou shalt make them drink of the river of thy pleasures.

#### 2 Cor 9:7-8

Every man according as he purposeth in his heart, so let him give; not grudgingly, or of necessity: for God loveth a cheerful giver. And God is able to make all grace abound toward you; that ye, always having all sufficiency in all things, may <u>abound</u> to every good work:

## Eph 3:20-21

Now unto him that is able to do exceeding <u>abundantly</u> above all that we ask or think, according to the power that worketh in us, Unto him be glory in the church by Christ Jesus throughout all ages, world without end. Amen.

God takes pleasure in the prosperity of His servants, because it comes from Him, and they receive it of Him.

#### Ps 35:27

Let them shout for joy, and be glad, that favour my righteous cause: yea, let them say continually, Let the LORD be magnified, which hath pleasure in the prosperity of his servant.

## Gen 24:40

And he said unto me, The LORD, before whom I walk, will send his angel with thee, and prosper thy way...

#### Deut 29:9

Keep therefore the words of this covenant, and do them, that ye may prosper in all that ye do.

### Josh 1:7-8

Only be thou strong and very courageous, that thou mayest observe to do according to all the law, which Moses my servant commanded thee: turn not from it to the right hand or to the left, that thou mayest prosper whithersoever thou goest.

This book of the law shall not depart out of thy mouth; but thou shalt meditate therein day and night, that thou mayest observe to do according to all that is written therein: for then thou shalt make thy way prosperous, and then thou shalt have good success.

This is particularly evident when God says:

## 3 John 2

Beloved, I wish above all things that thou mayest prosper and be in health, even as thy soul prospereth.

Prosperity includes the spiritual, soulish, and physical realms. True prosperity is being able to take the Word of God produce victory / prosperity / success in any area of your life.

God says that He desires intensely / passionately / "above all things" that you prosper. God is for you, and your prosperity, and not against you. He is more concerned about blessing you, than you are. Why? Because He wants you to be blessed (prosperous) and a blessing to others.

# JESUS PREACHED PROSPERITY

### Luke 4:18-19

The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he hath anointed me to preach the gospel to the poor; he hath sent me to heal the brokenhearted, to preach deliverance to the captives, and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty them that are bruised, To preach the acceptable year of the Lord.

### Luke 7:22

Then Jesus answering said unto them, Go your way, and tell John what things ye have seen and heard; how that the blind see, the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, to the poor the gospel is preached.

If you are blind, what is it you want? What is good news to you? Your sight! If you are deaf, what is it you want? What is good news to you? Your hearing. If you are poor, what is it you want? What is good news to you? Prosperity. That you are redeemed from the curse of poverty thru the blood and blody of Jesus Christ.

And that is what Jesus preached, that He redeemed you from the curse of poverty, and took it upon Himself, so that you could be free and prosper.

We prosper through our giving, that is, sowing and reaping, seed time and harvest. If you do not plant any seed, you will not reap a harvest. In the working of spiritual laws / principles concerning prosperity, it is important to know that there is a difference between firstfruits, tithes, and offerings:

#### 2 Chron 31:5

And as soon as the commandment came abroad, the children of Israel brought in abundance the firstfruits of corn, wine, and oil, and honey, and of all the increase of the fields; and the tithe of all things brought they in abundantly.

## Neh 10:35-37

And to bring the firstfruits of our ground, and the firstfruits of all fruit of all trees, year by year, unto the house of the LORD: Also the firstborn of our sons, and of our cattle, as it is written in the law, and the firstlings of our herds and of our flocks, to bring to the house of our God, unto the priests that minister in the house of our God: And that we should bring the firstfruits of our dough, and our offerings, and the fruit of all manner of trees, of wine and of oil, unto the priests, to the chambers of the house of our God; and the tithes of our ground unto the Levites, that the same Levites might have the tithes in all the cities of our tillage.

## Neh 12:44

And at that time were some appointed over the chambers for the treasures, for the offerings, for the firstfruits, and for the tithes, to gather into them out of the fields of the cities the portions of the law for the priests and Levites: for Judah rejoiced for the priests and for the Levites that waited.

# FIRST FRUITS

We should give God our best, and of the best of the first fruits of our increase (not the last fruits). If we honor God at the beginning of anything, He will bless it and cause it to abound.

Ex 23:19

The first of the firstfruits of thy land thou shalt bring into the house of the LORD thy God....

Deut 18:4

The firstfruit also of thy corn, of thy wine, and of thine oil, and the first of the fleece of thy sheep, shalt thou give him.

Prov 3:9-10

Honour the LORD with thy substance, and with the firstfruits of all thine increase: So shall thy barns be filled with plenty, and thy presses shall burst out with new wine.

An example of this would be if you received a promotion of \$100 a week, you would give the first week's \$100 to as a special firstfruits offering. Or if you started a new business endeavour, you would give the first profit from it to God as a special firstfruits offering. By giving the firstfruits offering, you are thanking God for the new harvest and God moves on your behave (based upon Prov 3:9-10 above) to ensure that the full harvest comes in.

## TITHES

Your way out of poverty is thru faith in and obeying of the Word. That includes paying of tithes and offerings. You see, Jesus is Lord and Saviour (2 Pt 1:11) (not Saviour then Lord); that is, He cannot deliver / save you in any area of your life that you are not willing to make Him Lord of (by obeying His Word) first.

Lev 27:30-32

And all the tithe of the land, whether of the seed of the land, or of the fruit of the tree, is the LORD's: it is holy unto the LORD. And if a man will at all redeem ought of his tithes, he shall add thereto the fifth part thereof. And concerning the tithe of the herd, or of the flock, even of whatsoever passeth under the rod, the tenth shall be holy unto the LORD.

Deut 12:6

And thither ye shall bring your burnt offerings, and your sacrifices, and your tithes, and heave offerings of your hand, and your vows, and your freewill offerings, and the firstlings of your herds and of your flock

2 Chron 31:12

And brought in the offerings and the tithes and the dedicated things faithfully....

The tithe is 10% of all your increase. For example if you receive a paycheck for your labor, your paycheck (before taxes) is your increase. If you are a businessman, your profit is your increase.

## Mal 3:8-12

Will a man rob God? Yet ye have robbed me. But ye say, Wherein have we robbed thee? In tithes and offerings. Ye are cursed with a curse: for ye have robbed me, even this whole nation. Bring ye all the tithes into the storehouse, that there may be meat in mine house, and prove me now herewith, saith the LORD of hosts, if I will not open you the windows of heaven, and pour you out a blessing, that there shall not be room enough to receive it. And I will rebuke the devourer for your sakes, and he shall not destroy the fruits of your ground; neither shall your vine cast her fruit before the time in the field, saith the Lord of hosts. And all nations shall call you blessed: for ye shall be a delightsome land, saith the Lord of hosts.

According to Lev 27:30-32 (above), the tithe belongs to the Lord. That is, we do not "give" the tithe. It does not belong to us. I cannot "give" something that does not belong to me. We "bring" the tithe (as in Mal 3:10 above). Look at it this way. God owns everything. He lets us be partners with Him, giving us 90% and expecting His 10%. I cannot "give" (to my partner or to someone else) something that belongs to my partner already. The tithe is what belongs to my partner, God, from my current increase (that is, the current harvest). I cannot pray for a 30 / 60 / 100 fold return on what does not belong to me. I pray for a 30 / 60 / 100 fold return on what I give thru offerings (that is, seed time).

Many times, we hear that the tithe is the first tenth of our increase. However, this is not supported by scripture and probably comes from mixing / misunderstanding of firstfruits and tithes. The only time a distinction is made is in Lev 27:32 where the tenth animal (not the first animal) is the tithe. But for most of us (as was truth for most cases in the Bible), there is no way to determine the tenth part of our increase, so we are commanded to give a tenth part, that is, the tithe.

Tithing was before the law. Abraham (Abram) tithed to God, in faith, before the law, to the minister of God at that time, who was Melchizedek.

#### Gen 14:18-20

And Melchizedek king of Salem brought forth bread and wine: and he was the priest of the most high God. And he blessed him, and said, Blessed be Abram of the most high God, possessor of heaven and earth: And blessed be the most high God, which hath delivered thine enemies into thy hand. And he gave him tithes of all.

Paul said that "here men receive tithes".

## Heb 7:5-8

And verily they that are of the sons of Levi, who receive the office of the priesthood, have a commandment to take tithes of the people according to the law, that is, of their brethren, though they come out of the loins of Abraham: But he whose descent is not counted from them received tithes of Abraham, and blessed him that had the promises. And without all contradiction the less is blessed of the better. And here men that die receive tithes; but there he receiveth them, of whom it is witnessed that he liveth.

Note that the priest (and ministers today) pay tithes (that is, the tithe of the tithe) of what they are paid.

Neh 10:38

And the priest the son of Aaron shall be with the Levites, when the Levites take tithes: and the Levites shall bring up the tithe of the tithes unto the house of our God, to the chambers, into the treasure house.

## AND OFFERINGS

There are many types of offerings. But the main point of them is that they are "free will" offerings. That is, tithes are required, but offerings are by your heart's desire to give. When you talk about your financial seed that you planted in faith, being God to return (30, 60, 100x fold), you are talking about you offerings, not tithes.

Prov 11:24-25

There is that scattereth, and yet increaseth; and there is that withholdeth more than is meet, but it tendeth to poverty. The liberal soul shall be made fat: and he that watereth shall be watered also himself.

Luke 6:38

Give, and it shall be given unto you; good measure, pressed down, and shaken together, and running over, shall men give into your bosom. For with the same measure that ye mete withal it shall be measured to you again.

While we give general "offerings", that the minister or church decides how to best use. We also give more specific offerings, such as (1) to specific areas such as benevolence (to the poor), minister's love, and missions, and (2) some times we give to a specific incidences as a particular family having a need and a special offering is taken up to help them.

## **Benevolence**

Ps 41:1

Blessed is he that considereth the poor: the LORD will deliver him in time of trouble.

Psalms 112:9

He hath dispersed, he hath given to the poor; his righteousness endureth for ever; his horn shall be exalted with honour.

Prov 14:21

He that despiseth his neighbour sinneth: but he that hath mercy on the poor, happy is he.

Prov 14:31

He that oppresseth the poor reproacheth his Maker: but he that honoureth him hath mercy on the poor.

Prov 19:17

He that hath pity upon the poor lendeth unto the LORD; and that which he hath given will he pay him again.

### Prov 21:13

Whoso stoppeth his ears at the cry of the poor, he also shall cry himself, but shall not be heard.

#### Prov 22:9

He that hath a bountiful eye shall be blessed; for he giveth of his bread to the poor.

#### Prov 28:27

He that giveth unto the poor shall not lack: but he that hideth his eyes shall have many a curse.

Prov 31:20 (speaking of a righteous woman showing mercy and giving to the poor) She stretcheth out her hand to the poor; yea, she reacheth forth her hands to the needy.

## Minister's Love

### Gal 6:6

Let him that is taught in the word communicate unto him that teacheth in all good things. 1 Tim 5:17-18

Let the elders that rule well be counted worthy of double honour, especially they who labour in the word and doctrine. For the scripture saith, Thou shalt not muzzle the ox that treadeth out the corn. And, The labourer is worthy of his reward.

## 1 Cor 9:7

Who goeth a warfare any time at his own charges? who planteth a vineyard, and eateth not of the fruit thereof? or who feedeth a flock, and eateth not of the milk of the flock?

#### 1 Cor 9:14

Even so hath the Lord ordained that they which preach the gospel should live of the gospel.

#### **Missions**

Rom 10:14-15

How then shall they call on him in whom they have not believed? and how shall they believe in him of whom they have not heard? and how shall they hear without a preacher? And how shall they preach, except they be sent? as it is written, How beautiful are the feet of them that preach the gospel of peace, and bring glad tidings of good things!

# It IS GOD'S WILL TO BLESS YOU

God desires above all things that you prosper and be in health.

3 John 2

Beloved, I wish above all things that thou mayest prosper and be in health, even as thy soul prospereth.

God is not trying to withhold any good thing from you.

Psalms 84:11-12

For the Lord God is a sun and shield: the Lord will give grace and glory: no good thing will he withhold from them that walk uprightly. O Lord of hosts, blessed is the man that trusteth in thee.

He is trying to get you into a place of obedience and faith to receive.

Isa 1:19

If ye be willing and obedient, ye shall eat the good of the land:

God is trying to give you witty inventions to make you rich.

Proverbs 8:12

I wisdom dwell with prudence, and find out knowledge of witty inventions.

Because God takes pleasure in your prosperity.

Ps 35:27

Let them shout for joy, and be glad, that favour my righteous cause: yea, let them say continually, Let the LORD be magnified, which hath pleasure in the prosperity of his servant.

