THE REALITY OF RIGHTEOUSNESS Part 6

People are looking for a lot of things today, even Christians. Some are looking for the "Antichrist." Some are looking for the great "Falling away". Some are looking for the "rapture."

Praise God that today we are not waiting for something to happen. We are what is happening. God is unveiling us to see the reality of Christ within His people. We are seeing the manifestation of the glory of God within the saints. Thank God we do not have to wait for a "happening." I am not waiting for the so-called "great falling away." I am not waiting to be taken out of here. I'm not waiting for the "antichrist," but I'm participating in the revealing of the manifestation of the glory of God within the saints. God by His Spirit is being revealed within the saints. That's what we are beginning to see in these days.

God is appearing *in* a glorious church. The church has always been glorious. The church has never lost her glory. It's only man's concept of the church that has made it *seem* not so glorious, that has filled god's people full of defeat, failure, depression and hopelessness. The church, in God's eyes, has never lost her glory because the church is simply Christ. Christ has never lost His glory. Christ in you, Paul says, is the hope of glory. When you have Christ revealed within you then His glory is revealed in you.

The hope of the church is not that someday we will be good enough, or we will be holy enough, or we will be righteous enough that God might favor us. No! The gospel is Jesus Christ in you, and He is your hope of glory. If all you have is the hope of glory then you have not yet seen in reality that Christ is in

you. Christ in you *is* the glory of God. When God looks at you, He sees the Christ within you. He looks past your defeat. He looks past your failures and He sees Christ in His glory.

We have had such a poor concept of God. We've been taught a poor concept of our Father God even by most of our religious leaders. I've often said that what we know today as Christianity for the most part is not much different than Buddhism, or Hinduism, or any of the religions of the world. What you see out there that is calling itself Christianity is for the most part not much different than any religion in the world.

Buddhism will teach you to be a good, moral, upright person. It teaches you not to commit adultery; and not to do all the bad things. Religion will teach you many good, moral, basic teachings. That's not what Christianity is all about. Christianity goes a step further than just cleaning up your life. Christianity is *God in Christ, through the Spirit, living His life within you*. Anything less than Jesus Christ, through the Spirit living in you, is religion. No matter how good you are, no matter how righteous you may think you are, unless Christ is living in you, *you are just being religious*.

When you realize what being born again is all about, it changes your life. Jesus came to give us *another life* – not our old life made over, but a brand new creation. That's why Colossians tells us "He is the head of a new creation." He is the head a brand new species of beings.

In the last issue of "The Reality of Righteousness" we wrote about the love of God that has been shed abroad in our hearts. The same love that dwells in Jesus Christ

has now been shed abroad in our hearts by the Holy Spirit. Oh how wonderful it is when we begin to live from that unconditional love. Until the people of God realize the depths of the love of God, they will never see the glorious church in manifestation. The human mind cannot understand, and our natural religious mind will never accept the love that has been shed abroad in our hearts, because we cannot understand it with the human mind. Our natural mind will tell you that unconditional love is foolish.

Most of Christianity still has a wrong concept of God. They think of Him as being someone to be afraid of, someone who is waiting for us to "blow it" so that He can pour judgment out upon us. Many still have an Old Testament concept of God, and the concepts are vastly different. Some people even say that the God of the Old Testament and the God of the New Testament is not the same God. There is a Baptist teacher in California who teaches that the God of the Old Testament, and the God of the New Testament is not the same God.

But let me tell you something. God underwent a change in becoming a man. God never realized the human frailties and the weakness of a human until He became one. God changed His form, when He became a man. He became something that He never was before when He took on flesh. He literally dwelt in a man – all the fullness of the triune God dwelt bodily in a man, Jesus Christ. The God of the universe underwent a change when He took on humanity. He became that which He never was before. He understood human frailties. For three and half years all He did was good. He healed the sick, and He raised the dead. He cast out demons, He brought people

deliverance, He brought them joy, He restored to them the life that is really life. Some of those same people He came to save put Him upon a cross and crucified Him and killed Him. He could look from the cross, bleeding, and He could say, "Father, forgive them, for they don't know what they are doing." You see, when He became a man, He understood the human frailties and the weaknesses, because He suffered them all.

