

The Revelation

of the

GLORY

Teaching Session Notes taken from January 2019

SHILOH Apostolic Training School

REVIVAL MINISTRIES AUSTRALIA

This Manual has been compiled with short hand notes from each publicly taught session of the SHILOH International Training School, January 2019.

These notes can help as an aid with the CDs or DVDs for each session or they can be used as a guide to study the topics and verses mentioned.

This manual is also invaluable as a teaching aid for you to teach directly from the Scriptures, with the help of these notes.

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Our mandate:

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

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WE SHALL REIGN ON THE EARTH

KINGS AND PRIEST TO REIGN ON THE EARTH

Revelation 5:9-10 - The elders sing this song

- This is the voice of God's people who have come from every tribe, tongue, people and nation
- They are speaking to the Lamb
- He was slain, and He redeemed the nations to God by His blood
- The blood was the price of our redemption, to price to buy us back out of slavery to the devil (**Eph.1:7**)
- This Blood takes away all our sins, cleanses us from all unrighteousness (**1 Jn.1:9**)

v.10 – He has made us kings and priests to our God; and we shall reign on the earth

- There will be a body of saints in the earth ruling and reigning with Jesus
- it can seem impossible; how can this happen?
- how do we get out of our "church" background to understand the real purpose of God?

HOW SHALL WE REIGN ON THE EARTH?

It is mistranslated in most modern versions of Bible "kingdom of priests"

- The true reading is that we are "kings and priests to our God"
- We are to rule and reign

Revelation 1:5-6

- Jesus Christ is the...Ruler (Governor) over the kings of the earth
- He is King of kings and Lord of lords (**Rev.19:16, 1 Tim.6:15**)
- To "Him" – who is the "Him"? It is the Christ, the Messiah, the King, the One in whom God would manifest in the flesh, the Son of God (**2 Sam.7:12-14**), the descendant of David
- This One has made us kings (rulers) = the same as the beginning (**Gen.1:26-28** – having dominion)
- He washed us from our sins in His own blood! But He did not stop there!
- He washed away our sins so He could make us kings and priests
- Kings are rulers, exercising government
- All the glory and dominion belong to Him, Jesus the Messiah
- We operate as kings and priests in Him
- He has the glory and the dominion (**Matt.28:18**), we are to go in His authority to make disciples, baptise in the name and teach them to observe all things He commanded

- We are kings and priests to **His God and Father**
- Walking with God, in Christ, that out of us comes rulership and dominion, through servanthood and being the least (**Luke22:24-30**)

UNDERSTANDING KINGS AND PRIESTS

Who is Melchizedek? - Genesis 14:18-20

1. Melchizedek
2. King of Salem
3. Brought out bread and wine
4. Priest of God Most High

King of Righteousness; King of Peace - Hebrews 7:2

- 1. Abraham gave a tithe to Melchizedek by faith
- 2. Melchizedek = "king of righteousness"
- There is no other king of righteousness
- **Jeremiah 23:5-6** – A king will come from David's lineage, and the result will be judgement and righteousness in the earth
- His name will be called "YHWH Tsidkenu", The LORD our Righteousness
- This is the Christ, the Messiah, the Anointed One

In that first meeting between Abraham and Melchizedek, Abraham understood the meaning of the name and that "king of Salem" = "king of Peace"
He knew He was a Priest - so Abraham gave a tithe to Him

A CHANGE OF PRIESTHOOD

Hebrews 7:11 - Under Old Covenant the priesthood was from the lineage of Aaron

- There was promise of another priest arising in the "order of Melchizedek"
- Another priest was to be called
- Aaron and his sons could not fulfil bringing God's people to perfection
- The order of Aaron could not fulfil God's purposes, but they were there pointing to something greater

Hebrews 5:5-6 - The mystery of the Messiah coming as the Son of God

- He is a Priest forever in the order of Melchizedek

Psalm 110:1-4

- YHWH said to my Lord, "Sit at My right hand till I make Your enemies a footstool"
 - Kings sit and rule out of unlimited authority
 - Priests need to stand and work
- v.4** – "You are a Priest forever according to the order of Melchizedek"

There needs to be a changeover - from Aaron to Melchizedek

Zechariah 6:9-13

- Make an elaborate crown (for kings)
- Put it on Joshua the High Priest
- So we have a crown being made for a priest!
- He is the “BRANCH” and He will “branch out” – us, the branches (**John 15:5**)
- He will build the house of YHWH (**1 Tim.3:15**)
- He will build the temple/house – a dwelling
- He shall bear the glory – the King bears the glory
- He will sit and rule on His Throne, a Priest on His Throne
- A King/Priest ruling – now, both offices of King and Priest are in One man
- Priests will be ministering, praying, interceding
- Kings rule, have dominion in a pure way out of their communication with God as priests
- King/Priest is praying ruler

A ROYAL PRIESTHOOD

1 Peter 2:9-10

1. Chosen generation
 2. Royal Priesthood
 3. Holy nation
 4. His own special people
 5. Proclaiming His praises
 6. Now the people of God
 7. A people who have obtained mercy
- “royal” = *kingly, like the king, ruling and reigning*
 - Jesus exercises His priestly ministry to us firstly – washing our sins away by His blood
 - Then He makes us kings, able to rule
 - **Ruling like the king first involves sacrifice**

What is the sacrifice for us now?

How do we continue in this? **Romans 12:1-2**

- We are to offer our bodies as living sacrifices to God
- This is our reasonable service, or the beginning of our worship
- We can do this at the table of the Lord
- We are to stay focused
- This is part of learning to “reign on the earth” – it begins with sacrifice
- The ruling and reigning is very much linked to Sonship, being in maturity as sons

1 Peter 1:18-19 - The priestly basis of our ministry

- We have been redeemed from “aimless conduct” received by tradition from our fathers

- We are redeemed from doing things for no purpose
- It was with the precious blood of Christ/Messiah, as of a Lamb without blemish

Hebrews 13:15 - We are to continue to offer the sacrifice of praise to God...the fruit of our lips, giving thanks to His name

- This is our priestly service

We are not to worry about anything

Matthew 6:25 – Do not worry

5 reasons to not worry

- a) It is unreasonable to worry, there are so many promises of God
- b) It is unnatural to worry, when we worry it actually does negative things to our body, animals do not worry
- c) It is unhelpful, it is actually destructive
- d) It is unnecessary, because God cares for our needs
- e) It is unbelieving, it is the direct opposite of resting in faith in Jesus

The priestly sacrifice has nothing to do with worry, anxiety or fear

- **Phil.4:6-7** – start to give thanks for the situation you are worried about

What is the fruit of your lips?

A SPIRITUAL HOUSE, BUILT OF LIVING STONES

1 Peter 2:5

- We are living stones being built up a spiritual house
- We are a holy priesthood
- We offer up spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus

Hebrews 13:16 - We also do good and share as a sacrifice

**This is our priestly sacrifice that leads us
to be able to reign on the earth!**

THE GLORY OF THE LAMB

JESUS IS THE LAMB

Jesus is referred to as 'the Lamb' 29 times in the book of Revelation

Revelation 13:8 - The Lamb **slain from the foundation of the world**

- There is an eternal reality to this Lamb
- Before God created anything, in Him the Lamb was slain
- God decided from the very beginning to provide the sacrifice necessary for us
- This is the foundation of creation itself
- The very nature of God is revealed in this Lamb

Redeemed by His blood

1 Peter 1:18-20 - You were not redeemed with corruptible things

- We are saved from aimless conduct received by tradition from our fathers
- V19 – redeemed with the precious blood of Messiah, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot
- He was foreordained before the foundation of the world, but manifest in these last times for you; in eternity, it was done in God
- It happened in history at the appointed time

2 Timothy 1:9-11 - He saved us and called us...this grace was given to us in Messiah Jesus before time began - Now it has been revealed, Jesus has appeared

John the Baptist's revelation

John 1:29-36 - Behold the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world

- **v.30** – This is He...He is preferred before me, for He was before me
- **v.31** – John the Baptist's ministry was to reveal the Lamb
- John saw the Spirit descending and remaining upon the Lamb
- **v.33** – the Lamb is the baptiser with the Holy Spirit
- The Lamb of God is the Son of God

How did John the Baptist get this revelation that the Messiah would be the Lamb of God?

The first born of the flock - Genesis 4:4

- Abel brought the firstborn of the flock for his offering
- Jesus is often referred to as the Firstborn (**Heb 1:6**)
- The firstborn of the flock is the sacrifice that God respects.
- **Romans 8:29** - ...that He might be the firstborn among many brethren
- A position of sonship and a position of sacrifice

YHWH will provide - Genesis 22:7-8

- The account of Abraham sacrificing his promised son
- God will provide for Himself the Lamb for a burnt offering
- All this understanding would have been in John the Baptist's heart when he declared, "Behold the Lamb of God"
- **v.14** – Abraham called the place The-LORD-Will-Provide

Delivered by the Blood of the Lamb - Exodus 12

- The final plague was the death of the firstborn sons
- The Israelites were to take a lamb for a household
- God has provided a lamb
- V.5 – a lamb without blemish (perfect, sound)
- V.13 – the blood shall be a sign for you on the houses where you are
- They were delivered by the blood of a lamb
- Jesus is the Passover Lamb (**1 Cor 5:7-8**)
- Now we can be unleavened – a new lump
 - the lamb redeemed the firstborn sons of Israel

We are the church of the firstborn - Hebrews 12:23

- We have been redeemed into the position of firstborn sons

Prophetic word fulfilled - Isaiah 53:7

- He was led as a lamb to the slaughter
- He opened not His mouth
- v.8 – the lamb was slain
- v.10 – resurrection – He lived
- A sacrificial nature – He laid down His life and was raised into the position of all authority

Acts 8:32 - The Ethiopian read from Isaiah

- Philip preached Jesus the Lamb of God to him
- God's authority and dominion comes through the nature of the Lamb

THE LAMB

- An animal of sacrifice, innocent, without blemish, it does not rebel or even kick against going to slaughter
- The Messiah is not a tyrannical, ferocious beast – He is a Lamb

We are to have the 'lamb nature'

Luke 10:2-3 - The harvest is great but the labourers are few

- Jesus said, "Behold, I send you out as lambs among wolves"
- We are to have the nature of the Lamb
- This nature will overcome the beasts around us

Romans 8:35-37 - We are accounted a sheep for the slaughter

- Yet in all these things we are more than conquerors through Him who loved us
- In God this is the way to rule and reign

Philippians 2:5-11 - Let this mind be in you which was also in the Messiah Jesus

- He made Himself of no reputation
- He humbled Himself
- Obedient to the point of death
- **This is the nature of the Lamb**
- Therefore, God has highly exalted Him and given Him the name above every other name

This priestly sacrifice gave Him the right to rule. He was willing to give Himself as an offering.

What is the glory of the Lamb?

John 12:27-32 - Jesus knew the purpose

- God is glorified in the sacrifice of a lamb
- Jesus, as the lamb on the cross, manifested the glory and nature of God

We overcome the devil by the blood of the Lamb (Rev 12:11)

- It was through this sacrificial act that the devil was judged and cast out
- All will come to the Lamb
- He has destroyed all our enemies

The good news is that there is a Lamb on the throne. The ruler of the kingdom is the Lamb who died for you.

A further look at the glory of the Lamb

1) The Lamb is on the throne - Revelation 5:5-6

- Jesus is the Lion of the tribe of Judah
- He has prevailed
- In the midst of the throne and of the elders, a Lamb as though it had been slain
- the king we worship bears the marks of that sacrifice
- This lamb had 7 horns (complete power and authority)
- 7 eyes – the 7 spirits of God sent out into all the earth
- He releases the Spirit – the fullness of the Spirit of God is coming from the Lamb

2) The Lamb is worshiped – Revelation 5:8-13

- You are worthy to take the scroll and open its seals
- Redeemed us to God
- Made us kings and priests to our God
- We shall reign on the earth
- Worthy is the Lamb who was slain
- V.13 – every creature saying, “Blessing and honour and glory and power...to Him who sits on the throne, to the Lamb”

3) The Lamb is to be feared – Revelation 6:15-17

- Men hide themselves from the wrath of the Lamb
- **wrath** – means violent passion
- the Lamb has the right to judge everybody – he exhibited perfect love on the cross

4) The Lamb is the Great Shepherd – Revelation 7:16-17

- We get through tribulation by making our clothes white in the blood of the Lamb
- The Lamb in the midst of the throne will shepherd them
- He won't allow us to hunger or thirst
- He will lead us to healing and restoration
- Jesus, the Messiah, the Great King, comes as the Lamb

5) The Lamb has a wife – Revelation 19:7-9

- The marriage of the Lamb has come, and His wife has made herself ready
- She was arrayed in fine linen – the righteous act of the saints (through faith of the Son of God)
- Blessed are those who are called to the marriage supper of the Lamb

6) The Lamb's wife is a city - Revelation 21:9-11

- the New Jerusalem descending out of heaven
- She will bear the glory of God
- We are being prepared to marry the Lamb – being brought into the image of God

Those who are with the Lamb are called, chosen and faithful.

We are to be totally joined to the Lamb.

YOU ARE THE TEMPLE OF GOD

We are the temple of God. You are the temple of God.

1 Corinthians 3:16 - Do you not know that you are the temple of God and that the Spirit of God dwells in you?

"*Temple*" in Old Testament is 2 different Hebrew words

"*Temple*" in New Testament also has 2 different Greek words

Old Testament words:

"Temple" – SC# 1004 **Heb. 'bayith' – house**

- Mostly translated as "temple" but is actually house, "temple" is bad translation
- God wanted a "house" to be built, not a (pagan) temple

"Temple" **Heb. 'heykel'** – SC #1964 – **a large public building, a palace or a temple**

- This can refer to the whole temple complex

What is the difference between a temple and a house?

- Temples have a connotation with the demonic, idols are worshiped in temples
- "House" has got more to do with family
- A house is where you live
- God wanted a "house" to be built for Him in Jerusalem
- The "house" was where God dwells

New Testament words:

Greek words for "temple"

'hieron' SC #2411 Gk. – **a sacred place, a temple, refers to the whole sacred enclosure including the outer courts, porches and portico (the building complex)**

- Jesus never actually went into the Holy Place or Holy of Holies, He was not a "priest"
 - Jesus taught in the outer parts of the temple

Matthew 26:55 – Jesus taught in the "temple", but this was in the outer court area, in the building complex

Matthew 4:5 – devil set Jesus on the pinnacle of the "temple" (the building)

Luke 21:37 – Jesus was teaching in the "temple" (complex)

John 8:20 – Jesus spoke in the treasury, as He taught in the "temple", there was a treasury area of the "temple"

John 2:13-22

v.14 – Jesus drove them all out of the “temple” (complex, out of the outer parts of the temple precinct – **Zech.14:21**)

v.16 – “My Father’s House” – the temple in Jerusalem was God’s House

- do not make it a house of merchandise

v.19 – Destroy this “temple” (different word, same as **1 Cor.3:16, this is “sanctuary”**), and in three days I will raise it up!

v.20 – 46 years to build this “temple” (talking of the building again)

“Temple” – SC#3485 ‘*naos*’ – *the temple itself, the actual sanctuary, specifically referring to the inner sanctuary, the shrine, the place where worship is entered into*

- This was the word used by Jesus in **John 2:19**
- Jesus’ body was God’s inner sanctuary in the earth, where God can be contacted and communicated with

“*naos*” comes from “*nuio*” – to dwell

The Temple is the “dwelling place” - the place to live

Revelation 15:5

- The “temple” of the tabernacle of the testimony of heaven was opened
- “temple” = sanctuary, the inner shrine, which is the Holy of holies
- If the Holiest is open in heaven you see the full revelation of God
- The “tabernacle of the testimony” is literally the “tent of witness”
- When you go into the tent there is a witness of god speaking
- This was the description of the Tabernacle in **Ex.40:34-35**

v.6 – Out of the inner shrine, the sanctuary (“temple”) comes angels (messengers, Gk. “*aggelos*”)

“*naos*” is where the Presence dwells

- It is where the ark of the covenant is revealed
- It is where God dwells

“*naos*” is used 45 times in the New Testament

“You are the temple of God”

1 Corinthians 3:16

- The Spirit of God dwells (*nuio*) in you
- This is of no use to you if it is just an intellectual knowledge

v.17 – If anyone defiles the dwelling place (the inner sanctuary) of God, God will destroy him.

