FOURSQUARE MINISTRY TRAINING



MODULE ELEVEN

"BUILDING FATHER'S INHERITANCE BY THE POWER OF THE HOLY SPIRIT"

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CHAPTERS

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TO DO: PRACTICE UNTIL IT BECOMES NORMAL BEING A REAL, BORN-AGAIN, 'SPIRIT-SON' OF GOD.. replacing the old, dead, fleshly life.

<u>Principle</u>: Some think the Christian life is a total mystery with Holy Spirit, randomly popping-up Divine events to give us nice Heavenly surprises to keep us connected. Wrong. Everything Jesus did was intentional, one specific communication or task after another, each with a specific outcome Father planned. Jesus sought Father and then served.. and said at the end.."I have completed all the tasks you asked Me".

God is intentional. He is Spirit.. We are now Spirit as well! We need to be intentional in giving Him a fine inheritance through His Spirit's fruitfulness through us. He has a perfect purpose for everything He does, and has us do. He sees the complete picture from the 'front of the tapestry', we often see the threads and knots from the back.. but one day He'll show us everything. Jesus "steely resolve" in 'setting his face like flint towards Jerusalem' was to fulfil Fathers purpose (John 3:16). In the eyes of God, your determined steely resolve to seek and serve Father today; and tomorrow is the character of Christ manifest in you. We are building Father's Inheritance.. Jesus showed us how!

'That you may know what is the riches of the glory of <u>His inheritance in the saints.</u>' -- Eph. i.18.

Ephesians 1:15-19 ¹⁵ For this reason, ever since I heard about your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love for all God's people, ¹⁶ I have not stopped giving thanks for you, remembering you in my prayers. ¹⁷ I keep asking that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the glorious Father, may give you the Spirit of wisdom and revelation, so that you may know him better. ¹⁸ I pray that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened in order that you may know the hope to which he has called you, the riches of his glorious inheritance in his holy people, ¹⁹ and his incomparably great power for us who believe.

e.g. Paul shows us what who we are meant to be.... God's earthly 'spiritual fathers' who through speaking the Good News help Holy Spirit to create more "Spirit-Sons" for God. i.e. Our new state of Spirit-Sonship involves reproducing other new spiritual sons for God.

I have an inheritance through my children, and my children's children.. God has an inheritance through His children, and it is dependent on whether we are available to continue His family line, which comes from Jesus through us, to those around us.

The Old Testament Shadow of how God sees His children as His INHERITANCE...

"But the Lord has taken you and brought you out of the iron furnace, from Egypt, to be a people for His own possession, as today." (Deuteronomy 4:20, NASB95)

"For the Lord's portion is His people; Jacob is the allotment of His inheritance." (Deuteronomy 32:9, NASB95)

"Save Your people and bless Your inheritance; Be their shepherd also, and carry them forever." (Psalm 28:9, NASB95)

"Blessed is the nation whose God is the Lord, The people whom He has chosen for **His own inheritance**." (Psalm 33:12)

The New Testament Reality of being God's Inheritance and then building it.

The progressive number of "sons" that Jesus brings unto the Father

- The twelve disciples become God's Inheritance.. His own possession.
- The seventy are Anointed with the Holy Spirit and sent out to build God's Inheritance just as Jesus did, and we are designed to do; which is Spirit-Sons who are no longer oppressed by Satan.
- The 120 wait to receive the Baptism with the Holy Spirit.. so they can build an even mightier inheritance of sons for God. Holy Spirit fills their mouths with the Good News of Calvary in every known language, and thousands of Spirit-Sons are born.. and the Word goes out to the ends of the Earth!

God has an "inheritance in them, and they bring forth more "sons" for Him.

- The 3,000
- The 5,000
- The ends of the Earth

Jesus' illustrates that it isn't just a case of walking up to someone and saying to them, and repeating like some deranged parrot the words.."Repent of your sinful old life".. and they like meek lambs will automatically roll over, do a 180 degree turn and go the new narrow way..

- e.g. Jesus relied always on Father's directions through Holy Spirit!
 Every morning Jesus went alone to a quiet place to find out what Father wanted Him to do that day; and made sure He was freshly Anointed with the Holy Spirit ready to BE A DOER OF THAT WORD..and go and speak-out what Holy Spirit told Him to.
 - i) Father told him where to go, and who to go to:
 - ii) Holy Spirit gave him the Words from Father to say...which

involved <u>fresh new inspiration tailor-made to that person/peoplel</u>... God's full wisdom of sentences about The Word, Holy Spirit inspired illustrations, Holy Spirit implanted testimonies and ideas, AND HOLY SPIRIT CONVICTION THAT THIS IS GOD DPEAKING HIS TRUTH, AND THE HEARER NEEDS TO RESPOND TO GOD!.. God met each person where they were at, just as He does with you... to reach each one, so He could spiritually father each, as a new son of God"... Take for example...

Conclusion: Jesus lifestyle was <u>primarily</u> centred around either: Him being sent by Father to people; or people seeking Him out because Father was drawing them to Him. If our life is heading to be the same as Jesus' life, then REJOICE!!.. you are a Spirit-Son of God! <u>NICODEMUS: A CASE STUDY OF GOD'S UNIQUE</u> DEALINGS WITH THIS POWERFUL SPIRITUAL LEADER.

John 3.. This is the glorious story of Nicodemus being drawn to Jesus without realising it; by the Holy Spirit. He just thinks he's doing research on Jesus for his mates in the Sanhedrin (Ruling Council) to work out how to handle Jesus. But to this man, God has already, before he was born; uniquely prepared a message for the whole of mankind. that we must be born-again of water and the Spirit; and that we must then go on to live the lifestyle of Spirit-Sons of God!

Verses 1-8. There was a man of the Pharisees, named Nicodemus, a ruler of the Jews (one of the three richest men in Jerusalem). This same one came to Jesus by night, and said unto Him, Rabbi..we know that you are a teacher sent from God.. for no man can do these miracles unless God is with him. Jesus answered him.. truly, truly I say to you, Except a man be born again, he cannot see the Kingdom of God. Nicodemus said to Him.. "How can a man be born when he is old? Can he enter the second time into his mother's womb and be born? Jesus said.."truly, truly, I say to you, except a man be born of water and the Spirit he cannot enter the Kingdom of God. That which is born in the physical is physical, but that which is born of the Spirit is Spirit. Marvel not that I say unto you.. You must be born again. The wind blows where it lists.. and you hear the sound of it, but you can't tell where it has come from, or where it is going, so it is so for everyone who is born of the Spirit.".

SOME THOUGHTS ABOUT WHO WAS THINKING WHAT & WHY:

Nicodemus.. at the pinnacle of human power in Jerusalem.. On the
"Rich-list at #3"; and Sanhedrin member (The ruling spiritual Council).
Absolutely right at the top of the "Who's-who". He would have been one
of the one's doing a full profile on Jesus...assessing this new influence "on
his patch".. so with the information from this interview they could work

out where Jesus fitted into Israel; Israel's cultural spirituality based on the covenant of Moses; profile his mental state; research his background, and most of all .. do an accurate assessment on His influence on the existing system, both good and bad. Was He here to "rock-the boat"? But Jesus just doesn't fit any previous mould. Not another problem person?.. Israel had just seen off the right-wing anti-Roman Macabbees who stirred up a heap of political problems bringing persecution from the Romans on the Jews.. and then just a few weeks ago the hairy, unshaven, locust and honey smeared, wild-eyed John the Baptist out at the River Jordan had hundreds.. probably more like thousands of "weak-minded, vulnerable, and emotionally easily swayed people".. yes, they were repenting, and getting baptized in the Jordan as a public display of their changed hearts, awaiting 'The Messiah'. JESUS. Oh dear.. when would things settle down and get back to normal? Why did this hairy John say he had the right to say he was the "trail-blazer" for The Messiah? Now, could it be that this Jesus is Him; or is He a great Pretender... was it a coincidence; or was there really something to this new guy? He'd turned up late in the day ending up with John the Baptist.. he even acknowledged John's message as "Truth" (whatever that is) by getting Baptised too! Where would you place him in relation to John? Couldn't be 'The Messiah' because John baptized him! Now, a whole heap of people were changing from John to Him.. and following Him like he was the "pied-piper". But.. to be fair, don't write him off completely..take a look at his "fruit".. would His fruit help paint a more accurate picture?

- saying WISE stuff that engaged and floored the best minds in Israel..
- telling people to get healed, and they all got healed
- blowing demons into the grass everywhere
- lepers being "cleansed".. and heading back home, when their sickness meant before that they would never hold their wife and kids again.. thought they were sentenced to be "outcast" hermits forever..begging outside the city walls.
- going up to fresh meat producers like the sons of Zebedee and coming up with cute invitations like.. "come and follow me and I'll have you catch people"..and those same irresponsible 'sons-of-guns' were walking off the job, and following him around everywhere.
- Then a 'bona-fide' miracle would pop up whenever there wasn't an obvious way to properly fix something.. nothing seems to stop Him or slow Him down! Scary! Scary!.. but incredibly interesting.. fascinating! This power and authority stuff.. it definitely wasn't natural! Yes, don't waste any more time Nicodemus.. get in there and get some tangible answers. Nicodemus saw that it was his responsibility.. both he and the 'Team in Charge of all things Spiritual' needed to work out how to handle this highly-gifted; and influential "lone-ranger" and his rapidly growing,

super-loyal cohort!

<u>CURIOSITY</u>, therefore.. draws him to Jesus, by night-time so he wouldn't be persecuted or ridiculed.. So he finds Jesus and makes a start..

John 3:2..'Rabbi..' He acknowledges Jesus to be a Rabbi.. both because of his teaching; and because he had followers who lived with him, and were learning to copy everything he did.

.." we know that you are a teacher who has come from God, because no-one could do the miracles that you do, except God was with him." They'd reached the only logical conclusion.. it couldn't have been satan, because God was being given all the Glory! It had to be God Anointing Him (see Acts 10:38). Jesus said..

Jesus replies as Holy Spirit prompts Him..

"Except a man be born-again, he cannot see the Kingdom of God".

born-again' (Greek...gennethe anothen).. This literally means to have been re-fathered as a new person, by the Father from above, to the extent that one's existing life is completely transformed by God to be a son of His.. i.e. to be made totally new to become the person who loves and pursues righteousness, and true holiness, so as to be saved to enter Heaven. (Entering the Kingdom of God is the same as entering the Kingdom of Heaven...)

'<u>see</u> (Greek..'eidon') the Kingdom of God' This isn't done in the natural visually.. it is to spiritually live in the new experience of enjoying life through God's ways, with God. Experience it!

In a "natural" example what is this "born-again" process like?

It's a bit like when a 'thief' steals THE local JUDGE'S car. He 'rebirths it' by grinding off it's VIN (Vehicle Identification Number), repainting it a different colour, and making any other changes, so that it now has a new identity. He registers it under false details, usually bribing an official to help him. Now he can sell it. When the stolen vehicle is finally recovered, X-ray technology is used to locate and reproduce the old VIN.. and so the car is returned to THE JUDGE, its rightful owner. We like the JUDGE'S VEHICLE have been stolen by our own sins which transfers us into the hands of the 'thief'. He, technically now 'owns us', and changes our identity, our heart and mind, so we act like him, and belong to him. His handiwork all over our lives makes us unrecognisable as the son. THE JUDGE designed us to be. But, it doesn't sit right with our conscience..we can't stop doing wrong stuff.. being prisoners to the Thief, a Liar and a Destroyer, and so in desperation we cry out for mercy to 'God'. When THE JUDGE hears our cry, He helps us, and orders the devil that we be returned to HIM. He takes the devil's false ownership papers, screws them up, and flushes them down the toilet. Then

He exchanges our whole heart, and Spirit, and installs those which HIS SON gives us from inside Himself!. Yes, to be able to supply perfect copies of His heart and Spirit. Jesus THE SON sowed His life into death for our sins; like a grain of wheat planted in the ground, He dies in our place, and then resurrected by God's Almighty Power.. the "fruit" of His one Life is multiplied, bringing forth unlimited 'seed' fruits of Himself to be placed in those of us "Born-again". Finally, with the only true sin-cleanser, His Blood, He washes off all the handiwork of the 'the thief'. We are now fully adopted by THE JUDGE as His own sons!! O Glory to THE JUDGE.. HALLELUJAH! GLORY TO JESUS.. the 'SEED" of Abraham. Spirit-Sons of God with Jesus Spirit and Jesus' heart!

Nicodemus speaks a "please explain"..

(verse 4) 'how can a man be born again.. can he enter a second time into his mother's womb?' Nicodemus makes the usual mistake made by millions that this 'new-birth' is similar to natural 'birth'. He had already been 'born'.. but now he was to be Spiritually born-again by Father God to be His son, and be transformed to be like the One True Son who is Jesus!

So what does Jesus mean when He tells us that we, like Nicodemus must be..

