



The Cross, Redemption and Resurrection Life



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*A website with more resources:
Daystar end time army.com*

Last Day Ministry: William Booth

William Booth once had a vision about the last days. He saw that just before Christ came back to Earth, once more the gospel of the cross would be preached with great fire, zeal and passion.

Introduction

This book is to help you understand and gain knowledge about the gospel (message) of redemption and the cross, which gives us eternal life.

We need a big, strong, solid foundation to build a big house.

Our mission is to help restore, to bring back, a great depth and insight into Christ, our Redeemer and redemption, which shows the full message of the cross.

- ❖ We are not redeemed because we are saved.
- ❖ We are saved because we are redeemed.
- Redemption has 9 facets or subjects under it; one is salvation.
- The gospel of the cross is the power of God for those who believe.

Only the narrow way of Christ leads us into eternal life and opens the gates of heaven for us.

We are called to grow in godliness and holiness, whereby we will see the Lord and enter heaven.

By understanding the redemptive sacrifices at the cross and by growing in our divine nature, as we follow the biblical ongoing process of daily sanctification, which is part of our redemption, the gates of heaven will open wide for us.

(2Pe 1:5) And beside this, giving all diligence, add to your faith virtue; and to virtue knowledge;

(2Pe 1:6) And to knowledge temperance; and to temperance patience; and to patience godliness;

(2Pe 1:11) For so an entrance shall be ministered unto you abundantly into the everlasting kingdom of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

This book is here to help you grow in your daily walk and to understand the power of the cross of Christ, so you become victorious and an overcomer.

In this book, we also talk about God's grace, greater love and mercy.

A Vision of the Lamb

There are many voices today bringing different religious messages or different gospels.

The Apostle John had a vision of Heaven and God's throne.

He said this:

Rev 5:6 And I beheld, and, lo, in the midst of the throne and of the four beasts, and in the midst of the elders, stood a Lamb as it had been slain, having seven horns and seven eyes, which are the seven Spirits of God sent forth into all the earth.

- It says that in the midst of the throne is God's lamb that was slain.

We have our High Priest or Advocate, Jesus Christ, in heaven, who is the Lamb that was slain for the sin of the world.

His blood sacrifice is still working in heaven to redeem man back to God here on earth.

- ❖ Redemption means buying back.
- ❖ Our Redeemer bought us back through His blood sacrifices so we could be forgiven of our sins.

In the midst of the throne

When we read about God's throne, it shows His holy, glorious presence.

Yet Revelation 5:6 gives us a great secret. It is a secret about the Lamb of God who came to redeem us.

Rev 5:6 KJV And I beheld, and, lo, in the midst of the throne and of the four beasts, and in the midst of the elders, stood a Lamb as it had been slain, having seven horns and seven eyes, which are the seven Spirits of God sent forth into all the earth.

It says in the midst of the throne.

Yes, where the angels are crying holy, holy, holy is at the centre of God's throne.

- In the same place is the Lamb. The Lamb was slain to redeem us.
- The Lamb, who was slain to redeem us, has opened the way up for us to come into the throne room of God.

(Rev 5:9) And they sung a new song, saying, Thou art worthy to take the book, and to open the seals thereof: for thou wast slain, and hast redeemed us to God by thy blood out of every kindred, and tongue, and people, and nation;

The Lamb of God, who has redeemed us through His redeeming blood sacrifice on the cross, is now in the middle of the throne receiving glory.

Therefore, the Message of the Redeeming Cross of Christ is the Eternal Message

This shows us that the gospel of the redeeming blood has opened the way for us to worship and have fellowship with God, who is seated on the throne.

No other religion can

No other religion opens up heaven in the way Christ did for us.

Christ, the Lamb of God, opened up how we can experience and live in a loving relationship with God.

The Lamb was Slain to Redeem

Up until today, in Israel, they celebrate Passover.

Every year around the beginning of April, they have Passover.

According to scripture, Passover is the beginning of the religious New Year.

However, today, the nation of Israel celebrates their New Year at the Feast of Trumpets.

On Passover, they remember the exodus from Egypt.

On the night before the exodus, which was the eve of the Passover, they ate a lamb and put the blood on the post of their door, so that the angel of death would pass them by.

(Exo 12:3) Speak ye unto all the congregation of Israel, saying, In the tenth day of this month they shall take to them every man a lamb, according to the house of their fathers, a lamb for an house:

(Exo 12:13) And the blood shall be to you for a token upon the houses where ye are: and when I see the blood, I will pass over you, and the plague shall not be upon you to destroy you, when I smite the land of Egypt.

That night, the angel of death killed the firstborn of all the Egyptian families, including Pharaoh's firstborn son.

The Israelites redeemed their firstborn son with the blood of a lamb.

(Exo 34:20) But the firstling of an ass thou shalt redeem with a lamb: and if thou redeem him not, then shalt thou break his neck. All the firstborn of thy sons thou shalt redeem. And none shall appear before me empty.

All of this symbolised the lamb that would be slain for the sin of the world one day.

1Co 5:7 KJV Purge out therefore the old leaven, that ye may be a new lump, as ye are unleavened. For even Christ our passover is sacrificed for us:

Jesus Christ is our redeeming Passover Lamb.

He would die for our sins, and after three days, He would be resurrected.

The Priesthood

John the Baptist was between the Old and New Testaments. He understood the Lord's Priesthood.

He knew the Priesthood of the Old Testament sacrificed a Lamb.

Isaiah had prophesied how Jesus Christ would be as a lamb led to the slaughter.

How His soul would be an offering for sin to justify many.

(Isa 53:7) He was oppressed, and he was afflicted, yet he opened not his mouth: he is brought as a lamb to the slaughter, and as a sheep before her shearers is dumb, so he openeth not his mouth.

(Isa 53:10) Yet it pleased the LORD to bruise him; he hath put him to grief: when thou shalt make his soul an offering for sin, he shall see his seed, he shall prolong his days, and the pleasure of the LORD shall prosper in his hand.

(Isa 53:11) He shall see of the travail of his soul, and shall be satisfied: by his knowledge shall my righteous servant justify many; for he shall bear their iniquities.

And He saw the Lamb of the New Testament who would bring us into the New Covenant or New Testament.

John the Baptist said that Jesus Christ would take away the sin of the world.

Joh 1:29 KJV The next day John seeth Jesus coming unto him, and saith, Behold the Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world.

Gospel of the Cross

John the Baptist understood that Christ would die for the sins of the world.

That Christ would die as a Lamb slain.

Slain on the cross for you and me, to be our redeeming sacrifice that takes away our sin.

This is the Gospel or the preaching of the Cross.

Isa 53:6 KJV All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned every one to his own way; and the LORD hath laid on him the iniquity of us all.

- The Lamb that was slain is the Redeemer and the Gospel or message of the Cross.

For John knew that Christ was the Passover Lamb, that taketh away the sin of the world.

Therefore, Christ wants us to have Holy Communion as often as we come together.

1Co 11:25 KJV After the same manner also he took the cup, when he had supped, saying, this cup is the new testament in my blood: this do ye, as oft as ye drink it, in remembrance of me.

Redemption

- The Lamb that was in the midst of the throne has redeemed us.
- The eternal gospel message is all about redemption.
- It says He, the Lamb, has redeemed us to God by His blood.
- The eternal message is that Christ is our redeemer and Christ's redemption.

The Lamb that was slain redeemed us.

- ❖ By redeeming us, He bought us back and brought us back into a relationship with God.

Rev 5:8-9 KJV And when he had taken the book, the four beasts and four and twenty elders fell down before the Lamb, having every one of them harps, and golden vials full of odours, which are the prayers of saints. 9 And they sung a new song, saying, Thou art worthy to take the book, and to open the seals thereof: for thou wast slain, and hast redeemed us to God by thy blood out of every kindred, and tongue, and people, and nation;

Here in heaven, Christ the Lamb is worshipped as our redeemer.

This gives glory to the Lamb for all the sufferings He went through to redeem us.

Redemption is the full work, and salvation is an aspect of it.

By dying on the Cross for us, Jesus Christ, the Lamb, redeemed us back unto our God.

- This is the Gospel of the Cross – being bought back and brought into fellowship with God through redemption.

Rom 3:24-25 KJV Being justified freely by his grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus: 25 Whom God hath set forth to be a propitiation through faith in his blood, to declare his righteousness for the remission of sins that are past, through the forbearance of God;

It is through the redemption on the cross that Jesus Christ made peace between God and us.
In every way, He restored us to God.

(Col 1:13) Who hath delivered us from the power of darkness, and hath translated us into the kingdom of his dear Son:
(Col 1:14) In whom we have redemption through his blood, even the forgiveness of sins:

Many things are already here for us to experience; however, other things, through His restoration, will come in the 1000 year reign, for redemption is His eternal plan and purpose.

Passover Lamb

The Old Testament Passover lamb is a shadow of the work Jesus Christ would do on the cross as the Lamb of the New Testament.

(Eph 1:7) In whom we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of his grace;

On the evening that God was going to take the Israelites out of Egypt, out of the hand of Pharaoh, they ate the Passover meal.

- ❖ One lamb for each household.
- ❖ One loaf of unleavened bread.

The blood of the redeeming lamb was put on the doorpost.

This was the sign that they belonged to God.

- They believed.
- That night, they were set free (delivered) from Pharaoh (the devil).
- They left Egypt, which is a picture of repentance from the sinful life in this world.
- They went through the Red Sea; this is a picture of being delivered and being baptised in Christ.

Nuweiba – the place of the Red Sea Crossing

In 1988, I went to the Egyptian Peninsula, where they say that Mt Sinai is located, and I climbed it.
Later on, I learnt that the real Mt Sinai is located in Arabia. The scriptures also tell us that.

(Gal 4:25) For this Agar is mount Sinai in Arabia, and answereth to Jerusalem which now is, and is in bondage with her children.

However, I stayed one day and night in the town called Nuweiba, on the Red Sea.

- ❖ I have now found out that this is the real place where God opened up the Red Sea for the Israelites to cross on dry land.

Pharaoh and his Egyptian army also drowned there.

- ❖ Ryan White has videos where you can see the wheels of the chariots buried in the Red Sea near Nuweiba.

A Muslim comes to Christ

On the day I was at Nuweiba, at 8:00 in the morning, I met a young Muslim athlete from Cairo, Egypt.
His shirt said, "I am happy".

I asked him if he was happy, as he was already drinking alcohol.

I went to worship on my guitar at the Red Sea shoreline.

There was a man in the water appraising me and shouting, 'You have a clean heart; I want to be like you. '

This was the place of the redemption of Israel as God opened the Red Sea for them.

The place where the pillar of YHW's fire had stood, and now this man was about to be redeemed.

It was the same young Muslim man, and YWH opened his eyes, and the Holy Spirit convicted him of sin, righteousness and judgement.

Then he was converted to Christ as I prayed with him and gave him a Bible.

Two hours later, another Muslim man came and asked me what I had done to his friend, even though he did not want to be converted, he saw how the power of God had changed his friend from death to life.

The Passover Lamb in the New Testament

Jesus Christ died for us on the Feast of Passover.

He is the Lamb of the feast of the Passover.

Before Jesus Christ went to Gethsemane, He ate the Passover Meal with the 12 Apostles.
The meal was just before the start of the Feast of Passover.

Joh 13:1 KJV Now before the feast of the passover, when Jesus knew that his hour was come that he should depart out of this world unto the Father, having loved his own which were in the world, he loved them unto the end.

Luk 22:8 KJV And he sent Peter and John, saying, Go and prepare us the passover, that we may eat.

Luk 22:11 KJV And ye shall say unto the goodman of the house, The Master saith unto thee, Where is the guestchamber, where I shall eat the passover with my disciples?

At this supper, He installed the Holy Sacrament of the Holy Communion.

Mat 26:18 KJV And he said, Go into the city to such a man, and say unto him, The Master saith, My time is at hand; I will keep the passover at thy house with my disciples.

Mat 26:26-28 KJV And as they were eating, Jesus took bread, and blessed it, and brake it, and gave it to the disciples, and said, Take, eat; this is my body. 27 And he took the cup, and gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, Drink ye all of it; 28 For this is my blood of the new testament, which is shed for many for the remission of sins.

The Cross

- ❖ In many of the Bible books, Apostle Paul teaches about the foundation of redemption.

Redemption comes to us by believing in the message of the cross.

Apostle Paul says But we preach the cross.

1Co 1:18 KJV For the preaching of the cross is to them that perish foolishness; but unto us which are saved it is the power of God.

- ❖ When Apostle Paul mentions the words “the cross”, he doesn’t just mean a piece of wood in the shape of a cross.

The Cross

- ❖ When he talks about “the cross”, he means the redeeming blood sacrifice of Jesus Christ.
- ❖ When he talks about “the cross”, he means the death of Christ on the cross and His being 3 days in the grave and His resurrection.
- ❖ When he talks about “the cross”, he means the redemption (sacrifice) and Christ being raised from the dead, who ascended into heaven and is seated on the right hand of God on the throne.

Not man’s wisdom

- Today, different gospels, wisdoms and religions are being spread around the world, yet without the cross of Christ.

(1Co 2:2) For I determined not to know any thing among you, save Jesus Christ, and him crucified.

- ❖ False gospels such as humanism, evolution theory and socialism.
- ❖ This wisdom is all false gospels implanted into the minds of men by the devils.

They all work on the ego and pride of man.

They say we don’t need a God or a Saviour.

Others do believe we need a Saviour, yet build their way of salvation on works.

- ❖ Without Jesus Christ as our Lord and Saviour, we all stay in our sin, and one day we will be judged and then condemned to hell.

God's Power

The Gospel is not built on man's wisdom but on God's power.

When Christ comes into your life, you experience the power of the gospel.

- ❖ In the first place, God's power comes to us through the cross and blood of Christ.

(1Co 1:18) For the preaching of the cross is to them that perish foolishness; but unto us which are saved it is the power of God.

- ❖ The preaching of the cross releases the power of God.
- ❖ The power comes because the Gospel is the power of God.
- ❖ If you want to see God's power work, then learn to preach the gospel of the cross.
- ❖ The gospel of the cross releases God's power.

Rom 1:16 For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek.

Gospel's Power in My Life

I was under a heavy burden of sin, darkness, demonic bondage and satanic oppression.

The redeeming blood of the cross has set me free of all death, depression, heaviness and emptiness.