- the dwelling (temple) of God is holy

➤ ‘**I am the dwelling place of God, the Spirit of God dwells in me’**

Romans 8:9 - You are not in the flesh but in the Spirit if indeed the Spirit of God dwells in you

- If He dwells in you He will quicken your mortal body
 - **Being a Christian is having the Spirit of Christ in you**

1 Corinthians 6:19 - Your body is the inner sanctuary (temple) of the Holy Spirit who is in you; We are not our own

v.20 – you were bought at a price

- glorify God with your body and spirit
 - **Our body and spirit belong to God**

Romans 12:1 - We are to present our bodies to God as a living sacrifice

- We are not to allow anything to defile our bodies
- This is our reasonable, rational service, the beginning of our worship
- Acknowledge you belong to Him
 - **Our bodies are His inner sanctuary where His Presence dwells**

No agreement with idols

2 Corinthians 6:16

- What agreement has the temple (the inner sanctuary of God) have with idols?
 - We are the dwelling place and inner shrine of the living God
 - We need to know how to conduct ourselves in the house of God... **1 Tim.3:15**
 - God dwells in us and walks among us, sharing testimony together
 - The basis for being the dwelling place is that we separate ourselves from idols
- v.17** – so we need to come out from among them and be separate
- Come out
 - we need to come out of denominational coverings and come under the open heavens where He will receive us
- v.18** – God will be a Father to us and we will be sons and daughters

2 Thessalonians 2:4

- The Man of Perdition...sits in the “temple” of God, showing himself that he is God
- “temple” = inner sanctuary of God, within the “temple”, practicing witchcraft
- “temple” here is not the “building in Jerusalem”
- Do not have idols in the heart as this is where God dwells, no room for idols
- This is a reference to someone claiming to be God, with strange spiritual beliefs enshrining something else in their hearts
- Beware of false teaching

The Presence of God is in the ‘inner sanctuary’

Isaiah 6:1 - Isaiah saw the Lord sitting on a Throne

- What is in the Temple? A Throne
- The train of His robe filled the “temple” (*heykel*)

- When we enter into the Presence of God in the inner sanctuary then we begin to see all things filled with the glory (**v.3**)
- When our eyes are open, we will see the glory every day, everywhere we go
- There is an invisible realm that God wants us to know

Corporate expression of the temple

Ephesians 2:18-22 - We are in the family now and have access by the Spirit

- We are members of the household (the house where you live, extended families as well as servants) of God; We are members of His family
- We must be built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets
- "having been built" – it is done
- We are part of the restoration of apostles and prophets
- Jesus Christ Himself is the Chief Cornerstone – this means that the whole building is fitted together because we are all connected to Jesus
- We as living stones are built into the corner, Jesus the Messiah
- As this happens, **we grow into a holy temple** (sanctuary, dwelling place) in the Lord
- This is the worldwide church, born again, Spirit filled people growing into a holy dwelling place
- **We are being built together** – this is to be a dwelling place for God in the Spirit (the local fellowships, house churches, the weekly gathering of households to worship Jesus)

There are many references in Revelation to the “inner Sanctuary”

Revelation 3:12 – being a pillar in the “temple” (inner sanctuary)

- A pillar is a steadfast support
- We will be this if we overcome

7:15 – serving day and night in the “temple” (not a building in heaven, it is the dwelling place of God)

11:19 – the “temple” (the inner shrine of God’s Presence) of God was opened

- It is already opened; The ark of His covenant was seen

14:15 & 17 – angel/messenger coming out of the “temple”

15:5 – inner shrine of tabernacle of testimony in heaven was opened

- The mystery is no longer hidden from you
- God can be clearly seen!

15:6 – the angel/messengers came out of this place again

16:1 – A loud voice coming from the temple

16:17 – ‘It is done’

The Lord God Almighty and the Lamb are the ‘temple’

Revelation 21:1-3 - The city is the Bride coming down out of heaven, God dwells with them

v.22 – John did not see any “temple” (any inner shrine) in the city

- The Lord God Almighty and the Lamb are its “temple” (its inner shrine)
- The city did not need the sun or the moon
- Glory illuminated it and the Lamb is its Light

v.25 – its gates are always open

v.26 – nations will bring glory and honour into the city, nothing that defiles will enter it

Rev.22:1-5

- A pure river flowed through the city
- A tree of life; Leaves for healing of nations
- One throne
- They (the servants) see His face and have His name on them
- They shall reign forever

HEARING FROM GOD

GOD WANTS A RELATIONSHIP WITH HIS PEOPLE

- God wants to speak with you
- God is a good Father and wants a relationship with every single person
- Every good relationship is built on good communication
- God has always wanted an intimate, vibrant relationship

John 4:24 - God is Spirit, He has a voice and wants to be heard

GOD SPEAKS

Genesis 1:3 - This is the first occurrence of "***Then God said...***"

- God spoke, and when God speaks something happens!
- "***Let there be Light***" – and there was light
- When God speaks it is a creative force; His voice is creative

v.27 - God created man, a male and a female

- He created man (man and woman) in His image, to have a fellowship and deep union with mankind

v.28 - God blessed them and said...

- God speaks to the man and the woman He created and gives them instruction, unfolding His plan and will for them. God communicated to them by speaking
- man is the only created being that He speaks with, having a relationship
- God spoke through a donkey, He spoke to a worm – but He did not have two-way relationship with them

When God Speaks, we need to obey

Genesis 3:8 – the context is that of Adam and Eve disobeying God's instruction

- They heard the sound (literally "voice") of YHWH God walking in the garden
- We can hear the voice of God but sin causes us to hide from Him and separates us from Him

v.9 - God calls to Adam "Where are you?"

v.10 - Adam and God are having a conversation

- God hears us speak and He can speak to us

What does His voice sound like?

In the Old Testament

Psalm 29:1

- The voice of YHWH is over the waters; the God of glory thunders

- The voice of YHWH is:
- Powerful
- Full of majesty
- Breaks cedars of Lebanon
- Divides flames of fire
- Shakes the wilderness
- Makes deer give birth
- Strips forests bare
- Everyone in His temple says "Glory!"

Ezekiel 43:2 – The glory of the God of Israel...

- *His voice was like the sound of many waters*

In the New Testament

Revelation 1:15 – One like Son of Man... *His voice as the sound of many waters*

- His voice is powerful

This is a picture of what His voice is like: powerful and loud

What else is His voice like?

A still small voice - 1 Kings 19:11-13

- YHWH passed by; YHWH not in the strong wind
- YHWH not in the earthquake; YHWH not in the fire
- Then "a still small voice" (literally "a delicate whispering voice")
- He speaks to His people in a delicate whispering voice

- God speaks powerfully and in a loud voice
- God also speaks in a gentle whisper, as a thought coming into our heart

As a man talks to his friend

Exodus 33:9-11 - YHWH talked with Moses

- He spoke to Moses face to face as a man speaks with his friend
- God wants to speak to us in the same way

In times past God spoke to His people through the prophets, not to everyone on an individual basis

- But it is different now

How does God speak to us?

Through His Son - Hebrews 1:1-2

- Now God speaks to us by His Son; God speaks to us through Jesus
- We can all hear His voice!
- If we are born again, baptised, filled with Spirit, then we can have an intimate relationship with God, hearing Him speak to us

Through His Spirit - Romans 8:14

- Sons of God are led by Spirit of God; God speaks to us by His Spirit
- We are the temple of God, the house of God
- He speaks to us in the temple!

Do you believe that Christ is in you? (**Colossians 1:27**)

- Then you can hear God speak to you as He is in you

He speaks from His temple - Isaiah 66:6

- A voice from the temple, the voice of YHWH
- God speaks from the temple: We are the temple, He will speak from us
- The word is near you, in your mouth and in your heart (**Rom.10:8**)

HEARING HIS VOICE

John 18:37 -All who are of the truth hear His voice

- If you are of the truth you will hear His voice
- Never say, "I cannot hear from God", that is a lie of the devil
- If you are of the truth you will hear Him

John 10:3-5, 16 - His sheep hear His voice, He knows them by name

- Did you obey His voice the last time you heard Him? If not, that can be a stumbling block to hearing further
- His sheep do not listen to the voice of strangers
- We know His voice through our relationship with Him
- All will come together, Jew and Gentile, by all hearing His voice

WHAT ARE SOME WAYS THAT THE LORD SPEAKS TO US?

1. Bible

- The Word is God speaking to us
- **2 Tim.3:16** – all Scripture is given by inspiration of God, it came from God
- Come to the Scripture to hear from God
- If we need teaching, reproof, correction or instruction, come to the Scripture
- It is a book of wisdom and reveals God and His ways with mankind

An example was Noah

- He heard from God and obeyed
- He believed God and God's word and he brought salvation

The Word of God reveals the nature of God and His character

Psalm 119:105 - God's word is a lamp to our feet and a light to our path

- His word makes things clear and brings understanding

John 16:13 - Jesus said He would give Holy Spirit to guide us into all truth; the Holy Spirit helps us understand what is written and leads us into the truth

By reading the Scriptures you are able to receive a "rhema" word, hearing God speak to you. A word will "jump from the page", being enlivened by the Holy Spirit

2. God speaks by dreams and visions

Joel 2:28 - God has promised to speak to us by dreams and visions

- this will come to whoever believes

Acts 2:17 - this prophecy of Joel was fulfilled here on the day of Pentecost

- this is now!
- From Pentecost till now we can expect God to speak to us in this way
- we need to then learn from God how to interpret what God is saying through the dream or vision
- we need to ask the Holy Spirit to help us
- God very often corrects us through dreams
- Write dreams down even when you do not understand them because later you may get understanding and it may be for a later time

Genesis 37:5 - Joseph had dreams of things to come

- Joseph also was given the ability by God to interpret dreams
- Joseph was able to interpret dreams of the two men (the baker and butler) in the prison (**Genesis 40**)
- How did Joseph interpret dreams? It was by the revelation of the Spirit of God
- We need to wait on God and ask Him for understanding

John 16:13 - Holy Spirit will tell us things to come

Dreams can bring a warning

Matthew 2:12-15 - God also warned wise men through a dream

- God warned Joseph twice through dreams
- Joseph obeyed the word of the Lord through the dream and saved the life of Jesus as a Child

Dreams give direction and encouragement

Acts 10:9-16 - God spoke to Peter in a trance

- It is a vision, you are not asleep but awake
- In the vision Peter heard a voice; Peter knew it was the Lord
- Three times the vision came as he was awake
- Peter was seeking God and God spoke in this way

What should we do with a dream or vision?

- We need to seek Him further for understanding
- If you know a person who has grace to interpret dreams you can share with them
- What God speaks will always line up with Scripture, the Word
- God will never contradict His word
- God will speak out of His nature and character, He is consistent

Habakkuk 2:1-2 - We are encouraged to “watch and see”

- This is “waiting on God”
- God is looking for intimacy, do not be impatient, if you are not getting any communication from God then wait a bit more
- Pray the vision, the prophecy, into place

The prophetic word in a meeting

- It will encourage those present, be in agreement with Scripture and leave people with peace (**1 Cor.14:3**)
- God never brings doubt or confusion
- He is the Prince of Peace
- It is not to condemn
- God does not speak to unsettle us by bringing condemnation or no hope
- God speaks peace even in correction

3. Circumstance (see session 16b)

Use a Journal

A good practice is to have a journal, when pouring out your heart to God very often He will interrupt you and begin speaking

Prophecy begins by having His thoughts begin to run through your mind and you begin to verbalize them

God speaks by putting things in your spirit, you know you should do something – you feel compelled to do something in your spirit – this is having an “inner witness”

Being led in this way can be a manifestation of the “word of knowledge”

SOME HINDRANCES TO HEARING FROM GOD

1. Deliberate sin

Isaiah 59:2 - Your iniquities have separated you from your God

- Disobeying the Holy Spirit will hinder you, We need to repent and be washed clean
- **1 John 1:7-10** – we need to walk in the light and be cleansed

2. Unforgiveness

1 John 1:9 - If we have unforgiveness in our life we must repent as this will block us

3. Wrong relationship between man and wife or another person – 1Peter 3:6

4. Selfish motives

James 4:3 – asking out of selfishness will hinder you

5. Involvement with other gods

- Idol worship, yoga, meditation, occult practices, witchcraft, video games

God wants a relationship

How are we to listen?

1. Set time aside to seek God (put your phone away)
2. Pray in the Spirit
3. Read the Word asking God for revelation (**Eph.1:17-19**)
4. Expect God to hear you and expect Him to speak to you (have a journal recording this) – and remember to give Him thanks!!!

FROM GLORY TO GLORY

Out of the Old Covenant into the New Covenant

2 Corinthians 3:1-18

- Out of the letter to be under the Spirit of God
- We now read the Word with unveiled faces;
- This New Covenant is powerful and life-giving

2 Corinthians 3:17-18 - The Lord is the Spirit

1 John 5:7 – three bearing witness in heaven; Father, Word and Holy Spirit and these three are one

2 Corinthians 3:1

- Paul the apostle saying "**do we need letters of commendation?**"

v.2-6 - we are New Covenant people under the law of the Spirit

- no longer having to obey a set of rules but obeying the inward law by the Spirit

Jer.31:33-34 – New Covenant promises...law put in our mind and written on our hearts

- "you are a letter (epistle) of Messiah (the King)" – we are written by the King
- written by the Spirit of the living God on tablets of flesh, of the heart
- we must be born again, by the Spirit, to enter the kingdom (**Jn.:3-3-5**) = repenting and believing (**Mk.1:14-15**) – this is a **heart** matter

v.4 - **we have this confidence and trust** that this is what God is doing, changing our hearts

Ez.36:25-28 – God takes out the heart of stone and puts in a heart of flesh, a heart that is tender towards God

- He also promised to put His Spirit in us;
- born again by the Spirit and baptised by the Spirit
- God does this, Jesus speaks to us by the Spirit and we respond to Him
- this is how the glory touches us
- you can be involved in a lot of activities but not be being changed
- we are changed by the glory; it is a matter of the heart
- Jesus is bringing many sons to glory (**Heb.2:10**)
- we are not to be "stuck in glory" but going from "glory to glory"
- when the glory is revealed in that inner chamber of your heart, then we change

v.5 - our sufficiency is from God

- **Matt.16:18** – "I will build My church" – Jesus said He would do it
- **Jn.6:45** – "we will all be taught by God"; God is the One that is doing this work
- He is revealing His glory in our inner person
- the glory changes us, the manifestation of Jesus in our hearts changes us

2 Corinthians 3:6 - this is what qualifies us; **God makes us sufficient as ministers of the New Covenant**

- we are ministers of the Spirit of God
- we need the intimate relationship with God by His Spirit in our inner man

Jn 2:11 – Jesus manifested His glory and they believed in Him

- "Christ in us" is the hope of glory
- the people of God cry "Glory" – **Ps.29:9**
- Jesus said, "My words are spirit and they are life" – **Jn.6:63** – We minister the Word by the Spirit; We are led by the Spirit to fulfil the Word
- We carry the glory in us and minister Him to others
- The Lord is the Spirit and He lives in us

v.7-8 - the ministry of the Spirit will be more glorious

v.9 - the ministry of condemnation had glory

- the law condemned us to death revealing our sinfulness
- the ministry of righteousness exceeds more in glory

v.10-11 - there is no comparison with the exceeding glory of the New Covenant

- this glory makes us sons (**Hb.2:10**)

v.12-14 - the veil is taken away in Christ

- we see the reality of the Scriptures when we are in Christ
- we are bold to speak when we are touched by the glory
- we are not in a system but the reality, walking with Jesus

Where is this veil?

- In Old T Moses had the veil over his face so people would not see it
- Now the veil is taken away from our spiritual eyes in Christ
- Now we are able to "behold in a mirror the glory of the Lord"
- Our spiritual eyes are opened, we are able to look upon and reflect the glory

The veil of our spiritual eyes taken away

Ephesians 1:17-18 - Father of glory gives us Spirit of wisdom and revelation

- This "enlightens the eyes of our understanding" – taking the veil away
- This is done so we can know "the hope of His calling, and what are the riches of the glory of His inheritance in the saints"

2 Corinthians 3:17-18 - When we are beholding the glory of the Lord, we are being transformed

- "*transformed*" = Gk 'metamorphoo' – to change, be transformed, like a caterpillar to a butterfly, being changed from one substance to another – once limited to the earth but now able to soar in the heavens

- “to the same image” – to the image of the Lord
- This change is happening by the glory in us
- We once had the nature of the earthly man, Adam. Now we are partaking in the nature of the second Adam, the Lord from heaven (**1 Cor.15:47-49**)

By the Spirit we are:

- a) Born again – children
- b) Baptised and empowered by Spirit – growing
- c) Receiving the Spirit of Sonship – placed into maturity, being led continually by the Spirit, operating as Kings and Priests to our God

We are to grow up! Institutional church limits the growth of the saints

We are to be able ministers of the New Covenant by the Spirit, growing from glory to glory
In being a king and a priest to our God we need to first rule over our own selves, ruling our tongue, ruling our soul.