Upon the cross it says He took our sin, He took our sicknesses. He took our diseases. He took our failures, He took our hang-ups, He took our habits, He took them into death and He left them there. Until Christians begin to understand this, we need to have men and women across the land who can rise up with a strong voice, in the power of the resurrected Lord and cry, "It is finished, we no longer have to feel inferior or condemned, for He has redeemed us and we are free, Christ in us is our righteousness, sanctification and redemption." Christianity is not about behaving right or following outward rules or regulations with all the do's and don'ts.

We literally have within our bodies, the God of the universe. Where we walk there is Christ, when we speak, Christ speaks within us. He is saying to His church today, "Oh won't you be my arm extended?" How many times have you heard that? But do you really realize it? Do you realize that when you walk up to someone and you touch them, that God Himself is released through your very touch, and it can change lives. It can bring people deliverance. It can bring people healing to their bodies, because you walk as one who is filled with the Spirit of the living God.

That is the gospel message, but it is His righteousness that you cannot earn. There is

not enough money to buy what God gives to you. There is not enough human effort. You can't pray long enough. You can't read the Bible enough. You can't do anything enough to get what God gives to you by His Spirit, and through His Word. The Apostle Paul says, "With the heart man believes unto righteousness." Rom. 10:10. We read these verses and still think we have to work for it. We think because we failed to pray yesterday, or perhaps last week we didn't even open our Bibles that we are not righteous. It does not depend upon what you can do, but righteousness comes through believing Him who says, "I went to the cross, and I became what you were so that *I* am." could become what vou Righteousness comes to us as a gift. If I hand you a gift, you simply receive it. Once you decide to really believe that God has made you righteous and begin to confess it you will then begin to reap the fruit of righteousness, which is holiness. When I say holiness I do not mean that you behave in a certain way by trying to change. You change by the reality of Christ living His life in you.

Our concept of salvation has been too low. Religion taught most of us that we can be saved to someday go to heaven, but we must just hang on and do the best we can until then. However to know the reality of salvation is to know the life of God Himself being lived in this body. We've had such a low concept of our Father God taught to us through religious tradition.

John 14:23 says, "If a man love me, he will keep my word. And my Father will love him. And we will come to him, and we will make our abode with him." Jesus said, "In my Father's house are many abiding places." John 14:2. We are nothing less than an abiding place. Our bodies are simply the

abode of the Holy Spirit. There is nothing in this universe that is allowed to dwell within my body but the Spirit of the living God. Sin and death are trespassers. Sin and death were destroyed at the cross. Jesus took every negative thing in the universe into the grave and he left it there. Nothing deserves to live in my body but the Spirit of the Lord Jesus Christ. I deserve to have the anointing of God, not because I work for it, but because *He paid the price that I might have the life that is really life.* The Word of God tells us,

Know ye not that ye are the temple of God, and that the Spirit of God dwells in you? 1 Cor 3:16

What? know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost which is in you, which ye have of God, and ye are not your own? 1 Cor 6:19

In whom ye also are builded together for an habitation of God through the Spirit. Eph 2:22

I say again and again that it is time for the church to wake up. We have to drop the mental concept that we have of God. We have to stop the mental agreement that just says, "Yes I believe it." We have to have the revelation, God by His Spirit must reveal the word to us. Oh, how we need Saints of God that will rise up and speak to the dry bones and cause them to live. That same love that went to the cross and said, "Father forgive them," abides within us. Do not criticize your brothers and sisters, speak life over them. Be renewed in the spirit of your mind, that mind of Christ that is within you. Do not listen to things that are contrary to the Word of God. Don't listen to the lies that try to penetrate your mind; but listen to the Word of God, "Know ye not that your body is the dwelling place of the Holy Spirit of

God?" The same Word that says, "The fullness of the God-head dwelt bodily in Jesus Christ" says also "You are complete in Him who is the head of all principalities and powers." You don't have to add anything to your life. Nothing. You need nothing but to receive the goodness of God. Receive the Word that says "You are righteous because I have made you so." Yes, "In my Father's house are many abiding places." When Jesus Christ was resurrected from the dead vou were resurrected with him and seated with Him in heavenly places. He became a life-giving Spirit; and He breathed life into His people. You are born a new creation at birth not a miserable sinner. Jesus Christ was the LAST ADAM. He put an end to the old man at the cross.