The life in the blood of our Redeemer, Jesus Christ, has also given me power over the temptation and power of sin.

This has led me now to testify of the power of the gospel of the redemption of the cross of Christ.

Greeks

Greeks want men's wisdom.

Many Western Christian Churches are under the Greek spirit and Greek thinking.

- ❖ There is little power in many Churches in the West because of this Greek thinking!

1Co 1:22- 24 For the Jews require a sign, and the Greeks seek after wisdom: But we preach Christ crucified, unto the Jews a stumblingblock, and unto the Greeks foolishness; But unto them which are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God, and the wisdom of God.

The power of the gospel of the Cross of Christ will change that.

The cross is God's grace, mercy, love and God's power for us.

His grace wants to melt our hearts so we are changed by our Redeemer and the message of the gospel of the cross.

Revelation

We need a revelation of the power of the gospel of the cross of Christ.

Paul had received all he preached by revelation.

- ❖ Paul's gospel preaching was with power.

In his ministry, he saw God move with mighty signs and miracles and had much faith. Why?

- ❖ Because Paul had a revelation of the power of the cross of Christ.

(1Co 1:18) For the preaching of the cross is to them that perish foolishness; but unto us which are saved it is the power of God.

He said: But we preach Christ crucified.

- ❖ Christ the power of God
- ❖ Christ the wisdom of God.

The teachings and preaching in this book help you to get a revelation of redemption and the power of the gospel of the cross of Christ.

The Power of the Cross

- ❖ The power of the cross comes to us through the message of the cross
- ❖ If we want to see God's power work in and through us, we need to understand the message of the cross.
- ❖ Apostle Paul says that the message of the cross is the power of God for those who believe.

(1Co 1:17) For Christ sent me not to baptize, but to preach the gospel: not with wisdom of words, lest the cross of Christ should be made of none effect.

Apostle Paul also says that he preached nothing else but Jesus Christ and Him crucified, which is the message of the cross.

(1Co 2:2) For I determined not to know any thing among you, save Jesus Christ, and him crucified.

The message of the cross is the New Testament message of redemption, which is the Old Testament message of atonement.

Through faith in Christ's redeeming blood, all the heavenly blessings come to us.

(Eph 1:7) In whom we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of his grace;

- ❖ The power of the message of the cross lies in the power of the blood of the Lamb.
- ❖ Therefore, the message of redemption at the cross is the power of God for those who believe.

Not man's wisdom

- Today, different wisdoms are being spread around the world.
- ❖ Man's wisdom such as humanism, evolution theory and socialism.

These wisdoms are all false gospels implanted into the minds of men by the devils.

They all work on the ego and pride of man.

Humanism says that there is no god, no devil and no spirits.

For they say that man has no spirit, and because of these reasons, they say there is no heaven or hell.

They then make people believe in evolution.

- ❖ The Bible says that God is a Creator and a Spirit being, and therefore, we are also spirit beings having a soul, living in a body.

They say we don't need a God or a Redeemer.

But without Jesus Christ as our Redeemer and Saviour, we all stay in our sin, and one day we will be judged and then condemned to hell.

(Heb 9:27) And as it is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judgment:

Christ our Redeemer and Redemption

Christ Jesus is our Redeemer.

- ❖ He came to redeem us from our guilt, sin, eternal death and God's judgment.
- ❖ Christ also redeemed us from the power of the devil and the penalty of enmity against God, which would otherwise lead us to eternity in hell.

(Col 1:12) Giving thanks unto the Father, which hath made us meet to be partakers of the inheritance of the saints in light:

(Col 1:13) Who hath delivered us from the power of darkness, and hath translated us into the kingdom of his dear Son:

(Col 1:14) In whom we have redemption through his blood, even the forgiveness of sins:

As Jesus Christ redeemed us from our sin, guilt, rebellion and God's anger, God's eternal judgment to hell, we, through grace by faith, can be saved and born again of our fallen spirit and the kingdom of God.

(Joh 3:5) Jesus answered, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God.

(Joh 3:6) That which is born of the flesh is flesh; and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit.

(Joh 3:7) Marvel not that I said unto thee, Ye must be born again.

- ❖ Therefore, the redeeming blood sacrifice of Christ on the cross is the way of life, victory and overcoming power in our lives.

(Eph 1:7) In whom we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of his grace;

The Redeeming Power of the Cross

If you want God's power in your life, it is firstly found in the power of the redeeming blood and cross of Christ.

(1Co 1:18) For the preaching of the cross is to them that perish foolishness; but unto us which are saved it is the power of God.

This power is fully released in your life by understanding the foundation of redemption.

Without redemption, you cannot be saved.

Therefore, the true power of God comes firstly to us by the message of the redeeming cross of Christ.

This is why Apostle Paul said that I preach nothing else but Jesus Christ and Him crucified, then your faith will be built upon the power of God.

(1Co 2:2) For I determined not to know any thing among you, save Jesus Christ, and him crucified.

(1Co 2:5) That your faith should not stand in the wisdom of men, but in the power of God.

The true power of God first comes to us by the full story and message of Christ, our Redeemer and redemption. Yes, the message of the redeeming blood sacrifices of the cross.

Yes, we are redeemed by faith in the blood of Jesus Christ.

(Col 1:14) In whom we have redemption through his blood, even the forgiveness of sins:

That is where the song comes from: 'Would you be free from the burden of sin? There is power in the blood, power in the blood.

Reinhart Bonnke preached the Power of Redemption at the Cross

Reinhart had a vision of a blood-washed Africa.

Everywhere he went in Africa, he shared this with the African people.

In 1987, I was a witness to Reinhart's preaching in Ghana, West Africa.

I was part of the welcoming delegation and was seated on the platform for 7 nights.

Reinhart preached several of those evenings, very powerfully, on the cross and the blood of Jesus Christ.

We saw the effect of the power of preaching the redeeming power through the cross of Christ.

Every evening, thousands of people surrendered their lives to Christ, believed and were converted.

Every time there was a gospel outreach by Evangelist Reinhart, the churches grew.

Redemption and the Power of the Cross

The Bible says that the message of the cross is the power of God for those who believe.

(1Co 1:17) For Christ sent me not to baptize, but to preach the gospel: not with wisdom of words, lest the cross of Christ should be made of none effect.

- ❖ Why is the message of the cross the power of God for those who believe?

- Because of the blood sacrifices of Christ on the cross, His death, His burial and His resurrection redeem sinners back to God and give them resurrection life and life abundantly.

Christ's Redeeming Sacrifice

What is Christ's redemption, what does it include and what does it give?

1. What is Redemption

What is redemption?

Redemption means Buying Back

- ❖ Biblical redemption is buying the sinners back to our God and setting them free of sin, slavery and the bondage of the devil.
- ❖ Christ Jesus came to redeem us back to God the Father by becoming the ransom for us.
- ❖ The ransom was the price to be paid on the cross to buy us back.

(Mat 20:28) Even as the Son of man came not to be ministered unto, but to minister, and to give his life a ransom for many.

- ❖ Christ giving His life as a ransom implies a price is paid for the deliverance of captives.

Jesus said that He came to lay down His life as a ransom for many.

His redeeming blood sacrifice is the ransom to buy us back out of darkness so we can have fellowship with God and receive eternal life.

He said if He were lifted up on the cross, He would draw many unto Himself and yes, have eternal life through faith in Him.

(Joh 12:32) And I, if I be lifted up from the earth, will draw all men unto me.

(Joh 6:40) And this is the will of him that sent me, that every one which seeth the Son, and believeth on him, may have everlasting life: and I will raise him up at the last day.

What Redemption Does

- A. Redemption through faith in Christ's blood sacrifices on the cross reconciles us to God the Father and gives us peace and eternal life.
- B. It reconciles us back to God the Father because it is a covering or propitiational blood sacrifice and therefore justifies us.
- C. As we believe in Christ's redeeming blood, we are also forgiven of sin.
- D. As we are now forgiven of our sin and made righteous or justified, our penalty for sin is paid, and we are declared not guilty before the courts of heaven.
- E. We are now delivered from darkness and born again of the Spirit and the kingdom of God.
- F. Our Redeemer bought us back from the slavery of sin and the devil, as He redeemed us, saved us and made us free.
- G. Now we are born again and a new creation, as we have received God's divine nature and are made holy as He sanctified us through His redeeming blood.

(Rom 3:21 - 25) But now the righteousness of God without the law is manifested, being witnessed by the law and the prophets; Even the righteousness of God which is by faith of Jesus Christ unto all and upon all them that believe: for there is no difference: For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God; Being justified freely by his grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus: Whom God hath set forth to be a propitiation through faith in his blood, to declare his righteousness for the remission of sins that are past, through the forbearance of God;

2. How to be Redeemed

A. By Faith

Redemption comes to us by faith.

Faith in Jesus Christ, our Redeemer and Messiah.

(Rom 3:21 -24) But now the righteousness of God without the law is manifested, being witnessed by the law and the prophets; Even the righteousness of God which is by faith of Jesus Christ unto all and upon all them that believe: for there is no difference: For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God; Being justified freely by his grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus:

Through faith, redemption justifies us, which means we have been made righteous and in right standing with God.

Those who believe in Jesus Christ are justified and made righteous.

(Rom 3:26) To declare, I say, at this time his righteousness: that he might be just, and the justifier of him which believeth in Jesus.

The just shall live by faith.

(Gal 3:11-13) But that no man is justified by the law in the sight of God, it is evident: for, The just shall live by faith. And the law is not of faith: but, The man that doeth them shall live in them. Christ hath redeemed us from the curse of the law, being made a curse for us: for it is written, Cursed is every one that hangeth on a tree:

Therefore, faith in Jesus Christ has redeemed us from the curse of the Law, sets us free and gives us eternal life.

B. By Repentance

Everywhere Jesus Christ came, He preached repentance.

He said that the kingdom of God is at hand and we need to repent and believe.

We have to repent and believe to be redeemed.

As we do this, we will be born again of the Spirit and the kingdom.

(Mat 4:17) From that time Jesus began to preach, and to say, Repent: for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.

❖ At the Great Commission, when Jesus Christ sent out the apostles, He sent them to preach repentance and the forgiveness of sin in His name.

Repentance makes us ready to let go of our sin and sinful ways so we believe in Christ's redeeming blood.

As we believe and repent, we receive eternal life.

Jesus Christ said that he who believes in Him as Redeemer and Messiah receives eternal life.

(Joh 6:47) Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that believeth on me hath everlasting life.

3. What is all included in Redemption

In Romans 3, Apostle Paul teaches us that redemption buys us back from being sinners to be justified and forgiven and made into a new creation.

(Rom 3:23-25) For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God; Being justified freely by his grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus: Whom God hath set forth to be a propitiation through faith in his blood, to declare his righteousness for the remission of sins that are past, through the forbearance of God;

Redemption's 9 gifts

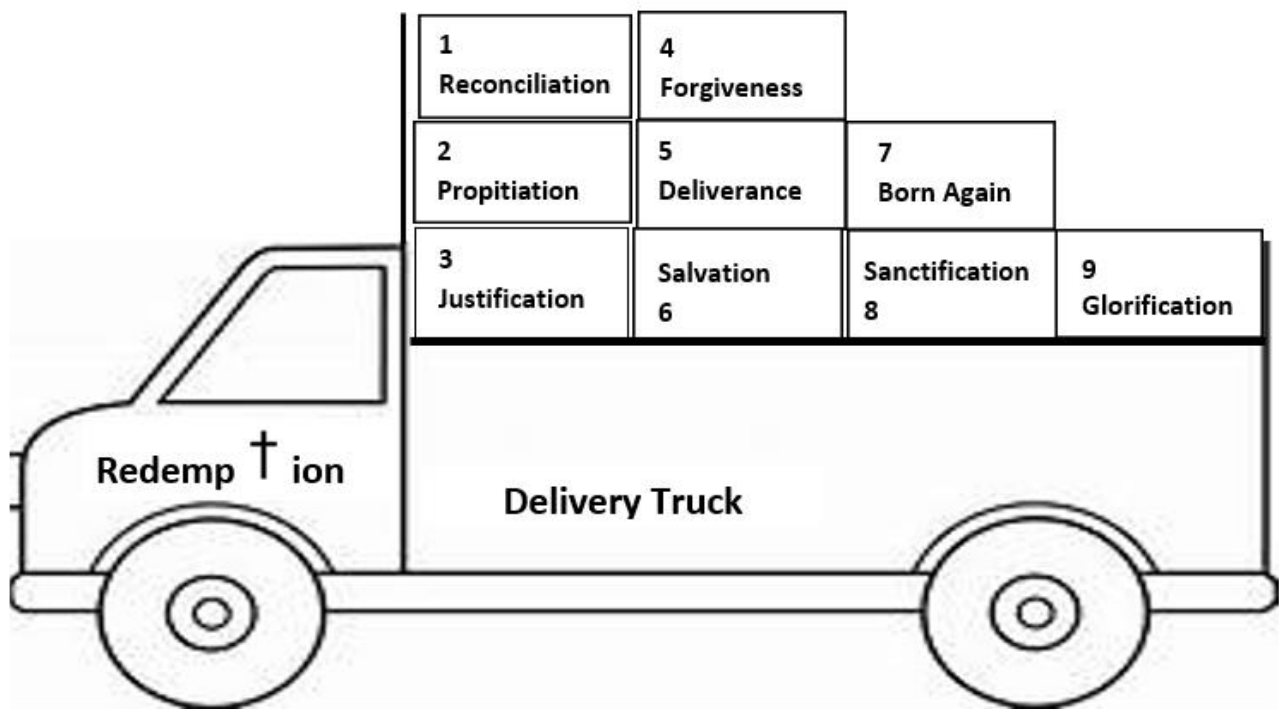
Last week, I had a dream. The Lord spoke to me about the importance of redemption.

He said that redemption is the package, and in redemption, there are 5 main foundational subjects or topics.

To make you understand this, we show you the 9 topics that are in the original topics in Hebrew and Greek.

In Redemption, there are different aspects or subjects included.

Let me give you an illustration:



Topics in Redemption

1. Reconciliation
2. Propitiation
3. Justification
4. Forgiveness
5. Deliverance
6. Salvation
7. Born again
8. Sanctification
9. Glorification

As we see the redemption delivery truck illustration, we see that redemption includes different topics.

These 9 topics in redemption give many blessings to us.