The stages of growth from glory to glory

1 Jn 2:12-14 – children, young men and fathers

- As the glory works in us, relating to Jesus, feeding on His Word and being moved by His Spirit, we grow

1 Pet.2:2 – as children we feed on the pure milk and then do what it says

- We must obey what God is telling us to do if we are to grow

We are to grow

Ephesians 4:17-24 - No longer walking as Gentiles

- As children we learn to put off some things
- We have repented, believed on Him & been baptised, now Jesus is cleaning us up

Eph.4:25-32 - in the beginning stages of our walk with the Lord we are to:

- **put off habits of old life** - put off the old man
- put off bad language, put off drunkenness and be sober and filled with the Spirit
- we put off the former conduct, former behaviours of the old man that is corrupted by deceitful lusts (**v.22**)
- we are to be renewed in the spirit of our mind (**v.23**) – listen to the Holy Spirit in your mind
- **put on the new man** (Jesus), which is created according to God in true righteousness and holiness (**v.24**) – this is the way into more glory
- you know you are on track when your flesh is suffering – there will be more glory revealed
- lying, getting angry is all of the flesh (works of the flesh – **Gal.5:19-21**)
- “reactions” normally come out of the flesh
- we need to calm down, listen to the Spirit and respond out of what He shows us
- let no corrupt word proceed out of your mouth – speak grace-filled edification – Jesus did what He saw the Father doing and spoke what He heard the Father speaking

- we are to listen to the Holy Spirit and speak what He shows us

Young men

- Young men are strong spiritually
- They are strong in the Lord and in the power of His might – **Eph.6:10**
- They overcome the wicked one by the abiding Word
- They are learning to walk free of the old man
- They are working with the fathers of the faith
- They are members of the Body of Messiah
- As they walk in that Body of people, they are receiving the ministries Jesus gave (**Eph.4:11**)
- They are allowing those ministries and elders to minister Christ to them so they can grow from glory unto glory
- The goal is many sons to glory
- You will not come to glory if you do not submit in the Body and receive the graces of those ministries
- We have somewhere to go

We are all sons of God through faith in the Messiah Jesus **Gal.3:26**

- sons are those who have “put on Christ” – this first happens through baptism
- we are all one in Christ
- this makes us Abraham’s Seed and heirs (those who will inherit)

Stages – Galatians 4:1-2

- children are heirs but do not inherit while they remain children
- children are under guardians and stewards until the appointed time of the Father

- Gal.4:4-7** - we were redeemed to receive the adoption (the placement) as sons (in maturity) – which Biblically was the age of 30
- Sons (who have been “adopted”) have the same authority as the Father and can walk in the inheritance
 - The Spirit of Adoption is the Holy Spirit, the Spirit of Jesus Christ, the Spirit of His Son
 - Jesus was always the Son of God yet He needed to grow, He was subject to His earthly parents, and then He was baptised at 30 years where He was “adopted”/placed as the Son
 - From that moment on Jesus as the Son began to walk in His inheritance
 - He is the pattern for us as we grow from little children to young men to fathers

There is freedom to grow

2 Corinthians 3:17-18

- There is freedom to grow to be everything that Jesus has called us to be
- There is liberty by the Spirit to grow!
- There is **nothing to hold us back from going from glory to glory**

- If your inabilities, your inferiorities and insecurities are holding you then you need to repent because you have liberty to grow in the Spirit to be in the image of the Lord

2 Cor.3:18

- **we all** = that means all of us, no matter what age, stage, gender...
 - **with unveiled face** – nothing can stop us
 - we **behold the glory of the Lord**
 - we are **being changed/transformed** - if we are not being changed, we need to shake ourselves
- **let Him transform you**, obey the Lord and let the glory be seen more and more in you
- we are equipped by the glory to go out
 - we are going out in His power, we are made sufficient by the Spirit to be able ministers of the New Covenant
 - we are fellowshipping in that inner place where the glory is
 - we are hearing the voice of God in the inner sanctuary and being moved by Him
 - we are going **from glory to glory**
 - we are being **transformed into His image**, we will move in a greater degree of power as we are moved by Him
 - **just as by the Spirit of the Lord**

GLORY IN THIS

To understand and know YHWH - Jeremiah 9:23-24

- Let not the wise glory in wisdom
- Not the mighty glory in might
- Not the rich glorying in their riches
- We are to “glory in this” – that we understand and know YHWH (the Eternal God)
- Understanding who He is and what His purpose is – He exercises lovingkindness, judgement and righteousness in the earth

“Glory” means ‘to praise, to shine, to boast, to rave, to celebrate’

WHAT DOES IT LOOK LIKE TO GLORY IN THIS?

We are going to look at the life of Jesus, He is the pattern

- We are to glory in our relationship with Him (understanding and knowing Him)
- Jesus as the pattern had that relationship with the Father, as a man He was showing us how to relate to God as a Son to a Father

“know” (**Jer.9:24**) – acquainted with, to know by experience, to perceive, to see

- Jesus knew what the Father was doing through His relationship with Him

Jesus did not boast in His own strength or power, or in the miracles He performed

- He ‘raved on’ about His Father!

1) Jesus gloried in the reality that He was never alone (never acting independently)

John 5:17 - Jesus had just healed a man on the Sabbath at the Pool of Bethesda

- Jesus said, “My Father has been working...and I have been working”
- Jesus never acted alone – He was together with the Father, working with the Father

John 8:16 - “I am not alone but I am with the Father who sent Me”

- What He judged was true because He was with the true
- This was Jesus’ boast, “I am with the Father”

v.28-29 - Jesus spoke what the Father taught Him

- the Father taught Jesus, gave Him the unction of what to speak
- Jesus boasted of His relationship with the Father

John 16:32 - I am not alone. The Father is with Me.

- They remained together and Jesus gloried in this

2) Jesus gloried in the fact that the Word He brought was not His own

John 7:16 - Jesus said His doctrine was not His but the Father's who sent Him

- It was the Father's message

v.17-18 - Jesus did not speak independently

- Jesus never sought His own glory
- Jesus brought the doctrine of the Father

John 12:49-50 - Father gave the command of what Jesus should say and speak

- His command brings everlasting life
- Jesus was hearing the Father and releasing the Word that He heard

3) Jesus gloried in that He could do nothing of Himself

John 5:19 - The Son can do nothing of Himself

- The Son only does what He sees the Father doing
- Jesus gave glory to the Father
- "sees" – Jesus perceived what the Father was doing and entered into His work

v.30 - Jesus was hearing and obeying the leading of His Father

- He did not do His own will but the will of the Father

4) Jesus gloried in the Father in His prayers

John 11:41-42 - Context is Lazarus has died and was in the tomb

- Jesus knew the Father always heard Him
- Jesus prayed audibly for everyone to hear so that He could give glory to the Father and glory in the relationship He has with the Father
- We are to have the same relationship

**Jesus' relationship with the Father was the source for everything
He said and did**

WHAT ABOUT US?

Can we experience the same thing? The same relationship? YES!!

Romans 8:29 – Jesus is the Firstborn among many brethren

- We are predestined to grow to be like Jesus in this relationship with the Father
- We are to function as Jesus did

Ephesians 1:4-5 - We can expect God to lead us into this same relationship that Jesus experienced

- We are chosen in Him and predestined to the placement as sons, functioning as sons, knowing God as our Father in the same way Jesus did!
- God has provided from eternity for us to be sons having this same relationship

One of aspects of the Covenant Promises in **Hebrews 8:11** – We shall all know YHWH from the least to the greatest; we are to know Him as our Father

John 17:3 – eternal life is knowing the true God and Jesus Christ – it is knowing Him as our Father through Jesus the Messiah

- we are to hear and obey Him, speaking and teaching what we are hearing from Him

How do we access this relationship?

John 14:2 - In the Father's House there are many mansions (literally "dwellings")

- House can mean "household, family, home"
- There are many places to abide in the Father's family
- There is room for you to access the Father in the same relationship Jesus had

v.3 - We can be where Jesus is; We are invited to be with Jesus where He is

v.4-6 - we can only come to the Father through Jesus

- we can access the Father through the "Way" – Jesus
- Jesus made the way for us to abide and remain in the Father

v.7 - you actually know and have seen the Father; they did not understand

v.8-9 - who had been with them? The Father was with them in Jesus

- **if you have seen Jesus, you have seen the Father**
- Jesus is the very image of the invisible God
- we access the Father through knowing Jesus
- Jesus is the visible manifestation of the invisible God – He manifested the Father to the disciples

v.10 - where is Jesus?

- **Jesus is in the Father! The Father is in Him**
- Jesus wants us with Him in the Father, in the Father's house!

v.11 - this is where God wants to bring us

- **Jesus prepared this place in the Father through going to the Cross**
- this is how we access this relationship
- the Father, in Jesus, did the works

v.12 - Those who believe in Jesus (who He is, God in the flesh, the revelation of the Father), the same works Jesus did we will do

- what were the works that Jesus was doing? He was doing the works of the Father
- **we will also be doing the Father's works by Him doing this through us**
- we will do the works of the Father because the Father will do the works through us

v.13-14 - asking in Jesus' name = asking according to His character, authority and nature

- He will do it so that our boasting and glorying will be in the Father
- **God is glorified through His sons**

v.15-18 - we will receive One who will abide with us forever

- He will be the same as Jesus, a Helper
- who was dwelling with the disciples?
- Jesus had been dwelling with them – the Holy Spirit was in Jesus with the disciples
- This One will dwell in them forever
- Jesus would not leave them orphans (fatherless) – He will come to them to be a Father
- Jesus, the One who is the revelation of the Father, will come by His Spirit and be your Father
- when we receive the Spirit of truth, we are receiving the fullness of God

v.20 - on that day we receive the Spirit then we will know that Jesus is in the Father and that we are in Jesus and that Jesus is in us

v.21, 23 - Jesus and the Father will come and make their home/abode in us

- This is how we come to glory in knowing and understanding Him
- the life comes out of this relationship

We are position as sons - Galatians 4:4-6

- There is a place in the Father for each one of us
- It is not dependent on our own works or effort – God is doing it
- God's purpose in redeeming us was to place us in this relationship with God as our Father, so we can become sons
- God sends us the "Spirit of His Son" so we can cry 'Abba, Father'

Having received the Spirit of adoption - Romans 8:14-16

- Them that are led by the Spirit of God, these are sons of God
- Jesus was completely led by His Father, only doing what He did
- The Father is now in us also by His Spirit
- We have received the Spirit of adoption
- The Spirit that Jesus poured out is the Spirit who places us as sons in the Father's house
- The Spirit Himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God
- This is a reality

It is by the Spirit - 1 John 3:24b

- By this we know that He abides in us
- It is by the Spirit He has given us
- He makes His home with us by giving us the Spirit

1 John 4:13 Because He has given us the Spirit, we know we abide in Him and He in us

We are to glory in this, that we understand and know Him, we are to know the reality of that relationship with Him as sons to a Father

- We were predestined for this same relationship that Jesus had with the Father
- Jesus has prepared the place for us in the Father's house
- This is our boast, this is our glory
- We are in the Father and He is in us
- We are never alone, the Father is in us
- We are to speak His doctrine and only do what He shows us to do
- The Father in us does the works
- Glory in this!!!

THE REVELATION OF JESUS **THE MESSIAH, THE SON OF GOD**

WHO IS JESUS?

- Many people have all sorts of views
- Christians generally believe He is the Saviour
- In the New Testament Jesus is referred to as "Christ" 572 times

WHY IS JESUS CALLED "CHRIST" AND "SON OF GOD"?

God raised up prophets through history to reveal God to His people as well as foretelling the future of what God would do and how He would come into the world

- Jews grew up knowing the term "Messiah" – which was the "Anointed King"

John 5:38-39 - Jesus is talking to Jewish leaders

- The Scriptures are they which testify of Jesus
- The Scriptures are a testimony of Jesus the Messiah

2 Corinthians 3:12-18

- Their minds were blinded, the veil is over their hearts as they read the Old T
- The veil is taken away in Christ
- When one turns to the Lord the veil is removed and we see who Jesus is

1) The Conception of the King was of the Holy Spirit

Isaiah 7:14

- The virgin will conceive and bear a Son and call His name Immanuel
- This is naturally impossible
- **Heb "Immanuel" = "God with us"**

Fulfillment - Matthew 1:18-25

- "before they came together" = a virgin
- She was found with Child of the Holy Spirit
- That which is conceived in her is of the Holy Spirit
- He was to be called "Jesus" – because He will save His people from their sins
- "Jesus" = YHWH saves
- "Immanuel" = "God-With-US"
- Jesus the Christ is the fulfilment of Isaiah 7:14

2) The Son of God would be an eternal King

Isaiah 9:6-7

- The government will be on the shoulder of the Son who was given (to us)
- The Child who was to be born would grow up to be a mature Son and bear governmental authority
- The name of the Son is the name of God, "the mighty God, the everlasting Father..."
- There will be no end to the increase of His government and peace
- How will this happen? Through more people believing in Him
- He will be on the "throne of David" – David was a King and a type of the Messiah
- From the time of the Son of God becoming King, from that time His kingdom will increase; God will make this happen!

Fulfilment - Luke 1:26-35

- Joseph was of the house of David
- The virgin would have a Son
- He would be great and called the "Son of the Highest"
- He will be given the throne of His father David ("upon the throne of David...")
- There will be no end to His kingdom

3) The birth place of the Promised Messiah was prophesied

Micah 5:2 - Bethlehem

- Out of you will come forth...the Ruler in Israel
- His goings forth are from of old, from the days of eternity (from the eternal realm), from the realm of God

Fulfilment - Matthew 2:1-12

- Jesus was born in Bethlehem
- Wise men were coming to worship the King who was just born (they knew the "King of the Jews" had been born)
- The Christ would be a King (**v.4**)
- To know where He would be born they quoted **Micah 5:2**
- The wise men found Jesus in a house
- They worshiped Him – you only worship God
- They knew that He was from eternity

4) The Messiah would receive a government

Psalm 2:6-12

- God says, "I have set My King on My holy hill of Zion"
- The answer to the nations raging (**v.1-3**) is that God will set His King on Zion
- The King then declares the decree "You are My Son"
- The King is the Son of God, God is fully revealed in Him
- The Son receives an inheritance – the inheritance is the nations
- We are blessed when we put our trust in Him, the Messiah

Fulfilment - Matthew 3:13-17

- Jesus coming to the Jordan for baptism
- Jesus was baptised to “fulfil all righteousness”
- When Jesus was baptised the Spirit of God descended on Him (**Jn.1:32** – remained on Him)
- The voice then came “This is My Beloved Son in whom I am well pleased”
- This was the anointing of the King who was the Son of God
- The Holy Spirit anointed Him as the King and confirmed Him as the Son who can now walk in the inheritance
- He received the kingdom, the government

5) The King would build the Father's house

1 Chronicles 17:10b-14

- God will build David a royal dynasty, a household, a lineage of kings
- God would set up David's Seed after him
- God will establish this One's kingdom; His Throne will be established forever
- God would be the Father of the Seed of David, and He would be God's Son
- The Son of David will be the Son of God
- This Seed will build a house for God

Fulfilment - Matthew 16:13-19

- Who is Jesus? Who do you say that He is?
- Simon Peter said, “You are the Christ, the Son of the Living God”
- This was a revelation from heaven
- Father revealed this
- On this Rock I will build My Church/government (Gk. Ecclesia)
- Gates of Hades will not prevail against it
- The Seed of David would build a house, this is the “church” that Jesus would build
- The Throne was established, someone recognized who Jesus was as the King
- **1 Tim.3:15** – the house of God is the church of the living God

**The house is the people that have the revelation that
Jesus is the Messiah the Son of God**

LIVING IN THE NEW MAN

Is Jesus Christ in you?

2 Corinthians 13:5 - Examine yourselves if you are in the faith

- Do you know Jesus the Christ is in you?
- Disciples know His life in them
- Jesus does not come in to improve who I am, He comes in to get rid of me and make me like Him

We are saved by His life

Romans 5:10 - We need His life being lived out through us

- God made us to live as a representation of who He is
- God was fully revealed in Jesus
- He wants to be fully revealed in us

How is the life of Christ in us going to save us?

- He gives us the ability to **put off who we were and put on who He is**

Colossians 1:27 – Christ is in us, we need to get out of the road

Colossians 3:9-10

- Put on the new man who was created in the image of Him

Conveyed out of darkness

Colossians 1:13-14 – we learn we are delivered from darkness into kingdom of Son of His love

- Christ in us is our hope of glory
- It will be revealed through the outworking of true apostolic ministry
- All are to be presented perfect in Christ Jesus
- Christ who is in us is to be manifested out of us
- The process of discipleship is to bring us to the glory

Put on the new man - Ephesians 4:22-24

- Be renewed in the spirit of your mind
- We must “learn Christ”, be taught of Him
- As we are taught of who He is we learn what we can put on
- We are to be continually transformed so He can be revealed on the outside, not settling for a routine religious life
- God has saved us to do the works of the Father
- They are called the ‘good works that He prepared’ (**Eph.2:10**)

The Grace of God has appeared - Titus 2:11-13

- The grace of God that brings salvation has appeared to all men teaching us...
- Grace teaches us to live righteously, soberly and godly
- Grace is transforming us to be ready for His glorious appearing

A life hidden with Christ in God - Colossians 3:1-10

v.1 - In baptism we identify with the death, burial and resurrection of Christ

- So if you were raised with Christ, seek the things which are above
-

v.2 – there is a new mind you have received; this mind sees heavenly realities

v.3-4 - We will appear with Christ in glory!

- if we died with Him, now our life is hidden in Him
- you will not be able to tell the difference between us and Him

v.5 - "Therefore" = in view of what you have just read

- put to death your members that are on the earth

v.6 - because of this the wrath of God is coming upon sons of disobedience

v.9 - do not lie... = do not let the things of the old man appear as that is not who you are now!

- when did we put on the new man? When we born again and baptised
- we can put off the old because Christ in us will give us the power to do it

Phil.2:12-13 – we are to work out our own salvation and let God work in us what is well pleasing – it is us allowing God to do it

v.10 - now we are being "renewed in knowledge" – this means a continual refreshment of the new man in Christ Jesus is happening which leads us to a full knowledge of Him in experience

- the "knowledge of God" is knowing Him by practical experience, your character is being changed, you are not the same anymore

we are coming to the "full knowledge of the Son of God unto a perfect Man" – **Eph.4:13**

We are being **restored into the image God (Rom.8:29)**

- As we keep seeing Jesus by revelation we are changed from glory to glory into His image (**2 Cor.3:18**)

Colossians 3:12-13 lists qualities we are to put on

But how do we put these on?

It comes through the revelation of who Jesus is, it is His life saving us

- The tender mercies are the tender mercies of Christ
- His kindness, His humility (His mind – **Phil.2:5-8**), His meekness...
- What we have experienced of Him we can put on – we can forgive because we have experienced the forgiveness of Christ

Col.3:14 - above all we are to put on love

- iniquity is the bent in us that causes us to sin, to do things for our own benefit or selfish gain or profit

- Jesus redeems us and saves us from this

- the iniquity drive is replaced with a love drive given by God

v.15 - let the peace of God rule in your hearts

- be thankful – thankfulness for what God has done

v.16-17 - let the word of Christ dwell in us richly

- we are to do all in the name of the Lord Jesus – done in His ability, His authority

**God wants to renew our mind
He wants to replace us with who He is**

THE GLORY OF HIS GRACE

The grace – the gifts – the glory

1 Peter 1:10-13 - There is grace that comes to us by the revelation of Jesus Christ

- This was prophesied
- There is glory to follow (after the sufferings of Christ)
- **V.13** – be sober, have a saved mind

GRACE

Grace and glory go hand in hand

Psalm 84:11 - YHWH will give grace and glory

- Grace comes to us at the revelation of Jesus

John 1:14 - The Word became flesh and dwelt among us

- We beheld His glory...full of grace and truth

Grace – Heb SC#2580 *chen* (see Word Wealth at **Zechariah 12:10**)

Favour, grace, graciousness, kindness, beauty, pleasantness, charm, attractiveness, affectionate regard

Grace – Gk *charis* – SC#5485 (see Word Wealth at **2 Cor 12:9**)

- *From the same root as joy, and 'to rejoice'*

The revelation of Jesus is the foundation upon which we begin to receive grace.

