

19th
***Apostolic School
Of Ministry***

A Summation of the Teachings

21 – 26 March 2011

Topics

- ✚ *The Primacy of Public Reading of the Word*
- ✚ *The Image of God*
- ✚ *The Mystery of Christ*
- ✚ *The Glory of God*
- ✚ *The Fullness of Christ*
- ✚ *The Seed of Christ*
- ✚ *The Witness of a Son*
- ✚ *The Destruction of the Temple*

Hosted by Thamo Naidoo,
River of Life Christian Ministries,
Pietermaritzburg, KZN, South Africa

Note:

The notes in this manual were transcribed as speakers delivered the Word of The Lord. Every endeavour was made to capture the essence of what was communicated. These notes are not transcribed verbatim but are reflected as they were encoded by the person who transcribed them. These notes, in their present form, are unedited by the speakers and thus may or may not directly represent the intention of the speakers. It is suggested that the user of this manual read the notes of each session in conjunction with listening to the audio CD's or DVD's to derive maximum benefit and impartation. These resources may be ordered from the River of Life Christian Ministries.



© COPYRIGHT 2011 River of Life Christian Ministries.

No part of this document may be reproduced electronically or otherwise, **for financial or commercial gain.**

Allowance is made for the following:

- ▶▶ The **contents may be used freely to share with others.**
- ▶▶ **Photocopying** and other forms of electronic and digital recording of the contents of this manual for study groups, bible studies, church services, etc. **is permissible.**

The above allowances of the copyright principle is accommodated and encouraged.

Scriptural References:

Unless otherwise indicated, all Scripture references are taken from the **NEW AMERICAN STANDARD BIBLE (NASB)** Copyright © 1960, 1962, 1963, 1968, 1971, 1972, 1973, 1975, 1995 by the Lockman Foundation. Used by permission.

Table of Contents

The Table of Contents is arranged in order of 'speakers'. The sessions numbers do not appear in sequential order, but rather, topics spoken by each speaker are grouped together so as to facilitate a greater continuity in studying the broad themes systematically.

<i>Session</i>	<i>Speaker</i>	<i>Topic</i>	<i>Page</i>
1.	Thamo Naidoo	The Public Reading of Scripture	4
2.	Thamo Naidoo	The Public Reading of Scripture	7
8.	Thamo Naidoo	The Image of God – Part 1	15
10.	Thamo Naidoo	The Image of God – Part 2	18
11.	Thamo Naidoo	The Image of God – Part 3	22
14.	Thamo Naidoo	The Image of God – Part 4	26
15.	Thamo Naidoo	The Image of God – Part 5	30
19.	Thamo Naidoo	The Image of God – Part 6	33
20.	Thamo Naidoo	The Image of God – Part 7	36
21.	Thamo Naidoo	The Image of God – Part 8	40
3.	Shaun Blignaut	The Mystery of Christ – Part 1	42
6.	Shaun Blignaut	The Mystery of Christ – Part 2	47
12.	Shaun Blignaut	The Mystery of Christ – Part 3	51
5.	Alexandra Chisango	Fullness in Christ	54
18.	Kobus Swart	Into the Fullness of Christ	57
13.	Ben Kleyhans	The Seed of Christ	61
9.	Frans Du Plessis	The Witness of a Son	66
4.	Segi Govender	The Glory of God – Part 1	70
7.	Segi Govender	The Glory of God – Part 2	75
16.	Segi Govender	The Glory of God – Part 3 (Matt.24)	79
17.	Segi Govender	The Glory of God – Part 4 (Matt.24)	86
22.	Segi Govender	The Glory of God – Part 5	91
		Pierre Toerien's Poetic Summation of the March 2011 ASOM	96
		Future Conferences and Apostolic Schools of Ministry	102

The Primacy of the Public Reading of the Word of God

Luke 24 contains the post-resurrection method of unveiling Jesus. He revealed Himself as a stranger, or as a man, to the two disciples. He opened the Scriptures. Then He opened their eyes. Then He opened their understanding. It took place first as a man, and then as a spirit. As a spirit he broke meat (fish). We too will first break bread so that we may see Him. Then we shift from breaking bread to breaking meat.

We need to get back to the public reading of scripture. We must bring back the culture of the prioritization of the Word of the Lord. Miracles per se did not cause Israel to cross over into the wilderness.

The two on the road to Emmaus – saw Christ. The mystery of Christ still needs to be decoded. Jesus revealed Himself by opening the scriptures. This is the model through which Jesus chose to reveal Himself. After he died, He simply did not reveal Himself to the two disciples on the road to Emmaus dramatically. He opened the Scriptures and revealed Himself through the Scriptures.

LUKE 24:13-ff

- 13 And behold, two of them were going that very day to a village named Emmaus, which was about seven miles from Jerusalem.
- 14 And they were talking with each other about all these things which had taken place.
- 15 While they were talking and discussing, Jesus Himself approached and began traveling with them.
- 16 But their eyes were prevented from recognizing (epiginosko) Him.
- 17 And He said to them, "What are these words that you are exchanging with one another as you are walking?" And they stood still, looking sad.
- 18 One of them, named Cleopas, answered and said to Him, "Are You the only one (**stranger**) visiting Jerusalem and unaware of the things which have happened here in these days?"
- 19 And He said to them, "What things?" And they said to Him, "The things about Jesus the Nazarene, who was a prophet mighty in deed and word in the sight of God and all the people, and how the chief priests and our rulers delivered Him to the sentence of death, and crucified Him.
- 20 "But we were hoping that it was He who was going to redeem Israel. Indeed, besides all this, it is the third day since these things happened.
- 21 "But also some women among us amazed us. When they were at the tomb early in the morning, and did not find His body, they came, saying that they had also seen a vision of angels who said that He was alive.
- 22 "Some of those who were with us went to the tomb and found it just exactly as the women also had said; **but Him they did not see.**"
- 23 And He said to them, "O foolish men and slow of heart to believe in all that the prophets have spoken!
- 24 "Was it not necessary for the Christ to suffer these things and to enter into His glory?"
- 25 **Then beginning with Moses and with all the prophets, He explained to them the things concerning Himself in all the Scriptures.**
- 26 And they approached the village where they were going, and He acted as though He were going farther.
- 27 But they urged Him, saying, "**Stay with us**, for it is getting toward evening, and the day is now nearly over." **So He went in to stay with them.**

- 30 When He had reclined at the table with them, He took the bread and blessed it, and breaking it, He began giving it to them.
- 31 Then their eyes were opened and they recognized Him; and He vanished from their sight.
- 32 They said to one another, "Were not our hearts burning within us while He was speaking to us on the road, while He was explaining the Scriptures to us?"
- 33 And they got up that very hour and returned to Jerusalem, and found gathered together the eleven and those who were with them,
- 34 saying, "The Lord has really risen and has appeared to Simon."
- 35 They began to relate their experiences on the road and how He was recognized by them in the breaking of the bread.
- 36 While they were telling these things, He Himself stood in their midst and said to them, "Peace be to you."
- 37 But they were startled and frightened and thought that they were seeing a spirit.

Our teachings will be strictly Word-based. 'All of Scripture' will interpret 'all of Scripture'. I will share on the image of God and how it is shaped by the VOICE. The root word for 'VOICE' means 'LIGHT'. The voice speaking into your life should enlighten you. Psalm 119 says, "Thy Word is Lamp to my feet and a light to my path". We have to lead Christ from out of the Scriptures. You have to become like a child to understand certain things. Become innocent. A paradigm has got to do with mindsets. A mindset is the assembling of certain patterns of thoughts that determine how you view everything. The mindset is a house in which you make things dwell. Certain mind-sets become pre-eminent and then become a philosophy until it becomes reality - the ideal becomes real. But then when that set paradigm cannot accommodate all the things you want or the things that God wants to give you, you then develop a new paradigm – you live in a better set of thoughts. You have a 'paradigm shift'. Then only can you address the deficiencies of the previous paradigm. But many have not changed their paradigm – they have just changed the paint - cosmetically. The sound is still the same; the frequency is the same; the house is not changed.

Christ shows Himself through the Word. And you will see Him based upon the measure with which you engage the Word. Christ leads Himself out of the Scriptures. God is looking for a house – you and me. He comes through the Word – this shapes our thoughts until the mind of Christ becomes our mind. Ephesians 4 – "that you no longer are tossed to and fro by every wind of doctrine". You cannot build the people on your charisma. You build them on and by the WORD.

Last year we spoke of the earthquakes at Christ Church in New Zealand – this is prophetic – "first the natural then the spiritual". The current shakings in Japan are very significant. Shendai = 1000 generations, or 'family predecessor' ; previous 1000 years. The current civil wars in the Islamic Arab world are significant too – brothers are rising against brothers. The walls of theology are also falling. The Catholic world is talking about going back to apostolic ways.

If everything is falling, only the Word of God will stand. We have to lead Christ out of the Scriptures so that He can become in us 'the hope of Glory'. The Scriptures read must become bread broken. We have to go back to Acts 2:42. They devoted themselves steadfastly to apostles doctrine (lamp), fellowship (table), breaking of bread (shew-bread) and prayers.

Not everyone is called to share apostolic doctrine. This provides the map and the light – it decodes the mysteries of the eternal. We have to teach 'the doctrine of Christ'. The city church gives you apostolic

doctrine. But when you go to your local houses, you break bread from house to house. Manna fell – but it was taken and ground out into bread. You must discern how to make the manna palatable and palpable.

We are all equal, but in the culture of equality there is measurable diversity. You must ask, “Who are the ones that bring the light of the Word to me – that show me things I could never see”.

Jesus breaks the bread in the house. But Jesus made as if he was going on His journey. He waited for them to invite him into the house. Personal desire and thirst and personal engagement is vital. Place a demand upon Him. When they see Him in the breaking of the bread (word) they will not want the historical Christ, but the resurrected Christ.

We must bring back the primacy of the Word. Bring back the public reading of the Scriptures. Read the Scriptures with passion and love in your corporate culture. God is bringing refinement to our corporate culture – acculturation. We are adding things to our culture. Culture has got to do with taste, mannerism, values, etc. We have a supra-culture – a heavenly culture. We create a connatural environment. Read the Scriptures as witness in the Spirit.

Psalm 19:6-14

- 6 Its rising is from one end of the heavens, And its circuit to the other end of them; And there is nothing hidden from its heat.
- 7 **The law of the LORD is perfect, restoring the soul; The testimony of the LORD is sure, making wise the simple.**
- 8 **The precepts of the LORD are right, rejoicing the heart; The commandment of the LORD is pure, enlightening the eyes.**
- 9 **The fear of the LORD is clean, enduring forever; The judgments of the LORD are true; they are righteous altogether.**
- 10 **They are more desirable than gold, yes, than much fine gold; Sweeter also than honey and the drippings of the honeycomb.**
- 11 **Moreover, by them Your servant is warned; In keeping them there is great reward.**
- 12 **Who can discern *his* errors? Acquit me of hidden *faults*.**
- 13 **Also keep back Your servant from presumptuous *sins*; Let them not rule over me; Then I will be blameless, And I shall be acquitted of great transgression.**
- 14 **Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart Be acceptable in Your sight, O LORD, my rock and my Redeemer.**

1 Timothy 4:13-16

- 13 **Until I come, give attention to the *public reading of Scripture*, to exhortation and teaching.**
- 14 **Do not neglect the spiritual gift within you, which was bestowed on you through prophetic utterance with the laying on of hands by the presbytery.**
- 15 **Take pains with these things; be *absorbed* in them, so that your progress will be evident to all.**
- 16 **Pay close attention to yourself and to your teaching; persevere in these things, for as you do this you will ensure salvation both for yourself and for those who hear you.**

The Primacy of the Public Reading of the Word – Part 2

Continued

Develop a 'Christo-centric' focus in your teachings. In the Pentecostal season, the critical mass was 'power' – which became an idol. In the Charismatic season, we got caught up with money and materialism. In the current Apostolic season, the critical mass is 'fathering and sonship' – we are obsessed with 'sonship'. Many are obsessed with making people their sons as opposed to raising the sons of God. If you create the correct environment, the son will prosper in it – i.e. the environment of the four pillars of apostolic communities (Acts 2:42).

Prayers – does not take place in the soul – it takes place beyond the veil. You cannot pray through mechanically induced prayers. You pray in Spirit. Start praying early in the morning. Early = first-fruit. Pray all night at times too.

Psalm 19:6-14

- 6 Its rising is from one end of the heavens, And its circuit to the other end of them; And there is nothing hidden from its heat.
- 7 **The law of the LORD is perfect, restoring the soul; The testimony of the LORD is sure, making wise the simple.**
- 8 **The precepts of the LORD are right, rejoicing the heart; The commandment of the LORD is pure, enlightening the eyes.**
- 9 **The fear of the LORD is clean, enduring forever; The judgments of the LORD are true; they are righteous altogether.**
- 10 **They are more desirable than gold, yes, than much fine gold; Sweeter also than honey and the drippings of the honeycomb.**
- 11 Moreover, by them Your servant is warned; In keeping them there is great reward.
- 12 Who can discern *his* errors? Acquit me of hidden *faults*.
- 13 Also keep back Your servant from presumptuous *sins*; Let them not rule over me; Then I will be blameless, And I shall be acquitted of great transgression.
- 14 **Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart Be acceptable in Your sight, O LORD, my rock and my Redeemer.**

You cannot be saved without **a word been proclaimed**.

Rom 10:14 How then will they call on Him in whom they have not believed? How will they believe in Him whom they have not heard? And **how will they hear without a preacher?**

Luke 4:14-22

- 14 And Jesus returned to Galilee in the power of the Spirit, and news about Him spread through all the surrounding district.
- 15 And **He began teaching in their synagogues** and was praised by all.
- 16 And He came to Nazareth, where He had been brought up; and as was His custom, He entered the synagogue on the Sabbath, and stood up to read.

- 17 **And the book of the prophet Isaiah was handed to Him. And He opened the book and found the place where it was written,**
- 18 "THE SPIRIT OF THE LORD IS UPON ME, BECAUSE HE ANOINTED ME TO PREACH THE GOSPEL TO THE POOR. HE HAS SENT ME TO PROCLAIM RELEASE TO THE CAPTIVES, AND RECOVERY OF SIGHT TO THE BLIND, TO SET FREE THOSE WHO ARE OPPRESSED,
- 19 TO PROCLAIM THE FAVORABLE YEAR OF THE LORD."
- 20 **And He closed the book, gave it back to the attendant and sat down; and the eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on Him.**
- 21 And He began to say to them, **"Today this Scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing."**
- 22 And all were speaking well of Him, and wondering at the **gracious words which were falling from His lips;** and they were saying, "Is this not Joseph's son?"

Jeremiah 2:4-9

- 4 Hear the word of the LORD, O house of Jacob, and all the families of the house of Israel.
- 5 Thus says the LORD, "What injustice did your fathers find in Me, That they went far from Me And walked after emptiness and became empty?"
- 6 "They did not say, 'Where is the LORD Who brought us up out of the land of Egypt, Who led us through the wilderness, Through a land of deserts and of pits, Through a land of drought and of deep darkness, Through a land that no one crossed And where no man dwelt?'
- 7 "I brought you into the fruitful land To eat its fruit and its good things. But you came and defiled My land, And My inheritance you made an abomination.
- 8 "The priests did not say, 'Where is the LORD?' **And those who handle the law did not know Me;** The rulers also transgressed against Me, And the prophets prophesied by Baal And walked after things that did not profit.
- 9 "Therefore I will yet contend with you," declares the LORD, "And with your sons' sons I will contend.

When the Word is heard – we will get back to the Lord. When the Word is not heard, prophets and pastors will transgress. If ministers are not reading the Bible, this is high treason.

Deut 6:6-12

- 6 **"These words, which I am commanding you today, shall be on your heart.**
- 7 "You shall **teach them diligently** to your sons and shall **talk of them** when you sit in your house and when you walk by the way and when you lie down and when you rise up.
- 8 "You shall **bind them** as a sign on your hand and they shall be as frontals on your forehead.
- 9 "You shall **write them** on the doorposts of your house and on your gates.
- 10 "Then it shall come about when the LORD your God brings you into the land which He swore to your fathers, Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, to give you, great and splendid cities which you did not build,
- 11 and houses full of all good things which you did not fill, and hewn cisterns which you did not dig, vineyards and olive trees which you did not plant, and you eat and are satisfied,
- 12 then **watch yourself, that you do not forget the LORD who brought you from the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery.**

The men of Ghana have a regality about them. There is nothing they will not do without giving it Scriptural reference. The public reading of the Scripture will filter down to the microcosm. It will even infect our children. The responsibility of raising kids is the parents, not the church. Parents should sit with their kids in church and listen to this Apostolic Word. Having children's church while the main service is on should be

abolished. Children should sit and listen to the Word. In Jesus' life, by the age of 12, He was fully au fait with the Scriptures. His parents trained Him in the law. Jesus could access specific parts of Scripture.

2 Tim 3:10-17

- 10 Now you followed my teaching, conduct, purpose, faith, patience, love, perseverance,
- 11 persecutions, *and* sufferings, such as happened to me at Antioch, at Iconium *and* at Lystra; what persecutions I endured, and out of them all the Lord rescued me!
- 12 Indeed, all who desire to live godly in Christ Jesus will be persecuted.
- 13 But evil men and impostors will proceed *from bad* to worse, deceiving and being deceived.
- 14 You, however, continue in the things you have learned and become convinced of, knowing from whom you have learned *them*,
- 15 and that **from childhood you have known the sacred writings which are able to give you the wisdom that leads to salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus.**
- 16 **All Scripture is inspired by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, for training in righteousness;**
- 17 **so that the man of God may be adequate, equipped for every good work.**

2Ti 4:1-4

- 1 I solemnly charge *you* in the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, who is to judge the living and the dead, and by His appearing and His kingdom:
- 2 **preach the word; be ready in season *and* out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort, with great patience and instruction.**
- 3 For the time will come when they will **not endure sound doctrine**; but *wanting* to have their ears tickled, they will accumulate for themselves teachers in accordance to their own desires,
- 4 and will turn away their ears from the truth and will turn aside to myths.
- 5 But you, be sober in all things, endure hardship, do the work of an evangelist, fulfill your ministry.
- 6 For I am already being poured out as a drink offering, and the time of my departure has come.
- 7 I have fought the good fight, I have finished the course, I have kept the faith;
- 8 in the future there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will award to me on that day; and not only to me, but also to all who have loved His appearing.

Imagery of an itching ear is that of a diseased soul.

Revelations 1:1-3

- 1 The Revelation of Jesus Christ, which God gave Him to show to His bond-servants, the things which must soon take place; and He sent and communicated *it* by His angel to His bond-servant John,
- 2 who **testified to the word of God** and to the testimony of Jesus Christ, *even* to all that he saw.
- 3 Blessed is he **who reads and those who hear the words of the prophecy**, and heed the things which are written in it; for the time is near.

Read = anaginōskō = to *know again*, that is, (by extension) to *read*: - read; to distinguish between, to recognise, to know accurately, to acknowledge

Deut 31:11-13

- 11 when all Israel comes to appear before the LORD your God at the place which He will choose, you **shall read this law** in front of all Israel in their hearing.
- 12 "Assemble the people, the men and the women and children and the alien who is in your town, so that they **may hear and learn and fear the LORD your God**, and be careful to **observe all the words of this law**.
- 13 "Their children, who have not known, will hear and learn to fear the LORD your God, as long as you live on the land which you are about to cross the Jordan

Nehemiah 8:1-18

- 1 And all the people gathered as one man at the square which was in front of the **Water Gate**, and they asked Ezra the scribe to bring the book of the law of Moses which the LORD had given to Israel.
- 2 Then Ezra the priest brought the law before the assembly of men, women and all **who could listen with understanding**, on the first day of the seventh month.
- 3 **He read from it** before the square which was in front of the Water Gate **from early morning until midday**, in the presence of men and women, those who could understand; and all the people were attentive to the book of the law.
- 4 Ezra the scribe stood at a wooden podium which they had made for the purpose. And beside him stood Mattithiah, Shema, Anaiah, Uriah, Hilkiah, and Maaseiah on his right hand; and Pedaiah, Mishael, Malchijah, Hashum, Hashbaddanah, Zechariah *and* Meshullam on his left hand.
- 5 **Ezra opened the book in the sight of all the people for he was standing above all the people; and when he opened it, all the people stood up.**
- 6 Then Ezra blessed the LORD the great God. And all the people answered, "Amen, Amen!" while **lifting up their hands**; then **they bowed low and worshiped the LORD** with *their* faces to the ground.
- 7 Also Jeshua, Bani, Sherebiah, Jamin, Akkub, Shabbethai, Hodiah, Maaseiah, Kelita, Azariah, Jozabad, Hanan, Pelaiah, the Levites, explained the law to the people while the people *remained* in their place.
- 8 **They read from the book**, from the law of God, translating to **give the sense so that they understood the reading.**
- 9 Then Nehemiah, who was the governor, and Ezra the priest *and* scribe, and the Levites **who taught the people said to all the people**, "This day is holy to the LORD your God; do not mourn or weep." For all the people were weeping when they heard the words of the law.
- 10 Then he said to them, "Go, eat of the fat, drink of the sweet, and send portions to him who has nothing prepared; for this day is holy to our Lord. Do not be grieved, **for the joy of the LORD is your strength.**"
- 11 So the Levites calmed all the people, saying, "Be still, for the day is holy; do not be grieved."
- 12 All the people went away to eat, to drink, to send portions and to celebrate a great festival, because **they understood the words which had been made known to them.**
- 13 Then on the second day the heads of fathers' *households* of all the people, the priests and the Levites were gathered to Ezra the scribe that they might gain insight into the words of the law.
- 14 **They found written in the law** how the LORD had commanded through Moses that the sons of Israel should live in booths during the feast of the seventh month.
- 15 So they proclaimed and circulated a proclamation in all their cities and in Jerusalem, saying, "Go out to the hills, and bring olive branches and wild olive branches, myrtle branches, palm branches and branches of *other* leafy trees, to make booths, **as it is written.**"

- 16 So the people went out and brought *them* and made booths for themselves, each on his roof, and in their courts and in the courts of the house of God, and in the square at the **Water Gate** and in the **square at the Gate of Ephraim**.
- 17 The entire assembly of those who had returned from the captivity made booths and lived in them. The sons of Israel had indeed not done so from the days of Joshua the son of Nun to that day. **And there was great rejoicing.**
- 18 **He read from the book of the law of God daily, from the first day to the last day.** And they celebrated the feast seven days, and on the eighth day *there was* a solemn assembly according to the ordinance.

Neh 9:1-3

- 1 Now on the twenty-fourth day of this month the sons of Israel assembled with fasting, in sackcloth and with dirt upon them.
- 2 The descendants of Israel separated themselves from all foreigners, and stood and confessed their sins and the iniquities of their fathers.
- 3 While they **stood in their place, they read from the book of the law of the LORD their God for a fourth of the day;** and for *another* fourth they confessed and worshiped the LORD their God.
- 4 Now on the Levites' platform stood Jeshua, Bani, Kadmiel, Shebaniah, Bunni, Sherebiah, Bani *and* Chenani, and they cried with a loud voice to the LORD their God.
- 5 Then the Levites, Jeshua, Kadmiel, Bani, Hashabneiah, Sherebiah, Hodiah, Shebaniah *and* Pethahiah, said, "**Arise, bless the LORD your God forever and ever! O may Your glorious name be blessed And exalted above all blessing and praise!**
- 6 "You alone are the LORD. You have made the heavens, The heaven of heavens with all their host, The earth and all that is on it, The seas and all that is in them. You give life to all of them And the heavenly host bows down before You.

All the people stood up = respect; The scribal anointing is returning to the earth.

If you want to know a perfect man, listen to his conversation in a moment of crisis. Start living this Word until it becomes everything in you.

2 Kings 22:1-20

- 1 Josiah was eight years old when he became king, and he reigned thirty-one years in Jerusalem; and his mother's name *was* Jedidah the daughter of Adaiah of Bozkath.
- 2 He did right in the sight of the LORD and walked in all the way of his father David, nor did he turn aside to the right or to the left.
- 3 Now in the eighteenth year of King Josiah, the king sent Shaphan, the son of Azaliah the son of Meshullam the scribe, to the house of the LORD saying,
- 4 "Go up to Hilkiyah the high priest that he may count the money brought in to the house of the LORD which the doorkeepers have gathered from the people.
- 5 "Let them deliver it into the hand of the workmen who have the oversight of the house of the LORD, and let them give it to the workmen who are in the house of the LORD to repair the damages of the house,
- 6 to the carpenters and the builders and the masons and for buying timber and hewn stone to repair the house.
- 7 "Only no accounting shall be made with them for the money delivered into their hands, for they deal faithfully."
- 8 Then Hilkiyah the high priest said to Shaphan the scribe, "**I have found the book of the law in the house of the LORD.**" And Hilkiyah gave the book to **Shaphan who read it.**

- 9 Shaphan the scribe came to the king and brought back word to the king and said, "**Your servants have emptied out the money that was found in the house, and have delivered it into the hand of the workmen who have the oversight of the house of the LORD.**"
- 10 Moreover, Shaphan the scribe told the king saying, "**Hilkiah the priest has given me a book.**" And Shaphan read it in the presence of the king.
- 11 **When the king heard the words of the book of the law, he tore his clothes.**
- 12 Then the king commanded Hilkiah the priest, Ahikam the son of Shaphan, Achbor the son of Micaiah, Shaphan the scribe, and Asaiah the king's servant saying,
- 13 "Go, inquire of the LORD for me and the people and all Judah concerning the words of this book that has been found, for great is the wrath of the LORD that burns against us, because our fathers have not listened to the words of this book, to do according to all that is written concerning us."
- 14 So Hilkiah the priest, Ahikam, Achbor, Shaphan, and Asaiah went to Huldah the prophetess, the wife of Shallum the son of Tikvah, the son of Harhas, keeper of the wardrobe (now she lived in Jerusalem in the Second Quarter); and they spoke to her.
- 15 She said to them, "Thus says the LORD God of Israel, 'Tell the man who sent you to me,
- 16 thus says the LORD, "Behold, I bring evil on this place and on its inhabitants, *even all the words of the book which the king of Judah has read.*
- 17 "Because they have forsaken Me and have burned incense to other gods that they might provoke Me to anger with all the work of their hands, therefore My wrath burns against this place, and it shall not be quenched."
- 18 "But to the king of Judah who sent you to inquire of the LORD thus shall you say to him, 'Thus says the LORD God of Israel, "**Regarding the words which you have heard,**
- 19 **because your heart was tender and you humbled yourself before the LORD when you heard what I spoke against this place and against its inhabitants that they should become a desolation and a curse, and you have torn your clothes and wept before Me, I truly have heard you,**" declares the LORD.
- 20 "Therefore, behold, I will gather you to your fathers, and you will be gathered to your grave in peace, and your eyes will not see all the evil which I will bring on this place.'" So they brought back word to the king.

