

THE GOSPEL OF GRACE



By Gary Sigler

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Father, we thank you that the eyes of our understanding are being unveiled to your purpose and to your plan. Lord, we are so grateful, beyond human expression, that we can stand in your presence because of your work at Calvary. We are so thankful, because it does not depend upon what we can or cannot do. We stand with a longing in our hearts to know you, knowing that there is nothing within ourselves that we could ever do to earn an entrance or gain entrance into your presence, but that the way is provided so freely that we can, as Hebrews says, come boldly before the throne of your grace to find help in the time of need. The veil of the Temple was rent at the Cross and now we, as your people, can simply enter into your presence and experience your peace and your touch and experience the impartation of your life which changes us into that which you desire. How grateful we are, Lord, that this is something that is done simply by your Spirit and through grace, because You love us, more than we probably ever have realized. We do know that that love is shed abroad in our hearts and is becoming greater and greater. The more we come into that love and understanding of your Father-heart, the more we can minister the gospel of salvation through the Spirit. Amen.

You probably have heard at least something about the Gospel of Grace that some of us are carrying in these days. It is a message of God's love for humanity, a love that knows no bounds and no limitations. It's a love that, when you can comprehend it and understand it, will totally change every fiber of your being.

I struggled for many years trying to be a good "Christian" and trying to perform according to what I thought a "Christian" should be. I was a miserable failure in trying to be a good "Christian" because I was not, in my natural human condition, a really holy person. I wonder if any of us really are.

Yet we try so hard, because we have that hunger and that cry within our hearts to be godlike. It is such a confusing thing because it seemed, at least in my experience, that the more I tried to be like God and the more I tried to do what I thought that I should do, I found it impossible within my natural makeup to be what I knew a good "Christian" should be. I knew I loved God with all my heart, yet I could not measure up to what I thought was the Christian standard.

I lived for about 29 years before I really experienced God in a real way. I had developed a lot of habit patterns in my life that were just not godly. I struggled for years trying to overcome them. The reason I appreciate so much today the unlimited, unsurpassing love of God is that when I experienced it--when I understood the love of God, and I really understood the work of Calvary, and I understood the blood of Jesus Christ--it absolutely set me free from trying to take this flesh, this carnal nature, and making it something it could never be.

Two Men, Two Lives, and Two Laws

I have written in the past on the two lives and two laws. To understand the Gospel of Grace, we need to see more about these two lives.

| Adam Represents | Christ Represents |
|---------------------------|--------------------------|
| Corruptible Seed | Incorruptible Seed |
| A Natural birth | A Spiritual Birth |
| The Soul of Man | The Spirit of Man |
| The Human Consciousness | The Christ Consciousness |
| The Carnal Nature | A New Spiritual Nature |
| A Man Living by the Flesh | A Man Living in Spirit |
| The Law of Sin and Death | The Law of Life |

You can see by this chart that there are two lives from two different sources. The problem is that in the past we have tried to live out of our carnal Adamic life to produce Christ in us. There are many examples of this in the Scriptures.

In Genesis 15:3-4, God promised Abraham a son. *"And Abram said, Behold, to me thou hast given no seed: and, lo, one born in my house is mine heir. And, behold, the word of the LORD came unto him, saying, This shall not be thine heir; but he that shall come forth out of thine own bowels shall be thine heir."*

Abraham got tired of waiting on God and produced a son after the flesh. *"And Sarai said unto Abram, Behold now, the LORD hath restrained me from bearing: I pray thee, go in unto my maid; it may be that I may obtain children by her. And Abram hearkened to the voice of Sarai. And Sarai Abram's wife took*

Hagar her maid the Egyptian, after Abram had dwelt ten years in the land of Canaan, and gave her to her husband Abram to be his wife. And he went in unto Hagar, and she conceived" (Gen. 16:2-4).

This is only one of many examples in the Word of the flesh and spirit. After Ishmael was born and Abraham was 99 years old, the Lord came to him again. *"And God said unto Abraham, As for Sarai thy wife, thou shalt not call her name Sarai, but Sarah shall her name be. And I will bless her, and give thee a son also of her: yea, I will bless her, and she shall be a mother of nations; kings of people shall be of her. Then Abraham fell upon his face, and laughed, and said in his heart, Shall a child be born unto him that is an hundred years old? and shall Sarah, that is ninety years old, bear? And Abraham said unto God, O that Ishmael might live before thee! And God said, Sarah thy wife shall bear thee a son indeed; and thou shalt call his name Isaac: and I will establish my covenant with him for an everlasting covenant, and with his seed after him. And as for Ishmael, I have heard thee: Behold, I have blessed him, and will make him fruitful, and will multiply him exceedingly; twelve princes shall he beget, and I will make him a great nation. But my covenant will I establish with Isaac, which Sarah shall bear unto thee at this set time in the next year" (Gen. 17:15-21).*

Isaac as the child of promise is a type of Christ. Abraham, instead of waiting on God, produced a son of his own doing and then asked God to bless Ishmael, the son he produced by the flesh. God did say he would bless Ishmael, but the *promise* is to Isaac. Most of us have spent many years trying to produce Christ by the works of the flesh. However, the promise is to the seed in us that is Christ. The promise is not to the natural seed that is our carnal human nature, the promise is to the new creation man in our spirit. Paul said in Galatians 3:16, *"Now to Abraham and his seed were the promises made. He saith not, And to seeds, as of many; but as of one, And to thy seed, which is Christ,"* and in verse 29, *"And if ye be Christ's, then are ye Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise."*