- A. 'born of water'.. it's all about an ongoing process of being washed by the different dimensions of The Word..
 - i) to hear the Word of the Good News of Jesus' sacrifice for us.. be convicted of our state of sin and death, repent, be washed white as snow with Jesus' Blood.
 - ii) and to receive inside of us the Spirit of 'Jesus The Word of God Incarnate'.. the final and only true Word on everything we do and say!
 - iii) Jesus, 'The Word" is the only name that Father will reply to for any prayer conversation we have with Him. All His answers and gifts from Heaven only come to us through the Name of Jesus our Lord, Saviour, King and Word
 - To "wash ourselves and keep ourselves clean".. we study 'The Word of the Scriptures'..and have our lives washed closer and brighter to that of Jesus. God mainly speaks to us from passages we have read; and are reading in the Bible.
- B. Born of the Spirit.. 'sealed with the Holy Spirit'.. and

 'Baptised with the Holy Spirit'.. how dare we
 let THE THIEF try and rob us of the second half.. for that is the

 WORKING POWER God gives us to build His inheritance! ARE YOU
 BAPTISED IN THE HOLY SPIRIT? Then ask Jesus to Baptise you
 with Him now! (John 7:47-49)

Discovering who we are all meant to be.. God's Spirit-Sons.. His Royal

<u>John 3:6..</u> "that which is born of the flesh is flesh, that which is born of the Spirit"

- 1. Our first birth into this world.. is through human parents are human beings who reproduce produce human beings as children. They, and their offspring live and work to meet and satisfy their bodily needs.
- 2. Our second birth...God is Spirit and He reproduces children who are His own Spirit children. I AM NOW A SPIRIT SON OF GOD FIRST ABOVE ALL ELSE.. We now live and work to satisfy our every Spiritual needs; and do God's will which meet the spoken needs of our Father forever... through Holy Spirit speaking into our minds every day!
 - God is Spirit (John 4:24)
 - God is Light (1John 1:5) .. the Father of us His 'Lights'.. you are the 'light of the world'.
 - God is Love (1 John 4:8).. He is my 'Abba'.

<u>John 3:7.</u> "Don't be amazed when I say to you, you must (all) be born again".

<u>Conclusion:</u> It doesn't matter who people are; and how they are presented to us.. somewhere, somehow, they need to become Spirit beings.. Spirit-sons of God. before they can ever experience this amazing Kingdom of God. When we lead them to the gates of the Kingdom, and share with them about their next step.. we have given them a chance to become a spirit-being which is being so much more than being just a human man or woman; and for Father to have us increase His inheritance. (Next.. Part Two: "The Spirit-life")

SO.. IF YOU WANT TO BE TRANSFORMED INTO A REAL 'SPIRIT-SON' YOU'LL NEED TO REALLY APPLY YOURSELF.. SO YOU'LL NEED TO MAKE ITALL REAL BY CONFESSING WITH YOUR MOUTH AND BELIEVE IN YOUR HEART JESUS TRUTH.... James 1:22.. Confess for a month daily.. "I am first of all a Spirit-being.. a son of God.. that which is 'born of the Spirit is Spirit" YOU WILL BE CHANGED BY THIS WORD & HOLY SPIRIT!

<u>Prayer:</u> "Dear Father, I come to You in Jesus' Name...I am your inheritance; I am now Your own Spirit-Son born of water and the Spirit. By your Holy Spirit leading, I will do Your will, and build your inheritance of Spirit-sons of God, who will become just like me.... as you Lord Jesus, built Your church, Your Bride. It's no different today, You are working with me now in exactly the same way... You are the same yesterday, today and forever" In Jesus' Name Father, ...Amen

LIFE IN THE SPIRIT .. SHARING HEAVEN'S TREASURES

Part 2 of 6.. "Obtaining Father's Inheritance for Him" Rev. John Ballantyne bluepenguinchurch.co.nz July 2015.

Matthew 4 The Temptation of Jesus

1 Then Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. 2 And after He had fasted forty days and forty nights, He then became hungry....

The first recorded action of Jesus after being Baptised with the Holy Spirit was to be Spirit-led into this world's wilderness where He faced Satan and his severe Temptations to be side-tracked from His mission! So will you! So will you! So will you! On one side you will have God, the all-powerful Holy Spirit; leading, inspiring and empowering you; and on the other side satan trying to stop you.. and it won't end until you are taken home to Glory! You will get both better and stronger at handling these 'devices'.. but don't get cocky! Be vigilant! Like a snake with it's head cut off, satan doesn't realise he's dead, but in his last, death-throws, he is writhing round seeking whom he may devour, until he is shut up under the Earth in Hell for the Thousand Year Reign of Jesus.

Be really clear on this thing.. when you are Baptised with the Holy Spirit.. you are immediately a builder of God's Inheritance; and Satan will try and stop you! You will be faced with 'satan's devices of: strong temptation; heavy oppression which seems like flat, deep depression; opposition from the religious and others who may even try and kill you; strong mental distracting mind attacks accusing you of being one of God's big useless failures with immediate giving-up as the only 'right' thing to do, and a host of other techniques of how these are delivered to you.

TO DO: PRACTISE MORE AND MORE BEING SPIRIT-LED, AS A SPIRIT-SON, LISTENING FOR HIS VOICE, AND THEN SPEAKING THE WORDS THAT HE GIVES YOU TO SAY. That's what Spirit-Sons are meant to do. Like this...

John 12:49 I don't speak on my own authority. The Father who sent me has commanded me what to say and how to say it.

Let's get back to our Main Reference: John 3 "Now there was a Pharisee, a man named Nicodemus who was a member of the Jewish ruling council. ² He came to Jesus at night and said, "Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God. For no one could perform the signs you are doing if God were not with him."

³ Jesus replied, "Very truly I tell you, no one can <u>see</u> the kingdom of God unless they are born again."

⁴ "How can someone be born when they are old?" Nicodemus asked. be born!"

⁵ Jesus answered, "Very truly I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God unless they are born of water and the Spirit. ⁶ Flesh gives birth to flesh, but the Spirit gives birth to spirit. ⁷ You should not be surprised at my saying, 'You

must be born again.' ⁸ The wind blows wherever it pleases. <u>You HEAR its</u> <u>sound</u>, but you cannot tell where it comes from or where it is going. So it is with everyone born of the Spirit."

And now from another, older, more accurate Translation:

KJV.. ⁷ Marvel not that I said unto thee, Ye must be born again.

- ⁸ The wind blows <u>where it lists</u>, and you hear the sound thereof, but cannot tell where it comes from, and where it is going: so is every one that is born of the Spirit.
- (Note: "where it lists" where it is 'tipping'.. ships 'list' to port or starboard if they have had their cargo shift.. and now they are in danger of sinking. The Wind of the Holy Spirit moves God's Spirit-Sons to where a life is badly listing.. to someone who is at some form of "low-point" and is about to become, or has become ship-wrecked and is perilously close to sinking to the depths forever! We aren't moved to go to those who are happily, sailing along merrily, and are proclaiming that everything is "just fine and dandy thank you!" Holy Spirit is poured out into "low-points".)

Note: Whoever is sent to you, or to whom you are sent.. know that God loves that person as much as He loves you! No matter how bad their life.. God is no respecter of persons!

What a fascinating metaphorical picture Jesus draws of us.. "like the wind!" Why.. "like the wind"?

Some thoughts..

- 1. "Wind" in the Word is 'ruarch' (Heb).. the Life-Breath of God.. God continues to breathe life through us by His Spirit.
- "Wind" in the Hebrew is 'ruarch'.. the breath of God.. as God breathed life into Adam.. giving Adam His Spirit of Life. Spirit-Sons are "new-created" by God's Spirit.. we hear Him by His Spirit.. and we act by speaking in response to needs and situations.. "in the Spirit".i.e. To live in this way, we continue to ask of Him... "What must I say now Spirit of the Lord?", and just as importantly.. "What must I NOT SAY now Spirit of the Lord". God creates all things through His Word.. who is Jesus.. therefore all words are budgeted economically by God.. and so, as we progress in living as The Spirit Sons of God.. our words also become measured; and of great importance... for God joins His Breath with our Spirit-commanded words and He creates through us.. life, health, the future etc.
 - 2. You can't see God's Breath.. but you can see it's effect when God's Spirit-Sons learn to speak it out. At Pentecost they were Baptised in the Holy Spirit.. and they began to breathe the breath of the Spirit.. speaking His Words to those who were

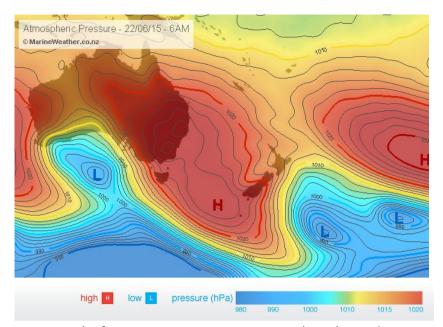
'listing".

- The difference between God's Spirit-sons and ordinary humans.. you can mostly <u>read the lives of humans</u>.. you can see where they are coming from, and where they are going to.. they do whatever their fancy takes them. You watch them in the workplace, in their cars, on the streets, on the Television.. you can visually see their actions; and you can see what motivates them.. either their human needs; or their original 'old-nature'; or 'the spirit of this world' (Ephesians 2:1-2). They live off drama, gossip, personal advantage, mammon, survival, immorality, distraction, disobedience, and strife
- Spirit-Sons.. are like THE WIND...you hear where they are coming from by the words they speak. They are like a ship which is wind-driven.. a man which is Holy Spirit propelled. They are moved by The Spirit. (Practice this!) e.g. The mystery of how a man can be saved by hearing the Gospel.

They "see" the Kingdom of God through Words being revealed to them by the Holy Spirit.. "the eyes of their understanding are opened".. everyone born of the Spirit has the "ways" of God available to them to be revealed. God says to seek Him for revelation, but He will not reveal His ways willy-nilly.. only to those who seek Him.. Psalm 103:7 He made known his ways unto Moses, his acts unto the children of Israel .. Proverbs 25:2 It is the glory of God to conceal a matter, But the glory of kings is to search out a matter. God doesn't waste His Word! Don't you either. Matthew 7:6 "Don't waste what is holy on people who are unholy. Don't throw your pearls to pigs! They will trample the pearls, then turn and attack you". God's ways are how, why and when He does stuff. It is all done through His Spirit.. so unless you seek to be led by His Spirit, you won't be able to works His ways and build His inheritance.

3. <u>Cycles of fruitfulness:</u> God <u>continually</u> moves His Spirit-Sons from on "high".. carrying precious treasure within them.. His word, warmth, love and light to people who are perishing as captives; through lack of saving knowledge.. cold, unstable, and imprisoned in darkness..

See this weather map.. it describes in the natural about winds..



• Air travels from HIGH to LOW as wind.. only God can organise the world's wind systems.. only God can see them all at once. The Spirit of God is the SPIRIT of the High and Holy God who inhabits eternity, and He is continually organising His Spirit-Sons to bring that which is "High" to those who are "low".. and 'downtrodden'. He knows where they are, and He knows where we are. And He lines the two up to meet and see Salvation come to pass.. and His inheritance built. We should always be ready and available for Holy Spirit to direct us to the next person whose life is "low".

Illustration: Travelling back through a rural township 20 kilometers from home... asking Him.. which house do you want me to go to Lord? "That one up there.. second on the left".. He said. I turned off and found the house and went to the door and knocked. A housewife answered the door. "Good afternoon Ma'am, the Lord has told me to come to your home with His encouragement for your present situation". She burst into uncontrollable tears, standing there holding the door open until she could gather herself. She spoke.." I have rung my mother, three times today, at great cost.. she is on the other side of the world, where I have emigrated from six months ago... telling her I was so lonely, I couldn't stand staying here any longer. I was just finishing when she said..'I believe a man of God will come and comfort you, and encourage you'.. and here you are immediately.. I can scarcely believe that God cares that much about me"... and from that moment she was able to be assimilated into the community, where before she had been so desperately lonely.

4. God's heart is for those who cry out to Him in their distress..

"I cried unto Him in my distress, and He heard my cry" (David)
The lower the LOW is.. the faster the wind (Spirit) rushes in.

The LOW has a "laboured breath".. which is unstable, upward moving, and cloudy.. The life of one who is genuinely LOW is unstable, gazing upwards for answers, and overcast.. with no sunshine. It is miserable and drizzly.. Interestingly enough.. it is also "spirit-driven".. propelled, and oppressed (sometimes possessed) in that part of their life's moment by the spirit of this world.. but those who live such a life are 'blinded' by the spirit of this world to this reality.

