LIFE IN THE SON

A JOURNAL OF GRACE AND THE IN-CHRIST MESSAGE



Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, which according to his abundant mercy hath begotten us again unto a lively hope by the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, (1 Peter 1:3).

IN THIS ISSUE:

THE PRINCIPLES OF THE BIRTHING AND THE CHRIST-LIFE

PAUSING IN THE PASSING PLACES

THE GOSPEL IS PRECIOUS

FAR ABOVE ALL HEAVENS

OUR 54TH YEAR OF CONTINUOUS PUBLICATION VOLUME LIII, NUMBER 326

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Mission Statement. This magazine bears a message of God's grace to a God-led audience worldwide. We have but one mission: to publish the ever-expanding truths of "Christ in you." We welcome you to join our celebrated circle of readers.

LIFE IN THE SON

A Journal Dedicated to the Great Message, Christ in you, the Hope of Glory Founder/Editor: Warren Litzman Executive Editor: Robbie Litzman Assistant Editor: Anita Litzman Communications Director: Terry Litzman

Production Offices Manager: Robbie Litzman P. O. Box 170307 Dallas, TX 75217-0307 Phone 214-391-0488, Fax 214-391-5035 Website: www.christ-life.org Email: litzman@christ-life.org

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CHRIST-LIFE FELLOWSHIP INTERNATIONAL CONTACTS Please contact your nearest Christ-life office

Donations must be paid with postal money orders in U.S. dollars

Africa

Denise Hayes 27-41-3744741 lance@iafrica.com Port Elizabeth, Rep. of South Africa

MALAWI Francis Kambala P.O Box 2694 Lilongwe franciskambala@yahoo.com

ZIMBABWE

Contact Person: Ruth Bramson 263912320289 rubybramo@gmail.com Asia Missions Roger Bodary rbodary@hotmail.com Bangladesh

AUSTRALIA/NEW ZEALAND Jenny Asibal clfaustralia@bigpond.com Preston, Victoria 3072 Australia

DOULA, CAMEROON Pastors Shawn & Annie Smith Cameroon, West Africa shawnjrsmith@yahoo.com

GREAT BRITAIN

Lance and Sharon Hayes lance_hayes1@msn.com 07906688667 **GERMANY** Mark Asante

masante@excite.com Dusseldorf Germany

PHILIPPINE ISLANDS Wine Unat Iligan City/Cagayan de Oro wine_unat@yahoo.com

Sweden and Finland

Leif and Kerstin Emeleus Roslagsvägen 35 A SE-74842 Örbyhus phone: +46 722510911 leif@artemeleus.com

CLF PRISON MINISTRY-USA Frank Blakeman fblakeman@tpcg.org



EDITORIAL

BY WARREN LITZMAN

I was in a fast-food restaurant the other day, called Subway, which, basically, makes sandwiches: the store had all sorts of advertisements on the walls concerning the growth and popularity of the Subway sandwiches.

One ad caught my eye that said there were over 300,000 such stores worldwide making it the largest fast-food company in the world. What a large number of stores there were that sold only sandwiches!

I left the store with the number 300,000 rolling around in my mind. I said to the Lord that if I had just one great desire it would be for those who handle the "Bread of Life," the Christ-life message, to be a part of 300,000 or more believers that from their homes, offices, schools, work places, whatever, or wherever, to sincerely and faithfully serve God by opening up a place to share the Bread of Life to any one with whom they come in contact.

It is only those who see Christ as their life who have anything important to give to people. Religion has failed, man-made doctrines have failed, and politics has failed. Well, just about all humanitarian efforts have failed in giving the right food to hungry hearts.

When a simple sandwich shop has become the best selling place to meet human hunger, worldwide, I ask the Lord to make Christ-life believers, everywhere, suppliers of the Christ-life message. The Christ-life message is the only God-thing that meets every need of humans. The Scriptures are clear on this point. We need not add anything to the message Paul gives us for the final link of the journey to the Father's house in this dispensation of grace. The message is truth. Christ says I am the truth. The message is based on the Cross, and that is the final work of God for every human, Christ is our completeness.

The Christ-life message is spreading today as never before, world-wide. It is my hope that you will set up a shop where you spend most of your time. Be one of those who share the Bread of Life to hungry hearts. There is no time to waste; He is soon to appear. What we do must be done quickly.

What do you say? I am offering franchises to people who want to leave this earth happy that they did something to feed hungry hearts.



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 (Colossians 3:16).

The Principles of the Birthing and the Christ-Life

Part V

by Warren Litzman

V. SANCTIFICATION AND CONSECRATION

For too long, Christian people have been upset by the very term, "sanctification." Once the meaning of the term is understood, there can be no difficulty with it. In both the Hebrew and the Greek, sanc-tification, as a term, is synonymous with the term "separation." Therefore, to be sanctified means to be set aside for God's possession and use. It is important to realize that the term has nothing whatsoever to do with the thought of cleansing or purification, as many seem to think. Genesis 2:3; John 17:19.

1. The Birthing

- 1.1 It is absolutely important for a Christ-life believer to keep in mind the clear scriptural distinction between our fully-sanctified birthing and our being-sanctified Christ life. By the birthing our Father has done a perfect work of placing His seed, the Son, in us. By this He has justified, reconciled and accepted us in Christ.
- 1.2 As an illustration, there was a great difference between the Corinthian church being birthed and their Christ-life walk. (1 Corinthians 1:2, 11.) It is important to see that our sanctification, or setasideness, is both the will and the work of God. (1 Thess. 4:3; 5:23,24.)
- 1.3 The Father has sanctified us by the birthing because we look to Him for salvation. He has sanctified us experimentally as we look to Him in our new life.
- 1.4 The great difference in a Christ-life believer's new walk is brought about because he understands his sanctified birthing, which is Christ in him. (Jude 1.)
- 1.5 Our sanctification is solely through the Son, who dwells in us. (1 Cor. 1:30; Col. 2:9,10.)
- 1.6 What a joy it is for a Christ-life believer to know, that not only is Christ made unto him righteousness, but equally Christ is made unto him sanctification, or setasideness. How more setaside can we be by the Father than for Him to have created a whole new race of people by the birthing. How sad to see believers attempting to set themselves aside or sanctify themselves, when the birthing has already completed it. (Acts 26:18.)
- 1.7 Thus, an important part of our knowing is to see that sanctificaiton is perfect once and for all, complete and eternal. (Hebrews 10:10, 14; 2 Cor. 5:17; Eccl. 3:14.)

2. **ONE WITH CHRIST**

As a Christ-life believer rests in the birthing and sanctification, there will be continuous growth in the sanctification brought by the Christ-life. (1 Cor. 6:11.) The ultimate work of our glorious Teacher, the Holy Spirit, is to lead us to the knowledge of the already-existing perfect sanctification. (1 Peter 1:2; 2 Thess. 2:13; John 17:17.)

2.1 It is only by the work of our glorious Teacher, the Holy Spirit, operating on the Word, that we will ever come to the knowledge of our sanctification through the birthing. Without scriptural facts there is nothing upon which the Christ-life believer can base his faith. The Holy Spirit will bring us to the knowledge of His subjective work in our lives, through the birthing. He will work the objective truths in our lives as we grow in Him.

2.2 It is most important for a Christ-life believer at this point to distinguish between God's promises and His facts. Promises are to be anticipated, facts are to be accepted. By faith we know that we are:

† Justified (Romans 5:1)
† Reconciled (Colossians 1:20-22)
† Accepted (Ephesians 1:5, 7)
† Sanctified (Acts 26:18)

3. Consecration

Until a Christ-life believer has a clear understanding of the sanctification which comes through the birthing there can be no valid consecration. The simplest understanding of consecration is that consecration does not call upon us to do anything, but to rest in what God has already done. This is very painful at times and constitutes the most critical dying there is in the believer. As the old story goes concerning the great difference between consecration and dedication, the hen was dedicating what it was she could do of herself, i.e. she gave eggs. But the hog was consecrated because there was nothing he could give of himself, but himself.

- 3.1 The question may be asked here: "Why does so much sincere consecration come to nought?" The big reason for this is one of Satan's most subtle traps. Satan is always trying to get believers to become who they already are. Thus, the believer is caught in the trap of trying to consecreate to God that which God has totally and forever rejected. Believers do this in the hope that they can consecrate self to God in order for the old man to become spiritual and usable in service. Such is contrary to God's plan, for the old man must be crucified, cancelled out, dead. The new self is Christ.
- 3.2 It is absolutely important that the Christ-life believer learn that his self-unto-self understanding cannot be improved. There is ample scripture to prove this. (1 Cor. 2:14; Gal. 5:17; Rom. 8:7.) Not only this, but in personal experience the believer will learn that as often as he gives a mind to a body he will produce works of the flesh. A knowing believer is ever conscious that spirit rules over soul and soul rules over body. Our Father will never accept any works, however good or religious they may appear, when mind is given to body. This is alienation and separation from the Christ in the believer and can only produce frustration and defeat.
- 3.3 A knowing believer knows that he is one who is alive from the dead. He will know that true abiding consecration comes from his knowledge of who and what he is in Christ. (Rom. 6:13; Col 2:12, 13.)
- 3.4 Consecration is carrying out our responsibility of responding to that which God has already done in us by the birthing. Thus, the believer is as a wife who must yield herself to her husband. (Rom. 6:13.) Also, the believer presents his body unto the Christ within him as a living sacrifice. (Rom. 12:1.)
- 3.5 Finally, consecration is based on reckoning. (Rom. 6:11.) It is the new knowledge brought by the Spirit which causes the believer to turn from his outer works and understanding to the inner miracle of the birthing, and rest in it.

(Read Part VI in next issue)



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Even if you have never been to Scotland, some of you will be familiar with the narrow winding roads of the Highlands, perhaps from a postcard of a car off to the side letting a herd of slow sheep pass by, or perhaps showing an impossibly large truck bearing down on the tiny tucked-in car, and you wonder: will it, can it, ever, safely get by? Roads that have specially assigned turnouts signposted in advance as Passing Places, where you pull off and let the oncoming traffic pass before continuing your winding journey—until the next one.

To me this is such a graphic metaphor for life! The wisdom, the necessity, indeed the imperative, of pausing in the passing places on our journey—of drawing into the side of the road to avoid a head on collision with disaster. Astoundingly enough, most of us fail to heed the oncoming traffic in our lives; of the visible vehicles approaching, instead we insist on trying to outwit the impending crash.

That our life roads are narrow and constrained and replete with challenges is indisputable. That we need a safe place into which to slide till the tumult of traffic eases is equally true. To hide in the cleft of the Rock till the storm passes by. And Christ is that Rock. We have a passing place built in, a Rest from which we can observe the oncoming assault; through His eyes we see, and from His Life we draw courage and consolation knowing we cannot be permanently obliterated. It is a refuge where we feel the crush of the tragedy yet know it will pass, monstrous though it is, and a sanctuary where we can safely stay as long as needed for everything we see will change, shift or move. We can stay put in the safety of the passing zone because we know that what we cannot see will never change. We are citizens of eternity.