# THE TRINITY'S GIFTS

# **Explanation of the Trinity**

The Godhead<sup>21</sup> is made up of three persons, the Father - **Jehovah**, the Son - Jesus the Christ (i.e., **Jehoshua** the Mashiyach), and the **Holy Spirit**. Concerning their names:

- In the old testament, Jehovah's name is stated 6209 times and is translated LORD (with all caps). This is more than twice the number of times that Elohim (Hebrew for God) is stated. Jehovah wanted his people to know that He is God, not some other god by some other name. Yet today, most christians could not tell you the name of God the Father if you asked them.
- Similarly, most christians are not aware that the Christ's (i.e., greek word meaning "the anointed one", same as the hebrew word Mashiyach (translated Messiah) means, anointed with the Holy Spirit and power) name is Jehoshua (meaning "Jehovah is Salvation"), and is sometimes shorted incorrectly as Yeshua. This is the same name that King James translates as Joshua in the old testament (similar sound). The greek word for Jehoshua is leesou, which is translated Jesus in the King James.
- Also, the Holy Spirit was sometimes translated by the King James as "Holy Ghost".
   However, the word translated Spirit/Ghost is always "spirit" in the original greek of the new testament.

We are sent out in all the world in their name:

Matthew 28:19

Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost:<sup>22</sup>

You will notice that it says a single *name*, because God is a singular Godhead, in complete unity and oneness with Himself, yet in three persons. This has been revealed ever since the beginning of scripture:

Genesis 1:1-3

In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth. And the earth was without form, and void; and darkness was upon the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God moved upon the face of the waters. And God said, Let there be light: and there was light.

We see all three persons at the beginning, the Father speaking, the Word (Jesus)<sup>23</sup> being spoken, and the Holy Spirit moving upon the waters. The word *spirit* means literally *forced breath*; we see God willfully forcing His breath out, which carries His Word and power, to accomplish His purpose in the earth<sup>24</sup>.

The word *God* in Gen 1:1 is *Elohim*. It is a singular word implying multiple individuals acting as one entity. An example would be the word *troop*. When we say here comes a troop, we know that there is more than one person in the whole unit, but we understand from the word that they

21 Acts 17:29, Rm 1:20, Col 2:9

22 2 Cor 13:14, 1 John 5:7

23 John 1:1-3, 1 John 1:1-3, Heb 1:1-3

24 See Job 33:4, Ps 104:30, Lk 1:35

are acting as one unit. If we said *troops*, then we would understand that they were not acting in unity with each other. One way to understand the Trinity is to look at  $H_2O$ , which we normally think of as water<sup>25</sup>. However, it also comes as steam with much power and force for performing work<sup>26</sup>, and it comes as ice with the ability to refresh and to keep<sup>27</sup>. But while the form changes, the molecule of  $H_2O$  never changes.

So is God. Each of the Trinity has a spirit, a soul, and a body (i.e., the Father and Holy Spirit have a spiritual body). However, what makes them one God is that their Spirit is one Spiritual essence. That Spiritual essence is *agape* love. *Agape* is the greek word for the god kind of love, which is based upon a choice (a covenant) and willing to lay down His life for you. As H<sub>2</sub>O is always H<sub>2</sub>O, no matter the form, so is the God *Elohim* is always *agape* love.

What makes man unique in all creation is that we were created in Elohim's image<sup>28</sup> and of the same spiritual essence<sup>29</sup>. What is (a) man? Created in God's image? A man of love, created to agape.

The Trinity always works in (and are in) total agreement and unity. God is a covenant speaking God<sup>30</sup>, always speaks in covenant terms, even among *Elohim* (Himself).

# Plan of the Ages

God formed a plan, the Plan of the Ages, before anything was created. God the Father formed a plan and presented it to the Son and Holy Spirit, because whatever They do, They do in total agreement and in covenant. Proof of plan:

Rev 4:11 all things created for His pleasure 1 Pt 1:18-20 Jesus crucified before foundations of the world Prov 16:4 God has made all things for Himself

A plan that was hidden in the old testament, that even the angels did not know about:

1 Pt 1:9-12 ~ prophets trying to tell time, angels desire to see Eph 3:9-11 ~ hid, according to the eternal purpose, in Christ

For what purpose:

Eph 1:4-6

According as he hath chosen us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before him in love: Having predestinated us unto the adoption of children by Jesus Christ to himself, according to the good pleasure of his will, To the praise of the glory of his grace, wherein he hath made us accepted in the beloved.

25 water is a giver of life, John 4:10

26 God's power delivers you and transforms you

27 God's Spirit refreshes you and keeps you

28Gen 1:26

29Gen 2:7

30 friendship covenant verse blood covenant

Eph 1:11-12

In whom also we have obtained an inheritance, being predestinated according to the purpose of him who worketh all things after the counsel of his own will: That we should be to the praise of his glory, who first trusted in Christ.

That Jesus should be the first-born among many brethern. For God's pleasure thru His good purpose. For God's glory.

Eph 3:21

Unto him be glory in the church by Christ Jesus throughout all ages, world without end. Amen.

But God the Father is not a selfish God. He seeks to bless. As a loving Father, He sought to leave His Son an inheritance. As a mature Father, He sought to have His Son grow up and subdue it Himself.

Colos 1:18 -19

And he is the head of the body, the church: who is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead; that in all things he might have the preeminence. For it pleased the Father that in him should all fulness dwell:

So the Plan of the Ages was for the Son's sake, to the glory of the Father. This included the fall of angels, of man, and the crucifixion and resurrection of Jesus. So that we might be brothers of Jesus Christ, going thru the cross with Him, unto His glory and reign. Praise God forever more!

# The Working of the Trinity

There is a specific order<sup>31</sup> of authority and work in the Trinity. The Father is the greatest<sup>32</sup>, Jesus sat down in His throne and was given dominion, and the Holy Spirit is performing the transformation work with you (preferring Jesus to Himself, which is love). While each member of the Trinity is equal with each other<sup>33</sup>, God is not the author of confusion. Without a level of authority and system of work responsibilities, there is always confusion.

I Cor 12:4-6

v4 Now there are diversities of gifts, but the same Spirit.

v5 And there are differences of administrations, but the same Lord.

v6 And there are diversities of operations, but it is the same God which worketh all in all.

The Trinity works much like a cooperation:

- The Father (God in verse 6) is the Chief Executive Officer (CEO), who decides what the company's line of business is, and generally how it is going to accomplish it. He makes the plan and sets the direction.
- Jesus (Lord in verse 5) works as the administrator or mediator and head over all things. His job is to see that the actual plan or goals are accomplished.

31 Mt 28:19, 1 Cor 13:13

32 John 8:42, 14:28

33 Phil 2:5

 The Holy Spirit (Spirit in verse 4) acts as a first line supervisor, or your immediate boss. He recruits for the company, trains you, equips you with the necessary tools (gifts), and supervises and directs your work.

# THE THREE SETS OF GIFTS

Elohim God has setup the working of the kingdom and the spirit realm, as it pleased Him to do, according to the purpose and plan of the ages, as reflected above in the working of the Trinity.

Specifically, God setup three sets of gifts to assist in the working of the Kingdom:

- You will notice that the *Motivational gifts* in Romans 12:3-8 are given by God the Father to motivate you to work in the company to help accomplish the overall plan.
- The *Five Fold Ministry gifts* in Eph 4:8-16 are given by Jesus. The five fold perform the administration work of equipping and training the Body to go forth with the gospel.
- The *Charismatic gifts* in 1 Cor 12:7-11 are given by the Holy Spirit to equip the believer with the necessary tools to do the actual work.

The gifts are an impartation of the grace (i.e., capability) of God. Every ministry gift is a gift of giving. Giving out what God places in you. The gift of healing is not for the possessor of the gift, but for those to whom he ministers. The gift of prophet or apostle is not for the possessor to receive those ministries, but to dispense or distribute as the Spirit of God directs. God gives gifts to the church. He stores those gifts in chosen reservoirs (divinely selected ones) so that the gifts may flow out of them to touch His people as He directs. The gift is not theirs, they are but an executor of God's will, manifesting the gifts of God as the Spirit of God directs.

#### **Motivational Gifts**

God the Father gives a subset of the seven motivation gifts to a believer at the time of re-birth (i.e., receiving Jesus as Lord and Savior).

Rom 12:3-8

For I say, through the grace given unto me, to every man that is among you, not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think; but to think soberly, according as <u>God</u> hath dealt to every man the measure of faith. For as we have many members in one body, and all members have not the same office: So we, being many, are one body in Christ, and every one members one of another. Having then gifts differing according to the grace that is given to us, whether <u>prophecy</u>, let us prophesy according to the proportion of faith; Or <u>ministry</u>, let us wait on our ministering: or he that <u>teacheth</u>, on teaching; Or he that <u>exhorteth</u>, on exhortation: he that <u>giveth</u>, let him do it with simplicity; he that <u>ruleth</u>, with diligence; he that sheweth <u>mercy</u>, with cheerfulness.

While a believer may operate or work at some level any or all of these seven areas, at least one or more of these gifts will bring great **satisfaction** when it is done. By being satisfied or happy or feeling fulfilled, the believer will return again and again to be active in that area. That is, the satisfaction motives the believer to be involved in the work of the Kingdom.

This is why it is very important to teach believers about the motivational gifts, have them take a survey to identify their gifting(s), and make room for them to work their gifting(s) in the church and Kingdom... so that they will be happy, fulfilled and productive. Otherwise, they will be bored, unhappy, frustrated and much less fruitful in the Kingdom.

# **Five Fold Ministry Gifts**

While every believer is a priest (1 Pet 2:5,9; Rev 1:6, 5:10, 20:6) to those they come in contact with during their normal lives (that is, you are a priest to (1) intercede to God on their behalf, (2) make up the hedge of protection to keep the devil and destruction away from them, and (3) minister / speak to the people on behalf of God), while every believer has the ministry of reconciliation as an ambassador of Christ (2 Cor 5:18-20), there is a special grace of ministry that the Lord Jesus Christ gives to some believers (not all believers), specifically the five offices or works of (1) an apostle, (2) prophet, (3) evangelist, (4) pastor, and (5) teacher.

## Eph 4:11

And he gave some, <u>apostles</u>; and some, <u>prophets</u>; and some, <u>evangelists</u>; and some, <u>pastors</u> and teachers;

This is what we call the "five fold" ministry. They are Jesus' spiritual administration of the company. The purpose of this ministry is *to train* the rest of the Body of Christ to go do the work of the ministry.

### Eph 4:12-13

For the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ: Till we all come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fulness of Christ:

In the original greek, there are no punctuation marks. While the King James translated it with punctuation as above, it should be a purpose state saying "he gave some... for the perfecting (maturing) of the saints for the work of the ministry (of reconciliation) for the edifying (building up) of the body of Christ". Most people think that the five fold is the only ministry, call them "ministers", and expect them to do all the work, while they "lay" around doing nothing (and are unhappy and frustrated doing it). That is wrong.

Quit expecting your pastor or "minister" to do everything, and get in the battle yourself, and fulfill the calling of God on your life. Heal the sick, raise the dead, get people born-again, and baptized with the Holy Spirit, empowered and activated for their priesthood, in Jesus' name. So be it.

# **Charismatic Gifts**

The Holy Spirit gives a subset of the nine charismatic gifts to a believer at the time of receiving the "baptism with the Holy Spirit", evidenced by speaking in a new personal prayer language of "tongues". That is, *charis* is the greek word for grace, and *charisma* is a grace gift. Therefore, these are grace gifts of the Holy Spirit. They are an divine impartation of the capability and power of God into your live.

## 1 Cor 12:8-11

For to one is given by the Spirit the <u>word of wisdom</u>; to another the <u>word of knowledge</u> by the same Spirit; To another <u>faith</u> by the same Spirit; to another the <u>gifts of healing</u> by the same Spirit; To another the <u>working of miracles</u>; to another <u>prophecy</u>; to another <u>discerning of spirits</u>; to another divers kinds of <u>tongues</u>; to another the <u>interpretation of tongues</u>: But all these worketh that one and the selfsame Spirit, dividing to every man severally as he will.

While they only manifest as the Holy Spirit wills, what wills Him to manifest is "faith which works by love" (Gal 5:6). If you find you are having a hard time getting the anointing or gifts to manifest (i.e., getting the Holy Spirit to move), then reach out in the spirit realm and surround the person you are ministering to with love, and watch the Spirit flow.

We will be teaching on these three sets of gifts, in detail, in the coming classes.

# **CHARISMATIC GIFTS**

The Holy Spirit gives a subset of the nine charismatic gifts to a believer at the time of receiving the "baptism with the Holy Spirit", evidenced by speaking in a new personal prayer language of "tongues". That is, *charis* is the greek word for grace, and *charisma* is a grace gift. Therefore, these are grace gifts of the Holy Spirit. They are an divine impartation of the capability and power of God into your live.

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These gifts are given by the Holy Spirit, to equip us to be able to perform the work of the Body of Christ (the body of the anointed one, anointed with the Holy Spirit and power) in a supernatural way. These gifts are "tools" for us to us in proclaiming the Word of God to the unsaved world, confirming the truth with signs and wonders, thru the working of the Holy Spirit.