5. Where the 'captives' life is low in sin and death...

They assume that their life is the sum of their own personal CHOICES, and that there is no other "agency" involved, or has been involved in the darkness and discomfort of their present moment. Satan puts this deceiving, lying, delusion on them so that the 'spirit' world is kept out of their way of thinking.. that's why the walk of God's Spirit-Sons is a total puzzle to them.. it just doesn't make sense.. these captives are blinded to the spiritual realm.. but truly, they also are living in it; and of it, but it tragically it is satan's prison of sin and death... not Christ's Covenant Kingdom of Eternal Abundant Life!! THAT'S WHY YOUR WORDS AND LIFESTYLE ARE GOING TO SPEAK SILENTLY TO THEM, LIKE A LIFE-LINE SITTING IN FRONT OF THEM. YOU CHALLENGE THEIR gods.

..<u>Illustration</u>: one of my brothers, embarrassed by my occupation; when introducing me to one of his friends, and trying to explain why his own brother was one of those 'Pastor-people... put it this way.."When he was a little guy he fell out of a tree and landed on his head".. i.e. He has brain damage, that's why he is a Pastor. Spirit-Son.."you are in this world, but you are definitely not of it!" It's OK! In reality..you are not recognised by those of this world as being one of them.

6. Jesus described Himself this way.. "I am from above".. and dear Saint.. you also as a new creation in Christ!

The weather "HIGH" is stable, sunny, and downward moving from above.. The Spirit-sons are stable as the "Rock" (Jesus.. their foundation), glorious and full of Light, and moving that which is from ABOVE which is cool and refreshing to that which is on THE EARTH... to make a pathway for the lost in their life's spiritual "wilderness" of sin and rebellion; to have them find a "river" flowing out of The Rock in their thirsty spiritual desert. They need to be saved from their spiritual death BEFORE their physical death makes it too late!

7. The SPIRIT-SONS are commanded by Jesus to now live moved by the Spirit of the Lord.."to His "lows" where He needs you to in His Name to save them...

Matthew 28:18-20 (NASB)

¹⁸ And Jesus came up and spoke to them, saying, "All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. ¹⁹Go therefore and make disciples of

all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, ²⁰ teaching them to observe all that I commanded you; and lo, I am with you **always**, even to the end of the age."

<u>Clarification References:</u>

- -'go therefor'e (Greek aorist tense).. "In your continuous, daily, going forth.."
- -" I am with you **always"**.. (Greek).."all of each of your days, and all of your days"
 - 8. Lord, I dedicate myself above all else to ensure that every single unsaved person possible around me is Born-again.. "I am forever a Spirit-Son of the most High God.. The wind of Father God's Spirit blows on me, and moves me to the lower places. Its sound is now going to be heard through HIS WORDS by my VOICE, and even though they cannot tell where I come from or what I am moved to do next, they will know Jesus has saved them through me in their worst moment. So it is with me who is born of Your Spirit."

STILL TO DO:

- Learn spiritual self-defence..i.e. Jesus' Name; Jesus Blood, Confessing the Word; being filled with the Spirit; Praying in tongues; Binding and loosing; putting on the Armour of God; Prayer etc.
- Confess: "I am a Spirit-Son of the Most High God"
- Be led by Holy Spirit to anyone, anywhere, anytime.
- Practice hearing Holy Spirit's voice and speaking out ONLY HIS WORDS!

<u>Prayer:</u> "Dear Father, help me to be diligent in applying every one of these tasks which You have given me to do; until they become a natural part of our relationship'; and of my Spirit-Son lifestyle under Jesus..in Jesus' Glorious Name, Amen."

"THE FAITH AND OBEDIENCE OF GOD'S SPIRIT-SONS"

Part 3. Inheritance... "PLEASE don't get separated from God."

Rev. John Ballantyne bluepenguinchurch.co.nz July 2015

<u>Principle:</u> Our God has not changed in His dealings with people in the last 6,000 years.. and He won't. His everlasting ways for mankind in this dispensation are:

- Sustain daily, in a walking, talking relationship, your First Love for Him
- Crucify the unprofitable ways of your old life; and live a new life of glorious freedom, which is righteous, holy, and completely obedient unto Him, and His Word. Do not allow the "scales" of partial obedience to cause even a partial separation from Him.
- Seek Him always, and be led, inspired and empowered, in word and works, by the Holy Spirit. following in Jesus' model. as God's own Spirit-Sons.
- With rich and happy joy; by continuously applied faith in Father, and dependence on Him, build His Inheritance of souls... as part of Christ's Visible Body... until He calls you Home.. good and faithful one!

Explanation of the Principle:

Under the Law of Moses, salvation came by works, where every Hebrew had to remain without sin every day of their life, because even if they committed one sin, it meant eternal damnation. Foolishly they ignored this Truth, and did for Him as it suited them, and so their minds became dull to Holy Spirit's conviction; and it was like scales formed on their spiritual eyes, and they stopped getting revelation anymore from God. They were separated from Him.

(**James 2:10**.. For whoever keeps the whole law and yet stumbles at just one point is guilty of breaking all of it).

When Jesus replaced The Law of Moses with the New Covenant in His Blood, we got salvation, not through works but through His Gracious Gift of Eternal Life obtained by our faith In His sacrificial death on The Cross; Jesus dying in our place for our sin.. (Ephesians 2:8,9.. For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God—⁹ not by works, so that no one can boast.)

Jesus DID not then bring in some new teaching which would DIMINISH THE NEED FOR OUR DAILY OBEDIENCE! He did not throw out the principle of Spirit-Sons complete obedience to God, He reinforced the fact that God's Spirit-Sons must walk in <u>complete</u> obedient holiness and righteousness..

(**John 14:23**.. Jesus answered him, "If anyone loves me, he will keep my word, and my Father will love him, and we will come to him and make our home with him. **John 14:15**.. "If you love me, obey my commandments.)

So we can live in True Freedom. He has given us over 1000 commandment laws which we know by reading right through the New Testament. which are about how we are to live our life today in The Kingdom of God. Obviously if we love Him, we will have faith in Him, and obey Him..and neglect none of them. If we sadly, do get one of them wrong. then we repent; and His Blood is able to cleanse us.

.(1 John 1:5-10⁵ This is the message we have heard from Him and declare to you: God is light; in Him there is no darkness at all. ⁶ If we claim to have fellowship with Him and yet walk in the darkness, we lie and do not live out the truth. ⁷ But if we walk in the light, as He is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus, his Son, purifies us from all sin. ⁸ If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us. ⁹ If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness. ¹⁰ If we claim we have not sinned, we make Him out to be a liar and His Word is not in us.

May God forbid that we should knowingly be disobedient to test His Grace towards us!!! The fear of the Lord is the beginning of your wisdom (Proverbs).

<u>Context:</u> In the world of people in which we live, when we come across someone who is all-loving, merciful, kind and gracious..one's old crafty, cunning, human nature may see that person as someone who can be exploited; because somehow this person can be interpreted as somehow being "weak", and therefore, it doesn't matter if they are played with a bit, and their good nature taken advantage of; because they will still be nice to us, and somehow... they must be a bit naïve!. Therefore we can "take them" or "leave them" as it suits us. God illustrates this "mentality" in the Bible, by the real life experience of Hosea the Prophet(means 'salvation'). God got him to marry a prostitute by the name of Gomer. They come into a covenant marital relationship. She has two children by him..but then she goes off shortly after with her old sex partners. Hosea, even though Gomer treats him as "weak" and "takes him" and "leaves him" as it suits, goes after her; and as Father commands him.. goes and buys her back to make a new covenant contract with her that she would never go after "old loves" anymore.

I'm afraid that these same "easy separations of convenience" are found in The Church of Jesus Christ today. Father is all-loving, merciful, kind and gracious... and *if we have any trace of our "old nature" still within us*, we foolishly "take His Word and Him" and "leave His Word and Him" as it suits us... even though we are now in a priceless Covenant relationship of Son-ship with Him through Jesus Blood.. with Jesus as our Bridegroom. Unfaithfulness to our Beloved is the greatest problem among the saints in the Church today. Every time we put something else between what He tells us to do; and what we actually do creates a separation between us and our God.. and He turns away His

head so He doesn't hear us.. until we repent; and are washed in the Covenant Blood. Christians wonder why God feels so far away.. it is they who have shifted, and created the gulf in their relationship with Him. It's time to allow Him to remove the scales from off our mind, so that we walk intimately, soberly, and obediently in Love with Him always. "Cry, with a real broken-heart, O Bride and be totally restored unto Him!"

<u>TO DO:</u> Repent and get rid of any "separating" spiritual scales, listen to God's Words, believe them, and obey them, apply them, Love Him, and as a Spirit-Son of God.. live abundantly bringing in the harvest of disciples.

Nicodemus..a Case Study in... "the impact of cultivating spiritual scales"

Nicodemus Spiritual Blindness which separated him so he couldn't "SEE":

How did it happen?

John 3:9 Nicodemus said to Jesus, "HOW CAN THESE THINGS BE?" What Nicodemus was asking, was from the viewpoint of a <u>man separated from God</u> by his own spiritual blindness. He should have been able to "see" what Jesus was saying, but couldn't. Holy Spirit had stopped trying to get through to these rebellious, stiff-necked people, whom God loves as much as He loves you. Nicodemus.. just another blind teacher, leading the blind. These "scales" are a characteristic of the history of Israel's relationship with Glorious God right from the beginning, until today.

Here is the repetitive pattern of the continuous, unfolding picture of man's Separations from God; and God's Restorations of man back to Himself in the Bible, right up to today... and what this now means for everyone who calls themself a Believer today.

- God separated unto Himself a Family made in His own image and likeness
- Satan separated Adam and Eve from Him through sin
- God created a new separate nation through Abraham called the 'Hebrews' ('hapiru' .. means .. "separated ones"), and made a Covenant with them.
- Israel in unbelief separated themselves from their physical and spiritual "inheritance" in Canaan; and went to live in Egypt; becoming slaves.
- God separated them from the Egyptians by 'The Passover', and made a new Covenant with them at Sinai.. called the Law, which promised them a 'return' to Canaan and a relationship with Him, based on a relationship with Him of totally Loving Him first, faith in His Promises; and obedience to His Spirit-given commands and leadings.
- Israel separated themselves from God as His "Church in the Wilderness" by murmuring, unbelief and disobedience.
- Later..Jesus destroyed the 'walls of separation' caused by sin, by becoming the Sacrificed Lamb of The New Covenant based on God's Grace.. which enabled anyone, anywhere to become a Spirit Son of God by being Born-again from Father God. This became 'The new Church'; or 'The Bride' or 'The Visible Body of Christ' with Christ's full power and

- Authority to make disciples of Jesus, of everyone on Earth.
- The Covenant Church then once again continued on with a whole series of partial separations (which is as good as a total separation), this time from Jesus by "SELECTIVE OBEDIENCE" instead of living a Word-based, Spirit-led, Kingdom building, Spirit-Son life 24/7. It became religious and powerless, and "duty-based" instead of Love-relationship based; which "gives the appearance of, but lacks the power of".. which is where most of The Church is today. This partial separation has had the effect of misrepresenting Christ and His Church, and creating an ever-widening relationship gap with Him, which has now been replaced by humanism, man's opinion and; "the other gods of this world"; which are all rushing to fill this vacuum. Most 'Believers' look and sound like Believers, but they don't Believe God with genuine Faith in what He Promises them; they don't obey His Word; they don't put Him first; they don't Love Him as their "First-Love"; they don't make disciples; they don't do works by the power of the Holy Spirit; they compromise everywhere they feel like it, because they believe they have every right to their opinion on anything about God whether it agrees or disagrees with what He actually says. Who moved??????
- God is moving by His Spirit to destroy this separation by removing the
 'old-nature' "spiritual-scales", by both convicting existing Christians to
 stop compromising; and creating new real ones, so as to have His Sons in
 a normal Holy Spirit powered, Christ-authorised, full-relationship where
 there is no separation, and these are genuinely living fully for Him as a
 24/7 lifestyle to make disciples of everyone on the Earth.

Nicodemus: a Case Study of the subtlety and deception of 'separation' from God.

REFERENCE: John Chapter 3: (The New Birth)

<u>1</u>Now there was a man of the Pharisees, named Nicodemus, a ruler of the Jews; <u>2</u>this man came to Jesus by night and said to Him, "Rabbi, we know that You have come from God as a teacher; for no one can do these signs that You do unless God is with him." <u>3</u>Jesus answered and said to him, "Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born again he cannot see the kingdom of God."

 $\underline{\mathbf{4}}$ Nicodemus said to Him, "How can a man be born when he is old? He cannot enter a second time into his mother's womb and be born, can he?" $\underline{\mathbf{5}}$ Jesus answered, "Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit he cannot enter into the kingdom of God. $\underline{\mathbf{6}}$ "That which is born of the flesh is flesh, and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit. $\underline{\mathbf{7}}$ "Do not be amazed that I said to you, 'You must be born again.' $\underline{\mathbf{8}}$ "The wind blows where it wishes and you hear the sound of it, but do not know where it comes from and where it is going; so is everyone who is born of the Spirit."

