

In Christ
From a spiritual perspective
Feb. 23, 2025

INTRO

I went back and reviewed my note to all the previous messages on this topic ... I realized I have thrown a lot at you ... My intent in doing so – was to help expand your thinking ... I believe I used the phrase – to expand your spiritual consciousness ... In order for you to break out of your own personal matrix – which is wholly centered around this natural realm – which includes religious ideology ... You must make a concerted effort to expand your spiritual consciousness – which resides in your heart – by focusing upon the realities of the spiritual realm.

Concerted Effort

Colossians 3:1-2 The Message

So, - **if you're serious about living this new resurrection life with Christ, ... act like it. ... Pursue the things** - over which Christ presides. ... Don't shuffle along, - eyes to the ground, - absorbed with the things - right in front of you. ... Look up, - and be alert - to what is going on around Christ - that's where the action is. ... **See things from His perspective.**

Focus

Colossians 3:1-3 New Life Version

If then you have been raised with Christ, - - keep looking for the good things of heaven. ... This is where Christ is seated on the right side of God. ... 2 **Keep your minds thinking about things in heaven.** ... **Do not think about things on the earth.** ... 3 You are dead to the things of this world. ... Your new life is now hidden in God through Christ.

Catch this spiritual revelation on how to refocus and expand your spiritual consciousness

1 Timothy 4:15 New King James Version

Meditate on these things; *{this speaks to our focus}* - - give yourself entirely to them, *{this speaks to our concerted effort}* - - that your progress may be evident to all. *{this speak to the evidence of your new life}*

TRANS

Today, I want to – as my wife would say – just bottom line it ... So, I want to share these basic spiritual truths – that I have already shared – but feel they got overshadowed by all the examples that I have given over these past few weeks ... Our goal is to expand our spiritual consciousness – for the purpose of gaining revelational understanding of the deeper things of God – specifically, what does it mean to be “In Christ”

I want to remind you of this important point ... You are a sovereign being – created in the image of God ... Because you are a sovereign being – You are free to think and believe – whatever you choose ... Now catch this – our thinking or belief will typically revolve around two factors:

One – What you choose to believe

Choice is an interesting concept when it comes to belief ... Being a state rep. – listening to people’s testimony about a bill – has been teaching me a lot about people and their choice of belief ... What I am noticing is – belief has a deep emotional component to it – for many people ... I always knew people’s feelings were involved with their belief system – but wow ... When feelings outweigh actual data and facts – feelings are having too much weight when it comes to what to believe ... I want to caution you to always balance feelings and facts when it comes to “choosing what to believe”.

Two – Where you place your focus

What do I mean? ... The scripture tells us to think on the things that are above – and not on the things below ... What you focus upon – has a great influence upon what you will choose to believe ... Where you place your focus – the spiritual realm or natural realm – will greatly

influence your belief system ... The unfortunately reality is – most people are focused on this natural realm and develop their belief system around what they see – and what they feel ... Another unfortunate reality is – those who choose to focus on the spirit realm and develop their belief system around those truths – look extremely weird to those who are naturally focused.

Again, we are all free to feel – think – and act – as we choose ... But be extremely careful with this freedom God has given to you.

Galatians 5:13 The Voice

Brothers and sisters, - God has called you to freedom! ... Hear the call, - and do not spoil this gift - by using your liberty - to engage in what your flesh desires; ... instead, use it to serve each other - as Jesus taught through love.

Now there are two more essential facts we must always be aware of:

You are not free from the consequences of what you choose to think and believe

Galatians 6:7-8 New King James Version

Do not be deceived, - God is not mocked; - for whatever a man sows, - that he will also reap. ...
8 For he who sows to his flesh - will of the flesh reap corruption, - but he who sows to the Spirit - will of the Spirit reap everlasting life.

You are not free to pressure – coerce – ridicule - others to conform to the way you think or believe

Matthew 23:15 Expanded Bible

“How terrible for [Woe to] you, - teachers of the law [scribes] and Pharisees! ... You are hypocrites! ... You travel across land and sea - to find one person - **who will change to your ways** - [make one convert/proselyte]. ... When you find that person [make that convert], - you make him more fit for hell than [twice the son of hell/Gehenna then] you are.