Acknowledging that truth allows us to live with purpose in the waiting, which is anathema to our western mindset I know! Awareness that after the temporary, momentary affliction there is relief and rescue ahead, gives us the courage to notice, nod and wave to the passing dangers, as do the courteous drivers in the Highlands! It is not living in denial, but in the vibrant engaged energy of the Triune Life that faces realities and, instead of revving up the gears and roaring into oncoming trouble, surrenders to and integrates the pain, the interruptions and obstructions by pausing in the provided place of Rest.

When I heard an AIDS patient say, "I have learned to lean into my disease and accept it and so find peace," I had my first hint of the law of surrender. How long it takes to learn it seems. How freeing it is to come to that understanding, which is really utter trust in the God who loves, and lives in, us. It is the law of love that if we "give in" we will experience the joy of "what is," because we know the I AM who is not only helping us negotiate the traffic, but who occupies the driver's seat. We can even enjoy the wait, noticing the tiny wildflowers by the roadside, and if we roll down the window, hear the lark soaring and singing above the din and maybe catch the scent of the heather or the salt of the sea.

And when it rains—and it does a lot in this narrow road land—it is not such a bad idea to pull in and wait until the downpour diminishes, until the windshield wipers can keep up with the deluge. When tears blind the journey ahead and grief overwhelms our souls, let them flow; let them do their cleansing work while we pause. The sun will come out again, the traffic will clear and it will soon be our turn to ease out and hit the open road for we don't stay in the pull-out forever.

As I began to write this article, I received a Facebook post from a friend who has spent a couple of days in the hospital though the symptoms that took her there failed to reveal the reason for her visit. "It will pass" was the discharge declaration! And as the observant Pablo Giacopelli blogs, pain is meant to be a visitor in our lives and never a constant companion. There is a whole lot of joyous living on this journey and the passing places provide us safety and time out so that we live to tell our traveling tales.

So whether it is a seemingly never ending pause like waiting for those slow and stubborn sheep on a Scottish single-track road, or a huge hurtling assault like the truck, which we are sure will take us out, either way one thing is certain, this too shall pass.

To contact Alice for any of her books, write to her at tri.embrace@gmail.com

MISSIONS: Spreading the Message IN AFRICA by Nelita Foncesca



I was born in Angola, moved to Portugal, and was raised in the Catholic Church. I came to South Africa as a refugee in 1975. I became a born-again believer in 1983. At a stage of my walk with the Lord, I felt that I had been called into the ministry, and I enrolled in a Bible school in Cape Town from 1992 to 1995. I began my missionary journey in 1996 to Angola, Portugal, Namibia, Kenya, Mozambique, Brazil and South Africa.

I was introduced to the message of the Christ-life in 1996 via a Life in the Son magazine. It was "accidentally" posted to me, together with some other Christian literature while living in Port Nolloth, a small town close to the Namibian border. The first article I ever read on the message of the Christ life was entitled "Attained or Attaining." I was shocked and convicted with the fact that Jesus had already done everything for me, and immediately arranged to get more study material from the PE Office. As I listened to Warren's teaching on the foundation truths I sobbed for hours convicted by the Holy Spirit and like Jeremiah, I literally felt as though there was a fire in my bones. I ached and became very angry because I had wasted so much precious time.

Like many, I was suffering the dreadful effects of religion. Sadly, I had not been allowed to enter into the things of God (Matt 23:13) nor was I allowing others to enter. As I began to listen to the message (which at that time was still in audio tape) I wasn't able to listen for long periods because its content was rich and above anything I had ever heard or been taught. My religious ideas were being destroyed because of the Jesus Warren spoke of. I felt completely lost in regard to my purpose as a missionary, and was forced to face the reality that in fact I did not know that Jesus.

What had I been preaching? It took me days of meditation and searching of the scriptures to absorb what Warren was saying. Like many other believers, initially, I tried to share what I had just learned with my church and thereafter with various other institutional organizations. The outcome was dreadful. I soon realized that I was embarking on an impossible task! I was told that I had become a "danger" to the Christian community, and like Paul, the search of the scriptures had driven me insane.

It was too late. Like Warren says, I had been "hooked." I immediately

withdrew from all my responsibilities and commitments as a "good religious worker" and began my lonely walk with the Lord. Everything was new to me and initially not easy. I was constantly threatened with some sort of calamity because I had lost my "covering." Thanks to the precious Holy Spirit, I was reassured that I was on the correct path. As lonely as I was, I had to learn to trust Him. Like Nicodemus, many of my friends visited me at night to hear what I was learning, and I thank our Father that today, most of them are following the liberating and glorious message of Christ as our life.

In 1998, I was invited to minister in Brazil, but at that same time our Father prearranged for me to meet my husband. We got married within two months of knowing each other, and to our surprise, the place I had been invited to share Christ was his very home town. I was to speak at his mom's church in Belo Horizonte. Only our Father can make these divine connections!

As I began to share the "in Christ truths" with my husband, he immediately fell in love with the message. Unlike me, he hadn't been so "inoculated" with religion, and grew much faster. However, we had a problem. Wanderlei could hardly speak a word of English when we met and whenever I read a book, listened to a tape, or even attended a Christ-life camp, I had to continuously translate everything into Portuguese. Wanderlei was hungry to know God and hardly allowed me space to breathe. It was then that we decided to ask Warren permission to translate his books into the Portuguese language. Together we began a new phase of our adventure in Christ.

Wanderlei and I read and re-read what Warren was saying in his books, and after we studied them closely, we began putting his words into Portuguese. The experiences we had at that time were unforgettable, and we will always treasure them. The Holy Spirit would wake us up in the middle of the night or at early morning hours to instruct us on a word or a sentence that needed to be corrected. At times, words would just appear before our eyes floating as if on an invisible canvas, and we would immediately know what we had to do. When we came to the end of our work, we were suddenly faced with the fear of having somehow, mistranslated what Warren had said and therefore ruin the message. We cried to our Father, and once again the Holy Spirit comforted us with the reality that He had all along been involved in everything that had been done, and was very well aware of what we knew and understood.

How precious is our Father's rest! It is comforting to know that we are never separated from His love that is in Christ Jesus. Today there are people that are already reading those books in Angola, Mozambique, Brazil and Portugal. Monthly, we send Warren's translated material, as well as our own studies, with our understanding of the message of Christ to believers in Brazil who have already asked us to visit them.

Our hearts are filled with gratitude towards our Father, and also to Warren and Robbie who have been huge instruments in this great move of His Spirit, in awakening the body of Christ to the "in Christ realities." Warren and Robbie, we are forever grateful.

During these 17 glorious years

of learning Christ, Wanderlei and I have both grown in our love for each other and for the Christ in us. More than ever, we are committed to bring honor to our Father as we make Jesus known to this world. We understand that this magnificent message belongs to the Holy Spirit, and our desire is to confirm the wonderful truth that Christ is the believer's life. We have waited on our Father and are aware that our waiting is over. We are entering into the doors that He is so gloriously opening. In Christ our all in all

In Dec 2012 we were invited to travel to Kenya and left on the 8th of December with expectant hearts because this is what we have wanted to do for the past 15 years. As a missionary, I worked in Kenya at a local Bible College, but now, I was returning with my precious husband and a different understanding of Christ.

As we entered the city of Machakos we saw street preachers everywhere, as well as several crusades taking place. In short time we understood that we were in a Christian country where songs of worship and the voice of preachers filled the air. We saw pictures of prominent television preachers plastered on several walls, as well as banners announcing their arrival in the country, but our mission was clear; like the apostle Paul, we had come to announce "Him" Whom they were preaching. So, we could boldly state: "Dear fellow Kenyan brothers and sisters in Christ; as we entered the city, we noticed that you are very religious in every way, but we have come to announce to you, that this Jesus that you worship and are preaching, actually lives in you."

There were many hungry hearts

wherever we went announcing the liberating message of Christ in the believer. We were told that there had been a "stirring" within the compound where the church and the residential area for the visiting Pastors and believers were situated. Because of the message of Christ many could not sleep and the response we received was unbelievable. Oh, what joy! My husband and I felt very privileged for being entrusted with the glorious message of Christ. In one of the sessions of the week the presence of the Lord became so strong that I had to hold into the pulpit to be able to stand and carry on teaching! We were amazed with these things.

Wanderlei and I traveled to several venues and the response to the message of Christ was always awesome. We had great freedom as we shared Jesus, and the effect was stunning and brought testimonies like: "What you have said has changed my life. I never knew that Christ was in me. I am a changed person. Christ has never been preached this way before." And so forth.

On our last day of sharing at the tent, I felt slightly apprehensive as I was to take the first morning session and we were introduced to ten local Kenyan pastors. However, the Holy Spirit faithfully assured me that the work was His, not mine. As I began to speak, I got lost in the truth of Christ and as I encouraged them to read aloud some of the scriptures, I heard them whisper words like, "Glory to God," "Oh dear Jesus."

As our time in Kenya was about to end, we became slightly anxious because we hadn't yet found the right person to carry on with the truth of Christ. But once again, the Holy Spirit reassured us that He was in full control of His work of revealing Christ, and on our very last session we had the privilege of meeting Pastor Michael Agoye, who has already been

receiving the Life in the Son magazine and has been acquainted with the Christ-life truth for the past three years. Brother Michael invited us for a wonderful lunch in his home in Nakuru City, the second largest city in Kenya, and once again we had a blessed time of sharing Christ with him and his precious family and friends.

Obviously, we will be going to the rural areas down deeper into the

bush. We have packed our main necessities like water, toilet paper and mosquito repellent. Jesus must be made known and we are very excited as we await our time to go to Tanzania, which is our new port of call. Tomorrow we will begin teaching in another area.

Nelita and Wanderlei



THE MAIN CHURCH



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My Notes on the Final Gospel By Warren Litzman

Out of his desire to help students become teachers to broadcast the Christ-life message to believers and non-believers worldwide, Warren Litzman compiled sermon notes for 365 of his favorite in-Christ messages into My Notes on the Final Gospel. Warren's "Big Book" in large format (8.5 x 11) is a wonderful aid for Bible studies and teaching of the in-Christ message.

Testimony by Chris and Yvonne Goosen Johannesburg, S. Africa

I just want to express my deepest gratitude to Warren for taking the time to write all his notes into the big book. I have been using the book as I prepare to teach folk about the message. It has been a great help to me; I only teach what is in that book. Thank you very much.

NEWS FROM THE CHRIST-LIFE FAMILY IN MALAWI



GREETINGS!

We thank God, the Father of Jesus Christ, for the love and life that we are experiencing. We enjoy the fellowship of our Lord Jesus Christ with great joy and confidence. Our lives have a meaning and purpose in this world. Thanks be to the family of Christ that have blessed us through many prayers. We have grown abundantly in the realization and identification of life in Christ. We love Christ because He is become our life. Truly He is in us as we are in Him.

Fellowship

The Fellowship in Malawi is growing in unity of faith. The fellowship from all the body of Christ-Life family around the world has given us the comfort that it is in union with Christ as in all other places, enjoying the life in Christ. The Fellowship has now the strength, courage and boldness to preach the crucified Christ without measure knowing that He is our only life that has triumphed (Col 3:1-3). We sing, pray, share testimonies and preach the crucified Christ when we meet. The In-Christ truth is the oil that unites all the brethren. MEETINGS

Fellowship meetings happen every Sunday which is the ideal day for everyone even those coming from far places. Our meetings happen in a classroom that is badly furnished but has the comfort to allow us to share the Gospel of Christ. There are six families dedicated to meeting after leaving their former bondages.