Therefore, we are now going to show you the blessings that come to us by being redeemed.

9 Facets of Redemption

In redemption, there are 9 elements or subjects, and one of them is salvation.

1. Reconciliation

Reconciliation restores us to a relationship with God the Father.

For Jesus made peace for us and took the enmity away.

(Rom 5:10,11) 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. And not only so, but we also joy in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, by whom we have now received the atonement.

2. Propitiation

Christ's propitiation, redeeming blood sacrifice, took God's judgment away, the judgment of eternal judgment in hell, and opened up the way to heaven.

(Rom 3:24, 25) Being justified freely by his grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus: Whom God hath set forth to be a propitiation through faith in his blood, to declare his righteousness for the remission of sins that are past, through the forbearance of God;

3. Justification

As we are justified by the law courts of heaven, we are made righteous.

(Rom 3:24 - 26) Being justified freely by his grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus: Whom God hath set forth to be a propitiation through faith in his blood, to declare his righteousness for the remission of sins that are past, through the forbearance of God; To declare, I say, at this time his righteousness: that he might be just, and the justifier of him which believeth in Jesus.

4. Forgiveness of sin.

Forgiveness of sin sets us free from condemnation, guilt and shame.

(Rom 3:24, 25) Being justified freely by his grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus: Whom God hath set forth to be a propitiation through faith in his blood, to declare his righteousness for the remission of sins that are past, through the forbearance of God;

5. Deliverance from the kingdom of darkness.

As we are now placed in God's kingdom of light, all influences of darkness, torment and fear can be broken, and we can be set free of any demonic bondage.

(Col 1:13,14) Who hath delivered us from the power of darkness, and hath translated us into the kingdom of his dear Son: In whom we have redemption through his blood, even the forgiveness of sins:

6. Salvation and faith.

Due to the redemption of Christ on the cross, through faith, we are saved.

Saved and bought free of darkness and the devil, and have received the promised Holy Spirit in our lives.

(Eph 1:13,14) In whom ye also trusted, after that ye heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation: in whom also after that ye believed, ye were sealed with that holy Spirit of promise, Which is the earnest of our inheritance until the redemption of the purchased possession, unto the praise of his glory.

7. Being Born Again

As we are redeemed, believe and are saved, we are born again of the Holy Spirit and the kingdom of God.

This opens the way for the baptism of the promised Holy Spirit and learning to walk and minister in kingdom authority and power.

(Joh 3:5) Jesus answered, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God.

8. Sanctification

As we are redeemed and made righteous, we have been sanctified.
Sanctification through being born again releases God's holy divine nature in us.
We are now set apart for God as children of God because we have been made holy.

(Heb 9:12-14) Neither by the blood of goats and calves, but by his own blood he entered in once into the holy place, having obtained eternal redemption for us. For if the blood of bulls and of goats, and the ashes of an heifer sprinkling the unclean, sanctifieth to the purifying of the flesh: How much more shall the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself without spot to God, purge your conscience from dead works to serve the living God?

Sanctification is threefold:

- A. Positional
- B. Progressive (by surrender)
- C. Perfection (by brokenness)

9. Glorification

When we receive God's divine nature by being born again, we have God's glorious nature within us.

❖ We are called to now be changed from glory to glory. This is in our earthly walk.

(2Co 3:18) But we all, with open face beholding as in a glass the glory of the Lord, are changed into the same image from glory to glory, even as by the Spirit of the Lord.

One day, we will live in His full glory after life on earth.

(Rom 5:1) Therefore being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ:

(Rom 5:2) By whom also we have access by faith into this grace wherein we stand, and rejoice in hope of the glory of God.

(Rom 5:11) And not only so, but we also joy in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, by whom we have now received the atonement.

What do the 9 Facets of Redemption Give Us

1. Peace with God and Inner Peace

We were enemies of God, but because Christ, who made peace with God for us, reconciled us to God.

(Eph 2:14) For he is our peace, who hath made both one, and hath broken down the middle wall of partition between us;

(Eph 2:16) And that he might reconcile both unto God in one body by the cross, having slain the enmity thereby:

He has become our peace or shalom.

- a) Christ has made peace for us.
- b) Christ is our peace.
- c) Christ came preaching peace.

2. Heaven

We were on our way to hell, for we were enemies of God.

Yet Christ reconciled us to God and covered us with His propitiational sacrifices from God's eternal judgment of hell.

(Rom 5:9-11) Much more then, being now justified by his blood, we shall be saved from wrath through him. 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. And not only so, but we also joy in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, by whom we have now received the atonement.

Now through faith in Christ's redeeming sacrifice, we will go to heaven as we keep living on the narrow way that leads us into heaven.

(Mat 7:14) Because strait is the gate, and narrow is the way, which leadeth unto life, and few there be that find it.

(Mat 7:21) Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven.

3. Made Righteous and Joy

As we are now washed in the blood of Jesus Christ and, therefore, justified, we are made righteous.

(2Co 5:21) 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.

Through Christ's blood, His righteousness is infused or imputed to us.

Now we are a tree of righteousness which brings joy into our hearts.

(Isa 61:3) To appoint unto them that mourn in Zion, to give unto them beauty for ashes, the oil of joy for mourning, the garment of praise for the spirit of heaviness; that they might be called trees of righteousness, the planting of the LORD, that he might be glorified.

4. A Clean Conscience

As the blood of Jesus forgives us of our sins, all our guilt, condemnation and shame are washed away. Then peace and joy fill our hearts.

(Eph 1:17) That the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give unto you the spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of him:

5. Freedom from Darkness and Demons

The Saviour saves us from sin and the power of the bondage of sin.

Our Saviour is also a deliverer from Satan's kingdom of darkness and its demons.

As we are translated from the kingdom of darkness into the kingdom of Jesus Christ, the deliverance of demons is also important.

(Rom 5:10, 11) 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. And not only so, but we also joy in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, by whom we have now received the atonement.

6. Saved and Freedom from Sin

As we are redeemed and therefore reconciled, justified and forgiven by the redeeming blood of Christ, we are saved.

We are now saved from the power of sin and have dominion over sin.

A saviour gives life and is also a deliverer from sin and our demonic enemies.

(Col 1:12-14) Giving thanks unto the Father, which hath made us meet to be partakers of the inheritance of the saints in light: Who hath delivered us from the power of darkness, and hath translated us into the kingdom of his dear Son: In whom we have redemption through his blood, even the forgiveness of sins:

Now the Spirit of the Lord has filled us because of our faith in Christ, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom. In this freedom, we experience God's glory and are changed from glory to glory.

(2Co 3:17, 18) Now the Lord is that Spirit: and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is liberty. But we all, with open face beholding as in a glass the glory of the Lord, are changed into the same image from glory to glory, even as by the Spirit of the Lord.

7. Divine Life

When we believe in Jesus Christ, we are saved and born again of the Spirit and the kingdom of God.

(Joh 3:7, 8) Marvel not that I said unto thee, Ye must be born again. The wind bloweth where it listeth, and thou hearest the sound thereof, but canst not tell whence it cometh, and whither it goeth: so is every one that is born of the Spirit.

As we are born again, we receive God's divine nature and divine eternal life.

Now we are called to grow up into His divine nature.

(2Pe 1:3) According as his divine power hath given unto us all things that pertain unto life and godliness, through the knowledge of him that hath called us to glory and virtue:

8. A New and Holy Nature

As we are washed by the redeeming blood of Christ, and as we believe, we are forgiven of sin, born again and sanctified.

(1Co 6:11) And such were some of you: but ye are washed, but ye are sanctified, but ye are justified in the name of the Lord Jesus, and by the Spirit of our God.

Therefore, we are now set apart to grow up in God's holy nature.

The ones who are saved and holy will see God.

9. The Glory and Virtue

As we are justified, we are also glorified.

(Rom 8:30) Moreover whom he did predestinate, them he also called: and whom he called, them he also justified: and whom he justified, them he also glorified.

In this earthly life, we already receive a down payment for the glorification.

For we receive a glorious nature, glorious power and glorious virtue.

(2Pe 1:3) According as his divine power hath given unto us all things that pertain unto life and godliness, through the knowledge of him that hath called us to glory and virtue:

The Power of the Cross

The 9 redeeming facets are the power of God through the cross.

All these outworkings and blessings come to us through the cross.

It is God's blessing to us and a life-changing power.

Greeks

Greeks want men's wisdom.

Many Western Christian Churches are under the Greek spirit and Greek thinking.

❖ There is little power in many Churches in the West because of this Greek thinking!

1Co 1:23, 24 But we preach Christ crucified, unto the Jews a stumblingblock, and unto the Greeks foolishness; But unto them which are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God, and the wisdom of God.

The power of the gospel of the Cross of Christ will change that.

The cross is God's love for us.

His grace wants to melt our hearts so we are changed by the gospel message.

Revelation of the Redeeming Cross

We need a revelation of the power of the redeeming cross of Christ.

Paul had received all he preached by revelation.

❖ Paul's gospel preaching was with Spirit and Power.

In his ministry, he saw God move with mighty signs and miracles and had much faith. Why?

❖ Because Paul had a revelation of the power of the redeeming cross of Christ.

He said: But we preach Christ crucified.

❖ Christ the power of God

❖ Christ the wisdom of God.

1Co 1:23, 24 But we preach Christ crucified, unto the Jews a stumblingblock, and unto the Greeks foolishness; 24 But unto them which are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God, and the wisdom of God.

The teachings and preachings in this book help you to get a revelation of the power of the gospel of the cross of Christ.

❖ All of God's grace comes to us through the redeeming cross of Christ.

❖ We need a revelation of God's grace, love and holiness so that we can move in demonstrations of Spirit and Power.

The gospel is power!

❖ The gospel is the message of the cross of Christ and God's power!

❖ The gospel of Christ is the power of God to redeem and transform us. The instrument that God uses to redeem us is the cross!

(Rom 1:16 KJV) For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to everyone that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek.

We see in this verse that **the gospel of Christ = the power of God.**

And the power comes because of the working of the cross of Christ in our lives.

My Testimony of Blood and Fire

On the day of Pentecost, the apostles received the fire and the power of the Holy Spirit so they could do their ministry.

We need blood and fire in our lives.

In 1983, I was born again, as I was washed with the blood of Jesus Christ and saved.

After 3 months, I fell back into sin and became 7 times more bound.

In 1984, in Hawaii, I heard about the transforming power of the Holy Spirit as we repent and surrender deeply at the redeeming cross of Christ.

I heard about the baptism of fire, which happened in the Timor, Indonesia revival in 1965

I was convicted of sin, righteousness and judgment, repented of my sin at the redeeming cross of Christ and surrendered all.

As I was being washed by the redeeming blood of Christ, I surrendered my backslidden condition and asked for the baptism of the Holy Spirit.

God filled me so that I was baptised with the Holy Spirit and fire.

Many dark, evil spirits left me, and the power of the blood of Christ and the power and fire of the Holy Spirit have given me strength to overcome my weaknesses.

Now, I have been on fire for 40 years and have not fallen back in that time.

Spirit and Power

Apostle Paul moved in the spirit and power.

He moved in the power of the Holy Spirit and the authority and power of the kingdom of God.

Apostle Paul moved in the power of the Holy Spirit because he based his faith on the preaching of the cross of Christ.

(1Co 2:2) For I determined not to know any thing among you, save Jesus Christ, and him crucified.

❖ He said that the preaching of the cross releases the Holy Spirit's power in people's lives.

This is because your faith is not based on the wisdom of men but on the power of God.

(1Co 2:5) That your faith should not stand in the wisdom of men, but in the power of God.

Apostle Paul preaching the cross released spirit and power.

(1Co 2:4) And my speech and my preaching was not with enticing words of man's wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power:

In weakness

❖ Paul was totally dependent upon God's power through the preaching of the gospel of the cross of Christ. He said, in the flesh, he was in weakness and trembling, but his preaching was not with words of man's wisdom.

But he came in the demonstration of the spirit and power.

(1Co 2:4) And my speech and my preaching was not with enticing words of man's wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power:

As Paul lived **the cross and preached the cross**, God did great miracles through the Holy Spirit. The power of the Holy Spirit moved in mighty ways because his faith was in the cross of Christ.

Only the gospel of the cross of Christ

An old-time Bible teacher, Derek Prince, says that anything that does not come through the cross is witchcraft.

In many Bible schools, they teach hermeneutics. Hermes is a Greek god of witchcraft and a thief.

Hermeneutics is a false foundation in Bible schools.

Preachers are called to preach the gospel of the cross under the leading and unction of the Holy Spirit and not just men of reason.

Jesus Christ says that we will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon us.

Act 1:8 But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth.

- ❖ The way that God works is through the preaching of the cross in the power and unction of the Holy Spirit.
- ❖ A preacher should always preach the gospel of the cross of Christ in the power of the Holy Spirit.

The risen Christ

When we talk about the cross, we are also talking about the Resurrection:

Because :

1. Christ is risen
2. He is alive

Christ is risen; therefore, we have come to the Resurrection cross!

Christ is now not on the cross; He is seated on the throne.

Christ's sacrifice was once.

Once and for all.

(Heb 10:10) By the which will we are sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.

Yes, Christ's redeeming sacrifice was once for all on the cross, and now He is seated on the throne.

The cross and the grave are empty.

Summary of the chapter, the Redeeming Cross of Christ

1. Paul said: I am sent to preach the gospel of the cross.

(1Co 1:17 KJV) For Christ sent me not to baptize, but to preach the gospel: not with wisdom of words, lest the cross of Christ should be made of none effect.

2. The gospel is the message of the cross of Christ.

(1Co 2:2 KJV) For I determined not to know anything among you, save Jesus Christ, and him crucified.

3. The gospel is the message of the cross of Christ and God's power.

(1Co 1:18 KJV) For the preaching of the cross is to them that perish foolishness; but unto us which are saved it is the power of God.

4. The gospel is the power of God.

(Rom 1:16 KJV) For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to everyone that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek.

5. Redemption releases God's power, for there is power in the blood of Jesus Christ.

(Eph 1:17) That the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give unto you the spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of him:

6. Redemption releases eternal life and God's blessings in our lives.

(Gal 3:13, 14) Christ hath redeemed us from the curse of the law, being made a curse for us: for it is written, Cursed is everyone that hangeth on a tree: That the blessing of Abraham might come on the Gentiles through Jesus Christ; that we might receive the promise of the Spirit through faith.