## **Purpose**

The purpose of the charismatic gifts is to:

- Attracting attention to the truth.
- To proclaim Jesus as Lord (verses 2-3), which is also confirming the truth.
- To proclaim God's power and majesty to the world (demonstration).
- Ministering to the needs of the Body of Christ, that is God meeting needs in a supernatural way.

## **M**ANIFESTATION

The gifts are manifested as we move with the Holy Spirit, acting in faith, which works by love. The gifts may also manifest at times we are not expecting them to because they function as the Holy Spirit wills. The balance is in that the Holy Spirit is moved by faith.

All these gifts operated in and under the old testament, except tongues and interpretation. Tongues and interpretation are signs of and specific to the new testament. This is why you don't see tongues and interpretation until the baptism of the Holy Spirit upon believers. All gifts, except tongues and interpretation, can be manifested to a lesser degree before the baptism of the Holy Spirit; however, the baptism brings the anointing of the Holy Spirit without measure or limit, and allows the potential for the full manifestation of the gifts, as we grow and yield to the leading of the Holy Spirit.

# **DIVISION OF GIFTS**

We divide and isolate the individual gifts to define them only. Normally, two or more gifts will operate at the same time. They may function at the same time (e.g., prophecy and word of wisdom), or they may flow from one to another without an obvious breaking point (e.g., interpretation and prophecy).

The gifts are divided into three groups, defining their general type of operation:

- A. the **revelation** gifts (reveal something): word of wisdom word of knowledge discerning of spirits
- B. the **power** gifts (do something by supernatural power): (special) faith working of miracles gifts of healing
- C. the **spoken** gifts (speak something): prophecy divers kinds of tongues interpretation of tongues.

# WORD OF WISDOM

#### **DEFINITION:**

The word of wisdom is a supernatural revelation, given by the Holy Spirit, of the plans, purposes, and will of God concerning future things.

## **EXPLANATION:**

- A. God is all knowing (omniscient). He not only knows all past and present things, but foreknows all things to happen in the future. This does not mean God has forced anyone to do something; merely, that God foreknows what a person will freely chose to do. The word (or message) of wisdom is a small portion of God's wisdom or foreknowledge in a certain area.
- B. Future things revealed could include conditional blessings, dependent upon obedience to God's word.
- C. Future things revealed could include cursings caused by man's disobedience, such as the babylonian captivity of the nation of Israel.
- D. If your car broke down and you did not know what the problem was, the word of wisdom could tell you what specifically to do to fix the car. You might not ever know what the problem was, nor why the *fix* worked.

- A. Usually is a voice inside of you, which you hear, but others around you cannot. It is similar to being on the phone, you can hear the other person on the phone, but those around you cannot hear him.
- B. May be manifested in dreams and visions.
- A. May be manifested thru the spoken gifts.

# WORD OF KNOWLEDGE

### **DEFINITION:**

The word of knowledge is a supernatural revelation, given by the Holy Spirit, of certain facts in the mind of God. Facts are things of the past or present.

### **EXPLANATION:**

- A. God is all knowing (omniscient). He knows all facts (past and present). The word (or message) of knowledge is God revealing a small portion of His knowledge in a certain area.
- B. If your car broke down, the word of knowledge could tell you what the problem is (fact), without telling you how to fix it (wisdom).

- A. Usually is a voice inside of you, which you hear, but others around you cannot. It is similar to being on the phone, you can hear the other person on the phone, but those around you cannot hear him.
- B. May be manifested in dreams and visions.
- C. May be manifested thru the spoken gifts.

# DISCERNING OF SPIRITS

#### **DEFINITION:**

The gift of discerning of spirits gives insight into the spirit world.

## **EXPLANATION:**

- A. This gift allows you to "see" into the spiritual realm. You may see good or evil spirits and their operation, or you may see the good or evil nature of a man's spirit.
- B. This gift may manifest as an "insight" or "perception" in your spirit as to the true nature of a spirit which is operating (good or evil in operation). This is much like an inner witness manifestation; however, the inner witness of the Holy Spirit includes broader applications, such as inner "peace" witnessing to you that you are in right relationship and fellowship with God.
- C. If you were ministering to a person who had an evil spirit, the gift of discerning of spirits would either give you an inner witness, like your spirit man drawing up inside you, or it might show you the evil spirit. The spirit might look like a black blob or cloud. Note that discerning of spirits would not tell you that a person had an evil spirit or what kind it was, that would be a word of knowledge.
- D. This is not a gift of "spirit of discernment", that is a "spirit of criticism" and is evil. nor is it a gift of "discernment", that is wisdom. Note we all, saved and unsaved, have some capacity of spiritual discernment, that is to say our spirits can sense when other spirits are around and as to what operation they are of. This is not the gift of "discerning of spirits", because it is functioning by our human spirit and not by the Holy Spirit.

- A. Mainly manifested in dreams and visions. Dreams are when you are asleep. Visions are when you are awake. There are three types of visions:
  - 1. **closed vision** when you see in a vision in your spirit. You may see spirits operating where you are at or other location, but you see it in your spirit and not in conjunction with your natural eyes. Whatever you are doing physically at the time is not affected or hindered. For example, you might be ministering to someone, and in your spirit you see the person and a demon clinging to their back, but with the natural eyes you saw nothing.
  - 2. **trance** when you see a vision in your spirit, but your physical facilities are suspended. you are literally "frozen" in place; you could be frozen standing or you could fall under the power and remain frozen there.
  - 3. **open vision** when you see both in the spiritual realm and in the physical realm at the same time. Your physical facilities are operating as normal and are part of the manifestation. For example, you might be ministering to someone, and your spiritual eyes are opened so that you see a demon clinging to the person's back. It appears that you are seeing it with your natural eyes, because your natural eyes are working in conjunction with your spiritual eyes.
- B May be manifested as an "insight" or "inner witness perception".
- C May operate with other revelation gifts.

# (SPECIAL) FAITH

#### **DEFINITION:**

The gift of "special faith" (amplified bible) is a supernatural endowment of believing God for something, above and beyond the normal measure of faith given to every Christian.

### **EXPLANATION:**

- A. The gift of faith allows one to believe so strongly, that he cannot doubt, but has complete and total assurance in god. An example would be Daniel receiving his deliverance in the loin's den. Another is Jesus going to and thru the cross, fully persuaded of His resurrection.
- B. This gift is used in receiving something from God (provision, protection, etc...).
- C. It may work with other gifts, particularly other power gifts, to accomplish something. An example would be Jesus' confidence in God's protection, going into Judea to raise Lazarus, after near stoning on last trip. (John 11:7-8,16)

### **MANIFESTATION:**

- A. Maybe manifested separately, by itself.
- B. Or with other gifts, particularly other power gifts.

# WORKING OF MIRACLES

#### **DEFINITION:**

The gift of "working of miracles" is a supernatural endowment of power from the Holy Spirit to intervene in the ordinary course of nature. That is, to cause a temporary or permanent change in natural events or order contrary to the normal operation of natural laws.

## **EXPLANATION:**

A "miracle" in the general use of the word is any work of God; however, a "miracle" in the specific use of the word is to intervene or supersede natural laws or occurrences by the power of God.

- A. It is always a manifestation in the natural realm, by the supernatural power of God.
- B. It may work with other gifts, particularly the power gifts.

# GIFTS OF HEALING

#### **DEFINITION:**

The "gifts of healing" is a supernatural endowment of power to deliver the physically oppressed from Satan (Acts 10:38), thereby destroying the works of the devil (1 Jh 3:8).

#### **EXPLANATION:**

- A. Note it is "gifts", not gift! That is, there are different gifts or mixtures of healing power given. One minister may have a special gift against different types of cancer (i.e., great success in healing manifestations), but limited success against deaf\dumb. Another minister could be the exact opposite. But all ministers can pray for healing thru other channels of faith!
- B. If a body, or part of a body, is still physically present and has some life in it, then the gifts of healing could operate to restore health. However if the part is completely dead, or missing (as a missing arm), then working of miracles would be operate (creative miracle).
- C. We must recognize:
  - 1. All sickness and disease is a curse (Dt 28:58-61), a work of Satan (Acts 10:38, 1 Jh 3:8).
  - 2. We are redeemed from the curse of the law (Gal 3:13), Jesus purchasing not only our holiness (sinlessness), but also our healing on the cross (Isa 53:4-5, Mt 8:16-17, 1 Pt 2:24), delivering us from the power of darkness (Col 1:13).
- D We can receive healing thru several channels or methods:
  - 1. prayer (that is to receive directly from God) (maybe special faith)
  - 2. laying on of hands (Mark 16:18-21, Jam 5:13-15) (regular faith, prayer of agreement or intercession) (\*note laying on of hands could be used with gifts of healing, but is not limited to this gift.)
  - 3. gifts of healing (God's power endowed or placed in a man as a channel).

- A. Maybe manifested by itself
- B. Or with other gifts: revelation, power, or spoken.

# PROPHECY

#### **DEFINITION:**

Prophecy is a divine utterance (word for word) in a known language of the speaker, given by the Holy Spirit, to edification, exhortation, and comfort (1 Cor 14:3).

## **EXPLANATION:**

- A. The gift of prophecy in and of itself has no revelation. But it may combine with one or more of the revelation gifts to reveal something.
- B. It may not combine with other gifts, but merely exhort in and of itself.
- C. It is a word for word supernatural utterance by the Holy Spirit thru a person. It is not preaching (which means to proclaim), but it may come forth during and/or in preaching.
- D. Can be used both in public (in the congregation) and private (personal prayer life) ministry.
- E. Prophecy alone does not make a "prophet". A prophet is a different gift or anointing, which is combined with some of the revelation gifts and the prophecy gift.
- F. We are not to be led by prophecy given to us thru other persons, but led by the Holy Spirit. Prophecy can be one of the 2-3 witnesses we use to confirm things (2 Cor 13:1). God normally talks to us first before it is given thru another person, and if not, then He will confirm it normally thru inner witness or other manifestations (word of knowledge, etc...).
- G. We are to judge prophecy (1 Cor 2:15, 14:29).

- A. It may manifest alone.
- B. Or with other gifts (revelation or power gifts).
- C. It is a spoken gift, though you may hear it first in your spirit, before you yield to the Holy Spirit to speak it. You may not have the whole message in your soul before going forth to give it.
  - 1. You may only have a perception in your spirit that it (prophecy) is there. I call this "something in the mail slot". You know it is there, but you don't know the content until you open your mouth.
  - 2. You may have only the first several words (heard from your spirit into your soul), like "thus saith the Lord". In both cases, you will have to move forward in faith and open your mouth.
- D. All believers should desire, ask, and have the gift of prophecy working in their personal (prayer life) ministry. That is praying by divine utterance. You can pray in prophecy and\or in tongues with\without interpretation in your own prayer life. (Acts 19:6, Acts 2:17-18, 1 Cor 14:39, 1 Thes 5:20).

# **DIVERS KINDS OF TONGUES**

#### **DEFINITION:**

The gift of "divers kinds of tongues" is a divine utterance (word for word) in an unknown tongue of the speaker, given by the Holy Spirit.

### **EXPLANATION:**

- A. Tongues (and interpretation) is the only gift not in operation in the old covenant. It is the initial sign of the outpouring or the baptism of the Holy Spirit, both to the church and to every believer. (Joel 2:28-29, Acts 2:17-18, Acts 19:6).
- B. Tongues may or may not be understood naturally by the listener(s).
- C. Tongues may be in the language of men or angels (1 Cor 13:1).
- D. Tongues can be applied by the Holy Spirit in two directions of communication, in either public or private ministry, and must be recognized which direction is being manifested for the proper rules of service to apply. These two directions of communication are:
  - 1. Man's spirit speaking to God, with the aid of the Holy Spirit, in prayer or worship (1 Cor 14:2, Rm 8:26-27). This type of communication can be manifested in all persons in a congregation at once and does not have to be interpreted.
  - God's spirit speaking to man, with the aid of the Holy Spirit thru a man (1 Cor 14:27-28). This type of communication should manifest only thru one person at a time, though several persons may have an utterance in their spirit, in an orderly way, and must be interpreted. Tongues with interpretation is equal to prophecy in importance (1 Cor 14:5).

- A. Tongues may manifest by itself. Particularly at baptism in Holy Spirit and in personal prayer life. (1 Cor 14:2,14:28, 14:18-19)
- B. Tongues may combine with other gifts.
- C. You must speak what you hear or yield your mouth to the Holy Spirit to speak the tongues (in faith). The Holy Spirit will not force you nor take control without you freely yielding.
- D. We are instructed to ask for the baptism of the Holy Spirit (evidenced by tongues), and cannot receive an evil spirit (demon) in place of (Luke 11:11-13), no more than you can ask Jesus to come into your life and get Satan instead.
- E. Ten reasons for speaking in tongues:
  - 1. sign to unbelievers that Jesus is exalted and seated at the Father's right hand (1 Cor 14:21-22, Luke 24:49, Acts 1:4, 2:33, Mk 16:16-18).
  - 2. initial sign of baptism of Holy Spirit (upon a believer) (Acts 2:4, 10:46).
  - 3. provides spiritual refreshing and rest (Isa 28:11-12).
  - 4. allows divine praise and thanksgiving (1 Cor14:15-17, Eph 5:18-19, Acts 10:46, Acts 2:6,11).
  - 5. edification (building up) of your spirit (1 Cor 14:2, 14:4).
  - 6. edification (building up) of your faith (Jude 20).
  - 7. allows us to pray god's divine will, when we know not "what" to pray (Rm 8:26-27).
  - 8. allows us to pray for persons or causes unknown to us, or for persons/causes known to us but at times not designated by us, as the Holy Spirit moves upon us with burden of prayer, or as tongues rise up in your spirit to come forth. (1 Tim 2:1-3, 1 Cor 14:14-15).