The grace of God was given to you by Christ Jesus 1 Cor 1:4

- Revelation of Jesus brings us in to relationship with Him

So that you would be enriched in everything by Him - v.5

- The grace of God brings an enriching
- **Enriching** – means abundance, richness, to make rich, enrich with spiritual riches, to be richly furnished
- in all utterance and in all knowledge
- **Utterance** = Logos SC#3056– WW Acts 19:20 – means transmission of thought, communication, divine revelation, instruction, divine promise and declaration
- **Knowledge** – WW John 8:32 – *ginosko* – means to perceive, to understand, to recognise, to gain knowledge, to realise, to come to know
- a knowledge that comes by experience

1 Cor 1:6 The testimony of Christ was witnessed in you

- The grace works in us to reveal Christ

v.7 – that you **come short in no gift** - That you won't come late or be behind

- The grace of God is what releases the gifts God has given each one of us
- Grace is released through the revelation of Jesus
- When the gifts of God are exercised, they bear witness of Christ and release more grace

Gift – SC#5486 – comes from the word meaning 'joy', cheerfulness, delight

- The gifts of God bring forth a revelation of Christ
- **Eagerly waiting for the revelation of Jesus the Messiah**
- We need to release what Jesus has put in us
- Build one another up with what God has put in you

GIFTS

Gifts given by God - Romans 12:3-8

- Don't think of yourself more highly than you ought
- God has dealt to each one a measure of faith
- We do not all have the same function; We are members of one another
- Serve one another with the gifts given by God
- **According to the grace**
 1. Prophecy
 2. Ministry
 3. Teaching
 4. Exhortation
 5. Giving
 6. Leading
 7. Showing mercy

These gifts are all by His grace.

Gifts given at Jesus' ascension - Ephesians 4:7-11

- To each one of us grace was given according to the measure of Christ's gift
- Some to be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, some pastors and some teachers
- **The grace of God works through these gifts**

Gifts of the Spirit - 1 Corinthians 12:4-12

- Diversities of gifts but the same Spirit
- It is the same God who works in each one
- The manifestation of the Spirit given to each one
- These gifts manifest Christ
 1. The word of wisdom
 2. Word of knowledge

3. Faith
4. Gifts of healings
5. Working of miracles
6. Prophecy
7. Discerning of spirits
8. Tongues
9. Interpretation of tongues

It is by the grace of God

Paul the apostle was very clear on his gift and calling. He knew the grace that had been given to him. **Ephesians 3:1-8** – the grace of God given to me for you

- The grace of God brings an enriching
- That you may understand and have knowledge of the mystery of Christ
- Paul became a minister according to the gift of the grace of God
- By the effective working of His power

grace was given

GLORY

Joy is a key to understanding the glory.

1 Peter 1:7-8 - Praise, honour and glory at the revelation of Jesus

- Trials and testing
- Rejoice with joy inexpressible and full of glory
- A deep joy full of glory

Jesus endured the cross because of the joy set before Him.

We can also have the joy of YHWH. It gives power to the weak.

Acts 20:24 - No of these things move me

- That I may finish my race with joy
- Testify to the gospel of the grace of God
- The grace of God releases joy in us – it enables us to start to see and know the purpose of God
- We can keep going because God's counsel stands forever (**Acts 13:52**)

The joy of the Lord in us releases strength. God is full of joy. The grace and the gifts come from this place.

John 15:11 - These things I have spoken to you that My joy may remain in you and that your joy may be full

- He puts His joy in us; Jesus wants us to be overflowing with joy

John 17:13 - That they may have My joy fulfilled in themselves

- Jesus wants us full of His joy – the joy that comes forth from His grace
- We can draw on this joy in hard times (**2 Cor 6:10**)

1 John 1:3-4 - That which we've seen and heard we declare to you

- That you may have fellowship with us (with the Father and with His Son)
- That your joy may be full

His grace is full of joy.

His grace releases His gifts in us.

These gifts reveal His glory.

THE GIFT OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

- Do we understand the magnitude of the gift of the Holy Spirit?

RECEIVE THE GIFT

- The purpose of salvation is to receive this gift

Acts 2:38

- Peter had just preached Jesus
- Repent and be baptised in the name of Jesus (salvation)
- And you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit
- Jesus saves us so that we can receive the gift of the Holy Spirit

Everything that God wants to give us is actually in this gift. It is not just an experience.

THE PROMISED BLESSING

Galatians 3:13-14

- There is a blessing
- The Messiah (Christ) has redeemed us from the curse of the law
- Having become a curse for us
- That the blessing of Abraham might come upon the Gentiles (nations) in the Messiah Jesus
- Gen 12:3 – through Abraham would come blessing to every family in the earth
- Gen 22:18 – through Abraham and his Seed (This Seed is Messiah – Gal 3:16)
- Galatians 3:14 – the blessing is the promise of the Spirit through faith in Jesus

The blessing is the opposite to the curse. The blessing comes through the gift of the Holy Spirit.

The regenerating and renewing power of the Holy Spirit

Titus 3:4-6

- The kindness and the love of God toward man appeared
- According to His mercy He saved us
- Through the washing of regeneration and renewing of the Holy Spirit
- **Renewing** – suggests a renovation, means a restoration, transformation, a change of heart and life
- This is the work of the Holy Spirit in you
- V.6 – His Spirit was poured out on us abundantly (overflowing) through Jesus the Messiah

Psalm 104:30 - You send forth Your Spirit

- They are created
- You renew the face of the earth

God gives the gift of the Holy Spirit to renew the face of the earth.

The Messiah is the baptiser with the Holy Spirit

Matthew 3:11

- Jesus is the one who immerses (baptises) us with the Holy Spirit

1 Corinthians 15:45

- The last Adam became a life-giving spirit
- If Jesus is in you, He is a life-giving spirit in you

When Jesus comes inside you, He is the one who will release the immersion of the Holy Spirit

Revelation 5:6

- A lamb in the midst of the throne and of the four living creatures
- The lamb has 7 eyes – the full complement of the Holy Spirit
- Sent out into all the earth

Acts 1:4-5, 8

- You shall be baptised with the Holy Spirit
- You shall receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you
- You shall be witnesses to Jesus
- Testifying to the experience of Jesus in our lives in all the earth

Part of the evidence of receiving the Holy Spirit was speaking in other tongues and prophesying. If you have received the Holy Spirit you can expect to pray in tongues and prophesy.

Where does this gift come from?

The gift comes from the glory.

John 7:37-39

- He who believes in Jesus, out of his heart will flow rivers of living water
- This Jesus spoke concerning the Spirit, whom those believing in Him would receive
- The Spirit of God was given when Jesus was glorified

Ephesians 1:17

- That the God of our Lord Jesus the Messiah, the Father of glory, may give to you the spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of Him
- The spirit comes from the Father of glory
- The spirit of wisdom and revelation

1 Peter 4:14 – the Spirit of God is called the Spirit of glory

Ephesians 3:14-16

- That He would grant you, according to the riches of His glory, to be strengthened with might through His Spirit in the inner man
- **Strengthened** – this word has to do with governmental power and dominion
- Governmental authority coming from your inner man

- The gift of the Holy Spirit causes us to walk in the authority of Jesus the Messiah
- He also strengthens us in His miraculous power
- **V.17** – that the Messiah (the Anointed King) may dwell in your hearts through faith
- when the spirit of God comes in, the King comes in to us
- **v.18** – The Holy Spirit releases the love of the Messiah in us (Rom 5:5)
- **v.19** – that you might be filled with all the fullness of God

The Spirit of God is the fullness of God

John 14:15-18

- another Helper (another of the same)
- He will abide (remain and continue) with you forever
- When you receive the gift, this gift is forever
- V.17 – the Spirit of truth (Jesus is the Truth v.6)
- Jesus told His disciples that they knew the Spirit of truth already, He was dwelling with them
- He was going to be in them
- V.18 – Jesus said, “**I** will come to you”
- I will not leave you fatherless
- They would receive the Spirit, the Father and the Son (the fullness of God)
- V.23 – We will come to him and make our home with him (by the gift of the Holy Spirit)

He is the Spirit of Messiah

1 Peter 1:10-11

- The Spirit of Christ was in them – working in the prophets
- Christ was in the prophets testifying of His own sufferings and the glory that would follow
- This same spirit is in you when you receive the gift

Luke 24:27, 45

- Jesus opened their understanding that they might comprehend the Scriptures
- The Spirit of Messiah in you will be opening your understanding that you might comprehend the Scriptures

Romans 8:9-10 - The Spirit of God dwells in you

- God is Spirit

The gift of the Holy Spirit is God in you (the Messiah in you, the hope of glory)

- The Spirit of Christ (Paul uses these descriptions of the spirit interchangeably)
- Christ is in you – the Spirit of Messiah in us (Col 1:27)

We are not to box in who the Spirit of God is (not just a Pentecostal experience).

The Spirit of God is the Spirit of Christ.

The Spirit of the Messiah makes us kings and priests

Zechariah 4

- Zerubbabel was the governor of Judah at that time (He was in the lineage of the kings)
- Not by might nor by power, but by My Spirit says YHWH of hosts
- This is in the context of the rebuilding of the house of God
- Rev 1:20 – the lampstands are the churches
- Jesus said, “I will build My church” (by the Spirit of Messiah)
- V.11-12 – oil represents the spirit of God being poured out into the house of God to build it
- V.13-14 – the 2 anointed offices in the OT are the king and priest
- A picture of the office of King and Priest becoming one in the Messiah
- The Spirit that is coming out of the Messiah is enabling us to be kings and priests to our God and Father
- This is how He is building His house
- The 2 sons of fresh oil (anointed ones) have now become one
- The Spirit of YHWH is the spirit of the KingPriest

Acts 13 - As they ministered to the Lord, the Holy Spirit spoke – separate Paul and Barnabas for the work

- V.6-12 – Paul, filled with the Holy Spirit (functioning in the kingly anointing)
- The sorcerer became blind and the proconsul believed

The Holy Spirit is the spirit who gives us the inheritance

John 16:13-15

- The Spirit of truth will guide you into all truth
- The anointing that abides in you does not lie
- He will not speak on His own, whatever He hears He will speak
- He will tell you things to come
- He will glorify Jesus
- He will take of what is mine and declare it to you (He will give you the inheritance)
- He is the Spirit of the Son – we are joint-heirs with Christ
- Everything that the Father has belongs to Jesus – He will declare this to us

- **The Holy Spirit is the one who makes us sons and gives us our inheritance.**
- **The Holy Spirit is a guarantee that you will completely change – spirit, soul and body**
- **The Spirit of God is the Spirit of the Father and the Son (the fullness of God).**

GROWING IN GLORY

Holding fast to the Head - Colossians 2:18-19

- There are things which stop us holding fast to the Head
- We are not to allow those things to cheat us from our reward
- When we hold fast to the Head, Christ, we are nourished and knit together with the rest of the Body and we grow

Speaking the truth in love - Ephesians 4:15-16

- By speaking the truth in love, we grow up in all things into Him who is the Head – Christ
- There is a Body closely knitted together, functioning, which causes us to grow together in love
- We have a personal responsibility to grow as disciples, but this is always in the context of being a Body growing together

Functioning as members of the one body - Romans 12:4-5

- Many members in one Body, not all the same function
- Yet we, being many, are One Body
- One Body in Christ and individually members of one another
- What we do affects all of us
- The way we treat others causes others to be affected

Made one in Christ - Galatians 3:28

- We are all one in Christ Jesus
- The distinctives count for nothing

Living Stones – a spiritual house - 1 Peter 2:4-6

- We come to Jesus as a Living Stone
- We as living stones are built up a spiritual house...
- The house being built is in Zion

Helping each other grow in glory - 1 Thessalonians 5:11

- Comfort each other and edify one another
- Build up one another
- As we do this we grow in glory

Growing up in Him - Ephesians 2:19-22

- We are the household of God (a family), we are built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets
- Jesus Christ Himself is the Chief Cornerstone

- The whole building grows up in Him to be a holy temple in the Lord
- We are built **together** to be a dwelling place for God in the Spirit

**Growing in glory is always together,
a corporate reality, in which we grow**

There is a pattern for how the Church is to be built - Ephesians 4:11-13

In the Old Testament God gave a clear pattern for how to build the Tabernacle and then the house of God

v.11 – Jesus gave apostles, prophets, evangelists, pastors and teachers

- these are given to the whole Body of Christ
- we are built up and trained and equipped by these ministries
- we are all being trained to build each other up; then we grow in glory
- this is God's pattern
- these ministries are there until we all come to the unity of the faith
- until we all come to the full knowledge of the Son of God (fully acquainted with God in Christ, knowing Him in all His fullness)
- this brings us into becoming a Perfect Man corporately

Zion is this Perfect Man - Psalm 50:1-2

- **"Out of Zion, the perfection of beauty, God will shine forth" v.2**

- Zion is to become the perfection of beauty - that is us
- out of us, the Perfection of the Beauty, God will shine forth

**Zion will be the fullest expression of God's glory, the city of God,
the Church, the Bride, the Overcomers, the Sons of God**

The glory shall shine forth from the city - Isaiah 60

v.1 – the glory of YHWH is risen upon us

- this glory is veiled in us, in earthen vessels
- the glory does manifest in acts of power, acts of love, acts of kindness

v.2 – darkness shall cover the earth

- deep darkness will cover the people
- YHWH will arise over us

v.3 – we are a city on a hill, the light of the world (**Matt.5:13**)

WHO OR WHAT IS ZION?

We are Zion - Hebrews 12:22

- **"You have come to Mt Zion and to the City of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem"**
- We are Zion, we are the City, we are there

The Bride City is Zion - Revelation 21:1-2

- "*Now I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away"*
- "*John saw the holy city, New Jerusalem, coming down from heaven as a Bride adorned for her Husband"*
- The Bride is the City; the City will be fully prepared

The Lamb's wife is Zion – Rev.21:9-11

- The Bride is the Lamb's wife, "**Come, I will show you the bride, the Lamb's wife**"
- John was carried away to a great and high mountain
- he saw a great city, the holy Jerusalem; that city came down out of heaven
- this city had the glory of God
- like a Jasper stone – representing the glory
- this is a picture of the Bride

God dwells in Zion - Psalm 48:1-3

- YHWH is in the City of our God
- He is in us, in His holy Mountain; the city of the great King
- God is in her palaces; we are the city

God is revealed in Zion - Psalm 48:12-14

- Walk about Zion; Go around her – Zion is a "her"
- Talk about her to the generation following; "**This is God!**" Our God forever!
- There is no difference between God and Zion. We the church will be so glorified, coming to the measure of the stature of Jesus the Messiah, that God and us will be one

Hebrews 5:13-14

- Solid food is for those who are full age (mature)
- These ones can discern good and evil

6:1 – so now "let us go on to perfection" (maturity)

v.3 – we will go on to perfection if God permits

- we will grow as the foundations are laid
- we grow together (let **us** go on...)

Jesus was the perfect Lamb of God

Lambs for sacrifice had to be without blemish

Ephesians 5:25-27

- Husbands are to love their wives as Christ loved the Church and gave His life for her
- If we learn to do that properly we will be able to love anyone and everyone
- It is in the context of close relationships, that we learn to love
- We do not grow in isolation, we flourish together

Jesus will sanctify and cleanse her (the church) and present her to Himself a glorious church, without spot or wrinkle, no blemish, holy

- Just like the Lamb of God – just as He is

v.28 – husbands are to love their own wives as their own bodies

v.29 – if you love your wife, you love your own body – they are “one flesh”

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

v.32 – this is a great mystery, speaking of Christ/Messiah and the church

No difference between God and Zion (His people)

GROWING IN GLORY TOGETHER

John 17:20

- Jesus prays for all those who will believe in Jesus through the apostles’ word

v.21 - Jesus prayed that we all be one

- As Father in Jesus and Jesus in the Father, we also are to be One in Jesus and the Father

v.22 – Jesus gives us the glory that Father gave Jesus

- this makes us One just as Father and Jesus are One
- we together receive this glory, we speak the same word
- Glory leads to Oneness, same glory
- glory demonstrates the Oneness of God

v.23 – Jesus in them, Father in Jesus, that they may be made perfect in One

- Out of Zion, the perfection of beauty, God will shine forth!
- then the world will know that Father sent Jesus
- we are called into this intimacy, this closeness
- God wants to share His fullness with us

John 14:20

- When you receive the Spirit, at that day you will know that Jesus is in the Father and we are in Jesus and Jesus is in us
- When we see Zion, we see the glory of God, we see God

Genesis 1:26

- Let Us make man in Our image according to Our image...
- Whose image was Adam made in? God
- What is the image of God? He is the Father of glory
- Adam was a glorious creation
- The glory kept creation in harmony
- The glory kept everything at peace, happy, sing...
- Adam was clothed with the Glory

- We are now being re-created into the image and likeness of God, our Father, the Father of glory
- Jesus fully expresses this glory
- He is the image of the invisible of God (**Col.1:15**)
- Jesus fully reveals the glory of our sonship
- We are being made into the exact same image, nature and character of our Father
- Jesus is bringing many sons to glory, a company of sons (**Hebrews 2:10**)

Why we are growing together in glory, from glory to glory

Romans 8:15

- We did not receive the spirit of bondage to fear
- We have received the Spirit of Sonship
- We know by the Spirit we are children of God (**v.16**)

v.17 – if children of God we are heirs of God

- we are glorified together with Christ

v.18 – there is a glory to be revealed in us...for a reason

- same glory that Adam was originally created with

v.19 – all of creation has been groaning and longing for the glory Adam lost at the beginning to return again

v.20-21 – creation was put under the curse in hope

- creation will be delivered from the bondage of corruption into the glorious liberty of the children of God

- when we are fully revealed in all our glory, there will be full restoration, a new heaven and a new earth

- when we have fully come into the glory we will exercise a right dominion, a right governmental authority

- we must grow from glory to glory together

- this is the outcome of Zion, the perfection of beauty, God will shine forth!