7. The cross is the resurrection life and the demonstration of the spirit and power.

(1Co 2:2 KJV) For I determined not to know anything among you, save Jesus Christ, and him crucified. 4 And my speech and my preaching was not with enticing words of man's wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power: 5 That your faith should not stand in the wisdom of men, but in the power of God.

If you have been redeemed

If you have been forgiven, if you have been redeemed, sing the song forever to the Lamb.

These are the beautiful words of a beautiful song, "Holy Forever".

It says in Revelation 5 that we are redeemed by the blood of the Lamb; we need redemption, for we were fallen sinners and our God is holy.

(Rev 5:9) And they sung a new song, saying, Thou art worthy to take the book, and to open the seals thereof: for thou wast slain, and hast redeemed us to God by thy blood out of every kindred, and tongue, and people, and nation;

Our God is Holy

I have a saying for you:

God is not black or white, but God is holy, pure, radiant light.

In heaven, the angels see God shining in His holy, pure light.

In heaven, the 24 elders fall in worship, and the seraphim cry Holy, holy, holy is the Lord God almighty.

(Rev 4:8) And the four beasts had each of them six wings about him; and they were full of eyes within: and they rest not day and night, saying, Holy, holy, holy, Lord God Almighty, which was, and is, and is to come.

As our God is holy, and His holy, pure light comes out of His consuming, holy fire, all sinners are called to repent, to be redeemed and saved or born again.

(Rom 3:21) But now the righteousness of God without the law is manifested, being witnessed by the law and the prophets;

Therefore, Apostle Peter says Repent so that your sins may be blotted out.

(Act 3:19) Repent ye therefore, and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out, when the times of refreshing shall come from the presence of the Lord;

Repentance and the Great Commission

When Christ gave the Apostles the great commission, He told them that repentance and the remission of sin should be preached.

(Luk 24:47) And that repentance and remission of sins should be preached in his name among all nations, beginning at Jerusalem.

- ❖ Wherever Christ had preached, He always preached repentance and belief in Him as the true Messiah who could forgive sin, for He is our Redeemer.
- ❖ Redemption starts with faith in Jesus Christ and repentance.
- ❖ Repentance is also a gift that God gives to us by grace.
- ❖ Out of the goodness of His heart, He gives us the grace to repent.

(Rom 2:4, 5) Or despisest thou the riches of his goodness and forbearance and longsuffering; not knowing that the goodness of God leadeth thee to repentance? But after thy hardness and impenitent heart treasurest up unto thyself wrath against the day of wrath and revelation of the righteous judgment of God;

For us to be redeemed, we need to repent, which is to turn away from our sins and stop sinning.

Grace is still here.

- Today, we are living in a time when grace is still here.
- The Bible says that we are redeemed by grace.

(Eph 1:6,7) To the praise of the glory of his grace, wherein he hath made us accepted in the beloved. In whom we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of his grace;

- As we are redeemed by grace, we are also saved by grace.

(Eph 2:8) For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God:

- Redemption and salvation are a gift of God that comes to us by grace.

Grace also enables us as believers to grow in righteousness and become holy in our walk and lifestyle.

All have sinned

Many people think they are good people and try to do some good things.

They think that this will be enough to get them into heaven.

They believe in a lie.

The Bible says there is no one good and all have sinned. Therefore, we are all sinners.

A sinner stands guilty before a holy and perfect God.

Rom 3:21-24 KJV But now the righteousness of God without the law is manifested, being witnessed by the law and the prophets; Even the righteousness of God which is by faith of Jesus Christ unto all and upon all them that believe: for there is no difference: For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God; Being justified freely by his grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus:

We all sinned, and we all need redemption, yes, forgiveness and salvation, which are all part of redemption.

Without Jesus Christ, we are all sinners.

- All guilty sinners who don't deserve heaven.

What we deserve

An evangelist asked a person: Are you going to heaven or hell?

The person said: I deserve heaven because I am a good person.

- ❖ The evangelist responded with Because you are an unrepentant sinner, you don't deserve heaven.

- ❖ Not only are we undeserving of heaven, but we are ill-deserving of heaven because of our sin.

Heb 9:27 KJV And as it is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judgment:

- ❖ We are undeserving because sinners deserve judgment.

Rom 2:5 KJV But after thy hardness and impenitent heart treasurest up unto thyself wrath against the day of wrath and revelation of the righteous judgment of God;

Sinners deserve:

- a. Spiritual death
- b. God's judgment of death by being sent to Hades
- c. Standing guilty at God's white judgment throne
- d. Being sent to hell, which is after the white judgement throne.

Sinners need to see their sin.

Then they need to believe and repent to be redeemed.

My Testimony of Spiritual Breakthrough and Growth through True Repentance

In 1984, my real spiritual breakthrough and growth happened the day I truly repented, as I started on the journey of redemption.

The first step of redemption is true repentance, surrendering and believing in the full message of the redeeming cross of Christ.

As I repented and understood that a true believer is called to be holy and learn to have a holy lifestyle, I was filled with the fire of the Holy Spirit.

The next day, I was told by God to throw out all my idols of rock and roll music and pornography.

I was obedient and dumped all and was set free from its stronghold and demons, for deliverance is part of redemption as we come out of darkness into the kingdom of God's holy light.

A year earlier, I had had a salvation experience, yet repentance was not preached when I received salvation.

After 3 months, I fell away into deeper sin and demonic bondage, for the message of salvation is not the whole message.

The whole message lies in redemption, which calls us to faith, repentance, deliverance, salvation, being born again and becoming holy in our walk and lifestyle.

When I heard the radical side of the gospel, I repented and surrendered, and I have been on fire for the last 40 years.

Daily, I go to the cross in the places where I still need to grow in being a pure son of God in my daily walk, and see believers changed as I minister to them and the lost.

A King

A king locked up rebels and lawbreakers in his prison.

These people didn't want to obey the laws of His kingdom.

The king used his power and let his army round them up.

Out of grace and His mercy and justice, He gave them another chance.

He lets the rebels free if they promise to walk according to the laws of the land.

If they change their mind towards the law and rebel again, the king will revoke his gracious decree and arrest them again.

This is how grace works.

- ❖ We receive grace through repentance, changing our direction and our mindset.

As we believe in Christ and repent, we are forgiven, redeemed and saved by grace.

After this, let your heart, spirit and life be changed by the power of grace.

- For we have to walk on the narrow way.
- The redeeming grace that comes to us by the gospel of the cross of Christ puts us on the narrow way.

Mat 7:13-14 KJV Enter ye in at the strait gate: for wide is the gate, and broad is the way, that leadeth to destruction, and many there be which go in thereat: 14 Because strait is the gate, and narrow is the way, which leadeth unto life, and few there be that find it.

Jesus Christ said: I am the way, the truth and the life.

As we walk on the narrow way, Christ will change us into His image, for He is the way.

Repentance

Repent of what?

If people are addicted to things like drugs, alcohol, and pornography, they are told that they have problems.

When they beat someone out of anger, they are told that they have an anger problem.

The Bible doesn't call it a problem but calls it sin.

We have to call sin, sin.

- ❖ We need to call sin, sin so that we can break free of the hold of the power of the flesh and the broad road over our lives.

If we don't call sin, sin and don't repent of it, we stay under the power of the world and the broad road's sinful ways.

If we want to be eternally redeemed and saved, we need to repent of these sins.

Goodness and Severity of God lead to Repentance

It is the goodness and the severity of God that lead us to repentance.

(Rom 2:4) Or despisest thou the riches of his goodness and forbearance and longsuffering; not knowing that the goodness of God leadeth thee to repentance?

(Rom 11:22) Behold therefore the goodness and severity of God: on them which fell, severity; but toward thee, goodness, if thou continue in his goodness: otherwise thou also shalt be cut off.

God, in His goodness, draws sinners to Himself and convicts them of sin, so they repent of their sin, believe and are redeemed.

God used His severity on Saul and struck him blind to lead him to repentance.

This is why it is important to understand the message of redemption: our God is holy and needs to lead sinners to repentance, softly or strongly.

The same is true in discipleship.

God shows His love and goodness to faithful disciples.

If a disciple starts to go backwards or goes to darker sins, God will discipline the disciple.

(Heb 12:5) And ye have forgotten the exhortation which speaketh unto you as unto children, My son, despise not thou the chastening of the Lord, nor faint when thou art rebuked of him:

- ❖ As we will see later in the book, God, through His love, grace, mercy and goodness, wants us to surrender to His will.
- ❖ As He melts us in His love, breaks us in His love, so He can fill us more with His Spirit for us to bear much fruit.

Repentance

Repentance means:

1. Turn or change of direction.
2. Being changed in your mind and heart (transformation).
3. It is deep sorrow over sin (penitence).

John the Baptist preached the way of righteousness and called men to repent.

He asked What fruit do you bring forth?

True repentance brings forth good fruit.

Mat 3:7-8 KJV But when he saw many of the Pharisees and Sadducees come to his baptism, he said unto them, O generation of vipers, who hath warned you to flee from the wrath to come? 8 Bring forth, therefore, fruits meet for repentance:

- ❖ Therefore, we need to repent and be forgiven, redeemed and receive salvation.

We don't only want to be saved but also have the power not to go back to the broad road once we are on the narrow road.

- ❖ Paul also commanded sinners to repent.

Act 17:30 KJV And the times of this ignorance God winked at; but now commandeth all men every where to repent:

- Repentance gives us the power to break free of the flesh and the broad road.
- Grace gives us the power to be redeemed and saved and to rule and reign, through righteousness, over sin, darkness and the work of the flesh.
- Therefore, grace is power in action.
- Grace gives us the power to repent, yes, and also to repent of our daily sins and failures.

Rom 5:21 KJV That as sin hath reigned unto death, even so might grace reign through righteousness unto eternal life by Jesus Christ our Lord.

Heaven would become like hell if rebellious, unrepentant, hardened Christians lived there.

Only through repentance can we break the rebellion and become peace-loving believers.

Therefore, we need to repent and be redeemed and transformed.

Godly Sorrow

- ❖ We need godly sorrow to be able to repent.

By God's grace, we receive godly sorrow so we can repent.

2Co 7:9 KJV Now I rejoice, not that ye were made sorry, but that ye sorrowed to repentance: for ye were made sorry after a godly manner, that ye might receive damage by us in nothing.

Godly sorrow shows us sin from God's perspective.

This gives us the will and strength to repent.

2Co 7:10 KJV For godly sorrow worketh repentance to salvation not to be repented of: but the sorrow of the world worketh death.

Godly sorrow brings repentance unto redemption and salvation.

- ❖ Here, repentance and salvation work together.

We need to repent and be saved and make Jesus Christ Lord in every part of our lives.

Bill Johnston says repentance is deep sorrow for sin that enables a person to truly repent and change his mind or perspective on reality.

Many Christians repent enough to be forgiven, but not enough to see the kingdom of God. (Johnson, p. 72)

Our godly sorrow over sin can achieve this for us.

No sorrow of sin or impenitence can bring hardness of heart.

This can make way for falling into sin or backsliding.

The result can be God's eternal judgment.

(Rom 2:45) Or despisest thou the riches of his goodness and forbearance and longsuffering; not knowing that the goodness of God leadeth thee to repentance? But after thy hardness and impenitent heart treasurest up unto thyself wrath against the day of wrath and revelation of the righteous judgment of God;

Let us press into being transformed and, through repentance, godly sorrow and penitence, become broken of self and contrite of heart so we will bring forth fruit.

Transformation

Transformation and True Discipleship

Once we have become a believer and are redeemed, saved and born again, God still wants to transform us.

Transformation comes to us in the way of discipleship.

Christian discipleship will change our character into Christ-likeness and bring forth the fruit of the Holy Spirit in our lives.

Integrity and godliness will also be fruits of this transformation.

Discipleship

Jesus Christ is calling all of us to become disciples of the kingdom of God.

In the great commission, He said that we should make disciples and disciple or teach nations.

(Mat 28:19) Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost:

Love for one another is the hallmark of a true disciple, as Christ laid down His life for us.

(Joh 13:35) By this shall all men know that ye are my disciples, if ye have love one to another.

If we love like this, we become like our Master.

Transformation through the Cross

True transformation comes by daily bringing our sins and failures to the cross.

We are called to become Christ-like in our lifestyle.

The cross of Christ is the answer to true discipleship and transformation.

Transformation through Daily Repentance

Once we are born again, we are a new creation.

When we are a new creation, all our sins are washed away, and we receive God's divine nature.

Our spirit is born again of God's Spirit, and our spirit receives God's divine nature.

(2Co 5:17) Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.

On the other hand, when we become a new creation, our ways, our thinking, our speaking and behaviours are still the same.

Therefore, our ways of thinking, speaking and behaviour need to be transformed.

This is why it says in Romans 12:

(Rom 12:2) And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God.

- For us to become Christ-like in all our ways, we need to learn daily repentance.
- Daily repentance at the cross of Christ is the way to true transformation.

Daily Transformation at the Cross of Christ

To be transformed, we need to understand the power of true discipleship.
Jesus Christ said that if you want to be a disciple, you have to pick up your cross.
Therefore, the answers for discipleship lie in the cross of Christ.

(Luk 14:27) And whosoever doth not bear his cross, and come after me, cannot be my disciple.

The power of the cross lies in the power of the cross of Christ.

We died with Him, and our baptism was a sign of this; we are also raised by the same Holy Spirit power as Christ was.

(Eph 1:19,20) And what is the exceeding greatness of his power to us-ward who believe, according to the working of his mighty power, Which he wrought in Christ, when he raised him from the dead, and set him at his own right hand in the heavenly places,

❖ Apostle Paul said that the message of the cross is the power of God for those who believe.

(1Co 1:18) For the preaching of the cross is to them that perish foolishness; but unto us which are saved it is the power of God.

❖ For us as believers who want to be disciples, we need to learn to understand the power of the cross in discipleship.

The power of the cross is needed in the areas where we are failing as believers.

To overcome these failures in our walk, our ways, our thinking, and our speaking, we need to apply daily repentance at the cross of Christ.

- Daily repentance at the cross of Christ will slowly break the power of addictions, lies, hate and the sins that so easily beset us.

Revival Through Repentance

God wants us to live in a place of personal revival.

I want to share with you now the story of the personal revival of Erlo Stegen and its impact.