THANKSGIVING

The brethren give many thanks to God and the Lord Jesus Christ for the Grace that has abounded to us for so many years. We give thanks to Pastor Warren and Robbie and to Denise. We give thanks to Chris and Yvonne Goosen who have a special heart for us. We give thanks to the whole family in RSA that gave us the love; their beauty has been imparted to the family in Malawi.

Reaching Out

This is the message that now is handled by every believer here that has seen the victory. We are proud in Christ that we have nothing to hold us anymore from preaching the "Risen Christ". With words from our mouth, magazines, books and our new life, the message is going out and has began bringing more fruit as it is doing in all the world. We have testimonies as the brethren speak the Only Life in them to so many that lie in the darkness of the law. Those that feared have come to us. We wish you could visit us to see that love which was in the beginning, before the foundation of the world, and now is with us living in us as us.

Responsibility

The responsibility is on our hearts to allow the message to bear fruit in Malawi. We realize our walk and talk and life is crucial to the preaching of the message. We therefore use the resources that God is providing despite the economic pressures that a nation like Malawi faces. Truthfully we lack nothing. We continue t o realize and apprehend the Christ that provides for our transports, helps and other things in sharing the Gospel of Christ according to our measure and stature. We trust him to provide for us as we prepare for the blessed meeting in RSA this

year where we will meet Pastor Warren and Robbie and some selected believers sharing the final gospel all over the world. God bless Pastor Warren and Robbie because we would like to see them healthy and sound. We pray for you all. We pray for the country Malawi and know that our standing in the gap will definitely bring the fruit of Christ to the whole nation.

FRANCIS KAMBALA



Francis Kambala and his wife Doreen were introduced to the In-Christ Gospel in 2000 when a fellow Malawian, Brother Christopher Mica, gave them the book "Believer's Secret of Happiness." To quote Francis, "We fell in love with the Christ that Warren taught, from the Scriptures, was living in us." He leads the Fellowship groups from his home in Lilongwe, Malawi who meet every Sunday -- many of whom had heard the Gospel in previous years.



We have testimony from believers of being brought to a revelation of Christ as their life, by the Holy Spirit, while in intensive study of the Line Upon Line lessons. This was the Apostle Paul's testimony in Galatians 1:15-16 and his prayer in Ephesians 1:15-23.

THE CHRIST-LIFE WEEKLY BIBLE CLASS

An opportunity for the serious Bible Student to come into our being one with Christ through the Christ-life message. The lessons are written and edited by Warren Litzman and can be used in classes or groups as study guides, as well as for individual study. Here is how the program works:

► Each student will be enrolled individually.

►A lesson will be mailed to each student, from our office, every Monday.

► Each lesson will carry some important aspect of the Christ-life message, along with Scriptures to search on the lesson's subject. Also, various other subjects dealing with faith, giving, teaching our children the Christ-life, healing, etc.

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Everything in the believer is, was and ever shall be because of Him Who is our life.



Comforter by Frank Stigall

"Howbeit when he, the Spirit of truth, is come, he will guide you into all truth: for he will not speak of himself; but whatsoever he shall hear, that shall he speak: and he will shew you things to come" (John 16:13).

"But when the Comforter, which is the Holy Ghost, whom I will send unto you from the Father, even the Spirit of truth, which proceedeth from the Father, he shall testify of me:" (John 15:26).

In John, Chapters 14 through 17, Jesus was preparing His disciples for the time He would be no longer with them. He wanted to explain to them what was about to happen and that He would not leave them comfortless. He spoke at length on how some things would work after He was gone. He especially wanted them to have an understanding of the Holy Spirit, whom had not yet been given, and spent a great deal of time explaining His ministry to them.

Who is the Holy Spirit? There is no record of Him being born. Where did He come from? How did He get here? What is His purpose? Come to think of it, I don't recall anyone in Scripture saying they have seen the Holy Spirit, except as a dove that ascended on Jesus. Somehow, I doubt that a dove is the legitimate image of the Holy Spirit, just a type.

Many pictures have been drawn of Jesus. They may or may not depict what He looked like. There are no pictures of the Holy Spirit. No one seems to have any idea of what He looks like. Moreover, He does not have a name; He is simply called by what He is. However, the Holy Spirit has a definite ministry to the Church, which is an invisible ministry. He never came to replace Jesus as the predominant authority. He is only here to lift up Jesus and not to speak of Himself.

What is His ministry? He has come to do exactly what Jesus said: to give comfort. It is different than the ministry of Jesus who was to be seen. Jesus said, "If you seen me, you have seen the Father." The Holy Spirit, on the other hand, has a ministry to be heard. Therefore, if we have heard what the Holy Spirit is saying, we have also heard what the Father is saying. The Holy Spirit only speaks of those things which He has seen and heard. "But God hath revealed them unto us by his Spirit: for the Spirit searcheth all things, yea, the deep things of God" (1 Cor. 2:10).

Where did the Holy Spirit come from? Like Jesus, He came from God, and out of God. He is separate from God, but He is also God, the

Holy Spirit. The Father has not sent us a servant to serve us, as some suppose; but He has sent us a teacher, to teach us His ways. He is often called the anointing, and He is. To anoint means to pour, so a person can be anointed a number of times. Therefore, to say you are anointed means; the Holy Spirit has come upon you for one reason or another. Whatever you are anointed for, that anointing still points to Christ. If there is any power connected to this anointing, it will be from the Christ in you by the revelation of the Holy Spirit.

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

We have said this statement many times, but it needs to be repeated continually. The Holy Spirit is not your savior. He did not die for you nor did He take your sins away. He is not birthed in you—Christ is. After salvation Christ baptizes you in the Holy Spirit, it is his gift to you. The Holy Spirit is not your healer— Christ is. Christ is the only one who bore stripes for your healing. Only in religion has the emphasis

been put on the Holy Spirit; pushing Christ to the background like a worn out garment. In John 15, Jesus is explaining the effects birthing has on a child of God. He illustrates this with a story about a vine, a branch and the husbandman. This is a very interesting story. I have watched the fruit trees in my back yard as they go through their seasonal cycle. Of course I play the caretaker. At the proper time in the fall of the year I get out my pruning tools and start to work on the tree. I first remove all the suckers. They stand up four to six feet long mostly at the top of the tree, they look good but they will not bear fruit. Other limbs have grown two long and need shortened to preserve the overall shape and symmetry of the tree. Part of the tree must be sacrificed for it's own good. When I am through sometimes it looks like I have taken down half the tree. However, when spring comes around there is suddenly a host of lovely blossoms all over the tree. Now, I have noticed there are several parts to a tree. There is a root system, a trunk and limbs. None of these bear the fruit. The fruit is on the small fragile branches. If some branches are allowed to grow and are carefully pruned they too can become a limb, which support branches. However, the trunk and the root system cannot be replaced.

In the story of the vine Jesus is

telling, He is the vine and we are the branches which bear the fruit. However, the branch depends completely on the vine for its fruit. The Holy Spirit seems to be almost disconnected from all this, however, he is intimately involved in all that Christ does. He can be thought of as a silent partner. He does not draw attention to himself. Yet, He is performing a greatly needed job. If there is a job for the Holy Spirit at the vine, it would be the part the bees do-pollinating the blooms. Each blossom is tenderly wooed by the Spirit. Some blossoms are pollinized by the blowing wind. However, this is accidental pollination and it is built into the system by the Father. Christians often receive from the Holy Spirit without knowing it. It is the mercy of the Father. For the most part, religion works accidentally when the Holy Spirit is shut out. However, a good crop needs the bees to assure good pollination. Then the crop becomes larger than it would have been otherwise.

Law is usually a big factor in religion that hinders grace. Not knowing who you are in Christ is even a greater hindrance. I do not advocate sending people to hell after they have been born again. However, the grace of God can be stopped cold. Fallen from grace could be interpreted as meaning the Holy Spirit has been rejected in one's spiritual life. I cannot imagine life as a Christian with the absence of grace. However, I am inclined to believe many do.

"Christ is become of no effect unto you, whosoever of you are justified by the law; ye are fallen from grace" (Gal. 5:4).

After you heard the word of truth and were born again then you were sealed with the Holy Spirit. It is like receiving a wedding ring. It is a sign that you belong to Christ the Lord. This is another use of the Holy Spirit revealed only in the epistles.

As indicated in the Scriptures, the Holy Spirit is like a dove that is easily driven away. The Holy Spirit can also be grieved or distressed. At this point he most likely will take his leave. "In whom ye also trusted, after that ye heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation: in whom also after that ye believed, ye were sealed with that holy Spirit of promise" (Eph. 1:13). "And grieve not the holy Spirit of God, whereby ye are sealed unto the day of redemption" (Eph. 4:30).

It is the earnest of your inheritance and the down payment on what you can expect to come. It is the promise to you from Jesus that the biggest part of the inheritance is still to come.

"Who hath also sealed us, and given the earnest of the Spirit in our hearts" (2 Cor. 1:22; 5:5; Eph. 1:14).

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by Roger Bodary



"Now to him that is of power to establish you according to my gospel, and the preaching of Jesus Christ, according to the revelation of the mystery, which was kept secret since the world began" (Romans 16:25). PAUL'S EPISTLES

Paul's Epistles were the very first writings to the new Church which was being established in the different regions. His letters were to be circulated throughout these churches, to be read and studied by all the believers. These Epistles have been established by most theologians as the foundational writings from which all New Testament doctrines are derived.

Paul himself refers more than five different times to the Gospel of Jesus Christ as his gospel—"to stablish you according to MY gospel." Paul made this claim to the gospel, which no other writer of the Bible, or apostle, or disciple of Jesus Christ has ever made. When Paul refers to the gospel as being 'his,' he does not mean he is preaching himself or building his own ministry; rather, he makes it clear to his readers that he preaches only Christ, "For we preach not ourselves but Christ Jesus . . ." (II Corinthians 4:5). Neither was this a prideful or boastful claim, as if he were someone great that should be lifted up: "Unto me, who am less than the least of all saints, is this grace given ..." (Ephesians 3:8).

Paul makes this profound claim to separate himself from all other apostles, disciples, writers, and teachers of the Gospel and to provoke his readers to focus their attention on what he is saying. He knew what God had given him was so revolutionary that it must be proclaimed to the whole Church.

"... according to the dispensation of God which is given to me for you, ..." (Colossians 1:25). The word dispensation translates 'administration' or 'stewardship.' It is Paul saying that among the gifts he is given by God is the ability to arrange things so that the great truth might be made known to all believers." (Warren Litzman, Messages for The New Creation Race People, p. 10).

"This brings us to the one person whom God could trust with the knowledge of the mystery—the Apostle Paul. As God plans things, it is logical to assume that He planned Paul's life from its beginning. He planned the development of a person who could explain the mystery. In time, he would be able to carry out the duties of one who was to be an Apostle to the Gentiles, who were to be the people of the "new creation race," reborn by the placing of another 'Christ' within them." (Warren Litzman, Messages for the New Creation Race People, p. 9). Paul is so bold in this fact that he states in Galatians 1:9, "... .if any man preach any other gospel unto you than that ye have received [me], let him be accursed." In other words, there is no other true gospel than his gospel, and if you do not know and understand the truth that he is proclaiming, then you do not know or have the true gospel.