THE TABERNACLE OF MOSES

Part One

If God was so particular in the building of the Tabernacle and the Temple, which was done away with

- Would not He be more particular with what He was replacing them with, the Church
- Many things have been added to the church that never should have been added
- God will strip away everything that He has not placed there

The Purpose of the Tabernacle - Exodus 25:8-9

- To be a Sanctuary, that YHWH may dwell among His people
- The Tabernacle is a pattern

v.40 – must be built according to the pattern

Come out from Bondage - Exodus 12:11

- The people were to depart from Egypt
- If we do not get this right, we will not inherit the glory
- No one uncircumcised can enter in
- Leave Egypt in haste
- But it took 40 years to get Egypt out of the people
- That generation did not inherit the land
- Our inheritance is the earth, the nations being discipled
- We come out of the house of bondage

Matthew 13 – Parable of Sower

- Seed falls on various soils
- Seed sown among thorns – the cares of the world and the deceitfulness of riches choked the word and it became unfruitful
- What areas of your life belong wholly to life? What areas are still in the culture of this world? We cannot serve two masters
- The Christian life is radical
- The radicalisation of Christians will produce life, creative life, it generates, vibrant, the life of God

Come out of Egypt! You do not belong there.

- Anything in Egypt does not belong in you!
- It is all or nothing
- The claims of Jesus Christ are radical
- If you want to follow Jesus, you must deny yourself, take up your cross and follow (**Matt.16:24**)

- The cross is not the unpleasant circumstances in your life, it is the crucified man that has said good-bye to the world
- It is radical but life-giving and life-producing
- Jesus said, "I AM the Resurrection and the Life" – **John 11:25**
- You know why His name is called "Everlasting Father"? It is because He is
- No-one will ever de-throne Jesus Christ and He will accomplish everything He said He will accomplish
- We are co-heirs with Jesus are to live in His Glory/Presence
- True worshipers will worship the Father in Spirit and truth
- The soul is to be a servant to the Spirit

Live the Crucified Life

Paul said, "I am crucified to the world and the world is crucified to me"

- The world is dead to me and I am dead to the world – **Galatians 6:14**

Everything you read and watch becomes part of your brain

- What do you have in your home?
- What do you feed on?
- The Christian life is a life of the fruit of the Spirit
- It is impossible without the Holy Spirit
- We can do all things through Christ who strengthens me – **Philippians 4:13**

If you are risen with Christ, seek those things where Christ is, at the right hand of God – Colossians 3:1-4

- You are dead (to the world and its culture) and your life is hidden with Christ in God

We are blessed with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places in Christ – Eph.1:3

- The riches of the glory are our inheritance – **Col.1:26-27, Eph.1:18**
- we are not to love the things in the world – **1 Jn.2:15-16**
- we must get out of besetting sins – **Heb.12**

ENTER IN BY THE BLOOD

We are to come to the place of sacrifice at the altar first

- it is because of the Blood that it is possible to live free of the world
- the Blood makes atonement, and takes away the defilement of the flesh
- Why blood? The life of the flesh is in the blood (**Leviticus 17:11**) – when the blood is shed, the life is gone

We come out of Egypt and are delivered from sin

- We must come to the Cross
- The Cross cancels out the world and its culture to us
- We, the church are partners with God in bringing heaven to earth

- **2 Corinthians 5:14-21** – we are to be ambassadors of Christ, bringing reconciliation to God
- **Revelation 21:1-7, 9-11** – this is what God is bringing forth
- we are called to be kings and priests

We are to enter the Holy Place by washing

The Word cleanses us – **John 15:3**

- the Cross cancels out sin and gives us access to God's Presence

Having been cleansed we receive the "earnest/guarantee" of our inheritance

- the Holy Spirit is given to us as this guarantee
- **Ephesians 1:13-14** – when you believed in Jesus you were then sealed with the Holy Spirit of Promise

PRIESTS IN THE HOLY PLACE

When we enter the Holy Place, we enter as priests

- **Exodus 29:43-45** – ministry is first to Jesus, "minister to Me"
- By ministering to Him we are then enabled to minister to others
- We are to come into His Presence and wait on Him

This holiness of life is necessary if we are to win the world

Ezekiel 44:23 – the priests teach the difference between the holy and the profane, and the clean and the unclean

- **Ex.30:29-30** – only touch that which is holy, priests were consecrated and anointed to minister to God
- Covered in the anointing, it is only by the anointing that we can live the life we are called to, a life of discipleship
- We must be willing
- **1 Peter 2:5** – we are a spiritual house (replacing the Tabernacle), a holy priesthood, offering up spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ
- Sacrifices of thanksgiving, praise (we enter His gates with thanksgiving and His courts with praise – **Ps.100:4**)
- **Leviticus 21:21** – no man that has a blemish may offer sacrifices – we are to offer a pure offering before God
- we must know that the Cross has delivered us out of darkness into light
- **Philippians 3:14** – we are to press towards the high calling – this is going for the glory
- when Jesus comes to us, all of Him comes to us – **John 14:23**
- we are to thirst for God and His Word
- **2 Cor.5:16** – we do not know Jesus the Messiah after the flesh anymore, we know Him in the Spirit – **Rev.1:12-16** – we see Him glorified, we are seated with Christ in heavenly places in the spiritual realm (**Eph.2:6**)
- **Daniel 10:6** – same picture as **Rev.1:12-16**

- **Ezekiel 43:1** – The glory of God came from the East, and the earth shone with the glory
- The Stone will demolish the images of the earthly kingdoms and fill the earth with the kingdom of God – **Daniel 2:35**

Hebrews 3:1 - Therefore holy brethren (sanctified and set apart to God)

- Partakers of the heavenly calling (Jesus is in heaven interceding at the right hand of God as our Mediator)
- No nation can stop the gospel going all over the world
- He puts the desires in our heart and as we pray them, He will answer

IN THE TABERNACLE

Table of Showbread = Bread of His Presence

- we partake of the Bread – **1 Cor.10:16** – we participate together in the life and Body of Christ
- **Deut.8:7-10** – God brings us into a good land
- God is bringing forth a remnant people, a “Man-Child” company who will
- He brings us into a land of brooks, surging springs of water, abundance of fruit trees, no lack
- God is bringing us into a place where there is no lack of anything, God will unveil truths to us
- Does God lack anything? Did Jesus lack anything when He was on earth? No
- Jesus had the fullness of the Spirit (**John 3:34**) – no lack of the Spirit
- Jesus is the Supreme Lord, the conquering King of kings...
- Jesus sends us in the strength of His power to disciple nations (**Matt.28:18-20**)
- This is what we are coming into
- The Showbread was replaced weekly, it did not last
-

The Lampstand - had to be trimmed every day, it did not last

- But in the glory, in the holy of holies the high Priest only went there once a year, the Glory looked after that place
- **1 Jn.1:7** – in the light of His light there are no shadows, He cleanses us until we are presented to Himself pure and holy
- Every grain of wheat that is generated from the original grain/seed, looks the same as the original – **John 12:24** – Jesus was the grain of wheat that died and is bringing forth fruit
- **John 6:33** – the Bread of God is He who comes down from heaven and gives life to the world – **Jn.5:28-29**, the voice of the Son of God brings life
- **We are in the kingdom age now because Jesus is King**
- **Revelation 3:21** – Jesus invites us to sit on His Throne, the “right hand of God” is speaking of the Throne
- The Life we have received we can impart; The Bread He gives is His flesh for the life of the world

- Jesus is the Light of the world
- **John 14:26** – The Comforter will teach us all things and bring to our remembrance everything Jesus said
- **Ephesians 1:17-18** – The Spirit will bring revelation, understanding, knowledge

When we receive the Word, it separates between our soul and spirit, our conscience becomes cleansed by the blood of Jesus and we have communion with God in our spirit

- In order to hear the voice of the Spirit we also need to have our mind renewed

2 Corinthians 3:18 - We are changed into the same image by beholding the glory of the Lord

- By beholding we become like Him
- **Is.40:28-31** – we will become like Him by waiting and beholding Him

Psalm 27:1 - God is our Light and our salvation

- Whatever He illuminates He then gives life to
- Where we have life, we shove death and sickness out of the way
- **Mark.2:1-12, Luke 13:10-17** – Jesus walked as this Light
- **There is nothing God will not do if you will believe Him**
- we are not to fear anything, no man or anything

Psalm 36:9 - In His light we shall see light

Psalm 43:3 – send out Your Light and Your truth

Psalm 89:15 – the Light of His countenance

The challenge:

You can have as much of God as you want, as much as you prepare for!

THE TABERNACLE OF MOSES

Part Two

God asks of us the impossible so that those without the Spirit cannot do it

- Whatever He asks of us He gives the power
- We have to be totally confident in who He is
- The Covenant says "I am your God and you are My people" – He has taken total responsibility for us
- He wants to carry all of your cares, if you are carrying cares it is because you have not cast them on Him (**1 Pet.5:6-7**)
- Jesus is our High Priest who ever lives to make intercession for us (**Heb.7:25**)
- An intercessor has their life on the line, standing in between the living and the dead; it is putting yourself in the shoes of the other person
- God calls us to love and be kindly affectionate to one another, in honour preferring one another

THE ARK OF THE COVENANT

- Represents the very government of God
- One man could not carry that ark; The priests bore the ark
- When Joshua was leading Israel into the land, they crossed the Jordan in full flow
- The priests had to carry the ark through the Jordan
- The priests were to carry the government on their shoulders – picture of kings and priests, a company of people going in to possess the inheritance
- Priests bearing the government on their shoulder

1 Corinthians 2:6-8 – the devil did not realise what was coming – through death Jesus destroyed (stripped him of power) Him who had the power of death (**Heb.2:14-15**)

- **The devil is completely defeated**
- Jesus has overcome
- And we are the temple of the Holy Spirit (**1 Cor.3:16, 1 Cor.6:19**) – Jesus is now in us so we can govern the earth through His Spirit
- This Man Child company is coming forth (**Rev.12:5, Rev.2:26-27**) – this is a company of people who have died to themselves, no ambitions, wholly identified in Jesus
- This group of priests stand in the Jordan with the Ark on their shoulders, walking into the inheritance as Kings and Priests
- God is in total control of the nations, always has been; He is in total command
- We have the armour of God (**Eph.6:10-18**), we have the armour as a corporate reality, keeping each other's backs
- We need to be discipled so that we can disciple others

THE TABLETS OF STONE: The Ark has an unbroken law within it

- This Man-Child Company of overcomers will have in their hearts an unbroken law
- They know that those who have been born of God do not sin (**1 Jn.3:9**)
- But "if" we sin we have an Advocate with the Father – **1 Jn.2:1** – we keep a short history with God and are cleansed quickly
- We believe **Jude 24-25, He is able to do it** in us

THE ROD OF AARON

- All the leaders of the tribes had to lay their rods before YHWH
- Aaron's rod had blossomed and produced almonds overnight
- Represents supernatural authority
- There is supernatural authority in the sons of God
- This is the rod, the tribe, that God has chosen
- God is serious; The one chosen is the one cleansed
- God wants to bring us into a limitless realm
- A realm where all His enemies are made a footstool for His feet, this is to happen through us (the Body, the feet are on the body)

THE MANNA

- There was a golden pot of manna in the ark
- The hidden manna!
- YHWH took on flesh and became the Bread coming down from heaven
- The Mighty God who created all things came and took on flesh, growing in the womb of a virgin for 9 months
- Because He lives, we shall live also
- The Life has manifested (**1 Jn.1:1-2**)
- Moses knew the ways of God and so was able to reveal the acts of God
- We are to walk in His ways; We are to dedicate this year holy to the Lord
- The anointing on Jesus was without limit

Revelation 8 – angel takes the prayers of the saints and will bring such an explosion that **Isaiah 25:6-8** will come to pass

- This is the kingdom of God being infused in the church
- Jesus is the King, His kingdom is not of this world
- The New Jerusalem is the church of Jesus Christ purchased with His blood
- Jesus said He would build His church and hell will not stop it – Jesus cannot be defeated
- It is built on the foundation of apostles and prophets

THE INCENSE ALTAR

- Made from wood overlaid with gold; Humanity overlaid with God's nature
- Zacharias, the father of John the Baptist, was a priest offering incense to God (**Luke 1:9**)
- Jesus is the centre of Glory, all worship is directed to Him

We are to spend time in worship and prayer

- It is not going to come in five minutes, spend time
- When you come into the Presence of God time will pass so quickly
- There is to be a demonstration of the power of Jesus Christ
- There is to be nothing in between us and the power of God
- We must learn to take time in God's Presence, learn to ignore the clock

In His Presence is fullness of joy, everything is there, there is no lack there

- There is nothing too hard for Him (**Jer.32:17**)
- When we pray for someone, we cannot have any accusations against them
- Come with thanksgiving, praise
- As far as the curse is found so far His redemption will go
- Baptism is our deliverance from the world, burying everything that was of the world, dying to the things of the world – baptism saves us (**1 Pet.3:20**)

Lev.16:12-13

- The high priest will put the incense on the fire before YHWH and the smoke of the incense would cover them when going into the Holiest
- The incense had to pure, made according to God's instruction
- No strange incense
- Must be Spirit led, not our own soulish prayers
- The prayers the Holy Spirit generates in us are the ones He answers
- We pray according to His will – no ambition of our own, He must increase and we must decrease (**John 3:30**)
- The words the Holy Spirit gives us in our mouth to speak are creative, they are the words of God
- Divine authority only comes in the Ark, through the Rod of Aaron
- There is a glory coming to this earth that man has never dreamed of
- The earth is God's
- All the nations are coming to Jesus

Jesus is building His church – where two or three are gathered in His name there is a corporate temple

Psalm 141:2 - Let my prayer be set before You as incense

- The lifting of my hands as the evening sacrifice

There is no counterfeit incense allowed

Revelation 8:3-4 - Angel stood at altar

- Offer the incense with the prayers of the saints before the Throne
- No prayer loses its potency, trust God
- It is God's will for all men to be saved, if you are praying for someone's salvation then that is God's will

- Is it God's will to heal? **Psalm 103:1-4** – yes, pray according to the will of God
- Consult God with others, then get into agreement with the will of God and pray

1 Peter 2:5-9 - Living stones, a spiritual house, a holy priesthood

- Sacrifices are to be offered in the Spirit
- There is a spiritual realm beyond this physical realm
- Jesus in His resurrected body appeared out of that spiritual realm to His disciples

Jesus wants us to walk in the heavenly, spiritual realm

- Everything that is made was made out of what is invisible, He created everything to respond to His voice
- The spiritual realm is superior to the physical realm
- Anyone who uses the book of Enoch is probably a Gnostic – it is not in accord with the Word of God
- Anyone using the faculties of the soul to have a spiritual experience is in the occult

Ephesians 5:18-20 – be filled with the Spirit, speak to yourselves with Psalms, hymns and spiritual songs (a song originating in the Spirit)

- **Sing a new song to the Lord**
- Sing and pray in tongues, you fortify yourself
- Make a joyful noise (**Ps.100:1**) – God is not afraid of noise
- Shout unto God with a voice of triumph (**Psalm 47:1**)

Psalm 150 - Let everything that has breath that praise the Lord

How much of God do you want??

THE CHURCH IN ACTION

Stop going to church! Start being the church!

There is a need for the church to change

The apostolic word is to change the way we “do church”

We are to “stop going to church” and start “being the church”

We are the church.

The church is the people of God. We are baptised into His Body (**1 Cor.12:13**). Every member in the Body is to function.

Mostly people have “gone to church” on Sundays. People’s expectations have been of a religious ceremony, not even knowing why certain traditions and practices were kept.