Just accept the simplicity of the Word of God. If you can receive the Word of God as it is, it will quicken you. It will give you life and it will bring you out of bondage. It will deliver you from darkness and every negative thing. It will make disease bow its knee before you. Nothing shall be able to stand before you all the days of your life because you are based not upon your conduct. Or upon what you can do, but you are based and solidly upon the Word of God that says who you are and what He has made you to be. "In my Father's house are many abiding places."

Jesus also says, "Father that the world may know that You sent me, and that You love them as You have loved me." John 17:23. We feel when we make mistakes that we are unworthy and cannot approach God, but Jesus said, "Father, the same love that you have for me you have for them." God loves you with an everlasting love. The same love He has for Jesus He has for you. If Christians only realized the love of God they

would be so happy. Nothing can ever separate you from the love of God. We feel separated because of our darkened mind. The only problem is in the mind. We must have the renewing of the mind to be able to comprehend the unlimited love of God.

Many of God's people cannot believe that He is good enough to receive them in the condition they are in. They cannot believe the good news that Jesus took away the sin of the world. Some of God's people are so hung up in pornography, and in all the lusts of the flesh, they cannot believe that the love of God is big enough and broad enough, and that the blood of Jesus runs deep enough to cleanse them from all impurities. I say to you that the blood of Jesus is adequate. The blood represents His life, because the life is in the blood. Lev 17:11 We are now saved by His life Rom 5:10 "For if, when we were enemies, we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son, much more, being reconciled, we shall be saved by his life."

If you are hung up in pornography or any other thing, the only thing that will deliver you is for you to have a revelation of the magnitude of Calvary's victory. Jesus lived a life that is available to every one of us. He lived above the law of sin and death and made a way for us to do the same through His life coming alive on the inside of us. "The LAST MAN Adam was made a life giving spirit." This is the "Good News" of the gospel. Jesus became a life giving spirit so that you can live by the same life He lived by. This is the "New Creation Man" that came forth in resurrection power when Jesus resurrected from the dead. In fact the Apostle Paul tells us that we were resurrected when Jesus was resurrected. Ephesians 2:5-6 "Even when we were dead in sins, hath quickened us (made us alive)

together with Christ, (by grace ye are saved;) And hath raised us up together, and made us sit together in heavenly places in Christ Jesus:"

You see we were raised together with Christ. When did that happen? We were crucified with Him, buried with Him, and raised with him at Calvary. Hallelujah! No more sin and death, only life. The LAST ADAM died on the cross and sin and death came to an end. (I will be writing more on this in my next book "The Incorruptible Seed.")

Oh God, how we need a revelation of this by the spirit. Some keep praying, fasting and doing all manner of works to get rid of the problems in their life. All they need is to begin to walk in the reality of the new creation man and that will solve the problem. For the Word of God says that if Jesus is in you, you have been delivered from the power of darkness. One day you will realize because of Calvary the blood of the Lamb has cleansed you completely, and you stand clean and spotless before Him. Nothing can defeat you any longer because you are not trying to make the old life new. You are not working for God, but He is filling your life with Himself.

He is the overcomer in me. He is Lord over my body. However it does not come through effort. It only comes through believing that Jesus Christ is able to save to the uttermost, those who come unto God through Him. It is time for the church to realize that we stand in the very righteousness of God our Father. Romans 8:15 says, "You have not received the spirit of bondage again to fear. But you have received the adoption of Jesus Christ where by we cry Abba Father."

When we are missing the mark, He isn't up there on the throne somewhere out in space

with a club. If you are in darkness and bondage, Jesus is not condemning you, He came into the world not to condemn the world, but that the world through Him might believe, that the world through Him might be set free, that the world through Him might come to know the life that is really life, that the world may receive the ability and the life and the nature of God that will bring them out of bondage and sickness and death and everything that is not godly. He is our Father God! I am a father; and if one of my children gets into trouble my heart goes out to help them, not to condemn them. How much more is our Father God willing to receive His children that are in bondage? We know the Word tells us because of what Jesus has done, we are a brand new creation. We are a new species of beings. Your spirit and the Holy Spirit is one spirit. The Spirit of the living God within you can become so predominant that it permeates your mind, it permeates your tongue, it permeates your thoughts. Because of Calvary we are NOW sons of God on this earth. We are God's Christ on this earth. We are His body, His hands and feet. We are His voice to a lost and dying world. We are what all of creation is waiting for. To manifest Christ on this earth is the heart of our Father. There is no hope outside of Christ. Only in Christ have we hope.