Erlo held tent revival meetings in South Africa among the Zulu tribes.

Every year, hundreds of Zulu people would come to the altar in the tent to be saved.

Year after year, he would see the same people come to the front, yet they were not changed.

He became frustrated and cried out to God about it.

God said, go to the barn near your house, draw a big circle with a stick on the ground.

Then God said, now go stand in that circle.

Then the Lord said, repentance starts with yourself, which is why he had to stand in the circle.

Daily, he was praying and repenting in that circle.

The Lord would daily show him the sins he had to deal with.

This went on for some months.

Then, at once, Zulus started to come to the barn.

Then the Holy Spirit would convict them of their sin.

(Joh 16:8) And when he is come, he will reprove the world of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgment:

The revival started to break out from that barn amongst the Zulu tribe.

❖ The difference now was that the Zulus were transformed and became disciples.

Walking in the Transformation Light

Our Lord loves us and wants daily fellowship with us.

To have this daily fellowship with the Lord of glory, we need to walk in the light.

God is pure light, and this glorious light can transform us.

(1Jn 1:5) This then is the message which we have heard of him, and declare unto you, that God is light, and in him is no darkness at all.

As we learn to walk in the light as He is in the light, we have deep fellowship with Him.

In this fellowship in the light, we confess our sins daily, and the blood of our Lord then cleanses us from all our sins.

(1Jn 1:7) But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin.

In this light, we will experience His goodness, mercy, kindness and love.

The 3 P's of Sanctification

Sanctification is the process whereby we grow in our character to become holy.

Without holiness in all our walk and life, no one will see God.

(Heb 12:14) Follow peace with all men, and holiness, without which no man shall see the Lord:

Therefore, we are to become saved and holy in our walk, ways, behaviour and talk.

In Hebrews 12, we also see that discipleship and sanctification are the pathway to growing in holy character.

Sanctification means to be set apart.

Sanctification is threefold.

1. Positional sanctification
2. Progressive sanctification (a pathway of sanctification)
3. Perfection

As sanctification is threefold, repentance is also threefold.

1. We repent and become Christians
2. We repent daily to grow up as a true disciple in the image of Christ.
3. When we reach perfection, we set ourselves more apart with a greater level of dedication.

Jesus Christ, who never sinned, said I sanctify myself so we would walk in the truth.

(Joh 17:19) And for their sakes I sanctify myself, that they also might be sanctified through the truth.

The blood of His cross

The redeeming, reconciling and saving power of God comes to us through the blood that was shed on the cross.

(Rom 3:24, 25) Being justified freely by his grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus: Whom God hath set forth to be a propitiation through faith in his blood, to declare his righteousness for the remission of sins that are past, through the forbearance of God;

It says that we are redeemed, justified or made righteous, covered and forgiven through the blood of Jesus Christ's sacrifice.

We have a song here that says that 'there is power, power, wonder-working power, in the blood of the Lamb.
The old saints in the nineteen hundreds understood it.

❖ Now we have to understand it and learn to plead the blood of Jesus Christ again!

Redemption comes to us through the shed blood of Jesus Christ, which also reconciles.

Col 1:20 KJV And, having made peace through the blood of his cross, by him to reconcile all things unto himself; by him, I say, whether they be things in earth, or things in heaven.

The blood and God's power

- All of God's victorious power comes to us through the work of Jesus Christ on the cross and by the shedding of His blood for us.
- Therefore, the preaching of the cross releases the power of the blood of the redeeming Lamb and brings God's power down to Earth.

1Co 1:18 KJV For the preaching of the cross is to them that perish foolishness; but unto us which are saved it is the power of God.

❖ The preaching of the cross brings God's power down to Earth.

❖ When we talk about the cross, we also mean the blood that was shed.

The power of God's Holy Spirit comes down to us when we speak about the blood of Jesus Christ shed on the cross for us.

❖ Through the blood, yes, the redemption, Jesus Christ won the victory over sin, Satan and death.

- There is power in the blood of Jesus Christ.

We are now going to study the Day of Atonement and the victorious power of the blood.

We will also study the victory of the cross.

The Day of Atonement

In Chapter 1, we learnt about the Passover feast, which represents the Lamb of God slain for the sin of the world.

On the Day of Atonement, we see more aspects of the same message.

Both have the message that Jesus Christ came to redeem men and to reconcile us to God.

It's the Blood

On the Day of Atonement, blood was shed.

The blood is God's way of atonement or redemption.

Lev 17:11 KJV For the life of the flesh is in the blood: and I have given it to you upon the altar to make an atonement for your souls: for it is the blood that maketh an atonement for the soul.

Atonement is the Old Testament word for being redeemed, forgiven of sin and being saved.

Redemption is the New Testament word for being forgiven of sin and being saved.

Atonement

What is Atonement?

Atonement is the reconciliation of guilt by divine sacrifice.

It is thereby a propitiatory sacrifice.

Rom 3:24-25 KJV Being justified freely by his grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus: 25 Whom God hath set forth to be a propitiation through faith in his blood, to declare his righteousness for the remission of sins that are past, through the forbearance of God;

- Reconciliation accomplished God's grace towards sinful men on the grounds of the death of Christ's propitiatory sacrifice.
- Sinful men would otherwise be under the judgment due to sin.

A propitiatory sacrifice means being covered.

Being covered means being protected.

- Being protected from what? From God's judgment because of our sin.

Noah

The scriptural story of Noah is the first time we see the phrase being covered.

In Noah's day, the people on Earth had become evil.

God knew their evil intentions.

God said, "I will destroy man whom I have created".

Yet Noah found grace in the eyes of God.

The Ark of Noah

God called Noah, who was a just man, to build the Ark.

The judgment of God was going to come down on the Earth; it would kill the inhabitants of the Earth.

There were millions of people on Earth.

God wanted to spare Noah and his family.

- The Ark was the vessel of grace whereby God would keep them safe.
- At the same time, the Ark was the vessel whereby God condemned the world.

Heb 11:7 KJV By faith Noah, being warned of God of things not seen as yet, moved with fear, prepared an ark to the saving of his house; by the which he condemned the world, and became heir of the righteousness which is by faith.

Covered

The world was condemned because of the wickedness, sin and violence.

Yet, because of God's grace, Noah and his family were covered from the effects of the water and sea, which was the wrath of God.

For God said to cover the boat with pitch.

Gen 6:14 AMP Make yourself an ark of gopher or cypress wood; make in it rooms (stalls, pens, coops, nests, cages, and compartments) and cover it inside and out with pitch (bitumen).

This is a type of covering sacrifice that Jesus Christ made for us, so we can be covered by the blood.

The blood's propitiatory sacrifice covers us from God's judgment that comes because of sin. If the blood did not cover us, then the judgment would come.

Rom 2:8 KJV But unto them that are contentious, and do not obey the truth, but obey unrighteousness, indignation and wrath,

Rom 1:18 KJV For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who hold the truth in unrighteousness;

Noah covered the Ark on the inside and outside with pitch.

This covering kept the judgment away, and the vessel was the way of salvation in the time of the great floods.

The Ark was a picture of how Jesus Christ would redeem us.

The pitch is a picture of how to be covered by the blood of Jesus Christ.

In the last days

Jesus Christ said that, as it was in the days of Noah, so will it be in the days just before the second coming of Christ.

Sin will be very strong and very evil in the last days.

Therefore, we need to walk closely with God and understand how to be covered by the blood of Jesus Christ, so we won't fall away and get judged.

Let us, therefore, become strong in faith and strong in the power of God's grace.

The days before Atonement Day

The Day of Atonement is on the 10th day of the seventh month in the Jewish calendar.

This is all during the Feast of Tabernacles.

On the first day of the seventh month is the day of the blowing of the trumpets.

This is the start of the civil New Year in Israel today.

On the Jewish religious calendar, the New Year started six months earlier.

From the blowing of the trumpets until the 10th day of the seventh month, we have 10 days of awe.

In these 10 days, Jews search their souls for sin and are in a place of repentance.

- ❖ This is a sign that we need to repent before we become redeemed by faith and born again.

Act 17:30-31 KJV And the times of this ignorance God winked at; but now commandeth all men every where to repent: 31 Because he hath appointed a day, in the which he will judge the world in righteousness by that man whom he hath ordained; whereof he hath given assurance unto all men, in that he hath raised him from the dead.

On the 10th day of the seventh month, they fast, for this is the Day of Atonement, which is the day that shows the way of being redeemed through faith and saved.

This day is the most sacred day of the Jewish calendar.

The sacrifices on the Day of Atonement

The priest had to bring sacrifices for himself so he would be a clean High Priest.

He also had to bring a sacrifice for the people; this was two goats.

One had to be killed.

- The blood of this goat had to be put on the Mercy Seat, which was in the Holy of Holies on top of the Ark of the Covenant.

Lev 16:19 KJV And he shall sprinkle of the blood upon it with his finger seven times, and cleanse it, and hallow it from the uncleanness of the children of Israel.

During this ceremony, the High Priest entered the Holy of Holies to present the blood of the slain goat to God.

- ❖ When he came out, the nation knew its sin had been covered for another year.

The other goat received all the sins, transgressions and iniquities and was sent into the wilderness.

Lev 16:22 KJV And the goat shall bear upon him all their iniquities unto a land not inhabited: and he shall let go the goat in the wilderness.

Jesus Christ died for our sins on the cross, but His spirit was also in the place where the dead people were, inside Hades, for three days.

The Ark of the Covenant

The Ark of the Covenant represents the presence of God.

Lev 16:2 KJV And the LORD said unto Moses, Speak unto Aaron thy brother, that he come not at all times into the holy place within the vail before the mercy seat, which is upon the ark; that he die not: for I will appear in the cloud upon the mercy seat.

God said He appeared in the cloud on the Mercy Seat.

Inside the Ark was the Law, or the Ten Commandments.

The Commandments show our sins and shortcomings.

Rom 2:12 KJV For as many as have sinned without law shall also perish without law: and as many as have sinned in the law shall be judged by the law;

Therefore, if we come as sinners into the presence of this holy God, surely we would die and be condemned to hell.

We need to be covered

All people are justly destined for eternal punishment.

Yet God, in His love, knew how to be graceful and yet uphold His righteous standard.

- ❖ Christ became the propitiating or reconciling sacrifice that satisfied God's righteous wrath.
- ❖ The propitiational or reconciling blood sacrifice is the sacrifice that covers us.
- ❖ Through His blood, Christ has become the covering, a covering over eternal damnation.

Rom 3:25 KJV Whom God hath set forth to be a propitiation through faith in his blood, to declare his righteousness for the remission of sins that are past, through the forbearance of God;

- ❖ The Ark of the Covenant had a cover on it.

- ❖ This is the Mercy Seat of God.

- Christ has become our covering and Mercy Seat by the shedding of His blood and by being resurrected.

Covered by the blood

Now through faith in Christ's blood sacrifice, we can be covered so we don't receive God's eternal judgment.

1Jn 2:2 KJV And he is the propitiation for our sins: and not for ours only, but also for the sins of the whole world.

Therefore, we are under grace if we walk on the narrow road.

Rom 4:7 KJV Saying, Blessed are they whose iniquities are forgiven, and whose sins are covered.

- ❖ Our sins are therefore covered by the propitiatory sacrifice of the blood of Jesus Christ.
- ❖ We are covered from God's anger, and our sins are also covered and forgiven because of the blood.

Rom 3:25 KJV Whom God hath set forth to be a propitiation through faith in his blood, to declare his righteousness for the remission of sins that are past, through the forbearance of God;

Mat 26:28 KJV For this is my blood of the new testament, which is shed for many for the remission of sins.

By the blood we are covered from:

- God's judgment
- Our sin
- Guilt and condemnation

Christ Jesus has become our covering and Mercy Seat.

Through faith in Christ, we are now seated on the Mercy Seat with Him.

There is therefore now no condemnation.

Rom 8:1 KJV There is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit.

Brownsville Revival

During the Brownsville revival, every night, a young girl sang the song Run to the Mercy Seat.

- The preaching was first and foremost that through repentance, we need to come to the Mercy Seat.

The focus of the preaching was about being covered by the blood of the Mercy Seat, and then God moved with Holy fire as He filled the believers.

Steve Hill preached strong messages about repentance and being redeemed by faith in Christ.

He then called for the young singer to come and sing, Run to the Mercy Seat.

When that happened, the people came running to the front to be washed by the blood of Jesus Christ, our Mercy Seat.

Reconciled through the blood

We were enemies of God because of our sin and rebellion.

God didn't need to reconcile or make peace with us.

No, we have to reconcile or make peace with God.

Heb 2:17 KJV Wherefore in all things it behoved him to be made like unto his brethren, that he might be a merciful and faithful high priest in things pertaining to God, to make reconciliation for the sins of the people.

Christ died in our place, for our sins, and through His blood on the cross, we are redeemed and are reconciled with God to live in peace with God.

Through the propitiatory and reconciling blood sacrifice, Christ covered our sins and took God's judgment by being in Hades for 3 days and 3 nights.

Col 1:14 KJV In whom we have redemption through his blood, even the forgiveness of sins:

Through the blood of Jesus Christ, we now have peace with God.

- We can now learn to live in the power of God's peace.

Redemption through the blood

We are redeemed through the blood of the Lamb.

1Pe 1:18-19 KJV Forasmuch as ye know that ye were not redeemed with corruptible things, as silver and gold, from your vain conversation received by tradition from your fathers; 19 But with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot:

- ❖ Redemption means salvation from sin by Christ's blood sacrifice.

Rom 3:24-25 KJV Being justified freely by his grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus: 25 Whom God hath set forth to be a propitiation through faith in his blood, to declare his righteousness for the remission of sins that are past, through the forbearance of God;

- ❖ Through redemption, we are made righteous.

'Redemption' is the New Testament word for what we call 'Atonement' in the Old Testament.

- ❖ We are redeemed because of the propitiatory sacrifice Christ made.

Justified through the blood

We are redeemed and therefore made just before the Law court of Heaven because of the propitiatory and reconciling sacrifice of Christ Jesus.

Rom 5:9 KJV Much more then, being now justified by his blood, we shall be saved from wrath through him.

- ❖ Justification means being excused.

Rom 5:1 KJV Therefore being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ:

Justification is being excused from sin and punishment in the presence of a Holy God.

Forgiven because of the Blood

We are redeemed because of the redemption, which is the forgiveness of our sins and salvation.