There have been demonstrations of the church

- House meetings where church functioned
- People singing choruses, people speaking in an unknown tongue, interpreting the tongue, shiny eyes, the Word shared, revelation
- Charismatic meetings (interdenominational), awesome Presence of God, could bring Scriptures to contribute, room was made for the people to contribute something
- We are learning about the church of the Bible, led by the Spirit
- Humans though, love the law more than grace and spontaneity in the Spirit generally leaves

Many have seen “church” as having a holy person (a pastor, reverend, priest...) and a congregation sitting in rows to listen to the holy person conduct the meeting

- Mostly it does not take longer than an hour
- Rules and laws and recitations

Becoming the church of the Scripture

- We are blessed to be part of the restoration of apostles and prophets and the raising up of the Church
- We have been blessed to be able to get a lot of teaching to the nations through manuals, books etc.
- Preaching the Kingdom of God and teaching of the Lord Jesus Christ
- The fruit is that leaders get a transformational revelation, they change
- But has the “format of church” changed?
- We still seem to so easily fall back into the same mould of one person doing everything and a congregation listening and giving habitual responses

God is raising many apostolic and prophetic teachers in the nations

- And there is a place for listening to teachers and gathering around
- But that is not the normal meeting of the church

- We receive the five-fold ministers and give them prominence when they come amongst us to minister

The Word of God requires transformational change

- **Romans 12:2** – we must be renewed in our mind to be transformed (changed, transfigured – Gk. *metamorphoo, change of substance*)
- this happens by the Word
- **2 Corinthians 3:18** – we all with unveiled face behold the glory of the Lord and are being changed (transformed, transfigured)

Despite there being many good preachers and apostles and teachers there has been little change in the practice of the church

The Old Testament Pattern

to keep His people in right relationship with Him

- Human beings need community
- the church is a community
- where do we find the community?
- we need to get out of a religious mindset into reality
- we are to fellowship together in the Word and the Spirit
- you can change your house into a church by your lifestyle
- **it is what you do in companionship with those of your household**
- **are you the church or do you go out to church?**

Never underestimate what God can do with anyone of any age

- let's not "bring our children to church" but teach them that they are the church
- we are the church in our home
- we practice the "first works" – **Acts 2:42** – in our home

The Framework of the Torah for how to conduct ourselves as worshipers of God

1. God required **daily offerings**; do not forget God on any day
2. God required **Sabbath keeping**; weekly meeting with other families to worship God; we have traditionally made this our Sunday meetings
3. God required **monthly acknowledgement of the new moon**; God has led us to have a 'Community Weekend' every month where all the house churches come together for teaching and celebration of Jesus
4. and God required the **observance of the annual feasts**. These were to be yearly
When we look at this more closely, we find a wonderful pattern on which to base our lifestyle and practice of worshiping God.

Understanding 'New Moons' – a monthly celebration

Numbers 28 – speaks of: Daily offerings; Sabbath offerings; New Moon (monthly) offerings

- **V.11-15** – burnt offerings always required for all feasts
- Burnt offering for each month throughout the months of the year

- After the monthly offerings then is the offerings for the Feasts (yearly sacrifices)
- At yearly feasts all male Israelites were to appear in the place of His Presence to celebrate the feasts
- In **Acts 2** – Jews from many different nations were in Jerusalem for the Feast of Pentecost (probably been there since Passover)

How can we fulfil the pattern today?

- The points of the law help us

- 1) DAILY OFFERING** – do you have a daily offering in your home where you give devoted time as a household to Jesus
- Celebrating the Lord's Table, reading the Word, worshiping, praying
- This is establishing the altar of the Lord
- Do not make up rules but pull your household together to celebrate Jesus
- Make commitments – commitment comes out of love for Jesus
- Breaking bread is remembering Jesus, the offering, the reading of Scriptures

- 2) SABBATH KEEPING** – traditionally in the Christian world is meeting together on Sundays

- On the Sabbath we are to do no customary work because we are totally focused on spending the day with God
- We are to show up with God; Weekly we are to do this
- Most of us are free on Sunday to be part of a church meeting, families meeting in a house to worship Jesus together
- The potential is that members from the families through their daily offering (devotions) to Jesus will have something to contribute in the weekly Sabbath meeting to encourage everybody in the Lord
- Learning to function according to **1 Corinthians 14:26**

- 3) MONTHLY NEW MOON FULFILMENT** – we have been led before even seeing this pattern that we meet monthly as a congregation of all the house churches together

- Since going into house churches, the monthly community meetings are great to see people that we do not see on a regular basis anymore

- 4) ANNUAL FEASTS** – Feasts are God's prophetic calendar

- The training schools we do every year (twice a year) are our feasts
- People come from nations and around Australia to feast on the Word and the Spirit together

There is the pattern. Plan to be at the feasts. Take the family!

The Church of the New Testament

The Bible says the church, the household of God, is built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets...growing and being fitted together - **Ephesians 2:20-22**

- We are being fitted together
- Not one person doing everything and all the others watching
- Leaders in the Body teach others to follow Jesus (walk in union together with Him)
- This is so we can be built together as a dwelling place of God in the Spirit
- This is a reality of God dwelling in the midst of His people

- It is one thing to know the Scriptural pattern
- It is another to know the state of the church today

But how does the church start to change to actually do what the Scriptures say?

We cannot put new wine into old wine skins, the new wine will leak

Even with the Charismatic movement, finally they tried to add the Charismatic to the old wine skin, the old format of church

The Synagogue pattern is not for the church

- There is no historical evidence that the church established synagogues for their meeting places
- In synagogue, women were not allowed in the main synagogue meeting
- No unbelievers allowed
- Dominated by the Rabbi
- Apostle Paul was often allowed to greet and even preach in there. Which he did till he was kicked out.
- After fall of Jerusalem, synagogues did not allow any followers of Jesus to be in there

What was the practice of the early church?

Acts 2:38-42 - they continued steadfastly in the apostles' doctrine (teaching of the word), fellowship (caring and sharing with one another), breaking of bread and prayers (pray more than ever before)

- We build in prayer, talk to the Lord about hopes and desires and our experience of Him
- We need a revival we know not of today
- **Acts 3:19** – times of refreshing will come from the Presence of the Lord so we can be ready to receive Jesus Christ from heaven

What instructions are there for a church meeting?

1 Corinthians 14:26 - A wonderful snap shot of a church meeting,
Probably 10 to 30 people. Whenever you come together...

Each one of you has:

- Psalm – a song
- A teaching
- A revelation

- A tongue in a public message
- An interpretation
- All things are to be done for edification
- **Every member in the meeting can have a particular contribution**
- This is the church functioning
- The Biblical pattern was for the church to meet in the house

The place of prayer - 1 Timothy 2:1

- The church should be praying and be an integral part of every meeting
- We should be praying for governmental leaders and all sorts of prayer needs

All of us need to seriously consider the conduct of **the church which is built on the foundation of apostles and prophets.**

- We have so much church tradition and practice to overcome

Every minister's goal should be -

- the "**equipping** [perfecting, setting the church in order to function] **of the saints**,
- **for the edifying** [building up] **of the body of Christ**".
- This is "**the work of the ministry**" (Eph.4:12) of all apostles, prophets, evangelists, pastors and teachers.

SONS TO GLORY

THE GOAL OF DISCIPLESHIP

MANY SONS TO GLORY

Hebrews 2:10 - Bringing many sons to glory

- The captain of our salvation made perfect through sufferings
- Jesus died to bring many sons to glory
- Jesus takes responsibility to disciple us if we commit to Him.

Galatians 4:4-5

- When the fullness of the time had come, God sent forth Jesus
- To redeem us that we might receive the adoption (placement) as sons
- If you have received Jesus, you have been born of God – adoption refers to being positioned as a mature son who will inherit

We need to see the end goal – the hope, the glory of where God is taking us.

We have this hope as an anchor of our soul.

It keeps us in the right place. (**Heb 6:19-20**)

Predestined to be conformed to the image of His Son - Romans 8:29-30

- That He might be the firstborn among many brethren
- A company of sons (man-child); An overcoming company
- **V.30** – whom He predestined, He called
- Chosen from before the foundation of the world (**Eph 1:4**)
- Whom He called, He justified
- We have been made blameless in His sight (no outstanding debts)
- Those whom He justified, He glorified
- He has put His glory within

This is the goal of discipleship.

A few definitions of sons

What do sons look like?

John 5:17-19

- My Father has been working until now and I have been working
- Sons enter into the Father's work
- They work with the Father
- The Father's work is done in the earth through sons
- **V.18-19** – sons are fully dependent on the Father (not relying on their own human ability)
- Sons see what the Father does; Sons do what the Father does

The Father Sends Sons - John 6:57

- He is a living Father – we are to be in a living relationship with the Father
- Sons feed on their Father – they look to their Father for the food and provision they need
- What do you feed on?
- Jesus didn't feed on anything negative, He feed from His Father

John 4:34 - My food is to do the will of Him who sent Me

- Sons feed on doing the will of their Father

John 8:38 - Jesus spoke what He had seen with His Father

- No corrupt word ever proceeded out of Jesus' mouth

Sons are led by the Spirit of God - Romans 8:14

- As many as are led by the Spirit of God, these are the sons of God
- Those who are being continually led by the Spirit of God (a lifestyle)
- We want to be truly led by the Spirit of God
- Through discipleship we learn about who God really is and how He speaks
- It is a disciplined lifestyle to be led by the Spirit
- It takes commitment, discipline, obedience and accountability to be fully led by the Spirit

The goal of discipleship is to produce a people who know the voice, who know the will and the leading of their Father and do it faithfully.

The goal of discipleship is not to draw disciples unto a man (**Acts 20**).

THE COMMISSION

Matthew 28:18-20

- Jesus has all authority in heaven and on earth
- Go therefore and make disciples of all nations...
- Jesus is with us (by His Spirit)
- This is the way to see sons raised in all the nations

Abraham – a great discipler

The call into discipleship - Genesis 12:1-3

- The call of Abraham into discipleship
- Get out of your country – come out of the world, its customs and culture
- Get out of your family – it's time to learn a new way
- Come out of the house of your father (leaving generational traditions)
- To a land that I will show you
- I will make you a great nation...you shall be a blessing
- The process of discipleship is to bring us to a place where we can inherit the land
- In you all the families of the earth will be blessed

Establishing an altar - Gen.12:7-8 -

- Abraham entered into a lifestyle of calling on the name of YHWH
- He knew to honour the name of YHWH

v.10-20 - Abraham experience the protection and the covering of YHWH on the journey

Not full of ambition, humility - Genesis 13

- Lot and Abraham had to divide
- Abraham, as a disciple of YHWH, was the peacemaker
- He took the low road – not full of own ambition
- Lot went after that ambition (the land of Sodom and Gomorrah looked good)

v.14-16 - Abraham built an altar after he received this word from YHWH

John 15:7-8 – Abraham received rhema words from YHWH

Abram had trained men in his own household - Genesis 14

- Lot was captured
- **V.14** – Abram armed his 318 trained servants who were born in his own house
- Abram trained these men (a discipler); He had an army
- **1 John 2:12-14** – there are 3 generations in the church (3 stages of maturity – little children, young men and fathers)
- These ones born in Abram's house grew up and were trained
- They rescued Lot

Abram met Melchizedek, was blessed, and gave a tithe - V.18-20

- Abram met Melchizedek (the King Priest)
- He entered into a new place of maturity
- He was blessed by the possessor of heaven and earth
- He brought out bread and wine
- Abram gave Him a tithe of all

Walk before God and be blameless - Genesis 17:1-2

- Abram was 99 years old and YHWH appeared to him
- Disciples need to learn to walk before God (keeping God in your view)
- Be blameless – make things right straight away
- Disciples keep short accounts and own up to their mistakes

There is a cost - v.10 – every male child among you shall be circumcised

- **Colossians 2:9-13** – In Him (Christ) dwells all the fullness of the Godhead bodily
- you are complete in Him
- in Him you were circumcised with the circumcision made without hands; the circumcision of Christ – a cutting off of the body of the sins of the flesh
- you were buried with Christ and raised with Him
- you cannot be a disciple in your own strength
- we need to be baptised into Messiah Jesus – raised with Him, united with Him
- God also leads us into a circumcision

Abraham commanded his whole household - Genesis 18:19

- Abraham commanded his children and his household after him to keep the way of YHWH
- Do righteousness and justice

The fruit of being a discipler - Genesis 24

- Abraham is wanting to find a bride for his son
- He sends his servant on a mission
- **v.27** – as for me, being on the way, YHWH led me
- **Abraham produced a disciple who was in the way**, being led by YHWH
- YHWH leading on the mission

Disciples are ones who are led by their Father, being led by the Spirit

The world is going to see a company of sons who are in the way, being led by their Father.

Guardians and stewards are necessary for a season.

We then need to learn to be accountable to the leading of the Holy Spirit within.

We need to be trusted to be corrected and led by the Holy Spirit – walking as sons of God.

1 Cor 12:13 – by one Spirit we have all been baptised into one body and have all been made to drink into one Spirit

We are all involved in Discipleship

As a company, we are actively involved in discipling one another.

Colossians 3:16 – let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, teaching and admonishing one another...

We are all involved in discipleship – discipling those around us.

2 Cor 10:5-6 – through our obedience we take vengeance on the disobedience around us

Every member contributing is so important

Ephesians 5:18-21

- Being filled with the Spirit involves submitting to one another in the fear of God
- A truly spirit-filled person is submitted in the body
- Sensitive to the voice of God coming from the rest of the body

THE FREEDOM OF THE GLORY

Creation is waiting for the revealing of the Sons of God

Romans 8:19-21

- The earnest expectation of the creation eagerly waits (looks for expectantly) for the revealing (unveiling, manifestation) of the sons of God
- Creation is looking for the unveiling of the sons of God
- Creation was subjected to futility in hope (this happened when man disobeyed God in the garden)
- Not without hope (Gen 3:15)
- There is a deliverer – one who destroys an oppressor to set the oppressed free
- **V.21** – creation itself also will be delivered (set free, liberated from the curse)
- Free from the bondage to corruption (decay)
- Creation will be set free into the glorious liberty of the children of God
- The mountains and the hills will break forth, there will be shouts of joy and all the trees of the field will clap their hands

Glorious liberty - the freedom of the glory

- Within the glory there is freedom
- The more we experience the glory of God, the freer we are

Adam was told, "In the day you eat of that tree, dying you will die"

- Death entered the world at that moment

God wants us walking in freedom and liberty, in the glory

Liberty – (SC Gk#1657) means *freedom, true liberty, living out of God's desires in us*

- God wants to bring us into this glorious liberty.

HOW DO WE ACCESS THIS LIBERTY?

1) The veil needs to be taken away

2 Corinthians 3:15-18 - A veil lies on their heart – seeing things according to the flesh

- When we turn to the Lord, the veil is taken away
- We need to see beyond the veil into the glory (seeing the Word of God in its true light)

Isaiah 25:6-9 - YHWH will destroy on this mountain (you have to come to this mountain)

- He will destroy the surface of the covering which is cast over all people, the veil that is spread over all the nations
- So that people can see what is the fellowship of the mystery of Christ (Eph 3:9)
- V.8 – He will then swallow up death forever (life begins to come and the bondage to decay is broken)

2 Corinthians 3:17-18 - The Lord is the Spirit

- Where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom
- When we turn to the Lord, the Spirit of the Lord sets us free
- We get lifted into the spiritual reality and application
- With unveiled face, beholding as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from glory to glory
- A freedom that leads us into the glory of God

2) We access this glorious liberty through the truth

John 8:31-32 - Disciples continue (remain, abide) in the word

- They will come to know (understand, perceive, recognise, experience) the truth
- The truth is not information – it is experiential
- Knowing the truth in this way will make you free
- Jesus walked in the glorious liberty of the truth
- The truth sets us free from lies;
- We are to speak the truth about each other to one another

Truth – means reality, it stands forever

Truth is not a set of facts; Truth is the reality in Christ.

- The truth sets us free from lies, false doctrine and wrong hopes.

Your hope will be firmly planted in who Jesus is. In this place you will be free from all disappointment.

Freedom doesn't have to do with our outward circumstances. It is an inward reality.

Galatians 2:4-5 - False brethren were brought in to spy out the liberty which they had in Christ Jesus; Paul did not yield to this, that the truth of the gospel might continue

3) We access this liberty by the Son

John 8:36 - If the Son sets you free, you shall be free indeed

- The law was a shadow and copy of the true
- If the Son sets you free, you have come into the reality

WHAT ARE WE LIBERATED FROM?

Romans 3:23 - We have all fallen short of the glory because of sin (missing the mark)

1) We are set free from sin

John 8:32-36 - Whoever commits sin is a slave of sin

- A slave does not abide in the house forever, but a son abides forever
- Sons of God are set free from sin

2) Freed from sin through baptism

Romans 6:1-3 - How shall we who died to sin live any longer in it?

- When we were baptised into Christ Jesus, we were baptised into His death

- Jesus was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father
- Likewise, we should also walk in newness of life (in the glorious liberty)
- Jesus freed us from what was oppressing and blocking us
- In the glory there is no sin (nothing that defiles, no consciousness of sin)

- **v.5** – if we have been united together in the likeness of His death, certainly we also shall be in the likeness of His resurrection
- The body of sin has been done away with (rendered inoperative)

- **v.6-7** That we should no longer be slaves of sin – we are freed from sin
- We have a completely new life – in the glory of the Father
- Death no longer has dominion over him
- We are freed from death (the consequence of sin)
- **John 11:25-26** – Jesus is the resurrection and the Life. He who lives and believes in Jesus will never die.
- We are free from the very fear of death (Heb 2:14-15 - released)

Rom.6:14 – sin shall not have dominion over you

v.15 – grace does not allow us to sin; grace teaches us to obey God

v.17 – though you were slaves of sin, you obeyed from the heart that form of doctrine to which you were delivered

v.18 – having been set free from sin, you became slaves of righteousness

v.22-23 – walking in life

3) We are freed from fear

Romans 8:1-2 - There is no condemnation to those who are in Christ Jesus – walking according to the Spirit

- Free from the law of sin and death; No condemnation = no fear of judgment
- The law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has made me free
- The old nature (old man) was governed by sin and death
- We are no longer in the old man, we are in Christ Jesus
- We died already (with Christ) – the death He died was once for all

- **v.9** – you are not in the flesh
- you are in the Spirit if the Spirit of God dwells in you
- Messiah in us is the freedom of the glory (the hope of glory)
- When the sons of God are revealed, Christ in us will be seen
- In Christ the distinctions are lost – there is a freedom in the glory (all one in Christ)

- **v.14-15** – sons of God are led by the Spirit of God
- you did not receive the spirit of bondage again to fear, but the spirit of sonship by which we cry, "Abba, Father!"
- as sons God hears us when we cry, "Abba, Father!"