No king could come to the throne without reading the Scriptures. He also had to write the law with his own hands. Most of us need to re-read the bible. The king here tore his clothes when the law was read = he realised he was ruling with a wrong mantle (clothing depicts a mantle of anointing) because there was no Word.

2 Kings 23:1-3

- 1 Then the king sent, and they gathered to him all the elders of Judah and of Jerusalem.
- 2 The king went up to the house of the LORD and all the men of Judah and all the inhabitants of Jerusalem with him, and the priests and the prophets and all the people, both small and great; and he read in **their hearing all the words of the book of the covenant which was found in the house of the LORD.**
- 3 **The king stood by the pillar and made a covenant before the LORD, to walk after the LORD, and to keep His commandments and His testimonies and His statutes with all *his* heart and all *his* soul, to carry out the words of this covenant that were written in this book. And all the people entered into the covenant.**

The Word of God will pierce the darkness and rebellion as it is read.

THE RESTORATION OF PUBLIC PRAYER:

When you enter the house of God, measure your words.

Ecc 5:1 **Guard your steps as you go to the house of God and draw near to listen rather than to offer the sacrifice of fools; for they do not know they are doing evil.**

Public prayer was a significant aspect of the corporate gatherings of God's people. The prayers recorded in the Word are substantial. Those who pray publicly must be those who pray from their spirit. Pray with lifted hands – deep crying to the Lord.

1 Kings 8:54 When Solomon had finished praying this entire prayer and supplication to the LORD, he arose from before the altar of the LORD, from kneeling on his knees with his hands spread toward heaven.

2 Kings 20:1-6

- 1 In those days Hezekiah became mortally ill. And Isaiah the prophet the son of Amoz came to him and said to him, "Thus says the LORD, 'Set your house in order, for you shall die and not live.'"
- 2 **Then he turned his face to the wall and prayed to the LORD**, saying,
- 3 "Remember now, O LORD, I beseech You, how I have walked before You in truth and with a whole heart and have done what is good in Your sight." And Hezekiah wept bitterly.
- 4 Before Isaiah had gone out of the middle court, the word of the LORD came to him, saying,
- 5 "Return and say to Hezekiah the leader of My people, 'Thus says the LORD, the God of your father David, "I have heard your prayer, I have seen your tears; behold, I will heal you. On the third day you shall go up to the house of the LORD.
- 6 "I will add fifteen years to your life, and I will deliver you and this city from the hand of the king of Assyria; and I will defend this city for My own sake and for My servant David's sake."

Jesus prayed until his sweat were as drops of blood.

Isa 56:4-7

- 4 For thus says the LORD, "To the eunuchs who keep My sabbaths, And choose what pleases Me, And hold fast My covenant,
- 5 To them I will give in My house and within My walls a memorial, And a name better than that of sons and daughters; I will give them an everlasting name which will not be cut off.
- 6 "Also the foreigners who join themselves to the LORD, To minister to Him, and to love the name of the LORD, To be His servants, every one who keeps from profaning the sabbath And holds fast My covenant;
- 7 Even those I will bring to My holy mountain **And make them joyful in My house of prayer.** Their burnt offerings and their sacrifices will be acceptable on My altar; For My house will be called a house of prayer for all the peoples."

Jesus wiped the money exchangers out of the house – and restored the priority of prayer. God is raising up the mountain of prayer.

Mar 11:17 And He *began* to teach and say to them, "Is it not written, '**MY HOUSE SHALL BE CALLED A HOUSE OF PRAYER FOR ALL THE NATIONS**'? But you have made it a ROBBERS' DEN."

Luke 6:12 It was at this time that He went off to the **mountain to pray**, and He spent the whole **night in prayer** to God.

Pray without ceasing.

Act 3:1 Now Peter and John were going up to the temple at the ninth *hour*, **the hour of prayer**.

Rev 5:8 When He had taken the book, the four living creatures and the twenty-four elders fell down before the Lamb, each one holding a harp and golden bowls full of incense, which are the prayers of the saints.

Rev 8:1-5

- 1 When the Lamb broke the seventh seal, there was silence in heaven for about half an hour.
- 2 And I saw the seven angels who stand before God, and seven trumpets were given to them.
- 3 Another angel came and stood at the altar, holding a golden censer; **and much incense was given to him, so that he might add it to the prayers of all the saints on the golden altar which was before the throne.**
- 4 **And the smoke of the incense, with the prayers of the saints,** went up before God out of the angel's hand.
- 5 Then the angel took the censer and filled it with the fire of the altar, and threw it to the earth; and there followed peals of thunder and sounds and flashes of lightning and an earthquake.

Genesis 5:1-3

- 1 This is the book of the generations of Adam. In the day when God created man, **He made him in the likeness of God.**
- 2 He created them male and female, and He blessed them and named them Man in the day when they were created.
- 3 When Adam had lived one hundred and thirty years, he **became the father of a son in his own likeness, according to his image, and named him Seth.**

Adam messed the original plan God had for him. To be the copy, you must have the original in you. **God never planned for Adam to have His fullness at the point of creation. God will come to him and speak to him and the man will clothe himself with God and function.** Adam was the son of God (Luke 2); God as father came to him as spirit in 'the cool' of the day = in the 'ruach' of the day. **When He comes in the cool of the day he comes in the 'VOICE'**. The root word for 'VOICE' means light – so the voice brings light. When Adam sinned, he hid at the voice of God. The Spirit of God was designed to speak to the spirit in man. When man sinned, he lost this. He sinned and came short of the glory. The glory of God is the image of God.

We were taught man is a spirit, possesses a soul and lives in a body = this manner of description is not accurate as it creates a hierarchy (spirit is more important than soul, etc.). All three parts are equally important to God and have to come to the place of 'completeness'.

1Th 5:23 Now may the God of peace Himself sanctify you entirely; and may **your spirit and soul and body be preserved complete**, without blame at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

These are three equal parts – the one is not above the other. Everyone of these parts are included in the salvation plan of God. God intended that we function as spirit, soul and body (not body, soul and spirit).

God knew man must be able to engage two dimensions – the heavens and the earth. He created us to have a spirit to engage the heavens; with the soul and its five senses – man can engage the natural world through his body.

God breathed into Adam – and he became spirit and soul (he became a living soul – 'living' alludes to the spirit). The spirit of God comes in the 'ruach' of the day to communicate to the spirit of man - and so the man will do the things he saw and heard. You have to hear to see. When the spirit receives the instructions, it passes it to the soul. With the soul, man engages the world. The soul then will tell the body how to function. Then the body functions as a life-giving body (not death).

In the godhead, the Father covers the Son who covers the Spirit. Yet only the face of the Father is seen. Similarly, even when the body functions through the soul, you should see the spirit. Adam made a choice. The spirit, soul and body all have eyes - and all these must come to total enlightenment. If your spirit eye is opened, your soul's eye need not be opened.

Jesus willingly subjected Himself to His Father in the context of co-equality. He closed the eyes of his soul – he closed His eye to reason. He chose to learn obedience by the things he suffered.

The devil enticed man to have his soul's eye opened to reason and go into a culture of self-existence and independence. His spirit was separated from his soul. He is living apart from God. He lived for himself.

Cain created a new genealogy. He builds things but is not building the 'image of God'. Man is not permitted to murder another – you cannot kill the expression of the image of God in another.

God permits Adam to have another child – SETH – a substitute. Then man began to call on God in the cool of the day.

The father-son principle is established for the purpose of raising up sons of God in the image of God. Obedience is key to this process.

Image of God

Part 2

If you are building church and if whatever you are doing does not contribute to the building of the image of God in your people, then what you are building is an idol.

John the Baptist only grew in favour with God – the other three areas of growth were neglected. In the life of Jesus, he grew four-fold.

Luke 2:39-52

- 39 When they had performed everything according to the Law of the Lord, they returned to Galilee, to their own city of Nazareth.
- 40 The Child continued to **grow and become strong, increasing in wisdom; and the grace of God was upon Him.**
- 41 Now His parents went to Jerusalem every year at the Feast of the Passover.
- 42 And when He became twelve, they went up there according to the custom of the Feast;
- 43 and as they were returning, after spending the full number of days, the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem. But His parents were unaware of it,
- 44 but supposed Him to be in the caravan, and went a day's journey; and they began looking for Him among their relatives and acquaintances.
- 45 When they did not find Him, they returned to Jerusalem looking for Him.
- 46 Then, after three days they found Him in the temple, sitting in the midst of the teachers, both listening to them and asking them questions.
- 47 And all who heard Him were amazed at His understanding and His answers.
- 48 When they saw Him, they were astonished; and His mother said to Him, "Son, why have You treated us this way? Behold, Your father and I have been anxiously looking for You."
- 49 And He said to them, "Why is it that you were looking for Me? Did you not know that I had to be in My Father's house?"
- 50 But they did not understand the statement which He had made to them.
- 51 And He went down with them and came to Nazareth, and He continued in subjection to them; and His mother treasured all these things in her heart.
- 52 And Jesus kept increasing in **wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and men.**

Jesus grew in four quadrants: spiritually, socially, wisdom, physically.

God created the human race to make Himself visible. An invisible God wanted to become visible through the human race. In the human race He would be praised and glorified. God wanted to disclose Himself not just to the humans, but to all of creation.

We are the new human race – we are the last Adam – the new company of people in the earth. The natural (Adam) before the spiritual (we – the corporate man) is highlighted.

Ephesians 1:1-10

- 1 Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, To the saints who are at Ephesus and who are faithful in Christ Jesus:
- 2 Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.
- 3 Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places in Christ,
- 4 just as **He chose us in Him** before the foundation of the world, that we would be holy and blameless before Him. In love
- 5 He predestined us to adoption as sons through Jesus Christ to Himself, according to the kind intention of His will,
- 6 to the praise of the glory of His grace, which He freely bestowed on us in the Beloved.
- 7 In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of His grace
- 8 which He lavished on us. In all wisdom and insight
- 9 He made known to us the mystery of His will, according to His kind intention which He purposed in Him
- 10 with a view to an administration suitable to the fullness of the times, that is, the summing up of all things in Christ, things in the heavens and things on the earth. In Him

In = 'EN' [different from eis (into) and ek (Out of)]. 'Into' and 'out of' imply motion. The phrase "Firstborn among many brothers" should actually read "**Firstborn IN many brothers**". IN = 'to come to a place of final rest'.

When Christ comes into your heart, the very substance of everything in Christ is transferred into you.

God's fullness in an individual is not all that there is to God. We need the fullness of God in everyone to fully understand and know God completely.

1 Pet 2:9 But you are A CHOSEN RACE, A royal PRIESTHOOD, A HOLY NATION, A PEOPLE FOR *God's* OWN POSSESSION, so that you may proclaim the excellencies of Him who has called you out of darkness into His marvelous light;

Eph 1:14 who (i.e. Holy Spirit) is given as a **pledge of our inheritance**, with a view to the redemption of *God's own* possession, to the praise of His glory.

Your inheritance is not a house in heaven. Heaven is not an abiding place - hence it is described as a 'cloud'. The down-payment of the inheritance is the Holy Spirit – the other two thirds is the Father and Son. Our inheritance is God Himself. There is no way you can backslide if you fully understand this.

IMAGE = Selem = Model, shadow, phantom, **exact representation**;

- While God is invisible, He is looking for royal representatives. We have to become vicars of Him. You cannot be equal to the one you represent – you have to be lesser and commit yourself to obedience. **There cannot be representation without surrender and submission.** Your opinion does not matter. Obedience is key – Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ – he humbled Himself and became obedient unto death. You have to lose your image. The only way for one who is sent and the sender to relate, is through a VOICE. Train your ear to listen to the Voice. Is there a 'voice in the voice'. See the voice of God in the voice of the one sent to you.

- **'Selem' does not imply clones or robots. The principle of representation does not mean that God has made you complete yet. God measurably distributes Himself to you based on how you measure.** Train your ear to hear God in the voice of the preacher.

In a physical being, God wants someone to be his agent. **The royal representative must obey.**

Before there was faith, there was obedience. The purpose of faith is to close the eye of reason so that the eye of the spirit can be opened again. **Obedience is dying to your opinion. Representation has got to do with OBEDIENCE.**

- **'Selem' literally means that each person must become a shadow or phantom – or become unknowing or senseless. You must die daily – crucify the flesh. Live by the voice of God through his Word. Apostles Doctrine is the doctrine of Christ, which is the doctrine of father and son.**

2 John 1:6-9

- 6 And this is love, that we walk according to His commandments. This is the commandment, just as you have **heard from the beginning**, that you **should walk in it**.
- 7 For many deceivers have gone out into the world, those who do not acknowledge Jesus Christ *as* coming in the flesh. This is the deceiver and the antichrist.
- 8 Watch yourselves, that you do not lose what we have accomplished, but that you may receive a full reward.
- 9 Anyone who goes too far and does not **abide in the teaching of Christ**, does not have God; the one who abides in the teaching, **he has both the Father and the Son**.

False Christ = pretenders of Christ – masquerade as fathers and sons.

Anti-Christ = opposes anything that is Christ.

Those who oppose the father-son teaching operate in an anti-Christ spirit. Joseph was not an absent Father – he was an invisible father. The face of the father is seen in the son. Do not magnify an earthly father – each son must manifest Father God. Joseph trained Jesus in the Torah and probably informed Him of His destiny. God spoke to Joseph, not Mary (except at the beginning). **As a spiritual father, you have to be a custodian and representative of the Heavenly Father, and raise up SONS OF GOD, THE FATHER.**

Jesus subjected Himself to Joseph and Mary. He never assumed the right to privilege as God.

- **'Selem' also means an image cut out of divine material.** A man may resemble another man yet not come from the same source. We can look like dust and flesh – but what is in us is different from how we look. The very essence of God is now growing into us until it fills us.

1Co 15:49

And as we have borne the image of the earthy, we shall also bear the image of the heavenly.

Selem = image – you cannot predict this image – God will express Himself in you according to His choice, not yours. As a SERVANT of God, God could express Himself through you in many of the different gift expressions, (e.g. five-fold) or even in the form of the most menial of tasks. God's

image is seen in an environment – ‘domain’. It is in the activity of life, that God is best seen. When you are in your metron and domain, God is best seen.

Likeness = Demuth = a corporate image.

Likeness = Demuth = corporate image. The whole is greater than the sum of its parts. The individual parts is selem (image), the corporate whole is the likeness (demuth).

Each child in a family is different, but when you bring them together, you get the complete picture of the family as a whole. This also holds true for the Body of Christ. God wants to beget His image in the earth.

The Image of God

Part 3

Gen 1:26 And God said, Let us make man **in our image, after our likeness**: and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the birds of the heavens, and over the cattle, and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth.

Gen 5:1-3

- 1 This is the book of the generations of Adam. In the day when God created man, He made him in the **likeness of God**.
- 2 He created **them male and female**, and He blessed them and named them Man in the day when they were created.
- 3 When Adam had lived one hundred and thirty years, he became the father of a son in his own likeness, according to his image, and named him Seth.

When Seth was produced in the likeness of Adam, then men began to call upon the name of the Lord. Out of Seth's line come Enoch and Noah.

Gen 9:6 "Whoever sheds man's blood, By man his blood shall be shed, **For in the image of God He made man.**

Gen 9:7 "As for you, be fruitful and multiply: Populate the earth abundantly and multiply in it."

God has forbidden murder – hence also hatred and unforgiveness – God hates the attempt to disfigure the image of God in another. Piercings and Tatooning disfigure the image. Even in our bodies, we should reflect the image of God.

God hates idolatry. Note Col 3:5.

Col 3:1-10

- 1 Therefore if you **have been raised up with Christ**, keep seeking the things above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God.
- 2 Set your mind on the things above, not on the things that are on earth.
- 3 For you have died and your life is hidden with Christ in God.
- 4 When Christ, who is our life, is revealed, then you also will be revealed with Him in glory.
- 5 **Therefore consider the members of your earthly body as dead to immorality, impurity, passion, evil desire, and greed, which amounts to idolatry.**
- 6 For it is because of these things that the wrath of God will come upon the sons of disobedience,
- 7 and in them you also once walked, when you were living in them.
- 8 But now you also, put them all aside: anger, wrath, malice, slander, and abusive speech from your mouth.
- 9 Do not lie to one another, since you laid aside the old self with its evil practices,
- 10 and have **put on the new self who is being renewed** to a true knowledge according to the image of the One who created him -

- 11 a renewal in which there is no distinction between Greek and Jew, circumcised and uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave and freeman, but Christ is all, and in all.
- 12 So, as those who have been chosen of God, holy and beloved, **put on a heart of compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience;**
- 13 **bearing with one another, and forgiving each other, whoever has a complaint against anyone; just as the Lord forgave you, so also should you.**
- 14 Beyond **all these things put on love, which is the perfect bond of unity.**
- 15 Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in one body; and be thankful.
- 16 **Let the word of Christ richly dwell** within you, with all wisdom teaching and admonishing one another with psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with thankfulness in your hearts to God.
- 17 Whatever you do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks through Him to God the Father.

Exo 20:3-6

- 3 "You shall have **no other gods before Me.**
- 4 **"You shall not make for yourself an idol, or any likeness** of what is in heaven above or on the earth beneath or in the water under the earth.
- 5 "You shall not worship them or serve them; for I, the LORD your God, am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers on the children, on the third and the fourth generations of those who hate Me,
- 6 but showing lovingkindness to thousands, to those who love Me and keep My commandments.

Exo 23:24 "You shall not worship their gods, nor serve them, nor do according to their deeds; but you shall utterly overthrow them and **break their sacred pillars in pieces.**

Exo 23:25 "But you shall serve the LORD your God, and He will bless your bread and your water; and I will remove sickness from your midst.

God created us to be His image and representation. You must create nothing else that will deface Him.

1 Co 11:1-22

- 1 Be imitators of me, just as I also am of Christ.
- 2 Now I praise you because you remember me in everything and hold firmly to the traditions, just as I delivered them to you.
- 3 But I want you to understand that Christ is the head of every man, and the man is the head of a woman, and God is the head of Christ.
- 4 Every man who has *something* on his head while praying or prophesying disgraces his head.
- 5 But every woman who has her head uncovered while praying or prophesying disgraces her head, for she is one and the same as the woman whose head is shaved.
- 6 For if a woman does not cover her head, let her also have her hair cut off; but if it is disgraceful for a woman to have her hair cut off or her head shaved, let her cover her head.
- 7 **For a man ought not to have his head covered, since he is the image and glory of God; but the woman is the glory of man.**

The Father covers Son; the Son covers the Spirit – but you see the Father over all – the one who first covered. Man is not the image. It is the God in the man that covers him. God covers the man; the man covers the woman. Thus, woman are covered by God who covers the man.

Jas 3:9 With it we bless *our* Lord and Father, and with it we curse **men, who have been made in the likeness of God;**

Psalm 8:1-9

1 O LORD, our Lord, How majestic is Your name in all the earth, Who have displayed Your splendor above the heavens!
 2 From the mouth of infants and nursing babes You have established strength Because of Your adversaries, To make the enemy and the revengeful cease.
 3 When I consider Your heavens, the work of Your fingers, The moon and the stars, which You have ordained;
 4 ***What is man that You take thought of him, And the son of man that You care for him?***
 5 Yet You have made him **a little lower than God**, And You crown him **with glory and majesty!**
 6 You make him to **rule over the works of Your hands**; You have put **all things under his feet**,
 7 All sheep and oxen, And also the beasts of the field,
 8 The birds of the heavens and the fish of the sea, Whatever passes through the paths of the seas.
 9 O LORD, our Lord, How majestic is Your name in all the earth!

Consider how angels rejoiced over the birth of Jesus. Consider also how they must have rejoiced over the formation of Adam. The glory of God is associated with the earth ("the whole earth is full of His glory"). Even satan must have understood that God's ultimate plan was to manifest Himself through man. Satan rebelled against this idea.

Ephessians 3:1-13

1 For this reason I, Paul, the prisoner of Christ Jesus for the sake of you Gentiles--
 2 if indeed you have heard of the **stewardship of God's grace** which was given to me for you;
 3 that by revelation there was made known to me the mystery, as I wrote before in brief.
 4 By referring to this, when you read you can understand my insight into the mystery of Christ,
 5 which in other generations was not made known to the sons of men, as it has now been revealed to His holy apostles and prophets in the Spirit;
 6 to be specific, that the **Gentiles are fellow heirs and fellow members of the body, and fellow partakers of the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel**,
 7 of which I was made a minister, according to the gift of God's grace which was given to me according to the working of His power.
 8 To me, the very least of all saints, this grace was given, to preach to the Gentiles the **unfathomable riches of Christ**,
 9 and to bring to light what is the **administration of the mystery** which **for ages has been hidden in God who created all things;**
 10 so that the manifold wisdom of God might now be made known through the church to the rulers and the authorities in the heavenly places.
 11 This was in accordance with the eternal **purpose** which He carried out in Christ Jesus our Lord,
 12 in whom we have boldness and confident access through faith in Him.
 13 Therefore I ask you not to lose heart at my tribulations on your behalf, for they are your glory.

The church is the university of the heavens. **V11. Purpose = prosthesis** = a setting forth of a thing, placing of it in view, the showbread. Kings and merchants will return to the church when the image is restored. Wise men will come to you; the Queen of Sheba will come as well.

Heb 2:6-8

- 6 But one has testified somewhere, saying, "WHAT IS MAN, THAT YOU REMEMBER HIM? OR THE SON OF MAN, THAT YOU ARE CONCERNED ABOUT HIM?
- 7 "YOU HAVE MADE HIM FOR A LITTLE WHILE LOWER THAN THE ANGELS; YOU HAVE CROWNED HIM WITH GLORY AND HONOR, AND HAVE APPOINTED HIM OVER THE WORKS OF YOUR HANDS;
- 8 YOU HAVE PUT ALL THINGS IN SUBJECTION UNDER HIS FEET." For in subjecting all things to him, He left nothing that is not subject to him. But now we do not yet see all things subjected to him.

The Image of God

Part 4

It was God's plan to create the human race to find a body in which He could make Himself visible. God wanted to display Himself in and through the human race. There is a physiological dimension to God's expression. God cannot be seen outside of a body. This is the corporeal principle. The corporeal represents agency. God needs a body. The words 'Selem' (image) and 'demuth' (likeness) communicate this.

Anything physical has to have a substance behind the real. **For the physical to express, there must a place from which it proceeds. This is the substance of God.**

Example: Preaching : no one can preach objectively before there is a subjectivity. There are absolutes in God – an objectivity. **But you can never preach the objective if in your own personal encounter there is no subjective encounter.** Thus you are true, not by what you say, but by who you are. You have to 'see' to enter into Kingdom reality. The Word and the Spirit are essential.

If you are come to the image of God – it has to be seen. Glory has got to do with the glory of God. The Hebrew word, 'KABOD' for glory, and the Greek word, 'Doxa' (from dokio) = **to see or give recognition.** The manner of how you recognise Him is the glory. If we are to be the manifest glory of God in the earth, then there has to be a people that observes us, analyses us and interrogates us. All of creation can only behold naturally and physically. **The true study of us, is an outward study of us. But first there has to be an inward dimension to us.**

The word 'manifest' = 'phanero' = **something must exude and emanate from within you.** Otherwise we are phantoms – ghosts – similitudes . **You cannot have anything of yourself in that manifestation. God must in us in a substantial way if God is to be in us.**

How does this operation take place in coming into the image of God?

The physical outward appearance has to make sure it does not have things like anger, malice, lies, etc. These things manifest and distort the image. You cannot be callous, flippant and careless joking, etc. In your physical appearance, you have to put away the deeds of the flesh.

The **outward external image of God is encapsulated in LOVE.** James – study this – tells you how wisdom will administrate love. Have perfect love.

THE INWARD ASPECT:

You cannot manifest the new man without understanding the new man. **The new man will not come without the renovation of your mind.** This is not a cosmetic rearrangement. You have to change the operating system through apostolic doctrine brought by apostles and prophets. **These are technicians skilled in the Spirit to remove the operation system of your mind and install the new.**

How will we get there – to the place were the inward is change?

The image of God cannot show forth in anyone of us unless you understand what it means to be the son of God. The image of God manifests itself within the economy called 'son'. The image takes place within a son. God the Father is the seed transferor and communicator. He wants to transfer Himself into the human

race by them becoming His sons. When God relates to us in the earth, the first thing He does is become Father and we have to become sons. This concept needs to be fully developed – it is a process. To become a son is a process of development. The child is born and the son is given.