All the religions of the world, including Christianity, have been caught in the trap of

working according to the flesh. We have not truly realized that the old man is dead. He was crucified with Christ. We do not realize this because we do not trust in the new life within us. We are dead men trying to take a dead life and make it live unto God. *It cannot be done.*

Christ Must Be Formed In Us

Once we have been born again and quickened by the Spirit of God and washed in the Blood of the Lamb, we have a totally new life born in us. The promise is to the *new life* that is the seed of Christ in us. We have within us another person born in our spirit. This new person must be properly fed and nourished and He will grow to be the overcoming one in us. This is God once again being birthed in humanity. The life in us is not the old carnal life made over. Jesus said, *"That which is born of flesh is flesh, and that which is born of spirit is Spirit."* Most have never realized that in their spirit is another person. He is Holy, undefiled, and high above the law of sin and death. This one in you is the child of promise, born of the incorruptible seed of the living God. I believe that even as you read these words something is stirring within you, trying to burst forth within your consciousness and bring deliverance from the Adamic nature.

You see, if Christ has not been formed in you, you cannot live the overcoming life. Once Christ begins even in a small way to be formed in you, you cannot help but be an overcomer. You must learn to look within and discover the truth of what it means to be born again. You are a totally different person in your spirit. As you discover this and begin to pray and meditate daily on this new life, the seed of Christ in you will begin to grow and fill your soul with His life. He will flow into your mind and renew it so you think like Christ. He will flow into your will and make it pliable to do His will. He will flow into your emotion so that the pure unadulterated love of God will flow from you.

Until the seed of Christ begins to grow in you, you must learn the power of forgiveness and the power of the blood of Jesus. If you have not read my book *Coming Out of Condemnation*, please write and ask for it. It will help you to understand the Gospel of Grace. We are saved not by what we do, *but by what God has done.* He has made a promise to the seed of Christ, and you can be assured He will bring it to pass.

When I use the word "salvation", I am using it in the sense of the full meaning of the word, because the word salvation is a total reverse of the Fall. It's a redemption from poverty, from sickness, and from death.

Many people do not understand what death is. Death, in God's eyes, is not when your body falls over and gets put into the grave. Death, in God's eyes when you study Scripture, is simply a separation from God. As long as you are living in a carnal mentality, even though you might have a very good human nature, you can never experience the fullness of God. Adam, our human nature, is a dead man. We are born into a death realm. If we have not been born again and washed in the Blood, we have no life as far as God is concerned. God wants to replace everything that we are with His life and nature.

I have studied the promises of God for many years because they have helped me more than anything else to come out of the struggling in the flesh. Recently, I found a really wonderful promise in the Bible that I had never seen before. In 1 Corinthians 15:45-49 it says, *"And so it is written, The first man Adam was made a living soul; the last Adam was made a quickening spirit. Howbeit that was not first which is spiritual, but that which is natural; and afterward that which is spiritual. The first man is of the earth, earthy: the second man is the Lord from heaven. As is the earthy, such are they also that are earthy: and as is the heavenly, such are they also that are heavenly. And as we have borne the image of the earthy, we shall also bear the image of the heavenly."*

All of us have experienced the human nature. In other words, it is not that which is spiritual which is first, according to our perception, but that which is natural. The first man, speaking of Adam or the carnal nature, is of the earth and is earthy. But the second man is the Lord from heaven.

"As is the earthy, such are they also which are earthy." In other words, we are of the Adamic nature. As we live according to that nature we are earthy. *"And as to the heavenly, such are they also which are heavenly."* This is the promise: *"As we have borne the image of the earthy, we shall also bear the image of the heavenly."* If we have been born of the first man, Adam, born in the flesh, we

are earthy. All of Adam's nature is ours by birth. We bear the image of the earthy. However, since we have borne the image of the earthy, we shall also bear the image of the heavenly. Christ in us will come forth in all of His fullness. Can you believe this? If you can believe it you will very quickly begin to experience Christ's overcoming life arise within you.

This is one of the most wonderful promises we have. I never saw it until recently. I can't tell you how many times I had read and studied this chapter in Corinthians, but I never saw this. This is saying that if you have borne the image of the earthy you shall also bear the image of the heavenly.

Paul told the Corinthians, *"For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ shall all be made alive"* (1 Cor. 15:22). What this simply means is that in Adam, all of us are separated from God. In our awareness and in our consciousness we are born knowing nothing of God. We are in total darkness and alienation. In Adam, all die! You were born into death and separation. Now, if you have indeed borne the image of the earthy **YOU SHALL ALSO BEAR THE IMAGE OF THE HEAVENLY!** This is a promise!

Something that will transform your life more than anything else you can do is to grab a hold of the Scriptures, and realize that God is speaking to you. As long as you are living in this earthy nature, the Adamic mind, or the natural carnal mind, you are separated in your consciousness from God.

What does this mean? Well, if you are living according to an Adamic consciousness, or the natural or carnal mind, you are in your awareness separate from God. You see, this doesn't mean it's bad. You could be a very good person, but if you are living according to the Adamic carnal mindset you are bearing the image of a person and a human nature that is both good and evil.