<u>9</u>Nicodemus said to Him, "How can these things be?" <u>10</u>Jesus answered and said to him, "Are you the teacher of Israel and do not understand these things? <u>11</u>"Truly, truly, I say to you, we speak of what

we know and testify of what we have seen, and you do not accept our testimony. 12"If I told you earthly things and you do not believe, how will you believe if I tell you heavenly things? 13"No one has ascended into heaven, but He who descended from heaven: the Son of Man. 14"As Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, even so must the Son of Man be lifted up; 15so that whoever believes will in Him have eternal life.

16"For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish, but have eternal life. 17"For God did not send the Son into the world to judge the world, but that the world might be saved through Him. 18"He who believes in Him is not judged; he who does not believe has been judged already, because he has not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God. 19"This is the judgment, that the Light has come into the world, and men loved the darkness rather than the Light, for their deeds were evil. 20"For everyone who does evil hates the Light, and does not come to the Light for fear that his deeds will be exposed. 21"But he who practices the truth comes to the Light, so that his deeds may be manifested as having been wrought in God."

1. How can these things be.. I don't understand?

Israel's Blindness which was Nicodemus's Blindness:

Looking at Israel's 'blindness' for a moment.. Israel's unbelief, disobedience and rebellion wasn't some catastrophic shift into a 100% wholesale rejection of God and His Word! In fact they were very much like The Church today. Selective. They were happy to obey as much as they felt suited their devotion and availability at the time. They celebrated the 'Feasts', as well as obeying most of the laws relating to hygiene, conduct, and morality.. in fact they didn't do too badly most of the time.. What God desired was their "Spirit-led" obedience to Him.. He even gave them the Holy Spirit as "fire" by night; and "clouds of protection" during the day. Holy Spirit couldn't have been more visble if He had tried! God simply wanted a LOVE RELATIONSHIP with them.. YOU CAN'T HAVE LOVE RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD IF YOU DON'T BELIEVE HIM AND OBEY HIM!

GOD WANTED THEM TO UNDERSTAND THAT SEPARATION FROM HIM WAS THE MOST HORRIBLE FEELING OF LOSS THEY COULD FACE IN THEIR DAILY LIFE.. so He showed them how great it was when they were in the right place with Him; and how rotten it was when they weren't! How?

He gave them the LAW OF MOSES so that if they got something wrong, in fact anything wrong, they would spontaneously repent, plead for forgiveness and mercy, receive forgiveness and a restored relationship with Father; and move on in a fresh start. **BUT** their failure to REPENT each time they got it wrong. became a slack habit.. and it meant that their sin created a separation between them and their God.. but they continued on anyway in their happy "rotten" state. Compounding unbelief and disobedience, meant the slow but steady growth of

"scales" over their heart and spirit.. so they became judgementally religious, sin-bound, and out of relationship with Father. Satan's strategy of "near-enough-will do", meant they never rested in the glory of faith, peace and love in the arms of Father; and He couldn't give them the "Promised Land" because they wouldn't be spiritual sons of His (except Joshua and Caleb)!

TO DO: Are you a.. "close-enough-will-do Him".. or are you up-to-date in your repentance for every act of disobedience to anything in His Word, or any act of unbelief you are convicted of; so you can treasure a "gapless" LOVE RELATIONSHIP with Him above all else?

1 Corinthians 2:14 The person without the Spirit does not accept the things that come from the Spirit of God but considers them foolishness, and cannot understand them because they are discerned only through the Spirit.

2 Corinthians 4:4.. ⁴ For the god of this world has blinded the unbelievers' minds [that they should not discern the truth], preventing them from seeing the illuminating light of the Gospel of the glory of Christ (the Messiah), Who is the Image and Likeness of God.

John 3:9 Nicodemus said to Him, "How can these things be?" 10Jesus answered and said to him, "Are you the teacher of Israel and do not understand these things? Nicodemus had "spiritual scales"

<u>Illustration</u>: If in my marriage relationship with Mary I maintain most of the elements of our vows, so that to all appearances I am a good husband. However, if I also have a whole "small" area which she doesn't know about where I am sneaking off and spending our money on gambling then it creates a whole different dynamic. In reality, I would no longer be trustworthy, because I would be stealing from her, and lying by covering up my "personal activity". Satan would then assist me in justifying my "little pleasure", and the LOVE relationship with my wife would undergo unseen, but increasing damage, until finally it would be destroyed.

EVERYONE WHO DOESN'T REGULARLY SAY TO FATHER

GOD.."EXAMINE MY HEART O GOD AND SEE IF THEIR BE ANY
WICKED WAY WITHIN ME" HAS BLINDNESSES.. AND THESE CAN
AND PROBABLY WILL BECOME FATAL!

SPIRITUAL SCALES ON A PERSON ARE AS REAL AS SCALES ON A FISH!!

Nicodemus.. a leading teacher in Israel didn't understand Jesus' Words. THIS DID NOT STOP FATHER GOD WANTING NICODEMUS TO BECOME HIS OWN SPIRIT-SON BECAUSE EVEN THOUGH HE WAS SPIRITUALLY

BLIND, GOD LOVED HIM AS MUCH AS HE LOVES YOU AND ME. Never, ever forget that we were both blind, and dead once, but yet in Love He sought us because He planned for everyone to be His son, and live out their design!

"Amazing Grace, how sweet the sound'
that saved a wretch like me
I once was lost, but now I'm found

Was blind but now I see!

Nicodemus had been drawn to Jesus by God's Spirit, pre-arranging for He who is "High" to enable he who is "low" to hear the Good News of Salvation from sin and death. Jesus didn't come to condemn him, but to save him, because God loved him.. but Nicodemus like Paul didn't believe, or have faith in God's Word even though he taught it, and was an authority on it.. IT WAS ALL ACADEMIC.."MAKE A LIVING, BUT DON'T KNOW 'THE LIFE' "...and the god of this world had blinded his spiritual mind so he couldn't see what Jesus meant when He spoke.. but God was 'drawing' (quickening) Nicodemus by His All-Powerful Spirit to Jesus to be born-again. John 6:44 No one can come to me unless the Father who sent me draws them, and I will raise them up at the last day.

The "FOOLISHNESS" of hearing and responding to the PREACHING of the GOSPEL WORD! We are saved through those "Spirit-saturated" Words!

Why are Jesus' Words so important? John 6:63 "The Spirit alone gives eternal life. Human effort accomplishes nothing. And the very words I have spoken to you.. they are both Spirit and Life."

Jesus Words have the power to both bring conviction, AND BRING US BACK TO A FULL CHRISTIAN LIFE..and destroy the old-nature scales of rebellion of lovelessness, unbelief and the disobedience that follows.

- i) TO NOT BELIEVE HIM IS REBELLION. SCALES FORM!
- ii) REBELLION FOLLOWS INVOLVING DISOBEDIENCE TO GOD
- iii) DISOBEDIENCE TO GOD IS TO LET ANOTHER SPIRIT.. THE gOD OF THIS WORLD RUN YOUR LIFE TO RUIN IT..OPPOSITE TO GOD'S WAYS!

<u>Illustration</u>: When I was around 9 years of age attending Primary School.. the senior boys (12-13 years of age) plotted to refuse to believe the **written** School Rules and disobey the Headmaster; and do what they liked. So one Thursday.. at a pre-arranged signal, they all got up, disobeying the headmasters instructions to listen to him and go back to their desks, and walked out of the classroom and then out of the school. They went out through the township, and vandalised some property..and rampaged around for a couple of hours stealing cigarettes and alcohol...smoking and drinking, and then sadly went to the property of a harmless old widow, and stole at least 20 duck eggs from her Muscovy ducks,

and killed a couple of her pet ducks.... which were as well part of her livelihood. Then they came back to school and brought the eggs with them, and proceeded to smash them against the wall containing our proud School crest and name. Then they left the school grounds once again.. and went their ways.

Their unbelief led to rebellion, which led to the spirit of this world turning them into thieves, killers, liars and destroyers... just like their master Satan. (John 10:10).

That spirit didn't leave that school; and I was a boy who was brought up with a respect for authority, so, I was turned on, by ALL the same age-group of male students at the start of my second-last year.. and would have been destroyed had I not learnt to fight for my life throughout that whole year and part of the next until I earned their respect, and something really bad happened..and they stopped. I have since learnt GOD'S WAY which is to FORGIVE all, Bless all, Love everyone, believe God; and obey God, and fight with the Sword of the Spirit and the Shield of Faith, not against people, but against the spirits behind their wrong actions. My life was wrong once, because all of me was wrong!

ONLY JESUS' SPIRIT CAN CAUSE THOSE SCALES TO FALL OFF OUR EYES AND MIND.. BUT HE WILL DO IT FOR ANY ONE OF US!

Nicodemus, like Saul (Paul) who had "scales on the eyes of his understanding" (symbolised by the scales which fell off his eyes when he had Ananais pray for him). Nicodemus had ears, but they couldn't hear and eyes but they could not see! Acts 9:17 So Ananias departed and entered the house, and after laying his hands on him said, "Brother Saul, the Lord Jesus, who appeared to you on the road by which you were coming, has sent me so that you may regain your sight and be filled with the Holy Spirit." 18And immediately there fell from his eyes something like scales, and he regained his sight, and he got up and was baptized.

"Scales" whether they be on a fish or a reptile, form a protective layer for the soft, vulnerable, skin layers underneath. They are arranged to overlay each other, so that the creature is unimpeded in it's ability to move forward, but at the same time.. "nothing can get through" to it. Israel... and their teacher Nicodemus had manufactured their own scales.. "rebellious scales", by ignoring THE WORDS OF GOD, and so their hearts had become hard and resistant to God's beautiful life-giving words. "They hardened their hearts in the day of rebellion" (Hebrews 3:15) ... 14 For we have become partakers of Christ, if we hold fast the beginning of our assurance firm until the end, 15 while it is said, "TODAY IF YOU HEAR HIS VOICE, DO NOT HARDEN YOUR HEARTS, AS WHEN THEY PROVOKED ME." 16 For who provoked Him when they had heard? Indeed, did not all those who came out of Egypt led by Moses?"

<u>Warning!</u> God warns us as His own Spiritual-Sons not to grow selective scales!

Isaiah 6:9.. He said, "Go and tell this people: "'Be ever hearing, but never

understanding; be ever seeing, but never perceiving.

Ezekiel 12:2 "Son of man, you are living among a rebellious people. They have eyes to see but do not see and ears to hear but do not hear, for they are a rebellious people.

<u>Matthew 13:12</u>"For whoever has, to him more shall be given, and he will have an abundance; but whoever does not have, even what he has shall be taken away from him. <u>13</u>"Therefore I speak to them in parables; because while seeing they do not see, and while hearing they do not hear, nor do they understand. <u>14</u>"In their case the prophecy of Isaiah is being fulfilled, which says, 'YOU WILL KEEP ON HEARING, BUT WILL NOT UNDERSTAND; YOU WILL KEEP ON SEEING, BUT WILL NOT PERCEIVE.."

TO DO:

- Be thoroughly Born-Again; and be Baptised in the Holy Spirit.
- If you have grown "spiritual-scales" and have a "selective" relationship with God, own-up to your "separated-from-Him" condition.
- Repent of your sad and miserable substitute condition.
- Ask Him to have mercy on you and RESTORE your soul to your FIRST-LOVE for Him; and that you will obey Him.. and to be led as His Spirit-Son by Holy Spirit.
- Crucify the separating "old-nature" when it rears up to rob you and Him.
- Surrender to His Design for your life!
- Be His true Spirit-Son Inheritance; and go and add more souls for His inheritance.. and ask Holy Spirit to help you not get side-tracked anymore.

Prayer: "WITHOUT TRUE HOLINESS, NO MAN SHALL SEE GOD".

"Dear Father, I am deeply sorry for every time I have held you at arms length, so I could selectively do or be what You didn't want. Yes, truly..I am made for You, and I love You! Please remove any and every existing spiritual scale off my eyes which I am still blind to, but which you can see. Please heal and cleanse my mind so I can "see" all you are showing me through Your Holy Spirit. All I desire is that Your Kingdom can work in and through me right through each day.. with all it's freedoms and treasures; and the building of Your Inheritance.. and so I must walk renewed and restored, in the newness of Jesus Spirit, and Heart and Mind.. as your own Spirit-Son. I surrender to every part of Your design for my Life. Take my life and use it 100% for Your Glory. In Jesus beautiful, and Glorious Name, Amen."

"FAITH IN THE WORK OF THE SPIRIT OF THE LORD" Part 4. Father God's Inheritance

Rev. John Ballantyne bluepenguinchurch.co.nz July 2015
PRINCIPLE: As a SPIRIT-SON of God, have TRUE FAITH IN GOD'S
PROMISE that you are clothed with a cloud of the Presence of the Holy
Spirit, in you and around you.. and wherever you go, people are already
coming under His influence, so you can then say and do what He bids you..
to Build Father's Inheritance.