Read Romans 8 through the vantage of ‘spirit - soul - body’. ‘The spirit is willing but the flesh is weak’ – if the spirit does not rule the soul, then the body will be weak.

Romans 8:1-3

- 1 Therefore there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus.
- 2 For the **law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus** has set you free from **the law of sin and of death.**
- 3 For what the Law could not do, weak as it was through the flesh, *God did:* sending His own Son in the **likeness of sinful flesh** and *as an offering* for sin, He condemned sin in the flesh,

Verse 3 - Jesus came in the likeness of human sinful flesh. Our flesh must portray the image of God – **your flesh is biggest distracter away from the nature of God.** Previously, the Pentecostals taught the flesh was evil – this was erroneous. **If God’s image is to be seen, it has to radiate even out of your flesh.**

Rom 8:4 so that the requirement of the Law might be fulfilled in us, **who do not walk according to the flesh but according to the Spirit.** (spirit)

This also includes our spirit (small case’s’). We need to restudy the Holy Spirit. We can be at rest physically yet our spirits are erupting with Words from God. The things we get are from above. My food comes from above – set your affections on things on above. Keep your mind on Him and He will mind the things concerning you.

When Jesus became man, He submitted Himself to the processes of God speaking to His spirit to rule his soul and dominate his body.

Romans 8: 5-7

- 5 For those who are according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who are according to the Spirit, the things of the Spirit.
- 6 For the mind set on the flesh is death, but the mind set on the Spirit is life and peace,
- 7 because the **mind set on the flesh is hostile toward God;** for it does not subject itself to the law of God, for it is not even able *to do so,*

Hostile = the mind set on the flesh cannot receive the things of God.

Romans 8:8-17

- 8 and those who are in the flesh cannot please God.
- 9 However, you **are not in the flesh** but **in the Spirit,** if indeed the **Spirit of God dwells in you.** But if anyone does not have the **Spirit of Christ, he does not belong to Him.**
- 10 **If Christ is in you,** though the body is dead because of sin, **yet the spirit is alive because of righteousness.**
- 11 But if the Spirit of Him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, He who raised Christ Jesus from the dead will also **give life to your mortal bodies** through **His Spirit who dwells in you.**
- 12 So then, brethren, we are under obligation, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh -
- 13 for if you are living according to the flesh, you must die; but **if by the Spirit** you are **putting to death the deeds of the body, you will live.**

14 For all who are being led by the Spirit of God, these are sons of God.

15 For you have not received a spirit of slavery leading to fear again, but you have received a spirit of adoption as sons by which we cry out, "Abba! Father!"

16 The Spirit Himself testifies with our spirit that we are children of God,

17 and if children, heirs also, heirs of God and fellow heirs with Christ, if indeed we suffer with *Him* so that we may also be glorified with Him.

Faith does not from quoting Scripture. Faith is looking into the unseen realm and seeing that God has called me to be His son. His eye is always on me, and so He knows all my needs and so I do not need to keep on asking Him every day. We are heirs of God and fellow heirs with Christ. God will take care of you. God will clothe you with provision when you enter the reality of sonship.

Rom 8:18 For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the **glory that is to be revealed to us**.

Rom 8:19 For the anxious longing of the creation waits eagerly for the revealing of the sons of God.

All creation is waiting to see the unveiling of the sons of God

Rom 8:20 For the creation was subjected to futility, not willingly, but because of Him who subjected it, in hope

All of creation was subjected to futility - a kind of prison. God subjected the creation in hope. When the sons of God are restored, creation will be healed. Your sonship is only validated by the Word coming into you and becoming flesh.

Rom 8:21 that the **creation itself also will be set free from its slavery** to corruption into the freedom of the glory of the children of God.

Rom 8:22 For we know that the whole creation groans and suffers the pains of childbirth together until now.

Rom 8:23 And not only this, but also we ourselves, having the first fruits of the Spirit, even we ourselves groan within ourselves, waiting eagerly for *our* adoption as sons, the redemption of our body.

The first fruit of the Spirit – as a down payment – then the fullness of the Son and the Father.

In the earth right now, there is an increase of the contraction pains – birth pangs.

Rom 8:24 For in hope we have been saved, but hope that is seen is not hope; for who hopes for what he *already sees*?

Rom 8:25 But if we **hope for what we do not see**, with **perseverance we wait eagerly for it**.

There is a school of thought saying the resurrection has taken place – this is error. We still believe in the last resurrection.

Rom 8:26 In the same way the Spirit also helps our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we should, but the **Spirit Himself intercedes for us** with groanings too deep for words;

Rom 8:27 and He who searches the hearts knows what the mind of the Spirit is, because He intercedes for the saints according to the will of God.

Rom 8:28 And we know that God causes **all things** to work together for good to those who love God, to those who are called according to His purpose.

Contextually – ‘purpose’ = prosthesis– same word for ‘showbread’. The purpose is that you are called to be a son of God. Everything – all things – even things designed to bring you down is contributing to form the son of God in you.

Rom 8:29 For those whom He foreknew, He also predestined *to become* conformed to the image of His Son, so that He would be the **firstborn among (IN) many brethren;**

Foreknew = **proginisko** = to know personally before time began.

Rom 8:30 and these whom He predestined, He also called; and these whom He called, He also justified; and these whom He justified, He also glorified.

Predestined = proorizo (determined or predetermined). The horizon is a virtual horizon – where the sea meets the sky. As you journey there the horizon shifts. It is an ever enlarging boundary. ‘He foreknew me’ – implies deep seated intimacy. He knew us in Him before time began. He knew us subjectively that we are not dust, but that we carry the very essence of who He is. **He has set the boundary for us – which is us being conformed to the image of the SON.** Every time you get to a boundary and you think you understand it, like sonship, it expands. **Eph 4 : five-fold are focussed on bringing the fullness of stature and the measure of Christ.** The furthest God can see is called ‘SON’. The scope of His limit is called ‘SON’. The devil protested against the idea of ‘SON’.

V 29 – the word ‘among’ actually means ‘IN’ – the Greek is ‘EN’ – means ‘to be in’ = to come to the Finality of rest. Firstborn or first fruit – when it is installed into the lump – it affects the entire lump – it looks for all the weaknesses and corrects it. Jesus is the first fruit or firstborn installed into the loaf or lump of the Body – **He, the first fruit is searching, eradicating, neutralising and bringing into formation the image of God. God has put his seed in us – and this the is first fruit. And when we grow up, we become the boundary, the sphere in which God dwells. Just let the Word incubate within you – just obey the Word; live in the Word and let the Word dwell in you.**

The Image of God

Part 5

We can now more fully understand why Jesus died. The scope and range of our salvation is vast. God cannot see beyond 'son'. Consider how the father of the prodigal looked until he could see the form of his son appear and run to receive him.

Rom 8:29 For those whom He foreknew, He also predestined *to become* **conformed to the image of His Son**, so that He would be the **firstborn among many brethren**

Conformed = to be brought into formation – that which comes from the heavenly must be formed into the earthly. We are conformed into the pattern of His Son. Everything is defined within the ambit of sonship.

GREEK WORDS TRANSLATED IMAGE/NATURE/LIKENESS

IMAGE = EIKON

1. Conveys the idea of a **physical image**; this image is formed physically through a process of **consent** (cannot be forced or enforced) there must be **agreement** for the image to be formed. He stands at your door and knocks.
2. **'To be likened to' – the Son** – implied is the idea of surrender and submission and yielding. You **surrender to the form of another**.
In the feeding of 5000, He instructs them to collect the fragments of bread = 12 baskets = a picture of how the body will function. He said, "Collect the bread, that nothing may be lost". Later He says, "I am the bread". Whatever people ate of His body (bread) – and He will raise it up in the last day. In His physical being, there is a substance called 'bread'. On the cross, not one bone of his body was broken. **You have to hear and then yield and obey – to come under the covering of what you hear**. "Give us today our daily bread" = bread which comes from the heavenly – from the eternal. Many want casual hearing – the romantic side of revelation. You have to learn how to eat his flesh. You have to eat the bread from heaven and the drink the life in the blood.
3. **'To be conformed to a representation'** – that stands as an equivalent of something'. We are HIS equivalent in the earth. How you sit or stand should be how He sits or stands in the heavens. How you are postured must be reflective of HIM completely. **This is a visual or tangible rendering of someone**. This does not mean we must be worshipped. Even when they said of Jesus that He was good, He said there was only one that was good – the Father. He was just a reflection of the goodness of the Father.
4. **This is the state of serving as an official delegate of God.**
5. **This is the image of the heavenly monarch impressed upon man.**

Rom 8:30 and these whom He predestined, He also called; and these whom He called, He also justified; and these whom He justified, He also glorified.

Justified = coming to a place where it can be reckoned that you are righteous; you must be in credit balance with God – not as a liability. This comes through your testing. **The testings are all chastisements.** God reckoned Abraham as righteous – Abraham believed in the Word when everything went wrong.

Glorified = God gives His reputation to be seen in us.

Heb 1:1-2: God, after He spoke long ago to the fathers in the prophets in many portions and in many ways, in these last days has spoken to us in His Son, whom He appointed heir of all things, through whom also He made the world.

‘In Son’ = God’s official way of communicating. IN – ‘EN’ in the Greek = God comes to rest. **God wants to speak IN us, not through us. When you are not living it, it is hard to speak it.** And you cannot speak it when you are competing with others.

Heb 2:13 And again, "I WILL PUT MY TRUST IN HIM." And again, "BEHOLD, I AND THE CHILDREN WHOM GOD HAS GIVEN ME."

Children = paidoen = young child; at salvation you become a ‘teknon’. God places His sons in families so that God can raise His sons to maturity. No two families share the same glory. If the son is a little child, God cannot rule through him. It takes a mature son to rule the city. Mega churches are like fast food outlets – serving junk food – no substantive growth. Before you proclaim the message to the nations, make sure you are living it first. A big problem in the church today is ‘boy leaders’ – children leading children.

Heb 1:3 And He is the radiance of His glory and the exact representation of His nature, and upholds all things by the word of His power. When He had made purification of sins, He sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high,

Radiance = that which emanates

Exact Representation = charakter

1. **Something impressed into you;** this word is one expression of Jesus; when He walked as a man, there was no physical radiation, except on the mount of Transfiguration.
2. **An agency** – an engraver.
3. **An impress as corresponding to original pattern**
4. **Peculiar characteristics** – innate qualities
5. **Character is grown** – a process
6. **Things engraved** – impression. In a perfect kairos, things are not only built but also broken down. In kairos, you not only embrace, but you also refrain from embracing. You will be marked – like Paul – wiped and shipwrecked, bitten by a snake, etc. In Joseph’s life, the epitome of his life was when he forgave his brothers because of his perspective. He called his first son ‘Mannesah’ which means ‘God has called me to forget’.
7. **An impression was considered an exact representation of the object whose image it bore.** Our character must express the character of God. Jesus had 30 years of obscurity to develop His character. Pilates said “I find no fault in him”.

Don’t chase anything – just let the Word grow in you.

Hebrews 1:4-9

- 4 having become as much better than the angels, as He has inherited a more excellent name than they.
- 5 For to which of the angels did He ever say, "YOU ARE MY SON, TODAY I HAVE BEGOTTEN YOU"? And again, "I WILL BE A FATHER TO HIM AND HE SHALL BE A SON TO ME"?
- 6 And when He again brings the firstborn into the world, He says, "AND LET ALL THE ANGELS OF GOD WORSHIP HIM."
- 7 And of the angels He says, "WHO MAKES HIS ANGELS WINDS, AND HIS MINISTERS A FLAME OF FIRE."
- 8 But of the Son He says, "YOUR THRONE, O GOD, IS FOREVER AND EVER, AND THE RIGHTEOUS SCEPTER IS THE SCEPTER OF HIS KINGDOM.
- 9 "YOU HAVE LOVED RIGHTEOUSNESS AND HATED LAWLESSNESS; THEREFORE GOD, YOUR GOD, HAS ANOINTED YOU WITH THE OIL OF GLADNESS ABOVE YOUR COMPANIONS."

Image of God

Part 6

Recap:

1. The Hebrew word for likeness, '**Demuth**' has reference to the **corporate expression**; the bringing of the whole body together. You must understand your origin to know your finish.
2. The Hebrew word for image, '**Selem**' has reference to the **image of God in the individual**.
3. In the Greek, image = '**eikon**' has reference to **literal physical image**. Think in terms of an icon on your desktop or 'icon' as in someone that you want to be like. The principle meaning of 'eikon' means you cannot physically represent another unless you choose through consent to surrender or submit to the one you want to emulate. Representation is not just about your outward form – but it has to do with principle – you choose to submit yourself. You must be the equivalent of the one you represent – as He is, so are you. Otherwise you undermine Him whom you are supposed to represent. You have to become the official 'dulos' of the one you represent. "I do not exist, but He exists in me." He does not have a body; He is looking for a body ' {"A body thou hast prepared for me"}'. When this happens, then it is like the monarch impressing himself upon you --- so that you become the means by which he transacts with the world.
4. **Rom 8:29** For those whom He foreknew, **He also predestined** *to become* conformed to the **image of His Son**, so that He would be the firstborn among **(IN)** many brethren;

Predestined = proorizo = an incomprehensible boundary. This boundary is called 'son. The scheme of is this is too deep for the human mind to understand. The word 'to become' is not in the original text. **The image of God cannot happen outside of this dimension called 'SON'**. Outside of 'SON' there is no space for God for move. **In the 'son' all of Christ is compacted.** God never functions outside of 'son'.

We are called to be partners with the SON and whatever the son has, we have. Philip said, "Show us the Father". Jesus said, "If you have seen me, you have the father". We too must reflect Him completely.

The principle of father and son is an earthly introduction – relative to the concept of the earth. Before time began, there was no concept of father and son. Rather it was Creator, Word and Spirit). In the context of creation, He comes as Father, Son and Spirit.

5. **He is the firstborn IN (not among) many brothers.** Allow Him to grow us. The eternal comes to reside with your body. Mary had the seed of the son within her. God can reduce Himself to a seed and yet still uphold all things by the Word of His power. **This same incorruptible seed was injected into all of all as 'firstborn'**. It took Jesus 30 years to go from child to son. How long is He taking to express Himself fully in the corporate son?

6. **Heb 1:1** God, after He spoke long ago to the fathers in the prophets in many portions and in many ways,
Heb 1:2 in these last days has spoken to us in His Son, whom He appointed heir of all things, through whom also He made the world.
Heb 1:3 And He is the radiance of His glory and the exact representation of His nature, and upholds all things by the word of His power. When He had made purification of sins, He sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high,

'In HIS Son' = not just Jesus, but also us, His corporate Son. The sons of God who slept with the daughters of men were not angels. God never called angels his sons (Recall the portion : "to which of the angels, did he say, 'Thou art my son').

GOD CHOSE TO REVEAL HIS SON IN US:

- Gal 1:15** But when God, who had set me apart *even* from my mother's womb and called me through His grace, was pleased
Gal 1:16 to reveal His Son in me so that I might preach Him among the Gentiles, I did not immediately consult with flesh and blood,
Gal 1:17 nor did I go up to Jerusalem to those who were apostles before me; but I went away to Arabia, and returned once more to Damascus.

When the son is revealed in you – you will be tested like Jesus ('If you are the son of God...')

7. Other Greek Word for IMAGE = charakter = exact representation

- Heb 1:3** And He is the radiance of His glory and the **exact representation of His nature**, and upholds all things by the word of His power. When He had made purification of sins, He sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high,

This has to do with **our inward formation**. An invisible God becomes visible through the formation of character within us. This does not happen by just imbibing Scriptures. **In the areas of life and testing where you have never learned from previous negative experiences, even though God would provide you with temporary relief, God will always revisit that issue until you learn the lesson.** Rather deal with the things you have to deal with now, than to come back to it ten years later. Gifts are given, but fruit are grown. **Character is carved out by the life you live.** God will allow you to go through the wilderness, to teach you that He exists even when you do see His hand. There are certain things you can only learn in the wilderness. When you are called by Him, then He will provide for you. God will withdraw His hand until you have learnt the lessons. **Impartations comes through piercings; spiritual formation comes through breakings.** If you want to carry Christ, then you must have marks. But show me the healing in your wounds – then Christ is formed. If you are still bleeding, then Christ is yet to be formed in you.

Another Greek word for 'NATURE'

Nature = hypostasis = comes from 'hupostemi' = to place or set under.

If you want His nature, you must understand the hypostatic union.

- Hypostasis =**
1. **that which underlies the apparent;** if you want the character of God, you need that the thing that comes to undergird you.
 2. Another word is '**substance**' (Heb11:1 – faith is the substance ...).
 3. This is **the essence, the being, the reality behind the character.**
 4. **That which is unchangeable.** Not the ideal – but the real. Speaks about the 'essence'

When they tried to explain that Christianity has one God with three parts, they said God is a God of substance (hypostasis) = a non-material substance. The three persons in the godhead are co-equal in that they have the same substance – this is the **compositional make up** of God. Each of the parts of the godhead has the same weight of substance; but the character of that substance may express itself differently. This is the basis upon which the image is expressed. **Inwardly we have to carry a divine substance that carries and communicates my character.** This is the basis upon which your life is founded. It **undergirds everything in my life that appears as the image of God.** This is the **immovable foundation** of your life. Faith is the substance of things hoped for. **Faith is the means of accessing the substances, which the essence of everything God is.**

Faith comes by hearing the Word. The Word is full of grace and truth. The Word must become flesh and dwell in you – and then you behold the glory of the son in you. The 'voice' brings light to your spirit in the form of a word.

Image of God

Part 7

The primary objective of gathering into households of faith is the restoration of God's image and likeness. The image has to be physical.

Another Greek word for IMAGE = Homois from 'Homoioo' = something that resembles another; but it does not presume that what you have or are comes from another. The person that resembles the other – that resemblance does not come from the object resembled. While you are like flesh – yet you are not flesh.

1 Co 15:49 Just as we have borne the image of the earthy, we will also bear the image of the heavenly.

When you are born from above – you are no longer earthly – but heavenly. John the Baptist is a good example of this. John is not just another man – but he was 'a man sent from God'.

The inside of the person will define where you are from. Religion tries to bring you to an outward appearance of the image of God. E.g. you must tithe in order to hold a position in the church; nothing wrong with this, but then person will create an impression of tithing. What is inside you, defines you, and not your external practice. **You cannot have this in you from above if it is not based on the very substance from above. If you don't have this substance within you, you cannot carry the image, the very substance or essence that makes up God Himself.**

Hebrews 11:1 – Faith is the substance hoped for. **The primary objective of faith is to access the very substance of which God is made up of, where you don't want things, but God.** In the Old Testament the Levites got God Himself as their inheritance.

If you are going to be God's image, then the very material that constitutes God has to be deposited into our lives. **The reality behind your appearance is the very character of God in you.** If God is love, so you ought to be love. The very manifestation of this substance is agape love.

You have to understand how we get this substance. Peter said to Jesus, "You are the Christ" – Christ = the very substance that constitutes the godhead – the fullness of the deity.

Hebrews 3:1-6

- 1 Therefore, holy brethren, partakers of a heavenly calling, consider Jesus, the Apostle and High Priest of our confession;
- 2 He was faithful to Him who appointed Him, as Moses also was in all His house.
- 3 For He has been counted worthy of more glory than Moses, by just so much as the builder of the house has more honor than the house.
- 4 For every house is built by someone, but the builder of all things is God.
- 5 Now Moses was faithful in all His house as a servant, for a testimony of those things which were to be spoken later;
- 6 but Christ was faithful as a Son over His house--whose house we are, if we hold fast our confidence and the boast of our hope firm until the end.

House = 'oikos' = family = us. He is the SON and part of the family and so we are made of the same material as Him. **The SON must come into a state of being in you.** Gal 1;16 "God chose to reveal His son in me".

It comes by the WORD. Many do not give the Word the attention it merits. **The moment you react negatively to the Word you hear, you miss the hypostasis.** We are of the same material as Jesus. Everyone in the family will enjoy the same substance and nature that constitutes God.

2 Cor 3:12-18

- 12 Therefore having such a hope, we use great boldness in *our* speech,
 13 and *are* not like Moses, *who* used to put a veil over his face so that the sons of Israel would not look intently at the end of what was fading away.
 14 But their minds were hardened; for until this very day at the reading of the old covenant the same veil remains unlifted, because it is removed in Christ.
 15 But to this day whenever Moses is read, a veil lies over their heart;
 16 but whenever a person turns to the Lord, the veil is taken away.
 17 Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, *there is liberty*.
 18 But we all, with unveiled face, beholding as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from glory to glory, just as from the Lord, the Spirit.

If you turn to the Lord, you should see His face – by the Spirit. God came as spirit in the garden. Adam had to capture something in the spirit to hear God. In the speaking of God, that Word brings spirit and life. Beholding in as a mirror = looking into the Word

James 1:19-25

- 19 *This* you know, my beloved brethren. But everyone must be **quick to hear, slow to speak and slow to anger**;
 20 for the **anger of man does not achieve the righteousness of God**.
 21 Therefore, putting aside all filthiness and *all* that remains of wickedness, in humility receive the word implanted, which is able to save your souls.
 22 But prove yourselves doers of the word, and not merely hearers who delude themselves.
 23 For if anyone is a hearer of the word and not a doer, he is like a man who looks at his natural face in a mirror;
 24 for *once* he has looked at himself and gone away, he has **immediately forgotten what kind of person he was**.
 25 But one who looks intently at the perfect law, the *law* of liberty, and abides by it, not having become a forgetful hearer but an effectual doer, this man will be blessed in what he does.

The Word you look into, you must abide in it. When a husband says to a wife, "I love you", in this statement is protection, provision, etc. The wife lives in this word as a house. So the husband is living in her heart. The mystical union takes place and they are one. Jesus said, "If you abide in me and my words abide in you, you may ask what you will, and it shall be done unto you".

The mirror becomes the face of God –through the Word of God. When you see the Word you see a picture of God's face – which is your face. **You are seeing the picture of your original self in God.** Then, not acting in accordance with what you have heard and seen, is equated to you being 'a forgetful hearer'.

This mirror – you see from one glory to another.

Back to Corinthians

2Co 3:18 But we all, with unveiled face, beholding as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from glory to glory, just as from the Lord, the Spirit.

When you know who you are in Christ, you cannot go back to who you are in the flesh. How you see is what you get. Jesus could take on differing roles or forms (like servant) – yet internally it did not change the substance of who He is. Jesus did not have special privileges – he went through all the processes of becoming and growing into the substance of God by the Word of the God. He saw His face in the Scriptures.

You must capture the ‘hupostasis’ in the Word. No man can cover another man. The way one is covered by another is by the Word preached. **When people receive the Word, that Word becomes their house.**

2 Cor 4:1-6

2Co 4:1 Therefore, since we have this ministry, as we received mercy, we do not lose heart,
2Co 4:2 but we have renounced the things hidden because of shame, not walking in craftiness or adulterating the word of God, but by the manifestation of truth commending ourselves to every man's conscience in the sight of God.

2Co 2:17 For we are not like many, peddling the word of God, but as from sincerity, but as from God, we speak in Christ in the sight of God.

Truth = altheia = the external side of what is inside – the reality - the appearance; the substance of the Word is called grace; the outward expression is TRUTH.

2Co 4:3 And even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing,
2Co 4:4 in whose case the god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelieving so that they might not see the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God.

Give us to today our daily bread = ask God for a substance that comes from God. His Word is exalted above His name.

Revelation 1:9-17

- 9 I, John, your brother and fellow partaker in the tribulation and kingdom and perseverance *which are* in Jesus, was on the island called Patmos because of the word of God and the testimony of Jesus.
- 10 I was in the Spirit on the Lord's day, and I heard behind me a loud voice like *the sound of a trumpet*, (cf. in the ‘ruach’ of the day)
- 11 saying, "Write in a book what you see, and send it to the seven churches: to Ephesus and to Smyrna and to Pergamum and to Thyatira and to Sardis and to Philadelphia and to Laodicea." (To hear is to see)
- 12 Then I turned to see the voice that was speaking with me. And having turned I saw Seven golden lampstands;

- 13 and in the middle of the lampstands **I saw one like a son of man**, clothed in a robe reaching to the feet, and girded across His chest with a golden sash.
- 14 His head and His hair were white like white wool, like snow; and His eyes were like a flame of fire.
- 15 His feet *were* like burnished bronze, when it has been made to glow in a furnace, and **His voice was** like the **sound of many waters**.
- 16 In His right hand He held seven stars, and out of His mouth came a sharp two-edged sword; and His face was like the sun shining in its strength.
- 17 When I saw Him, I fell at His feet like a dead man.

If you want to know who you are, read the bible.

John turned to see the voice and saw the lampstands = a symbol of apostolic doctrine.

'Son of man' = how man should look .

You fall like a dead man because you know you cannot see yourself but you see Christ in you.

The Image of God

Part 8 : Conclusion

When Christ came onto the earth, heaven became bankrupt, and when He went back into heaven, He left behind on the earth the essence of His being in the form of gifts.

The body must function as a life-giving spirit because it is informed by the soul, which is informed by your spirit. Jesus said “The Words I speak, they are spirit and they are life”. When God comes in the Spirit – His Spirit speaks to your spirit. When the voice comes, it creates a presence.

Adam did not have the fullness of God – he would receive it gradually, sequentially – he would be clothed from glory to glory. He was not made equal to God but was made less than God – he clothed himself in the fullness of God progressively.

When you see yourself in the Word by the Spirit you are changed into the image from glory to glory.