- ❖ Jesus Christ came to redeem us so our relationship with God could be restored.

Our redemption came through the blood sacrifice of Jesus Christ dying on the cross for us.

Without the shedding of blood, there is no remission or forgiveness of sins.

Heb 9:22 KJV And almost all things are by the law purged with blood; and without shedding of blood is no remission.

Jesus Christ said I am going to shed My blood for the forgiveness of sin.

Mat 26:28 KJV For this is my blood of the new testament, which is shed for many for the remission of sins.

- ❖ We are redeemed because it is a propitiatory or covering sacrifice.
- ❖ By being redeemed, we are made righteous because we are justified.

Being justified means being excused from sin and punishment, and His righteousness is imputed to us by being born of the Spirit.

Therefore, because we are redeemed and justified, we are forgiven of all our sins.

Sanctified by the blood

- ❖ Jesus Christ sanctified us by His own blood.

Heb 13:12 KJV Wherefore Jesus also, that he might sanctify the people with his own blood, suffered without the gate.

Sanctification is being made holy and set apart, so our ways and behaviour become holy.

Through faith in the blood of Jesus Christ, we are set apart unto God.

We have seen that we are now covered from God's judgment and forgiven of our sins, made clean inside our hearts and have received a new nature.

Now we also see we are one of the children of God and not one of the world's anymore.

We are now partakers of God's new nature and the kingdom of God.

2Pe 1:3 KJV According as his divine power hath given unto us all things that pertain unto life and godliness, through the knowledge of him that hath called us to glory and virtue:

Seated in Heaven's temple

We are now seated in Heavenly places because of the redeeming and cleansing blood of the cross and being covered.

Eph 2:6 KJV And hath raised us up together, and made us sit together in heavenly places in Christ Jesus:

The Ark of the Covenant and the Mercy Seat are now in Heaven.

Christ Jesus is seated on the Mercy seat in Heaven's temple; this is in the Holy place.

Heb 9:12 KJV Neither by the blood of goats and calves, but by his own blood he entered in once into the holy place, having obtained eternal redemption for us.

Jesus Christ had to cleanse the heavenlies.

He also cleansed the heavenly things in heaven with His blood.
Therefore, we can now rule and reign out of Heaven on Earth.

Heb 9:22-23 KJV And almost all things are by the law purged with blood; and without shedding of blood is no remission. 23 It was therefore necessary that the patterns of things in the heavens should be purified with these; but the heavenly things themselves with better sacrifices than these.

Heaven's Temple

There is, therefore, now no condemnation, for we can come boldly to the Mercy seat.

❖ This is in the temple in heaven.

Rev 15:8 KJV And the temple was filled with smoke from the glory of God, and from his power; and no man was able to enter into the temple, till the seven plagues of the seven angels were fulfilled.

❖ The Ark with the Mercy Seat is in the temple in Heaven.

Rev 11:19 KJV And the temple of God was opened in heaven, and there was seen in his temple the ark of his testament: and there were lightnings, and voices, and thunderings, and an earthquake, and great hail.

Christ is seated on the Mercy seat of the Ark in Heaven.

He made the way open for us by His blood so we can come into the presence of God.

Heb 9:24 KJV For Christ is not entered into the holy places made with hands, which are the figures of the true; but into heaven itself, now to appear in the presence of God for us:

He is now our High Priest in the temple of Heaven.

He now makes intercession for us as the heavenly High Priest.

Heb 7:25-26 KJV Wherefore he is able also to save them to the uttermost that come unto God by him, seeing he ever liveth to make intercession for them. 26 For such an high priest became us, who is holy, harmless, undefiled, separate from sinners, and made higher than the heavens;

Boldness through the blood

We can enter the presence of God with boldness because of the blood of Jesus Christ.

Heb 10:19 KJV Having therefore, brethren, boldness to enter into the holiest by the blood of Jesus,

We have received the gift of the blood by God's grace.

By grace, through faith in the blood of Jesus Christ, we can enter the presence of God in the Holy Place in heaven.

The throne of grace

❖ In heaven, there is a temple with the Ark and the mercy seat on it, a throne of grace as well.

We can enter the throne of grace because of our High Priest.

Our High Priest gave His blood for us, so we can come to His throne boldly.

Heb 4:15-16 KJV For we have not an high priest which cannot be touched with the feeling of our infirmities; but was in all points tempted like as we are, yet without sin. 16 Let us therefore come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need.

Boldness in prayer

➤ We can be bold in our prayers because of the blood of Jesus Christ that has redeemed us unto God.

We don't have to be fearful in the heavens, for Jesus Christ has the victory.

He has made the way open for us by cleansing the Heavenly things with His blood.

Col 1:20 KJV And, having made peace through the blood of his cross, by him to reconcile all things unto himself; by him, I say, whether they be things in earth, or things in heaven.

Therefore, we can come into the temple of God in heaven and before the throne of grace boldly.

❖ Christ Jesus has become our covering in Heavenly places and has become our mercy seat in Heaven's temple because of His blood sacrifices on the cross.

❖ Use your gift of grace and encounter God in heavenly places; this is your inheritance.

❖ God wants us, through faith, in prayer, to enter His presence with boldness so all fear will leave us as we encounter His loving kindness.

For perfect love casts out all fear.

1Jn 4:18-19 KJV There is no fear in love; but perfect love casteth out fear: because fear hath torment. He that feareth is not made perfect in love. 19 We love him, because he first loved us.

Heaven is full of perfect love, and you are called to go there in prayer, boldly.

The cross

We have now learnt about the blood of the cross and its outworking.

Col 1:20 KJV And, having made peace through the blood of his cross, by him to reconcile all things unto himself; by him, I say, whether they be things in earth, or things in heaven.

Now we want to understand the cross and its power.

Of course, the cross and the blood always work together. The resurrection is also part of this plan of redemption.

The cross destroys the power of sin

As we believe in Jesus Christ, our sin is forgiven because He died and rose again.

The crucified life because the cross is the power over sin in our lives.

For we now live from our born-again spirit.

Rom 6:6 KJV Knowing this, that our old man is crucified with him, that the body of sin might be destroyed, that henceforth we should not serve sin.

The day after Passover, they have the Feast of Unleavened Bread for seven days.

Jesus Christ was without sin.

They start the feast on the day Jesus Christ was in the grave.

He lived without sin and rose after three days.

Now we can be like leavened bread.

We are now a new creation, and through Christ's victory at the cross, we have power over sin.

Gal 2:20 KJV I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me.

If we want to walk in the newness of life, we must, through faith, live a crucified life.

Gal 6:14 KJV But God forbid that I should glory, save in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by whom the world is crucified unto me, and I unto the world.

We will then experience and live in close communion with God.

By the Cross, He redeemed us from the curse of the law

- The power of the cross sets us free from the curse of the law.

Col 2:14 KJV Blotting out the handwriting of ordinances that was against us, which was contrary to us, and took it out of the way, nailing it to his cross;

- Therefore, it also releases us and sets us free from generational curses.
- The cross also breaks the power when curses are spoken against us.

Gal 3:13 KJV Christ hath redeemed us from the curse of the law, being made a curse for us: for it is written, Cursed is every one that hangeth on a tree:

The Cross defeats Satan's power

- ❖ The greatest blow Satan ever got was when Jesus Christ died on the cross.

For on the cross is where Satan's power is broken.

Col 2:14-15 AMP Having cancelled and blotted out and wiped away the handwriting of the note (bond) with its legal decrees and demands which was in force and stood against us (hostile to us). This [note with its regulations, decrees, and demands] He set aside and cleared completely out of our way by nailing it to [His] cross. 15 [God] disarmed the principalities and powers that were ranged against us and made a bold display and public example of them, in triumphing over them in Him and in it [the cross].

God disarmed the principalities and the power of Satan when Jesus Christ died on the cross.

Jesus Christ did the Father's will as He died on the cross.

God the Father now did what He said He would do; He would deal with our enemies.

Psa 110:1 KJV The LORD said unto my Lord, Sit thou at my right hand, until I make thine enemies thy footstool.

- God made an open show of triumph over Satan, and his legal powers were taken away.
- The power of the note(bond) with its legal decrees, demands and regulations against us was also taken away.
- The cross was the place and power where Jesus Christ overcame Satan.
- One of the purposes for which Jesus Christ came to this Earth was to destroy the power of Satan.

1Jn 3:8 KJV He that committeth sin is of the devil; for the devil sinneth from the beginning. For this purpose the Son of God was manifested, that he might destroy the works of the devil.

The instrument of the cross and the power of the blood for today

Today, in our daily Christian life, the cross is the answer to victory over sin.

We need to keep the old man crucified.

Gal 2:20 KJV I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me.

We need the old man dead on the cross or buried with Christ.

We now live out of the new man by faith in Christ.

When we have anger problems, we nail it to the cross.

When we have lust problems, we nail it to the cross.

When we have a problem with bitterness and unforgiveness, we nail it to the cross.

When we have lying, stealing, drug, gambling, jealousy or alcohol problems, we nail it to the cross.

Or if we have gossip, backbiting, pride, or controlling problems, we nail them to the cross.

❖ When we feel defeated, faith, praise and thanksgiving in Christ are the answer.

➤ The cross is here today so we can die to self and live for Christ as we walk by faith.

➤ Every day, the joy of the Lord is our strength, for our born-again spirit is the joy of our salvation.

The cross releases the power of God

1Co 2:3-5 KJV And I was with you in weakness, and in fear, and in much trembling. 4 And my speech and my preaching was not with enticing words of man's wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power: 5 That your faith should not stand in the wisdom of men, but in the power of God.

Paul understood the principle of the cross.

If he would die to self, and live through faith in Christ, the Holy Spirit would flow through him.

This life of faith would bring:

1. Life more abundantly
2. Greater grace
3. A deep intimacy with God
4. A deep union with Christ, the Holy Spirit and God the Father
5. A great outpouring of the Holy Spirit and power
6. Great gifts of the Holy Spirit
7. Mighty signs, wonders and miracles

That is why Paul said: The preaching of the cross is the power of God.

1Co 1:18 KJV For the preaching of the cross is to them that perish foolishness; but unto us which are saved it is the power of God.

Therefore, when we preach the cross, Jesus Christ is lifted up.

He said, if we lift Him up, He will draw all men unto Himself.

There will be a greater harvest of souls when we preach redemption, yes, the message of the cross of Christ.

By Grace, we are Redeemed

Our glorious Lord revealed His glory to Moses.

The Lord said to Him, I am merciful and gracious, slow to anger and good and true.

(Exo 34:6) And the LORD passed by before him, and proclaimed, The LORD, The LORD God, merciful and gracious, longsuffering, and abundant in goodness and truth,

❖ Grace is part of God's glorious attributes.

Apostle Paul said that we are accepted and redeemed by the glory of His grace.

(Eph 1:6, 7) To the praise of the glory of his grace, wherein he hath made us accepted in the beloved.

In whom we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of his grace;

Therefore, redemption comes out of the riches of God's glorious grace.

By Grace

❖ We are redeemed by grace.

❖ We are redeemed by the riches of God's glorious grace.

(Eph 1:7) In whom we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of his grace;

Out of God's glorious heart, yes, out of the riches of Abba Father's grace, He sent His Son to redeem us.

❖ We are redeemed by grace and, therefore, also saved and born again by grace.

(Rom 3:24) Being justified freely by his grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus:

What is grace?

❖ The redeeming and saving grace is a gift involving grace on the part of God as the donor!

For by grace, we are redeemed and saved as a gift freely given to us.

Eph 2:8 KJV For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God:

❖ Grace is an attribute of God: Our God is gracious.

1Pe 2:3 KJV If so be ye have tasted that the Lord is gracious.

An attribute is a quality or characteristic. Another word for attribute is virtue; therefore, grace is also a virtue of God.

- Grace is divine favour.
- Grace is God's unmerited (can't earn it) favour in our lives.
- Grace is God's heart revealed through the gospel, for by grace, we are redeemed and saved.

Romans 3 shows this more completely.

Romans 3

In Romans 3: 20–25, we can see that we are redeemed through God's grace.

Rom 3:20-25 KJV Therefore by the deeds of the law there shall no flesh be justified in his sight: for by the law is the knowledge of sin. 21 But now the righteousness of God without the law is manifested, being witnessed by the law and the prophets; 22 Even the righteousness of God which is by faith of Jesus Christ unto all and upon all them that believe: for there is no difference: 23 For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God; 24 Being justified freely by his grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus: 25 Whom God hath set forth to be a propitiation through faith in his blood, to declare his righteousness for the remission of sins that are past, through the forbearance of God;

We see:

1. We are redeemed by grace

(Rom 3:24) Being justified freely by his grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus:

2. Made righteous without the law, through grace and faith.

(Rom 3:21,22) But now the righteousness of God without the law is manifested, being witnessed by the law and the prophets; Even the righteousness of God which is by faith of Jesus Christ unto all and upon all them that believe: for there is no difference:

3. Righteousness comes through faith.

(Rom 3:22) Even the righteousness of God which is by faith of Jesus Christ unto all and upon all them that believe: for there is no difference:

4. We all sinned

(Rom 3:23) For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God;

5. We are redeemed by grace and saved and born again by grace.

As you are redeemed by grace, all the other 9 redeeming gifts, like salvation, born again, reconciliation, and propitiation, also come to you by grace.

Redemption and the Fear of God

- ❖ If we want God's fire in our lives, we need to walk in the fear of God.

Many Christians want the fire of God in their lives, yet some have wrong motivations.

The true fire of God is pure and holy.

- ❖ John Raimerez says that the fear of God releases holy fire in our lives.

Our God is holy; therefore, we need to believe, repent and be redeemed, yes, being reconciled with God.

We were enemies of God and had a rebellious nature.

(Rom 5:9-11) Much more then, being now justified by his blood, we shall be saved from wrath through him. 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. And not only so, but we also joy in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, by whom we have now received the atonement.

- ❖ The understanding of redemption and reconciliation will make us realise that our God is holy.

- ❖ Out of the riches of His grace, we are redeemed, and from this grace, we can learn to walk in the holy fear of God.

Understanding that our God is holy and, therefore, pure light makes us want to press into the fear of God.

Then, through grace, this will release the Holy Spirit's fire into our lives.