If you will remember, back in Genesis that's what caused the problem in the beginning—man partook of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. It says in the beginning that man was created in the image of God and that God walked with Adam. Adam had no conscious awareness of being separated from God. He lived and walked in the presence of God.

Eve fell for the very first lie of the serpent, or the enemy. He told Eve, "If you will just do this, if you will just partake of this knowledge of good and evil, you are going to be like God." That was the promise. Yet, the proper answer from Eve should have been, "We were created in the image of God, we bear His likeness, we are already like God."

But because Eve fell for the lie, and they partook of the knowledge of good and evil, it separated them in their conscious awareness from God. God told Adam, "***But of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, thou shalt not eat of it: for in the day that thou eatest thereof thou shalt surely die***" (Gen. 2:17). Once man partook of that tree, his spirit was alienated from God. Man, through the knowledge of good and evil, tries to regain that which he had in the beginning.

That story has been repeated for about six thousand years. Every religion in the world is based upon the knowledge of good and evil. If you will just do this, if you will just live this kind of a life, if you will just quit smoking, if you will just quit running around, if you will just quit whatever it is you are doing wrong, then you will be like God.

No matter what religion in the world you study, you will find the knowledge of good and evil. They tell you that if you do certain things, God will bless you and when you die you will go to heaven or you will be in some kind of higher state of consciousness. It depends only upon what you do and how you live your life, based upon choosing the good over the evil, that will gain you an entrance into whatever it is you believe that heaven is.

The truth of the matter is that the moment that you begin to choose good and evil, it separates you in your consciousness from God. We have borne the image of that Adamic man and we again have been caught trying to regain that which was lost in the beginning through the knowledge of good and evil.

In the Bible, Eve is a type of the Church. Today, in the systematized, organized religion in most cases, not in all cases, but in almost all the religions of the world and all the denominations of Christianity, you will still hear it said, "If you will do this, God will bless you." And, "If you don't do this, God will curse you."

The truth of the matter is that there is nothing that we can do from our carnal nature and from the Adamic consciousness to make ourselves godly. God is not interested in taking the carnal, fallen, human nature and making it godly. God wants to infiltrate your consciousness so that you live not by a knowledge of good and evil, but you live by the tree of life—you live by the Spirit of the Living God that has been quickened within you. You live not out of a knowledge of choosing right or wrong or good over the evil, but life just flows out of your being. This is the inheritance we receive by being born again.

If you are living out of an Adamic carnal consciousness, you don't have to get up in the morning and try to figure out what you need to do today to live the human life. The human life absolutely flows out of your consciousness. You don't have to be taught how to lie, cheat, or steal. You don't have to be taught how to have all of the lusts and the ugly things of the flesh. Out of the Adamic consciousness flows a life that is both good and evil. Some are very good, some are very evil, and some are a balance between the two.

The best you can be in Adam, the best you can be with your religious traditions, is a balance between the two. If you have a strong will and a strong character, you might possibly put down those things in your life that you feel God is displeased with. But no matter how good you become with your Adamic consciousness and your human nature, you are far short of what God desires.

God has one desire, one plan, and one purpose for humanity: that the Adamic consciousness would be swallowed up by LIFE. From the very center of your being should arise and flow His life, His nature and His abilities! As long as you are trying to perform with the human nature, the carnal nature, as long as you are just a religious person trying to choose the good over the evil and even unconsciously justifying yourself by your conduct and your performance, you do not know the intimacy and the constant flowing of God's life from your innermost being.

In these days, God is revealing and unveiling Christ within a people. He is bringing an understanding and a revelation to us that is absolutely causing us to stop all of this performance. In fact, some of you may be

experiencing this right now, even unknowingly. You may be going through a period when it is hard to read the Bible and hard to pray or hard to do things that were a part of your life for so many years as a Christian. This is only because God is pulling the rug out from underneath all of the religious activity, to unveil His life within you.

As long as you can make it on your own, as long as you feel that you can be a good person and justified by your performance, you will never know the life of God in its fullness and in His ability to conform every area of your life into what He is.

There are only two men in the Bible, only two: Adam and Christ. All of us are living out from one source or the other. *In Adam, all die!* There is no way in which you can come into this earth and be born as a human being and not have that taint, the nature that you inherited from Adam.

People all over the world today, and especially Christians, are under so much guilt and condemnation, because we have never had the true revelation of the Gospel of Jesus Christ, who absolutely annihilates sin from your life.

The very first thing that John said about Jesus was, ***"Behold the Lamb of God that takes away the sin of the world"*** (John 1:29). Everywhere I go I have to ask this question: "Did He?" I haven't found a Christian yet who will tell me, "No, He didn't." Everyone agrees, because the Scriptures tell us that Jesus took away the sin of the world. Even in the Old Testament prophecies, we see that He bore our iniquities and carried our sicknesses and diseases.

"Behold the Lamb of God that takes away the sin of the world." Did He or did He not? You may say He did, but when you look at your condition and you look at your experience, it may not be true for you experientially. Nevertheless, the truth is (and it is knowing the truth that will set you free) that upon the Cross of Calvary, God took away and bore the penalty for sin.

He bore the penalty for my disobedience, and if He did that, that's payment enough. If you don't ever understand that, you will never be released from your bondage. As long as you feel guilty, as long as you feel unworthy, you will never experience the fullness of God's love. You can

never really appreciate what He's done for you, because you don't feel worthy.