Joh 1:18 No one has seen God at any time; the **only begotten God who is in the bosom of the Father, He has explained Him.**

(AMP) No man has ever seen God at any time; the **only unique Son**, or the only begotten God, Who is in the bosom [*in the intimate presence*] of the Father, **He has declared Him** [*He has revealed Him and brought Him out where He can be seen; He has interpreted Him and He has made Him known*].

There was no-one closer to God in human history than Adam – but he never saw God. How is God seen?

Explained = exgeomai = to lead Him out from the inward part. Luke 24 – Jesus led Himself from out of the Scriptures; He explained Himself from out of the law, prophets and the psalms (subjective).

John 1:1-8

- 1 In the beginning **was the Word**, and the **Word was with God**, and the **Word was God**.
- 2 He was in the beginning with God.
- 3 All things came into being through Him, and apart from Him nothing came into being that has come into being.
- 4 In Him **was life**, and the **life was the Light of men**.
- 5 The Light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not comprehend it.
- 6 There came a man sent from God, whose name was John.
- 7 He came as a witness, to testify about the Light, so that all might believe through him.
- 8 He was not the Light, but *he came* to testify about the Light.

A more accurate way of dividing the Old and New Testaments should be as follows:

Old Testament	= 42 books (The 39 + the synoptic gospels – Matt, Mark and Luke)
New Testament	= 24 books (The Book of John is when the New Covenant commences)

If you want to know and describe DEITY, you have to make reference to His ‘hupostasis’. The essence of everything that God is WORD. All of God is WORD. God is WORD. In Him was life which is the light of men -- - “the words I speak they are spirit and life”.

Joh 1:14 And the Word (image and likes of God) became flesh, and dwelt among us, and we saw His glory, glory as of the only begotten from the Father, full of grace and truth.

When this Word became flesh, we saw everything in the Father come to light. When the Word comes to dwell in you, it becomes grace and truth. Two words for grace : charis and doma. The impact of grace can be measured. **The word 'doma' measures the substance that produces the impact. It speaks about the character of something; the efficacious workings of something.** Grace is not simply 'unmerited favour'. Grace is a property in a thing; the substance in a thing; it is the very essence of what a thing is. The Word has GRACE in it. **When we look at the result of grace – it is called truth. Inside the word is grace , but the appearance of that is truth.**

Joh 1:15 John testified about Him and cried out, saying, "This was He of whom I said, 'He who comes after me has a higher rank than I, for He existed before me.'"

Joh 1:16 For of His fullness we have all received, and grace upon grace.

Fullness = to fill up the thing until it not cannot be filled anymore. All the grace of His fullness we have received. You receive grace upon grace (not truth upon truth). When you receive grace you receive truth. Man will not live by bread alone but by every word that proceeds from the mouth of God. If you have orange juice, it is the vitamins in the juice you really want. The vitamins (grace) come by the Word. You receive grace through the rhema word.

The key to receiving the Word of God is hearing the VOICE. You must have a voice speaking. The voice that you hear must light up the darkness of your life.

VOICE = Phone = sound produces light (phos). The sound released should produce light.

If you want to know who your spiritual father is, it the one who can speak into your soul and your darkened soul sees the light.

Eli and Samuel : God called Samuel but used Eli's accent. Train your ear to hear the voice of your father. Learn to hear 'the VOICE within the voice'.

The Mystery of Christ

Part 1

There are two mysteries spoken of in the Scripture:

1. The mystery of GOD which is CHRIST.
2. The mystery of CHRIST, which is the Church, which is His Body.

Peter said to Jesus, “You are the CHRST, the son of the living God”. Christ reveals God, and the Word reveals Christ.

We need to study the books of Ephesians, Colossians and Philipians together.

When he wrote Romans, Paul had a certain perception of Christ. Paul in this book had an earth-related, time-related perspective, and a certain Jewishness about him.

There are two Christ’s mentioned in scripture:

1. Christ the head who is the son of God
2. Christ, the Body, the church

Paul called the ‘mystery of Christ’ ‘his gospel’. Paul brought a revelation of the mystery of Christ – His body.

Ephesians 1:3-10

- 3 Blessed *be* the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly *places* in Christ,
- 4 just as He chose us in Him before the foundation of the world, that we would be holy and blameless before Him. In love
- 5 He predestined us to adoption as sons through Jesus Christ to Himself, according to the kind intention of His will,
- 6 to the praise of the glory of His grace, which He freely bestowed on us in the Beloved.
- 7 In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of His grace
- 8 which He lavished on us. In all wisdom and insight
- 9 He made known to us the mystery of His will, according to His kind intention which He purposed in Him
- 10 with a view to an administration suitable to the fullness of the times, *that is*, the summing up of all things in Christ, things in the heavens and things on the earth. In Him

God is moving everything back to Christ. All doctrine flows from Christ. 2 John 1:9 – “he who has the doctrine of Christ has both the Father and the Son”

Mystery = musterion – from the **verb mou** = which means ‘**to shut the mouth**’. God shut His mouth about certain things. In times past He spoke fragmentally – here a little and there a little. Progressive revelation flows throughout the entire canon of Scripture.

God wants to bring all things back under the headship of Christ. We have to be eternal in our perspective.

Times = kairo = not chronological time, but a time in which God wants to unveil certain things to the church, a time which has certain constituted events connected to it. Times must reach their fullness in Christ. But there must be a priest in the earth that can connect earth and heaven - a Melchisedek type of priesthood. He was without mother or father but had his power in an endless life. This priesthood can operate in two realms simultaneously. God wants both realms to converge in Christ. Everything will be determined by the headship of Jesus Christ. This is the preferred position of God.

Colossians 2:2-3

- 2 that their hearts may be encouraged, having been knit together in love, and attaining to all the wealth that comes from the full assurance of understanding, **resulting in a true knowledge of God's mystery, that is, Christ Himself,**
- 3 in whom are hidden all the **treasures of wisdom and knowledge.**

Know = epignosis = a knowledge that comes by revelation – by spiritual interaction. God wants His son revealed IN us (not to us). Epignosis knowledge begins to configure your heart and mind and correct all that is out of alignment with His will. This knowledge comes by being positioned correctly. This comes when your mind is renewed and then the eyes of your heart will be enlightened. This will allow you to see. Many are 'blind from birth' (John 9) – you have to wash continuously in apostolic doctrine (pool of Siloam) for clarity of sight. Sight has got to do with the mind. **Work on your mind through a process of repentance. There is nothing else we can bring out of the Scripture except Christ. In the end times, it is the capacity of a church to bring Christ out of the Scripture that will be important.**

Col 2:3 - All knowledge and wisdom is found in Christ. Paul said "For me to live is Christ; to die is gain"; "that I may know Christ"; "that I may partake of Christ's suffering". You will be willing to die for this. Persecution will increase. He did not suffer for Himself – He suffered for the people. Many will sell out because they are not rooted.

Eph 1:9,10

- 9 He made known to us the **mystery of His will,** according to His kind intention which He purposed **in Him**
- 10 with a view to an **administration** suitable to the **fullness of the times,** *that is,* the summing up of all things **in Christ,** things in the heavens and things on the earth. **In Him**

Administration = dispensation = iokonomia (oikos – household – about the people in the house – a generation – a man and his generation) + nomos (law); thus iokonomia = a man as a steward over what is in the house. Has reference to the orderly arrangement of things in the house.

Nomos - from the root 'nemo' = to distribute or to dispense; The household becomes the great dispensary of God. The household is where the grace of God can be dispensed from. The mystery of Christ will only be dispensed from a HOUSEHOLD (NOT FROM A CHURCH WHERE THERE IS MEMBERSHIP).

A household has father and son. **The law of the house is the arrangement of fathers and son** – out from this will flow the mystery of Christ. Cross over to this reality (jump ship if you have to). Paul wrote Philippians after 20 years of apostolic ministry – and he said he counts all things but dung that he might **gain Christ.**

Paul was delivered from an earth-based and time-related perspective. See Christ and deliverance will be instantaneous. He says 'In Christ there is no male nor female'. "For me to live IS CHRIST" = Christ is life – my flesh needs to die and Christ needs to rise in me.

There are two Bodies in Christ:

1. The **physical fleshly body** in which the Son of God became incarnate. – The Body of Jesus.

1 Pet 2:24 and He Himself bore our sins **in His body** on the cross, so that we might die to sin and live to righteousness; for by His wounds you were healed.

Act 3:19 Repent ye therefore, and turn again, that your sins may be blotted out, that so there may come seasons of refreshing from the presence of the Lord;

Luk 22:19 And he took bread, and when he had given thanks, he brake it, and gave to them, saying, **This is my body** which is given for you: this do in remembrance of me.

Mat 27:57 And when even was come, there came a rich man from Arimathaea, named Joseph, who also himself was Jesus' disciple : this man went to Pilate, and asked for the **body of Jesus**. Then Pilate commanded it to be given up.

2. **The Church which is His Body**

Eph 1:22 And He put all things in subjection under His feet, and gave Him as head over all things **to the church**, which **is His body**, **the fullness of Him who fills all in all**.

The church is not the 'Body of Jesus'. The church is the 'Body of Christ'. The church is the completion of HIM, the fullness of HIM. Where is He now? – He is in His body. There is the parcelling out of Himself in the body. This body is only mentioned in Paul's epistles. The only metaphor that is never mentioned in the Old Testament is that the church is the Body of Christ. This mystery was not hidden in the Scripture, but was hidden in God himself.

There are also two Christ's as well:

1. **The personal Christ – i.e. Jesus, the Christ**

Math 16:16 – "THE CHRIST, the son of the living God". Jesus said that the Father revealed this to Peter. Sonship can only be revealed by the Father. Sons are known by their fathers.

Col 1:13-18

- 13 For He rescued us from the domain of darkness, and transferred us to the kingdom of His beloved **Son**,
- 14 in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.
- 15 **He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation.**
- 16 For by Him all things were created, *both* in the heavens and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities--**all things have been created through Him and for Him.**

17 He is before all things, and in Him all things hold together.

18 **He is also head of the body, the church;** and He is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, so that **He Himself will come to have first place in everything.**

Hebrews 1:3 – Jesus is the expressed image of God – Jesus is the distinctive mark of God.

Heb 1:3 And **He is the radiance of His glory and the exact representation of His nature,** and **upholds all things by the word of His power.** When He had made purification of sins, He sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high,

Eph 5:22-33

22 Wives, *be subject* to your own husbands, as to the Lord.

23 For the husband is the head of the wife, as **Christ also is the head of the church,** He Himself *being* the **Savior of the body.**

24 But as the **church is subject to Christ,** so also the wives *ought to be* to their husbands in everything.

25 Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ also loved the church and **gave Himself** up for her,

26 so that He might sanctify her, having cleansed her by the **washing of water with the word,**

27 that He might **present to Himself** the church in all her glory, having no spot or wrinkle or any such thing; but that she would be holy and blameless.

28 So husbands ought also to love their own wives as their own bodies. He who loves his own wife loves himself;

29 for no one ever hated his own flesh, but nourishes and cherishes it, just as **Christ also does the church,**

30 because we are members of His body.

31 **FOR THIS REASON A MAN SHALL LEAVE HIS FATHER AND MOTHER AND SHALL BE JOINED TO HIS WIFE, AND THE TWO SHALL BECOME ONE FLESH.**

32 **This mystery is great; but I am speaking with reference to Christ and the church.**

33 Nevertheless, each individual among you also is to love his own wife even as himself, and the wife must *see to it* that she respects her husband.

As man and wife are one, so is Christ and His church. He who is joined to the Lord is one with Him. In Christ - we are all in Christ. You lose all distinctions in Christ like race, gender and nation. Baptism literally means burial – we have been buried into Christ. **When you are buried you lose certain things. You lose all distinctions in Christ. When you talk about an ‘in Christ’ position there is no male or female, nor Jew nor Greek. You lose your identity to your earthly genealogy.**

Php 1:21 For to me, **to live is Christ** and **to die is gain.**

Gal 4:19 My children, with whom I am again in labor **until Christ is formed in you-**

Php 3:1-10

1 Finally, my brethren, rejoice in the Lord. To write the same things *again* is no trouble to me, and it is a safeguard for you.

2 Beware of the dogs, beware of the evil workers, beware of the false circumcision;

3 for we are the *true* circumcision, who **worship in the Spirit of God** and **glory in Christ Jesus** and **put no confidence in the flesh,**

- 4 although I myself might have confidence even in the flesh. If anyone else has a mind to put confidence in the flesh, I far more:
- 5 circumcised the eighth day, of the nation of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew of Hebrews; as to the Law, a Pharisee;
- 6 as to zeal, a persecutor of the church; as to the righteousness which is in the Law, found blameless.
- 7 **But whatever things were gain to me, those things I have counted as loss for the sake of Christ.**
- 8 More than that, I count all things to be loss in view of the surpassing value of knowing **Christ Jesus my Lord, for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and count them but rubbish so that I may gain Christ,**
- 9 and may be found in Him, not having a righteousness of my own derived from *the* Law, but that which is through **faith in Christ**, the righteousness which *comes* from God on the basis of faith,
- 10 that I may know Him and the power of His resurrection and the fellowship of His sufferings, being conformed to His death;
- 11 in order that I may attain to the resurrection from the dead.
- 12 Not that I have already obtained *it* or have already become perfect, but I press on so that I may lay hold of that for which also I was laid hold of by Christ Jesus.
- 13 Brethren, I do not regard myself as having laid hold of *it* yet; but one thing *I do*: forgetting what *lies* behind and reaching forward to what *lies* ahead,
- 14 **I press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus.**
- 15 Let us therefore, as many as are perfect, have this attitude; and if in anything you have a different attitude, God will reveal that also to you;

When this is our reality, there is no more fear of death. 'For me to live is Christ - to die is gain'.

When you 'know Christ' three things result :

1. Know Him in the **Power of His resurrection.**
2. Know Him in the **Fellowship of sufferings** = personal passions and desire you enter for the sake of another – the Body of Christ. True apostolic ministry seeks for the unity of the Body of Christ above all things. You will undergo many sufferings to see this. You enter into the spirit of martyrdom for the sake of Christ's body. Break the fragmentations in the Body of Christ. We must have a love for the Body of Christ.
3. Becoming **like Him in his death.**

Mystery of Christ

Part 2

In Ephesians, Paul describes the Body of Christ. In Colossians, you find the Headship of Christ. In Philipians, you have the Mind of Christ.

Colossians → Headship of Christ

Philipians → Mind of Christ

Ephesians → Body of Christ

Ephesians 1:1-23

- 1 Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, To the saints who are at Ephesus and who **are faithful in Christ Jesus:**
- 2 Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.
- 3 Blessed *be* the **God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ**, who has **blessed us with every spiritual blessing** in the heavenly *places* **in Christ**,
- 4 just as He chose us **in Him** before the foundation of the world, that we would be holy and blameless before Him. In love
- 5 He predestined us to adoption **as sons** through Jesus Christ to Himself, according to the kind intention of His will,
- 6 to the praise of the glory of His grace, which He freely bestowed on us in the Beloved.
- 7 **In Him** we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of His grace
- 8 which He lavished on us. In all wisdom and insight
- 9 He made known to us the **mystery of His will**, according to His kind intention which He purposed **in Him**
- 10 with a view to **an administration** suitable to the fullness of the times, *that is*, the summing up of all things **in Christ**, things in the heavens and things on the earth. **In Him**
- 11 also we have obtained an inheritance, having been **predestined according to His purpose** who **works all things after the counsel of His will**,
- 12 to the end that we who were the first to hope in Christ would **be to the praise of His glory**.
- 13 In Him, you also, after listening to the message of truth, the gospel of your salvation--having also believed, you were sealed **in Him with the Holy Spirit of promise**,
- 14 who is given as a **pledge of our inheritance**, with a view to the redemption of God's own possession, to the praise of His glory.
- 15 For this reason I too, having heard of the faith in the Lord Jesus which exists among you and your love for all the saints,
- 16 do not cease giving thanks for you, while making mention of you in my prayers;
- 17 that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, **may give to you a spirit of wisdom and of revelation in the knowledge of Him**.
- 18 I pray that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened, so that you will know what is the **hope of His calling**, **what are the riches of the glory of His inheritance in the saints**,
- 19 and what is **the surpassing greatness of His power toward us who believe**. These are in accordance with the **working of the strength of His might**

- 20 which **He brought about in Christ**, when He raised Him from the dead and seated Him at His right hand in the heavenly places,
 21 **far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the one to come.**
 22 **And He put all things in subjection under His feet, and gave Him as head over all things to the church,**
 23 **which is His body, the fullness of Him who fills all in all.**

We were preordained. We were chosen in Christ before time and even before there was a devil. We outrank the devil. The church, which is His body, fills all in all (V.23). **We need to go back out of time – see the eternal, timeless perspective – so that you can behave accurately in time.** We must operate from out of eternity. The things that are seen are temporal and that which is unseen is eternal – and faith is the connecting link to that which is unseen. Everything that is seen is made from that which is unseen. God created everything out of nothing.

Paul gives us insight into how God formed the Body out of time. God sees everything as finished – He sees the finished product. We see the imperfections of the Body. We must live in the power of the finish. We are not trying to get to the finish; we function from the finish. We operate from God; we are not trying to get to God.

Eph 2:4

- 4 But God, being rich in mercy, because of His great love with which He loved us,
 5 even when we were dead in our transgressions, **made us alive together with Christ** (by grace you have been saved),
 6 and raised **us up with Him**, and seated us with Him in the heavenly *places* in Christ Jesus,
 7 so that in the ages to come He might show the surpassing riches of His grace in kindness toward **us in Christ Jesus.**

The Son of God became the son of man so that the sons of man might become the sons of God. He brought many sons to glory. He is the firstborn amongst many brothers. To the Father we are sons; to the Son we are brothers.

In the Godhead, there is Father, Son and Spirit ; co-equality of persons, but differences of function. There is no competition. Redemption is time-related. Jesus is now fully man and fully God. There is a 'body' in the Godhead now. In Christ, the godhead dwelt bodily. Adam's sin and fall did not catch God unaware. Colossians says that Christ is the image of the invisible God. Deeply embedded within the image was an understanding of His body. The church is not an after-thought.

1 Cor 15 – the spiritual came after the natural. The natural lamb pointed to the LAMB of God.

The mind must be renewed through the Word so that sight can be restored to us. **The government of satan is operative only where there is darkness in my understanding.**

Note the words, '**together with Him**', in Ephesians. **From God's perspective the church is not fragmented.** We must see from God's perspective and not see the things the flesh wants us to see. See and know each other after the Spirit and not after the flesh. **See the perfections of God in each other.**

How did God form His Body outside of time? Why did He pre-select you? God is after many sons – and to bring them into Glory. Sin causes us to fall short of the glory. The glory is the opinion held in the mind of the beholder.

Death is not an event in your life; death is a principality. The last enemy is death. We lose the terror of death. Perspective changes everything. **The Body of Christ transcends time.**

Ephesians 1,2 and 3 give the doctrine of the Body and chapters 4,5 and 6 gives us the practical outworking of it.

Eph 1:9 He made known to us the **mystery of His will**, according to His kind intention which He purposed in Him

Eph 1:10 with a view to an **administration suitable** to the fullness of the times, *that is*, the summing up of all things in Christ, things in the heavens and things on the earth. In Him

Ephesians 3:1-21

1 For this reason I, Paul, the prisoner of Christ Jesus for the sake of you Gentiles--
 2 if indeed you have heard of the **stewardship of God's grace** which was given to me for you;
 3 that **by revelation** there was made known to me **the mystery**, as I wrote before in brief.
 4 By referring to this, when you read you can understand **my insight into the mystery of Christ**,
 5 which in other generations was not made known to the sons of men, **as it has now been revealed to His holy apostles and prophets in the Spirit;**
 6 to be specific, that **the Gentiles are fellow heirs and fellow members of the body, and fellow partakers of the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel,**
 7 of which I was made a minister, according to the gift of God's grace which was given to me according to the working of His power.
 8 To me, the very least of all saints, this grace was given, to preach to the Gentiles **the unfathomable riches of Christ,**
 9 and to bring to light what is the **administration of the mystery** which for ages has been **hidden in God** who created all things;
 10 so that the manifold wisdom of God might now be **made known through the church** to the rulers and the authorities in the heavenly places.
 11 This was in accordance with the eternal purpose which He carried out in Christ Jesus our Lord,
 12 in whom we have boldness and confident access through faith in Him.
 13 Therefore I ask you not to lose heart at my tribulations on your behalf, for they are your glory.
 14 For this reason I **bow my knees before the Father,**
 15 from whom **every family in heaven and on earth derives its name,**
 16 **that He would grant you, according to the riches of His glory, to be strengthened with power through His Spirit in the inner man,**
 17 so that **Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith;** and that you, **being rooted and grounded in love,**
 18 may be able to comprehend with all the saints what is the breadth and length and height and depth,
 19 and to **know the love of Christ** which surpasses knowledge, that you may **be filled up to all the fullness of God.**
 20 Now to Him who is able to do far more abundantly beyond all that we ask or think, according to the power that works within us,

21 to Him be the glory in the church and in Christ Jesus to all generations forever and ever. Amen.

Note he refers to himself as a 'prisoner of Christ', and not of Rome – his perspective was from the eternal. The task of the church is to educate the devil about the wisdom of God (see v.10). The mystery is that Gentiles are fellow heirs. God is forming one new man (Eph 2:15). We are a new nation rising in the earth. The Body was planned in eternity (Eph 1:3-6). 'Blessed' = to confer blessing by pronouncement. The greatest distortion we have is when people operate outside of their grace.

All cardinal doctrines of the church can be found in Ephesians 1 (e.g. redemption, sanctification, election, etc.).

Eph 1:4-6	deals with the PAST aspect of God's formation of the Body	- Election
Eph 1:6-11	deals with the PRESENT aspect of God's formation of the Body	- Redemption through the Blood
Eph 1:12-14	deals with the FUTURE aspect of the Formation of the Body	- Inheritance

ELECTION : Eph 1:4-6 :

Method of Election : it was done sovereignly. God has foreknowledge. He knows our thoughts before they are uttered. He made you unique.

The Mystery of Christ

Part 3

The formation of the Body of Christ took place before time began. Tonight we want to focus on some practical aspects of how the Body is supposed to function. Satan has been defeated. We enforce God's victory as the church. We need to know how the Body is formed.

Eph 1:9-10

9 He made known to us the **mystery of His will**, according to His kind intention which He **purposed in Him**

10 with a view to an **administration suitable to the fullness of the times**, *that is*, the summing up of all things in Christ, things in the heavens and things on the earth. In Him

The image of the invisible God is being formed within the many-membered man.

Administration = oikonomia = the parceling out of the law of God from the household of faith

The grace – must be parceled out to everyone. Christ must be parceled out, so that the grace of God can come into the many-membered body. Paul said, the administration of this grace was given to him for the Ephesians. We are all part of the 'one-loaf' of grace that God wants to feed the nations of the earth.

7 things that Paul in unloading of how the body is Forming:

God chose us in Christ before the foundation of the world.

Eph 1:3 Blessed *be* the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly *places* in Christ,

Eph 1:4 just as **He chose us** in Him before the **foundation of the world**, that we would be holy and blameless before Him. In love

Chose = eklego (ek=lout of; lego = act of naming); act of speaking forth. Thus the method by which we are chosen. God began to speak to Himself.

The phrase 'God said' = amar = the act of naming. Literally, it means, "God 'natures' it". The Spirit and the word work together .

Eklego = God has taken out by the act of speech. God spoke to the firmament to bring forth stars; God spoke to the waters to bring forth fish. But when God made us, God spoke to Himself. So for you to be sustained, you have got to be placed back in God. We need God to exist.

Blessed = eulogia – has reference to speech; the blessing of God. When God blesses, He invokes Himself into what He blesses. Jesus blessed the bread – there was an invocation of Himself into the bread.

Spirit formation takes place with the Word and the Spirit. The word (logos) became flesh. In Him was life and His life was the light of men. There is an expression of divine thought. That light shone in the darkness and the darkness could not comprehend it. **God will not speak until He has a son in and through whom He can speak.** At Jesus' baptism – after 30 years of seeming silence, the heavens opened; the Spirit descended upon Him as a dove; and then the Father **'said'**, "You are my beloved SON". Jesus submitted Himself to

baptism because He wanted to fulfill all righteousness = he wanted to embody all the principles resident within the Father. **The 'Spirit came upon' Him = constituted Him being the Christ in his humanity. Now he called Jesus Christ, because of the activity of the Holy Ghost upon Him.**

Eph 1:5 He predestined us to adoption as sons through Jesus Christ to Himself, according to the kind intention of His will,

Eph 1:6 to the praise of the glory of His grace, which He freely bestowed on us in the Beloved

Eph 1:12 to the end that we who were the first to hope in Christ would be to the **praise of His glory.**

3 parts:

1. Election (past)
2. Redemption (present)
3. Inheritance (future)

Seven Parts to Election:

1. **The method** by which the body was elected : Eph 1:4
2. **The objects of God's election** – those who respond in time – human responsibility.
2 Tim 1:9 ; John 6:37 - here you have election and human responsibility
Eph 1:4
Rom 9:11 for though *the twins* were not yet born and had not done anything good or bad, so that God's purpose according to *His* choice would stand, not because of works but because of Him who calls,
3. **Time of this election** – Eph 1:4; Matt 25:34; 12 Peter 1:19-20; Rev. 13:8
4. **The purpose of the election** – Eph 1:4 “before Him” = fellowship with God; Rom 12:1,2 – the presentation of self. We do not own ourselves
5. **Motive for the election** : “in love he predestined us” ; Rom 5:8
6. **Result of election** – to be adopted as His son – to set a son into sonship because of maturity.
7. **Goal of election** : Eph 1:5-6 for the praise of his glory. Glory is the goal. Glory is the favorable opinion held in the mind of another.