Throughout his epistles, Paul leaves no doubt that he had been given a special calling of God and that calling was to ". . . preach . . . the unsearchable riches of Christ" (Ephesians 3:8), ". . . according to the revelation of the mystery, which was kept secret since the world began" (Romans 16:25), ". . . to fulfill the word of God" (Colossians 1:25). Kept Secret Since The World Began "Which, in other ages was not made known unto the sons of men, as it is now revealed unto his holy apostles

and prophets by the Spirit" (Ephesians 3:5). "For 4000 years, from the foundation of the world to Calvary, God had the liberating secret waiting. His plan was to get a new race of sons-not angels, not Jews, not Gentiles—but a new creation, with Christ as its life and God as its nature." (Warren Litzman, Messages for the New Creation Race People, pp. 11-12). God ordained that His ultimate plan and purpose would be a mystery: "But we speak the wisdom of God in a mystery, even the hidden wisdom, which God ordained before the world unto our glory:" (I Corinthians 2:7). The entire gospel of Christ is hidden in God, such as His Word, His life, His nature, His wisdom, and His truth. This mystery was hidden from the whole human race since the beginning of the world. God even kept it hidden from His chosen people, the Jews, and from the patriarchs such as Abraham, Moses, David, and the prophets. Not until He made it known to the Apostle Paul was this mystery revealed to God's people. Paul emphasizes this fact in his epistles, all in context of the Father's ultimate intention of the be-

liever in Christ. "Even the mystery which hath been hid from ages and from generations, but now is made manifest to his saints: . . . which is Christ in you, the hope of glory:" (Colossians 1:26-27).

It is important to know the term 'mystery' and see why the Apostle Paul uses it in his writings. 'Mystery' in the Greek is 'mustrion'. In the ordinary sense, a mystery means knowledge withheld, something that is hidden or not known or understood. "It is knowledge which is outside the range of unassisted natural apprehension and can only be known in a matter and at a time appointed by God, and to those who are illuminated by His Spirit." (W. E. Vine, Vine's Expository of the Old and New Testament Word.)

Paul uses the term 'mystery' because he knew that no man could come into the knowledge and understanding of God on his own: ". . . Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man . . . the things of God knoweth no man . . ." (I Corinthians 2:9, 11). He discovered all humanity was totally blind and ignorant and in darkness, "Having the understanding darkened, being alienated from the life of God through the ignorance that is in them, because of the blindness of their heart" (Ephesians 4:18).

Paul knew that he, himself, could not reveal and make known the mystery of God and His ultimate purpose. He received it by revelation and everyone else must receive it by revelation. So when Paul uses the term 'mystery' he leaves it to the Holy Spirit to reveal it, "But God hath revealed them unto us by his Spirit . . ." (I Corinthians 2:10).

God ordained that His ultimate intention would be a mystery so that no man could come to the true knowledge and understanding of His intention on his own. God Himself is in total control of revealing the mystery of Himself to those to whom He chooses to make it known. We conclude, therefore, that behind the mystery which was hidden from ages and generations is the fullness of God and His eternal purpose.

(Taken from the book God's Ultimate Plan Fulfilled In Christ, by Roger Bodary, pp. 20-23.)

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This Gospel is Precious by Chris Goosen

There had been an exchange of knowledge in my mind. I started filling my mind with Paul's Gospel. I made a decision that I would only read books by Warren Litzman, as he was the only person I heard of that taught the In Christ message straight from Paul's writings.

As the message of Grace grew in me. I started to realise that this was not just another doctrine or message that was exciting in the beginning and later became the same frustrating way of living as had been the case in the past. This was something different. This was new and was growing in me. I did not want to hear any other person's opinion, nor would I go to church to hear some preacher. I did not want anything to spoil or contaminate this truth that had come to me. I did not ask for it. I did not fast for it.

On the evening of the 5th February 2002, we met with a very special lady. Her advice to me was to read Galatians 2:10 and Colossians 1:25-27 ten times over aloud to my wife, Yvonne, before we retired for the night. We were then to put off the bedroom light and go to sleep. I awoke the next morning knowing something that I never known before. I am so thankful to my Father in heaven that Yvonne also woke up with this new understanding. There would be no fighting about church, religion, or the Bible in our home. We would grow in this message together. What a blessing that was.

As time went on I found that I was getting very protective over this message. I would not let anybody bring a new angle to the message. I started loving Father God in a deeper way. This Truth was too precious to argue about, too precious to debate over. This message had changed my life. The Holy Spirit was my teacher, not some preacher or some guide to a better understanding of the scriptures. Every time we hear Warren and Robbie teach on the Christ Life, I ask the Holy Spirit to open my mind to understand what He wants to teach me from Warren's message. Sometimes I don't understand the depth that Warren is teaching, but it will be brought back to my mind by the Holy Spirit in His time.

Just last week I realised how this Gospel has changed the way I look at people, and look at myself and how it has changed the way I see and react to problems that come across my path. When I fail, I don't feel that He has left me and that I am a failure at my Christian life. He is my Father, I am His son, we have a relationship, He loves me, I want to love Him more. I have no desire to hurt Him, but I do, but I don't feel rejected. I can talk to Him without making a perfect speech. I no longer feel condemned when people tell me I'm backslidden be because I don't go to church.

What makes this message so precious? I understand what happened at my birthing.

God's plan that was in the mind of God before the creation of this world, came into being at the Cross. Every person on this earth since the Cross has a right to choose whether they want God's salvation or not. If a person chooses to believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, God immediately places into the spirit of this believer a Seed, God's Son, Jesus, the risen Christ. This believer now has a NEW Life in him, and is now called a Christian, a Christ-one.

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:

1Pet. 1:23, *Being born again, not of corruptible seed, but of incorrupt-ible, by the word of God, which liveth and abideth for ever.*

Col. 3:4, *When Christ, who is our life, shall appear, then shall ye also appear with him in glory.*

1 Jn. 5:11, And this is the record, that God hath given to us eternal life, and this life is in his Son.

1 Jn. 5:12, *He that hath the Son hath life; and he that hath not the Son of God hath not life.*

What makes this message so precious? I can now rightly divide the Bible.

Before this message took hold of my mind, I thought all scripture was FOR me. Every promise, each covenant, every law, all curses were for me. I would quote the positive ones and try to forget the negative ones. Then I came to the understanding of what Paul told Timothy to do—to rightly **DIVIDE** the scriptures. All scripture is written FOR me, but very little is written TO me. Paul is the only person in the Bible that is called to minister to the Gentiles, of which I am one. John writes a bit of the sayings of Jesus that are TO me. The rest of the Bible, approximately four-fifths is law, history and prophecy. Only about one-fifth is written TO us born again believers.

2 Tim. 2:15, *Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.*

What makes this message so precious? This message of Grace was given only to Paul

It came directly from the risen Jesus directly to Paul. It did not come from those disciples or apostles that knew Jesus of Nazareth face to face. It was not given to the twelve in the Upper Room, or to Peter on the Day of Pentecost. It turned Paul's life around, from hunting down and killing Christians, to renouncing everything that he was, to preaching this message. This message cost Paul much hardship and pain, and finally, his life. As we read Paul's Gospels, we find statements that were never written or spoken by any other anointed person throughout the books of the Bible.

Gal. 1:15, But when it pleased God, who separated me from my mother's womb, and called me by his grace, **Gal 1:16,** To reveal his Son in me, that I might preach him among the heathen; immediately I conferred not with flesh and blood:

What makes this message so precious? I am no longer under the curse of the law.

Religion has taught us, no, forced us to live under a law, Moses law, the Church law, and even the pastors' law. We have to keep the laws of religion or else we are rebellious. These laws cause many Christians to feel that they have failed God and their Christianity.

Gal. 3:10, For as many as are of the works of the law are under the curse: for it is written, Cursed is every one that continueth not in all things which are written in the book of the law to do them.

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:*

Gal. 2:16, *Knowing that a man is not justified by the works of the law, but by the faith of Jesus Christ, even we have believed in Jesus Christ, that we might be justified by the faith of Christ, and not by the works of the law: for by the works of the law shall no flesh be justified.*

2 Cor. 3:13, And not as Moses, which put a veil over his face, that the children of Israel could not stead-fastly look to the end of that which is abolished:

2 Cor. 3:14, But their minds were blinded: for until this day remaineth the same veil untaken away in the reading of the old testament; which veil is done away in Christ.

2 Cor. 3:15, But even unto this day,

when Moses is read, the veil is upon their heart.

2 Cor. 3:16, Nevertheless when it shall turn to the Lord, the veil shall be taken away.

2 Cor. 3:17, Now the Lord is that Spirit: and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is liberty.

What makes this message so precious? I don't have to strive and work for Father's approval.

Religion has demanded that I as a Christian have to continually work physically to get God's approval. The church leaders judge my Christian temperature against the faithfulness of my service to the church. Attendance, tithing, courses I attend, being at the elders' beck and call.

Gal. 5:1, *Stand fast therefore in the liberty wherewith Christ hath made us free, and be not entangled again with the yoke of bondage.*

Col. 2:6, *As ye have therefore received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk ye in him:*

Col. 2:7, Rooted and built up in him, and stablished in the faith, as ye have been taught, abounding therein with thanksgiving.

Col. 2:8, Beware lest any man spoil you through philosophy and vain deceit, after the tradition of men, after the rudiments of the world, and not after Christ.

What makes this message so precious? My past, all of it, was taken care of in the body of Jesus at the cross.

All of our past relationships, divorces, drunkenness, law breaking acts have been dealt with in Jesus at the cross. In Christ, I have no past. Of course, if I have been caught breaking the law of the country, I will carry the consequences of those actions.

Rom. 8:1, *There is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit.*

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

2 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.*

What makes this message so precious? All that I have strived to be, or to become during my life, means nothing.

Only what I was created to be by my Father is what counts. In Christ, I count for nothing, I am dead, only the Life of Christ in me means anything.

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

Phil. 3:4, *Though I might also have confidence in the flesh. If any other man thinketh that he hath whereof he might trust in the flesh, I more:*

Phil. 3:5, *Circumcised the eighth day, of the stock of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, an Hebrew of the Hebrews; as touching the law, a Pharisee;*

Phil. 3:6, *Concerning zeal, persecuting the church; touching the righteousness which is in the law, blameless.*

Phil. 3:7, But what things were gain to me, those I counted loss for Christ. **Phil. 3:8,** Yea doubtless, and I count all things but loss for the excellency of the knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord: for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and do count them

but dung, that I may win Christ, What makes this message so precious? I had nothing to do with who I am in Christ

Being born again had nothing to do with me. There was nothing in me that desired Christ. My nature was evil, hated God and all He stood for. It was satan's nature. Father God gave each person a small bit of faith, then the Holy Spirit prompted that faith, and I realised I needed a Saviour. As I believed that Jesus was my only Salvation, and the only way to God, I became born again. It was all a God thing, all I did was to believe in Jesus.