- **John 11:40-43** – Jesus knew that the Father heard Him
- This is the glory of the Father being revealed
- This is the glorious liberty that we have as sons of God – this is the confidence we have

4) Freedom from the elements of the world

Galatians 4 - We were in bondage under the elements (principles) of the world

- God sent forth Jesus when the fullness of the time had come
- He has redeemed us that we might receive the adoption as sons
- Because you are sons, God has sent forth the Spirit of His Son into your hearts
- Don't turn back to the weak and beggarly elements of this world

5) Freedom comes from above

Galatians 4:21-31 - Free woman

- **Free** - SC Gk#1658 – *a citizen, a free-born in contrast to a slave*
 - the natural (the flesh) is in bondage
 - **v.26** – but, **the Jerusalem above is free**, which is the mother of us all
 - God gave us birth in the midst of the Jerusalem above
 - The Jerusalem above is the mother of nations
 - we are children of promise
 - cast out the bondwoman and her son
 - you must be born of Jerusalem which is from above if you want to be free
- Gal.5:1** – stand fast in the liberty by which the Messiah has made us free

Revelation 21:10-11

- The holy Jerusalem, descending out of heaven from God, having the glory of God

Revelation 22:1-4

- There shall **be no more curse** (creation will be delivered)
- The **throne of God and of the Lamb shall be in it**
- Sons serving their Father in His business (His name on their foreheads)

APOSTLES AND PROPHETS

There has been very little recognition in most of the church worldwide of these ministries. But these ministries are clearly recognized and received in the New Testament church of the Bible. We need to know why they are vital and why they are needed.

God has appointed an order - 1 Corinthians 12:28

- God's appointments in the church are: 1st apostles, 2nd prophets
- Why? Paul had a revelation of why these ministries are the first two appointments in the church
- There will be clear Scriptural evidence of this

Apostles were appointed first - Luke 6:12-16

- Jesus appointed 12 apostles
- He named them
- He chose them from among His many disciples and He named them apostles

We know later that Judas betrayed Jesus & fell from his ministry as an apostle

There needed to be twelve apostles - Revelation 21:14

- Names of 12 apostles of the Lamb were the foundations of the wall of the city
- There needed to be 12 apostles of the Lamb

Another appointed - Acts 1:15-26

- Let another take his office (Judas was to be replaced)
- Requirement to be the 12th was that they had to be with Jesus from baptism of John until He was taken up to heaven
- 2 qualified; Matthias was chosen as the 12th ("numbered with the 11")

Ministry of the Prophet

Acts 11:27-30 - Prophets (a number of them) from Jerusalem were being sent to Antioch

- Prophets were being raised up in the Jerusalem church
- Agabus was named; this is the first mention of New Testament prophets
- Agabus showed what was going to take place
- We need the prophet to be alerted on major things God wants us to know will happen

Acts 13:1 - At the church at Antioch there were certain **prophets** and teachers

- They were **part of the eldership at Antioch**

- Paul is mentioned as a teacher in **1 Tim.2:7, 2 Tim.1:11**
- Barnabas is mentioned in **Acts 4:36** as the “Son of Encouragement” – the apostles gave him that name
- In **1 Cor.14:3** it says that prophecy brings edification, exhortation and comfort
- He was called a “Son of Encouragement” because he functioned as a prophet
- Barnabas in Hebrew/Aramaic means “Son of a Prophet”

Apostles appointed in the Book of Acts

Called to be apostles: **Acts 13:2** – Holy Spirit spoke (through the prophets); separate Barnabas and Saul [Paul]

Acts 14:14 - Both Paul and Barnabas are then named as apostles

- Paul still carried the teaching gift
- Barnabas still would have carried the prophetic gift even though both are apostles now

Apostles and prophets together - Acts 15:30-35

- They were carrying a letter: this was Paul, Barnabas, Judas and Silas
- Judas and Silas were prophets
- Apostles and prophets working together
- Prophets exhorted and strengthened the brethren with many words (a ministry of the word)
- Silas as a prophet stayed at Antioch with apostles Paul and Barnabas
- Apostles & prophets were sent together to bring the correction on doctrine (**v.28-29**)
- Prophets confirmed the apostolic word

Acts 15:40 - Paul chose Silas to go with him on the next mission trip

- So now there is an apostle and prophet team going out on mission together

Acts 21:8-14 - Agabus the prophet came to Caesarea to Philip’s house

- Paul the apostle, Philip the evangelist with his 4 virgin daughters who prophesied as well as Agabus the prophet

These are examples of God’s appointments in the church evidenced in the book of Acts

1) Apostles and prophets are foundational ministries

Ephesians 2:20 - Paul had the revelation of apostles and prophets working together in the Body

- They are the foundation ministries for the household of God to be built
- They bring the revelation that all who believe in Jesus the Messiah can have access to the Father by One Spirit (**v.18**)
- Apostles and prophets bring us to Jesus!
- They reveal the plan for us to be built together to be God’s dwelling place

2) Apostles and prophets are given grace to reveal the mystery

Ephesians 3:5 - God has revealed the mystery by the Spirit to His holy apostles and prophets

- They bring us into the “fellowship of the mystery” of Christ
- They both preach the unsearchable riches of Christ
- They give understanding to the Body so we can experience the deep fellowship of being one in Messiah/Christ

3) Apostles and prophets come with the authority of Messiah's ascension

Ephesians 4:11 - Gave some to be apostles, some prophets

- Jesus gave gifts to men to release grace (**Eph.4:7-8**)
- This grace is released to equip the saints so we can function in the Body (**v.12**)
- Prophetic grace will bring exhortation, comfort and edification
- We need apostles and prophets to come to a mature/perfect man in Christ (**v.13**)

4) Apostles and prophets testify of who Jesus is

Luke 11:49 - The wisdom of God said, “I will send them prophets and apostles and some of them they will kill and persecute.”

- Why did Jesus say He would send apostles and prophets? Apostles and prophets testify of who Jesus is
- That is why they will suffer persecution and even be killed

5) Apostles and Prophets will see Babylon fall

Revelation 18:20 - In the context of Babylon falling

- Babylon = confusion
- Why would apostles and prophets be rejoicing in seeing Babylon fall
- Apostles and prophets testify of the truth and take away confusion
- God destroys Babylon through His apostles and prophets
- They reveal Jesus, this takes away confusion

**It is necessary to receive apostles and prophets
so we can really see who Jesus is!**

BEING IN THE WAY

The conclusion of the matter from "Hearing God" [session 4]

- We need to be led by the Lord
- We need to hear His voice
- Relationship is built on good communication
- God wants intimacy

Revision:

1) He speaks through His Word (**Ps.119:105**), we are to prayerfully read the Word and hear from Him

2) He speaks by His Spirit, through dreams, visions, prophecy, the inner witness, having "knowing" of what He is saying

- **Jn.16:13** – Holy Spirit is the "Spirit of Truth" (He is Jesus in us, the Messiah/King in us), He will lead and guide us into all truth, He will speak what He hears, He will tell you things to come

3) CIRCUMSTANCES

How does God lead us through circumstances?

- There are times God gives us opportunities, He opens doors
- God will often give us a "desire"
- These desires make us want to follow Him
- We then follow the leading of the Spirit
- the doors open in God's timing
- If you try to pry the door open, you will end up in trouble
- We need to hear His voice so we can be rightly positioned

How can we properly be led by the Spirit?

Genesis 24:27 We need to **be in the Way**

- I, being in the way, YHWH led me
- We must **be in the way** for YHWH to lead us
- We have to be positioned for the Spirit of God to lead us

The Way is staying in the Word, prayer, in fellowship, breaking bread... then God can lead us

- The servant of Abraham was sent and obedient ("in the way")
- He prayed specifically and got the answer exactly
- "I, being in the way" = one word in Hebrew: *a course of life, a journey, a road, a way, a path or a course of action*
- As we are in the way, God will guide us and open doors for us

Doors opening and shutting

Revelation 3:7 - Jesus is the One who opens, and no one shuts and shuts and no one opens

- If God opens the door, no man can shut that door
- also if God closes a door, no man can open it
- we need to be following the King
- we need to trust Him that He will direct our paths

The Apostles were in the Way

Acts 16:6-10 - They were in the Way, out doing the work of the gospel

- Holy Spirit closed the door to preach in Asia
- This was His direction for them
- It was not the end of the world when God said "No", just obey
- God opened another door for them to go through

As God opens a door our circumstances line up with the desire that God has put in us

- We are to be led by the peace of God, the peace is to rule our hearts (**Col.3:15**)

A Gentile and a Jew – both being in the Way

Acts 10 - Cornelius found himself being in the Way

- He was a Gentile that brought his whole household into worship of God
- While in prayer an angel appeared to him and spoke (**v.3**)
- He received very specific instructions of what to do
- Cornelius sent his servants (**v.8**) – they were in the Way

v.9 - Peter was in prayer; he fell into a trance (not in sleep but senses in suspense)

- saw a vision and heard a voice; 3 times this happened
- Cornelius' servants were on the Way
- all of them were in the Way
- Peter was then able to receive these men because of what God had showed him (**v.17-19**). This was God opening the door to the Gentile nations

Cornelius, his servants and Peter were all in the Way and the door opened to the Gentiles to come into the kingdom of God

- Look at the intricate way that God leads us
- So important to hear the voice of God and obey

Don't move until these 3 line up:

These 3 must line up

- The Word – what does the Word say
 - The Voice of the Spirit – bringing that inner peace
 - The Circumstances (door opens)
-
- If any of these are missing, don't go

- Wait until all 3 line up, then there is the go ahead
- This is the safety check

Three Verses to encourage us

Psalm 48:14

- This is God, our God forever and ever
- He will be our guide even to death
- He will never leave us

Isaiah 30:21

- You will hear a word/voice behind you saying, "This is the way, walk in it"

Isaiah 42:16

- He will lead us and make the dark path light before us

ABIDING IN THE WORD

John 15:4 - Abide in Me and I in you

- Branch can only bear fruit by abiding in the Vine

How do we get into the Vine?

John 1:12-13 - Receive Jesus and believe in His name to be given the right to be children of God, born of God; **John 3:3** – be born again

Abide means to "Stay"

- We are to stay, remain, dwell, continue, to tarry, to endure, to be present and to stand

1 John 2:6 - If we say we "abide" in Him we ought to walk just as Jesus walked

How did Jesus walk?

Jesus lived for the will of the One who sent Him - John 12:23-26

- If we want to be those who disciple others, we need to be the disciple that we want others to be
- We need to be willing to lay down our life like Jesus, then we will produce disciples just like this

Understand the will and purpose of God - Matthew 16:16-23

v.16 - Peter had the amazing revelation of Jesus as the Messiah

v.23 – then Jesus was talking about suffering and dying

- Jesus rebuked Peter as Peter was trying to tell Him not to die
- Peter was not realising the plan of God and looking naturally
- we need to have our minds renewed to understand the will and purpose of God

Meditate on the Word of God - Psalm 1:1

The "counsel of the ungodly" can also be our own mind talking to us

v.2-3 – we are to meditate day and night in the Word and then we will prosper and have good success

- this is abiding in the Word, this is a living relationship

Do not be conformed to this world - Romans 12:2-3

- We are transformed by the renewing of our minds
- This makes us able to know the will of God
- We stay in the Word

Receive with meekness the implanted Word - James 1:17-18

- All good and perfect gifts come down from the Father of Lights
- He brought us forth to be a firstfruits of His creation

v.21 – to receive the word with meekness we need to lay aside all wickedness

- meekness is willing to be taught

- this word will make us whole, save our souls, rescue and heal us

v.22 – so be doers of the Word you receive

v.25 – we are to “continue” in the Word, the perfect law of liberty

- if we continue, we will be blessed in what we do, we will prosper (**Ps.1:2-3**)

Receive the washing of the water of the word - Ephesians 5:25-27

- We are sanctified and cleansed by the washing of the water by the word (“rhema” a living word spoken to us)
- This causes us to become a glorious church

The word that Jesus speaks cleanses us - **John 15:3**

Let us be those who abide in His word

John 15:7-8

- If we abide in Jesus and His “words” abide in us we will ask what we desire and it shall be done
- “words” is “rhema”
- We are no longer desiring our own will but His desires that have been birthed in us by His words

We are to be established in the present truth (2 Pet.1:12)

He wants us to be moving forward in the present revelation that God is bringing to His church

LISTENING TO GOD

Wait and listen - We are to wait in the place where He rules and reigns, in His realm and He will give us specific instructions

God has a purpose for us - Winning souls is God's agenda

We were all born for a purpose and predestined with a purpose in God

- He had this purpose for us even before we were conceived in our mother's womb

The example of Moses chosen by God to deliver His people

God foreknew what was going to happen to His people

Genesis 15:13 - God spoke to Abram and made covenant with him

- God prophesied that his descendants would be strangers in a land and afflicted 400 years; A specific time was given
- Before Moses was conceived God had predestined him to be a deliverer

v.14 – God would judge that nation and his descendants would come out with great possessions

- God was speaking to Abram about what would happen in the time of Moses
- it was not to do with Moses' agenda
- saving souls, the Great Commission is not of us, it is God's agenda and in the heart of God

Stephen recounts this time in the book of Acts

Acts 7:17

- The time came for the promise that God had sworn to Abraham to come true
- This was the purpose of God for the children of Israel before time
- We can wait for God's time
- Despite what we see around us, God predestined us for a purpose, and that purpose is in God
- We need to wait in God's Presence to hear God speak

v.20-22 – Moses was born, and he grew in the Egyptian education system

- where you are right now does not matter
- Moses grew knowing that he had a purpose to help the children of Israel

v.24-29 – Moses tried to fulfil this his own way, but it backfired

- everything of Egypt had to get out of him
- we have to lay down our own strength
- God took Moses away for forty years in the desert
- we are to be encouraged that wherever we are, we are to wait for the purpose of God to be outworked in our life

- there is an appointed time, God sets that time and it is perfect
- God protected Moses all along and we are also not here by chance
- we have to come to the place where "it has to be You God" – everything else is stripped away

Psalm 33:11 - The plans of YHWH stand forever

Finally, Moses knew he was totally dependent on God

The time came where God called Moses to now go to Egypt and deliver His people

- Now Moses does not want to go unless God goes before Him (**Exodus 33:15**)
- Now Moses does not want to do anything without God

Stay close to God and listen to Him

The way to stay in Him and with Him is to commune with Him at the Lord's Table

- This is a wonderful way to come into His Presence to be able to hear Him

We are to turn away from our way of doing things and look at Jesus

- Stay focused on Him and on what He accomplished
- We will hear Him and know His will.

THE LOVE OF GOD SHED ABROAD BY THE HOLY SPIRIT

What motivates you to go to nations

Romans 8:38-39

- Nothing can separate us from the love of God
- “love” – agape – charity, this love expresses the essential nature of God and seeks the highest good of the receiver

Romans 5:5

- This love is shed abroad in our hearts by the Holy Spirit who has been given us
- “shed abroad” = to bestow, to pour out
- If you have received the Holy Spirit this love is in you
- It is not a fuzzy feeling but God’s character

This love is demonstrated while we are sinners - Romans 5:8

Love ties in with the gifts of the Holy Spirit

1 Corinthians 13:1-4

- we can have gifts, faith, tongues etc, but without love it is nothing
- even good works profit nothing if not done from love
- this is the character of God
- this is a list of what this love is (**v.4-8**)
- love is not provoked – does not react negatively
- love thinks no evil
- love does not rejoice in iniquity but rejoices in truth
- love believes all things (has got to do with believing the truth)
- love endures all things – never fails
- we cannot have this love naturally and on our own

v.11 - when we were a child (an immature Christian, “infant”)

- but when I became a man (a male-child) we put away childish things
- let’s grow up
- God wants us to grow up
- what abides forever? Faith, hope and love but the greatest of these is love

What motivates us to go to nations?

- It is this love
- The greatest commandment is to love God and then from that to love our neighbour; God puts a love for the places He sends us to

In Old Testament, in the Ark of Covenant

- Rod of Aaron
- Tablets of stone
- Pot of manna

These were all in the Tabernacle of Moses

When it came to Solomon's Temple the ark was the only piece of furniture that was not re-made

- The only thing left in the ark at that time was the tablets of stone, the commandments of God (**2 Chron.5:10**)

Jeremiah 31:33-34

- In the New Covenant it is **His laws that are written in our hearts**
- Now they are on tablets of flesh, of the heart
- The great commandments of God are in our hearts
- Loving God and loving our neighbour fulfil the ten commandments
- This is the love of God shed abroad in our heart by the Holy Spirit

Ephesians 3:16-19

- That God would grant us according to the riches of his glory to be strengthened with might in our inner man
- This causes us to know Christ dwelling in us
- The result is coming to know the love of Messiah which passes knowledge
- This fills us with the fullness of God
- Let us search out the dimensions of this love that has placed into our hearts

**We are to be a living sacrifice like Jesus,
demonstrating this love, going to the nations**

A GLORIOUS PEOPLE

Grace of God that brings salvation has appeared to all men –

Titus 2:11-15

- **Jn 1:17** – law came through Moses, grace and truth came through Jesus Christ – Jesus is the grace appearing to all men
- **This grace teaches us** to deny ungodly and worldly lusts
- We are looking at a glorious people, God's own special people
- We are to live **soberly, righteously and godly in this present age**
- There are 2 types of people in the world – those of the kingdom of God and those who are not
- A glorious people deny ungodliness and worldly lusts. Why? Because we have received the grace that appeared to all men
- “soberly and righteously” = living with a mind set on Christ, on the reality of the King and His kingdom
- “righteously and godly” = not going to the building once a week to get God to bless you

Looking for the blessed hope

Titus 2:13 – we are looking for the blessed hope and glorious appearing of our great God and Saviour, Jesus Christ

- we are living with this hope
- we are people with a purpose, not drifting through life aimlessly
- we have a goal – to see the glorious appearing of Jesus Christ
- the reality is that God came in the flesh to redeem mankind
- **Jesus is Coming:** those who believe in Him, born again, will be changed when He comes, mortality will be swallowed up with immortality
- the dead in Christ will rise first whether you believe it or not

We need a “reality check”

- there will be five wise and five foolish, we are not to “play church”, we need reality
- Noah, a preacher of righteousness, was considered mad, no one believed him
- but what happened? The reality of what Noah preached happened
- Noah and his family were walking in reality
- they mocked until the door shut on the boat
- the reality of this blessed hope will happen

We are to be a people “zealous for good works”

- disciples initiate new things out of listening to the Spirit of God
- sons of God are led by Spirit of God – do not need to be a pastor or a “minister”...need to be a disciple, a people zealous to do God’s works

- when you have to give an account of your life before the King, what are you going to say?
- you will have to keep the appointment
- you will be standing before the Blessed and Only Potentate (**1 Tim.6:15**)

What has God put in your hands (spiritually)?