1Jn 3:9 No one who is born of God practices sin, because His seed abides in him; and he cannot sin, because he is born of God.

We have been born of God. Where is the seed of God? In our spirit. 1 Peter 1:23 – we are born again by the incorruptible seed through the living and enduring WORD of God. The seed is carried in the Word of God. Every seed brings forth after its kind.

Act 11:17 If then God gave unto them the like gift as *he did* also unto us, when we believed on the Lord Jesus Christ, who was I, that I could withstand God?

The Bereans received the Word with sincere heart – receptivity with validation by searching the Scriptures ('grafe' = the authority behind something).

1Jn 3:9 No one who is born of God practices sin, because His seed abides in him; and he cannot sin, because he is born of God.

Sin = harmatia = not moral sin but to “miss the mark”. The seed refers to what is sown and the plant which grows out of the seed, including the fruit. Inside the seed is all of the potential for God to come forth. Seed = Christ; Plant = Body of Christ; the Fruit = nature of Christ. The glory of any tree is its fruit. Christ came into you through His word being installed within you. The seed contains the identity.

Covenant - the Culture of the Body

1 Co 12:12 For even as the body is one and *yet* has many members, and all the members of the body, though they are many, **are one body, so also is Christ.**

Unity in diversity; Multiplicity of purpose and function; Differing functions, - no competition, but recognition. The corporate body has one purpose. You must understand your purpose. The whole body is greater than the sum of its parts. Whenever you function individually, you represent the entire body. We are eternally connected. The body must not bring the head into disrepute. The strength of the body is the members recognition and esteem above itself. Consistently esteem others higher than yourself. We are all part of each other progressively pursuing each others' purpose.

The body must reflect the Head in nature, attitude and purpose.

1 Cor 12:13 For by one Spirit we were all **baptized into one body**, whether Jews or Greeks, whether slaves or free, and we were all **made to drink of one Spirit.**

Baptism equalizes us in death. In the grave, all are equalized – all are dead. We have been baptized into the BODY. When you are baptized into the Body you shed off the old nature.

Baptism into Christ Jesus

Rom 6:3 Or do you not know that all of us who have been **baptized into Christ Jesus** have been baptized into His death?

Rom 6:4 Therefore we have been **buried with Him through baptism into death**, so that as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, so we too might walk in newness of life.

Burial into his death – burial is the eternal evidence of death. Baptism is an act in your history, but it must be progressively be worked out in your life.

This corporate baptism is by one agent – the Spirit. Denial of self is required. Immersion into Christ is the injection of Christ's life into each member. All natural, social, gender, nationalistic distinctions cease to exist.

Fullness in Christ

1 Corinthians 15:24-28

- 24 **then comes the end**, when He hands over the kingdom to the God and Father, when He has abolished all rule and all authority and power.
- 25 For He must reign until He has put all His enemies under His feet.
- 26 The **last enemy** that will be **abolished is death**.
- 27 For HE HAS PUT ALL THINGS IN SUBJECTION UNDER HIS FEET. But when He says, "All things are put in subjection," it is evident that He is excepted who put all things in subjection to Him.
- 28 When all things are subjected to Him, then the Son Himself also will be subjected to the One who subjected all things to Him, **so that God may be all in all**.

Distinguish the pre-devil and post-devil era. If you take the devil out of the picture today, many ministries will collapse.

We need to deeply study Genesis 1 and 2 - before the serpent appeared and also Rev 22 - when there is no more devil.

Paul says, "then comes the end" - Christ will deliver the Kingdom to the Father. Christ through His Body would have ended all rule and authority. Psalm 110 says this also.

Psalm 110:1 The LORD says to my Lord: "Sit at My right hand **Until I make Your enemies a footstool for Your feet.**"

Psa 110:2 The LORD will stretch forth Your strong scepter from Zion, *saying*, "Rule in the midst of Your enemies."

The instrument for bringing about this is the 'rod of His strength' = the strength of Christ in the earth through the church.

Psa 110:2 The LORD will stretch forth Your strong scepter **from Zion**, *saying*, "Rule in the midst of Your enemies."

The Father says to the Son, "Rule in the midst of your enemy" . You are a message by your mere existence – at times you need not say anything. **When the enemy sees you, he sees God's proclamation of 'rule in the midst of enemies'.**

1 Cor 15:28 When all things are subjected to Him, then the Son Himself also will be subjected to the One who subjected all things to Him, **so that God may be all in all**.

God may be ALL IN ALL – i.e. there will be no more devil.

God wanted an accurate representation of Himself in the earth – so man was made in His image and likeness. His intention was that His fullness would inhabit the earth as it does the heavens. What God made first was 'family' – not church as we know it. The model we must follow is that which is inherent with the Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

Eph 3:14-15

- 14 For this reason I bow my knees **before the Father,**
 15 from whom **every family in heaven and on earth derives its name**

There is one family of God – in heaven and earth. The one family is in two different locations, but yet with the same culture. The family of God in the earth must learn from the family of God in the heavens. We were conceived from the heavens. **The culture of Heaven must inform the culture of the earth. God** is restoring things progressively to us so that the fullness of Christ in the earth can be seen.

E.g. the restoration of bible reading to the church. After being delivered from Egypt and settling in Canaan, Israel still needed further deliverance.

Hos 12:13-14

- 13 But **by a prophet** the LORD brought Israel from Egypt, And **by a prophet he was kept.**
 14 Ephraim has provoked to bitter anger; So his Lord will leave his bloodguilt on him And bring back his reproach to him.

The state of your present existence must reflect this reality - "God being ALL IN ALL".

God is restoring is a 'pre-devil' order. He has to re-establish His family in the earth through fathers and sons. He is restoring His own BODY - the church. His head fills up heavens, and his body fills the earth.

God is raising up His corporate holy nation, of which we are. He is also raising up His priesthood that rules and walks in dominion. He is raising up a peculiar people - people who are vastly different' - they have a different point of reference; they have peculiar and superior systems – though it might look humble, plain and simple. **When you try to be like other nations, you run the risk of losing your advantage and your peculiarity.** We need to be reformed more and more into His likeness, and not more and more into other nations. We ought to be changed from glory to glory. Our business is to make every other nation on earth like our nation.

In the Old Testament, in order to bring the nation of Israel forward in purpose, you needed three major functions (priest, prophets and kings). These speaks of three distinct progressions in growth and maturation.

The priesthood carried the function of mediation – they were mediatorial – in order to bring and sustain salvation on the nation. They ministered around the issue of the altar and the issue of the bread.

The prophets were sometimes very disruptive to the status quo. They would challenge people to get on to the next level. They would always activate and challenge the nations – they propelled people into the purposes of God. The prophets hated stagnation.

Momentum needed to be governed. Hence the **KINGS were governmental.** By this, God should have been 'all in all' with these three operations.

We have three phases of growth.

- | | | | |
|---|-----------------------------------|---|----------------------|
| 1) Salvation - Feast of Passover | – we came out of the world system | : | Thine is the Kingdom |
| 2) Holy Spirit Baptism - Feast of Pentecost | – we enter into the power | : | Thine is the Power |
| 3) Entering and abiding in the Glory - Feast of Tabernacles | - the Glory | : | Thine is the Glory |

When we lose any of these three things, God begins to restore that which is missing. It is possible to backslide in the Glory. Peter on the Mount of Transfiguration – messed up and became idolatrous. He lost the concept of salvation. Also, Peter rebuked Jesus when he learnt that He was going to die – because Peter had lost the purpose as to why Jesus came.

At times we measure our success by wrong things (eg. size of offerings, building etc):

- Aaron collected a large offering when Moses went up the mountain, but with it, he built an idol – he was not building the Kingdom.
- Others measure success by singing and dancing. But recall Samson danced for the Philistines. Even singing – “by the rivers by the Babylon, where we sat down – there we wept when we remembered Zion – and our captors requested from us a song. – Singing alone does not imply total freedom.
- Buildings are not a measure of success (recall the disciples were fixated by a beautiful building – and Jesus said “Not one stone will be let on the other” – the pattern is from Herod, and not Heaven). Big buildings can keep you away from fresh revelation (cf. the high priest after Jesus’ death still functioning inaccurately in the temple).

We measure success by how far have we gone in terms of making God ALL IN ALL. How much of the image of God is in all we are doing. There is one thing all the nations cannot do, that only we can do – i.e. bring about the manifest presence of God in all.

When systems in nations crumble, many crumble too because they are too dependent on those systems. NOAH BUILT an ark that would rise when judgement fell. Noah was not building according to what the nations were saying. On the tenth day of the seventh month, the top of the mountains began to appear as the waters abated.

Into the Fullness of Christ

God is raising a standard by which He will judge everything else. John the Baptist was a lone prophet. Jesus on the hand was a friend of sinners. Years ago I made the mistake of disconnecting from everything around me. **Do not drift from the very people that need to hear what you have to say.**

Col 1:15 He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation.

Col 1:16 For by Him all things were created, *both* in the heavens and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities--all things have been created through Him and for Him.

Col 1:17 He is before all things, and in Him all things hold together.

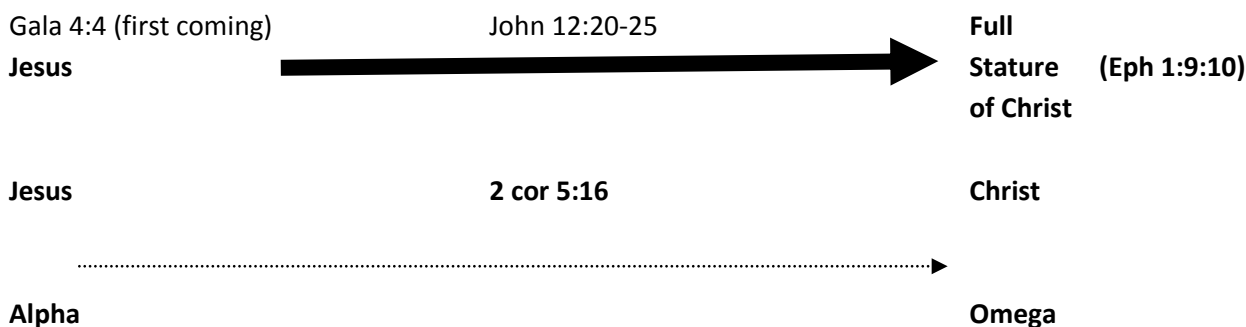
Col 1:27 to whom God willed to make known what is the riches of the glory of this mystery among the Gentiles, which is Christ in you, the hope of glory.

In Christ the fullness of the Godhead dwelt bodily. Was He able to hold all things together while He walked physically on the earth? Yes.

'Christ In Us' - what does this mean? John 17 – Jesus prayed for us because we need to impact the world.

A wilderness mentality drives our prayers and expectations. It is a massive shift going from the wilderness to the land of promise. When Joshua asked the man with the drawn sword: "Are you for us or for them". He answered 'neither'. The choice was with Joshua. You must make the choice to align with Him who has come (Lord of Host).

The Progressive Unfolding



Eph 1:9 He made known to us the **mystery of His will**, according to His **kind intention which He purposed in Him**

Eph 1:10 with a view to an **administration suitable to the fullness of the times**, *that is*, the summing up of all things in Christ, things in the heavens and things on the earth. In Him

The corporate expression of the Christ is the ultimate thing. What can we do to accelerate this – to shepherd history to its conclusion. The word 'UNTIL' (Eph. 4) puts the responsibility on the church. By 'looking' for, we can 'hasten' the day of His coming. This is not dead works. The shift now is on the demand on **BECOMING**.

The transition is spelled out in John 12:20-25

John 12:20-25

- 20 Now there were some Greeks among those who were going up to worship at the feast;
 21 these then came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida of Galilee, and *began to ask him, saying, "Sir, we wish to see Jesus."*
 22 Philip came and told Andrew; Andrew and Philip came and told Jesus.
 23 And Jesus answered them, saying, "The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified.
 24 "Truly, truly, I say to you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains alone; but if it dies, it bears much fruit.
 25 "He who loves his life loses it, and he who hates his life in this world will keep it to life eternal.

The 'Seed' died and multiplied Himself many times over. Jesus was saying, "You will not see me, but you will see me many times over in my many-membered body.

Eph 4 – when He ascended on high – He took captivity captive – He gave Himself into 'the 12 baskets'.

The idea of me, myself and I – my panelled house – all this has to die in favour of the corporate expression of Christ.

2Co 5:16 Therefore from now on we **recognize no one according to the flesh**; even though we **have known Christ according to the flesh**, yet now we know *Him in this way* no longer.

We must understand that we actually died with Him. Holiness is key! Before you preach new revelation you have heard – first become the message. Blood must flow first – the message must be written on the tablet of your heart - dying with Christ! Look again at the three crosses at Calvary. Also the three characters in the garden of Eden (God, Adam serpent). Rev 2:17 – speaks of one tree, the 'Tree of Life' in the garden of paradise. Something happened on Calvary. The one thief who blamed Christ = the voice of serpent. Christ rebuked him.

Luke 23:39-42

- 39 One of the criminals who were hanged *there* was hurling abuse at Him, saying, "Are You not the Christ? Save Yourself and us!"
 40 But the other answered, and rebuking him said, "Do you not even fear God, since you are under the same sentence of condemnation?
 41 "And we indeed *are suffering* justly, for we are receiving what we deserve for our deeds; but this man has done nothing wrong."
 42 And he was saying, "Jesus, remember me when You come in Your kingdom!"

The other thief who cried, "Remember me" embodies the cry of Adam. All three die, but only one was resurrected – the last Adam. God judges satan, except that he still has a voice only in terms of how much 'voice' we give him. Do not give the accuser of the brethren a 'voice'. To the thief that recognised Him, Jesus said, **"Today you will be with me in paradise". This carries huge significance for us. The door was opened for life to be lived on a plain of spirit – on a resurrection plain. Jesus was saying "I am collapsing your whole Adamic history – your reference is not your Adamic life in but your resurrected life".** Man was created for righteousness and not for sin. We are more 'God compatible' that 'demon compatible'. We have allowed the sin consciousness to dominate us. Long ago, bank tellers were trained to count notes by notes – they could easily detect a false note.

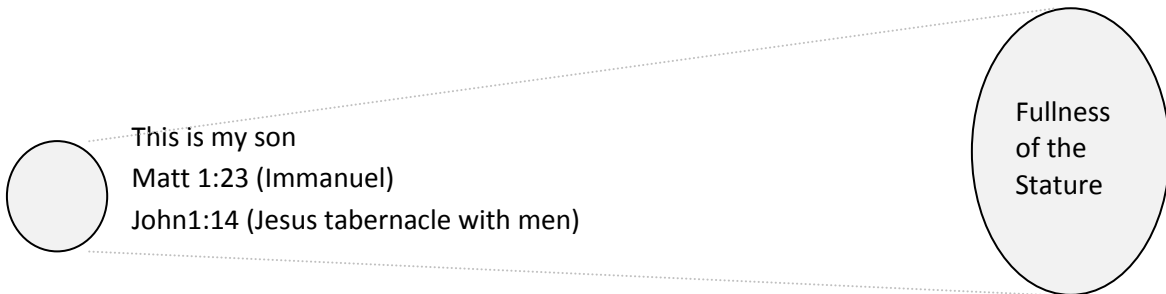
He that is in Christ is a new creation. A new creation has no past.

As a man thinks in his heart, so is he. Analogy about an adopted young man who was a failure – when he was told of the greatness of his legacy (a lie just to cajole him) – within a few months his whole life turned around – he achieved great success. Then when he was told of the lie, he simply shrugged it off saying “that’s what you think”.

We must go back to our genesis – our gene pool – go back to the image of God. There is a growing quest for truth in the world. Many have become cynical about the church. Many sincere people are searching. There is no fulfilment outside of the master plan of God for our lives.

The Messianic Age : OT prophets only talk about one coming.

Eph 1;10 the fullness of time
Heb 1;3 These last days.... God speaks in the Son
Heb 9:26 Consummation of the ages



Act 3:21 whom heaven **must receive (or restrain) until *the* period of restoration of all things about which God spoke by the mouth of His holy prophets from ancient time.**

Act 3:22 "Moses said, 'THE LORD GOD WILL RAISE UP FOR YOU A PROPHET LIKE ME FROM YOUR BRETHREN; TO HIM YOU SHALL GIVE HEED to everything He says to you.

Act 3:23 'And it will be that every soul that does not heed that prophet shall be utterly destroyed from among the people.'

Eph 4:13 [*That it might develop*] until we all **attain oneness in the faith** and in the comprehension of the [*full and accurate*] knowledge of the Son of God, that [*we might arrive*] at **really mature manhood** (the completeness of personality which is nothing less than the standard height of Christ's own perfection), **the measure of the stature of the fullness of the Christ and the completeness found in Him.**

Rev 1:13 and in the **middle of the lampstands I saw one like a son of man**, clothed in a robe reaching to the feet, and girded across His chest with a golden sash.

2Th 1:10 when He comes to be glorified in His saints on that day, and to be marveled at among all who have believed--for our testimony to you was believed.

Col 3:4 When Christ, **who is our life**, is revealed, then you also **will be revealed with Him in glory.**

Heb 11:7 By faith Noah, being warned *by God* about things not yet seen, in reverence prepared an ark for the salvation of his household, **by which** he condemned the world, and became an heir of the righteousness which is according to faith.

Joh 7:37 Now on the last day, the great *day* of the feast, Jesus stood and cried out, saying, "If anyone is thirsty, let him come to Me and drink.

Joh 7:38 "He who believes in Me, as the Scripture said, 'From his innermost being will flow rivers of living water.'"

Jesus cried with a loud voice at a religious feast. Do not disconnect with the very people you are intended to impact. Faith comes by HEARING (not 'having heard').

The Seed of Christ

Genesis 49:8-12

- 8 "Judah, your brothers shall praise you; Your hand shall be on the neck of your enemies; Your father's sons shall bow down to you.
- 9 "Judah is a lion's whelp; From the prey, my son, you have gone up. He couches, he lies down as a lion, And as a lion, who dares rouse him up?
- 10 "**The scepter shall not depart from Judah**, Nor the ruler's staff from between his feet, Until Shiloh comes, And to him *shall be* the obedience of the peoples.
- 11 "He ties *his* foal to the vine, And his donkey's colt to the choice vine; He washes his garments in wine, And his robes in the blood of grapes.
- 12 "His eyes are dull from wine, And his teeth white from milk.

Scepter = rule or rod of authority; the rule and authority will not depart from Judah

Psa 76:1 **In Judah is God known:** His name is great in Israel.

Psa 78:68 But **chose the tribe of Judah**, The mount Zion which he loved.

Psa 108:8 Gilead is mine; Manasseh is mine; Ephraim also is the defence of my head; **Judah is my sceptre.**

Psa 114:2 **Judah became his sanctuary**, Israel his dominion.

Isa 65:9 And I will bring forth a seed out of Jacob, and **out of Judah an inheritor of my mountains**; and my chosen shall inherit it, and my servants shall dwell there.

Mic 5:1 "Now muster yourselves in troops, daughter of troops; They have laid siege against us; With a rod they will smite the judge of Israel on the cheek.

Mic 5:2 "But as for you, Bethlehem Ephrathah, *Too* little to be among the **clans of Judah**, From you **One** will go forth for Me to be ruler in Israel. His **goings forth are from long ago, From the days of eternity.**"

Rev 5:5 and one of the elders said to me, "Stop weeping; behold, **the Lion that is from the tribe of Judah, the Root of David, has overcome so as to open the book and its seven seals.**"

This seed will be victorious

Gen 49:10 "**The scepter shall not depart from Judah**, Nor the ruler's staff from between his feet, Until Shiloh comes, And to him *shall be* the obedience of the peoples

Shiloh =until the seed comes.

Judah was neither the oldest nor the last. Out of this tribe comes the Christ.

Rev 5:5 and one of the elders said to me, "Stop weeping; behold, the Lion that is from the tribe of Judah, **the Root of David, has overcome** so as to open the book and its seven seals."

Gen 3:15 And I will put **enmity between you and the woman, And between your seed and her seed**; He shall bruise you on the head, And you shall bruise him on the heel."

There was a seed in the serpent that could reproduce – like as the seed of the woman. The seed of the serpent is poison. On the tree of good and evil is the serpent. The activity of the serpent seed is on the tree of knowledge that can reproduce.

2Co 10:4 for the weapons of our warfare are not of the flesh, but divinely powerful for the destruction of fortresses.

2Co 10:5 *We are* **destroying speculations and every lofty thing raised up against the knowledge of God, and *we are* taking every thought captive to the obedience of Christ,**

This is the serpentine activity.

Imaginations = faculty or action of forming images – that will destroy or distort the likeness; it expresses men who are of their own purposes and determination of living after their own pleasure.

Prov 18:2 A [*self-confident*] **fool has no delight in understanding** but only in **revealing his personal opinions and himself.** (amp)

Jer 10:14 **Every man is stupid, devoid of knowledge**; Every goldsmith is put to shame by his idols; For his molten images are deceitful, **And there is no breath in them.**

Vain imaginations have no life in it. That is why we must be ready to punish all disobedience.

There two seeds. The seed of woman will triumph. One seed is carnal; the other seed is the seed of the woman.

Cf. Abraham: Isaac is the seed of promise. He marries Rebekah; God broke her barrenness.

Gen 25:23 The LORD said to her, "**Two nations are in your womb**; And two peoples will be separated from your body; And one people shall be stronger than the other; And the older shall serve the younger."

In the womb of Rebekah there is two nations. He is talking of two seeds. Also He is talking of one and the same person with flesh and spirit within them – that is which born of flesh and that which is born of Spirit.

Rom 9:7 nor are they all children because they are Abraham's descendants, but: "**THROUGH ISAAC YOUR DESCENDANTS WILL BE NAMED.**"

Rom 9:8 That is, it is not the children of the flesh who are children of God, but the **children of the promise are regarded as descendants.**

Isa 53:8 By oppression and judgment He was taken away; And as for **His generation**, who considered That He was cut off out of the land of the living For the transgression of my people, to whom the stroke *was due?*

This seed is spiritual and not natural. This seed has a generation but was cut off. Jesus Christ was a holy seed – the captain of our salvation.

Paul said Ishmael is of the flesh and Isaac was of the promise.

Gal 3:16 Now the promises were spoken to Abraham and to his seed. He does not say, "And to **seeds,**" as *referring* to many, but *rather* to one, "And to your **seed,**" **that is, Christ.**

1Co 12:12 For even as the body is one and *yet has many members*, and all the members of the body, though they are many, are one body, so also **is Christ.**

The seed is Christ and also His body. Note there is no 'THE' before Christ – so it describes the quality of the anointing in that individual.

Matthew 1:1-16

- 1 **The record of the genealogy of Jesus the Messiah, the son of David, the son of Abraham:**
- 2 Abraham was the father of Isaac, Isaac the father of Jacob, and Jacob the father of Judah and his brothers.
- 3 Judah was the father of Perez and Zerah by Tamar, Perez was the father of Hezron, and Hezron the father of Ram.
- 4 Ram was the father of Amminadab, Amminadab the father of Nahshon, and Nahshon the father of Salmon.
- 5 Salmon was the father of Boaz by Rahab, Boaz was the father of Obed by Ruth, and Obed the father of Jesse.
- 6 Jesse was the father of David the king. David was the father of Solomon by Bathsheba who had been the wife of Uriah.
- 7 Solomon was the father of Rehoboam, Rehoboam the father of Abijah, and Abijah the father of Asa.
- 8 Asa was the father of Jehoshaphat, Jehoshaphat the father of Joram, and Joram the father of Uzziah.
- 9 Uzziah was the father of Jotham, Jotham the father of Ahaz, and Ahaz the father of Hezekiah.
- 10 Hezekiah was the father of Manasseh, Manasseh the father of Amon, and Amon the father of Josiah.
- 11 Josiah became the father of Jeconiah and his brothers, at the time of the deportation to Babylon.
- 12 After the deportation to Babylon: Jeconiah became the father of Shealtiel, and Shealtiel the father of Zerubbabel.
- 13 Zerubbabel was the father of Abihud, Abihud the father of Eliakim, and Eliakim the father of Azor.
- 14 Azor was the father of Zadok, Zadok the father of Achim, and Achim the father of Eliud.
- 15 Eliud was the father of Eleazar, Eleazar the father of Matthan, and Matthan the father of Jacob.

16 Jacob was the father of Joseph the husband of Mary, by whom Jesus was born, who is called the Messiah.

Note verse v.16 : **'the Christ'**

How did it happen? By the Holy Ghost.

Mat 1:18 Now the birth of Jesus Christ was as follows: when His mother Mary had been betrothed to Joseph, before they came together she was found to **be with child by the Holy Spirit**.

John 3:1-6

- 1 NOW THERE was a certain man among the Pharisees named Nicodemus, a ruler (a leader, an authority) among the Jews,
- 2 Who came to Jesus at night and said to Him, Rabbi, we know and are certain that You have come from God [*as*] a Teacher; for no one can do these signs (these wonderworks, these miracles--and produce the proofs) that You do unless God is with him.
- 3 Jesus answered him, I assure you, most solemnly I tell you, that unless a person is **born again** (anew, from above), **he cannot ever see** (know, be acquainted with, and experience) the kingdom of God.
- 4 Nicodemus said to Him, How can a man be born when he is old? Can he enter his mother's womb again and be born?
- 5 Jesus answered, I assure you, most solemnly I tell you, **unless a man is born of water and [*even*] the Spirit**, he cannot [*ever*] enter the kingdom of God. [*Ezek. 36:25-27.*]
- 6 What is born of [*from*] the flesh is flesh [*of the physical is physical*]; and **what is born of the Spirit is spirit**.