Different kinds of grace

There are different kinds of grace, and these different kinds of grace bring God's blessing and favour upon us and our lives. We have:

1. The glory of grace.
2. Redeeming grace that saves us.
3. Saving grace and grace for all aspects of redemption.
4. The grace of God's favour and blessing is poured out on us.
5. Grace that brings God's power into our lives.
6. Grace that loosens God's charismatic gifts or gifts of grace.
7. Grace for ministry, service and daily work.
8. Greater grace.

Redeeming Grace

There are different outworkings of God's grace.

The most important one is the redeeming grace that also saves us.

(Eph 1:6,7) To the praise of the glory of his grace, wherein he hath made us accepted in the beloved. In whom we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of his grace;

The redeeming grace is God's gift to us.

As we are redeemed, we are saved and, therefore, receive God's gift to us.

(Eph 2:8) For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God:

We have to receive this redeeming and saving grace.

Through this gift of grace, we become children of God.

A gift

At one time, I was in Indonesia.

I was with a preacher whose daughter, when she was seven years old, preached to crowds of up to 30,000 people.

People came to see this young preacher.

Mighty miracles happened, pillars of fire were seen, and many witnesses saw the angels in the meetings.

This preacher lived in Manado, and they had their own style of clothes.

The preacher said I want to buy this beautiful coloured shirt for you, which is a speciality in our culture.

Well, this shirt is not a typical Western shirt, yet very beautiful.

Then the preacher asked me if I would wear it.

Grace is a gift.

You can receive the gift and put it on a shelf.

I received this beautiful shirt as a gift.

I have worn it many times, often for special occasions.

This story shows the importance of Ephesians 2:8, that grace is a gift.

We need to do something with this gift.

Eph 2:8 KJV For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God:

The next story shows how a man received the gift of grace, was changed through the gift and restored by the power of the gift.

Grace that Redeems and Saves

John van der Fields was a top Tour de France cyclist.

Yet the temptation not to take any vitamins was too great for him. He started to use them.

Some other problems in his life led him to use drugs as well.

His wife and children did not know.

He soon ran out of money.

Then he started stealing and became a criminal.

At a particular moment, he was caught and put into prison. The news media shamed him via the media.

The family was devastated.

In prison, he heard about the gift of grace.

He heard about the gospel of the cross of Christ and how this grace could change him.

He repented of his sin and became a believer, a follower of Christ.

The grace started to change him and set him free from sin and drugs, as he had become a new creation in Christ.

When he came out of prison, his family life was restored.

Then he became involved in community work and went back into the sport of cycling.

His name was restored in the newspapers, all because of the grace of God.

Glorious Grace that Redeems

- ❖ God has redeemed us by His redeeming glorious grace.
- ❖ There is great awesome glory in His grace.
- ❖ His glorious grace releases the riches of His grace.

(Eph 1:6) To the praise of the glory of his grace, wherein he hath made us accepted in the beloved.

Out of this glorious grace, we are accepted into the Father heart of God through His beloved Son.

This grace releases the glory of God in our lives.

This grace releases the glory and its gifts and power, whereby we can be totally changed and become sons of glory.

This grace had the divine nature and divine power to change us.

The whole process of redemption and growing in Christ comes to us through the riches of His grace out of the glory of His grace.

Through the riches of His grace, we are redeemed, forgiven and washed by the blood of Jesus Christ and receive a new nature.

(Eph 1:7) In whom we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of his grace;

- ❖ Out of the glory of His grace, the riches of His grace have the power to transform us daily wherever we struggle with sin and temptation in our daily walk.

Out of the riches of His glory, the riches of His grace release the Spirit of might.

(Eph 3:16,17) That he would grant you, according to the riches of his glory, to be strengthened with might by his Spirit in the inner man; That Christ may dwell in your hearts by faith; that ye, being rooted and grounded in love,

❖ Through the Spirit of might, the riches of His glory help us to be rooted in the love of Christ.

River

Rev 22:1 KJV And he shewed me a pure river of water of life, clear as crystal, proceeding out of the throne of God and of the Lamb.

❖ God's grace is without measure or limit.

His grace is like a river, and the vessel we are on is called faith.

Faith is a gift, so we can travel on the river.

Our destination is the throne of God, where more grace will be poured out on us.

We can now access the throne of grace with boldness because of Christ's redeeming blood sacrifices.

In prayer, this is very important so that God's mercy will be poured out on earth today.

(Heb 4:16) Let us therefore come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need.

Today and in all eternity, we will experience the glory of His grace.

Now we are accepted in the beloved.

This grace will break the power of rejection in our lives and bring healing and restoration.

(Eph 1:6) To the praise of the glory of his grace, wherein he hath made us accepted in the beloved.

Revelation

It is important to get a revelation about the glory of His grace here on earth.

➤ The Glory of God's grace wants to set us free from many bondages here on earth.

Bondage like dead works, dead traditions of man, and false expectations of salvation through the law.

Jesus Christ came to bring:

1. Grace
2. Truth

Joh 1:16-17 AMP For out of His fullness (abundance) we have all received (all had a share and we were all supplied with) one grace after another and spiritual blessing upon spiritual blessing and even favour upon favour and gift (heaped) upon gift. For while the Law was given through Moses, grace (unearned, undeserved favour and spiritual blessing) and truth came through Jesus Christ.

In Ephesians 1, we have read that it is God's glorious grace by which we are forgiven, saved and adopted as His children. John said Christ brought grace and truth.

And out of Christ's fullness, we receive grace upon grace.

- The fullness comes out of the glory of God's grace, and by His grace, we are now made one with His holiness.
- Grace will now help us to walk holy before the Lord.
- The truth will set us free of all that is not part of grace and that is not part of God's divine nature in us.

Only Grace

The Law cannot save us. It was never God's intention to save us through the law.

Rom 3:20 KJV Therefore by the deeds of the law there shall no flesh be justified in his sight: for by the law is the knowledge of sin.

Moses brought the Law.

- The Law shows that all are sinners.
- The schoolmaster, the Law, leads us to our redeemer, Jesus Christ.

Gal 3:24 KJV Wherefore the law was our schoolmaster to bring us unto Christ, that we might be justified by faith.

Jesus Christ came by God's grace, and He was God's grace by which all men are called to repent and be redeemed.

God's love is unconditional

Grace is conditional

First, we are called to repent; then we can receive true redeeming grace.

Second, we are called to believe.

One man

One man brought sin and death into this world.

And One Man brought righteousness and eternal life into this world.

God's grace, through the gospel of the cross of Christ, brought righteousness and eternal life into this world.

Rom 5:17 KJV For if by one man's offence death reigned by one; much more they which receive abundance of grace and of the gift of righteousness shall reign in life by one, Jesus Christ.

Jesus Christ is the man of grace whereby we are called to reign.

Reign through Christ's righteousness

As we have received God's grace

As we have believed.

We have received Jesus Christ, His righteousness and eternal life.

We are now called to rule.

Rom 5:21 KJV That as sin hath reigned unto death, even so might grace reign through righteousness unto eternal life by Jesus Christ our Lord.

- True righteousness in Christ has its full outworking through the Lordship.
- When Jesus Christ is made Lord, then sin has to bow and leave.
- ❖ By grace, through righteousness in Christ, we are now ruling.

The glory of grace and ruling in righteousness will:

- ✓ Empowers us not to sin
- ✓ Empowers us to live righteously
- ✓ Empowers us to live victoriously
- ✓ Helps us to live in the Spirit
- ✓ Helps us to live like a new creation
- ✓ Helps us to live in deep fellowship with the Father, Son and Holy Spirit
- ✓ Breaks condemnation, guilt and lies

Abundance

There is an abundance of grace that flows out of the riches of His grace, from the glory of His grace.

Grace is an attribute of God, and He has limitless grace waiting for you.

Rom 5:17 KJV For if by one man's offence death reigned by one; much more they which receive abundance of grace and of the gift of righteousness shall reign in life by one, Jesus Christ.)

In the Amplified Version of the Bible, it says: it is overflowing.

Grace is limitless.

Eph 2:7 AMP He did this that He might clearly demonstrate through the ages to come the immeasurable (limitless, surpassing) riches of His free grace (His unmerited favor) in [His] kindness and goodness of heart toward us in Christ Jesus.

Apostle Paul

- ❖ Paul was brought up under the old school.
- ❖ The old school was the Law of Moses.

Moses had received the Law on Mount Sinai.

Paul persecuted the Christians who believed that Christ was the Messiah and could forgive sins.

Redeemed by the Glory of Grace

Paul, who was very zealous in persecuting Christians, was struck down by the appearance of a bright light.

Act 9:3-4 KJV And as he journeyed, he came near Damascus: and suddenly there shined round about him a light from heaven: 4 And he fell to the earth, and heard a voice saying unto him, Saul, Saul, why persecutest thou me?

- The risen Jesus Christ appeared in the glory of the grace of Yahweh to Paul.

Act 22:11 KJV And when I could not see for the glory of that light, being led by the hand of them that were with me, I came into Damascus.

- The brightness of the glory of God made Paul blind.

Christ spoke to him and called him to believe and be redeemed and saved.
He became a preacher of the gospel.

Gal 1:15-16 KJV But when it pleased God, who separated me from my mother's womb and called me by his grace, 16 To reveal his Son in me, that I might preach him among the heathen; immediately I conferred not with flesh and blood:

- ❖ Paul used to teach at the old school.
- ❖ Now, Paul was called to teach the new school.

Old school

The old school was the way God instructed Moses to teach the Law.

New School

The new school is the school of grace and truth whereby Christ has brought the gospel of salvation to us.

Don't frustrate Grace

We can frustrate grace.

The Holy Spirit is called the Spirit of Grace.

Heb 10:29 KJV Of how much sorer punishment, suppose ye, shall he be thought worthy, who hath trodden under foot the Son of God, and hath counted the blood of the covenant, wherewith he was sanctified, an unholy thing, and hath done despite unto the Spirit of grace?

- We can quench the Holy Spirit and see God's favour and blessings stop working in our lives!
- We can do this because we can frustrate the grace of God and therefore quench the spirit of grace!

Gal 2:20-21 KJV I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me. 21 I do not frustrate the grace of God: for if righteousness come by the law, then Christ is dead in vain.

- ❖ The way to move forward and see more grace in our lives is to grow in the new school.
- ❖ The school of the glory of grace.

The Apostle Paul became a powerful teacher in the new school of the glory of grace.

He wrote the books of Romans and Ephesians, where the subject of grace is taught.

Frustrating grace

We are redeemed and saved by faith.

- ✚ If we think we can also be redeemed and saved or justified by the law, then we frustrate grace.

- ✚ If we think that through good works we can save ourselves, we are also frustrating grace.

- ✚ When we go back to our old sinful lifestyle, we frustrate the grace of God.

Gal 2:16 KJV Knowing that a man is not justified by the works of the law, but by the faith of Jesus Christ, even we have believed in Jesus Christ, that we might be justified by the faith of Christ, and not by the works of the law: for by the works of the law shall no flesh be justified.

We have to totally abandon the old school of religion.

We have to totally live in God's grace and walk by faith.

- When we walk the way of the new school of the glory of grace, the Spirit of grace will work in us and for us!

God's favour and blessing will be poured out.

Grace will give you the power to love your enemies and help you to love instead of to judge.

Grace is the opposite of judging.

Grace will set you free from a judgmental mentality.

Grace vs. the Law

The grace of God that works through the cross vs the Law.

Grace	The Law
1. Grace covers sin.	1. The law shows sin.
2. Grace brings life.	2. Law brings death.
3. The grace of the cross sets free.	3. Law brings condemnation.
4. The blood of the cross washes faults away.	4. The Law finds fault.
5. By receiving God's grace through believing in Christ and His sacrifice on the cross, we are not guilty.	5. The Law says we are guilty.
6. Christ made us righteous through His grace-full sacrifice on the cross.	6. The Law shows we are unrighteous.
7. Grace, through Christ's sacrifice on the cross, made us perfect in Him.	7. The Law shows we are not perfect.

A New Heart

The promise is that God, by His grace, gives us a new heart.

Eze 36:26 KJV A new heart also will I give you, and a new spirit will I put within you: and I will take away the stony heart out of your flesh, and I will give you an heart of flesh.

This new heart comes by grace through faith when we are born again.

We are in the new school of grace.

This grace will give us the power in Christ Jesus not to go against God's moral laws.

We are not redeemed by the Law but by grace through faith.

Faith establishes the law.

Rom 3:31 KJV Do we then make void the law through faith? God forbid: yea, we establish the law.

Now, because we are redeemed and saved through the gospel of the cross of Christ, we want to love Christ.

We want to love our neighbour because we love God.

We do not want to steal, murder or be an adulterer because of God's grace.

Perverted grace

Grace is the way of redemption, and grace should help us grow in holiness.

Yet, some people use grace to mislead the saints of God.

Jud 1:4 AMP For certain men have crept in stealthily [*gaining entrance secretly by a side door*]. Their doom was predicted long ago, ungodly (impious, profane) persons who pervert the grace (the spiritual blessing and favor) of our God into lawlessness and wantonness and immorality, and disown and deny our sole Master and Lord, Jesus Christ (the Messiah, the Anointed One).

These people pervert grace.

They use the message of grace to lead people into lawlessness.

This then leads to immorality, going to bars, drinking, homosexuality, adultery, gambling and other sins, and then this becomes good.

What they present as the gospel is perverted and, therefore, a perverted grace.

This false perverted grace message leads to hell.

True grace makes us stop sinning.

Rom 6:14 KJV For sin shall not have dominion over you: for ye are not under the law, but under grace.

How to multiply grace

1. By pressing into knowing God the Father and the Lord Jesus more intimately.

1Pe 1:2 KJV Elect according to the foreknowledge of God the Father, through sanctification of the Spirit, unto obedience and sprinkling of the blood of Jesus Christ: Grace unto you, and peace, be multiplied.

2. By knowing God and understanding God's ways.
3. By becoming more humble, by growing in humility.

Jas 4:6 KJV But he giveth more grace. Wherefore he saith, God resisteth the proud, but giveth grace unto the humble.

We need to become strong in God's grace and press in to receive more grace. Paul told Timothy to be strong in God's grace.

2Ti 2:1 KJV Thou therefore, my son, be strong in the grace that is in Christ Jesus.

Grace is many-sided

One of the workings of God's glory of grace is that it leads us into the heart of God.