When I first had this revelation and this truth that God revealed to me, I was under so much guilt and condemnation because of the habits and the lifestyle that I lived as a Christian. I didn't understand the Blood. The only thing that I was taught was Law and obedience. I was taught that as long as I continued to be disobedient, God could not help me. It doesn't matter that He died for you on the Cross. It doesn't matter that He paid the penalty for your sin. If you remain in disobedience, He cannot help you.

What I am sharing with you I pray will open the eyes of your understanding. You cannot hear this message with religious ears. You have to hear it from the heart of God. ***"In Adam ALL die."*** When you were born you had no choice about being born into a consciousness of being separated and alienated from God. You were born into this earthly realm and became a product of the human race that is based upon the knowledge of good and evil.

"In Adam ALL die." And all have the nature of good and evil. If you do not understand that that is why He died, you'll only see failure, because you can never measure up. You will fall under the accuser of the brethren. The enemy will beat you to death with Scripture if you don't understand that Jesus paid the penalty for your sin.

What It Means To Repent

"As you have born the image of the earthy, so shall you bear the image of the heavenly." You know what that is? It is simply a matter of repentance. Many people don't like that word, but do you know what "repentance" really means? You can check this out if you study it. Repentance simply means that you change your mind.

There was a time when I experienced being born again, but living in this carnal consciousness, trying everything within my power to make myself into what I knew I should be. As long as you do that you will not experience the kingdom. Flesh and blood CANNOT enter into the kingdom of God.

Before you can ever enter into the kingdom of God you must repent. You must *change your mind*. There was a point when I changed my mind. My experience was one of failure. I had habits in my life that I hated. But I had to change my mind

and I had to decide once and for all whether or not I believed the message of the Gospel. Could I possibly believe that God was good enough, and loving enough, and caring enough, that as bad as I was He could help me? Could I dare to believe and change my mind and say, "The Lamb of God died, because I cannot change myself?"

Not only I cannot, I DON'T WANT TO. If you have some of these horrible habits in your life you don't want to give some of them up. Paul says in Romans 7:14-23, "*For we know that the law is spiritual: but I am carnal, sold under sin. For that which I do I allow not: for what I would, that do I not; but what I hate, that do I. If then I do that which I would not, I consent unto the law that it is good. Now then it is no more I that do it, but sin that dwelleth in me. For I know that in me (that is, in my flesh,) dwelleth no good thing: for to will is present with me; but how to perform that which is good I find not. For the good that I would I do not: but the evil which I would not, that I do. Now if I do that I would not, it is no more I that do it, but sin that dwelleth in me. I find then a law, that, when I would do good, evil is present with me. For I delight in the law of God after the inward man: But I see another law in my members, warring against the law of my mind, and bringing me into captivity to the law of sin which is in my members.*"

You may have a desire for God but you find another law warring against you and bringing you into captivity to the law of sin and death. Paul said that if that is your experience, if you delight in the Law of God in the inner man, yet you have these habits, you have these frustrations, you have this pull of sin upon your life that brings you into bondage, IT IS NO LONGER YOU THAT WANTS TO SIN.

I'll never forget the day that I saw this by revelation. The things of God are so simple. God is more wonderful beyond our comprehension. If you are in this kind of condition you are a mixture. You're living both by the Adamic carnal consciousness and also you have within your being the consciousness of who you really are. God will continue to take you through the fires until the Adamic consciousness is swallowed up by His life. Peter says, "*Being born again, not of corruptible seed, but of incorruptible, by the word of God,*

which liveth and abideth forever" (1 Peter 1:23). His seed will prevail and be victorious in your life.

"To wit, that God was in Christ, reconciling the world unto himself, not imputing their trespasses unto them; and hath committed unto us the word of reconciliation" (2 Cor. 5:19).

If you are in sin and bondage, if you have ungodly habits in your life, it's very hard for you to believe the good news. But if you will look up the word "impute" you will find that it means "accountable". God was in Christ, reconciling the world unto Himself, not holding them accountable for their sins. Sounds like what Paul said in Romans chapter 7.

If you find that sin principle operating in you and pulling you down and keeping you in bondage, it is not you but it is that sin principle that dwells within you. The key is not trying to deal under some type of law or obligation or performance. The key is to repent and change your mind.

You are not a mere carnal human being who was brought forth into bondage to sin and death. The truth that will set you free is that *God is not any longer holding you accountable for your sin*, because of Calvary. If you don't understand that, you will never be free.

You MUST have a revelation of the Gospel to be free. It has absolutely nothing to do with your performance in Adam. It has everything to do with who you are in Christ. The Scripture in Hebrews 4:12 says, ". . . *living, powerful and operative, even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit.*"

It is the soul that needs to be saved. It is the soul, the mind, the emotions, and the will, where the Adamic consciousness rules and reigns, that needs to be saved. It is in the spirit where Christ resides and lives. You cannot take your soulish human carnal existence and make it godly. *You must learn how to contact, fellowship and live in spirit.* How many times have you heard that if you walk in the Spirit you will not fulfill the lusts of the flesh? I used to read that over and over and say, "God, how can I do that?" Of course that's the answer, but how do we do it?

In Zechariah 12:1 it says, "*The Lord stretched forth the heavens, He laid the foundations of the earth, and then He formed the*

spirit in man." That's the creation story. In John 4:24, Jesus told the woman at the well, "**God is Spirit.**"

What did He form in man? He formed the very substance of His life within us. This is what was placed in Adam. This is why Adam died by partaking of the knowledge of good and evil, because he lost the consciousness of being spirit.