Jn 3:3, Jesus answered and said unto him, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God. **Jn. 3:15**, *That whosoever believeth*

in him should not perish, but have eternal life.

Jn. 3:16, For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

Jn. 3:17, For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be saved.

Jn. 3:18, *He that believeth on him is not condemned: but he that believeth not is condemned already, because he hath not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God.*

What makes this message so precious? I am complete, perfect in the eyes of God.

The truth of Paul's gospel makes it clear to me that there is nothing more I can receive from Father God. At my birthing, that is, when I was born again, I received everything that God had for me, the total package. I am talking about my spirit. In my spirit I was made complete and perfect at the moment of my re-birth. When God looks at me He sees His Son, Jesus, in my spirit and I stand perfect before Him. However, in soul (mind, will, and emotions) I am growing as I renew my mind about the new person living in me, allow the Christ in me to live His life through me, and I allow the Holy Spirit to be my teacher.

Col. 2:6, *As ye have therefore received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk ye in him:*

Col. 2:7, Rooted and built up in him, and stablished in the faith, as ye have been taught, abounding therein with thanksgiving.

Col. 2:8, Beware lest any man spoil you through philosophy and vain deceit, after the tradition of men, after the rudiments of the world, and not after Christ.

Col. 2:9, For in him dwelleth all the fulness of the Godhead bodily.

Col. 2:10, *And ye are complete in him, which is the head of all principality and power:*

Col. 2:11, *In whom also ye are circumcised with the circumcision made without hands, in putting off the body of the sins of the flesh by the circumcision of Christ:*

Col. 2:12, Buried with him in baptism, wherein also ye are risen with him through the faith of the operation of God, who hath raised him from the dead.

Col. 2:13, *And you, being dead in your sins and the uncircumcision* of *your flesh, hath he quickened togeth-er with him, having forgiven you all trespasses;*

Col. 2:14, 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; **Col. 2:15,** And having spoiled principalities and powers, he made a shew of them openly, triumphing over them in it.

Col. 2:16, *Let no man therefore judge you in meat, or in drink, or in respect of an holyday, or of the new moon, or of the sabbath days:*

What makes this message so precious? I don't fight or blame the devil any more

Through Paul, I now know what happened at the cross. Jesus won the war against satan, and satan has no power over me. He is a defeated enemy, the only time he will have power over me is when I give him that power. My decisions, actions, and my mind can give him power over me.

I don't blame the devil when things go wrong for me, I know Father uses circumstances and situations to school me. In everything that happens to me, good or bad, there is a loving Father teaching me how to live when I get to Father's house. He allows all things to happen. He is my Father, He loves me and I trust him.

What makes this message so precious? The world is not my identity

At the instant of my re-birth, when I believed on the Lord Jesus, I got a new identity. The old one died in Jesus at the cross. It was not a modified or a fixed up identity, it is a brand new identity. I am not of this world, I am a citizen of heaven, I am seated in heavenly places with Jesus. Everything of this world died at the cross.

WHAT MAKES THIS MESSAGE SO PRECIOUS? I DON'T HAVE TO HAVE GREAT FAITH TO RECEIVE FROM GOD. In religion, the Pentecostal and

Charismatic churches put tremendous importance on the believer having faith. To get anything from God you have to have faith. This goes against the teachings of Paul. Several times he states that the only faith we have is the faith of the risen Christ. What a relief, I live by the faith of the Son of God.

Gal. 2:16, *Knowing that a man is not justified by the works of the law, but by the faith of Jesus Christ, even we have believed in Jesus Christ, that we might be justified by the faith of Christ, and not by the works of the law: for by the works of the law shall no flesh be justified.*

What makes this message so precious? God had a unique plan for my life from before the world was created.

Many times I have been asked by very spiritual people "What is God's plan for your life." I never knew how to answer that question truthfully. No matter how spiritual I was when I gave an answer, I knew it was not the right one. But now, Gods plan for my life is that I am in a training ground, a school house, being trained to live in Father's house. His plan for my life is for me to become what He created me to be, and to allow His Son to live through me. That means that no matter how my parents raised me, no matter how pressures from society affected me, no matter what my hurts and past turned me into, I am a new creation, my past is gone, and I live a new life in Christ.

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

WHAT MAKES THIS MESSAGE SO PRECIOUS?

I NOW KNOW THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN MY BODY, SOUL, AND SPIRIT

This is a key to dividing the scriptures. The Word divides between soul and spirit. I was born in sin, satan lived in my spirit. He was the Director of my life. My soul, the mind, will, and emotions were controlled by the one living in my spirit. At my re-birth, my spirit was renewed, satan out and Christ in, by a miracle of God, this was done in an instant. Now Christ is living in my spirit. "I" have to renew my thinking. Not to think as I use to, but to think that Christ is my life—to give Him my mind. As my mind gets renewed, my body or flesh starts to behave differently. There is a war within me, between my spirit and my mind and flesh. Only in Christ can I overcome the desires of the flesh and the mind.

Heb. 4:12, 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 heart.

1Thes. 5:23, And the very God of peace sanctify you wholly; and I pray God your whole spirit and soul and body be preserved blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Rom. 7:18, For I know that in me (that is, in my flesh,) dwelleth no good thing: for to will is present with me; but how to perform that which is good I find not.

As I sit typing these few thoughts, many more scriptures come to mind, but space and time would not permit me to put them all on paper. My mind just boggles with the thought of how precious the message of the "Christ Life" is to me. The only way that this message will become precious to you is if you stay in Paul's epistles. Study the Word, rightly divide the Word, choose to make the Word the only reference you use to know the Christ that lives in you. Allow Him to flow out of you as you. After all, "you are dead, Christ lives in you." Let us keep Paul's gospel pure and simple. Allow the Holy Spirit to teach you and this message will be very precious to you.



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Christ Life Prison Ministry Report by Frank Blakeman

Over the past six months, I have read over one hundred letters from inmates all across the United States. These letters come from New York, Texas, Arizona, California, Louisiana and all points in between. These men have discovered a Truth, a Life and a Reality that had eluded them in the outside world. They searched for that Truth in drugs, alcohol, and a thousand other places. Their search was fruitless until a magazine, pamphlet, book, or CD/DVD "crossed" their path with the name "Christ Life" on it.

A man and a woman in Dallas decided that these men, these inmates, deprived of their normal rights as free citizens still had a right to know the Truth. Warren and Robbie Litzman decided to reach into the darkest places of America and bring the light of the glorious gospel of "Christ in you" to men who were bereft of any hope or love or deliverance from their own darkened minds. In reading the letters of these inmates; in witnessing their deep gratitude for the material that we send, I find a great peace and joy in knowing that our Father forgets none of his children, no matter how far they may stray. He tenderly calls them through His Son and, taught by the Holy Spirit, they come to the peace, joy and rest that is their birthright through the Seed that gave them eternal Life.

I am thankful that I was asked to help in forwarding material to these men. I work in a prison in Louisiana as the program director for almost one thousand inmates. I see men and women everyday who have given up on the hope of a normal, sane, secure life. I have seen what the true gospel can accomplish in their lives. In my office, surrounded by thousands of "secular" books in my library, I smile and thank the Father for the Christ Life material that I am able to share with these prisoners.

I am reminded that we are all "inmates" in a strange land. We are far from our eternal home. We are sentenced, not to a "life" term but to a time set by the Father in which to grow to full stature so as to better enjoy the fullness of His Love. When I am released from my earthbound sentence, I pray that I can fully feel, taste, hear, see and even smell the fullness of Life that is in my Lord Jesus. He is my friend, my brother, and former fellow inmate on this "prison planet." By the Cross, His blood and His resurrection, He destroyed the hold that Satan, the world and even our own flesh had over us. He was released from His "sentence" and brought me with Him to sit in heavenly places forever. Let us endeavor to bring all whom we meet to that same place.

FRANK BLAKEMAN, Director of Christ-life Fellowship Prison Outreach

LISTEN TO WARREN LITZMAN ON THE CHRIST-LIFE WEBSITE clfdallas.com

Hear me preach the final gospel—every day a new message, Monday through Friday. Urge your friends and loved ones to visit our website at clfdallas.com. You will be blessed by the gospel Christ gave to Paul. It is the only gospel for us today.

AFTER HIS KIND BY RAY OGLES

Part II (continued from Vol L Number 322)

In Genesis 2:9, we see God plant two special trees in the garden of Eden and both trees bear fruit. It is from our horticulture lesson that we understand that the fruit bears the seed from which the "nature" of the tree grows. Here was Adam's test. Adam and Eve were given all that they needed to survive as created beings. God, in all His fairness and wisdom, made man a free moral agent with the ability to choose as he wishes. What this test was to reveal is what "kind" of "seed-spirit" man would be. Remember that in Gen. 2:7 we see man has a body and a living soul but no mention of "spirit" yet. Man is supposed to be a trinity in God's image and likeness (1 Thess. 5:23).

The tree of "life" and the tree of "knowledge of good and evil" are the two special trees God planted and these trees are the very trees yielding fruit that will determine how mankind is complete. You could actually call these trees the "Tree of Life" and the "Tree of Death." And as we know from Gen. 3:6, Adam and Eve did eat from the "tree of death" and Adam took within himself (spiritually) the seed of the fruit that was picked by Eve from the tree of knowledge of good and evil. As with every seed so far, the seed will produce "after his kind." We see that instantly in Gen. 3:7 their eyes were opened and they knew they were naked. At this point the seed has sprung life and is beginning to grow in them to become a tree yielding fruit and

seed "after his kind." The result of Adam's choice gave birth to death within spiritually, and the immediate result in their conscious thinking and feeling was guilt, shame, and separation. These are the first fruits of the death being manifested from the seed-spirit that was birthed in Adam.

What is so very interesting is that there is no further recorded history of Adam's particular sin. There is nothing in the bible about the fruits of corruption, in detail, concerning Adam. Only his disobedience is paramount in scripture. Rather, what God does have us to focus on is the fruit yielding "after his kind" according to the first spiritual seed. The judgment that came after Adam's choice is seen in Gen. 3:14-24 where the woman must now travail in childbirth and man must till (toil) the earth for food. God cursed the ground (Gen. 3:17). Another important point to think about is that God first "formed" and made man of uncursed earth. We will discuss uncursed earth later.

We now come to the place where we begin to see roots and how they form and grow spiritually. Gen. 4:1-7 gives us the information of the first two earthly sons born to Adam and Eve. These two, Cain and Abel, are the result of Adam's seed sown, "after his kind," in the flesh, Cain being the first born. The result of Adam's choice to eat of the "Tree of Death" is also yielded in these same verses.

At the "time of offering," Gen. 4:3, Cain offered up to the Lord of the works of his hands, (probably fruit and vegetables), and his offering was not pleasing to the Lord. Abel, on the other hand, offered of his flocks of the firstlings (probably a lamb), and his offering was pleasing to the Lord. God offered Cain an opportunity to correct the matter and if not, sin would lie at the door and come into the picture and yield fruit. Cain made the same choice as his father and he became jealous and felt separated because of his choice. He then rose up against Abel and the first murder of the bible takes place and Cain kills Abel, Gen. 4:7-9. From looking at Adam's choice to eat of the forbidden fruit we see that this first spiritual seed passed on to Cain has now revived (Rom. 7:9), begun to grow, take root, and yield fruit. The spiritual offspring and fruit of this choice of Adam was a murderer. (See, John 8:44).