SUPORTING SCRIPTURES:

<u>Luke 24:49</u> And behold, I am sending the promise of my Father upon you. But stay in the city until <u>you are clothed with power from on high."</u>

Acts 10:38 God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and power, and how he went around doing good and healing all who were under the power of the devil, because God was with

him.

Hebrews 11 ⁵ By faith Enoch was taken from this life, so that he did not experience death: "He could not be found, because God had taken him away." For before he was taken, he was commended as **one who pleased God.** ⁶ And without faith it is impossible to please God, because anyone who comes to him must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who earnestly seek him.

GOD IS THRILLED TO HELP, EVEN OUR LIMITED FAITH I HIM BEAR MIGHTY FRUIT..

Matthew 17 19Then the disciples came to Jesus privately and said, "Why could we not drive it out?" 20And He said to them, "Because of the littleness of your faith; for truly I say to you, if you have faith the size of a mustard seed, you will say to this mountain, 'Move from here to there,' and it will move; and nothing will be impossible to you.

<u>Illustration</u> As a very junior Pastor, inexperienced in the things of the Holy Spirit. I received an invitation to speak at a Regional Annual Dinner of the Full-Gospel Businessmen's Association. I accepted. The President got in touch and said.. "We are really excited that you are coming, and have put up posters everywhere advertising the event." I saw their handiwork on power-poles and notice-boards. The poster said in massive letters.. "MIRACLE-MINISTRY DINNER. BRING YOUR SICK!" etc. I froze inside, as I had seen an occasional wonderful healing, but this was right "in my face"... MIRACLES ON TAP REQUIRED! From that moment I sought the Lord as to what Word He wanted proclaimed. but He wouldn't tell me. I was quite disturbed. Even when finally the night came and I was driving there to 'speak', He didn't tell me. I was fighting rising anxiety; and at the same time a spirit of unbelief started attacking my fragile mind; but it was too late. We had a lovely dinner..everyone else did!...and then the worship preceding The Word began. Still Father said nothing. We got to the second last verse of the last hymn, and then suddenly he said. "Preach on John 3:16". Inside I cried out.. "No, Lord everyone knows that, something else?" Heaven was silent. Just before I was welcomed to the dais to speak.. I 'saw' the Spirit of our Lord standing where I was to speak, and encouraged, I knew that if I was where the Presence of the Lord was I'd be fine. The 'message' was less than seven minutes of what amounted to what I thought was disconnected spiritual piffle. I was mortified. I was quickly mumbling an altar call, getting ready to disappear into the night, and as far away from there as possible when I heard this 'clanking' sound in response. Two men were carrying a totally crippled friend up to the altar. I looked at his face, and it was a hopeful smile of what was the appearance of "last hope". They stood in front of me supporting him in his full-metal brace. In my muddled mind I was too disturbed to hear Holy Spirit.. and so just went and slowly held up my hand and prayed Divine Healing to be his. To this day. I will never forget what happened next! It was like someone had taken a high-voltage live, electric cable and plunged it into his head. His whole body began to wildly shake at a frequency never dreamt possible. Sweat was dripping.. no flowing.. off his face like water. The sound of his metal-body-brace violently shaking was like hearing a car motor that had run out of oil. Tentatively I asked him if he was O.K. "Yeeesssss..I'm fiiinnneee" he said with a glorious, shaking smile. After about two minutes.. Holy Spirit finished.

The man was totally, gloriously healed..and he is to this day. He went home, and took his farm off the market, because the Bank was going to sell him up, because he couldn't work it. GLORY TO GOD.. ALL THIS..at a time when my own faith was surely in danger of being less than a mustard seed! Thank You Lord! "They that trust in the Lord will never be put to shame".

NICODEMUS, LIKE US, CAN ONLY LIVE AS SPIRIT-SONS BY DELIBERATE ACTS OF FAITH IN GOD. God has given us all we need in His Word and Spirit to believe for the Impossible.

JESUS BEGINS THE PROCESS OF "SOWING WORD OF GOD'S MIGHTY ACTS" INTO NICODEMUS TO HELP RESTORE HIS FAITH IN GOD AND HIS MIGHTY ACTS; SO THAT HE MIGHT SOON BEAR "promised" FAITH-FRUIT, AND GET SAVED.

- Jesus hasn't come to condemn Nicodemus, he has come to save him from his own unbelief, and mortal sin. Holy Spirit is clothing Jesus and surrounding Nicodemus!
- Jesus provokes Nicodemus to faith in God i.e.by getting him to look back, remember and consider the mighty, all-powerful signs of God.. the LIFE-SAVING acts of God in the past.. i.e. 'The Cross' in the desert
- Jesus sows the seed for faith in the soon-to-take-place totally LIFE-SAVING 'Cross' of Calvary

MAIN REFERENCE:

John 3:10-20¹⁰ "You are Israel's teacher," said Jesus, "and do you not understand these things? ¹¹ Very truly I tell you, we speak of what we know, and we testify to what we have seen, but still you people do not accept our testimony. ¹² I have spoken to you of earthly things and you do not believe; how then will you believe if I speak of heavenly things? ¹³ No one has ever gone into heaven except the one who came from heaven—the Son of Man. ¹⁴ JUST AS MOSES LIFTED UP THE SNAKE IN THE WILDERNESS, SO THE SON OF MAN MUST BE LIFTED UP, ¹⁵ THAT EVERYONE WHO BELIEVES MAY HAVE ETERNAL LIFE IN HIM."

¹⁶ For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. ¹⁷ For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him. ¹⁸ Whoever believes in him is not condemned, but whoever does not believe stands condemned already because they have not believed in the name of God's one and only Son. ¹⁹ This is the verdict: Light has come into the world, but people loved darkness instead of light because their deeds were evil. ²⁰ Everyone who does evil hates the light, and will not come into the light for fear that their deeds will be exposed. ²¹ But whoever lives by the truth comes into the light, so that it may be seen plainly that what they have done has been done in the sight

of God

JESUS SHOWS HIS DEEPEST CONCERN AT THE INABILITY OF ISRAEL TO JUDGE THE FAITHFULNESS AND VERACITY OF GOD BY HIS FRUIT.

- WE speak of what WE know, and
- WE testify to what WE have seen,
- No one has ever gone into heaven except the one who came from heaven—the SON OF MAN.

The Issue God has to continually address with Israel is THE SAME as with The Church today!

<u>Isaiah 53..</u> WHO HAS BELIEVED OUR REPORT? AND TO WHOM HAS THE ARM OF THE LORD BEEN REVEALED?

² For He shall grow up before Him as a tender plant,

And as a root out of dry ground.

He has no form or comeliness:

And when we see Him.

There is no beauty that we should desire Him.

³ He is despised and rejected by men,

A Man of sorrows and acquainted with grief.

And we hid, as it were, our faces from Him;

He was despised, and we did not esteem Him.

⁴ Surely He has borne our griefs

And carried our sorrows:

Yet we esteemed Him stricken,

Smitten by God, and afflicted.

⁵ But He was wounded for our transgressions,

He was bruised for our iniquities;

The chastisement for our peace was upon Him,

And by His stripes we are healed.

John 12:37-41 (NKJV)

Who Has Believed Our Report? Jesus asks...

³⁷ But although He had done so many signs before them, they did not believe in Him, ³⁸ that the word of Isaiah the prophet might be fulfilled, which he spoke:

"Lord, who has believed our report?

And to whom has the arm of the LORD been revealed?"

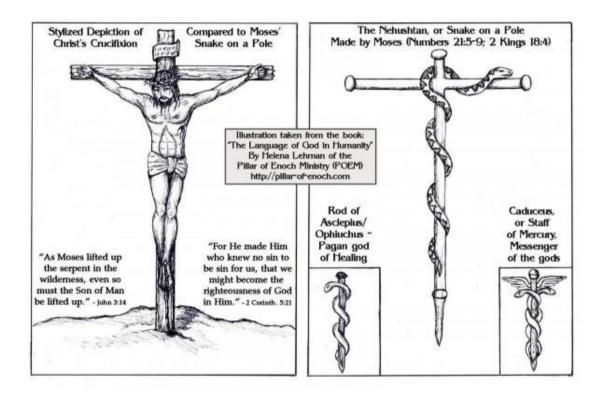
³⁹ Therefore they could not believe, because Isaiah said again:

⁴⁰ "He has blinded their eyes and hardened their hearts, Lest they should see with *their* eyes, Lest they should understand with *their* hearts and turn, So that I should heal them.

⁴¹ These things Isaiah said when he saw His glory and spoke of Him.

'THE CROSS'...The MOST IMPORTANT MIRACLE THAT ISRAEL WITNESSED IN THEIR WILDERNESS JOURNEY TO CANAAN...

Why was Jesus pointing Nicodemus to this mighty 'sign' from God 1470 years earlier?



John 3:14 JUST AS MOSES LIFTED UP THE SNAKE IN THE WILDERNESS, SO THE SON OF MAN MUST BE LIFTED UP, ¹⁵ THAT EVERYONE WHO BELIEVES MAY HAVE ETERNAL LIFE IN HIM."

(Jesus is referring to the following incident which all Israel knew off by heart!)

Numbers 21:5-9 (NIV)⁵ they spoke against God and against Moses, and said, "Why have you brought us up out of Egypt to die in the wilderness? There is no bread! There is no water! And we detest this miserable food!"

⁶ Then the Lord sent <u>venomous snakes</u> among them; <u>they bit the people</u> and <u>many Israelites died</u>. ⁷ The people came to Moses and said, "<u>We sinned when we spoke against the Lord and against you</u>. Pray that the Lord will take the snakes away from us." So Moses prayed for the people.

⁸ The Lord said to Moses, "Make a snake and put it up on a pole; anyone who is

bitten can look at it and live." ⁹ So Moses made a bronze snake and put it up on a pole. Then when anyone was bitten by a snake and looked at the bronze snake, they lived.

What Truths were supposed to impact, and convict the heart of Nicodemus from what Jesus was telling him? Some of them are....

- Israel <u>speaks against</u> God and God's servants, especially Moses. Moses fully represented God and is in full Covenant with Him, so whoever rejected Moses' Words was rejecting Father's Words...and so God took any bad-mouthing of Moses, as personal. Nicodemus like Israel didn't even believe God.
- The 'serpent' who appeared to Adam and Eve in Eden brought them spiritual death, and separation from God. A whole lot of 'serpents' bit the sinners of <u>Israel</u> and <u>they physically died in their sin</u>. i.e. they were Eternally dead, because the next phase after death is THE JUDGEMENT. Nicodemus was also under eternal the death sentence of sin which Jesus came to save him; and us; from. When the people saw that their sin, was literally killing them, they looked to The Cross.
- The people repented both to God and Moses. Nicodemus needed to repent of all and every sin. But there was something wrong within him, because sin still had power over him, and he just kept sinning. which must lead to Eternal Judgement. He did wrong, because he was wrong! He could only become a 'right' human being by being Born-again, to be a Spirit-Son.
- God in his mercy didn't give Israel what they deserved. In His Grace He made a Cross (A Cross always symbolised death), and a BRASS SERPENT was placed on the Cross.. (Brass in the Bible always means Judgement). This miraculous provision which they could physically see with their own eyes; because they had stopped "seeing" what God wanted by His Word and Spirit in their hearts, required no faith! That which is of faith is NOT seen! In this life-saving drama.. The cause of Sin is symbolically put to death on The Cross. (Just like Bread and Wine are symbols of Jesus Body and Blood). Because this Cross in The Wilderness, was a miraculous 'oncer' (TEMPORARY.. with a PERMANENT TO COME) ..IT pointed to a prophesied TOTAL PERMANENT ANSWER at Jesus' Cross for man's sin. Nicodemus would need to wait in faith, for this coming Messiah's Cross, and when he saw it repent, and get thoroughly 'Born-again'... by which he would receive" a new heart like Jesus heart and a new Jesus Spirit put in Him by God to remove and stop the 'old nature' ongoing sin lifestyle after God forgave him, and made him a "New Creation". God had already promised 600 years before.. Ezekiel 36:26 "And I will give you a new heart, and I will put a new spirit in you. I will take out your stony, stubborn heart and give you a tender, responsive
- Every sinner in the desert, after repenting, could look to The Cross,

believing that this CRUCIFIED BRASS SERPENT was God's antidote for sin's death. Later.. as Jesus was showing Nicodemus...JESUS WOULD HANG ON THE CROSS, TAKE ALL THE SIN OF MAN AND DIE, AND JUDGE ALL THE gODS OF THIS WORLD. In His death He would, as The Holy, Sinless Judge, take the full Judgement both for man's satanic sin and it's causes. NOTE: No mercy was spared Him.. no Grace was His..for perfect, sinless, Jesus got everything punishment and judgement we deserved!

• Those with Moses who looked to The Cross and believed, lived. Those who didn't, Eternally died in their sin.. and went to live eternally, with the source of all sin.. Satan.. and his demons in the Lake of Fire; along with all their fellow unbelievers, the liars, the immoral, those into witchcraft; and all the unrepentant rebellious.