II Corinthians 5:14-17 "For the love of Christ constrains us; because we thus judge, that if one died for all, then were all dead: and that he died for all, that they which live should not henceforth live unto themselves, but unto him which died for them, and rose again. Wherefore henceforth know we no man after the flesh: yea, though we have known Christ after the flesh, yet now henceforth know we him no more." We have to stop looking at

one another according to the flesh. This is the love of God that is shed abroad in our hearts that I can look at you and I can see your weaknesses. I can see where you miss it. I can see where you are in rebellion. I can see if there is pride in your life. But I don't look at you according to the flesh, but I look at you according to the Spirit, the finished work of Calvary. I realize that Christ has made you a new creation. You may not realize it but I can help you by sharing the "Good News" that you are a new creation and you can experience the resurrected life of God within. I realize that the treasure is in the earthen vessel: and there is no vessel that is too earthy to contain the treasure of the living God. So we must minister to one another by the spirit. We must learn to feed and nourish and take care of one another by the spirit and not according to the flesh. We never help a fellow brother and sister by going to them and revealing to them their faults and their weaknesses and their hangups. But we go to them in the spirit, and we fellowship with them about the riches of resurrection. We fellowship with them about the deliverance that is in Christ Jesus. We share with them so that it causes them to begin to seek God more deeply, so they too will come to understand what it is to walk a life in the Spirit of God. Don't correct one another outwardly. "You who are strong (the scriptures say) bear the burdens of the weak." Learn to bear one another's burdens. Learn to intercede for one another according to the Spirit of God.

"Therefore if any man – (if anyone) be in Christ, he is a new creation." You have to believe that for yourself before you can believe it for anyone else. You can't minister this to another person until you yourself begin to understand that you have become a new creation in Christ Jesus. No

longer are you just a mere human; but now God has filled you with His life, His power, His authority, and His ability. You will then begin to walk the life that is really life. You must begin to understand the deliverance that is in Christ Jesus, and as you do you will begin to walk in freedom and in the liberty of a child of God, and then you can minister to another. Oh glory to God!

If any man is in Christ, he is a new creation. We haven't understood that we are a new species of beings. We are no longer mere humans, but we are god men as one minister calls the Christian - the "super-human" We are super-natural people. When you awake to righteousness, and the you begin to walk in the authority and in the power of the Spirit of God, nothing will be able to stand in our way that is anti-Christ or ungodly. Jesus told His disciples even before He went to His death and resurrection, even before that time He commissioned them and He said, "You go out and preach the gospel of the kingdom. You heal the sick and raise the dead. And now some of the main line churches say, "Oh those things are no more." Those things were only to get the church started. There are no more healings. There are no more gifts. There are no more apostles and prophets." These churches have been in a dormant state and unbelief, because they reject the men and women of God that He sends to them to stir them up. Almost every man and woman that God has sent to the church in the last two thousand years, the church that sat in darkness has rejected them, has laughed at them, has mocked them and made fun of them and told lies about them.

Now God has people all over the world who have eyes to see and ears to hear. Everywhere you go today there are people

who are receiving new revelation - not outside the Word, but a deeper revelation of the truths that were bought for us at Calvary. Very few people have understood the realities of redemption or the magnitude of Calvary's victory. We have all known some of it with our intellect. We have all known that Jesus came to give us a better life. I myself just a few years ago would almost daily ask God, "Where is the abundant life? Why am I so miserable? Why am I so defeated? Why am I so down-cast and so full of despair and hopelessness?" But thank God somebody began to speak to me the truths of the Word of God. The Word of God is not based on our experience. The Word of God is based on the faithfulness of God, and when I began to realize that, and I began to look away from my experience, and began to "Look away unto Jesus, the Author and the Finisher of my faith." I began to rest in His finished work. I realized I cannot possibly finish what He has begun. Phil 1:6 "Being confident of this very thing, that he which hath begun a good work in you will perform it until the day of Jesus Christ:

"If you are looking at your weaknesses, and you are looking at your hang-ups, and those things that are coming on the world, Jesus said, "Don't do that. (He says) Men's hearts will fail them for looking at things that are coming on the world." Your heart will fail you if you are in bondage and sickness and weakness, and you look upon the things that are coming upon you. However if you will look away unto Him who is the author and the finisher of your faith, if you look away realizing that it does not depend upon your conduct, but it depends His faithfulness to complete that which He began in you. Can you believe that God is big enough? His blood is sufficient enough, His Word is all

encompassing enough to include you as a new creation.? If you know that you know that you know, that you are born of God, if you've had the born-again experience, then as surely as you are a child of God you can begin to believe the promises of God that are in His Word. When I realized that I had the God of the universe living within me – not as a theological doctrine but as a reality, I'll tell you that in a few short months I came out of such despair and despondency and hang-ups and began to walk in freedom as a liberated child of God.

Very few people understand the gospel in this country, very few. They do not understand, and if they do it is only a mental assent to the Word. "Yes Jesus is living in me." Listen. If Jesus is living in you, you cannot live a life of darkness and defeat and failure. It is impossible for you. And when you realize that, you will be set free. When you are willing to believe by faith, just hang every thing you have on what God says. He says, "If any man comes to me, I will in no wise cast him out." If any man is in Christ, he is a brand new creation. Then you must begin to stand up and you must begin to fight the good fight of faith as Paul tells Timothy. It is a good fight of faith. My experience might not be so good, but that does not nullify the Word of God.

Let us begin to speak like this "Father I thank you that I am a new creation in Christ Jesus. I praise you that you have delivered me from the power of darkness. No longer am I bound by a carnal reasoning mind. I thank you Lord that everything in my experience that is not according to godliness will be purged from my consciousness. Father I present my body to you as your habitation, your dwelling place. I am now holy and without blame before you because

of Calvary. Sin and death no longer have dominion over me."

Sin has no dominion over you, for you are not under the law of sin and death, but the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has made you alive and set you free from the law of sin and death. You see, the gospel will at least make you be honest and that is all God requires.

One day I had to say, "God I have been a Christian for twelve years and I am a complete and utter failure. I believe that you are in me, but I've had very little experience of your delivering power. However I am going to begin by the grace of God and by the Spirit of God I am going to exercise everything in my being to believe your Word that says I am who You say I am. And God, if you say I am, then I am, and my experience has to be a lie. With the Word of God and the Spirit of God, I rise up as a warrior and I come against those things in my life." If you will speak the Word, you'll release the anointing, speak in the Name of Jesus (in His character) and the darkness has to set you free because all the negative things have been dealt with at the cross.

Sin is a trespasser. Sin is not legally in the body of a Christian. It is a trespasser, and rather than identify with the sin — oh and I know it is so easy to identify with the sin and say, "Oh I am such a failure. I miss it here. I have had this habit for too many years to quit." I said it myself for so many years, "Jesus I know when you come I am going to have this habit in my life." You must begin to stand against that kind of concept. You must know that you are free by the Word of God, and by the power of God, and that His Word will bring you deliverance from any habit and any hang-up, and deliverance from any kind of sickness or

disease. That is the gospel of Jesus Christ. It is hard to get Christians in these days to believe the gospel. God never intended to just save you so that you could live a poor, miserable, "worm of the dust" life on this earth, and then someday die and go to heaven. That is not the gospel. The gospel is that you have been redeemed, that you have been delivered from the hand of the enemy, sin no longer can have any dominion over you when you begin to exercise your faith and belief in the Word of the living God. "For he hath made him to be sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him" 2 Cor 5:21