A very good scripture for understanding what had happened is Romans 5:12, "Wherefore, as by one man (Adam) sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned." As we already know, God created and planted the first seeds of the physical world we know. But since believers know God as Father, we also know a Father must sow seed of His loins (kind). Since God is a Spirit then there must be a spiritual birthing somewhere in order for there to be a spiritual family of sons and daughters. Genesis has been called the "Book of beginnings," but I like to call it the "Book of seeds."

Let us go back to the garden and

look at what the tree of "life" is and what the tree of "knowledge of good and evil" is. When Adam ate of the "tree of death" he was spiritually born dead and that death is what we call sin and now all of mankind are called sinners. What happened is that the devil (Satan), through subtlety and deception, planted (sowed), his seed (sperm) into Adam's heart and Adam became the bearer of sin that would pass on to all mankind. The scriptural evidence of this is found in Gen. 3:15, ". . . and I will put enmity between thy (Satan's) seed and her seed . . .;" Acts 13:10 ". . . And said, O full of all subtlety and all mischief, thou child of the devil, thou enemy of all righteousness,;" 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 . . . he is a liar and the father of it." 1 Jn 3:10, "In this the children of God are manifest, and the children of the devil. ..." So, it is plain to see that Satan is the first spiritual father of mankind and his seed (DNA and genetics which are character and nature) was born in Adam and passed on to be the spiritual part of all mankind. Satan's seed grew and took root and that root became a tree and that tree yielded fruit and seed "after his kind."

It is my personal belief that if Adam had chosen to eat of the "Tree of Life" we would not be having this conversation right now. As a matter of fact, there would have never been a need for a bible because there would have never been a Romans 5:12 proclaiming "death by sin." If there were a writing, it would read something like this: "Wherefore, as by one man, life entered into the world, and life by choice; and life passed upon all men, for that all have been born of God." Now wouldn't that be an awesome gospel.

And now, the plural sense of trees. When we look back at Genesis 1:11-12 we see that each sense of seed, tree, and fruit are all singular. What God wants to establish in our understanding is that each singular tree is born and grown from one seed and that one seed becomes the root system of that one tree. Therefore, the one tree bears and manifests only one nature of the seed from which it was born. What we must see here is that if we were to walk into a forest of peach trees, we know that every tree in that forest has the same DNA and genetic makeup, all coming from one seed. When one peach seed was planted and grew as a root and a tree and eventually bore fruit, that fruit had seed within itself that was again planted and grown into another peach tree. In this cycle of life, the seeds kept reproducing "after his kind," and then there were a whole grove of trees=(nations)=mankind =(plural).

Throughout the bible all of mankind, and in every dispensation of mankind, men are considered symbolically as trees. Here are a few: "Behold, the Assyrian was a cedar in Lebanon with fair branches, and with a shadowing shroud, and of a high stature; and his top was among the thick boughs" Eze. 31:3). "Blessed is the man that trusteth in the Lord . . . For he shall be as a tree planted by the waters, and that spreadeth out her roots . . ." (Jer. 17:7-8). "A good man out of the good treasure of his heart bringeth forth that which is good . . ." (Luke 6:43-45). And lastly, I want you to look at Isaiah 41:19, "I will

plant in the wilderness the cedar, shittah, myrtle, and the oil tree; I will set in the desert the fir, pine, and the box tree together:" (**Just a thought: Could it be that each of the seven trees mentioned are representative of the peoples that would dwell on each of the seven continents? Interesting to ponder!**) Other scriptures that relate mankind as trees are: Psalms 1:3, 37:35, 52:8; Isaiah 55:12, 56:3; Ezekiel 19:10; Mt. 7:15-20, 12:33-37; Mk. 8:24; Lk. 6:43-45; Jude 12; and there are many others.

It does not matter which race of people or which continent they live on or which age of time they lived in; ALL of mankind have come from one seed (sperm) according to the flesh, (Acts 17:24-26) = "Adam." And, ALL of mankind have been born spiritually dead because of Adam's choice of disobedience, Rom. 5:19a, "For as by one man's disobedience many were made sinners;" 2 Cor. 5:14 "For the love of Christ constraineth us; because we thus judge, that if one died for all, then were all dead:" We are well-versed in the evidence and fruit of this seed of evil born in man and passed down through the ages. Wars, violence, greed, corruption, dictatorship, holocaust, murder, rape, incest, adultery, fornication, every sexual immorality imaginable, lying, deceit, disloyalty, idolatry, witchcraft, hatred, strife, wrath, backbiting, discord, drunkenness, drugs, riotous living, reveling and all manner of evil that man could think of. God said himself, "And God saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every imagination of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually" (Gen. 6:5). And so the first spiritually sown seed had

indeed taken root and grew into a man and was producing fruit "after his kind." = SIN!

The seed that Adam and all mankind have produced after the flesh has come from "uncursed" earth, (Gen. 2:7). But the seed that Adam and all mankind have produced after the spirit, has come from mankind's spiritual father, Satan, and the result has been spiritual death passed upon all mankind (Gen. 2:17; 3:6-7). Could it be that our God is a jealous God, in part, because Adam deprived Him the right to become the first spiritual father of mankind? Just another point to ponder. The first commandment of Ex. 20:3 is: "Thou shalt have no other gods before me." And in verse 5 He says: "... for I the Lord thy God am a jealous God . . ." Also keep in mind that God is not Father to any person on earth until after the cross of calvary in the new testament.

Let's quickly summarize. The whole focus is on this: The spiritual seed (seed=DNA and genetics=character and nature) of man grew into a root (old man, immoral integrity, evil heart) that became a tree (the manner of life (death) and bearer of sin) that eventually brought forth fruit (sin as works of the flesh, wicked deeds, transgressions, and iniquities, etc.). Remember from our horticulture lesson that it is the seed that holds all the DNA and genetic information which will bring forth the character and nature of the root, tree and fruit. That spiritual seed that was born in Adam grew and became the root system and foundation for all mankind. (Rom. 3:23)

Since we know God as a God who has a desire to be a Father and have a family, there must be provided a way for Him to have this family. He could not simply cover us with some blood of an innocent animal and adopt us into His house as family because He would be adopting sinners and we all know that God and sin will never co-exist nor commingle, (2 Cor. 6:14-16). If you are an avid study of the scriptures you will notice that God never death with the fruit of sin and it resulted in a lasting change in any man. An altered outward life of works still left the original nature and seed within. Ever since Adam, mankind has come up with every "kind" of medication, therapy, treatment, counsel, hospital and program to try and deal with and remedy the symptoms (fruit) of this first spiritual seed planted-SIN. God, on the other hand, does not deal with the fruit of sin in mankind; He went for the root. Every man, woman, and child from Adam on was born the first time with the seed of sin in them. When that seed sprang forth (Rom. 7:9) it gave the only character and nature it could producedeath. God would have to remove this death (sin).

We now come to the apex of this understanding. In Mt. 3:10 and Lk. 3:9, the axe is laid to the root of the trees (all mankind is included in this statement). Instead of God dealing with the fruit (sin) of the trees (which is what He did for 4300 years), He went straight for the heart of the problem and made provision for the one seed (root and nature and all) to be completely and utterly destroyed and removed from man. Wisdom = if you chop down a tree and leave the root (stump), the root is still able to sprout and grow into the same tree with the same nature and fruit. For God, this will not do.

This is the wisdom of God.

Through God's foreknowledge He knew one day He would have to depend on His Son to rescue mankind from this malady. It is in new testament scriptures that we are able to understand what was in God's mind in Genesis.

God is a trinity (meaning three in one); Gen. 1:1 "God"=Elohim which is the plural for God. Mt. 28:19; Jn. 14:26, 14:23; 1 Jn. 5:7, and many more refer to God as: the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost. And there are several instances where we see God holding a "predeterminate counsel" prior to creation (Acts 2:23, Is. 46:10, Eph. 1:4). From the scriptures we learn that it is the Son who is the person of the Godhead who will remedy God's desire to have a family. Just who is this "Son of God?"

He is the only-begotten Son, the Alpha and Omega, fountain of living waters, the Door, the living Bread from heaven, the good Shepherd, the Resurrection, the Way, the Truth and the Life. The Son of God is all these and so much more but in this lesson we must see Him as Christ, the ONE SEED! "Now to Abraham and his seed were the promises made. He saith not, And to seeds as of many; but as of ONE, And to thy seed, which is Christ" (Gal. 3:16).

Now, since Satan was a created spiritual creature and he sowed his seed (sin) into man, and all mankind became his children born to him the first time; surely God is also able to sow His seed (Christ) into man and have His own family. This is what would have happened if Adam had chosen to eat of the "Tree of Life."

(Part III in next issue.)

THE LIBERATED HUMAN AND THE CHRIST LIFE BY RICHARD MOORE

Most Christians have no concept that they died with Christ 2000 years ago and Christ in them is their resurrection (eternal) life. This is where the power in our Christian lives comes from (1 Cor.1:23-24). Most people, if asked where the "power" in our lives comes from, would say "the power of the Holy Ghost" (Acts 1:8). But the true power of the Holy Spirit is to reveal this (death/resurrection with Christ), an utterly 4th dimensional reality that can only be "known" by revelation. Thus, the true gospel in the present age is a revelation gospel the revelation of Jesus Christ in vou (1 Cor. 2: 7-10: Gal. 1:11-16). It is this revelation that makes the power and wisdom of the Cross an actuality in our lives- Acts 1:8. As though the Holy Spirit gives the believer power to obey God, as opposed to showing he died (as a sinner) and Christ is now his only life. Christ is the liver of our lives and the obedient one to God. (This is power to obey God, Christ our life). The Holy Spirit is the teacher of this.

"You shall receive power after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you." Yes, after He's baptized us into Christ (made us alive). After He's taught us some things (John 14:19-26), then we'll be empowered to walk in the truth (our new identity) – "the power of the Cross" (the exchanged life/the wisdom of God (Gal. 2:20).

"Paul's gospel" (Rom. 16:25) is the "hidden wisdom" - God's plan to crucify and raise all believers with Christ (producing an entirely new creation) "kept secret since



the world began." The true power of the Holy Spirit is to reveal to the believer this hidden plan of God, what Paul called "the mystery of Christ in you" (Col. 1:26-27; 1 Cor. 2:7-10).

This is the liberated human-"it was not I, but sin" (there is no "I," only you by Satan or you by Christ. This has been the Devil's lie!) With a true and correct theology, the believer sees that one disobedient choice is responsible for all the grief and misery of his own life, as well as all the evil and suffering in the world, producing a truly repentant (changed) mind on the issue of sin (the exercise of independence from God.) This is a creature who is no longer a sinner, by nature, nor by choice. He has a new nature and a will that seeks only agreement with the new nature (Rom. 6:16-23.) This man can grow in Christ, putting off the memory of our identification with Satan/sin, without condemnation or self-effort, celebrating our completion as Christ-beings, without one single law except our own desire to be one with the Christ within (1 Cor. 9:21.) The Father's purpose is alive in us," working in us that which is well-pleasing in His sight, through Jesus Christ." Jesus is the life, our only life. This is the Father's salvation. Is it not marvelous in our eyes?