Nicodemus wouldn't have to wait too long for God to provide a Lamb, so that he, Nicodemus, born-again, might become the Righteousness of God in Christ.

<u>Jesus</u> progressively revealed God's plans for the salvation of Nicodemus, and you and me..

John 10:17,18 17"For this reason the Father loves Me, because I lay down My life so that I may take it again. 18"No one has taken it away from Me, but I lay it down on My own initiative. I have authority to lay it down, and I have authority to take it up again. This commandment I received from My Father."

John 3:14ff: "just as Moses lifted up the snake in the wilderness, so the Son of Man must be lifted up, ¹⁵ that everyone who believes may have eternal life in him." ¹⁶ For God so loved the world that He gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have Eternal life. ¹⁷ For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through Him. ¹⁸ Whoever believes in Him is not condemned, but whoever does not believe stands condemned already because they have not believed in the Name of God's one and only Son. ¹⁹ This is the verdict: Light has come into the world, but people loved darkness instead of light because their deeds were evil. ²⁰ Everyone who does evil hates the light, and will not come into the light for fear that their deeds will be exposed. ²¹ But whoever lives by the truth comes into the light, so that it may be seen plainly that what they have done has been done in the sight of God.

2 Corinthians 5:21 2 Corinthians 5:21 (NIV)²¹ God made him who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

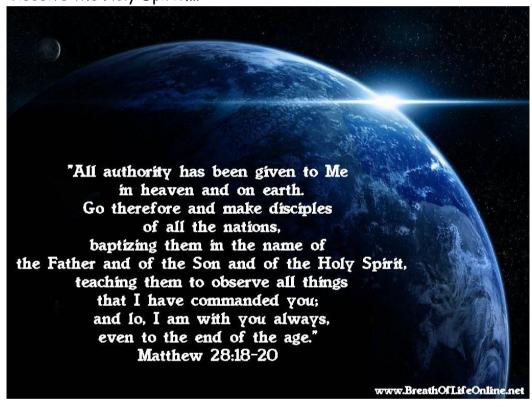
- DO YOU BELIEVE JESUS?
- DO YOU BELIEVE GOD FOR EVERYTHING?
- ARE YOU BORN-AGAIN?
- ARE YOU THE RIGHTEOUSNESS OF GOD IN CHRIST?
- ARE YOU BAPTISED WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT?
- ARE YOU CONSCIOUSLY LED BY GOD'S SPIRIT?
- ARE YOU MAKING DISCIPLES FOR JESUS; AND GAINING FATHER HIS TRUE INHERITANCE FOR THE PRECIOUS 'SEED',

HIS ONLY BEGOTTEN SON, WHICH HE PLANTED IN THE GROUND OF CALVARY?

- ARE YOU PRAYING FOR THE SICK?
- ARE YOU BAPTISING SAINTS IN THE HOLY GHOST?
- DO YOU BELIEVE THE SPIRIT OF THE LORD IS ON YOU, AND GOD IS WITH YOU? ALL THE TIME?

"As the Father has sent Me, so I send you"

John 20:20-22.....20 And when He had said this, He showed them both His hands and His side. The disciples then rejoiced when they saw the Lord. 21 So Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you; as the Father has sent Me, I also send you." 22 And when He had said this, He breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit...."



<u>TO DO:</u> Confess with your mind and your mouth continually, day by day, until you're the very Temperature of your Faith has become HOT.. "Father I believe You every Word You say, In Jesus' Name, Amen".

PRAYER: "In the mighty Name of Jesus, you spirit of unbelief flee from me. I am a Spirit-Son of the Most High God. I am clothed with power from on High; and every person who encounters me, encounters the Presence of the Holy Spirit first. I am transforming my life by renewing my mind to be saturated with God's Truth..."Even greater works shall be done through my life in Jesus' Name than before". I BELIEVE YOU GOD...YOUR WORD AND YOUR SPIRIT WHO LEADS ME. Your Father's eyes are going to and fro, seeing if my heart is perfect towards You.. for You desire to show Yourself mighty on my behalf! I

know You my God; and will do exploits in Your Name... I AM YOUR SPIRIT-SON, Amen."

Sealed only, or both Sealed and Sent?

Part 5. Father God's Inheritance
Rev. John Ballantyne Bluepenguinchurch.co.nz July 2015

Context: The Person and Work of the Holy Spirit within us comes in two parts.. like a set of two bookends. The first is when we are sealed at the "new birth". The second is when we are Baptised in the Holy Spirit.. so that we can move in the power of the Holy Spirit as Jesus showed us. It is a bit like if you went to a shop and purchased a set of bookends, got home and discovered you'd left one behind, you'd go back and pick up the other saying.."Thanks, I'll have that one too..I purchased the complete set". Acts 19:2 He said to them, "Did you receive the Holy Spirit when you believed?" And they said to him, "No, we have not even heard whether there is a Holy Spirit." Note: They had already believed, but they still hadn't been empowered.

The Two bookends:

The Church of Jesus Christ in this century is occupied mainly with those who are sealed with Holy Spirit.. and with few who are Baptized with the Holy Spirit and sent to build God a mighty inheritance. Settle for nothing less, than all that Jesus paid for you to have in the NEW COVENENANT!

- i) <u>Sealed:</u> The Holy Spirit bringing into us, the new heart nature; and the Spirit of Christ. An inward work to complete us in Christ.
- ii) <u>Empowered:</u> We are "clothed with Power ('dunamis') by the Spirit of the Lord to do works from God's Power, to build amongst our friends, neighbours and strangers.

Scriptures that speak of being "sealed" with the Holy Spirit:

Ephesians 1:13 In Him, you (Gentiles) also, after listening to the Message of Truth, the Gospel of your salvation—having also believed, you were sealed in Him with the Holy Spirit of promise, 14who is given as a pledge of our inheritance, with a view to the redemption of God's own possession, to the praise of His glory.

A. 'SEALED' with the Holy Spirit is God's new Covenant mark of His 'ownership' within you...You are "Born-again". God owns you now! Satan owned you through sin before! You become the habitation of God's Spirit.. The whole of you is now Temple of the Holy Spirit. You have a new Authority...(Greek) "Exousia"... you now have the

authority to be called a Son of God, and continually employ Jesus' Name!

Context of the term "sealed": In Jesus' time, when a person purchased a new piece of land, they didn't have paper-work drawn up, or lawyers involved..because after the exchange of the agreed purchase price; the seller, and the new owner went together in COVENANT, where their Word was their bond of agreement; and took a shovel, and dug a square piece of turf out of the purchaser's existing ground; and then went and dug a square out of the seller's ground, putting his own square of turf in the place where it came out; and then taking the fresh square of the new ground back to his home, and placing it on his mantle-piece (or whatever conspicuous place) as a sign, or seal, he was now the new owner of the whole property. That one 'seal' placed in the old ground, meant that whole property is totally purchased, and was a true guarantee, or pledge that it belonged to him. No-one could falsify an exchange of property, because even if they had falsely dug up a 'seal', it wouldn't fit anywhere, and the true owner would disavow any agreement; and the fraud would be known by all as a thief.

Holy Spirit becomes "the treasure" in the field of our life.

So, what does God mean in this for us?

We were spiritually 'bankrupt'.. and sold out to sin. We cried out to God to have mercy on us. Jesus went to The Cross, and without receiving any mercy or grace, took all our sin upon Himself; and presented the price of His Life-Blood to Father in Heaven as the basis of the ultimate new COVENANT to purchase us...and pleaded our case before Father as our legal Advocate. We didn't have a leg to stand on! Legally, through sin we belonged to Satan, and were dead to righteousness and God. Father, by pure Love and Grace agreed to come into Covenant with us through Jesus' shed Blood, and He dug out the "sin-destroyed, hard-stoney soil" of our rebellious heart, nd He gave us His new heart..and then he took His own Spirit and placed Him in our hearts, as a sign He now totally owns us., by Adoption as Spirit-Sons of God. He has personally dug-out our stony heart, replacing it with a soft-heart of good soil in which His Word can be fruitful, and also given us His new Spirit... as He prophesied 600 years before through Ezekiel 36:26 I will give you a new heart and put a new Spirit in you; I will remove from you your heart of stone and give you a soft heart to obey Me.

Ephesians 4:30 30 And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, by whom you were sealed for the day of redemption.

2 Corinthians 1:22

God has set his <u>seal of ownership</u> on us, and placing his Spirit in our hearts as a deposit, guaranteeing what is to come.

<u>2 Corinthians 5:5</u> ⁵ He who has prepared us for this very thing is God, who has given us the Spirit as a guarantee.

Jesus parable about.. "the treasure hidden in the field"

<u>Matthew 13:44</u> Again, the Kingdom of Heaven is like unto treasure hid in a field; the which when a man has found, he hides it, and for the joy of it goes and sells all that he has, and buys that field.

<u>Let's take one possible interpretation of this parable:</u> To Father, whether we know Him, or not; we are His 'own-created' treasure.. His beloved, hidden like a piece of soil with Sonship potential in the vast field of the human race.

In our study of Nicodemus: Jesus finds Nicodemus beginning to seek Him in the direction which leads him to life-saving repentance. He is over-joyed! He turns to Jesus who is the only one who can pay for Nicodemus' sin with his life, but Jesus' time to die for Nicodemus and us all is not yet come. Father with joy places him back in the field of humanity; and then, soon, Jesus, the greatest Treasure this Earth will ever behold.. goes to the Cross of Calvary, as a living-sacrifice for sin and purchases Nicodemus, and every person who will repent of their sin; and places His Spirit within us as proof, not only of Covenant ownership.. but that all He has now belongs to Nicodemus and us; and all that Nicodemus, and we have now belongs to God. Nicodemus, transferred into the Kingdom of God..becomes the living Temple of the Holy Spirit... with the Treasure of Christ's Spirit in the earthen vessel he is. So it is with us.

- Because Holy Spirit has made you His vessel.. you are now Holy! Holy means "set-apart" for God
- <u>Philippians 3:13</u> Brothers, I do not consider myself to have embraced it yet. But this one thing I do: Forgetting what lies behind I strain forward to what lies ahead.

Testimony: The awareness of the need to be empowered for Service by being Baptised in the Holy Spirit after being sealed.

John 7:37-39(NIV)³⁷ On the last and greatest day of the festival, Jesus stood and said in a loud voice, "Let anyone who is thirsty come to me and drink. ³⁸ Whoever believes in me, as Scripture has said, rivers of living water will flow from within them." ³⁹ By this he meant the Spirit, whom those who believed in him were later to receive. Up to that time the Spirit had not been given, since Jesus had not yet been glorified.

<u>Personal Testimony:</u> When Jesus stood in our bedroom at 6am one morning, in 1973.. it followed a seeking after Him for several months, until God's Spirit brought me to a place of repentance for all my sins against God and my fellow-man.. and I handed my sin-stained, dark and unclean life over to Him 100% to be used for His Glory. His forgiveness and total cleansing, accompanied by instant peace was palpable; and then Christ's Spirit came in.. and it was the best, richest, most wonderful moment in the whole of my entire life! When he woke me up, standing there in all His Revelations Glory.. (Revelations 1:17) "one like unto the Son of man, clothed with a garment down to the foot, and girt about His chest with a golden girdle.

¹⁴ His head and his hairs were white like wool, as white as snow; and his eyes were as a flame of fire".. though my sins as scarlet had been, I was transformed to be cleansed white as snow.

The Holy Spirit a few days later led us to a wonderful group of Bible-believing, Spirit-filled, church-attending, Spirit-Sons of God, the next Sunday. From thereon we fellowshipped with them mid-weekly in a house; and grew quickly, but the more time went on, the more I realised there was a difference between them and me. They had Power in the Holy Spirit.. I did not. I began to 'thirst' for the River from Heaven, seeking the Baptism with the Holy Spirit. Mary and I went to a Healing Crusade conducted by Dr. Harry Greenwood, whose teaching was on the very thing this hungry soul required..

The 'Father's Promise' of Jesus filling my life with the Spirit-Power by FAITH..

<u>Luke 11:9ff</u> ⁹ "So I say to you: Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you. ¹⁰ For everyone who asks receives; the one who seeks finds; and to the one who knocks, the door will be opened.

¹¹ "Which of you fathers, if your son asks for a fish, will give him a snake instead? ¹² Or if he asks for an egg, will give him a scorpion? ¹³ If you then, though you are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father in heaven give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!"

<u>Luke 24:49</u> "And behold, I (*Jesus*) am sending forth the promise of My Father upon you; but you are to stay in the city until you are clothed with power from on high."

Acts 1:8 But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you. And you will be my witnesses, telling people about me everywhere--in Jerusalem, throughout Judea, in Samaria, and to the ends of the earth." ('witnesses'..Gk... 'martureo'..from the Greek root word 'martyr')

Acts 2:1 2 And when the day of Pentecost was fully come, they were all with one accord (in unity) in one place.