- 9. reminder of Holy Spirit's indwelling presence, and God's continual presence with us (never leave nor forsake you) (John 14:16-17).
- 10. brings natural tongue under subjection (Jam 3:8-12, Rm 6:12-14).

# Interpretation of Tongues

## **DEFINITION:**

The gift of "interpretation of tongues" is a divine utterance of explanation in a known language of the speaker, given by the Holy Spirit, of what was just uttered in tongues.

### **EXPLANATION:**

- A. This is an "interpretation", not a "translation". Therefore the interpretation should be long or short in comparison to the utterance in tongues. But it will be sufficient to give the meaning of the tongues.
- B. Interpretation is dependent on tongues; that is, tongues must come first.

- A. Interpretation is a spoken gift, which could be heard in the spirit first (similar to prophecy manifestation).
- B. Interpretation works only with tongues and is dependent on the tongues coming first.
- C. Interpretation must accompany tongues when used in public (congregational) ministry.
- D. Interpretation may be asked for, received, and manifested in private (prayer) ministry (1 Cor 14:13-15).
- E. Interpretation may manifest with other gifts, particularly the revelation gifts.
- F. Interpretation may come thru the same person as the tongues came thru, or another person.

# **FIVE FOLD MINISTRY**

## INTRODUCTION

While every believer is a priest (1 Pet 2:5,9; Rev 1:6, 5:10, 20:6) to those they come in contact with during their normal lives (that is, you are a priest to (1) intercede to God on their behalf, (2) make up the hedge of protection to keep the devil and destruction away from them, and (3) minister / speak to the people on behalf of God), and while every believer has the ministry of reconciliation as an ambassador of Christ (2 Cor 5:18-20), there is a special grace of ministry that the Lord Jesus Christ gives to some believers (not all believers), specifically the five offices or works of (1) an apostle, (2) prophet, (3) evangelist, (4) pastor, and (5) teacher.

Eph 4:11-16

And he gave some, <u>apostles</u>; and some, <u>prophets</u>; and some, <u>evangelists</u>; and some, <u>pastors</u> and <u>teachers</u>; For the <u>perfecting of the saints</u>, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ: Till we all come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fulness of Christ: That we henceforth be no more children, tossed to and fro, and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the sleight of men, and cunning craftiness, whereby they lie in wait to deceive; But speaking the truth in love, may grow up into him in all things, which is the head, even Christ: From whom the whole body fitly joined together and compacted by that which every joint supplieth, according to the effectual working in the measure of every part, maketh increase of the body unto the edifying of itself in love.

This is what we call the "five fold" ministry. They are Jesus' spiritual administration of the company. The purpose of this ministry is *to train* the rest of the Body of Christ to go do the work of the ministry.

In the original greek, there are no punctuation marks. While the King James translated it with punctuation as above, it should be a purpose state saying "he gave some... for the perfecting (maturing) of the saints for the work of the ministry (of reconciliation) for the edifying (building up) of the body of Christ".

## SET AND GAVE

I Cor 12:28

And God hath set some in the church, first apostles, secondarily prophets, thirdly teachers, after that miracles, then gifts of healings, helps, governments, diversities of tongues.

Notice that God set (i.e., ordain), called, or gave the ministry thru certain persons. Men do not call, nor set in the church, nor give the offices of the five fold. Men do confirm the anointing of a person, after having seen the fruit of it, by laying on of hands to recognize and confirm what God is already doing thru the person.

Sometimes a person sees a need and wishes to meet it (maybe moved by the love of God); however, this do not mean they are "called", merely they have chosen to "go ye".

## **T**ITLES

Don't get taken up with titles or names! Receiving one of these five fold gifts is a calling and anointing to perform a certain type of work. The important thing is performing that work. Some people seek the title for the praise of men (pride of life), and some people stumble over the titles that others use (little faith and understanding of God's Word or work). We should be concerned with doing the work, and producing the proof, and not with the title. If you are an apostle or bishop, it should be self-evident by the anointings, revelation, and work. Putting the name Apostle or Bishop before your name will neither make you more anointed nor produce the work. Judge spiritual things, in that, does the one bearing a name or title bear fruit of that work?

There are several areas of <u>heart matter</u> that I will believe it is vital to understand:

- Using a title or being called by others by a title does not, by itself, put a person in sin (i.e., pride). It is a heart matter, but it is wise to avoid temptation.
- If a minister insists on being called by a title, there is probably a heart matter issue. Did Jesus demand to be call Christ Jesus, or Paul by Apostle Paul? I don't see the names of the offices ever used as titles in the New Testament.
- If you are under a person's authority, such as a pastor or bishop, and you have trouble calling them by their title, you have a heart matter issue that you need to address.
- While the Word says give honor unto who honor is due, even double honor, it mostly refers to compensation and respect. But respect must be done in a way that does not give a path to build up pride. Pride is an easy thing to let slip in. For example, while it is all right to celebration of what God has done in your midst, a yearly pastor's appreciation opens doors to a building of pride, year after year after year. I have see even the people preferring the pastor to God, and spending far more time giving the pastor praise than God. Give honor back to God for what He has done, even thru earthly vessels. I don't remember what that verse was where they had the Apostle John appreciation day? Do you?

## **F**AITH

Any gift or work of God is manifested at God's will, but God is moved by faith in His Word (which is His will). What I mean is this, don't judge a minister by lack of anointing or miracles where he is in a group of people who have no faith in God's Word. Remember Jesus could do little in nazareth because of their unbelief (mark 6:5-6).

## **D**IFFERENCES

Each minister will be different, because of:

- different set of "ministering gifts" (i.e., motivation, five fold, and charismatic)
- different background, experience, and expertise
- different revealed knowledge in different areas.

For example, one apostle will not minister exactly like another apostle. One teacher will not teach exactly like another teacher. One minister may have great rhema (revealed knowledge) on love, and another minister on faith.

## SIMILARITIES

There will be some similarities between ministers in the same office, because there is usually some similar gifts operating in a specific office. Also, the office has its own anointing that is recognizable.

## JUDGE

Discern if what is being preached, taught, or prophesied is truth (1 Cor 14:29):

- 1. does it line up with the Word of God (Isa 28:9-10).
- 2. does it bear witness in your spirit (1 John 2:20,27, Rom 8:14).
- 3. is it in love, the character of God, to edify, exhort, and comfort (James 3:17).
- 4. is it for doctrine, reproof, correction, and instruction in righteousness (2 Tim 3:16-17). If it does not, then put it on a shelf (that is to put aside), and leave it alone. Judge spiritual things (1 Cor 2:15), not people as individuals. Seek for two or more witnesses or confirmation that it is truth (Deut 19:15, 2 Cor 13:1).

## **A**POSTLE

#### **DEFINITION:**

The greek means "one sent forth". Translated in the King James New Testament:

- 78 times as "apostle(s)"
- 2 times as "messenger" (2 Cor 8:23, Phil 2:25)
- 1 time as "he that is sent" (John 13:16)

#### **TYPE OF WORK:**

Think of Paul's work as an example to the following:

A.establishes new churches or works, a founder (1 Cor 3:10, Eph 2:20).

B.strengthens existing works, particularly ones they established.

C.

The "work" is not in buildings, organizations, or number of people, but is in the spirit of men. Therefore, we do not judge by appearance, but by the heart (spirit). Also, an organization could cease to exist, and great fruit still remain from its work.

## **COMBINATION OF GIFTINGS:**

Most likely gifts active in this office:

**Motivational:** Organization (ruling). Needed to establish works.

**Five Fold:** Could move in any or all five as needed by God for new works.

**Charismatic:** Power gifts (faith, miracles, gifts of healings)

(1 Cor 2:4-5, 1 Cor 4:18-20, 2 Tim 1:7).

#### **EXAMPLE:**

The apostolic office is the only one I have noted that men can grow into. That does not mean that ministers do not grow in ability in their offices. I mean, that normally, God takes a man through other offices first before making him an apostle.

- Jesus had at least 70 disciples with him for sometime. Then he prayed all night to find God's will for who the twelve apostles would be (Luke 6:12-13).
- Paul and Barnabas were prophets and teachers before moving into the office of an apostle (Acts 13:1-5)

#### Acts 13:1-5

Now there were in the church that was at Antioch certain prophets and teachers; as Barnabas, and Simeon that was called Niger, and Lucius of Cyrene, and Manaen, which had been brought up with Herod the tetrarch, and Saul. As they ministered to the Lord, and fasted, the Holy Ghost said, Separate me Barnabas and Saul for the work whereunto I have called them. And when they had fasted and prayed, and laid their hands on them, they sent them away. So they, being sent forth by the Holy Ghost, departed unto Seleucia; and from thence they sailed to Cyprus. And when they were at Salamis, they preached the word of God in the synagogues of the Jews: and they had also John to their minister.

#### **LOOK FOR:**

- outstanding spiritual gifts
- deep personal experience with God
- power and ability to establish churches
- ability to provide adequate spiritual leadership
- Has a "father's heart. That is, the heart of "the Father"

## 24 APOSTLES NAMED IN THE NEW TESTAMENT:

- 1. Simon Peter (Mt 10:2)
- 2. Andrew (Mt 10:2), Peter's brother
- 3. James, son Of Zebedee (Mt 10:2)
- 4. John, son Of Zebedee (Mt 10:2)
- 5. Philip (Mt 10:3)
- 6. Bartholomew, Philip's brother (Mt 10:3)
- 7. James, son Of Alphaeus (Luke 6:16)
- 8. Judas, son Of Alphaeus (Luke 6:16)
- 9. Matthew, son Of Alphaeus (Mk 2:14, Lk 6:15)
- 10. Thomas (Mt 10:3)
- 11. Simon Zelotes (Lk 6:15)
- 12. Judas Iscariot (Mt 10:4)
- 13. Matthias (Acts 1:26)
- 14. Barnabas (1 Cor 9:5-6, Acts 13:1-3, 14:4, 14:14, Gal 2:9)
- 15. Andronicus (Rom 16:7)
- 16. Junia (Rm 16:7)
- 17. Apollos (1 Cor 4:6-9)
- 18. James, The Lord's brother (Gal 1:19, 2:6, Jam 1:1)
- 19. Silas (1 Thes 1:1, 2:6)
- 20. Timothy (1 Thes 1:1, 2:6)
- 21. Titus (2 Cor 8:23)
- 22. Epaphroditus (Phil 2:25)
- 23. Paul (Gal 1:1, 2:8)
- 24. Jesus Christ (Heb 3:1)

## **P**ROPHET

#### **DEFINITION:**

Means means "a forteller" or "a seer". Always translated in new testament as "prophet(s)".

#### TYPE OF WORK:

- A. Speaks for God, by direct, divine inspiration and revelation.
  - Revelation may be received prior to speaking or at spur of moment.
  - Sometimes received in visions or dreams.
- B. Preaching often is to reproof error and call to repentance.

Preaching progresses in:

- 1. establishing truth
- 2. calling back to truth
- 3. rebuking and appealing to come back to truth
- 4. foretelling things to come (rewards or judgements).
- C. Speaks to edify, exhort, and comfort (1 cor 14:3).

## **COMBINATION OF GIFTINGS:**

Most likely gifts active in this office:

Motivational: Prophecy.

**Five Fold:** Prophet, and maybe others.

**Charismatic:** revelation gifts (word of wisdom, word of knowledge,

discerning of spirits), and prophecy.

<u>Note</u>: A person who prophesies is not necessarily a prophet, but a prophet will move in the gift of prophesy. Prophesy normally reveals the secrets of a person's heart (1 Cor 14:24-25). A word will come from God thru a prophet many times when someone has been receiving something from God but is not yielding in his heart (rebuke/call to repentance/second witness).

### **EXAMPLE:**

Agabus:

Acts 11:28

And there stood up one of them named Agabus, and signified by the spirit that there should be great dearth throughout all the world: which came to pass in the days of Claudius Caesar.

Acts 21:8-11

And the next day we that were of Paul's company departed, and came unto Caesarea: and we entered into the house of Philip the evangelist, which was one of the seven; and abode with him. And the same man had four daughters, virgins, which did prophesy. And as we tarried there many days, there came down from Judaea a certain prophet, named Agabus. And when he was come unto us, he took Paul's girdle, and bound his own hands and feet, and said, Thus saith the Holy Ghost, So shall the Jews at Jerusalem bind the man that owneth this girdle, and shall deliver him into the hands of the Gentiles.