So the answer for you, if you're in sin and bondage as a Christian, the very first thing is that *you must be quickened by God*. It is not a matter of being sorry for anything that you have ever done. You simply need to turn and open to your Creator. You need to call on the name of the Lord and be born again.

The very first time I experienced God I was 29 years old. I had just heard that Jesus could come into me and make me a new person. I said, "God, if this is possible, this is what I want." From that day to this day, there has been a progression of Christ in me, overtaking the flesh.

I didn't wake up the next day, walking in the kingdom of God. I woke up the next day not much different than I was the day before. Then I got entangled in religion and performance, with people telling me, "You can't do this now because you're a Christian, you have to worship over here now, you have to receive this now."

As soon as I went into religious practices, I lost the freshness of God's presence. It took me 13 years to find it again. I went from church to church, place to place, trying to find the right church, trying to find the right doctrine, trying to find the right man to help me. All the time Christ was in me, waiting for me to turn to Him and listen to His voice and not to another's.

The Word of God is great mystery. Hidden in the Word is the simplicity of the Gospel. God was in Christ, the fullness of the Godhead was in this man Jesus. When He went to the Cross to die He took ALL of the old, sinful, carnal nature—the world and the flesh and the Devil—and put an end to it all.

We don't really see that in reality very much. This is something that you have to experience inwardly, because you don't see much of it out there. You tell me sin is no more? Look at what's going on out there. I'll tell you this, we are seeing

more and more the reality of the indwelling Christ. What happened at the Cross is truly when the axe was laid to the root of the tree. Sin and death, disease, sickness—everything was dealt with at the Cross.

Then Jesus arose and became the head of a new creation. Because of what He did He became a *life-giving Spirit*. What happens now when you cry out to Him, "Lord, I want to know you!"? What happens is that life-giving Spirit that He is quickens your spirit. If you don't get caught up in religion and performance, Christ will begin to grow in you. Christians should be taught from newborn babies to simply enjoy their Father. Don't worry about your habits. Don't worry about your failures. Fall in love with your Daddy. Learn to enjoy Him and partake of His forgiveness.

Realize that you are not being held accountable for what you inherited in Adam. I often share with people that sin is the worst disease known to man. Every disease known to man came out of sin because of the Fall. Yet, in many Christian circles today, in many religions today, you can develop a cancer in your body and what would they do? They would pray for you. They would love you. Some of them would weep and intercede for you, but if all of a sudden you were caught in adultery what would their reaction be? It should be the same. They should have the same concern and care for you and pray and minister to you.

Unless you know the love of God as it is revealed, you will condemn. But if you understand Calvary, you would treat that act the same as you would a cancer. You would know the truth and you would pray, "Oh God, we know that at Calvary the penalty was paid. And Father, we know that the power of your Spirit has regenerated this one. And God, we believe in your ability and in your power and we release that power, we release the Spirit of God to bring repentance and healing and restoration to this person." But if you don't understand Calvary, then you will hold people accountable for their sins. You will also hold yourself accountable.

Regardless of what most people might think, what I am sharing with you will not allow you to remain in your sin and disobedience. Now, if that is what you want, then you are not ready to hear my message. Anyone who enjoys a life of sin and disobedience and looks for ways to justify what

they are doing, that person does not really know God. That person needs to be regenerated.

Once you are regenerated, you no longer want to remain in sin. There is something in you that cries out for God. If you have that heart cry, it is there because of Calvary. If it is there and you have this disease we call "sin", you must understand that God is not holding you accountable, no more so than I would hold you accountable if you had a cancer.

If you understand that God is not holding you accountable, and you begin to appreciate the forgiveness of God, you will be able to enter boldly into the throne of grace to find help in time of need. You will begin to understand what Paul meant when he told the Galatians that Christ has redeemed us from the curse of the Law (Gal. 3:13). Tell me, who needs redemption from the curse of the Law? Those who are keeping the Law, or those who are not keeping the Law?

It's so simple. It's right in the Word. The forgiveness, the loveliness, the heart of our Father, has never been told to us. Christ has redeemed you from the curse of the Law because He understands that you were born into this human consciousness and you cannot help what you are.

I received an email from Charles Slagle (PO Box 211447, Bedford, TX 76095, CharlesSlagle@webtv.net) the other day and he wrote:

Good Works

Jn.12:23-32; II Cor. 1:18-22; Gal. 2:20-21; 5:6; Eph. 2: 1-10; Ps. 139:16.

My Cherished Child,

Yes, it is true. Salvation comes by good works. However, it does not result from YOUR good works. It comes from the good works your Loving Savior and I perform!

You must bear in mind that Truth Personified is Who I AM. I AM not a double-talker. I do not tell you on one day that I will guard all of your tomorrows, and then on another announce that My commitment to you depends on YOUR performance.

My yes ALWAYS means yes. My no ALWAYS means no.

You must remain rooted in this truth.

Otherwise, the satanic spirit of religiosity (who is antichrist) can sneak in when you least expect it and steal your joy. Any message that comes your way which even hints that My reliability depends on YOUR reliability is satanic. Cherished one, if you possessed sufficient reliability within yourself to will your own destiny, then Christ's mission to earth was unnecessary! He could have spared Himself the trouble of dying on the Cross.