You see it is His working. It is not yours. If we can only get Christians to understand, it is not by their works, it is not by their striving, it is not by their good deeds, and it is not by their failures; but He on the cross has made us righteous. We experience this simply by believing the Word righteousness. Again I remind you of what the Apostle Paul says, "It is with the heart man believes unto righteousness." Oh if you will only believe what God says. You are just as righteous as Jesus Christ Himself. When you understand righteousness, and you understand it is not according to conduct, it is not according to what you can do, you just receive it as a gift. Maybe you have been a Christian for years. I came to God and I said, "Father I have been such a failure. I thank You that now I understand that it is not by my strivings and works, but I understand Your Word tells me that I am righteous because vou made me righteous. You took every sin and every hang-up, you took everything that I was upon the cross so that you could make me everything that You are." I began to seek God to know Him in this way. "That I might know Him in the

power of His resurrection, that I might know Him in the fellowship of His that I might be made sufferings, conformable unto His death." Because when the self life is made conformable unto His death, and you are willing to lay down your struggling, you are willing to lay down all of that stuff and simply believe, and begin to meditate in the Word of God, begin to speak the Word of God, begin to live and move and have your being in the new creation man, then, my friend, your experience will line up with the Word of God and you will find there are no hang-ups in your life. There are no habits in your life. You will find out that those lusts that kept bothering you for so many years, that as your body used to cry out for the lust of the flesh, it now cries out for the righteousness of God because the fruit of righteousness is holiness. God's people haven't understood that righteousness comes by believing and not by striving. Every time you get into the striving and the struggling trying to make yourself righteous, it is like slapping God in the face and saying, "I don't believe you made me righteous, so I have to do something to do it."

God has made you righteous. When you sin, all you have to do is realize you have been forgiven because of Calvary. If you have a habit in your life that you haven't yet overcome, you do not have to be condemned with that thing, you don't have to let the enemy beat you up, but you can begin to do warfare in the spirit, and you can begin to command that desire to leave your body, and you can stay in the Word, and speak as a new creation man, and realize that you have all the benefits of Jesus, simply because you believe what He said. That is how Abraham received righteousness. Remember God said, "Abraham you just believed what I told

you. So because you believe me, you are righteous. I make you righteous." We have an unlimited righteousness. We stand before God as though we have never sinned. If you understand the righteousness of God, you know that when God looks upon you, He does not look at your sin, He looks upon the deposit that He has made on the inside of you, and He sees the abiding presence of His Spirit dwelling there, and He ministers to the spirit on the inside of you; so that you will begin to stir up that gift that is within you, and that you will begin to seek Him, and cry out to Him, and that you will begin come to know and understand that which He has already given to you – an unveiling of the mind, that you might know that you already have that which God says you have.

Sin will stop being a problem for you when you realize who Christ is in you. When you meditate in the Word long enough, and you begin to understand, really understand, who Christ is in you, sin will never again be a problem for you. How could sin be a problem for Jesus? "Jesus Christ is in you (Paul says) except ye be reprobates. Jesus Christ (he said) in you is the hope of glory." That is not a theological doctrine, *that is a reality*.

Jesus is alive in me. Oh no, I don't realize it to the extent that I will tomorrow, but I realize it much more than I did yesterday and the day before, and last year and the year before. Because we are growing up into says, Him **Ephesians** together, as corporately, we are growing up into Him who is the Head of all things. We are growing up as one new man on the face of the earth. There is coming a day very shortly when all across this earth, there will be two classes of Christians. There will be those who are still hung up in the old dead

theological places. They are afraid to stand up and declare what God has made them to be. On the other side, you will have a people across the face of the whole earth that are standing up and saying, "Darkness that is enough, you have to stop. In the Name of Jesus we are bringing the Kingdom of God to the earth." Don't be afraid of Kingdom doctrine. Rev 12:10 "And I heard a loud voice saying in heaven, Now (not in the future but NOW) is come salvation, and strength, and the kingdom of our God, and the power of his Christ: for the accuser of our brethren is (not will be) cast down, which accused them before our God day and night".

If the Kingdom for you is not now then when will it be? The Kingdom is simply the rule and the reign of God. If He is ruling in you and He is reigning in you, then you are experiencing right now in this very present moment the Kingdom of the living God, and its fullness will come for you. So many put off the Kingdom entirely thinking that they are just humans and we fail here and we fail there, and we can't really know the reality of God, but someday when He comes we will be saved and go to heaven" That is a lie and it is a deceiving spirit. Because if He came today you would be no different then than you are right now in your soul life. If He would walk in here right now, you would be before Him the same as you are now. Seeing Jesus in the physical does not change you. It wouldn't change you one iota. You must see by the spirit. "When you see Him as He is THEN you will be like Him." To see Him as He is, is to see Him as the resurrected Lord within you. To know Him as He is, is to know that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh within YOU. You are NOW bone of His bone and flesh of His flesh.