## JUDGE:

Judge prophecy (or any other message). See introduction on judging (1 Cor 14:29).

## Note: Some points of interest:

- 1. We are not to be lead by personal prophecy, given to us by others, but lead by the Holy Spirit. Prophets come usually to confirm or reproof, but sometimes to reveal.
- 2. God normally speaks to us first and has been dealy with us on an issue before prophesy thru another comes.
- 3. Prophets should not always tell what they see and hear in the spirit realm. They should ask God what they should do with it. God may just want them to pray.
- 4. We build on the Word of God, not on prophesies or other signs and wonders. We do not follow signs; they follow us. There are times when the anointing may not be manifesting for the signs, but the Word always works. It never returns void.
- 5. If a person tries to operate a gift, when the anointing is not being manifested, they open themselves up to evil spirits.

## **EVANGELIST**

#### **DEFINITION:**

Means "one who brings the glad tidings (evangel)". Always translated in new testament as "evangelist(s)".

#### TYPE OF WORK:

- 1. Preaches (which means to declare) salvation unto the lost, in the simplest form. An evanglist usually will come up with a salvation message out of any verse in the bible.
- 2. Can preach to the saved, usually to exhort (encourage), most likely about doing evangelistic type activities. The evangelist will end up his exhortation with a salvation call.
- 3. Usually is a traveling ministry (moves around alot).

#### **COMBINATION OF GIFTINGS:**

Most likely gifts active in this office:

Motivational:mercy, exhortation, give.Five Fold:Evangelist, and maybe others.Charismatic:miracles, gifts of healings

<u>Note</u>: You do not have to be an evangelist to do "evangelistic" activities, that is, to "go ye" and witness and get someone saved.

#### **EXAMPLE:**

### Philip:

Acts 8:5-8

Then Philip went down to the city of Samaria, and preached Christ unto them. And the people with one accord gave heed unto those things which Philip spake, hearing and seeing the miracles which he did. For unclean spirits, crying with loud voice, came out of many that were possessed with them: and many taken with palsies, and that were lame, were healed. And there was great joy in that city.

Acts 8:34-35

And the eunuch answered Philip, and said, I pray thee, of whom speaketh the prophet this? of himself, or of some other man? Then Philip opened his mouth, and began at the same scripture, and preached unto him Jesus.

Acts 21:8

And the next day we that were of Paul's company departed, and came unto Caesarea: and we entered into the house of Philip the evangelist, which was one of the seven; and abode with him.

### Timothy:

2 Tim 4:5

But watch thou in all things, endure afflictions, do the work of an evangelist, make full proof of thy ministry.

## HAVE NEED OF THE OTHER FIVE FOLD:

- Evangelists are not pastors (to look after the flock) or teachers (to stablize). Without at least these two, all of his new fruit will fall away with no one to go get them.
- In Acts 8, Philip did not impart the Holy Spirit to the people, but the apostles did. Also, it is questionable whether he had discernment of spirits, because of the case with Simeon (Acts 8:21).

## **P**ASTOR

#### **DEFINITION:**

Means "shepherd", one who tends, watches over, guides, feeds, and protects the flock. Translated in new testament as:

- always as "shepherd(s)", except in Eph 4:11 as pastor.
- other words used to refer to a pastor:
  - 1. shepherd (Heb 13:20, 1 Pt 2:25, 5:4)
  - 2. bishop (1 Tim 3:1),
  - 3. overseer (Acts 20:28),
  - 4. elder (1 Tim 5:17).

### TYPE OF WORK:

1. A pastor's main work is showing the love of the Cheif Shepherd, Jesus (Jh 10:11, Heb 13:20, 1 Pt 2:25, 1 Pt 5:4) to the sheep. A pastorial anointing is must evident on a one to one basis, as the love of Jesus pours forward, particularly with mercy, rather than being recognizable in teaching and preaching.

Jeremiah 3:15

And I will give you pastors according to mine heart, which shall feed you with knowledge and understanding.

2. Has oversight of a church, to watch over it as a protector, as a provider (feed), as a leader (guide), and to tend to needs (hurts, discipline):

Acts 20:28

Take heed therefore unto yourselves, and to all the flock, over the which the Holy Ghost hath made you overseers, to feed the church of God, which he hath purchased with his own blood.

I Peter 5:1-2

The elders which are among you I exhort, who am also an elder, and a witness of the sufferings of Christ, and also a partaker of the glory that shall be revealed: Feed the flock of God which is among you, taking the oversight thereof, not by constraint, but willingly; not for filthy lucre, but of a ready mind;

3. Can preach, teach (1 Tim 3:2), counsel, love, and show mercy. Usually does not travel, but stays with the sheep. Without pastors, most sheep would go astray.

I Tim 3:2

A bishop then must be blameless, the husband of one wife, vigilant, sober, of good behaviour, given to hospitality, apt to teach;

## **COMBINATION OF GIFTINGS:**

Most likely gifts active in this office:

**Motivational:** mercy, exhortation, give, organization (rule).

**Five Fold:** pastor, and maybe others.

**Charismatic:** word of wisdom, word of knowledge, tongues, and

interpretation of tongues

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#### **EXAMPLE:**

- 1. A pastor's heart is very tender toward the sheep, particularly the new born babes in God. Let me explain it this way, if in the natural someone has this beautiful little baby in your church, and you just love to hold it and play with it. But when the baby starts vomiting on you, or his diaper is full and stinky, its time to hand the baby back to mommy. Well, a pastor's heart is like a mother's for her child. He loves the baby, even when the baby gets up and says the most unscriptural thing in church, or has just come back in crying again over the same sin attack from Satan for the seventh time today. The pastor loves him, and gently cleans him up, and puts him back out to play.
- 2. A pastor, working with the Holy Spirit, will know when a member is in trouble. This allows him to pray the person through, while maybe not even having seen or spoken to the person in the physical.
- 3. A pastor will get a word of wisdom or word of knowledge when counseling to be able to answer the hard questions.

## **SHOW HONOR TO WHO HONOR IS DUE (Pastor):**

Take care of your pastor, particularly in the natural:

I Tim 5:17

Let the elders that rule well be counted worthy of double honour, especially they who labour in the word and doctrine.

## **T**EACHER

#### **DEFINITION:**

Means "teacher", one who instructs or teaches. Translated in new testament as:

- "master": in the gospels applying to Jesus. In James 3:1.
- "teacher" everywhere else in the new testament.

#### TYPE OF WORK:

- 1. A teacher is an establisher, and a strengthener. He is not an establisher in works (apostolic), but in rooting and grounding people in the Word of God, in the truths of the Bible, so that they can stand the attacks of Satan, and walk in faith. Without a teacher, people:
  - would not be able to grow up in the Lord, to stand and walk,
  - be carried about by every wind of false doctrine (Eph 4:14),
  - might move in the gifts, but never come to maturity of character (love walk).

II Tim 3:16 -17

All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: That the man of God may be perfect, throughly furnished unto all good works.

Notice that teachers were above miracles, and gifts of healings (1 Cor 12:28). If you don't get teaching, you have to get healed again, and again, and again. But proper teaching will get you where you can continually walk in your health (healeth), and you will not need to be healed (that is maturity)!

Romans 12:2

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

2. A teacher will emphasize the accuracy of the Word, and usually teach line upon line, precept upon precept. He will teach systematically, and use examples and illustrations, to assist your understanding.

Isaiah 28:9-10

Whom shall he teach knowledge? and whom shall he make to understand doctrine? them that are weaned from the milk, and drawn from the breasts. For precept must be upon precept, precept upon precept; line upon line, line upon line; here a little, and there a little:

3. Usually is a roving or traveling ministry (Acts 13:1 - Paul). The knowledge is not dry, but fresh, new, and alive!

Matthew 13:52

Then said he unto them, Therefore every scribe which is instructed unto the kingdom of heaven is like unto a man that is an householder, which bringeth forth out of his treasure things new and old.

Hebrews 6:1-2

Therefore leaving the principles of the doctrine of Christ, let us go on unto perfection; not laying again the foundation of repentance from dead works, and of faith toward God, Of the doctrine of baptisms, and of laying on of hands, and of resurrection of the dead, and of eternal judgment.

4. A teacher will have strong revealed knowledge from God!

I Cor 11:23

For I have received of the Lord that which also I delivered unto you, That the Lord Jesus the same night in which he was betrayed took bread:

Gal 1:11-12

But I certify you, brethren, that the gospel which was preached of me is not after man. For I neither received it of man, neither was I taught it, but by the revelation of Jesus Christ.

5. The teaching will be by divine ability and anointing. (John 14:26)

<u>Note</u>: Though a teacher may be based in a church, and teach at that church, he is a part of the five fold ministry. He should also teach (minister) from the pulpit. There is a difference between teaching and preaching at pulpit. A teacher is not a "Sunday School teacher" as we think of them; we all have some natural ability to teach or explain things. Also, some in the church may have a motivational gift to "teach" (Rm 12:7), but this is not a divine call, gift, or anointing into the five fold. A Sunday School teacher will not have the deep revelation knowledge given directly by God that a five fold ministry teacher would have.

## **COMBINATION OF GIFTINGS:**

Most likely gifts active in this office:

**Motivational:** teaching, exhortation, organization (ruleth).

**Five Fold:** teacher, and maybe others.

**Charismatic:** word of wisdom, word of knowledge, prophecy.

(strong revelation gifts)

#### **EXAMPLE:**

- Jesus continually taught in the synagogues.
- Paul as shown above (Acts 13:1, 1 Cor 11:23, Gal 1:11-12).
- Apollos (1 Cor 3:6, Acts 18:27).

# **MOTIVATIONAL GIFTS**

#### INTRODUCTION

God the Father gives to a believer at the time of re-birth (i.e., receiving Jesus as Lord and Savior) one or more of the seven motivation gifts.

Rom 12:3-8

For I say, through the grace given unto me, to every man that is among you, not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think; but to think soberly, according as <u>God</u> hath dealt to every man the measure of faith. For as we have many members in one body, and all members have not the same office: So we, being many, are one body in Christ, and every one members one of another. Having then gifts differing according to the grace that is given to us, whether <u>prophecy</u>, let us prophesy according to the proportion of faith; Or <u>ministry</u>, let us wait on our ministering: or he that <u>teacheth</u>, on teaching; Or he that <u>exhorteth</u>, on exhortation: he that <u>giveth</u>, let him do it with simplicity; he that <u>ruleth</u>, with diligence; he that sheweth <u>mercy</u>, with cheerfulness.

While a believer may operate or work at some level in any or all of these seven areas, at least one or more of these gifts will bring great **satisfaction** when it is done. By being satisfied or happy or feeling fulfilled, the believer will return again and again to be active in that area. That is, the satisfaction motives the believer to be involved in the work of the Kingdom.

This is why it is very important to teach believers about the motivational gifts, have them take a survey to identify their gifting(s), and make room for them to work their gifting(s) in the church and Kingdom... so that they will be happy, fulfilled and productive. Otherwise, they will be bored, unhappy, frustrated and much less fruitful in the Kingdom.

### **A**DDITIONALLY

In example, a believer may be strongly motivated to teach or share godly principles with people, but may not be very strongly motivated to serve. The believer could work in the kitchen, or cutting the grass, and would probably do so if asked, but would not find strong satisfaction from doing those activities directly. The believer would be found talking the word as he did the work, because that is his motivation.

A young christian may find they have low scores on the attached survey. This is simply because they are young in their love walk (still focused on "me" and "mine"). But as they get older in the Lord, their scores will usually increase. However, there should always be one gift that stands out from the rest in the scores, showing their gifting.

Sometimes there are clusters of strong and/or weak scores. If there is a strong cluster, it shows that the person has more than one motivational gifting. If there are several gifts cluster on the low scores, it is not an area of concern, and my be offset by a very high score on a single strong motivational score. These different clusters help give uniqueness to us as individuals, mixed with our other giftings and experience.

It is not only important to know our strong motivations, but also our weak areas. We must continue to develop ourselves (working with the Holy Spirit and the Word) into the fullness of

Jesus Christ. That means we need to understand the weak as well as the strong motivational areas. I am not saying to over emphasize the weak, or be over attentive to the weak motivations, but rather not to use the strong motivations as an excuse not to do something because I am not "motivated" in that area.

Note: The following motivation gifts definitions and survey are the material of (or based upon material of), and used with permission of, Apostle Dorothy Washington, Good News Full Gospel Church, Houston, TX.

## **PROPHECY**

#### **DEFINITION:**

- 1. "Insight" or intuitive sense about people and situations as they really are before God.
- 2. Encourages, exhorts, and comforts people.

## **MANIFESTATIONS of the gift (1 Cor 14:24-25):**

- 1. Brings people to accountability.
- 2. Reveals inner motivations.
- 3. Brings inner heart conviction.
- 4. Brings awareness of God's presence.
- 5. Makes people fall to their knees in repentance and humility.