The Christ-Life is God's ultimate correction to man's self-knowledge and the deception of sin. Satan has deceived and degraded the human race by his concealment as our nature and the producer of sin through us. The initial act of yielding to him in the original sin is the source of all human shame. The Cross goes back to deal with the original act that resulted in the death (poisoning) of humanity ("the sin of the world.") This is the sin Jesus came to take away (John 1:29.) It transcends our individual sins to deal with a corrupt state of being wrought by a conception with the satanic seed of sin (Rom. 5:12; John 8:44) and which properly understood, the new creature can be divorced from its shame. It is as someone has said the Cross is where God obtained the right to put Satan out and Christ in the believing human. The impact of this truth upon the human consciousness, when spiritrevealed, cannot be overestimated. To have the plague of human shame and condemnation eradicated and replaced with value of Christ as our new life is an answer for humanity that is beyond all human comprehension (1 Cor. 2:9-10.) God needs nothing but the Cross, the preaching of the true gospel, and a spirit revelation of such for the absolute correction of the human. Iesus is the way, the truth and the life, and we don't need anything but Him as our life and the relationship He brings us into with our Father. The Holy Spirit, who is our comforter and helper, is set to reveal this to all who want it.

The Gospel of Israel

Part I

Some people preach two gospels, one for the Jews and one for the Gentiles. They believe the Jews are the chosen people of God and therefore must be handled differently from the Gentiles. When a Jew gets converted to Christ, they put him on a pedestal, and one gets the impression that they stand in awe before such a one; whereas, when a Gentile gets converted he just becomes an ordinary believer in Christ. Some of the Jewish believers help this understanding along when they call themselves Messianic Jews and not Christians. By doing this they don't identify with their fellow believers who come from a Gentile background, but they separate themselves as something apart from the Church. This is a sad state of affairs.

Already there's so much confusion in the world as to who and what the Church is, and this only adds to the confusion. It so happens that all the New Testament writers were Jews, with the exception of maybe Luke, who could have been Greek. All these New Testament writers brought the truth of the Gospel, namely, that in Christ there is no difference. Anyone declaring that there is a difference, is contradicting what the whole of the New Testament is about. When one makes a sharp and distinct difference between the Church and the Jews, one moves from a wrong premise, and one is bound to get lost and be tied up in all kinds of speculations and conjectures.



1. To say that Israel was before the Church is to have misunderstood the mystery of God. (Rom. 16:25, 26; Eph. 1: 9, 10; Eph. 3:9, 10; Col. 1:20-26; Col. 2:1-4; Col. 4:3; 1 Tim. 3:9; 1 Tim. 3:16.)

2. When God called Abraham He had the Church in mind. (Gen. 12:4; Gen. 17:5; Gen. 18:18; Gen. 22:18; Gen. 26:4; Gen. 28:14.)

3. Even the prophets of old longed to see and look into the mystery of God, the Church, for they only saw glimpses of it here and there. (Matt. 13:16-17.)

4. There is no Jew or Gentile in Christ. (Rom. 10:12; 1 Cor. 7:19; Col. 3:11; Gal. 3:28; Eph. 2:14-21; Eph. 3:6; Eph. 4:4-16; Jn. 17:20-21; Rom. 2:28-29; Eph. 2:11; Rom. 9:6-8; Rom. 9:24-26, 1 Cor. 1:22-24, Acts 10:34-35; Heb. 11:39-40; Heb. 12:22-29; Rev. 2:9; Rev. 3:9; Rev. 3:21-25.)

5. The Church is the fullness of Him who fills all and in all him. (Eph. 1:23.)

6. And the Church was in God's heart before the foundation of the world, and was meant for His Son. (Matt. 13:35; Matt. 25:34; Jn. 17:24; Eph. 1:4; Heb. 4:3; Heb. 9:26; 1 Peter 1:20, Rev. 13:8; Rev. 17:8.)

There is therefore no room for a "replacement theology," like some people teach, that the Church has replaced Israel. What God had in mind all the time is coming to pass, and will consummate in the New Jerusalem. The twelve names of the Patriarch's on the gates represent Israel and the names of the twelve apostles on the foundation stones

by Erwin Redinger of South Africa

represent the Church.

So the whole thing will be what Christ said it will be, namely, one fold and one Shepherd, consisting of Jews and Gentiles, and how powerfully and convincingly these things are stated in the Bible. In Christ

1. There is neither Jew nor Gentile. (Gal. 3:28; Jn. 17:21-23; Col. 3:1.)

2. Apart from Christ there is no salvation, whether you lived in the Old Testament times or the New Testament times. The efficacy of His work on the cross reaches right back to Adam (Acts 4: 12). We must get this clear, the Law saves no one (Rom. 2:16; Rom.3:20; Titus 3:9.)

3. Holding on to genealogies and statutes of the Law hinders one from knowing Christ. (Phil. 3:7-9.)

4. God broke down the middle wall of partition, so let us not to build it up again. (Eph. 2:4.)

5. We are chosen all of us, before the foundation of the world and that includes Abraham and his descendants. (Eph. 1:4; 1 Peter 1:20; Rev.17:8.)

6. To say the word "saint" in Paul's letters refers to the Christians and then, in Revelation it suddenly refers to the Jews only, is saying the Bible is not consistent.

7. My question is, if Israel is set apart from the Church, what are they then? If someone ventures to say they are the kingdom of God, then I venture to ask, "Is the kingdom of God not part of the Church, and is the Church not part of the kingdom of God?" Jesus preached the kingdom. He said to Nicodemus, "Unless you are born again, you cannot see the kingdom of God." So you need to be born again to be part of the kingdom, and you need to be born again to be part of the Church. And that applies to both Jews and Gentiles. (Rom 2:28-29; Rom. 3:9; Rom 4:16; Rom 9:6-8; Rom. 9:24-33; Rom. 10:12-13.)

On the 6th February 2002, I received an understanding that Christ lived in me and He was my Life. It was not a WOW experience; I did not see lights, nor hear angels singing. It was just a normal morning, BUT, I knew something that I never knew before. I noticed that there was a change taking place in my thinking. I felt that I needed a brand new Bible, as my old Bible was filled with my notes regarding my understanding of the law gospel.

I went out and bought a King James New Testament Bible. I packed away and later sold and donated all my books, Lexicons, Greek and Hebrew dictionaries, Bibles and all the books teaching me how to be a better Christian. My book case was empty. I dumped all my teaching notes, and started on a new journey.

Genealogies

Paul says to Timothy to instruct certain men not to teach strange doctrines, nor to pay attention to myths and endless genealogies, which give rise to mere speculation rather than furthering the administration of God which is by faith. (1 Tim. 1:3-4.)

Teaching these things does not help the faith, but only hinders true faith in Christ. To say, "I come from the seed of Abraham, and therefore I am special," is without doubt teaching genealogies, because you make yourself apart from the Church, i.e. apart from other believers in Christ.

This is promoting genealogies and needs to be recognized as such, for in a spiritual sense, all believers are of the seed of Abraham. "Even so Abraham believed God, and it was reckoned to him as righteousness. Therefore be sure it is those who are of faith, who are the sons of Abraham." (Gal. 3:6-7). "And if you belong to Christ, then you are Abrahams offspring, heirs according to promise." (Gal. 3:29). This was written to Gentile believers.

Paul could not have used stronger language than he did, when he expressed his misgivings about these teachers who taught the people wrong things. First he commands the Philippians to rejoice in the Lord always and then warned them not to listen to people whom he calls dogs, evil workers and false circumcision (Phil. 3:2) and who teach Jewish myths. (Titus 1:14)

The false circumcision refers to those who preach Christ and Judaism as a means of salvation. They wanted the Christians to become Jewish proselytes by compelling them to be circumcised and keeping the Jewish rites.

Paul clearly states that promoting these things is promoting the flesh. Therefore he says that for him to warn them again and again is no trouble to him, but it is a safeguard for them. Paul took it very seriously; he again affirms that we are the true circumcision, who worship by the Spirit of God and glory in Christ Jesus and put no confidence in the flesh. (Phil. 3:1-4). For if anyone else might have confidence even in the flesh, I far more: circumcised the eighth day; of the nation of Israel; of the tribe of Benjamin; a Hebrew of Hebrews; as to the Law a Pharisee; as to zeal, a persecutor of the Church; as to righteousness which is in the Law, found blameless. (Phil. 3:4-6).

But what does Paul say? He countered all these things as a loss for the sake of Christ. In fact, he goes on to say that all these things, and others added to them, were hindering him from knowing Christ Jesus his Lord; that is why he has suffered the loss of all these things and counts them as rubbish in order that he might gain Christ and might be found in Him, not having a righteousness of his own derived from the Law, but that which is through faith in Christ. (Phil. 3: 7-16.)

The people who preach the Jewish Gospel don't understand Christ and His Church, because holding onto the Old Covenant and not totally believing the New Covenant is robbing them of knowing Christ, i.e. Jesus and His Church.

We will give some reasons why people preach the Gospel of Israel. Because they lack the full understanding of the Gospel, they come up with some strange doctrines which cannot be supported by the whole Bible, let alone the New Testament. In fact, the New Testament flatly contradicts them. I believe any distortion of the Gospel of Jesus Christ is damaging to one's faith, and one begins to believe in things that are aside of Christ.

The Mystery

The mystery, which has been hidden from past ages and generations, has now been revealed to His saints, to whom God willed to make it known, what is the riches of the Glory of this mystery among the Gentiles, which is Christ in you the hope of Glory. (Col. 1:26-27) (See also, Matt. 13: 35; 1 Cor. 2:7: Matt. 25:34; Luke 11:50; Eph. 1:4; 1

Peter 1:20-21; Rev. 13:8.)

The scriptures are full of proof, (both in the old and New Testament), that it is a fallacy to believe that God only wanted Israel for Himself. God does not change and in the past eternities, He ordained that His Church would come out of every nation and tongue and peoples of the earth, all who believe in Him. (Rev. 5:9.)

Paul says, "... by revelation there was made known to me the mystery," as I wrote before in brief. And by referring to this, when you read, you can understand my insight into the mystery of Christ, which in other generations was not made known to the sons of men, as it has been revealed to His holy Apostles and Prophets in the Spirit, to be specific that the Gentiles are fellow partakers of the promise in Christ through the Gospel. (Eph. 3:3-6.)

It is significant that Paul does not say that previously they knew nothing about it, but rather, they had a limited revelation of this mystery but "not as it now has been revealed." The difference between a secret and a mystery is, by exposing something that is hidden, a secret is known, but to understand a mystery you need revelation. Only God can reveal this mystery to man, and therefore Paul prays to God to give the people revelation and to enlighten them to see what God has for them in Christ Jesus. (Eph. 1: 17 -18.)

For a long time the people of Israel believed that they were the only chosen people of God and that the nations were excluded, unless they became proselytes. Even the disciples of Jesus believed that, and they had to be shown supernaturally that the Gentiles were included in this grace. Peter, John, Paul, Barnabas and others needed revelation from God to see the actual truth. "For the Law was given through Moses, grace and truth were realised through Jesus Christ" (Jn. 1:17.)