The seed is born of the Spirit.

The quality of the anointing in is the seed.

Gal 3:16 Now to Abraham were the promises spoken, **and to his seed**. He saith not, And to seeds, as of many; but as of one, **And to thy seed, which is Christ**.

When Peter said, "You are the Christ the son of the living God", Jesus responded, "*flesh and blood has not revealed this to you.*" Peter's name was then changed from Simon to Peter. Peter got revelation from the Spirit, and not from the tree of knowledge – The Holy Spirit illumined his spirit. **The moment Simon could see who Jesus was, Jesus could reveal to Peter who he really was. If you can see your spiritual father for who he is, he will rename you after your true nature in the spirit.**

'Saul' became 'Paul'; 'Jacob' became 'Israel'.

Rom 8:3 For what the Law could not do, weak as it was through the flesh, God *did*: sending His own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh and *as an offering* for sin, He condemned sin in the flesh,

Rom 8:4 so that the requirement of the Law might be fulfilled in us, **who do not walk according to the flesh but according to the Spirit**.

Do not walk after the flesh. Identify yourself after who you are in the Spirit. Identify yourself after your birth which is in Christ.

Heb 2:15 and might deliver all them who through fear of death were all their lifetime subject to bondage.

Rom 16:20 The God of peace will soon crush Satan under your feet. The grace of our Lord Jesus be with you.

You are now connected to the seed of promise!

Gen 22:16 and said, "By Myself I have sworn, declares the LORD, because you have done this thing and have not withheld your son, your only son,

Gen 22:17 indeed I will greatly bless you, and I will greatly multiply your seed as the stars of the heavens and as the sand which is on the seashore; and your seed shall possess the gate of their enemies.

Gen 22:18 **"In your seed** all the nations of the earth shall be blessed, because you have obeyed My voice."

There is the seed of the flesh and the seed of the Spirit. The seed of the flesh refers to the nature of the flesh – that which is weak and still needs persuasion. If you chose to live in this dimension you will reap death. If you live by the seed of the Spirit, you will be known in the earth.

1 Peter 1:22-23

22 Since you have **in obedience to the truth purified your souls** for a sincere love of the brethren, fervently love one another from the heart,

23 for you have been **born again not of seed** which is perishable but imperishable, *that is*, through the **living and enduring word of God**.

That which is born of the Word is the seed

John said, "Whoever is born of God cannot sin" – this speaks of the Christ nature.

Live from the tree of life because you are the seed of promise. Because you are heirs of God, you have the promise. And there are so many blessings and promises attendant with the seed of the spirit. If you live by the flesh, the serpentine activity will mar the image of God in you, and you abort the blessings attendant with the seed of promise.

Choose life!!!!!!

The Witness of a Son

Gen 41:38-44

- 38 Then Pharaoh said to his servants, "**Can we find a man like this, in whom is a divine spirit?**"
- 39 So Pharaoh said to Joseph, "**Since God has informed you of all this, there is no one so discerning and wise as you are.**
- 40 "You shall be over my house, and according to your command all my people shall do homage; only in the throne I will be greater than you."
- 41 Pharaoh said to Joseph, "**See, I have set you over all the land of Egypt.**"
- 42 Then Pharaoh took off his **signet ring** from his hand and put it on Joseph's hand, and clothed him in **garments of fine linen** and put the **gold necklace** around his neck.
- 43 He had him ride in his second chariot; and they proclaimed before him, "Bow the knee!" And he set him over all the land of Egypt.
- 44 Moreover, Pharaoh said to Joseph, "*Though* I am Pharaoh, yet **without your permission** no one shall raise his hand or foot in all the land of Egypt."

Pharaoh had an encounter with a son of God. **This world's government needs an encounter with the sons of God.** Joseph's mother named him so, because her reproach was taken away. Ten sons were born before Joseph came on the scene. Ten is the number of the Decalogue, the law, the flesh.

Joseph was loved by his father. Jacob sent him to his brothers to enquire after their welfare and bring them food. Joseph would not lie about the state of the brothers to the father. Joseph was a man of truth. **When you speak the truth, the law (ten brothers) cannot handle it.** When they saw him, his brothers sought to kill him.

Reuben the first born forfeited his birthright because he violated his father's bed. Joseph went to Shechem and could not find them and could have gone back, but because **he wanted to be true to his father's wishes** and desires, he searched for them until he found them. **He was committed to his father's desire and will.**

Ultimately he was sold as a slave. Joseph felt rejected, alone and away from everyone that loved him. **This is the process that God wants to build in each one of us. Joseph in himself alone was not 'it',** because God spoke to Abraham about the slavery in Egypt and that they would return to the Canaan's land many years before this. **The events of the Joseph's life were a part of something much bigger than himself or his personal issues with the brothers.** Also, when the time came for the heathen nations of Canaan to be judged – God delivered His people. **Thus Joseph's life was just part of a broader plan.** God has a plan for your life. It might look very slow.

Similarly, in Noah's day, God's judgement on the earth was sure – but He waited for the ark to be built. God cannot judge Egypt until He judges Joseph first; he cannot judge Amorites unless He judges Israel first; judgment begins in the house of God. Jesus had to learn obedience by the things He suffered, before He went to the cross.

Joseph rejected the advances of Potiphars' wife. It was also a lust for power. She thought "My master has given you everything, but I can give you what he did not" – this was a lust of the eyes. The lust of power.

Joseph said “I cannot sin against God”. He lands up in jail. **The favour of God was on him – he was the witness of God wherever he went.** What the world needs is a witness of God in their midst. **Peter and John said to the lame man, “Look in us” – we too must point people to our lives as an expression of the image of God.**

When Pharaoh has a nightmare, a son must be accurately positioned. Being the keeper of the jail, Joseph could have easily escaped jail but he stayed. He knew submission and subjection to authority. He had to stay because later, Pharaoh’s dream would need interpretation and he had to be accurately positioned.

One day Joseph saw two prisoners looking sad – nothing unusual – in prison everyone is sad. They inform him of their dreams. Joseph says, “Is not dreams the business of God – so tell your dream to me”. **Joseph never allowed himself to get bitter – he did not draw reference to his own seemingly unfulfilled dreams.**

He interprets their dreams and requests of the butler to not forget him. He maintains his innocence . But the butler forgets him. This was the Gethsemane for Joseph. The butler forgets Joseph, but Joseph’s input and sowing in the butler’s life would eventually be his ticket out of jail. **Do not throw away the people in whom you have invested the Word, and they leave you.** The butler later remembered Joseph when Pharaoh had a nightmare. Pharaoh had two dreams (like Joseph). **The Butler found Joseph in exactly the same place.** Joseph maintained his place in prison. **Joseph was the most valuable asset in Egypt.** From this point onwards, the pace starts to change dramatically. **Joseph as a son was tried and tested. Everything now became rapid and the will of God started to increase at alarming rate.** At the age of 30 – the will of God starts to accelerate. Pharaoh gave him a ring – as a son. But later, **Joseph would say that he fathered Pharaoh. Joseph was placed in executive authority.** They gave him the second chariot = greater mobility and speed. Joseph was like God to Pharaoh.

He forgave his brothers. He viewed man’s ‘selling’ as God’s ‘sending’. The rejection of the others was God’s sending. Jesus said to His disciples, “Go and wait and **be my witnesses**”. We are ‘to be witness’, as appose ‘to witness’.

In a court of law the credibility of witnesses is important. Jesus is called (Rev 2:14) the ‘**faithful and True witness of God**’. The testimony and witness must at least be two. The Book of Revelations speaks of two witnesses.

You cannot be a witness unless you are a son. **Witness is not what you say but who you are!**

1Jn 5:9 If we receive the testimony of men, the **testimony of God is greater**; for the testimony of God is this, that He has testified concerning His Son.

1Jn 5:10 The one who **believes in the Son of God** has the **testimony in himself**; the one who does not believe God has made Him a liar, because he has not **believed in the testimony that God has given concerning His Son.**

1Jn 5:11 And the **testimony is this**, that God has given us eternal life, and this life is in **His Son.**

The testimony of God is in a Son. The presence of the son is the evidence of God. **You have to have the revelation of Jesus as the Son.** Joseph was always preoccupied with the welfare of his father. The son always reveals the father. The SON is full of grace and truth – and of His fullness we receive Grace upon Grace.

The 'Testimony' in the Old Testament : As sons, we ourselves must be the evidence of the Son.

- The tablets of the law was called the 'testimony' :

Exo 16:34 As the LORD commanded Moses, so Aaron placed it before **the Testimony**, to be kept.

- The ARK of the covenant was also called 'Ark of the Testimony' :

Exo 25:22 And there I will meet with thee, and I will commune with thee from above the mercy-seat, from between the two cherubim which are upon the **ark of the testimony**, of all things which I will give thee in commandment unto the children of Israel.

Not only the two tablets, but now the entire ARK is called "Testimony"; and they put it in the Holy of Holies.

- Now the Holy of Holies now becomes the witness.

Exo 27:21 "In the tent of meeting, **outside the veil** which is before **the testimony**, Aaron and his sons shall keep it in order from evening to morning before the LORD; *it shall be* a perpetual statute throughout their generations for the sons of Israel.

- Now the whole tabernacle is called the 'Tabernacle of Witness or Testimony'.

Exo 38:21 This is the number of the **things for the tabernacle, the tabernacle of the testimony**, as they were numbered according to the command of Moses, for the service of the Levites, by the hand of Ithamar the son of Aaron the priest.

God is hiding us now. When we come to maturity, things will come to the speed of light. **Your spirit, soul and your body must be a witness**. Look after your body as well. Living in divine health is greater than a miracle of healing.

THE PRINCIPLE OF 'SONSHIP' IS THAT WHICH MAKES YOU FREE:

John 8:32-37

32 and you will **know the truth**, and **the truth will make you free**."

33 They answered Him, "We are Abraham's descendants and have never yet been **enslaved to anyone**; how is it that You say, 'You will become free'?"

34 Jesus answered them, "Truly, truly, I say to you, everyone who commits sin is the slave of sin.

35 "The slave does not remain in the house forever; the **son does remain forever**."

36 "So if the **Son makes you free**, you will be **free indeed**."

37 "I know that you are Abraham's descendants; yet you seek to kill Me, because My word has no place in you.

The answer of the Pharisees in verse 33 above, shows you that **true freedom lies in the family to which you belong**. True freedom is in the house. **All truth sets free but the truth has to come through the 'son'**. **People are not being delivered, because the truth is not coming through sons.**

Be concerned about your others brothers - they must be delivered through your sonship.

The Glory of God

Part 1

The glory of God embraces the following:

1. Kingly Majesty
2. The Attributes of Glory
3. The Brilliance/Brightness of God
4. The Weight
5. Dignity
6. The Outward Manifestation of God.

Mnemonic for Glory from the Hebrew word Kabowd :

K =	Kingly Majesty
A =	Attributes of God
B =	Brightness and Brilliance of God
O =	Outward Manifestation
W =	Weight
D =	Dignity

AMPLIFICATION:

1. Kingly Majesty

In terms of Christ this is the majesty and splendor of the pre-incarnate Christ.

Isaiah 6: 1ff – glory associated with the train filling the temple

Isaiah 6:1-4

Isa 6:1 In the year of King Uzziah's death I saw the Lord sitting on a throne, lofty and exalted, with the train of His robe filling the temple.

Isa 6:2 Seraphim stood above Him, each having six wings: with two he covered his face, and with two he covered his feet, and with two he flew.

Isa 6:3 And one called out to another and said, "Holy, Holy, Holy, is the LORD of hosts, The whole earth is full of His glory."

Isa 6:4 And the foundations of the thresholds trembled at the voice of him who called out, while the temple was filling with smoke.

The majesty of the incarnate Christ :

John 1:1-14

John 1:1 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

Joh 1:2 He was in the beginning with God.

Joh 1:3 All things came into being through Him, and apart from Him nothing came into being that has come into being.

Joh 1:4 In Him was life, and the life was the Light of men.

Joh 1:5 The Light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not comprehend it.

Joh 1:6 There came a man sent from God, whose name was John.

Joh 1:7 He came as a witness, to testify about the Light, so that all might believe through him.

Joh 1:8 He was not the Light, but *he came* to testify about the Light.

Joh 1:9 There was the true Light which, coming into the world, enlightens every man.

Joh 1:14 And the Word became flesh, and dwelt among us, and we saw His glory, glory as of the only begotten from the Father, full of grace and truth.

John 2 - He manifested His glory by turning the water into wine; this was the first miracle as a sign.

Joh 2:11 This beginning of *His* signs Jesus did in Cana of Galilee, and manifested His glory, and His disciples believed in Him.

The majesty of the ascended Christ - 'HE sat down at the majesty on high'

2. The Attributes of Glory: e.g. Holiness; Goodness and the proclamation of his name

Exo 33:18-19 Then Moses said, "I pray You, **show me Your glory!**" And He said, "I Myself will make **all My goodness pass before** you, and will proclaim the name of the LORD before you; and I will be gracious to whom I will be gracious, and will show compassion on whom I will show compassion."

Psalm 97:6 – His righteousness

Psalm 97:6 The heavens declare **His righteousness**. And all the peoples have **seen His glory**.

3. The Brilliance/Brightness of God

It is a visible glory – the illumination – the shining.

Act 22:11 "But since I could not see because of the **brightness of that light**, I was led by the hand by those who were with me and came into Damascus.

Luke 9:29 And while He was praying, **the appearance of His face** became different, and **His clothing became white and gleaming**.

Rev 18:1 After these things I saw another angel coming down from heaven, having great authority, and the **earth was illumined with his glory**.

Luk 2:9 And an angel of the Lord suddenly stood before them, and **the glory of the Lord shone around them**; and they were terribly frightened.

2Co 3:7-9 But if the ministry of death, in letters engraved on stones, came with glory, so that the sons of Israel could not look **intently at the face of Moses because of the glory of his face**, fading *as* it was, how will the ministry of the Spirit fail to be even more with glory? **For if the ministry of condemnation has glory**, much more does the ministry of righteousness abound in glory.

4. The Weight : 'The glory of Lebanon are its trees';

5. Dignity

Gen 45:13 "Now you must tell my father of all **my splendor (glory) in Egypt**, and all that you have seen; and you must hurry and bring my father down here.

Luk 14:10 "But when you are invited, go and recline at the last place, so that when the one who has invited you comes, he may say to you, 'Friend, move up higher'; then you will have honor in the sight of all who are at the table with you.

6. The Outward Manifestation of God

The manifest presence. We need a clear demonstration of power. There has to be confirmation in power.

- a. **Beauty** : 1 Chron 22; Isaiah 4:2
- b. **Cloud** Exodus 14:34,38; Deut 5:24 – The literal voice of God is his glory. 2 Chron. 5:14; Isaiah 4:5-6; Ezekiel 1:26
- c. **Train of the robe filling the temple**
- d. **In the context of power**; Deut 33:17 ; Prov 14:28
- e. **Numerical strength**
- f. **The glory is akin to the manifest presence of God**
- g. **Wealth is also an indication of the Glory of the Lord** – see Haggai

Examples of outward Manifestations:

- **The Shadow of Peter heals the sick**

Act 5:12-16

- 12 At the hands of the apostles many signs and wonders were taking place among the people; and they were all with one accord in Solomon's portico.
- 13 But none of the rest dared to associate with them; however, the people held them in high esteem.
- 14 And all the more believers in the Lord, multitudes of men and women, were constantly added to *their number*,
- 15 to such an extent that they even carried the sick out into the streets and laid them on cots and pallets, so that when Peter came by at least his shadow might fall on any one of them.
- 16 Also the people from the cities in the vicinity of Jerusalem were coming together, bringing people who were sick or afflicted with unclean spirits, and they were all being healed.

Note – they were all healed by the shadow of Peter. This is not a natural shadow. There was a visible glory on Peter. We must desire this. The glory will give us credibility. There has to be an outward manifestation. God will not withhold no good thing from us.

- **Jesus Garment heals**

Matt 9:20-22

- 20 And a woman who had been suffering from a hemorrhage for twelve years, came up behind Him and touched the fringe of His cloak;
- 21 for she was saying to herself, "**If I only touch His garment, I will get well.**"
- 22 But Jesus turning and seeing her said, "Daughter, take courage; your faith has made you well." At once the woman was made well.

12 years of bleeding stops in a moment. The clothes of Jesus did the healing. The handkerchiefs from Paul brought deliverance – demons cast out.

- **The bones of Elisha raise a dead man.**

2Ki 13:20 Elisha died, and they buried him. Now the bands of the Moabites would invade the land in the spring of the year.

2Ki 13:21 As they were **burying a man**, behold, they saw a marauding band; and they cast the man into the grave of Elisha. **And when the man touched the bones of Elisha he revived and stood up on his feet.**

- The glory shone from the face of Moses.
- Also on the Mount of transfiguration, the face of Jesus shone.
- From this glory, there is healing and deliverance.
- The glory on Samuel – no Philistine could enter in – implemented a restrictive radius.
- Paul at Ephesus – no wolves could come in while he was there.
- The righteous thrive in the glory of God. Numbers 17:6 – Aarons rod budded.
- There are automatic answers to prayer – Isaiah – “before you call, I will answer; while they are speaking I will answer”.
- The glory benefits and preserves in the wilderness - Deut 28:2-6 their clothes did not wear out
- In the Glory, it is hard for you to get old easily (“They that wait on the Lord shall renew their strength”)
- Glory changes atmospheres
- The glory heals marriages

Other Examples: A. Allan; Charles Finney.

- The glory will make you an impartational preacher and teacher (not an informational preacher).
- Prayer is very hard. When you are in the glory you will love to pray.
- You will be able to fast and not feel it.

Previously everyone that operated in the glory in a powerful way died in a bad way. Glory does not want His glory to operate in a celebrity, but in His Body.

The power fell at Pentecost because 120 people were in one accord – unity is essential. A company that believes the same right things. God is looking for a company of people that are one to drop His glory on.

Psalm 102:6 I resemble a **pelican of the wilderness**; I have become like an **owl of the waste places**.

Psalm 102:6 – a pelican in the wilderness and an owl in the desert – these birds here are not in their natural environment. God’s people have moved away from the culture of God. God’s will is not healing but divine health – stay within this culture. God’s culture is the environment in which His glory dwells. No demon can abide here.

We must hunger for the power dimension of the glory. But it will manifest not in an individual, but in a cultured community.

ABIDING IN

**THE SECRET PLACE OF THE MOST HIGH = THE SHADOW OF THE ALMIGHTY =
THE GLORY OF GOD = CHRIST = THE CULTURE OF ACTS 2:42**

Psalm 91

- 1 **He who dwells in the shelter of the Most High Will abide in the shadow of the Almighty.**
- 2 I will say to the LORD, "My refuge and my fortress, My God, in whom I trust!"
- 3 For it is He who delivers you from the snare of the trapper And from the deadly pestilence.
- 4 He will cover you with His pinions, And under His wings you may seek refuge; His faithfulness is a shield and bulwark.
- 5 You will not be afraid of the terror by night, Or of the arrow that flies by day;
- 6 Of the pestilence that stalks in darkness, Or of the destruction that lays waste at noon.
- 7 A thousand may fall at your side And ten thousand at your right hand, *But* it shall not approach you.
- 8 You will only look on with your eyes And see the recompense of the wicked.
- 9 For you have made the LORD, my refuge, *Even* the Most High, your dwelling place.
- 10 No evil will befall you, Nor will any plague come near your tent.
- 11 For He will give His angels charge concerning you, To guard you in all your ways.
- 12 They will bear you up in their hands, That you do not strike your foot against a stone.
- 13 You will tread upon the lion and cobra, The young lion and the serpent you will trample down.
- 14 "Because he has loved Me, therefore I will deliver him; I will set him *securely* on high, because he has known My name.
- 15 "He will call upon Me, and I will answer him; I will be with him in trouble; I will rescue him and honor him.
- 16 "With a long life I will satisfy him And let him see My salvation."

These promises are not for everyone, but only for those that dwell in the secret place of the Most High.

Benefits for those dwell in the secret place:

1. I will deliver him – cause him to escape – you live in a matrix of antibodies.
2. I will set him on high – I will promote you, e.g. Joseph.
3. He shall call upon me and I will answer him.
4. I will be with him in trouble e.g. the disciples on the boat.
5. I will deliver him and honour him
6. Long Life – you can live to 120 years.
7. I will show him my salvation (abundant life)

Shadow of the Almighty = His glory. V.14 – the secret of God is 'Christ'.

1. Loving Christ is loving his Word (**apostolic doctrine**). They continued steadfastly - they were obedient to what the apostles were saying at that time.
2. You have to love His people. Do not neglect the gathering of your family. A son abides in the house forever. (**fellowship**)
3. Love His commandment – e.g. the **table of The Lord**.
4. He who loves God loves to pray. Pray without ceasing. (**prayer**)

God wants to manifest not in an event, but in His culture. False brethren cannot abide in this culture. Unity is the receptor for the manifestation of His glory. Honour is also an important facet also.

The Glory of the God

Part 2

- One of the outward manifestations of glory is sonship.

Rom 8:19 For the anxious longing of the creation waits eagerly for the revealing of the sons of God.

Rom 9:23-26

- 23 And He did so to make known the riches of His glory upon vessels of mercy, **which He prepared beforehand for glory.**
- 24 even us, whom He also called, not from among Jews only, but also from among Gentiles.
- 25 As He says also in Hosea, "**I WILL CALL** THOSE WHO WERE NOT MY PEOPLE, 'MY PEOPLE,' AND HER WHO WAS NOT BELOVED, 'BELOVED.'"
- 26 "AND IT SHALL BE THAT IN THE PLACE WHERE IT WAS SAID TO THEM, 'YOU ARE NOT MY PEOPLE,' **THERE THEY SHALL BE CALLED SONS OF THE LIVING GOD.**"

Christ is that Glory. The latter temple will have a greater glory. There will not be a physical temple rebuilt with glory. This glory will be revealed in the temple – the city church.

- The Ark departs = the departure of the glory because the culture was violated.

The demand for us is to abide in the secret place – in Christ – in the culture of Acts 2:42.

Jesus developed a culture of fellowship - He walked for 3 years with his disciples. Fathers must implement this culture. Then you have glory.

Examples: Joshua had all four pillars present in symbolism – before Jericho fell. Elijah on Mount Carmel does this before fire fell from heaven. Also seen in how Elisha followed Elijah – then double portion fell. Also seen in Solomon's temple. You will not get the glory as an individual – His glory is filling the temple – the corporate church. God is waiting to fill the Body with His glory. Not even an individual church. The temple is the corporate entity. When David wanted to fetch the ark from Obed-edom's house – the ark could only be returned after a culture was established.

The Ark of the Covenant is a picture of Christ : gold = divinity; wood = humanity; four rings – four aspects of His nature, etc. Ark of Covenant type churches are emerging today – churches that can carry the glory.

Eli was the custodian of the Ark. He and his sons violated the culture in which the glory was to reside – and so the glory departed. Hophni and Phineas become careless to fetch the Ark, violating protocol – apostolic doctrine was violated. Illegal fellowship (sleeping with prostitutes in the temple); prayer is also violated.

Ezekiel 8:3- 18

- 3 He stretched out the form of a hand and caught me by a lock of my head; and the Spirit lifted me up between earth and heaven and brought me in the visions of God to Jerusalem, to the entrance of the north gate of the inner *court*, where the seat of the idol of jealousy, which provokes to jealousy, was located.
- 4 And behold, the glory of the God of Israel was there, like the appearance which I saw in the plain.

- 5 Then He said to me, "Son of man, raise your eyes now toward the north." So I raised my eyes toward the north, and behold, to the north of the altar gate *was* **this idol of jealousy at the entrance.**
- 6 And He said to me, "Son of man, do you see what they are doing, the **great abominations which the house of Israel are committing here**, so that I would be far from My sanctuary? But yet you will see still greater abominations."
- 7 Then He brought me to the entrance of the court, and when I looked, behold, **a hole in the wall.**
- 8 He said to me, "Son of man, now dig through the wall." So I dug through the wall, and behold, an entrance.
- 9 And He said to me, "Go in and see the **wicked abominations** that they are committing here."
- 10 So I entered and looked, and behold, every form of **creeping things and beasts and detestable things, with all the idols of the house of Israel, were carved on the wall all around.**
- 11 Standing in front of them were seventy elders of the house of Israel, with Jaazaniah the son of Shaphan standing among them, each man with his censer in his hand and the fragrance of the cloud of incense rising.
- 12 Then He said to me, "Son of man, do you see what the elders of the house of Israel are committing **in the dark**, each man in the **room of his carved images**? For they say, 'The LORD does not see us; the LORD has forsaken the land.'"
- 13 And He said to me, "Yet you will see still greater abominations which they are committing."
- 14 Then He brought me to the entrance of the gate of the LORD'S house which *was* toward the north; and behold, **women were sitting there weeping for Tammuz.**
- 15 He said to me, "Do you see *this*, son of man? Yet you will see still **greater abominations** than these."
- 16 Then He brought me into the inner court of the LORD'S house. And behold, at the entrance to the temple of the LORD, between the porch and the altar, *were* about twenty-five men with their backs to the temple of the LORD and their faces toward the east; **and they were prostrating themselves eastward toward the sun.**
- 17 He said to me, "Do you see *this*, son of man? Is it too light a thing for the house of Judah to commit the abominations which they have committed here, that they have filled the land with violence and provoked Me repeatedly? For behold, they are putting the twig to their nose.
- 18 **"Therefore, I indeed will deal in wrath. My eye will have no pity nor will I spare; and though They cry in My ears with a loud voice, yet I will not listen to them."**

There was idol worship in the temple = violation of apostolic doctrine; 70 elders in idol worship = false fellowship; weeping for Tammuz; sun worshippers; **the glory departs from the temple because the culture was violated. Culture requires community and fellowship.**

Scripture "there is a pathway where no vulture can see";

Job 28:7 (BBE) No bird has knowledge of it, and the hawk's eye has never seen it.
 (GW) No bird of prey knows the way to it. No hawk's eye has ever seen it.
 (KJV) *There is* a path which no fowl knoweth, and which the vulture's eye hath not seen:
 (NASB) "The path no bird of prey knows, Nor has the falcon's eye caught sight of it

Paul lives for five years after he said "it is finished"; he rented a house from prison for two years.