#### **CHARACTERISTICS:**

- 1. Need to express message verbally.
- 2. Have ability to discern character and motives of people.
- 3. Capacity to experience brokenness to prompt brokenness.
- 4. Capacity to identify, define and hate evil.
- 5. Dependence on scriptural truth to validate authority.
- 6. Desire for outward evidences to demonstrate inward convictions.
- 7. Direct, frank persuasive talk.
- 8. Concern for reputation and program of God.
- 9. Inward weeping and personal identification with sins of those he talks with.
- 10. Eagerness to have others point out his own blind spots so that they can help others.

#### **MISUNDERSTANDINGS:**

- 1. Frankness may be viewed as harshness.
- 2. Interest in groups may be interpreted as disinterest in singles.
- 3. Efforts to gain results may be seen as gimmicks.
- 4. Focus on right and wrong may be judged as intolerance for partial good.
- 5. Emphasis on decisions may appear as neglecting spiritual growth.
- 6. Public boldness and strict standards may hinder intimate personal relationships.
- 7. The strong desire to convey truth may be interpreted as little interest in listening to another's point of view.

#### **EXAMPLE:**

John the Baptist illustrates the gift of prophecy in the Bible (Luke 3:3-20)

- 1. Aware of his unworthiness and wanted others to point out his blind spots.
- 2. Know he was the voice of God and depended on scriptural truth to validate his authority Luke 3:4-6
- 3. Directness and frankness in speaking Luke 3:7-14
- 4. He looked for repentance Luke 3:4-6
- 5. Placed great emphasis on right and wrong and identifies evil Luke 3:19
- 6. Courage to openly reprove evil Luke 3:19
- 7. Able to discern people's motives Luke 3:7

# MINISTRY (SERVING)

#### **DEFINITION:**

- 1. Meeting practical needs of others in love.
- 2. Demonstration of love in deeds and not in words.
- 3. Sees what needs to be done.

## **CHARACTERISTICS:**

- 1. Ability to recall likes and dislikes of people.
- 2. Alertness to detect and meet practical needs.
- 3. Meets needs as quickly as possible.
- 4. Physical stamina without regard to weariness.
- 5. Will use personal funds in order to avoid delay in meeting a need.
- 6. Needed to have sincere appreciation and can spot insincerity.
- 7. Wants to see a job done and will do extra work to accomplish it.
- 8. Involved in a lot of activities because can't say "no".
- 9. Enjoys short-range goals more than long-range goals.
- 10. Frustration with time limits on jobs.

#### **MISUNDERSTANDINGS:**

- 1. When he is trying to meet needs may appear to be "pushy".
- 2. Will do jobs himself to avoid "red tape".
- 3. Eagerness to serve can be misconstrued as wanting to advance self.
- 4. Difficult to accept service from others.
- 5. May get upset with others when they do not have the same motives.
- 6. Desire for appreciation may result in hurt feelings.
- 7. Desire to help others may interfere with God's dealing with them.
- 8. Meeting practical needs may be judged as lack of interest in spiritual needs.
- 9. Their stamina may be misinterpreted as insensitivity to others desires to serve, too.
- 10. Enjoyment with short-range goals may lead to frustration and disorganization with long-range goals.
- 11. May get side-tracked with the needs of others instead of following the pastor's directions.

#### **EXAMPLE:**

Martha illustrates the gift of serving in the Bible (Luke 10:38-42; John 12:2)

- 1. Was doing the work herself.
- 2. Tried to get Mary to do what she did.
- 3. Had too many things to do because she couldn't say "no".
- 4. Seemed to concentrate more on task than on the person being served.
- 5. Saw the short-range goal rather than the long-range goal. (Short cooking meal; long death of Jesus).

#### **NEEDS:**

- 1. Servers need sincere appreciation.
- 2. They are workers and not "feelers".
- 3. They try to work to receive other's love.

## **T**EACHING

#### **DEFINITION:**

While anyone can "teach" something, such as a parent teaches a child how to tye their shoes, that does not make them a "teacher" in the biblical sense. A "teacher" has giftings from God that supernaturally / spiritually equips them and reveals to them insight and understanding of the Word of God.

#### **CHARACTERISTICS:**

- 1. Belief that the teaching gift is foundational to the other gifts.
- 2. Emphasis on accuracy of words.
- 3. Testing of the knowledge level of those who teach them.
- 4. Delight in research in order to validate truth.
- 5. Validating new information by established systems of truth.
- 6. Present truth in systematic sequence.
- 7. Avoidance of illustrations from non-Biblical sources.
- 8. Resistance to scriptural illustrations out of context.
- 9. Greater joy in researching than in presenting lesson.

#### **MISUNDERSTANDINGS:**

- 1. Emphasis on accuracy or scriptural interpretations may appear to neglect practical application.
- 2. Research of others may appear to be dependent on intellect instead of the Holy Spirit.
- 3. Use of knowledge in testing others may appear to be pride of learning.
- 4. Details of research may appear to be unnecessary to listeners.
- 5. Objectivity in research may appear to lack warmth and feeling when speaking.

#### **EXAMPLES:**

Paul is an example of the motivational gift of teaching in the Bible.

- 1. Felt teaching most important gift.
- 2. Tested knowledge.
- 3. Ties Old Testament and the New Testament together in teaching.
- 4. Researched while in Arabia for 3 years and while in prison.
- 5. Did research so that he could write so much of the Bible.
- 6. Did a systematic study of giving.
- 7. Had a burden to give the truth.

## **E**XHORTATION

#### **DEFINITION:**

- 1. Very positive encourages people to abundant life.
- 2. Loves people.
- 3. Paraclete strengthener or comforter.
- 4. Wants word to become flesh in others.

#### **CHARACTERISTICS:**

- 1. Desire to visualize specific achievement and give steps or act on.
- 2. Tendency to avoid systems of information that lack practical application.
- 3. Ability to see how tribulation can produce new levels of maturity.
- 4. Dependence upon individual acceptance when speaking to people.
- 5. Insights in human behavior which can be applied to the Bible.
- 6. Enjoyment in seeing people taking steps of action to meet needs.
- 7. Grief when teaching doesn't have practical application.
- 8. Delight in personal conferences that result in new insights.

#### **MISUNDERSTANDINGS:**

- 1. Emphasis on steps of action may seem to oversimplify the problem.
- 2. Urgency in giving steps of action may appear as having more confidence in them.
- 3. Desire to win non-Christians by living examples may appear to take out of context.
- 4. Use of scripture for practical application may appear to take out of context.
- 5. Emphasis in steps of action may appear not to have awareness of other's feelings.

#### **EXAMPLES:**

- 1. How one ought to live 1 Thes. 4:1
- 2. How to please God 1 Thes 4:1
- 3. How to live a life worthy of God 1 Thes 2:11
- 4. How to progress in love 1 Thes 4:9-10
- 5. How to live so there is no respect among people 1 Thes 4:11-12
- 6. How to face trials Acts 14:22
- 7. How to understand chastening Heb 12:3

## GIVING

#### **DEFINITION:**

- 1. Spiritual need to give.
- 2. Sharing with others spend one's live for others.

#### **CHARACTERISTICS:**

- 1. Ability to make wise purchases and investments.
- 2. Desire to give quietly to effective ministries and projects.
- 3. Attempt to use his giving to motivate others to give.
- 4. Alertness to valid needs he fears others may overlook.
- 5. Enjoyment in meeting needs without pressure of appeals.
- 6. Joy when his gift is answer to other's prayer.
- 7. Dependency on partner's counsel to confirm the amount of gift.
- 8. Concern that his gift be of high quality.
- 9. Desire to feel a apart of the work of the person to whom he gives.

### **MISUNDERSTANDINGS:**

- 1. Need to deal with large sums of money may appear to focus on temporal values.
- 2. Desire to give to a ministry may appear as an attempt to control.
- 3. Attempt to encourage others to give may appear as lack of generosity and unnecessary pressure.
- 4. Lack of response to pressure appeals may appear to be lack of generosity.
- 5. Living personally frugal may appear to others as selfishness in not meeting friend's or relative's need.

#### **EXAMPLES:**

- 1. Sharing material things Luke 3:11
- 2. Sharing spiritual gifts Rom 1:11
- 3. Sharing one's self 1 Thes 2:8
- 4. Sharing finances from one's own wages Eph 4:8
- 5. Sharing the gospel 1 Thes 2:8
- 6. Abraham is an example of a giver (contributor)
  - A. By being called the friend of God in James 2:23, it shows there was a giving relationship.
  - B. God gave him assets Gen 13:2
  - C. Dealt generously with others Gen 13:9-10
  - D. Would help others when they had a need.
  - E. Had no trouble tithing Gen 14:20
  - F. Wanted God to get the glory for giving.
  - G. Would sacrifice all (Isaac) if he knew God required it.
  - H. Wanted his assets to be used for the best result.
  - I. Concerned about the price of things and knew their value Gen 23
  - J. In his servant, he rejoiced when his giving was related to answered prayer.

# Rule (Administration / Organization / Government)

#### **DEFINITION:**

- 1. In the Greek "poistemi" means one who stands in front of others a leader.
- 2. The RSV translation calls it "one who gives aid" giving leadership to others.
- 3. Facilitator or one who likes to help others develop themselves in their ministries.
- 4. In Titus 3:14, it refers to the maintenance or ministries in the Body.

#### **CHARACTERISTICS:**

- 1. Ability to see the overall picture and clarify long range goals.
- 2. Motivation to organize what he is responsible for.
- 3. Desire to complete tasks as quickly as possible.
- 4. Awareness of resources available to complete a task.
- 5. Ability to know what can and cannot be delegated.
- 6. Tendency to stand on sidelines until those in charge tell him to take over.
- 7. Willingness to endure reactions from workers in order to accomplish the ultimate task.
- 8. Tendency to assume responsibility if no structured leadership exists.
- 9. Fulfillment in seeing others come together and enjoy completing a task.
- 10. Desire to move to a new challenge when a previous task is completed.

#### **MISUNDERSTANDINGS:**

- 1. The ability to delegate responsibility may appear as laziness.
- 2. Willingness to endure reaction may appear as callousness.
- 3. Neglect in explaining why tasks must be done may prompt men to think that they are being misused.
- 4. Viewing people as resources may appear to be insensitive to the schedules, weariness or priorities of workers.

#### **EXAMPLE:**

Nehemiah is the Bible example of an organizer or facilitator.

- 1. Special zeal for cause of God's people Neh 1:4
- 2. Sense the overall problems and surveys the needs Neh 2:12-15
- 3. Knew others had to do work Neh 2:16-18
- 4. Had a sense of time Neh 2:6
- 5. Organized human and material resources Neh 3
- 6. He could measure and proceed under opposition Neh 4 & 6
- 7. He was "tough" enough to face disorder from workers Neh 5:1-3; 5:14-19; 7:3-4
- 8. He made things "easy" for others and was not a personal burden Neh 5:14-19
- 9. He knew how to delegate authority and could sense who could best do the job Neh 7:1-2

## **M**ERCY

#### **DEFINITION:**

- 1. Should be happy to show mercy.
- 2. Outward manifestations of pity.
- 3. Had to do with helping in times of trouble.

#### **CHARACTERISTICS:**

- 1. Ability to feel atmosphere of joy or distress individuals or group.
- 2. Attraction to and understanding of people in distress.
- 3. Desire to remove hurts from other's lives.
- 4. Greater concern for mental distress than physical distress.
- 5. Avoidance of being firm unless can see how it brings benefits.
- 6. Sensitivity to words and actions to can hurt others.
- 7. Ability to discern true motives of people.
- 8. Enjoys unity with others who are sensitive to people's needs.
- 9. Closing of spirit to those insincere or insensitive.

#### **MISUNDERSTANDINGS:**

- 1. Avoidance of firmness may appear to be weakness.
- 2. Sensitivity to spirit and feelings may cause others to believe they are led by emotions and not by reason.
- 3. Attraction to those upset may be misinterpreted as attraction to the opposite sex.
- 4. Sensitivity to words and actions that cause hurt may be misinterpreted as taking another's offense
- 5. Ability to detect insincere motives may cause this person to be hard to get to know.

#### **EXAMPLE:**

Good Samaritan is an example of the mercy gift in the Bible.

- 1. Wanted to do something for him.
- 2. Spent himself to help is active.
- 3. Insight to know the inn keeper would help him take care of the man.
- 4. Stimulates others to have mercy, too.

# **MOTIVATION GIFTS SURVEY**

Please read the each statement in the below table, then mark the numeric valve in the Answer column that best describes your normal response level to the statement.

Always	5
Often	3
Seldom	1
Never	0

That is, if you "often" would react in the way the statement describes, then you would place a "3" in the Answer column.

At the end of the survey, you will be instructed what to do with these values.

