

In Christ

Jan. 5th

INTRO.

It is time that we travel down the road of fully understanding - - Who we Are IN Christ ... Last week – the Lord said it is time to be stretched ... It is time to be pushed into realms we have never gone into before ... It is the hour of transformation – the renewing of our minds – to understand our true identity – so that we may fulfill our divine destiny ... Let me begin with this revelational truth

You are what you think.

Proverbs 23:7 Amplified Bible

For as he thinks in his heart, - - so is he [in behavior - - one who manipulates]. ... He says to you, “Eat and drink,” ... Yet his heart is not with you [but it is begrudging the cost].

“What you Believe – You will Become”

Your mindset – or what you believe – will determine your lot in life ... The revelation we need to grasp now is – you are the determinator of your destiny.

Proverbs 4:23 Common English Bible

More than anything you guard, - - protect your mind, - - for life flows from it.

Easy English Bible

Be very careful to keep your mind safe. ... The thoughts that you think - - make you the person that you are.

Always Remember

You are a sovereign being ... You have the right and ability to believe – whatever you choose to believe ... I want to caution you as we go forward ... If I share something in this series – that you disagree with – or choose not to believe ... You do not have the right to criticize nor share your unbelief with others ... We are all free to believe what we want ... And in that diversity of belief, we are admonished to love one another

John 13:35 New Living Translation

Your love for one another - will prove to the world - that you are my disciples.”

1 Peter 3:8 New Living Translation

Finally, all of you should be of one mind {mind of Christ}. ... Sympathize with each other. {Be understanding} ... Love each other as brothers and sisters. ... Be tenderhearted, - and keep a humble attitude.

Key Revelational Truths

The Bible is a Spiritual Book

2 Timothy 3:16 Amplified Bible

All Scripture is God-breathed - [given by divine inspiration] - and is profitable for instruction, for conviction [of sin], for correction [of error and restoration to obedience], for training in righteousness [learning to live in conformity to God’s will, both publicly and privately—behaving honorably with personal integrity and moral courage];

Unfortunately – religion has intellectualized the word of God – which has caused a division within the body of Christ ... What do I mean? ... The goal of a religious institution – denomination – sect – even a local church – was to create a particular doctrinal or theological belief system for people to fellowship around ... For example – Baptist and Pentecostal have a different set of doctrinal beliefs they ascribe to ... Because of this – they will rarely fellowship together ... Along with this – these doctrinal distinctions have created a different moral standard – which those in those groups are expected to uphold ... Back in my college days of going to a Baptist church and college – women were not allowed to wear pants

Intellectualizing the Word of God – leads to the removal of the Spirit from the Word of God ... We see this concerning the baptism of the Holy Spirit and the exercising of spiritual gifts – which many denominations no longer ascribe to.

What religion has ultimately done is humanize the Word of God ... Man has brought the Word down to his level of understanding ... Let me share an unfortunate truth ... Because we all have been indoctrinated to some degree ... We all have humanized the word and brought it down to our level of understanding ... By doing this – we have lost the Spirit – the awe – and wonder of the things of the Spirit ... I'm not saying this as a condemnation – but if we don't acknowledge this fact – we can never reset or renew our mindset ... Again – as you think – you are ... You cannot function in a spiritual manner by engaging with a humanistic mindset.

Always remember – everything in this natural humanistic realm – is designed to destroy your desire to become a spiritually – mature son of God ... Humanism actively seeks to blind you to the spiritual realm – and religious ideology is leading the way.

2 Corinthians 4:4 New Life Version

The eyes - of those who do not believe - are made blind by Satan - who is the god of this world. ... He does not want the light of the Good News to shine in their hearts. ... This Good News shines as the shining-greatness of Christ. ... Christ is as God is.

Let me give you a spiritual nugget concerning being “In Christ” ... To be “in Christ” – you must be solely focused on the spirit realm and be blinded to the natural realm ... This will take a lot of practice ... As humanism – the religion of the devil – is actively seeking to blind you to the spirit realm – by keeping you hyper focused upon this natural realm ... Are you catching what I am saying?

So, what is the goal or focus of this series? ... To strive to be what the Lord desires each of us to be ... To become a fully functioning son of the Living God ... To hear from our Lord – when all is said and done ... “Well done thou good and faithful servant – enter into the joy of the Lord”

Foundational Truths / Revelations

Let me remind you of a spiritual premise I already shared ... You are a sovereign being – created by God – and you have the right and ability to believe whatever you choose to believe ... You don't have the right to create confusion and division with others – who choose to

believe differently than you ... Religious ideology seeks to create a group think – just as this world does ... Group think is designed to help manage and control the masses ... Things of the spirit cannot be controlled nor managed

John 3:8 The Voice

The wind blows all around us - as if it has a will of its own; - we feel and hear it, - but we do not understand where it has come from - or where it will end up. ... Life in the Spirit - is as if it were the wind of God.

The Design of Mankind – a Tri-Part Being

Man IS Spirit

Jeremiah 1:4-5 New Century Version

The Lord spoke His word to me, saying: ... 5 “Before I made you in your mother’s womb, - I chose you. ... Before you were born, - I set you apart for a special work. ... I appointed you as a prophet to the nations.”

“Before I made you in your mother’s womb, - I chose you”

Genesis 1:26 The Voice

God: Now let Us conceive a new creation - - humanity - - made in Our image, - - fashioned according to Our likeness. ... And let Us grant them authority over all the earth—the fish in the sea and the birds in the sky, the domesticated animals and the small creeping creatures on the earth.

Ecclesiastes 12:7 New Century Version

You will turn back into the dust of the earth again, - - but your spirit will return to God who gave it.

Ephesians 1:11-12 New Century Version

In Christ - we were chosen to be God’s people, - because from the very beginning - God had decided this in keeping with His plan. ... And HE is the One who makes everything agree with

what HE decides and wants. ... 12 We are the first people who hoped in Christ, - and we were chosen - so that we would bring praise to God's glory.

“Before you were born, - I set you apart for a special work”

Jeremiah 29:11 New Living Translation

For I know the plans I have for you,” says the Lord. ... “They are plans for good and not for disaster, - to give you a future and a hope.

Galatians 1:15-16 New Life Version

But God chose me before I was born. ... By His loving-favor - - He called me to work for Him. ... 16 His Son was to be seen in me. ... He did this so I could preach about Christ to the people who are not Jews. ... When this happened, I did not talk to men.

“I appointed you as a prophet to the nations.”

Ephesians 2:10 Amplified Bible

For we are His workmanship [His own master work, a work of art], ... created in Christ Jesus [reborn from above - - spiritually transformed, - - renewed, - - ready to be used] for good works, ... which God prepared [for us] beforehand [taking paths which He set], ... so that we would walk in them [living the good life which He prearranged and made ready for us].

Proverbs 20:24 The Voice

Every one of our steps is directed by Him; - - so how can we attempt to figure out our own way?