- ² And suddenly there came a sound from heaven as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled all the house where they were sitting.
- ³ And there appeared unto them cloven tongues like as of fire, and it sat upon each of them.
- ⁴ And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance.

......so, experiencing the positive inner-pressure of the Holy Spirit to go and be filled, I sat and waited with others for the laying-on of hands. I expected that when Dr. Harry laid hands on me, that there would be flashes of light, great sounds, and strong movement. I grasped the edge of the Founders' Theatre seat, and closed my eyes as I felt his hands being laid upon my head.. "Receive the baptism with the Holy Spirit, in Jesus' Name" he fervently prayed. I closed my eyes, clenched my teeth, and held on.. and when I opened my eyes.. I had not only been prayed for, but he was already several people down the

row..and I had felt nothing! I almost said... "Come back, and do it again, nothing has happened".. but I didn't.. and instead took my wife's hand and started to walk out of the Theatre disappointed. It was then I sensed the Holy Spirit say... "Do you receive The Father's Promise by feelings, or by faith?". I felt chided, and replied.. "I have received the Baptism of the Holy Spirit by faith Lord! Thank You!".. and continued on. What a lesson He taught me that night.. to rest by faith in the promises of God, which are "Yes" and "Amen" to us sons who believe.

The next morning when I awoke, I was urged by Holy Spirit to read a portion of Scripture, I knew nothing about from 1 Corinthians 3 16 Don't you know that you yourselves are God's Temple and that God's Spirit dwells in your midst? 17 If anyone destroys God's temple, God will destroy that person; for God's temple is sacred, and you together are that temple.

¹⁸ Do not deceive yourselves. If any of you think you are wise by the standards of this age, you should become "fools" so that you may become wise. ¹⁹ For the wisdom of this world is foolishness in God's sight. As it is written: "He catches the wise in their craftiness"; ²⁰ and again, "The Lord knows that the thoughts of the wise are futile." ²¹ So then, no more boasting about human leaders! All things are yours, ²² whether Paul or Apollos or Cephas or the world or life or death or the present or the future—all are yours, ²³ and you are of Christ, and Christ is of God. ..

I tell you this dear fellow-servant of Jesus...that Word came alive to me, for the first time in my life! I got revelation.. and I called out to my wife.. "Darling.. the Bible is talking to me as though it is God talking!" But more was to follow...

That day, when I went to work as usual, as a Secondary School Teacher, I had been asked by a dear old Christian sister, who ran a "School Christian" program to be a film projectionist for a 'Christian' movie she had selected for the students to view in the Assembly Hall that lunchtime. She had recently heard that I had become a Christian and three weeks before, had asked me to be her 'helper' with the SC Program.. I set the Movie projector up, and ran a test on the Movie., and had a witness from the Holy Spirit that it would put people off Jesus, instead of attract them to it. I cried out to the Lord that I didn't want to be a part of something I believed would not glorify the Lord. Lunchtime came, and it poured with rain, so instead of the students being able to sit outside and have their lunch.. the whole school came into the Hall! I hushed the students, and handed over to her.. and went down to the projector, and at her command switched to project. Nothing happened! I quickly tested everything.. but there was no power! I ran an extension to a totally different electrical circuit outside of the Assembly Hall, where everything worked, and switched "on".. but it there was no power! She became afraid that the students would go out of control, and shouted to me to "do something!". I went to the front of the crowd of over 1000 students, and began to share what Jesus had done for me, and what He could do for them., and then Holy Spirit quickened the passage I had read as a revelation that morning, and I preached it!.. hardly knowing where the next sentence of words were coming from! I finished just as the afternoon bell for class went.. and the students left. The sister came to me, when I got back to the projector, and said.. "Why on earth did it not go?".. I

flicked the switch again as I had tried many time before, and the projector roared into life. She looked at me with a look of annoyed doubt written all over her face, as though I had rigged the whole thing. After hurriedly clearing everything away, I hurried to teach me next class, and I heard Holy Spirit say to me.. "Now, do you believe you are Baptised with the Holy Spirit!". I laughed out loud, and said.. "No doubt whatsoever Lord!" I went home that night, and with amazement shared with Mary how I had preached my first sermon that day under unusual circumstances. She laughed knowingly, at how the Lord had wonderfully worked, her having been a sincere Believer since a child.

TO DO:

- 1. Bless God Believer that you are Sealed with the Holy Spirit as a Spirit-Son of God as His own personal Temple.
- 2. Come to Jesus.. for Father has given Him the privilege of dispensing the Baptism with Holy Spirit to you, as part of His Glory for going to the Cross (John 7:47-49).. and call out to Him.. "Precious Jesus.. giver of the Baptism with Holy Spirit.. I receive from You right now, the Father's Promise.. that whoever asks for the Holy Spirit clothing and Anointing with power from on High on their life shall absolutely receive Him and nothing else. I receive You Holy Spirit, and I welcome You as You come to work the mighty works of God through my totally available life. I sanctify my whole body, mind and Spirit to be set apart from every unrighteousness to be used as instruments of righteousness for Jesus' sake. I will walk by faith, and rest in faith in You.. to be a Joy and a Glory for the Lord God Almighty" Amen. Now..you are sent .. go, and make disciples...and make the Name of Jesus great.. for the Lord is with you.. dear Believer.

No, go and trust Him to always be with you.. Anoint you with power.. move you by His voice in your mind..and build more souls to be an Inheritance for Father.

THE JOY AND POWER OF THE HOLY SPIRIT IN THE CHURCH TODAY. Part 6. Building Father's Inheritance

<u>To Do:</u> Have your own personal Pentecost; and then with Holy Spirit Power do His mighty works through you; with the knowledge that God Himself has called and sent you, to go and labour in the harvest, with a heart brimming with Joy;

and increasing God's inheritance of souls until He takes you home!

John 20:21 Again Jesus said, "Peace be with you! As the Father has sent me, I am sending you."

A.SERVING WITH A JOY MENTALITY

Jesus the happiest and most joyous person on Earth, gives us the same reason to experience this Joy.. the Joy at having the unstoppable power and authority to go on Building the Kingdom of God. It makes our hearts sing! We become.. "the Happiest People on Earth!"

1 Peter 1:7 A Living Joyous Hope

....7so that the proof of your faith, being more precious than gold which is perishable, even though tested by fire, may be found to result in praise and glory and honour at the revelation of Jesus Christ; 8and though you have not seen Him, you love Him, and though you do not see Him now, but believe in Him, you greatly rejoice with joy inexpressible and full of glory, 9obtaining as the outcome of your faith the salvation of your souls....

How did God send Jesus? The same way as He sends you!

<u>Acts 10:38</u> How God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and power, and how he went around doing good and healing all who were under the power of the devil, because God was with him.

To know that you are hitting God's 'bulls-eye' right now.. to know that you personally in your own Church Family, are fulfilling the greatest eternal purpose known to man.. is 'heady' stuff, and fills us with the joy of amazed wonder..and Praise for HIM!

God prophecies over you what is happening right now through you!

<u>Isaiah 55:11ff</u> So will My word be which goes forth from My mouth; It will not return to Me empty, Without accomplishing what I desire, And without succeeding in the matter for which I sent it. <u>12</u>"For you will <u>go out with joy</u> and be led forth with peace; The mountains and the hills will break forth into shouts of joy before you, And all the trees of the field will clap their hands. <u>13</u> Instead of the thorn bush the cypress will come up, And instead of the nettle the myrtle will come up, And it will be a memorial to the LORD, For an everlasting sign which will not be cut off."

<u>Isaiah 58</u> ...<u>11</u>"And the LORD will continually guide you, And satisfy your desire in scorched places, And give strength to your bones; <u>And you will be like a watered garden</u>, <u>And like a spring of water whose waters do not fail</u>.

12"Those from among you will rebuild the ancient ruins; You will raise up the age-old foundations; And you will be called the repairer of the breach, The restorer of the streets in which to dwell. 13"If because of the sabbath, you turn your foot from doing your own pleasure on My holy day, And call the sabbath a delight, the holy day of the LORD honourable, And honour it,

desisting from your own ways, From seeking your own pleasure **And from** speaking your own word,...

<u>Hebrews 12:2</u> "Look unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith.. who <u>for</u> <u>the joy</u> that was set before Him, endured The Cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the

<u>Luke 10:17-20</u> ¹⁷ The <u>seventy-two returned with joy</u> and said, "Lord, even the demons submit to us in your name." ¹⁸ He replied, "I saw Satan fall like lightning from heaven. ¹⁹ I have given you authority to trample on snakes and scorpions and to overcome all the power of the enemy; nothing will harm you. ²⁰ However, do not **rejoice** that the spirits submit to you, but **rejoice** that your names are written in heaven."

Acts 2:46 The Fellowship of Believers

...45 and they began selling their property and possessions and were sharing them with all, as anyone might have need. 46 Day by day continuing with one mind in the temple, and breaking bread from house to house, they were taking their meals together with gladness and sincerity of heart, 47 praising God and having favor with all the people. And the Lord was adding to their number day by day those who were being saved

We are God's now people in a 6,000 year old Family, who have all been called to do the same unchanging thing!

An Illustration today:

The Baptism with the Holy Spirit transforms a whole community of Believers into 'The Church' of joy and power!

<u>Illustration:</u> At a remote tribal village of 200, everyone assembled in the tribal Hall to hear the Gospel of Jesus. The Chief and his family, and elders were all seated right across the front, with the rest of the tribe packing the rest of the bench seats in the building. My small missionary team of six from our own local church far away, were there praying mightily for Holy Spirit to move. As the interpreter carefully translated the message of Hope in Christ, the hearts of the people became convicted to repent of their sins; and at the same time they became increasingly hungry for forgiveness and peace. When the moment came for them to lay their sins at the Cross; be washed clean with the Blood of Jesus The Lamb of God; and to welcome Jesus the King of Glory into their hearts.. they stood as one body..and all received Christ! After a time of immense rejoicing at being sealed in Covenant with Father God.. I shared with them how God now wanted them to be filled with His Power, so those who were now His inheritance, could reach others who could do the same. I led them in prayer.. and then raised my hands to impart unto them all the Gift of the Baptism with the Holy Spirit. At that moment Holy Spirit fell on them, and clothed them all with Power from on High., and the whole lot, including my Team disappeared onto the floor under His Glorious Anointing! I was the only one left standing! All were filled with wonder.. most arose speaking in new tongues.. some children began to prophecy., and there was JOY! O what Joy, Believer! Joy unspeakable and full of

Glory. Much, much later after miracles of many kinds of healings (especially in relationships bringing reconciliation) and deliverance from demonic spirits had taken place.. and much, much Glory given to Jesus The Lamb .. people disappeared back into the night, to their huts.

The next morning, just as the sun was casting its first light, I was woken by the sound of smashing glass, and rending metal, along with the strong voices of many. I got up off my sleeping mat, and went outside to find a large hole had been dug in the ground, and a stream of villagers were bringing idols, and religious pictures of different gods, as well as some religious pictures of Christ, and were smashing them all, and throwing them in their freshly dug pit. One village elder said to me with a sound of victory..."O dear Brother.. we don't need any pictures anymore, for Christ is alive, and His Spirit lives in us.. so everywhere we go, He is always with us".

The Joy in that people, that they had Christ, and they had resurrection Power changed a whole tribe into The Visible Body of Christ.. The Church! Another Pentecost had happened! With sadness we said goodbye, and left them in the care of a native Pastor

B. RETRAINED TO BE SWITCHED "ON" TO HOLY SPIRIT

Once a child has been used to 'doing what it wants', and being moved as it pleases.. it is a big change for it to be retrained to relearn "to do what it's parents want'.. with the respect for Authority that goes with that. It is no different for a Christian Spirit-Son of God who has been used to 'doing as the moment takes them'.. for them to then have to retrain our minds to be continually thinking of Holy Spirit; and being switched "on" to Him and what He wants us to do, or say, whether at work or recreation. We literally 'renew the Spirit of our mind!' to now be the Holy Spirit. Our internal mental 'conversation' now involves Him in everything.

Romans 8 Spirit-led Heirs with Christ

...13 for if you are living according to the flesh, you must die; but if by the Spirit you are putting to death the deeds of the body, you will live. 14 For all who are being led by the Spirit of God, these are sons of God. 15 For you have not received a spirit of slavery leading to fear again, but you have received a spirit of adoption as sons by which we cry out, "Abba! Father!"...

Set your heart to never stop growing in the things of the Spirit of the Lord; and understanding the ways of God!

C. ARE YOU AND YOUR CHURCH PREPARED TO PAY THE PRICE?

Luke 14 The Cost of Presenting Jesus..

...27"Whoever does not carry his own cross and come after Me cannot be My disciple. 28"For which one of you, when he wants to build a tower, does not first sit down and calculate the cost to see if he has enough to complete it?