There are spirits that pose as "angels of light", do you recall?

You can recognize their voices, however sweet and lovely they may sound. And here is how: Without fail, they will always tell you in some fashion or another, "God loves you---BUT His commitment to you depends on YOUR success in making wise and timely choices."

That is a lie.

It is My grace, My constant and loving enablement, that restores and heals you. Your faith plays a part in your deliverance, yes. However, you must remember that it is My committed love that EMPOWERS you to trust in Me. Therefore, even your faith, your ability to trust, is My gift---bottom line.

How so? You are able to trust Me today, ONLY BECAUSE I won your trust yesterday. In fact, I have nurtured your faith from the moment you arrived in this world. The truth is I have written all of the days I have ordained for you in My book long before they came to be. You were in My heart aions before time or worlds existed!

Trust must be earned. Any sensible parent knows that. Through his constant deeds of faithful love a good

father earns his children's trust. That is why I tell you in Scripture that the only thing that counts is faith that FUNCTIONS by Love.

Who am I?

Ever Active and Unfailing Love--- that is Who I AM. So, I AM the Author and Finisher of your faith. I AM the one who causes your faith to function.

Return to joy, treasured child!

I will complete the good work I have begun in you. You will not love or trust Me in your deepest heart if you buy into the lie that your faithfulness determines My success. It is Our love affair that heals you.

I Remain Yours,
With Unfailing
Commitment,
Abba Father

If you are a person who feels that you have made yourself what you are, *you* have overcome this and *you* have quit that and *you* have done something else, all that does is make you a self-righteous Pharisee. You can judge and condemn all the other people who are unable to do what you have done.

But if you understand the truth of the Gospel, it will release you from guilt and condemnation. God revealed to me that if I would begin to treat my sin of disobedience as I would treat a cancer in my body and not let it prevent me from entering into His presence, then I would be walking in the truth of Calvary. He said, "In my presence is the only place where you can find deliverance. It's the only place where you can receive forgiveness. It's the only place where you will really understand how much I love you."

This Gospel will change the world. This Gospel, first of all, changes *us*. Jesus said 2000 years ago, "***The kingdom of heaven is within you***" (Luke 17:21). There were a few people in those days, not very many, who heard that—not just heard but they HEARD it. And they entered in.

It is no different today. The kingdom of heaven is not a place to go to when you die.

Certainly, when you transcend this life you will be where He is, but it's not a place to go to when you die, it's a place to live in. It is an awareness. *It's a realm where God is all in all*. It's a realm where when you begin to enter into the kingdom of God you find the truth that you are not a miserable sinner, but what you are is a manifestation of Christ on the earth.

You have to change the way you think about yourself, you have to repent, i.e. change your thinking, about how God feels toward you when you are disobedient. God abhors sin and disobedience, but He also knows that we are trapped in the carnal consciousness. If you will turn to Him and fellowship with Him, you will find forgiveness and joy. No matter how bad you are, you can find forgiveness every day and enter into His presence to find grace to help in time of need.

Forgiveness is like someone who has an unlimited bank account. It is there when you need it and you should not feel badly because you need it. I need forgiveness every day. Every day there are certain things that I may do or say that aren't godly. But I never run out of forgiveness. That's why He died, so that I could change my mind, so that I could repent from thinking that I was this old sinful, sin-laden habit-filled creature. Because of Calvary, not because of my performance, not because of my goodness or obedience, but because of Calvary I can now change my mind and see myself as I truly am. One who stands forgiven. One who stands cleansed. One who stands manifesting the loveliness and the beauty of my Creator. That is who I really am.

You see, the lie of the serpent is that you are a carnal human being lost in sin, death and bondage, and that you have to try to win back or gain favor with God by your performance. Do you know that that is why the Law in the Old Testament was given in the first place? Paul brings this out very plainly in Galatians. There is no way that your Adamic nature, your carnal nature, can take the Law. It is said that if you break it in one point only, just one point, you are guilty of it all. The Law was given to make it absolutely clear and beyond the shadow of a doubt that you CANNOT fulfill it in your carnal Adamic nature.

We know that Jesus fulfilled all the requirements of the Law. What we haven't

understood is that He is in us. Oh, we've understood it intellectually, but we haven't experienced it. Why not? Because we are still living from our Adamic consciousness. We look at our Adamic nature instead of turning to and experiencing the new man inside of us.

You have to repent! You have to change your mind about who you are. Adam will never be God. You hear about people running around today saying, "I am God," and all of that. Listen, whenever Adam, the human consciousness, the carnal nature, sits in the temple of God—which is what you are—and declares himself to be God, that is the abomination of desolation. That's not what I am talking about.

We were created with the very substance of God's Spirit. Paul tells us in 1 Corinthians 6:17, **"He that is joined unto the Lord is one Spirit."** Not two, but one. The key is that I have to change my way of thinking. I have to realize that in Spirit, in Christ, my new nature that has been born from above, I am a brand new creation.

We have two awarenesses within our being as Christians. That's where the problem is. We have never been taught that Adam can't make it, and that Christ doesn't have to try, He's already there. You must understand that you are not Adam. What you really are is Spirit.

There has been so much confusion these days. The woman at the well asked Jesus, "Where shall we worship? Some say that we should worship on this mountain. Others say that the only place we can worship is in Jerusalem." Most of us have never heard His answer by the Spirit. He said, "God is Spirit." If you want to worship Him it is not a matter of a location. It's not a matter of finding a church. You must worship *him in Spirit*.