Statement Number	Statement	Answer
1	I am more comfortable demonstrating love in deeds than in words.	
2	I am drawn to help people in times of trouble.	
3	I have a great desire to see the Word become flesh in others.	
4	I am alert to valid needs that I fear others will overlook.	
5	I have a strong desire to see others repent.	
6	I have experienced great pleasure in carrying out the details of a long range assignment.	
7	The idea of studying just for the sake of doing it is very appealing to me.	
8	I become concerned when others seem not to want to help do practical work in a concrete way.	
9	I am often able to discern the true motives of people.	
10	I encourage others to "go through" so that Christ can be fully formed in them.	
11	I have real joy when my gift is an answer to prayer for a person.	
12	I am able to use frank, direct, persuasive talk in dealing with people.	
13	I have an awareness of the resources which are available to complete a task.	
14	I believe a person should put great emphasis on the accuracy of words.	
15	I am disturbed when my work is not sincerely appreciated and can spot insincerity.	
16	I avoid being firm unless I can see how it brings benefits.	
17	I am grieved when teaching is high and lofty without practical application.	
18	I like to encourage others to give by my generous gifts.	
19	I can experience tears in order to bring others to repentance.	
20	I am strongly motivated to organize whatever I am responsible for.	
21	I find teaching which is in a systematic manner appeals to me.	

22	I find myself often involved in a lot of activities because saying	
	no is hard for me.	
23	I am very sensitive to the words and actions of others who might cause injury.	
24	I like to give step by step directions to those whom I minister to.	
25	I am very concerned that my gift be of high quality at all times.	
26	I have a dependency on scriptural truth to validate authority.	
27	I have the ability to know what can and cannot be delegated.	
28	I have a greater joy in researching than in presenting lesson.	
29	Whenever here is a job to do, I will do it and even volunteer to	
	do extra work to see it completed.	
30	I enjoy unity with others who are sensitive to people's needs.	
31	I have a dependency upon individual acceptance when speaking to people.	
32	I desire to give without anybody knowing when I give to valid ministries and projects.	
33	I am able to make people fall to their knees in repentance and humility.	
34	I like to help others develop themselves in their ministries.	
35	I delight in research in order to validate truth.	
36	I sometimes get sidetracked with the needs of others rather than following the pastor's directions.	
37	I have a greater concern for mental distress than physical distress.	
38	I am sometimes accused of being more interested in the process or steps of action than in the person's feelings.	
39	I enjoy meeting needs without pressure or appeals, especially physical needs.	
40	I have had my intimate relationships hampered because of my public boldness in proclaiming what I think is truth.	
41	I will tend to assume responsibility for leadership if no designated leader is present.	
42	I avoid using non-scriptural sources to illustrate my points.	
43	Serving the needs of others is more important to me than having my needs met.	
44	I always feel compassion inside of myself when there is a need.	
45	I find myself wanting to be a strengthener or comforter to others when they are in need.	
46	The giving of myself to others is one of the exciting experiences of my life.	
47	I often have an "insight" or intuitive sense about people and situations as they really are before God.	
48	Delegates those things which are able to be delegated and does only that which is necessary.	
49	I have a need or desire to tie the Old Testament and the New Testament together in teaching.	
50	I remember the likes and dislikes of those whom I serve.	
51	Finding help for persons who are in crisis situations is something I like doing.	

52	Using relational skills in counseling has been an important part of my Christian experience.	
53	Giving material possessions to others is something I enjoy doing.	
54	The ability to see the results of something and communicate it is revelant to my life.	
55	Determining priorities and organizing resources to meet them is something I enjoy doing.	
56	I enjoy planning and preparing to lead others in a learning experience.	
57	I enjoy helping sick people on a continuous basis.	
58	I enjoy looking for persons with needs and finding ways to help.	
59	I frequently find myself counseling with people and trying to get them to do what the Word says.	
60	I like to share whatever resources I have and find joy in identifying whit those who are doing a work I support.	
61	I find pleasure in publicly declaring what God is doing in and through His Word.	
62	I am willing to endure reactions form workers in order to accomplish the ultimate tasks.	
63	Sometimes I find myself going into too many details for my listeners when I am sharing.	

In the table below, for each Statement number **enter your Answer value**. That is, if for Statement 1 you answered 3 ("often"), then to the space to the right of Statement 1 below, enter 3.

S T M A E T N E T	A V N A S L W V E E R	S T M A E T N E T	A V N A S L W V E E R	S T M A E T N E T	A V N A S L W V E E R	S T M A E T N E T	A V N A S L W V E E R	S T M A E T N E T	A V N A S L W V E E R	S T M A E T N E T	A V N A S L W V E E R	S T M A E T N E T	A V N A S L W V E E R
#		#		#		#		#		#		#	
1		2		3		4		5		6		7	
8		9		10		11		12		13		14	
15		16		17		18		19		20		21	
22		23		24		25		26		27		28	
29		30		31		32		33		34		35	
36		37		38		39		40		41		42	
43		44		45		46		47		48		49	
50		51		52		53		54		55		56	
57		58		59		60		61		62		63	

Ν	lext	total	each	ı col	lumn	of A	\nswer	۷a	lues:
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Each column represents a <b>specific motivation gift</b> , as indicated below.								
Serve Mercy Exhort Give Prophesy Rule Tea								
You can <b>rank</b> your tendency to be motivated by each gift by ranking the gifts 1 thru 7, starting								

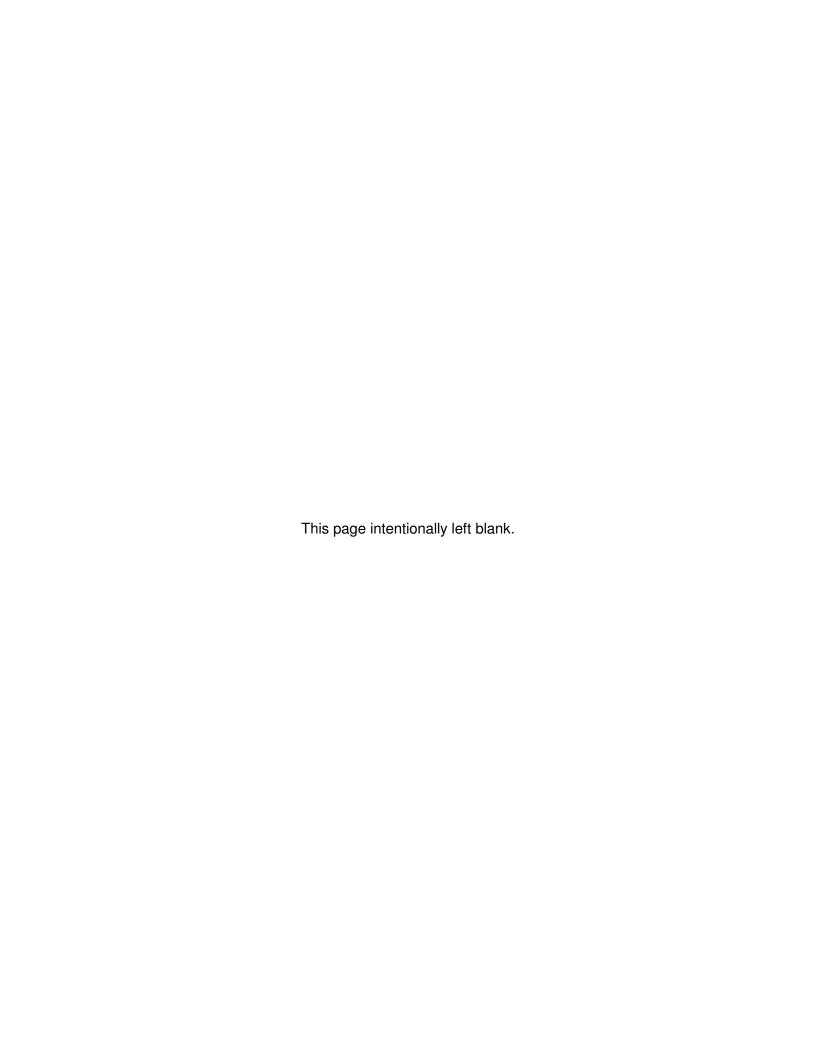
with the highest total being ranked 1, then the next highest being ranked 2... down to the lowest being ranked 7.

(Note: You can also divide the total of each gift by 9 (representing the nine statements in the column) to get a 5, 3, 1, 0 ranking in comparison to the answer numbers (that is, 3 is "often").)

One motivation gift should rank higher that than the rest. This is your primary motivation gift. You should evaluate your desire of what you want to do in the church in light of this. It should help you explain "why" you desire to do something. Also, understanding your primary motivation gift can help you and your pastor direct you to a type of HELPS work that would be satisfying to you.

#### It is possible:

- that you could have two gifts that rank high and close to each other also (a grouping).
- for your motivation scores to change, and particularly increase, as you mature in the Word and your Love walk.
- on rare occasions, for your primary motivation gift to change as you mature. For example, if someone is called into the Fivefold ministry, they may start out as a "teacher" with a strong motivation to "teach", but later God may promote them to "pastor" and the motivation change to "mercy".



## **HELPS MINISTRY**

I Cor 12:28

And God hath set some in the church, first apostles, secondarily prophets, thirdly teachers, after that miracles, then gifts of healings, **helps**, governments, diversities of tongues.

## **D**EFINITION

The greek means "laying hold of", in the idea of grasping tightly and not letting go. The idea here is that you grasp tightly to what God has laid in your heart to do, the way to serve, the way to love the Body of Christ.

This is your door of ministry (service) to work your <u>motivational gift</u>, and thereby, find satisfaction, fulfillment, and fellowship in the work.

You must recognize that all gifts are for giving to others. A gift is not given to a person for his/her own selfish use. As a matter of fact, most gifts will not manifest unless they are in the act of giving to others (i.e., loving others).

1 Cor 12:7

But the manifestation of the Spirit is given to every man to profit withal.

So, you see, the gift is the channel of love, the flow of love, through you to others. Your fulfillment (and your very life) is in the flow of the gift of love to others.

The Helps Ministry presents opportunities to serve the others, in love, with your gifts, talents and abilities. We believe that everyone in the body has a specific purpose and task assigned by the Lord. You may not be called to a fivefold ministry, but everyone has the ability to serve in the Ministry of Helps. **Helps** can be thought of as **Having Enough Loving People Serving**.

Matt 20:28

Even as the Son of man came not to be ministered unto, but to minister, and to give his life a ransom for many.

The Ministry of Helps is seen in the New Testament as one of helping the afflicted, the poor, and the windows in need.

Acts 6:1-8

And in those days, when the number of the disciples was multiplied, there arose a murmuring of the Grecians against the Hebrews, because their widows were neglected in the daily ministration. Then the twelve called the multitude of the disciples unto them, and said, It is not reason that we should leave the word of God, and serve tables. Wherefore, brethren, look ye out among you seven men of honest report, full of the Holy Ghost and wisdom, whom we may appoint over this business. But we will give ourselves continually to prayer, and to the ministry of the word. And the saying pleased the whole multitude: and they chose Stephen, a man full of faith and of the Holy Ghost, and Philip, and Prochorus, and Nicanor, and Timon, and Parmenas, and Nicolas a proselyte of Antioch: Whom they set

before the apostles: and when they had prayed, they laid their hands on them. And the word of God increased; and the number of the disciples multiplied in Jerusalem greatly; and a great company of the priests were obedient to the faith. And Stephen, full of faith and power, did great wonders and miracles among the people.

This service or ministry is what is spoke of the motivational gift "ministry" (Rom 12:7). Also, the greek word "diakonos" means "deacon" or "one who serves". You should recognize that through the loving service of the Ministry of Helps:

- Order was brought,
- Allowing needs to be met,
- Allowing peace and unity to flow (i.e., agape love always removes strife),
- Allowing the Five Fold men of God to continue on their God-given purpose,
- Set an example for others to follow (and fellowship in),
- · Facilitated increase and multiplication of people,
- Caused obedience to the faith, and
- Provided a training ground for moving further in the Lord and in the ministry.

Many times a particular Helps Ministry will be called an "auxiliary". If a person wishes to be the head of an auxiliary, they should be:

- Of honest report,
- Full of the Holy Spirit,
- Full of wisdom,
- Full of faith,
- Not a novice, but one who has proven themselves faithful in attendance and service, and
- One who can submit to authority, follow instructions, and thereby be exercised in being given authority and giving instructions.
- Should share the ministries' vision, or have a vision, for the auxiliary.

## Type of Work:

Helps were to assist the five fold where needed. This is seen as Elisha waited (ministered) on Elijah, cooking his food, and washing his hands, before Elisha received the double anointing.

Phil 1:1
Paul and Timotheus, the servants of Jesus
Christ, to all the saints in Christ Jesus
which are at Philippi, with the bishops and deacons:

Notice in 1 Timothy 3, that Paul states guidelines for Bishops and deacons:

(1) deacons were for ministering to the needs of the poor, afflicted, or widowed. They were not to "rule" nor appoint the five fold, but to serve under them, even serving tables! See Acts 6:1-8. Note these men were men of faith and of wisdom, honest and baptized in the Holy Spirit before they started as deacons. Stephen did great wonders and miracles (acts 6:8), acting probably as a evangelist and teacher. Philip went on to be an evangelist. (2) the "music ministry" is a ministry of helps.

II Kings 3:15-16

But now bring me a minstrel. And it came to pass, when the minstrel played, that the hand of the Lord came upon him.

And he said, Thus saith the Lord, Make this valley full of ditches.