- We have been given much
- To whom much is given, much is expected (required)
- Even Australia as a nation has been given much
- Who are you living for? Are you living for you? Or are you living for Jesus?
- If you are living for yourself, you will make excuses to Jesus
- Some will say, "I married a wife and cannot come" or "I bought a farm, I have to look after it..."
- **Mark 10:17-22** – rich young ruler – Jesus knew what held him back
- Jesus is to be in the Driver's seat

We are to know the "7 steps to fruitful ministry"

- **Prayer; Evangelism; Nurture; Discipling; Training & Equipping; Planting the church; Emergence of New Ministries** [see *Planting the Church Manual, Chapter two*]

First Prayer – then all initiatives come from the Spirit of God

- Prayer is the engine room, the driving force behind all fruitful ministry
- Without prayer you will live a carnal fleshly existence

Second Evangelism – or the reaching out, strategy and direction from God that comes out of prayer

- Implementing an initiative out of hearing God through prayer
- Creative ideas come from the Creator
- Do not waste time
- There is coming a great and glorious day; God is coming
- We only have a certain amount of time
- All our days were written before one began
- We are accountable for the time we are given
- We no longer belong to ourselves, we belong to Jesus (**1 Cor.6:19**)

Jesus gave Himself for us - Titus 2:14

- to redeem us from every lawless deed
- the reality is that we are redeemed (bought back, purchased back from bondage)
- **Romans 6** tells us 3 times that we have been "set free" (at liberty) from sin
- we were slaves to sin, but now we are redeemed, set free
- we have been set free from every work of the flesh
- now we are slaves to righteousness and slaves to God

God wants volunteers – Ps.110:3

- This comes from the liberty of being made free from sin, a new man, living in the Spirit, in the New Covenant
- Now the love of God motivates us
- If you love God you will obey His commands (**Jn.14:21,23**)

We are God's own special people

- We see this with Abram – **Gen.15:1-6**
- God has always wanted His own special people to dwell in the midst of

**God took on flesh and dwelt amongst us so He could dwell with us,
by redeeming us from every lawless deed**

What are the good works we are to be zealous for?

- **Habakkuk 2:14** – we are saved to fill the earth with the knowledge of the glory of YHWH
- **Ephesians 2:10** – created in Christ Jesus for good works which God prepared beforehand to walk in

What are the good works?

Mark 16:15-16 - Preach the gospel to every creature

- Believe and be baptised and you will be saved
- Go into all the world
- Gospel is good news – **Mark 1:1, 14-15**

Matthew 28:18-20 - All authority given to Jesus; Make disciples of all nations

- Baptising them in the name
- Teach them to observe all things Jesus commanded
- Jesus will be with us always till the end of age
- Jesus is our Apostle and High Priest (**Heb.3:1**)

How do we know what works we should be doing?

We look at Jesus and see what He did

- Most of the church/ecclesia has got off target
- How many buildings did Jesus build? None
- We have grace and apostleship for obedience to the faith among all nations (**Romans 1:5**)
- If we leave these commissions/commands we will stray
- See if your doctrine lines up with the Chief Cornerstone
- Jesus as Apostle and high Priest shows us the way to go

- **These good works are making disciples**
- **Who are you discipling?**

We are to be “zealous” for good works

“zealous” = burning with zeal, having warmth or feeling for or against, deep commitment, eager devotion to something or someone, an enthusiast, uncompromising partisan, admirer, emulator, imitator, follower

Take heed how we build - 1 Corinthians 3:9-17

- We are to take heed on how we build on the foundation of Jesus Christ
- We are all accountable for our own faith
- There is no other foundation than Jesus Christ;
- We must be careful how we build on that
- When we give account of the works we have done, the Day will declare what sort of work we have done; Our work will be tested by fire (judgement)
- If we built with eternal things, they will remain and we will receive a reward
- If built with hay, stubble, straw, works will be burnt up – those people have built with fleshly things
- Prosperity gospel will burn up, come to church to experience a coffee shop...etc.
- “building” with worldly entertainments will burn up
- **We must build according to the Word**
- Those building through the flesh will be saved but suffer the loss of everything they built
- We follow Jesus by doing what He did; Jesus made disciples – we are to do that too
- **Mark 16:17-18** – believers doing what Jesus did
- we must teach the truth
- get out of ‘Churchianity’ and build with gold, silver and precious stones
- repent of being selfish and looking at your own ability
- behold the glory and be changed from glory to glory (**2 Cor.3:18**)

What Jesus says will happen - you cannot get around it

We are the temple of God

1 Cor.3:16 - you are the temple of God

- the Spirit of God dwells in you (plural as the church)
- we are the temple; we are living stones being built together

1 Cor.6:19-20 - your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit

- you are not your own; you were bought at a price
- glorify God in your body and your spirit, which are God’s
- you do not own yourself, you do not belong to yourself
- we should not be doing things with our bodies that God did not tell us to
- your temple (body) is to serve God and His purposes
- **how do you glorify God with your body?** Go on mission, make disciples, use your body to do the will of God, go to the prayer meeting

- **we also glorify God in our spirit** – how is your prayer life? Are you spending time with God?

Live soberly - Titus 2:12

- living soberly is living in a prayerful state, living in the reality of the Word of God, abiding in the Word
- Jesus' word will never pass away
- Living righteously is seeking first the King and His kingdom (**Matt.6:33**), living out the Word and teaching the Word to others
- We are to be about the Father's business, bringing people to maturity, nurturing them
- The foundations (**Heb.6:1-2**) should be tools in your tool box to help people be on the road to maturity

**God is wanting us to be a people who can
help others come to maturity**

CAN THESE BONES LIVE?

The vision of Ezekiel

Ezekiel 37:1-14 is one of the most amazing passages of Scripture, full of revelation and truth, engendering hope and vision to us even until this day. In the vision, Ezekiel was not speaking to a large crowd; he was in the Spirit of YHWH. No one it seems was there to hear him; he is with YHWH in the Spirit looking at a vision in a valley full of bones. This vision has historic and contemporary meaning and yet it was first expressed by the Spirit to Ezekiel and Ezekiel was alone.

We need not to be concerned whether we have big numbers of people following us, but that we are in the Spirit, hearing the word of the Lord and being led by Him.

We can be a people through whom God can effect change and influence the destiny of nations and peoples. If God manifests His glory among us and in us, then history is being made and God's purpose is being outworked in the earth.

The Scripture says that Moses knew the ways of God, but the children of Israel only saw the acts of God (**Ps.103:7**). As we walk in the ways of God, people will see the acts of God. We can be sure of ourselves in Christ Jesus, that we are understanding His 'good, acceptable and perfect will' (**Rom.12:2**).

Prophesy the word of YHWH

In the world-changing prophetic vision that Ezekiel received, he was with God and some dry bones; in fact, a valley full of them. Ezekiel looked "*there were very many in the open valley; and indeed they were very dry*" (**Eze.37:2**). YHWH asked Ezekiel, "*Son of man, can these bones live?*" (**v.3**). Ezekiel was not able to answer the question. Then God said to Ezekiel "**Prophesy to these bones, and say to them, 'O dry bones, hear the word of the LORD [YHWH]!'**" God told Ezekiel to prophesy [preach, herald, speak forth] to the bones. Hear the word of YHWH. It is the word of God that is "*quick and powerful and sharper than any two-edged sword*" (**Heb.4:12**). God said the bones were the whole house of Israel – His people.

Deuteronomy 8:3 says "*man shall not live by bread alone, but man lives by every word that proceeds from the mouth of YHWH*".

The Hebrew word for 'live'

The Hebrew word for 'live' is '*chayah*' = revive, SC# Hb.2421. *Chayah* means to live, to be preserved alive, to be revived, to cause to live.

Can Australia live? Can your nation live? Is there a future for the nations? Yes, they can if we speak the word of the Lord to them, not offering them Christian religion, but prophesying the word of God.

The Greek word for 'life'

The Scripture says in **John 1:4**, "*In Him was life, and the life was the Light of men*". We get the life of Jesus by getting into the Light. The light draws up to Jesus. Jesus is the life (zoe).

Word Wealth at **1 John 5:20** in the Spirit Filled Life Bible

'Life' Greek 'Zoe' SC#2222 – the principle of life...not only physical but spiritual life. This is possessed by faith in Jesus Christ. Eternal life not only refers to quantity or duration of life

but to quality of life. It is a present life of living by God's grace and glory in the here and now. Grace enables us to experience the glory.

God will revive us

In **Isaiah 57:15** God speaks as "*the High and Lofty One who inhabits eternity, whose name is Holy*". He dwells "*with him who has a contrite and humble spirit*", and by dwelling with them, He will "*revive the spirit of the humble and revive the heart of the contrite ones*". They shall live!

God will raise ministries to release life in the nations

Paul shows us in **1 Timothy 2:1-7** that we are to pray for leaders and authorities to be saved by coming to the knowledge of the truth. The truth is: "*there is One God and One Mediator between God and men, the Man Christ Jesus who gave Himself a ransom for all, to be testified in due time*" (**v.5-6**). Paul then says that he was appointed "*a preacher and an apostle ... a teacher of the Gentiles in faith and truth*" (**v.7**).

If the church prays according to His word, God will raise up a generation of apostles, preachers and teachers who will proclaim this truth and more people will be saved! Nations will be affected. It only takes two or three to gather in Jesus name, then anything can happen as Jesus is in the midst (**Matthew 18:18-20**).

These bones can live!

It is a way of life

The **revelation of the glory is the emanation of God's character and nature coming out of you** (**Col.1:27**). In **Deuteronomy 30:15-16** God shows us how to live in such a way that His glory is revealed in us and shines forth from us. God has set before us life and good or death and evil. Then God shows us how to conduct ourselves in **verse 16**:

- our first response to God is to **love Him**
- then **walk in His ways** [God will lead us]
- then we are to **keep His commands**, statutes and judgements [this comes by obeying the voice you hear through the Word you read]
- then you will **live and multiply**
- you will **be blessed** [to prosper, to increase] in the land

It is the breath of God

In **Ezekiel 37:5** YHWH spoke: "*Surely I will cause breath to enter into you, and you shall live*". God will cause breath [*spirit*, Hebrew "*ruach*"] to enter you and you shall live. [See Word Wealth in Spirit Filled Life Bible at **2 Samuel 23:6**]. The word is translated 'spirit, wind, breath'. The Spirit of Christ is received into our inner man and we are born again, we live, we are revived

The fruit of Prophecy

Ezekiel 37:6-14 shows that when we prophesy the word of the LORD as He commands us, even dry bones can become as living men and women again. In the vision Ezekiel cooperated with God and spoke as he was commanded. The bones were raised up to become a mighty army of God (**37:10**).

The fruit of discipleship is that His people are able to speak the word of God. In our recent training school at Shiloh [January 2019] we had a number of disciples who have been trained, sharing the word of God. We saw the fruit of active and purposeful discipleship: the disciples are able to speak the word of God, **bringing life to the hearers**.

THE RIVER in Ezekiel

In **Ezekiel 47:1-2**, Ezekiel was brought to the door of the house [temple]. There is a river flowing out of the sanctuary of God. Ever since Jesus ascended to the right hand there has been a river flowing. In **verses 3-5** we are to keep walking into that river. It was a huge river and we are to go more deeply into that river until we are fully immersed in that river. Are you ready for immersion in the Spirit of God and ready to do His work?

What is the fruit of immersion?

Ezekiel 47:9 says that every living thing that moved, wherever the rivers go, will live. **The river brings life!** The river is the releasing of the glorious gospel of the blessed God (**1Tim.1:11**).

In **John 7:37-38** Jesus said that rivers will flow out from the innermost being of believers. This awesome river of God will actually flow out from the hearts of believers, giving drink to the thirsty. You are meant to bring life wherever you go and healing as well. If you have been immersed in the river, the living water will automatically flow out from you.

Calling all fishers of men

Ezekiel 47:10 talks about many fishermen. It is interesting that Jesus called the disciples to be “*fishers of men*” (**Matt.4:19**). Jesus promised that if we will follow His call, he will make us [disciple and equip] fishers of men. In **John 17:18** Jesus said, “*As You sent Me into the world, I also have sent them into the world*”. Jesus had trained the disciples and was now sending them as fully trained fishermen. This is apostolic sending.

A warning

Beware of swamps and marshes! Unfortunately, many ministries and churches get caught in a back-water, even a swamp or a marsh and there is no life flowing. We need to stay in the stream where life is being released, because the work of the ascension gift ministries is being done (**Eph.4:11-16**).

All kinds of trees

Along the river there will be trees on either side. These trees will produce fruit for food and their leaves will be “*for medicine*” (**Ezekiel 47:12**). Now we have a river that brings life wherever it goes, and we have **trees that give food and release healing to all who come seeking**.

Can these bones live?

THE RIVER in Revelation

A pure river of water of life

In **Revelation 22:1** John was shown “*a pure river of water of life*”. The river is the “*water of life*”. Jesus told the Samaritan woman “*If you knew the gift of God, and who it is who says to you, ‘Give Me a drink, you would have asked Him, and He would have given you living water’*” (**John 4:10**). In **verses 13-14** Jesus said “*Whoever drinks of the water that I shall give him, will never thirst. But the water that I shall give him will become in him a fountain of water springing up into everlasting life*”.

This river is ‘pure’. “**Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God**” (**Matt.5:8**).

Pure means without blemish, clean, undefiled. The word describes physical, ceremonial, and ethical purity [see **Word wealth Matt.5:8**]. This water allows us to see God, “**God is in the midst of her** [the city of God]” (**Ps.46:5**).

This river of water of life proceeds “**from the throne of God and of the Lamb**” (**Rev.22:1**). Remember the river in Ezekiel originated from the house of God and the Ark of the Covenant in the House of God represented the Throne of God.

➤ **The river flows from the throne!**

The Tree of Life

Revelation 22:2 is difficult to imagine: “**In the middle of its street and on either side of the river, was the tree of life**”. The Greek word translated ‘street’ [#4113], can also mean a wide place, open square, a broad way. The important point was that the tree of life was in the middle of this wide place and “**on either side of the river**”.

Access to the tree of life was restored to humankind through Jesus the Messiah becoming flesh, redeeming us from sin and hell and death, and restoring us to God and filling us with His Holy Spirit.

We are to come and eat of the fruits of that tree and the leaves of the tree are for the healing of the nations [peoples]. The many trees in Ezekiel’s vision is seen in Revelation as the Tree of Life. In a very real way, Jesus is The Tree of Life and His saints, who are filled with His Spirit, can be said to be ‘the trees’. This prophetic reference is confirmed in **John 7:37-39**.

➤ **The fruit of the tree are for food, and the leaves are for healing!**

Living at the Throne

There is “**no more curse**” (**Rev.22:3**) because “**the throne of God and of the Lamb shall be in it** [the city]. Whenever people acknowledge the Throne of God the curse is broken. There is no more curse at the Throne of God: no tribal or generational curse there; no curse at all.

“**And His servants shall serve Him**”. Once a person is born again, there is a desire to serve the Lord. We are released from every curse and the Scripture says we “**shall see His face, and His name shall be on their [our] foreheads**” (**v.4**).

The richness of Revelation

There are many wonderful things referred to in **Revelation 22:6-16** and I encourage you to study these verses, word by word, sentence by sentence and verse by verse. Some of the things mentioned tell us that Jesus is “**Coming quickly**” (**v.7 & 12**), that the one speaking to John is not an angelic being, but “**a fellow servant and of your brethren the prophets**” (**v.9**). In **verse 10** we see that this book is not sealed but is open for us to read and learn from. **Verse 11** gives a severe warning referring to eternal states that are dependent upon how we live our lives. There will come a time when it is too late to repent. There are many other important points in this passage.

The Spirit and the Bride say ‘Come!’

In **Revelation 22:17** “**And the Spirit and the bride say ‘Come!'**”. How many of us have said that the Spirit and the bride say ‘come Lord Jesus’, and we have failed to read the Scripture attentively. The Spirit and the bride are not calling Jesus to come. They are calling the thirsty to come to “**take the water of life freely**”. Those who accept the invitation will also say “**Come!**”

➤ **“Whoever desires, let him take the water of life freely” (**Rev.22:17**).**

This a wonderful revelation enabling us to understand the role of the church in calling the thirsty to come and drink of the water of life. This verse is linked to all the teaching on the river and especially to **John 7:37-39**.

We are not positioned in a ‘waiting time’ for Jesus to come. But we are positioned in a proactive ministry:

- **calling people to come to the river;**
- **to drink at the river**
- **to live at the river.**
- **This is what will revive the dry bones!**