- **The glory is protective. The glory always exposes the supremacy of Christ.**

1 Samuel 5:1-5

- 1 Now the Philistines took the **ark of God** and brought it from **Ebenezer to Ashdod.**
- 2 Then the Philistines took the **ark of God** and brought it to the house of Dagon and set it by Dagon.
- 3 When the Ashdodites arose early the next morning, behold, Dagon had fallen on his face to the **ground before the ark of the LORD.** So they took Dagon and set him in his place again.
- 4 But when they arose early the next morning, behold, Dagon had fallen on his face to the ground before the ark of the LORD. And the **head of Dagon and both the palms of his hands were cut off on the threshold; only the trunk of Dagon was left to him.**
- 5 **Therefore neither the priests of Dagon nor all who enter Dagon's house tread on the threshold of Dagon in Ashdod to this day.**

Dagon was the ruling principality of Philistia. Dagon fell at the presence of the glory of God. Dagon fell at the manifestation of the glory. Dagon is dethroned – no more worshippers of Dagon. Demons cannot thrive in the atmosphere of the glory of God. **The glory is protective. The glory always exposes the supremacy of Christ.**

- **The glory exposes the devouring nature of the Philistines:**

1Sa 6:4 Then they said, "What shall be **the guilt offering** which we shall return to Him?" And they said, "**Five golden tumors** and **five golden mice** *according to* the number of the lords of the Philistines, for one plague was on all of you and on your lords.

1Sa 6:5 "So you shall make likenesses of your tumors and likenesses of your mice that ravage the land, and you shall give glory to the God of Israel; perhaps He will ease His hand from you, your gods, and your land.

A plague of rats results. Rats = a devouring agent. Philistine = 'wallowing' = sowing in the flesh – a carnally indulgent spirit. At the height of the charismatic season, carnality was exposed.

- **The glory restrains the carnal nature.**

1Sa 6:17 These are the golden tumors which the Philistines returned for a guilt offering to the LORD: one for Ashdod, one for Gaza, one for Ashkelon, one for Gath, one for Ekron;

All in the city had haemorrhoids – piles. You have to stay at home; you talk in short sentences; you have to eat less; you sit less; you cannot listen to rhythmic movement; you have to be in prostration; you have constipation – cause double vision.

The Philistine spirit is a spirit of indulgence. People eat more than they need. Obesity is a major problem. The Lust of the eyes, the lust of the flesh and the pride of life are prevalent. You have got to know how to keep the old man under. Carnal nature has to be subdued by the glory of God. People stopped wallowing because of piles.

- **The glory also exposes carnal giving.**

A carnal man gives an offering according to His carnal nature. Cain gave an offering that related to his problem (of the earth – thorns and thistles); Abel's reflected Christ – so did Barnabas' offering.

- **The glory is able to override the carnal nature.**

They made a new cart – got two cows who had just given birth. They say if the cows go toward Israel, and ignore their natural instinct of returning to their babies – they know its God. And it happened so. The natural instinct of a cow is overcome because they carrying the glory – they went to Beth-Shamesh – the house of the son. You can overcome your flesh – you can fast for 40 days; you can pray all night.

When the glory comes, it comes with gold in the cart. The glory will always bring the gold with it.

The Glory of God

Part 3 : Matthew 24

When the Kingdom culture of Acts 2:42 is violated, the glory departs. The glory was in Moses' tabernacle. The Glory was evident in Solomon's Temple. But in David's Tent, no apparent glory was seen. This was because David himself had become the Tabernacle. David had become the candlestick, the table of showbread and the golden altar of incense (prayers as incense). He was living the culture and the glorious Ark was there in David's presence. God is restoring the Tabernacle of David. It is a restoration of a Davidic operating system.

Ezekiel – 'I will set a shepherd over them like David'. Zion was called the city of David – the person becomes a place because of the powerful culture of David.

Now we focus on Matthew 24. This has to do with the temple and not with the return of the Lord. The glory departed from this temple because Kingdom culture was violated:

Mat 24:1 Jesus **came out** from **the temple** and was **going away** when His disciples came up to **point out the temple buildings to Him.**

Double emphasis: note Jesus '**came out**' of the temple and He was '**going away**' from the temple.

Mat 24:2 And He said to them, "Do you not see all these things? Truly I say to you, **not one stone here will be left upon another, which will not be torn down.**"

1 Cor. 6:19 indicates the individual body is the temple of the Holy Ghost; 1 Cor 3: 16 indicates also that the corporate body in Corinth constitute the temple = city temple.

Mat 24:3 As He was sitting on the **Mount of Olives**, the disciples came to Him privately, saying, "Tell us, **when will these things happen**, and **what will be the sign of Your coming**, and **of the end of the age?**"

Are these three questions, or the same question in three parts? The temple was important to the Jews. Everything centred around the temple. Genealogical records were kept here.

Note the three questions:

1. **when will these things happen**,
2. and **what will be the sign of Your coming**,
3. and **of the end of the age?**

The disciples did not know Jesus was going. So this 'coming' has got to do with the destruction of temple.

John 14:1-5

- 1 "Do not let your heart be troubled; believe in God, believe also in Me.
 2 "In My Father's house are many dwelling places; if it were not so, I would have told you; for **I go to prepare a place for you.**
 3 "If I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and receive you to Myself, that where I am, *there* you may be also.
 4 "And you know the way where I am going."
 5 Thomas *said to Him, "**Lord, we do not know where You are going, how do we know the way?**"

John 14:28-31

- 28 "You heard that I said to you, '**I go away, and I will come to you.**' If you loved Me, you would have rejoiced because I go to the Father, for the Father is greater than I.
 29 "Now I have told you before it happens, so that when it happens, you may believe.
 30 "I will not speak much more with you, for the ruler of the world is coming, and he has nothing in Me;
 31 but so that the world may know that I love the Father, I do exactly as the Father commanded Me. Get up, let us go from here.

John 16:16-20

- 16 "**A little while, and you will no longer see Me; and again a little while, and you will see Me.**"
 17 *Some* of His disciples then said to one another, "What is this thing He is telling us, 'A little while, and you will not see Me; and again a little while, and you will see Me'; and, 'because I go to the Father'?"
 18 So they were saying, "What is this that He says, 'A little while'? **We do not know what He is talking about.**"
 19 Jesus knew that they wished to question Him, and He said to them, "Are you deliberating together about this, that I said, 'A little while, and you will not see Me, and again a little while, and you will see Me'?"
 20 "Truly, truly, I say to you, that you will weep and lament, but the world will rejoice; you will grieve, but your grief will be turned into joy.

So the disciples did not know Jesus was going.

1. "**and of the end of the age?**"

This is the end of temple age.

Matthew 13:38-40

- 38 and the field is the world; and *as for* the good seed, these are the sons of the kingdom; and the tares are the sons of the evil *one*;
 39 and the enemy who sowed them is the devil, and the harvest is the end of the age; and the reapers are angels.
 40 "So just as the tares are gathered up and burned with fire, so shall it be at the end of the age.

Matthew 13:47-49

- 47 "Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a dragnet cast into the sea, and gathering *fish* of every kind;
 48 and when it was filled, they drew it up on the beach; and they sat down and gathered the good *fish* into containers, but the bad they threw away.

49 "So it will be at the end of the age; the angels will come forth and take out the wicked from among the righteous,

Mat 24:31 "And He will send forth His angels with A GREAT TRUMPET and THEY WILL GATHER TOGETHER His elect from the four winds, from one end of the sky to the other.

This is the end of the gospel age.

Mat 24:4 And Jesus answered and said to them, "See to it that **no one misleads you.**

Jesus was speaking to His disciples and whatever He was saying must be seen as relevant to His disciples. The temple was violating the culture of the kingdom and God was going shut it down. Many illegal churches will be shut down.

Matthew 24:5-8

5 "For many will come in My name, saying, 'I am the Christ,' and will mislead many.

6 "You will be hearing of wars and **rumors of wars**. See that you are not frightened, for *those things* must take place, **but that is not yet the end.**

7 "For nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom, and in various places there will be **famines and earthquakes.**

8 "But all these things are *merely* the beginning of birth pangs.

There are certain things that will take place before the end of the temple (not before the end of the world as we know it). Between AD 30 to AD 70: did these things take place. This prophecy was fulfilled prior to AD 70.

E.g. There were Deceivers

Acts 5:33-36

33 But when they heard this, they were cut to the quick and intended to kill them.

34 But a Pharisee named Gamaliel, a teacher of the Law, respected by all the people, stood up in the Council and gave orders to put the men outside for a short time.

35 And he said to them, "Men of Israel, take care what you propose to do with these men.

36 "For some time ago **Theudas rose up**, claiming to be somebody, and a group of about four hundred men joined up with him. But he was killed, and all who followed him were dispersed and came to nothing.

Here a deceiver is mentioned.

In the writings of Josephus – he identifies other deceivers. See his book: Antiquities of the Jews.

Act 5:37 "After this man, **Judas of Galilee rose** up in the days of the census and drew away *some* people after him; he too perished, and all those who followed him were scattered.

Acts 8:9-12

- 9 Now there was a man named **Simon, who formerly was practicing magic** in the city and astonishing the people of Samaria, claiming to be someone great;
- 10 and they all, from smallest to greatest, were giving attention to him, saying, "This man is what is called the *Great Power of God*."
- 11 And they were giving him attention because he had for a long time astonished them with his magic arts.
- 12 But when they believed Philip preaching the good news about the kingdom of God and the name of Jesus Christ, they were being baptized, men and women alike.

Acts 21:37-39

- 37 As Paul was about to be brought into the barracks, he said to the commander, "May I say something to you?" And he *said, "Do you know *Greek*?"
- 38 "Then you are not the **Egyptian who some time ago stirred up a revolt** and led the four thousand men of the Assassins out into the wilderness?"
- 39 But Paul said, "I am a Jew of Tarsus in Cilicia, a citizen of no insignificant city; and I beg you, allow me to speak to the people."

There were over 30 deceivers. John, the apostle, said there were many impostors.

WHAT ABOUT WARS AND NATIONS AGAINST NATIONS?

There was ongoing tension between the Romans and Jews. There was a constant threat of war. There were four Jewish factions at war with each other. There was factional fighting. Jews were killing each other.

THERE WERE ALSO FAMINES

- Act 11:27** Now at this time some prophets came down from Jerusalem to Antioch.
- Act 11:28** One of them named Agabus stood up and *began* to indicate by the Spirit that there would certainly be a **great famine all over the world**. And this took place in the *reign* of Claudius.

(See Josephus – ‘Wars of the Jews’)

THERE WERE PESTILENCES

All these took place in forty years. There were earthquakes recorded in Scripture : e.g. at the cross, in Acts 16; history also recorded many earthquakes : a massive earthquake demolished a large portion of Pompei.

Mat 24:9 "Then they will deliver you **to tribulation**, and will kill you, and you will be hated by all nations because of My name.

Mat 24:10 "At that time many will fall away and will **betray one another and hate one another**.

This persecution already happened:

Acts 4:1-3

- 1 As they were speaking to the people, the priests and the captain of the temple *guard* and the Sadducees came up to them,
- 2 being greatly disturbed because they were teaching the people and proclaiming in Jesus the resurrection from the dead.
- 3 **And they laid hands on them and put them in jail until the next day**, for it was already evening.

Act 5:17 But the high priest rose up, along with all his associates (that is the sect of the Sadducees), and they were filled with jealousy.

Th 2:14 For you, brethren, became imitators of the churches of God in Christ Jesus that are in Judea, for you also **endured the same sufferings at the hands of your own countrymen, even as they did from the Jews**,

Other examples:

- Acts of 7 - the stoning of Stephen
- Acts 8 -the persecution
- Also the killing of James
- Acts 16 - Paul and Silas in prison

The Christians were blamed for the great fire in Rome. July of Ad 64 was the great fire of Rome.

Mat 24:11 "Many false prophets will arise and will mislead many.

Mat 24:12 "Because lawlessness is increased, most people's love will grow cold.

False prophets were the order of day then.

2Th 2:7 For the **mystery of lawlessness doth already work**: only *there is* one that restraineth now, until he be taken out of the way.

2Th 2:8 And then shall be revealed the lawless one, whom the Lord Jesus shall slay with the breath of his mouth, and bring to nought by the manifestation of his coming;

2Ti 4:10 for Demas forsook me, having loved this present world, and went to Thessalonica; Crescens to Galatia, Titus to Dalmatia.

2Th 3:2 and that we may be delivered from **unreasonable and evil men**; for all have not faith.

- Mat 24:13** "But the one who endures to the end, he will be saved.
Mat 24:14 "This gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in the whole world as a testimony to all the nations, and then the end will come.

The 'end' here is the end of the temple. The gospel was preached in all the cities.

World = (not aieon – age; not cosmos) = oikoumenē – applies **only to the Roman empire**

- Act 11:27** Now in these days there came down prophets from Jerusalem unto Antioch.
- Act 24:5** For we have found this man a pestilent fellow, and a mover of insurrections among all the Jews **throughout the world**, and a ringleader of the sect of the Nazarenes:
- Rom 15:19** in the power of signs and wonders, in the power of the Holy Spirit; **so that from Jerusalem, and round about even unto Illyricum, I have fully preached the gospel of Christ**;
- Col 1:3** We give thanks to God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, praying always for you,
- Rom 10:18** But I say, surely they have never heard, have they? Indeed they have; "THEIR VOICE HAS GONE OUT INTO **ALL THE EARTH, AND THEIR WORDS TO THE ENDS OF THE WORLD.**"
- Rom 16:25,26** Now to Him who is able to establish you according to my gospel and the preaching of Jesus Christ, according to the revelation of the mystery which has been kept secret for long ages past, but now is manifested, and by the Scriptures of the prophets, according to the commandment of the eternal God, **has been made known to all the nations, leading to obedience of faith**;
- 2Ti 4:17** But the Lord stood with me and strengthened me, so that through me the proclamation might be fully accomplished, **and that all the Gentiles might hear**; and I was rescued out of the lion's mouth.
- Col 1:23** if so be that ye continue in the faith, grounded and stedfast, and not moved away from the **hope of the gospel which ye heard, which was preached in all creation under heaven**; whereof I Paul was made a minister.
- Act 2:5** Now there were dwelling at Jerusalem Jews, devout men, **from every nation under heaven**.

Matthew 24:15-20

- 15 "Therefore when you see the ABOMINATION OF DESOLATION which was spoken of through Daniel the prophet, standing in the holy place (let the reader understand),
 16 then those who are in Judea must flee to the mountains.
 17 "Whoever is on the housetop must not go down to get the things out that are in his house.
 18 "Whoever is in the field must not turn back to get his cloak.
 19 "But woe to those **who are pregnant and to those who are nursing babies in those days!**
 20 "But pray that your flight will not be in the winter, or **on a Sabbath.**

Luk 20:21 And they asked him, saying, Teacher, we know that thou sayest and teachest rightly, and acceptest not the person *of any*, but of a truth teachest the way of God:

Luk 21:20 "But when you see Jerusalem surrounded by armies, then recognize that her desolation is near.

Jesus came as the Roman army. To Moses He came as the burning bush; to Isaiah – He appears as a king high and lifted up; to Joshua He appears as the Captain of the Host; He appears differently to all the churches in the Book of Revelation. The Roman army was His instrument of judgement. Nursing babies – will affect your capacity to flee. You could not travel more than 2000 cubits on the Sabbaths.

Many Christians fled the city because of a delay in the attack.

Luk 19:43 For the days shall come upon thee, when thine enemies shall cast up a bank about thee, and compass thee round, and keep thee in on every side,

Mat 24:21 "For then there will be a **great tribulation, such as has not occurred since the beginning of the world until now, nor ever will.**

The 'great tribulation' is over. The great tribulation was the destruction of the temple.

The Glory of God

Part 4 : Matthew 24 continued

The glory dwells in a culture. The word, 'coming' – this is used metaphorically. In the Greek there are six words translated coming :

1. Parousia = the arrival and continued presence – emphasises the 'presence' 1 Cor. 16:17; Figuratively used as in coming in judgement.
2. Ekotai = the actual event of coming: Acts 1:11 (when Jesus); He came when the gospel was preached.
3. Heko = The very arrival – for e.g. of Old Testament times and events; John 8:42 – the arrival of a person.
4. Apokolupsis = The unveiling of an object; used literally and figuratively ; 2 Thess. 1:7; 1 Cor. 1:7; Christ was revealed to Paul on the road to Damascus
5. Ehipahy = The brightness of His coming – the glorious appearance – the coming of Christ in an individual and the manifestation of Christ to the world ; the glorified bodily return of Christ
6. Phonero = To make clear – the public viewing; 1 John 1:22

Continued from previous sessions:

Matthew 24:15-20

- 15 "Therefore when you see the ABOMINATION OF DESOLATION which was spoken of through Daniel the prophet, standing in the holy place (let the reader understand),
 16 then those who are in Judea must flee to the mountains.
 17 "Whoever is on the housetop must not go down to get the things out that are in his house.
 18 "Whoever is in the field must not turn back to get his cloak.
 19 "But woe to those who are pregnant and to those who are nursing babies in those days!
 20 "But pray that your flight will not be in the winter, or on a Sabbath.

These abominations of desolation is Roman armies around Jerusalem

Luke 21:20 "But when you see Jerusalem surrounded by armies, then recognize that her desolation is near.

Mat 24:21 "For then there will be a **great tribulation, such as has not occurred since the beginning of the world until now, nor ever will.**

The great tribulation is over. The great tribulation was the destruction of the temple. Those who tried to escape were caught and tortured – about 500 Jews were crucified every day. The Roman army invaded the city.

The number of those carried captive was 97 000.

1.1. million died during the siege.

Mat 24:22 "Unless those days had been cut short, no life would have been saved; but for the sake of the elect those days will be cut short."

When Titus surrounded Jerusalem – he intended to starve them. The Jews had sufficient resources to last years. But because of the internal fighting among the Jews – one faction burnt the storehouse. The ‘shortening of the time’ is the shortening of the siege. Also there were internal problems in Rome and they had to return.

Matthew 24:23-26

23 "Then if anyone says to you, 'Behold, here is the Christ,' or 'There *He is*,' do not believe *him*."

24 "**For false Christ's and false prophets will arise** and will show great signs and wonders, so as to mislead, if possible, even the elect."

25 "Behold, I have told you in advance."

26 "So if they say to you, 'Behold, He is in the wilderness,' do not go out, *or*, 'Behold, He is in the inner rooms,' do not believe *them*."

Many claimed they were the Christ before and during the siege.

Mat 24:27 "**For** just as the lightning comes from the east and flashes even to the west, so will the **coming of the Son of Man be**."

Mat 24:28 "**Wherever the corpse is, there the vultures will gather**."

This is a reference to the manner of His coming not the location of His coming. **This is metaphorical. He will be coming in judgement.** Corpses are an image of judgement. The Roman Empire fought under the banner of an EAGLE (vulture).

Mat 24:29 "But immediately after the tribulation of those days **THE SUN WILL BE DARKENED, AND THE MOON WILL NOT GIVE ITS LIGHT, AND THE STARS WILL FALL** from the sky, and the powers of the heavens will be shaken."

This is symbolic language. **Sun moon and stars are a reference to Israel** . Recall the dream of Joseph - of the Stars, sun and moon. Jacob interprets the sun, moon and stars as him and his whole family = became cryptic language for Israel . Sun darkened = Israel losing its light and testimony

Joel 2:10 – and Peter says “this is that which was spoken” --- Acts 2:19

Act 2:19 'AND I WILL GRANT WONDERS IN THE SKY ABOVE AND SIGNS ON THE EARTH BELOW, BLOOD, AND FIRE, AND VAPOR OF SMOKE.'

Act 2:20 'THE SUN WILL BE TURNED INTO DARKNESS AND THE MOON INTO BLOOD, BEFORE THE GREAT AND GLORIOUS DAY OF THE LORD SHALL COME.

Here Peter is prophesying the demise of Israel.

Sun, Moon and Stars also signify governments (Is 39; Isaiah 34:4-5)

Josephus reports many signs and wonders in the heavens also : The Jews were so obsessed with factional fighting that they did not see an actual star that stood over the city resembling a sword and a comet which continued a whole year. Many came to the Feast of Passover - A heifer gave birth to a lamb in the temple. A man cried for 7 years a certain "WOE" prophecy.

Mat 24:30 "And **then the sign of the Son of Man will appear in the sky**, and then all the tribes of the earth will mourn, and they will see the SON OF MAN COMING ON THE CLOUDS OF THE SKY with power and great glory.

Mat 24:30 and then shall **appear the sign of the Son of man in heaven**: and then shall all the tribes of the earth mourn, and they shall see the Son of man **coming on the clouds of heaven with power and great glory**. (ASV)

This was clearly understood by the High Priest. **Coming in the clouds and great glory is metaphorical here.**

Nahum 1:3 The clouds are the dust of his feet. (Jesus earlier said – if they reject you, dust your feet = a sign of judgement). The destruction of the temple is evidence that Jesus is enthroned in glory.

Matthew 26:59-64

59 Now the chief priests and the whole Council kept trying to obtain false testimony against Jesus, so that they might put Him to death.

60 They did not find *any*, even though many false witnesses came forward. But later on two came forward,

61 and said, "This man stated, '**I am able to destroy the temple of God and to rebuild it in three days.**'"

62 The high priest stood up and said to Him, "Do You not answer? What is it that these men are testifying against You?"

63 But Jesus kept silent. And the high priest said to Him, "I adjure You by the living God, that You tell us whether You are the Christ, the Son of God."

64 Jesus said to him, "**You have said it yourself**; nevertheless I tell you, hereafter **you will see** THE SON OF MAN SITTING AT THE RIGHT HAND OF POWER, and COMING ON THE CLOUDS OF HEAVEN."

The charge is that Jesus is a terrorist – "He will destroy the temple"

"You have said it yourself" = a reference the destruction of the temple

At this the High priest tore his clothes:

Mat 26:65 Then the high priest **tore his robes** and said, "**He has blasphemed!** What further need do we have of witnesses? Behold, you have now heard the blasphemy;

The destruction of the temple with the generation (Note “you will see”) of that High priest was proof.

Mat 24:30 and then shall appear the sign of the Son of man in heaven: and then shall all the tribes of the earth mourn, and they shall see the Son of man coming on the clouds of heaven with power and great glory. (ASV)

tribes of the earth = relates to Israel only – in book of Revelation “those who dwell on the land” = Israel

Mat 24:31 "And He will send forth His angels with A GREAT TRUMPET and THEY WILL GATHER TOGETHER His elect from the four winds, from one end of the sky to the other.

Sound of a trumpet = the sounding of the gospel of the Kingdom

Winds = global evangelism

Matthew 24:32-35

- 32 "Now learn the parable from the fig tree: when its branch has already become tender and puts forth its leaves, you know that summer is near;
 33 so, you too, when you see all these things, recognize that He is near, *right at the door*.
 34 "Truly I say to you, this generation will not pass away until all these things take place.
 35 "Heaven and earth will pass away, but My words will not pass away.

The use of ‘fig tree’ here is simply signifying that the destruction of the temple is near. He is not saying that the fig tree is a symbol of Israel. The fig tree budding is not the 1948 reconfiguring of Israel.

‘This generation’ = refers to the people living at that time – the lifetime of the people Jesus was talking to. Matt 23:33; Luke 11:30; Luke 11:50; Psalm 95:10 (a generation is 40 years).

Matthew 24:36-44

- 36 "But of that day and hour no one knows, not even the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but the Father alone.
 37 "For the coming of the Son of Man will be just like the days of Noah.
 38 "For as in those days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day that Noah entered the ark,
 39 and they did not understand until the flood came and took them all away; so will the coming of the Son of Man be.
 40 "Then there will be two men in the field; one will be taken and one will be left.
 41 "Two women *will be* grinding at the mill; one will be taken and one will be left.
 42 "Therefore be on the alert, for you do not know which day your Lord is coming.
 43 "But be sure of this, that if the head of the house had known at what time of the night the thief was coming, he would have been on the alert and would not have allowed his house to be broken into.

44 "For this reason you also must be ready; for the Son of Man is coming at an hour when you do not think *He will*.

He will come as a thief.

For the coming of the Son of Man will be just like the days of Noah.

It will be in the same way He came in the days of Noah – He came in judgement; the righteous were saved and the unrighteous were destroyed; the word 'taken' = destroyed; The flood came unexpectedly, but not to Noah; The attack from the Romans came unexpectedly but not to the Christians. One taken, and one 'left' = one left will escape. All of 1.1 million who died – not one Christian died.

Mat 24:43 "But be sure of this, that **if the head of the house** had known at what time of the night the thief was coming, he would have been on the alert and would not have allowed his house to be broken into.

Mat 24:44 "For this reason you also must be ready; **for the Son of Man is coming at an hour when you do not think *He will***.

The temple was no longer exhibiting the culture of God. In AD 30 the veil was rent in two. In AD 70 the temple was destroyed. In AD 30 another temple was being built = that is us. In us, we must maintain the glory of God and the image of God.