I Sam 16:23

And it came to pass, when the evil spirit from God was upon Saul, that David took an harp, and played with his hand: so Saul was refreshed, and was well, and the evil spirit departed from him.

(3) the gift of helps would include also include items like cleaning up the church, moving the lawn, repairs, cooking, etc....

### **COMBINATION OF GIFTINGS:**

Most likely gifts active in this work:

**Motivational:** Ministry (i.e., to serve others), give.

Five Fold: None (though a Five Fold minister can serve in Helps, Helps is

supposed to be assisting the Five Fold with their purpose)

**Charismatic:** Could be any one or any combination of.

#### LOOK FOR:

- A heart's desire to "do" something "specifically".
- Does it with joy and commitment (passion).
- Encourages others to do...

#### **EXAMPLE:**

Examples include:

- Joshua serving Moses
- Dorcas (Acts 9:36-39)
- Widows indeed (1 Tim 5:10)
- Deacons Stephen and Phillip, who were taking care of widows, orphans, poor.
- Hospital visitation (it is not the pastor's job, to pray for the sick, but to equip you to pray for the sick.)

#### COMMENTS:

Every ministry gift is a gift of giving. Giving out what God places in you. The gift of healing is not for the possessor of the gift, but for those to whom he ministers. The gift of prophet or apostle is not for the possessor to receive those ministries, but to dispense or distribute as the Spirit of God directs. God gives gifts to the church. He stores those gifts in chosen reservoirs (divinely selected ones) so that the gifts may flow out of them to touch His people as He directs. The gift is not theirs, they are but an executor of God's will, distributing the gifts of God as the Spirit of God directs.

One minister illustrates the Ministry of Helps with the following acronym:

H - having

E - enough

L-loving

P - people

S - serving others

<u>Having enough loving people serving</u> others aptly expresses the intent of the word "helps". Ministry takes work when properly supplied. The more excellent the ministry, the more work required to maintain the excellence. A vision cannot be borne on the shoulders of just one. It carried by the hearts and hands of many.

Helps would be defined as the act of giving or supplying aid, assistance, remedy or relief as one who is actively involved in service of or supply of assistance to another. A person not possessing one of the Five Fold Ministry gifts who through their assistance, service, aid, remedy, relief or direct intervention, make it possible or easier for the one possessing the ministry gift to operate that gift.

God gifts the Minister of Helps with a special love *I Corinthians 13* and submissive spirit so that they may give themselves in service to a minister or ministry, performing whatever task possible to take the load off that minister or ministry. To free up the hands of the one they are helping; to lift up the weary hands of the one they are helping. To remove stumbling blocks, traps or pitfalls from the one they are helping; to cover with prayer and to provide a buffer or wall of covering for the one they are helping.

Helps fills voids, performs tasks, carries burdens, defends, assists, aids, remedies, repairs, covers, prepares and whatever else is necessary to provide ease for the gifts of God to flow unfettered in the Body of Christ, the local Church.

The Ministry of Helps is about serving, helping, following and covering. It is work, but it provides great rewards. It is about serving and assisting so ministry can take place in someone else's life. It is about making an investment in the life and ministry of others.

You are whatever you are today because of the service and commitment of others through the ages. You are the recipient of their service and their commitment of service. Will you now become a benefactor for those who follow you? Will you make a place for others or simply enjoy the place others have made for you?

Many ministers today are burdened with the day to day tasks required to keep the ministry functioning. Ministers are familiar with all the responsibilities and have become proficient at being all things to all people, while covering every thing possible that can go wrong or needs attention during a service. Interestingly enough, that is not the mandate of their ministry. The call of the ministry is to prayer and preaching of the word. God has made provision for the many tasks that are required to keep the Church running efficiently and it is called the Ministry of Helps

But we that are the **Five Fold ministry must make room for**, organize, train, and encourage the Body of Christ to be engaged and active in the function of Helps.

Acts 6: 2-7 is the narrative of the beginning of the ministry of helps in the New Testament Church. The ministry of waiting tables set the Apostles free to do the work of the Gospel and was the beginning of bringing order to the church. This is one of the foundational scriptures, which demonstrates "helps" ministry in the New Testament Church.

A foundational example of the Ministry of Helps is found the Old Testament. Joshua led a battle against Amalek. Moses covered the battle as God's anointed leader with his hands lifted to the Lord. As long as the Ministry of Helps provided by Aaron and Hur physically held up Moses' hands, the spiritual work of ministry went forth and the battle was successful, but if they had allowed Moses hands to fall to his side, the battle would have been lost.

The Helps Ministry of Aaron and Hur allowed the plan and purpose of God to be fulfilled through Moses and Joshua. One might ask which of the ministries was most important. Was it Moses who God had given the leadership over Israel? Was it Joshua who was charged to do battle and win? Was it Aaron and Hur, who provided support to Moses? This is one of the great examples found in the scriptures of team ministry.

### How Does One Get Started in the Ministry of Helps?:

In the business community there is a saying, "find a void and fill it." It is that simple to get started. There are no shortages of opportunities to assist the Man of God, the Woman of God; the People of God, the Work of God or the fulfilling of the Vision delivered through the Minister of God. Very often, you will find yourself drawn to a need in the Body. Depending on your Church organization, you may find others are busy working in the area you are drawn to. You will have this compulsion to join them. At other times you may see a need no one if addressing. Never the less, you are drawn to "help" in this area. The greatest enemy of those who are drawn to "helps" is waiting for someone to tell you...help! If you are sensitive to the Holy Spirit, you will see "need" everywhere. The parking lot needs to have trash picked up, the church needs the lawn mowed or the bush trimmed or flowers planted. The hostesses need help serving lunches. The Pastors wife needs some one to baby-sit or help clean her house once a week. The Pastors grass needs to be cut, their car needs to be washed. The church office needs to be cleaned and trash emptied.

We are referred to *Proverbs 18:16:* which reads, "*A man's gift maketh room for him, and bringeth him before great men."* Every Christian is called to the "helps" ministry. It is our service to God. Accepting this fact allows your gift to make room for you. Your responsibility to put your hand and help in any capacity you can. Often we find individuals have natural talent that is useful in the Church, at other times, you may feel led to do something for which you feel unqualified to do. Listen to the drawing of the Holy Spirit and trust that inward witness.

Following are some things to consider about submission, service and helps ministry.

A. Attitude - Matthew 25:40 "As you have done unto the <u>least</u> of these you've done it to Me." Serving anyone in the Kingdom of God is serving God. Helps ministers always think about ways to serve others!

- B. Invest Luke 16:10 "If one is faithful in the <u>little things</u> they can be trusted with more." Faithfulness brings promotion in the ministry!
- C. Work Ecclesiastes 9:10 "Whatever your hand finds to do, do it with all your might." Helps ministers find and fill a void submitting themselves to the task!
- D. Duplicate Philippians 4:9 "What you've learned, received, heard and seen in me, practice these things." Helps ministers become disciples and then disciple others!
- E. Will and Submission Isaiah 1:19 "If you are willing and obedient you will eat the good of the land." Helps ministers are first willing, then obedience follows!
- F. Reward Hebrews 6:10 "For God is not unjust so as to forget your work and the labor of love which you have shown, toward His name, in having ministered and in still ministering to the saints." Helps ministers always have a payday. God rewards are so much greater than the worlds!

Ephesians 6:7 "with good will render service, as to the Lord, and not to men." This allows us to serve and not be easily offended or provoked. When we perform this labor of love in the cause of the ministry we know the God who sees in private will reward us openly.

The Ministry of Helps is work done by you to alleviate the load on others, to bring order, to stop confusion, to promote the vision, and to fill a need. The easiest way to learn is find a servant and duplicate their labor of love. Develop an attitude of serving, helping and supporting others in the cause of ministry, and willingness to serve in submission to authority and the vision. There is a spiritual hook up when one is willing, obedient and submissive. Serve as unto the Lord.

The Ministry of Helps described in *I Corinthians 12:28* is entered into when one realizes there is a ministry gifting of God to help others fulfill their ministry - to ease their load - to take busy work out of their way - to honor them by serving them. In so doing, the Minister of Helps becomes a joint partaker in the rewards of all the ministry they serve accomplishes.

Think of Helps as <u>God's Love manifest thru you in the work of service</u>. Serving opportunities include:

- ✓ Prayer and intercessory ministry
- ✓ Praise team ministry
- √ Sound and equipment ministry
- ✓ Tape ministry
- √ Greeters ministry
- ✓ Ushers ministry
- ✓ Children's Church ministry
- ✓ Facility (1) presentation ministry and (2) maintenance ministry
- √ Church office ministry
- ✓ Publications ministry (books and Internet)
- √ Translation ministry (audio and video)

### FOLLOW SPIRITUAL AUTHORITY:

Spiritual authority and submission to that authority is essential to our success as ministers of HELPS. I cannot be effective helping the authority if I am fighting, distracting, or rebelling (changing the instructions) against the authority. There are five basic levels of spiritual authority in the local church. They are:

- Your first level of submission is to Jesus Christ, the Head of the Church, which includes the Godhead
- Your second level of submission is to your Pastor; the Shepherd God has given for your growth and development as a Disciple.
- Your third level of submission is to the department head your Pastor has set in place to give order to the Church. The Pastor has given "delegated authority" or the extension of his ministry to the department leadership. That authority is respected in the same manner as the Pastors.
- Your fourth level of submission is to those in the Body of Christ who you have been called to serve and love.
- And finally you submit to yourselves for the word says, "to him who knoweth to do right and does it not, to him, it is sin".

## ADDITIONAL SCRIPTURE:

Gen 2:18

And the LORD God said, It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him an help meet for him.

It is not good for man (either male or female) to work alone, that is why He is sending you to help, and be helped by others around you.

Acts 27:17

Which when they had taken up, they <u>used helps</u>, undergirding the ship; and, fearing lest they should fall into the guicksands, strake sail, and so were driven.

We are called to undergird and strengthen the ship, local church or ministry that God has put us in.

1 Cor 12:28

And **God hath set** some in the church, first apostles, secondarily prophets, thirdly teachers, after that miracles, then gifts of healings, **helps**, governments, diversities of tongues.

God is setting you (ordaining, which means to set in place) to a certain work or help unto His Body, the Church of the Living God.

Heb 4:16

Let us therefore come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace **to help** in time of need.

We need God's grace (capability) to help us, even to help us help others. Ask God for His grace for what He is calling you to do in your local church.

#### 1 Chron 12:17-18

And David went out to meet them, and answered and said unto them, If ye be come peaceably unto me **to help me**, mine heart shall be knit unto you: but if ye be come to betray me to mine enemies, seeing there is no wrong in mine hands, the God of our fathers look thereon, and rebuke it. Then the spirit came upon Amasai, who was chief of the captains, and he said, Thine are we, David, and on thy side, thou son of Jesse: peace, peace be unto thee, and peace be to thine helpers; **for thy God helpeth thee**. Then David received them, and made them captains of the band.

Go to the man of God over you, and let them know you are there to help. Then obey where the man of God sets you. Or if there are auxiliaries with heads setup, go to the person in charge of the area that you feel lead to work in, and commit to help them.

## BE COMMITTED:

The seeds you sow in service to others will determine the crop you harvest or reap in life and in your ministry when you are promoted. Sow a good, honest and sincere seed of serving the minister or ministry of God you are called to, and you can expect a multiplied crop of the same kind coming to you.

Many ministers failed to serve another minister before entering into their own ministry and so they have no harvest of the helps ministry serving them. The Law of SeedTime and Harvest applies because they planted no seeds of service to other ministries; they have no harvest themselves.

It is important to note here that the current notion of going to a seminary or bible school and then establish yourself in a ministry is flawed. It is true that preparation and study of the Word of God is primary and needful. What is also needful is submitting to the process of becoming first a disciple and submitting to those who can mentor and grow us up into spiritual maturity. Gaining a keen sense of spiritual authority; which provides a covering and a spiritual father who can speak into our life. Then investing a time of service in the "helps" ministry within our local church. There is no replacement for solid on the job training (OJT) before one is launched into their ministry. We see so many young Pastors and ministers struggling today because they have not received the fullness of the preparation needed for the five fold ministry. We have ample examples in Elijah and Elisha, Jesus and the disciples, Paul and Timothy, etc. The community of Israel was obsessed with the notion of mentoring. Fathers taught their sons.

One must serve others well to be served. Once again, no servant of God is called to stand-alone. Others are commissioned of God to minister unto and on behalf of the servant of the Lord. There is great reward in serving the servant of the Lord.

Do not become weary in well doing. A servant and an automobile have an element in common. An automobile will usually start to miss and skip before it finally quits and shuts down. If you start to skip and miss in your service to others you are in danger of failing and quitting. God loves faithfulness. He is faithful to you, and cannot deny Himself. So be faithful to Him, and to be His Loving Hands helping others. Be blessed.

(**Note:** Much of the material for the Helps section is taken from "The Ministry of Helps" manual, by the House of the Lord Fellowship Church, in Austin, TX. May God richly bless them for their stand of "freely we have received, freely we give".)