<u>29</u>"Otherwise, when he has laid a foundation and is not able to finish, all who observe it begin to ridicule him,...

i) Individual Believers in the Body

IT REALLY IS A SMALL PRICE TO PAY TO CLEANSE YOUR TEMPLE.. which will involve you during the time of Grace God will give you.. to crucify old wrong learnt behaviours which if not stopped will grieve Holy Spirit.. hurt your relationship with God, and stop Holy Spirit working through you.. You will be able to tell people all about Jesus, but you will not be able to present Him!

<u>Isaiah 59:1</u> Sin Separates Us in our continuous moment by moment relationship with <u>God</u>...the "distance" becomes immediately noticeable.

1Behold, the LORD'S hand is not so short that it cannot save; Nor is His ear so dull that it cannot hear. 2But your iniquities have made a separation between

dull that it cannot hear. 2But your iniquities have made a separation between you and your God, And your sins have hidden His face from you so that He does not hear....

Romans 12:1 <u>A Living Sacrifice</u> Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God—this is your true and proper worship. ² Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will.

- Not accountable to, or in submission to Holy Spirit's promptings, The Word, God's appointed anointed servants, and your fellow-Believers. The lifestyle of a repentant heart is virtually absent, except when it suits.
- Gambling.. God has to be silenced to do this activity..He wants to be our Provider, and not see a fool and their money soon parted.
- Alcohol.. dulls the senses to Holy Spirit's leadings, and creates a dependency mentality, so that the individual, may mistakenly think they cannot do without it.
- Drugs.. altering the mind the Holy Spirit needs to use.
- Viewing pornography.. meeting lust needs
- Wrong use of the Internet.. "hidden things" of darkness
- Unclean use of your mind.. no covenant of holiness with your eyes, or heart.
- "Put-downs". Racism, sexism, bigotry, favouritism; and demeaning humour
- Condemning, and judging instead of seeking reconciliation first
- Loose tongue.. disrespectful.. irresponsible.. unloving..swear
- Cursing others.. Wishing people dead, or suffering harm (same as killing)
- Lying..dishonest..deceitful..'Truth is not in you'
- Compromise.. hidden, or openly rebellious, double life

- Putting Jesus second to anything.. i.e. not meeting your Christian responsibilities as your first call on your time
- Selective hearing of Holy Spirit's voice
- Stealing from God by not tithing and giving Spirit-led offerings
- Hoarding..building treasure on Earth
- ..and many other things..

ii) The local Church as the Visible Body of Christ

John 17 Jesus Prays for All Believers 20 "My prayer is not for them alone. I pray also for those who will believe in me through their message, 21 that all of them may be one, Father, just as you are in me and I am in you. May they also be in us so that the world may believe that you have sent me. 22 I have given them the glory that you gave me, that they may be one as we are one— 23 I in them and you in me—so that they may be brought to complete unity. Then the world will know that you sent me and have loved them even as you have loved me.

Psalm 133

¹Look! How good and pleasant it is when God's people live together in unity!² It is like precious oil poured on the head, running down on the beard, running down on Aaron's beard, down on the fringes of his robe.³ It is as if the dew of Hermon were falling on Mount Zion. For there the LORD commands His blessing, even life forevermore.

 Refusing to seek and guard Love and unity, overlooking a multitude of sins; and not accepting personal responsibility for answering Jesus' Prayer, but always laying the blame on others so allowing a spirit of division, to stop the Anointing of Holy Spirit, and the Blessings of God. Who in their right mind would want to be answerable to God for that!

Here is an answer that is all-powerful..

Taking Traumas, or repeated sins to 'The Cross'

Temptations that we keep giving into, and repenting of: as well as traumatically induced Behaviours with which we are stuck and we need to be healed from e.g. panic attacks, nightmares, and 'flashbacks'.. coming from traumas and abuses. .. they need to be "finished"!

The Breaking Process: "In the Cross of Christ I Glory"

God designed the Cross as the place where all sin, and sin against us; and traumatic behaviours can be nailed, and destroyed. It has the

• Come in a prayerful state before the Lord

same power today as it did 2,000 years ago.

- Ask the Lord Jesus to make Himself real in His Presence there with you in your minds eye.
- Walk with Him back to that horrible Cross.

- As He watches write down the events that you wish to have destroyed on a piece of paper.
- Then reach down and take that large hammer, and a large nail, and nail your behaviour to The Cross.
- When you are finished.. turn back to Jesus and look at Him.
- Go to Him, and both of you turn your back on The Cross and walk away.
- The next time the trauma tries to represent itself, or that temptation arises... you will discover that the old destroyed behaviour that both you and your Saviour have nailed to The Cross, has lost all its power.. and, if necessary you will resist it, rebuke it.. and both it, and Satan will flee from you!
- GOD BLESS YOU. ENJOY YOUR FREEDOM.. IT COST JESUS HIS LIFE, BECAUSE HE LOVES YOU.. "If The Son shall make you free you shall be free indeed."

D. RECEIVE THE SPIRIT "POWER-TOOLS" OF THE KINGDOM OF GOD, AND BE ESPECIALLY READY TO USE THEM IN THE WORKPLACE.

Holy Spirit works with us in three main ways:

- i) He speaks to our minds God's TRUTH.
- ii) He gives us The Words to say in any situation if we will listen to Him while we are listening to those we are with.
- iii) He uses His "Power-tools" in us, which we have received from Him.. they are called "The Gifts of the Holy Spirit". 1 Corinthians 12:29: "You should seek after the best gifts. But I will show you a way that is much better than any of them!" Ask Holy Spirit in Jesus' Name what Gifts He wishes you to have. He will prompt their name/names to your mind.

<u>Pray to receive the Gifts as you are led.</u> So, being aware that you will be responsible for using them for Christ's Glory, say.." I receive the Gift(s) of....... from You, precious Holy Spirit, In Jesus' Name. I thank You for it, and will use it for God's Glory as you prompt me". Receive them by faith as you have your salvation, and go ready to move in them.

They are:

- 1. The Word of Knowledge
- 2. The Word of Wisdom

- 3. The Gift of Prophecy
- 4. The Gift of Faith
- 5. The Gifts of Healings
- 6. The Working of Miracles
- 7. The Discerning of Spirits
- 8. Different Kinds of Tongues
- 9. The Interpretation of Tongues

<u>Illustration:</u> Father knows where we spend most of our day.. and that is at work, or caring for the home. These gifts are 'tailor-made' for our own situation, to help build His Inheritance.

e.g. One of the Gifts I requested was Word of Knowledge which involves Holy Spirit showing us some circumstance about a person that Father wants to help them with.

Whenever I have gone to plant a Church in a new location, I have done it by 'tent-making' until I could be supported full-time. So, I would do 'casual' Secondary School Teaching. One day in a class of Senior Students I asked Holy Spirit for a Word of Knowledge about a student He was pointing out to me. He said... This student has a brother and a sister, but no father, and her mother is very sick, and this student is sad, worried and distracted. Tell her that Jesus will heal her Mum, and that God is with her, and knows all her circumstances; and will help her to have peace in her heart about all things.. not just now, but forever, because she is a daughter of the Most High". I called her to my table, and quietly asked her to sit in a chair I drew up for her. I told her that God really cared about her and loved her and wanted to encourage her; and would she like to know what He wanted to say to her. She raised her eyebrows in surprise and nodded. I repeated word for word what Holy Spirit gave me. She suddenly burst into tears.. and said.. "how did you know?". I waited for her to calm. I told her I would pray for her. She settled.. and said THANK YOU! She returned to her desk.. and quietly told her friends; who as soon as the recess bell rang, came rushing up, and wanted to know "how God works"... out of just one application of this Divine Power-tool... Here's your inheritance Lord! Since then I have used this Gift, among others a thousand times or more.. on aircraft, in Crusades, in Church, at outreaches, in shops, etc. In some of those situations, I was definitely the last chance that person had for salvation and life. I could tell you of many...e.g. preventing suicides, bringing people back to Christ, saving marriages, encouraging the unbeliever to believe, strengthening the faith of the

E. HAVING YOUR CHURCH FAMILY PRAY "FAITH PRAYERS" IN SUPPORT OF EACH OTHERS INGATHERING; AND TO ACHIEVE THE VISION OF THE WHOLE CHURCH.

- <u>James 1:4ff</u> 6But he must ask in faith without any doubting, for the one who doubts is like the surf of the sea, driven and tossed by the wind. <u>7</u>For that man ought not to expect that he will receive anything from the Lord, <u>8</u>being a double-minded man, unstable in all his ways.
- <u>James 4:2b</u> "You haven't got anything from God because you didn't ask Him.. or else you asked for the wrong motive".
- <u>Jude 20</u> But you, beloved, building yourselves up on your most holy faith, praying in the Holy Spirit, 21 keep yourselves in the love of God, waiting anxiously for the mercy of our Lord Jesus

F. GO AND LABOUR IN THE HARVEST

- Question 1. Do you realise that you are called to labour for the harvest as a labourer?
- <u>Isaiah 6:8</u> Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, "Whom shall I send? And who will go for us?" And I said, "Here am I. Send me!"
- Question 2. Do you realise that there are souls ready to be saved around us right now?
- John 4:34 Jesus said to them, "My food is to do the will of Him who sent Me and to accomplish His work. 35"Do you not say, 'There are yet four months, and then comes the harvest '? Behold, I say to you, lift up your eyes and look on the fields, that they are white for harvest. 36"Already he who reaps is receiving wages and is gathering fruit for life eternal; so that he who sows and he who reaps may rejoice together....
- Question 3. As a true labourer are you also pleading with Heaven, for more like you?
- <u>Luke 10:2</u> And He was saying to them, "The harvest is plentiful, but the labourers are few; therefore beseech the Lord of the harvest to send out labourers into His harvest. <u>3</u>"Go; behold, I send you out as lambs in the midst of wolves.."
- Question 4. Do you realise that all salvation is the work of the Holy Spirit working with and through you.. and when you have Jesus compassion and love for the lost.. when your heart breaks for what breaks His.. then the tears will come.. and the harvest will follow! You are in Covenant relationship with Him.. where He will share all that He has, and is with you! Pray: "Lord, by Your

Spirit break my heart for what breaks Yours!

Illustration: In my first pastorate, we organised a weekly, early morning Prayer Meeting. A group of about 10 faithfully met for about a year, praying for many things including revival. One morning something different happened that we definitely were not expecting. I began to hear the sound of "splot, splot" on those old white-bleached floor boards in the church. Tears began to freely flow .. the Holy Spirit was breaking hearts with love and compassion for the lost.. for the harvest to come in... and later we left, knowing that something different was happening! It did not become obvious at all until the next Sunday morning Church service. Suddenly, during one of the hymns, an older sister fell to the floor.. and I went thelp her and pray for her, but before I could get to her.. others began to fall as well.. At that moment I realised that people weren't dying, they were LIVING! And from that day, revival came to that area.. and the Lord did such mighty works of Power from His Glory, that local churches closed their evening services and came to be immersed in that mighty, miracle Flow from Heaven., which went on for almost three years., and some religious-spirited mankind began to mess it up.

<u>Psalm 126:6</u> Those who go out <u>weeping</u>, carrying seed (*The inspired Word*) to sow, will return with songs of joy, carrying sheaves with them.

<u>Luke 13:34</u> Jerusalem, Jerusalem, you who kill the prophets and stone those sent to you, how often I have longed to gather your children together, as a hen gathers her chicks under her wings, and you were not willing. ³⁵ Look, your house is left to you desolate. I tell you, you will not see me again until you say, 'Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.'

Luke 19:41 As he approached Jerusalem and saw the city, he wept over it.

<u>John 11:34</u> ..and said, "Where have you laid Lazarus?" They said to Him, "Lord, come and see." <u>35</u>**Jesus wept**. <u>36</u>So the Jews were saying, "See how He loved him!"...(and Jesus raised him from the dead!)

JESUS CAN BRING LIFE TO ANY WHO ARE DEAD!

DO NOT PRAY FOR LABOURERS UNLESS YOU HAVE BECOME ONE FIRST.. PRAY FOR YOURSELF UNTIL YOU ARE.. PRAY FOR YOUR CHURCH UNTIL IT IS UNIFIES AS A LABOURER WITH ONE-MIND.. for this is the Day of His Power!

As Father sent Jesus.. He now sends you!

Matthew 28 The Great Commission

...18 And Jesus came up and spoke to them, saying, "All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. 19 Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, 20 teaching them to observe all that I commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age."

Let me Pray for you. co-worker! Bow your knees before Jesus.

"Lord God Most High.. may the Anointing and Power of Your Covenant Spirit come most mightily upon your Servant bowed here before Your Throne.. that this Servant may go forth and labour in your Harvest, and do mighty works for your Glory! May mighty Baptisms of Your Holy Spirit come down and overflow your Servant. May your Servant mightily increase Your Inheritance. May Your servant be a Joy for the Lord.. In Jesus' Name, Amen"