Let's Bottom Line It

Foundational Text

Acts 17:28 Amplified Bible

For in Him - - we live - - and move - - and exist [that is, in Him we actually have our being], ... as even some of your own poets have said, 'For we also are His children.'

Colossians 1:15-17 New Living Translation

Christ is the visible image of the invisible God. ... He existed before anything was created and is supreme over all creation, ... 16 for through Him - God created everything - in the heavenly realms and on earth. ... He made the things we can see - and the things we can't see - such as thrones, kingdoms, rulers, and authorities in the unseen world. ... Everything was created through Him - - and for Him. ... 17 He existed before anything else, - and He holds all creation together.

Foundational Revelations

You Are Becoming – What You Believe

Proverbs 4:23 Easy English Bible

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

You are a Tri-Part being – made in the Image of God

Genesis 1:26-27 The Voice

God: 26 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. ... 27 So God did just that. ... **He created humanity in His image**, - created them male and female.

Becoming Born-again is a Spiritual Experience that Births a New Creation Being

Please understand – this new creation – Kainos being – just doesn't manifest upon its own ... You must be an active participant in this new creation process ... This process begins – as you

allow the Holy Spirit to transform your perspective and belief system ... Remember – as a man thinks – so is he

A Kainos being is being Conformed into the Image of Jesus

Romans 8:29 New King James Version

For whom He foreknew, - He also predestined - to be conformed - **to the image of His Son**, - that He might be the firstborn among many brethren.

This is important to grasp ... You are not being restored to the original Adamic nature ... You are being recreated into a being that never existed before ... Made in the image of the first born of many brethren – Yeshua Hamachi

A Kainos Being Can Do what Jesus Did

John 14:12 The Voice

I tell you the truth: - - whoever believes in Me - - will be able to do what I have done, - - but they will do even greater things, - - because I will return to be with the Father.

I would like to camp here for a moment? ... I want to address a common misconception – saying or comment I have heard many people say over the years ... “Well – that was Jesus – of course He could do that ... But I’m not Jesus” ... So, what is the implication behind this statement? ... Jesus can do whatever He wants because He is God and I’m not ... Or Jesus is a special being – and I’m not ... I think the thing that bothers me the most about this type of belief is – those who believe this are literally calling Jesus a liar ... Jesus begins this verse by saying – I tell you the truth ... I’m sure this was not by accident ... I’m sure He knew His disciples would struggle with this statement.

Now catch this ... Once again – we see here the power of belief ... Once again, we see – as a man thinks – so is he ... If you do not believe – you can do what Jesus did – you are correct ... The things that bothers me – if I may ... People want to blame Jesus – rather than taking personal responsibility ... Let me explain ... The issue here is – Jesus isn’t lying ... The issue is

– you don't believe in Him ... Jesus said – whoever believes in Me – will be able to do what I have done ... If you are not doing what He did – you don't believe in Him ... Or if I could frame it this way – you are not “In Christ”

Now – let me clarify what I am saying ... People will take what I just said personal – and completely miss the point ... Doing what Jesus did isn't the focus ... Believing in Jesus isn't the complete issue ... Your belief system is the issue ... Whether you will allow the Holy Spirit to expand your spiritual consciousness is the issue ... See, expanding and stretching our consciousness can be extremely scary for various reasons ... People tend to settle into a belief system and ideologies – which cause them to become comfortable ... Unfortunately – settling will stop you from experiencing:

Ephesians 3:20 Amplified Bible

Now to Him who is able to [carry out His purpose and] do superabundantly more than all that we dare ask or think [infinitely beyond our greatest prayers, hopes, or dreams], according to His power that is at work within us,

TAKE AWAY

1 Timothy 4:15 New King James Version

Meditate on these things; (*Practice and cultivate - Be diligent about*) ... give yourself entirely to them, (*devote yourself to them - Give them your complete attention - be absorbed in them*) ... that your progress may be evident to all. (*so that all will see how you are advancing and growing*)