Watchman Nee had one of the most marvelous revelations of the Church that has ever been given to a man on the earth—a very simple revelation—that the boundaries of the Church are in the city. God revealed to him that if you live in a city, you are a member of the Church in that city. I live in Kent, Washington. As a born again believer I am a member of the Church in Kent. This is a marvelous revelation. You cannot separate from me and say I am not a member. I may not believe the same as you, but as a member of the body, I am a member of the Church. If you have this revelation,

you cannot divide and separate yourself from other believers in your city. Some may call themselves by different names, but in reality there is only one Church and every believer is a part of that one Church.

It doesn't matter what I think, the truth of the matter is I am a member of the Body of Christ in whatever city I live. Later on, there were other folks that came along and made a doctrine out of this. They would go into a city and say, "Well, we're here now and we are the Church in the city and if you don't come meet with us you're not part of this city's Church." This is what man's carnal thinking always does!

You see, it's not a matter of location. If you want to worship God, you must worship Him in Spirit. Why? Because that is your substance, that is truly what you really are. **YOU ARE SPIRIT!**

You live in a body and you have a soul that the Adamic consciousness takes over at birth. But that's not who you really are. That's called a *false identity*. What you really are is spirit, and if you ever want to worship God, you cannot worship Him with the soul—the mind, emotions and will. You cannot find God in the natural mind. You must worship Him in spirit.

You must understand that you are spirit and that Jesus died at Calvary and took away the penalty of your sins and He is not holding you accountable for your sins because He knows that Adam is not real, Christ is real. Once you discover that you have Christ in you, not just as a doctrine or a teaching, but you understand that deep in the recesses of your being, you have the seed of God on the inside of you, you begin to overcome the Adamic consciousness.

We must begin to worship God in spirit. "Oh my," you may ask, "How do I do that?" You begin to speak from your spirit and not your mind. When I first began to have an understanding of this worship in spirit, I would just simply talk to God. I'm so thankful that I understand that I'm not just this habit-filled failure of a Christian that I believed in for so many years. I began to talk to God something like this: "Father, I am so thankful for the revelation that Christ really is my true nature. I'm so thankful that I have an understanding that you are not holding me accountable for my sins, but that you are imputing to me righteousness. As David said

many years ago, *'Blessed is the man to whom the Lord will not impute sin.'* Oh Father, I am so thankful today, you do not impute sin but you impute righteousness. It's not that you make me righteous. I am righteous, because your Word says so. I don't have to try to make myself righteous, I don't have to try to make myself holy, I don't have to wear long dresses or long sleeves. It's not a matter of outward conduct."

Once we understand that we are the righteousness of God in our position before God, He then begins to work His righteousness into our disposition. His righteousness will flow from our innermost being and transform our soul. We then are righteous by our nature and not just in doctrine.

I'm grateful to the Father to see the truth of the Gospel. Oh, how wonderful is God's forgiveness. I'm so thankful that when sin rises up within me, when I feel that pull upon the flesh, oh, God, yes, I try to resist it, but when I fail, when the flesh gets the best of me, I am so thankful that God's forgiveness is so unlimited and that His love is unconditional.

"God, I know that as I continue to feast upon your presence and your Word, as I continue to reach for you with all of my heart, that you will continually day by day transform me from one degree of glory to another." It's not a matter of my performance, it's a matter of the promises, and it's a matter of the love of God.

"Father, I'm so thankful for some of the simple Scriptures that say things like *'Jesus is the author and the finisher of my faith.'* Lord, I'm so thankful that I don't have to finish what you began. I'm so thankful that when I miss it, that when the flesh gets the best of me, that when I fall into sin and disobedience, Father, I'm so glad to know that you're the author and finisher of my faith. Lord, I'm so thankful that you'll raise up any circumstances in my life that I need to turn me to you, that you'll cause the fiery trials to come that will purify me."

"Oh God, I say, *'Let the fire come.'* Father, I ask that the purifying fire of your Holy Spirit would ignite within my being. Lord, that you purify every area, every avenue of my thought and my being. God, I pray that your fire would saturate and permeate every cell in my body. Lord, that I may stand as the apostle Paul did and declare, *If the Spirit of God dwells in me, that same Spirit that*

raised Jesus from the dead shall also quicken and give life to my mortal body.'"

That's how you live in the Spirit. Just develop a habit of talking to God from your heart. That will do more for you than any performance. You cannot have the flow and the freedom with God until you understand that He's not holding you accountable. If you feel guilty and unworthy, you don't have the faith to go into His presence and enjoy Him.

Will you pay for your disobedience? Of course you will. How do you think God gets your attention? He says, *"Every child that I love, I rebuke and chasten."* That's what the fire of God is all about. The fire of God is not getting back at you, you rascal. But God produces a fire for purification.

I've been through some horrible fires. I have despaired even of life itself at times, being on the potter's wheel. But folks, when you come out on the other side (I'm not saying I'm fully there yet), you understand the Scripture that says, *"For the joy that was set before Him, He endured the cross"* (Heb. 12:2).