The four parables after this all bear reference to the temple.

Matthew 24:45-51

45 "Who then is the **faithful and sensible slave** whom his master put in charge of his household to give them their food at the proper time?

46 "Blessed is that slave whom his master finds so doing when he comes.

47 "Truly I say to you that he will put him in charge of all his possessions.

48 "'But if that evil slave says in his heart, 'My master is not coming for a long time,'

49 and begins to beat his fellow slaves and eat and drink with drunkards;

50 the master of that slave will come on a day when he does not expect *him* and at an hour which he does not know,

51 and will cut him in pieces and assign him a place with the hypocrites; in that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

Here is the first temple parable and it relates to judgement that separates the faithful and the unfaithful shepherd. Food in due season' = proceeding Word. By AD 70 there were two shepherds (apostles and the Pharisees/Scribes). The Pharisees were drunk with temple tradition. When the temple was destroyed every Pharisee was unemployed. Apostles continued - This parable has reference to Apostolic Doctrine.

The Glory of God

Part 5 : Conclusion

The Olivetti discourse in Matthew 24 has in no way got to do with the return of the Lord. Jesus had many comings. The next coming is the literal bodily return of the Lord.

Acts 1:9-11

- 9 And after He had said these things, He was lifted up while they were looking on, and a cloud received Him out of their sight.
- 10 And as they were gazing intently into the sky while He was going, behold, two men in white clothing stood beside them.
- 11 They also said, "Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking into the sky? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in just the same way as you have watched Him go into heaven."

This same 'Jesus' = a glorified body (of flesh and bone – not blood).

They saw Him – and we will see Him with our natural eyes when He returns.

1Th 4:16 For the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of *the* archangel and with the trumpet of God, and the dead in Christ will rise first.

1Th 4:17 Then we who are alive and remain will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air, and so we shall always be with the Lord.

Jud 1:14 *It was* also about these men *that* Enoch, *in* the seventh *generation* from Adam, prophesied, saying, "Behold, the Lord came with many thousands of His holy ones,

Clouds : A cloud is a symbol of judgement. Could be the cloud of witnesses.

Angels : In His ascension, Angels were present – and so it will be in His descension

Mar 8:38 For whosoever shall be ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, the Son of man also shall be ashamed of him, **when he cometh in the glory of his Father with the holy angels.**

Mat 16:27 For the Son of man shall come in the glory of his Father **with his angels**; and then shall he render unto every man according to his deeds.

He will **descend with the saints**: Jude

The dead in Christ will rise first. Where from? Not from the grave. The dead are in Christ – the dead will rise from Christ.

The wicked are Judged :

2Ti 4:1 I charge *thee* in the sight of God, and of Christ Jesus, who shall judge the living and the dead, and by his appearing and his kingdom:

Tares are destroyed at the end of the age (the lawless of 2 Thessalonians)

The righteous receive rewards.

Matthew 23 and 24

The parable is referring to the Temple.

Matthew 24:45-51

- 45 "Who then is the faithful and sensible slave whom his master put in charge of his household to give them their food at the proper time?
 46 "Blessed is that slave whom his master finds so doing when he comes.
 47 "Truly I say to you that he will put him in charge of all his possessions.
 48 "'But if that evil slave says in his heart, 'My master is not coming for a long time,'
 49 and begins to beat his fellow slaves and eat and drink with drunkards;
 50 the master of that slave will come on a day when he does not expect *him* and at an hour which he does not know,
 51 and will cut him in pieces and assign him a place with the hypocrites; in that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

Judgement on FEEDERS

2nd Parable : 2nd pillar – fellowship - Parable of the Virgins. Fellowship. All appearing to carry the Word of the Lord (lights/lamps). Vessel = symbols of the human heart. A separation of the believer from the unbeliever.

Matthew 25:1-13

- 1 Then shall the kingdom of heaven be likened unto ten virgins, who took their lamps, and went forth to meet the bridegroom.
 2 And five of them were foolish, and five were wise.
 3 For the foolish, when they took their lamps, took no oil with them:
 4 but the wise took oil in their vessels with their lamps.
 5 Now while the bridegroom tarried, they all slumbered and slept.
 6 But at midnight there is a cry, Behold, the bridegroom! Come ye forth to meet him.
 7 Then all those virgins arose, and trimmed their lamps.
 8 And the foolish said unto the wise, Give us of your oil; for our lamps are going out.
 9 But the wise answered, saying, Peradventure there will not be enough for us and you: go ye rather to them that sell, and buy for yourselves.
 10 And while they went away to buy, the bridegroom came; and they that were ready went in with him to the marriage feast: and the door was shut.
 11 Afterward came also the other virgins, saying, Lord, Lord, open to us.
 12 But he answered and said, Verily I say unto you, I know you not.

13 Watch therefore, for ye know not the day nor the hour.

3rd parable:

Matthew 25:14-30

- 14 "For *it is* just like a man *about* to go on a journey, who called his own slaves and entrusted his possessions to them.
- 15 "To one he gave five talents, to another, two, and to another, one, each according to his own ability; and he went on his journey.
- 16 "Immediately the one who had received the five talents went and traded with them, and gained five more talents.
- 17 "In the same manner the one who *had received* the two *talents* gained two more.
- 18 "But he who received the one *talent* went away, and dug *a hole* in the ground and hid his master's money.
- 19 "Now after a long time the master of those slaves **came* and **settled* accounts with them.
- 20 "The one who had received the five talents came up and brought five more talents, saying, 'Master, you entrusted five talents to me. *See*, I have gained five more talents.'
- 21 "His master said to him, 'Well done, good and faithful slave. You were faithful with a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.'
- 22 "Also the one who *had received* the two talents came up and said, 'Master, you entrusted two talents to me. *See*, I have gained two more talents.'
- 23 "His master said to him, 'Well done, good and faithful slave. You were faithful with a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.'
- 24 "And the one also who had received the one talent came up and said, 'Master, I knew you to be a hard man, reaping where you did not sow and gathering where you scattered no *seed*.'
- 25 'And I was afraid, and went away and hid your talent in the ground. *See*, you have what is yours.'
- 26 "But his master answered and said to him, 'You wicked, lazy slave, you knew that I reap where I did not sow and gather where I scattered no *seed*.'
- 27 'Then you ought to have put my money in the bank, and on my arrival I would have received my *money* back with interest.'
- 28 'Therefore take away the talent from him, and give it to the one who has the ten talents.'
- 29 "For to everyone who has, *more* shall be given, and he will have an abundance; but from the one who does not have, even what he does have shall be taken away.
- 30 "Throw out the worthless slave into the outer darkness; in that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

Three servants :

- First servant = the church (gave 5 talents = 5 fold ministry after He went away) = grace gifts
- Second servant = Apostles (He have grace and truth = 2 talents)
- Third servant = Israel (1 talent = He gave Himself) – Israel buried the one talent – so when the Lord came back he cast them into outer darkness = the temple was destroyed = Israel went into national darkness.

4th Parable: The sheep and the goats - this parable was not futuristic.

Matthew 25:31-46

- 31 "But when the Son of Man comes in His glory, and all the angels with Him, then He will sit on His glorious throne.
- 32 "All the nations will be gathered before Him; and He will separate them from one another, as the shepherd separates the sheep from the goats;

- 33 and He will put the sheep on His right, and the goats on the left.
- 34 "Then the King will say to those on His right, 'Come, you who are blessed of My Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world.
- 35 'For I was hungry, and you gave Me *something* to eat; I was thirsty, and you gave Me *something* to drink; I was a stranger, and you invited Me in;
- 36 naked, and you clothed Me; I was sick, and you visited Me; I was in prison, and you came to Me.'
- 37 "Then the righteous will answer Him, 'Lord, when did we see You hungry, and feed You, or thirsty, and give You *something* to drink?
- 38 'And when did we see You a stranger, and invite You in, or naked, and clothe You?
- 39 'When did we see You sick, or in prison, and come to You?'
- 40 "The King will answer and say to them, 'Truly I say to you, to the extent that you did it to one of these brothers of Mine, *even the least of them*, you did it to Me.'
- 41 "Then He will also say to those on His left, 'Depart from Me, accursed ones, into the eternal fire which has been prepared for the devil and his angels;
- 42 for I was hungry, and you gave Me *nothing* to eat; I was thirsty, and you gave Me nothing to drink;
- 43 I was a stranger, and you did not invite Me in; naked, and you did not clothe Me; sick, and in prison, and you did not visit Me.'
- 44 "Then they themselves also will answer, 'Lord, when did we see You hungry, or thirsty, or a stranger, or naked, or sick, or in prison, and did not take care of You?'
- 45 "Then He will answer them, 'Truly I say to you, to the extent that you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to Me.'
- 46 "These will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life."

Sheep are characteristic by acts of benevolence (visiting the sick, poor, etc.) = had a welfare system. The violation of prayer = the goats (religious Jews) came to pray but lost their merciful disposition.

Nebuchednazzar destroyed the culture when he removed all the articles from out of the Temple = God's glory departs. When the glory comes, holiness and faithfulness will be an automatic result.

THE THIRD DAY : The third day has a glory.

Exo 19:10 The LORD also said to Moses, "Go to the people and consecrate them today and tomorrow, and let them wash their garments;

Exo 19:11 and let them be ready for the third day, for on the third day the LORD will come down on Mount Sinai in the sight of all the people.

1. The glory of third day = **specialised consecration**
2. On the third day, there was a wedding in Cana of Galilee; He showed his glory at that wedding. Wine takes many years to mature. **Hence rapid maturity.** Today you are water, tomorrow YOU will BE wine.
3. **INTIMACY WITH GOD** : Hosea 6:3

Hos 6:3 And let us know, let us follow on to know Jehovah: his going forth is sure as the morning; and he will come unto us as the rain, as the latter rain that watereth the earth.

4. **A resurrection glory**: Luke 9:23 – the third day glory is about resurrection glory - even the actual raising from the dead of people.

Luk 9:23 And he said unto all, If any man would come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross daily, and follow me.

5. **Divine favour** Esther 5:1-3

Est 5:1 Now it came about **on the third day** that Esther put on her royal robes and stood in the inner court of the king's palace in front of the king's rooms, and the king was sitting on his royal throne in the throne room, opposite the entrance to the palace.

Est 5:2 When the king saw Esther the queen standing in the court, she obtained favor in his sight; and the king extended to Esther the golden scepter which *was* in his hand. So Esther came near and touched the top of the scepter.

Est 5:3 Then the king said to her, "What is *troubling* you, Queen Esther? And what is your request? Even to half of the kingdom it shall be given to you

Pierre Toerien's Poetic Summation of the 2011 March ASOM

School number nineteen has come and gone
But not without God his light having shone
On certain things which He wanted restored
So the church could be called the house of the Lord

We may have many signposts erected
But yet some truths have been neglected
While this is a season of restoration
They have to be lived by God's holy nation

So **Thamo** started to mention the issues
This was practical and not a time for tissues
We were ashamed to see the craziness
Of how God's people have fallen into laziness

Some time ago God brought His word
And two great truths then were restored
In giving we came into one accord
And then addressed the table of the Lord

It's amazing how the Spirit stirred
And how God's people willingly heard
To bring back the reading of His Word
To all of our lives this order referred

This is a facet we're seriously needing
Our liturgy should also include public reading
But more than that, the scriptures should be
Important and foremost in every family

So the Word will be honoured and cherished
again
We'll stand to attention to hear it, and then
Our worship will flow from a grateful heart
What a wonderful way, a gath'ring to start

But there's something else which we have to
repair
And that is a lifestyle of constant prayer
Imagine what power be could be releasing
If we started to fervently pray without ceasing

So for the parents we have this message
Don't let your children steal your courage
You'll surely get whipped, and you might even
die
If you pinch your child to make him cry

We have to restore respect for the Word
For faith only cometh when it's properly heard
God's house is not a den or a lair
For thieves and robbers, but a house of prayer

"The image of God" is what he brought next
And took us right through the Bible text
We saw how Adam sold out to his soul
And how his senses came into control

But God still wanted His image portrayed
The original reason why man was made
Cain got a chance but just like with his brother
The people started to murder one another

So God repented and would wipe them out
But His image was what it was all about
This is His grace that we cannot fathom
And then Seth came in the image of Adam

Before we would see the spiritual man
Which really was God's original plan
The natural had to be put into place
That's why Adam started the human race

So everything God would give expression to
Depended on man, the showing to do
So the one that has to represent
Must be less than equal, obedient and sent

Now faith is needed to shut off reason
Opinion counts nothing in this season
What must be established is theocracy
So give up your rights – it's not democracy

Your spirit will tell your soul to rejoice
If your ear can hear the voice in the voice
This principle is very clear
You'll only receive by the measure you hear

The antichrist's main task is done
By rejecting the doctrine of father and son
We should not be fleecing God's sheep, but
rather
Like Joseph, be an invisible father

You can never take the Father's place
Or think that you possess the grace
You're just a guardian, custodian and steward
The Son formed in them is your only reward

If God should look at us and find
Our bodies being shaped after the mind
It's like idolatry in His eyes
The same as hatred, greed and lies

God simply hates idolatry
So it won't help to save up for purgatory
Just examine yourself, and if you must
Put off your anger, slander or lust

So the purpose of the holy city
Is to act as heaven's university
Where all of the spiritual world can study
The long-hidden mystery of Christ and His body

Before God can be seen physically
There first has to be subjectivity
A substance from which to emanate the image
Or else we will cause so much spiritual damage

So the image of God is not mystical
But firstly it has to be physical
Yet you cannot claim to be His picture
If your life still contains an idolatrous mixture

It then, a man, in Christ does abide
It's not only on top, but it must be inside
This change comes by daily renewing the mind
And it's only in "Son" where God you will find

We saw this is principle number one
To receive His image you must be His son
But this does not happen at spiritual birth
For a shortcut and quick fix, in God has no worth

It comes through a process of suffering and pain
It's only by losing that you'll know any gain
God uses life as an engraver's tool
To mark us, His icons, through us to rule

While nature's contractions are speed'y
increasing
It seems that the troubles will never be ceasing
The only condition for the land to be healed
Is that the sons of God have to be revealed

And so we learned about predestination
And the limited point of God's horizon
The firstfruit among and in many brothers
That's why we cannot exclude the others

To carry the image of the Son
Is never forced upon anyone
But you have to come into perfect alignment
By a process of consent and willful agreement

For the sent one to represent the sender
He has to submit, yield and surrender
You must eat His body, which is strange to a Jew
If you want the Son to be formed in you

There is a truth that is really a pity
A little child cannot rule a city
Don't give it a thought, not even "maybe"
To try and feed meat to a little baby

This is the truth that you'll have to see
You can be what God wants you to be
But to represent as equivalent
The life of a doulos must be prevalent

That's why character only comes by formation
You simply can't get it by scripture quotation
So if God decides to teach you a story
He's marking you to display His glory

Your marks will not be displayed by your
bleeding
But they'll carry weight only in your healing
The character must have a backing
Or else the image will have something lacking

We came to learn of hypostasis
The thing that forms a solid basis
For the character to be displayed
Just like a good foundation laid

May be, once more, you should hear the song
If the basis is wrong then the image is wrong
And the voice should not come to tickle your ears
But bring life to the spirit of the one who hears

The aim of meeting or having fun
Is the image restored in everyone
Here is the thing that raises the bar
Your origin defines who you are

We saw that the mirror is always the Word
And it comes in a voice that has to be heard
In the lampstand of doctrine you'll come to see
What Christ in you really ought to be

We don't understand the incarnation
 How we became a holy nation
 When Jesus came it was heaven's loss
 But more, He had to be stripped at the cross

God put all He is in a body on earth
 This goes to show our value and worth
 His glory to the church had to come
 So when He left, He gave gifts to some

God is invisible, He cannot be seen
 But we must lead Him out, and this will mean
 That you look for one that can speak to your life
 By teaching enlighten your soul in it's strife

So when the word comes into you
 It's no more a theory, but has impact too
 Grace is the thing that you will receive
 The result is truth if the word you'll believe

The grace received truth must produce
 Or else the image will suffer abuse
 Like the substance eventually will be shown
 The inside, through process, shall be known

Shaun opened up on Sunday morning
 Just after the day had finished dawning
 He spoke about the mindset to finish
 And why our faith should never diminish

He mentioned the people of Hebrews eleven
 And how their faith was touching heaven
 Today God is looking for a generation
 That will have the same divine expectation

We heard about the twelve Hebrew spies
 And the ten that believed the enemy's lies
 So be like a sheep and keep your mouth shut
 'Cause all trouble starts with goats that butt

Shaun also spoke on the mystery of Christ
 And how this truth the apostle enticed
 The only thing not found in shadows and types
 Is that of His body, not the one with the stripes

The body Paul saw was a spiritual one
 A corporate Christ, redeemed by the Son
 He called it his gospel, this revelation
 And laboured in birth to bring forth this "nation"

God has planned to bring everything back
 Under one head where there is no lack
 That is why Christ is the only solution
 For a world that is so full of pollution

It's only in Christ where there are no divisions
 And no more place for strife and schisms
 In Him certain things have come to extinction
 Like all of the gender and race distinction

Christ brought together both Gentile and Jew
 He made one new man out of the two
 It's all got to do with perception and sight
 But if people can't see they have no light

As death is a strong principality
 The enemy comes with much subtlety
 To keep us afraid of our day of dying
 But the timeless zone exposes his lying

The greatest distraction in God's holy race
 Is someone operating outside of their grace
 The ultimate in God is the glory
 The height of all of redemption's story

The reason creation has so much merit
 And why our God you can never discredit
 Before He can form it, He's already said it
 And the substance He calls from then has to sustain it

So Jesus, in His humanity
 Became Christ by the Spirit's activity
 The Father's voice was totally quiet
 Until the Son was fully compliant

And when we see the descending dove
 We know our election was all out of love
 And later, in time, we were born of God's seed
 But the fruit will be the glory indeed

Now the fruit will be seen when the body lives
 In the culture which the Spirit gives
 Not thinking of self but esteeming another
 Higher than you, because of Christ in your brother

So the seed is Christ and the fruit is His nature
 While the tree is the body, becoming mature
 Baptism is God's way to get us there
 'Cause burial makes everything equal and square

We also heard the **apostle from Zim**
 Who told how the Lord is using him
 He showed how God restores His fullness
 When the church slips into spiritual dullness

God's nation is not like the other nations
 And should not get caught up in their
 temptations
 But rather should be a peculiar people
 Who live and decree from a different steeple

The difference will only be exposed by the flood
 'Cause it leaves behind it just a lot of mud
 And when they start the bodies to count
 Your ark should lie safely on top of the mount

Sagie said we have to bring back the glory
 And showed us why this is mandatory
 If we want to enjoy credibility
 As a witness for all men to see

The glory was locked up in a dead man's bone
 And not in Aaron's rod alone
 For if it was only Peter's shadow per se
 Who would get healed on a cloudy day?

Now that we've settled all doctrinal disputes
 And focused a lot on God's attributes
 The time has come for the restoration
 Of the glory's outward manifestation

We have an entertainment overload
 While we should be enjoying the real kabowd
 Without it you'll be an informational teacher
 But with it you'll be an inspirational preacher

The absence of the glory of the Lord
 Is because we are not in one accord
 Like an owl in the desert we'll be out of place
 As long as we only focus on grace

Where there's glory there just cannot be any
 vulture
 But for that we will have to abide in the culture
 It's the secret place with the miracle aid
 This is why man was originally made

We have many pictures of the glory of God
 Like the ark of the cov'nant and Aaron's rod
 But Israel their own demise orchestrated
 Whenever the culture they violated

In Ezekiel eight there's a great revelation
 Of the temple of God and it's desecration
 And when Eli the culture did not obey
 The ark and the glory was taken away

The ark had the Philistines frustrated
 'Cause it left their Dagon dethroned and
 prostrated
 And later they had to stop swallowing
 It was the price for their constant wallowing

The ark and the glory their rats did expose
 And an itchy problem suddenly arose
 While they carried the marks of the carnal
 nature
 They suddenly needed no marriage lecture

The Philistine's name stand for fleshly sowing
 And a life of indulgence where everything's
 going
 The glory must help to keep the old man down
 Or else the lust of the flesh will take you to town

So David, the tabernacle became
 And never brought the Lord any shame
 He lived the culture and the glory did dwell
 In the midst of the people and all went well

Then we learned about Matthew twenty four
 That it never meant what we took it for
 It's all about the temple's demise
 To religion this must be a big surprise

Dispensationalists won't be too thrilled
 When they hear that these things have been
 fulfilled
 But we saw from the Bible, and other writings
 There have been many earthquakes, famines
 and fightings

So when Jesus talks of the end of the age
 He's not setting, for antichrist, the stage
 But between AD thirty and seventy
 It proved to be one big catastrophe

The coming of the Lord is a teaching
 That we have to contextualize in our preaching
 They could not foresee such a simple fulfillment
 That the armies of Rome would be His
 instrument

The great tribulation for the Jew
 Is to lose his temple and his lineage too
 But this bastion the culture did violate
 And that is why they suffered this fate

Matthew twenty four has a difficult word
 It's the one called the "coming" of the Lord
 The Greek uses six words, some literally
 But they also can be figuratively

So if a pastor should promise you
That he's coming to your conference too
You have to find out which coming he meant
The Greek word will show you his real intent

If you don't understand the sun, moon and stars
You might think it's talking about Venus and Mars
Just like the eagle spoke about Rome
And the golden streets are not your home

When Jesus talked about the clouds and the dust
The high priest erupted in utter disgust
He knew the scriptures and believed in them
Thus he saw what was coming for Jerusalem

The fig tree has really been taking punch
But if you should touch it, they'll have you for lunch
They say it is Israel, the poor little tree
No-one knows how long a generation could be

Now Jesus' speech became quite fervent
When He told them about the wicked servant
So in the next parable or four
He clearly showed the culture once more

Then, on the final day of the feast
The last but definitely not the least
We heard great things and a lot did learn
When he spoke about Jesus' bod'ly return

He read Acts chapter one from verse nine
And brought all the comings into line
"This same Jesus" – that is the key
The One with the glorified body we'll see

He was seen with natural eyes when He went
And one day, like this, we'll behold His descent
We also agreed that the dead are in Christ
From there they'll arise, no spiritual heist

Now here is where this whole thing started
It says that Jesus came up and departed
Everything follows when the glory does arrive
But we'll have to keep the culture alive

The glory of the third day will be
Characterized by intimacy
While instantaneous maturity
And favour divine is what you'll see

Ben led us to look at our human nature
And the struggle to reach our Lord's full stature
In Genesis three were promised two seeds
Though the tree of life is all man needs

The seed of the serpent is dangerous
And also can be very poisonous
On the tree of knowledge is where it is found
It can leave you faithless, fearful and bound

This seed has many manifestations
Like arguments, doubts and vain imaginations
But the woman's seed has much more in it
And it's all about living life by the Spirit

So this is just where you have the choice
Which seed you'll follow and obey his voice
Choose life and keep living after the Spirit
For the bad seed simply has nothing good within it

Frans spoke about the wonderful story
Of Joseph that ruled over Egypt's glory
How it takes a process of hardship and pain
To form a son that can rule and reign

Joseph's brothers saw a great distortion
Their father would give him the double portion
So they sold him away and lied to their dad
The story they told made him very sad

But Joseph was faithful and stuck to his dream
Even when Potiphar's wife had a scheme
She tried to seduce him and lustfully lied
When she offered to give him what he had been denied

So Joseph became the evidence and witness
Of the God of heaven and His righteousness
And even in jail where everyone's sad
There was no stopping this God-fearing lad

Though his life did not seem to be fitting the plan
Or worked out according to the standard of man
He refused to get bitter or even get mad
'Cause he always kept longing for the face of his dad

So the people around him who also had dreams
Were not turned away, but rather it seems
He was always ready, the interpretation to give
While the answer to his own, he did not receive

Like Joseph, a witness we have to be
 But you must be positioned accurately
 You only can do it from the place of a son
 'Cause it's not what you say but what you've
 become

If the witness is not a trustworthy source
 The guilty could go free, of course
 So discredit the witness and win the case
 Can you see why we are so in need of His
 grace

So the testimony might begin in the ark
 But all it's surroundings will come to carry the
 mark
 Just like our spirits, where God's Spirit is given
 And our souls and our bodies become touched
 by this leaven

Kobus spoke about the restoration
 Of the standard of God in every nation
 It's not for the world that Jesus prayed
 But for the church, intercession was made

There are certain places where the word "until"
 Shows it's not only God's sovereign will
 But the church also has a part to play
 To hasten the coming of the day

So the seed has to fall in the ground and die
 That's the only way it can multiply
 And underline the truth afresh
 That we don't know Jesus after the flesh

Just what does it mean that with Him we died
 For this we looked at the men crucified
 The three parties of Eden were now on the
 cross
 For two it was gain but for one it was loss

We heard how old mindsets form a cage
 That blind us to the Messianic age
 And then we heard a truth like a blast
 A new creation has new past

And so the school had to come to an end
 It's always sad to see off an old friend
 Once again, we salute our hosts
 Thanks for the food, from curry to roasts

This time there was no Friday dinner
 And we all left the place a few inches thinner
 But next time we'll sit, shoulder to shoulder
 And watch someone special turning older

FORTHCOMING CONFERENCES:

Next Apostolic School of Ministry
7th - 12th November 2011

River of Life Church, Pietermaritzburg; Early booking is essential

Apostolic Conference
Kairos Ministries – Port Shepstone
28-30 April

Durban City Hall – Unity meeting of all the various fraternal in Durban
1 June; 9am -12pm

Open Heaven Conference
4-7 July 2011
Sibya Conference Centre; Durban