That is why the Apostle John warns us; when he said, "My friends, abide in Him so that when He appears you may have confidence before Him and not be ashamed before Him at His coming."

Christians have the concept that when Jesus comes everything is going to be OK, but if you were to see Him today you may fall on your face in shame because you will realize that you had all the resources that God could give to you made available to you. All you had to do was believe God and begin to exercise, to fellowship with Him, to permeate your mind with His Word. That is why Paul tells us to, "Present our bodies and renew our minds." Present your bodies to God and renew your minds with the Spirit of God. You will only do that through meditation and spending time with Him. Your mind will only be renewed, as you understand what has been placed within you at the new birth. You begin to walk then, as a redeemed man and woman of God set totally free and enjoying the righteousness of our Father God.

I want you to think about this and don't forget it. I believe the Holy Spirit will remind you when you do it: Every time you experience struggling so hard to overcome, and you have habits and weaknesses and problems and maybe disease or sickness, whatever it is, every time you begin to speak about those inadequacies, you repudiate the Word of God. Every time you speak about the old creation as though it still rules over you STOP IT! That is why Paul tells us, "Lie not against the truth", the truth is you are a new creation." The truth is you are who Jesus has made you to be. Your experience cannot nullify the truth. Don't water down the word of God and try to bring it down to the level of your experience by any kind of

excuses saying you are just human. Every time you talk about your weaknesses, you repudiate the Word of God. The Word of God says, "I can do all things through Him who strengthens me." He energizes me. He enlivens me by the power of His Holy Spirit, and gives me the ability to do all things in Him. Don't forget that.

Every time you talk about your weaknesses, your sicknesses, your habits, and your hangups, it only solidifies that experience in your life. The only thing that will set you free is to begin to believe that God means what He says. "You have been delivered from the hand of the enemy. You have been redeemed from the law of sin and death. You have been set free by My Spirit and made a new creation." You just exercise belief in that. If you really believe that God has healed you by His stripes, if you really believe that you have been delivered from the bondage of the enemy, you cannot speak fear, defeat and failure. You will have to stop speaking that, and you'll start speaking what God says about you is true and that will cause the old carnal way of thinking to fall totally into the ground and die. Self cannot live unless you give it expression. What will live in you is what you give expression to; and you must learn to give expression to what God says about you. Don't be afraid to walk up to somebody and "You know what? I say, righteousness of God. Would you like to meet Jesus? Do you know that all the fullness of the Godhead dwelt in this man, Jesus, and do you realize that He lives in me? Would you like to shake hands with Jesus?" He must become that real within us.

This is not a "self-ego" trip. It is true humility to realize, as weak as I am that He can live in me, that He can touch through

me, that He can minister through me and heal through me. Your pride won't let that happen. Your pride will say, that you are not good enough." Or that you are just trying to exalt yourself." A false humility will rob you from allowing God to minister and work through you. It is not pride, and it is not boastful to say about your self what God says. Do you realize that God says that Jesus lives in me? Well then if He lives in me, what is wrong with me saying, "Shake hands with Him. Touch Him."

Oh Father, fill us up with the reality of Your life. Father I thank You that your Word is a word of righteousness. I thank You that Your Word is not a word of condemnation, but Your Word is a word of righteousness that a man may simply believe, with his heart, believe unto righteousness and confess with his mouth. Father I thank You that You have made us the righteousness of Jesus Christ. I thank You Father that we as a people, as a corporate body, can stand in Your presence without any sense of sin or fear or inadequacies or inferiority. You have made us equal. You have made us co-heirs with Jesus Christ. Let this mind be in us, which was also in Christ Jesus, who thought it not robbery to be equal with God. Father, I pray that You permeate our minds with the Spirit of God, Lord, that You cause your people everywhere and in every place to realize that You fill them, and that You love them, and that You want to see the life of Your Son manifested within Your church which will produce that glorious church without spot or wrinkle, which will become a glorious beautiful manifestation of God upon the earth; and then Jesus can receive His bride unto Himself. Oh Father, let it be so. Let it be so. Let it come quickly. Amen!

To be continued...