Do you think that Adam will bear the cross? Are you really so deceived that you think human nature would bear the cross? I don't think so. Yet, that's what we try to do. Many years ago, I got caught up in the teaching of denying the soul and denying the flesh and taking the cross, and all it did was make me feel more guilty and more under condemnation because I couldn't do it. However, when I began to enter His presence in a simple way, with a heart knowing that He loves me, He died for me, and He's not imputing my sin unto me, He's imputing His nature, I could stay for hours in His presence and enjoy Him.

I often share that a good typology for God would be electricity. If you go and pull the cover off of a plug-in and you touch the bare wire of electricity, by touching it that electricity will impart itself to you. That electricity doesn't care what type of person you are; it doesn't care anything about your nature, your good and your evil. It will just permeate you.

I can guarantee you from years of experience that when you learn to enter in a simple way into the presence of God, that He is the divine electricity. You cannot enter into His presence and

enjoy Him without something of His divine nature being added unto you. That's why it is day-by-day that we go to Him and spend time with Him.

We need to enter into His presence daily, to have the divine nature of God dispensed into our soul. You can be a prostitute or a king, and you can enter into His presence with a conscience void of offense, knowing that if you are a prostitute He died for you. He is not imputing to you your sin and your unrighteousness. He wants to give Himself to you. If you can believe that, as a prostitute, you can begin to enter into His presence and experience a divine washing, a divine renewing, and a new life will spring forth within you. You will begin to experience His tremendous transcendent life come forth within you.

Remember what Peter said? "*As newborn babes, desire the sincere milk of the Word*" (1 Pet. 2:2). When we begin to understand how guilt-free we really are and begin to enter His presence, you will begin to hear Him speak to you. His speaking brings a divine transformation to your soul.

A lot of people living out of the Adamic consciousness, wanting so badly to be godly, sometimes think they hear God speak. Perhaps they have a desire, let's say, to be a foreign missionary. In the religious circles, if you want to be a foreign missionary you must go out and raise the funds for your itinerary. Ishmael always thinks he has to help God along. Carnal thinking says, "God wants me to go, but I have to raise the money." You only have to raise the money if it is your will you are doing and not God's.

If God tells me to go to Africa tomorrow, the money will be in my hands to go. We have not learned to live by His life. Everything that He asks you to do, you just do it and He provides.

Living a life without guilt and condemnation will change the world. Oh, how my heart delights to see this message of God's unfailing, unfathomable, unlimited love being distributed all over the world. "*God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth on Him should not perish*" (John 3:16). You see, your Adamic soul life is going to perish. Jesus said whosoever saves His life (soul life) will lose it. Your human consciousness is going to perish. When it does, you will discover that your true life is hid with Christ in God. When you lose your soul life,

you gain the nature and character of God in your soul. Another way to say this is, your soul is going to perish. Jesus said, "He who tries to save his soul will lose it." The soul, the Adamic consciousness, is going to die. There is no way out for Adam. But if you can believe that God is good enough, and if you can really believe what the Scriptures say, then you will really live. When you lose your limited human consciousness, you gain your Christ consciousness. This is the kingdom of God being established on the earth. God is once again being formed in humanity.

In place of that Adamic consciousness, from your spirit, from who you really are, the Christ within you will flow into your mind, your emotions and your will. From your innermost being will flow the nature, the character, the ability, the joy, the peace, the longsuffering, the goodness, the temperance, the meekness—everything will just flow. No effort. No more than you have to put forth effort to live out of Adam, you no longer will have to put forth the effort to live out of Christ. It is spontaneous, it is wonderful, it is glorious, *and it is yours.*

If you can believe that God is good enough, you can receive it. There will come a day when we will. God said there will come a day when every knee shall bow and every tongue shall confess that Jesus Christ is Lord. Isn't it funny that elsewhere it says that if any man confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, he will be saved? Isn't it wonderful that we have Scriptures that as in Adam all die, so in Christ shall all be made alive? There will come a day when everyone will see the beauty and the loveliness of God. They shall bow, not out of forceful coercion, but they will bow from a heart-felt appreciation for what Jesus accomplished for them at Calvary. They will confess His name and be saved. HALLELUJAH

Think of what it would be like if you passed from this life and then you understood what I'm telling you now. If only you could have understood in principle while you were on this physical plane how easy it was and how simple it was to know God. Quit trying to perform. Quit condemning yourself for the cancer, for the sin, just simply live in His presence.

Simply believe what the Scriptures say. And know that even more than you want, God wants to develop in you all that He is. In you is the seed of

God. In the seed of God is everything that you need to transform you into a Son of God. In the natural, with a seed of corn that has proper water, proper planting, proper soil, and heat from the sun, the sun causes heat in the seed and breaks the shell of the outer to produce the corn. Just as that seed of corn has everything in it to reproduce the corn kingdom, so the seed of God within us has everything it needs to reproduce the kingdom of God. The kingdom in simple terminology is the life, the nature, and the character of God being established in humanity.

I invite all of you who read these words to begin to enter in a simple way into the kingdom of

God. No, you cannot enter into the kingdom of God in flesh and blood. But remember, you are spirit. Right now, you're spirit. Not your natural mind. Not carnal understanding. But spirit. As a spirit you can enter into the presence of God.

And you will begin to experience His life. Jesus said, "***Out of your innermost being shall flow rivers of living water.***" Those rivers of living water will bring life everywhere you go. It will build up the saints. It will encourage the saints. It will reproduce in the saints the kingdom of God on the earth. That is His plan, His purpose, and He is the One who will do it.