Truth has not become truth when Christ came. It was truth in eternity and it was revealed in Christ when He came. Peter says, "I most certainly understand now that God is not one to show partiality, but in every nation the man who fears Him and does what is right, is welcome to Him. (Acts 10:34-35.)

Although in the Old Testament we have numerous references to the nations who will see the Glory of the Lord and turn to Him and be among His elect, yet they have had a limited and vague understanding of it! To show and prove what God had revealed to them, the apostles constantly referred to the Old Testament prophets who spoke about these things.

THE NEW JERUSALEM

Without a shadow of doubt, if the New Testament is to be believed, then everything God planned and did was with the New Jerusalem in mind, the Bride of Christ, the city not made with hands, prepared by God and coming down from heaven. (1 Peter 2:4-10; Rev. 21; Heb. 11:10-16; Rev. 12:2) Paul went to great lengths to explain this in his letters. Time and time again he refers to the fact that Israel and the Gentile believers are now one. He declares irrevocably that God has broken down the dividing wall that separated the Jews and Gentiles. Jesus Himself being our peace who made both groups into one. (Eph. 2:14.) He abolished in His flesh the enmity that existed between the two groups, because of the Law. What did the Law say? It says that the Jews were God's chosen people and the Gentiles were unclean. But now in Him (Christ) the Law has been done away with, because He has made the two into one new man, thus establishing peace. (Eph. 2:15.) The purpose is to reconcile them both into one body to God through the cross, by it having put to death the enmity. (Eph. 2:16.)

Yet there are people, who are trying to raise up the enmity from death, by again making some kind of division between the two. This is sad, because it opposes God's intentions and purposes.

Paul quotes Isaiah to prove the point he is making, "and He came and preached peace to those who were faraway and peace to those who were near" (Is. 57:19). Who are those far away? The Gentiles; whilst those who were near are the Jews.

So through Him we both have our access in one Spirit to the Father, and then follows His logical conclusion: "So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are fellow-citizens with the saints, and are of God's household, having been built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Christ Jesus Himself being the cornerstone, in whom the whole building, being fitted together is growing into a holy temple in the Lord; in whom you also are being built together into a dwelling of God and the Spirit" (Eph. 2:19-22).

In Christ we have been built together into a dwelling of God in the Spirit. This is final and conclusive, and nobody is allowed to fiddle with that. The incomplete understanding of this truth has caused a wall of partition between the Jews and Gentiles, which Christ came to break down, but there are those who are trying hard to rebuild the wall of partition by making a difference between Jews and Gentiles. Why they do it, only they know, but I feel we ought to rest in what God has done and rejoice in that. Jesus Christ is the Saviour, not only of the Jews, but of the whole world. (Jn. 3:16-17; 1 Jn. 2:2; 2 Cor. 5:19: 1 Tim. 1:15.)

Jesus classifies everyone who does not believe in Him as belonging to the world. Speaking to a Jewish audience He said, "You are from below, I am from above, you are of this world, I am not of this world" (Jn. 8:23). Of His own Jesus said, "... they are not of the world, even as I am not of the world" (Jn. 17:14b).

This clearly tells us that what matters is whether we are in Christ or not. To be a Jew does not make one a saint or heavenly. The Jews, like everyone else, need to repent and believe in Jesus Christ. So being Jewish does not qualify anyone for heaven, but only true faith in Jesus does. In His wisdom God Himself shrouded this truth in mysteries, so that at the given time, it might be made manifest. (Gal. 4:4) God's plan for the entire world which was hidden from most people was already declared by the Old Testament prophets. Even the prophets themselves probably did not understand the full implications of their message. (Matt. 13:17)

It was already in the beginning, when Adam and Eve listened to the devil and fell into sin that God told the serpent (the devil) (Rev. 20:3), that the seed of the woman would one day bruise his head. (Gen. 3:15) How accurate this prophecy was. It was the seed of the woman and not the man. The Saviour was born of a woman without the help of a man. God intervened! Why? Because before the foundation of the world God already had in mind to redeem a people for Himself (Eph. 1:4.)

In our day there are still people who believe that, because Israel was set apart to fulfill God's purposes, that they are above the believers in the Church. That God had the Church in mind all the time from eternity seems to escape their notice.

(Part II in next issue)







WORLD KNOWS



Far Above All Heavens By Don Byrd "...far above all heavens, that he might fill all things" (Ephesians 4:10)

If you are a Christian the understanding of who you really are is contingent upon your understanding of the scriptures. If your understanding of the scriptures is based on something other than the epistles of Paul then you will miss the secret that is found in the Scriptures as to who you really are. Every writer in the Bible leaves out the fact that God is our very own personal Father except the Apostles Paul and John. When believers fail to come to the understanding of God that Paul had they will have an Old Testament concept of God. If the believer knows God as the God of the Old Testament then that believer will self-impose the law upon himself. God will remain the Omnipotent God who rules and reigns in power and righteousness. Righteousness and Holiness will remain external from the believer and will belong only to God. As long as the believer knows God as the Old Testament God the believer will look at himself as one under Old Testament times, rules and regulations. He will think of himself as a covenant person, a person who needs promises, one who needs miracles to survive in this life. God will remain on His throne, "dwelling in the light which no man can approach unto;" (I Timothy 6:16).

Will God humiliate Himself to the point that He will run to me and fall on my neck, hug me, kiss me, and put His best robe on me, a ring for my finger, and shoes for

my feet? We never think of God in this fashion do we? We have a picture of Him in our minds where He sits on His throne dwelling in the light of His immortality while we are somewhere afar off. He is sitting on His throne crowned with clouds of glory and righteousness from which proceed lightning and thunder. The angels fall prostrate before Him and continuously cry Holy, Holy, Holy! If He left His throne of power and glory and ran to me and fell on my neck and hugged me and kissed me would not this be degrading Himself? To the contrary our Father has waited an eternity for this moment! This will be a moment which will far exceed any throne upon which He might sit. A throne of power and glory brings Him many things but it can never bring Him the glory that just one son brings to Him. Listen to what the scripture declares. "He that descended is the same also that ascended up far above all heavens, that he might fill all things" (Ephesians 4:10). This verse declares that Christ ascended up "far above all heavens!" He ascended far above the heaven wherein dwells angels, which there are streets of gold and gates of pearl and a river and tree of life. If He ascended above "all" heavens where did he ascend to? He ascended to His Father! God's Fatherhood is far above all else that He is in His omnipotence. He by His omnipotence can create multitude of heavens and fill each with

glorious angelic beings. But He by His omnipotence cannot create one son! Sons must be birthed, not created. Greater than all is our Father who has run to us fallen on our necks and hugged us and kissed us and loved us with His ever expanding love. What a glorious moment this is for which He has awaited through eternity past. This far exceeds any majestic throne upon which He sits and rules and reigns with eternal authority and supremacy. YOU are the greatness of His glory. As grand and glorious as heaven, the ever-expanding universe, worlds without end, and angels in all their glory, all of them together can never compare to just one of those whom He hath birthed. They are spirit of His Spirit and life of His life!

No, it will not be degrading for our Father to leave His throne and run to those whom He loves with an eternal, unconditional love. It is a moment in which all creation will stand in awe at this omnipotent God who is Father and those who are His offspring through Christ in them. It will be the crowning glory of Him who is Father. The glory of His offspring is that He is our Father. This understanding far exceeds anything that is found in any scripture other than the epistles of Paul. The believer will never understand who he really is until he sees himself as does our Father. This understanding comes only through the writings found in the epistles

written by Paul. It was to Paul that God first revealed the fullness of who He is. Christ Jesus lives in the born-again believer and is his only source of life. Who is this Christ in you? He is: "Who being the brightness of his glory, and the express image of his person..." (Hebrews 1:3).

Who lives in the believer? "the brightness of his glory, and the express image of his person..." lives in every born-again believer and

this makes all believers very, very special to our Father! You, my friend, are more glorious than all of creation because you are one of His birthed ones! You with "Christ in you" are the glory of our Father! His Son gave this to you. "And the glory which thou gavest me I have given them; that they may be one, even as we are one:" (John 17:22). You live, move and have your being far above all heavens which is our Father's house! "For in him we live, and move, and have our being; as certain also of your own poets have said, For we are also his offspring" (Acts 17:28). You are "in Christ" and: "He that descended is the same also that ascended up far above all heavens, that he might fill all things" (Ephesians 4:10). This is the place that our Father chose from before the foundation of the world as the place where you will spend eternity: "In Christ" is that place! ~~~~~~

WEEKENDS IN THE WORD

DUBLIN, CALIFORNIA AUGUST 10-11, 2013

\$65.00 PER PERSON (INCLUDES SATURDAY LUNCH AND SUNDAY BREAKFAST)

Holiday Inn (925-828-7750) Room rates: \$89 per night rate through July 26.

(IF BOOKED THROUGH AN AGENCY, CANCELLATIONS must be made through the agency and not through Holiday Inn.)

SATURDAY:

9:00 A.M. TO NOON (LUNCH 12:30 P.M.) 2:00 P.M. TO 4:30 P.M. DINNER IS YOUR CHOICE EVENING SESSION BEGINS AT 7:30 P.M. **SUNDAY:** 7:30 A.M. CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST SESSION: 9:00 A.M. TO 12 NOON

CONTACTS:

DIXIE CAMPBELL: dixie.campbell@comcast.net 510-797-9772 (leave message) ALLEN UNFRIED: unfried@comcast.net

Pine Cove, Tyler, Texas

November 7-10, 2013 \$195 per adult (15 & older) Nov. 8-10 \$155

Children ages 12-14 \$158 Children ages 9-11 \$141 Children ages 4-8 \$96 Children 3 years old and younger are FREE! (3 nights and 9 meals)

(Friday through Sunday lunch, \$155 fee for adults)

"Check- in" time Thursday, Nov. 8th at 3 p.m. Supper at 6:30 p.m. Warren's teaching after supper.

DEPOSIT OF \$50 PER ADULT TO THE CHRIST-LIFE OFFICE BALANCE DUE BY OCT. 1ST. Credit card charges have an additional \$3.00 charge per transaction. **CONTACTS:** FRANK BLAKEMAN: fblakeman@comcast.net (985-381-3033) ROBBIE LITZMAN: clflitzman@msn.com (214-391-0488) Grace Fellowship International P.O. Box 170307 Dallas, Texas 75217-0307 Address Service Requested

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Do not seek miracles, but Him who is the miracle in you.	Whoever is in Christ is a new creation.	The Christ life starts in the seed of life—Christ.	The Law is not of faith.
Christ's purpose in you is not hindered by your past.	The Law was put to death in the body of Jesus on the cross.	Faith is trusting the Christ in you	The in-Christ position means we are joined to His Spirit.
Spiritual growth is in the soul mind.	Life is Jesus Truth is Jesus The Way is Jesus	Forgiveness is the Father's pathway to the sinner's heart.	The Father's glory in His true nature is all His children.
Religion has denied us the Christ Life message.	Life without purpose is time without meaning.	Spirit was birthed — soul was adopted.	The Holy Spirit is the key to spiri- tual growth.