- Grace opens the way into the heart of God.
- Mercy reveals and makes known the heart of God.

It is the grace of the blood of Christ shed at the cross that opens up the way into the heart of God. This grace takes the condemnation, shame and feelings of being unworthy away.

Being Bound by Fear, Guilt and Shame

Nathan Reynolds is a satanic ritual abuse survivor.

He has been redeemed by the blood of the Lamb and now follows Christ as Lord and Saviour.

He comes from the high society class.

He says that these elites rule by FEAR, GUILT and SHAME.

Nathan was bound and ruled by fear, guilt and shame.

Now he is going through deeper levels of healing and freedom from fear, guilt and shame.

Guilt comes in different ways.

One of the ways it comes is through the Law, which shows us we have sinned and are guilty.

(Rom 3:19) Now we know that what things soever the law saith, it saith to them who are under the law: that every mouth may be stopped, and all the world may become guilty before God.

Christ's redeeming blood has come to us by grace and washes us of our sin, guilt, and shame, and it breaks the bondage of fear.

(Rom 3:24, 25) Being justified freely by his grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus: Whom God hath set forth to be a propitiation through faith in his blood, to declare his righteousness for the remission of sins that are past, through the forbearance of God;

Now through faith in Christ's redemption, we are justified and no longer guilty in the courtrooms of heaven and, therefore, the Son of God has set us free.

Established in grace

❖ God wants us to be established, by grace, in the love of the Father heart of God.

The blood of the Lamb takes all abandonment, bondage and darkness out of our hearts.

Grace does all that and more.

Heb 13:9 KJV Be not carried about with divers and strange doctrines. For it is a good thing that the heart be established with grace; not with meats, which have not profited them that have been occupied therein.

The Bible says that it is good that the heart is established in grace.

We need to be established in grace. Our hearts also need to be established in grace.

When we are established in grace, we enter into His rest.

Mat 11:28-30 KJV Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. 29 Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls. 30 For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.

Many Christians can't find rest.

They are always doing things because of unrest and carry false burdens.

Many are like this because their hearts are established in the Law, and therefore they feel condemned.

According to the Bible, our hearts should be established in grace.

❖ The New Covenant is the covenant of grace!

Jesus Christ brought grace and truth.

Deep love

- We can't experience God's love deeply until we have broken through into grace.
- Grace brings us into the heart of God.
- The power released through grace breaks condemnation.

We need a revelation of God's grace within our hearts.

Rom 6:14 KJV For sin shall not have dominion over you: for ye are not under the law, but under grace.

The Power of Grace.

- ❖ The power of grace breaks the power of sin and condemnation that wants to stop us from breaking through in the Father heart of God.
- ❖ We have to break out of the prison of law into the freedom of grace by the power of grace.
- ❖ Grace gives us power.
- ❖ Strongholds of lies, deception and fear are broken by the power of grace.

Gal 5:1 KJV Stand fast therefore in the liberty wherewith Christ hath made us free, and be not entangled again with the yoke of bondage.

Legalistic

In the nation of the Netherlands, where I come from, people are very legalistic.

I was in the prison of religious legalism deep in my heart.

This stopped me from becoming a real Christian.

When I saw the freedom some Christians had because of the grace of God, I opened my heart to God.

The power of God's grace has set me free of the prison of legalism and the dead tradition of man.

- ❖ Grace has saved me, and grace is leading me into the heart of God.

Into His heart

God is a gracious God.

His grace is pure, holy and perfect.

1Pe 2:3 KJV If so be ye have tasted that the Lord is gracious.

We are justified or made righteous by God's grace.

- Therefore, God's grace leads us to God's gracious heart, for God is a gracious God.

Our hearts were tainted by sin, corruption and the fall.

Our hearts need to be healed and set free by this grace so we can receive God's gracious love out of His gracious heart.

God's gracious heart is waiting for us to become one with His heart because of redemption.

Jesus Christ said it is finished.

- ❖ His gracious blood opened the way into the Father Heart of God.

Now we can receive His goodness, His grace and His merciful heart.

We can reject it by living in the flesh or doing the works out of law and legalism.

How to get there

- The cross is God's grace in action.

The cross is God's redeeming plan at work, which comes to us by grace.

The cross helps us to crucify the flesh and thereby helps us to live in the spirit.

Gal 2:20 KJV I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me.

- ❖ To come to the cross daily and walk daily in the resurrection power by faith is the way to grow in the gracious heart of God.

Pro 8:34-35 KJV Blessed is the man that heareth me, watching daily at my gates, waiting at the posts of my doors. 35 For whoso findeth me findeth life, and shall obtain favour of the LORD.

For all of this is given to us by grace.

God wants us to encounter His holy, loving, gracious heart daily.

- ❖ We don't have to live far apart.

We are called to experience God's heart, grace and love daily as we learn to live in the spirit.

Going deeper

- ❖ Grace is God's riches at Christ's expense.
- The holy God, who is gracious, wants you to grow deep into His loving heart.

Christ has paid for it; now He wants to establish you in the loving and kind heart of God.
Through grace, we grow in His loving heart and are established there.

- ❖ Yes, grace establishes us in the heart of Father God.

1Pe 5:10 AMP And after you have suffered a little while, the God of all grace [Who imparts all blessing and favor], Who has called you to His [own] eternal glory in Christ Jesus, will Himself complete and make you what you ought to be, establish and ground you securely, and strengthen, and settle you.

By the Glory of Grace

We go deeper into the loving heart of the Father through the Holy Spirit.
As we surrender to the spirit of God's glory, we will go deeper into Father's loving heart.
For by the glory of His grace, we are accepted in the beloved.
The glory of His grace helps us to grow in the Father heart of God.

(Eph 1:6) To the praise of the glory of his grace, wherein he hath made us accepted in the beloved.

The God of all grace will:

1. Perfect you.
2. Establish you.
3. Ground you securely.
4. Strengthen you.
5. Settle you.

At times, we go through trials and temptations; we go through suffering.
All of this is part of our growing process.

The grace of God that comes by the cross of Christ will help and overcome all, so we are going and growing deeper into the heart of God.

Things that stop us

There can be problems: sins, habits or mindsets that stop us from entering into the heart of God.
Remember, the grace of the cross will bring us into God's heart.

Things that can stop us from accessing the heart of God:

1. Guilt
2. Shame
3. Grief
4. Fear
5. Worry and anxiety
6. Bitterness and anger

A Strong Revelation of His Love

I have been redeemed for 30 years now.
Yet I press in to know the Father's loving heart.
Two weeks ago, I had a strong revelation of His love for me.
I was encountering God the Father.

I saw the flames of the burning love of the Father.
Out of the heart of the fire came 2 big arms of love.
I heard Him say, come home.
And the Father said, come into My arms.
Come home, my son.
I walked into His arms.
As I did this, I also walked into the flames of fire.
I started to weep intensely.
I felt His fiery, consuming love burning into my heart.

I heard again, come home.

I pressed in deeper; the intensity of His heart felt like love and purity, and it became stronger.

Later, when I was outside, the world was more beautiful, and nature was so wonderful.

This is what God, through His grace, has prepared for us.

Grace calls us home.

Home, back to the Father.

Deeper into His Father's heart, love, goodness, kindness and graciousness.

Issues that stop Glorious Grace

God made us body, soul and spirit.

Our spirit is born again and made new as we are redeemed.

However, our soul still needs to be renewed and restored.

Our soul is where guilt, shame, darkness and depression are.

Now, through grace and the working of the Holy Spirit, God wants to restore our souls.

1. Guilt

Guilt can stop us from moving into all God has for us.

The power of sin works deep within our hearts and souls because when we were still living in sin, guilt had a deep grip on us.

People who were deeply involved with dark sins, false religion and sexual sins still struggle with deep feelings of guilt even after they confess their sins.

- Only if we get a deep revelation of God's grace that works through the blood and the cross will deep-seated guilt leave our soul and heart.
- Victory and power will be revealed as we break through what He has already forgiven us for.

Mat 26:28 KJV For this is my blood of the new testament, which is shed for many for the remission of sins.

Forgiveness is also called remission of sins.

Remission of sins says:

- a. All your guilt is taken away.
- b. The penalty of sin is fully paid.

If you have truly repented and have asked for forgiveness of your sins, then God's power of grace wants to take the deepest-seated guilt away.

The gospel of the cross of Christ also wants to bring deep brokenness over past sins or things you still struggle with.

Brokenness at the cross brings peace.

Rom 3:25 KJV Whom God hath set forth to be a propitiation through faith in his blood, to declare his righteousness for the remission of sins that are past, through the forbearance of God;

By faith, we are righteous.

It is what we are in Christ that makes the difference.

False religious voices will say you are guilty because of the Law, but we are redeemed by grace, through faith.

- ❖ Therefore, we can now be set free by the glory of His grace, through the power of the Holy Spirit, from all guilt and condemnation.

In Christ, by grace, through faith, we can live today in the presence and loving Heart of the Father; this is our born-again spirit.

2. Shame

When Adam and Eve were in paradise, they were unashamed.

Gen 2:24-25 KJV Therefore shall a man leave his father and his mother, and shall cleave unto his wife: and they shall be one flesh. 25 And they were both naked, the man and his wife, and were not ashamed.

Today, many people are struggling with shame.

This shame started when Adam and Eve sinned.

Shame is a loss of beauty.

Many people are struggling with deep shame.

This is because they have sinned deeply.

When people are abused in any kind of way or are bound with deep darkness, they feel deeply ashamed.

All kinds of people want to have plastic surgery or change their hairstyles to cover up their shame.

Jesus Christ is the second Adam. He took all our shame.

Rom 5:14-15 KJV Nevertheless death reigned from Adam to Moses, even over them that had not sinned after the similitude of Adam's transgression, who is the figure of him that was to come. 15 But not as the offence, so also is the free gift. For if through the offence of one many be dead, much more the grace of God, and the gift by grace, which is by one man, Jesus Christ, hath abounded unto many.

By God's grace, through redemption, which is through the blood of Christ, all our shame is washed away.
Grace makes us beautiful again.

❖ We receive inner beauty when we believe.

Psa 103:4 AMP Who redeems your life from the pit and corruption, Who beautifies, dignifies, and crowns you with loving-kindness and tender mercy;

The Amplified Bible says, who beautifies and dignifies us.

- Sin takes our dignity away.
- Redemption gives us our dignity back.
- Our inner beauty is restored.
- We are crowned with the crown of life because of His lovingkindness.

This is the radiance of our inner man shining to the outside of us, so all men can see our inner beauty.

3. Grief

Today, depression is one of the major illnesses.

Many people are depressed because they are grieving.

Being in grief is being in pain, distress, heaviness, and hopelessness.

Being gripped with depression and grief robs people of power, strength and vision in life.

The good news of the gospel of the cross of Christ is that Jesus Christ can set you free from this and heal your heart.

Isa 53:4 KJV Surely he hath borne our griefs, and carried our sorrows: yet we did esteem him stricken, smitten of God, and afflicted.

- He bore our griefs.
- The power of grief, even of death, is broken.

He wants to give you joy and put the mantle of praise on you because of His victory for you.

Isa 61:3 KJV To appoint unto them that mourn in Zion, to give unto them beauty for ashes, the oil of joy for mourning, the garment of praise for the spirit of heaviness; that they might be called trees of righteousness, the planting of the LORD, that he might be glorified.

4. Fear

Faith is the opposite of fear.

We are redeemed through faith in the riches of His grace.

This faith set us free from fear.

Jesus Christ has broken all the powers of fear, especially the fear of death, through redemption.

Heb 2:14-15 KJV Forasmuch then as the children are partakers of flesh and blood, he also himself likewise took part of the same; that through death he might destroy him that had the power of death, that is, the devil; 15 And deliver them who through fear of death were all their lifetime subject to bondage.

Through faith, we are in Christ and the power of fear over our lives and in our lives is broken.

Grace takes us into the heart of God as we use our faith.

We can struggle with feelings of being unworthy or of unhealthy fear towards God.

Perfect love is the answer.

By grace, through faith, we can access this perfect love.

1Jn 4:18 KJV There is no fear in love; but perfect love casteth out fear: because fear hath torment. He that feareth is not made perfect in love.

By grace, we enter into perfect love.

Perfect love casts out all fear.

Grace takes us into the heart of God the Father.

God the Father is perfect in love.

You have access to the heart of our Loving Father through redemption.

Believe it and break the lies and the fear in the name of Jesus Christ and speak out, "I am worthy of experiencing the perfect love of God the Father".

5. Worry and Anxiety

When we worry and are anxious, we don't trust.

Trusting is the deeper level of faith.

When we trust, we are resting in the Peace of God.

Jesus Christ is the Prince of Peace.

He came to bring the peace of the Kingdom of heaven to us.

Rom 14:17 KJV For the kingdom of God is not meat and drink; but righteousness, and peace, and joy in the Holy Ghost.

Grace and mercy bring us into the Peace of God.

2Co 1:2-4 KJV Grace be to you and peace from God our Father, and from the Lord Jesus Christ. 3 Blessed be God, even the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies, and the God of all comfort; 4 Who comforteth us in all our tribulation, that we may be able to comfort them which are in any trouble, by the comfort wherewith we ourselves are comforted of God.

The more we press into the heart of our loving God, the more we receive healing from this trust.

He comforts and heals us.

Psa 103:3-4 KJV Who forgiveth all thine iniquities; who healeth all thy diseases; 4 Who redeemeth thy life from destruction; who crowneth thee with lovingkindness and tender mercies;

Where our hearts are broken because of hurt, healing comes.

Then worry and anxiety will start to lose their ground.

Trust will come, and faith will become strong.

Trust and faith will make us rest in God's peace, and worry and anxiety will leave.

6. Bitterness and Anger

Life can throw things at us that make us bitter.

Bitterness is a prison cell.

Jesus Christ came to set the prisoner free.

Isa 61:1 KJV The Spirit of the Lord GOD is upon me; because the LORD hath anointed me to preach good tidings unto the meek; he hath sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and the opening of the prison to them that are bound;

Many bitter people are also broken-hearted.

The way of forgiveness is the way out of the prison of bitterness and anger.

As a result of this, we can receive healing for our broken hearts.

Rom 1:7 KJV To all that be in Rome, beloved of God, called to be saints: Grace to you and peace from God our Father, and the Lord Jesus Christ.

We have forgiveness of sins because of the riches of His grace.

The forgiveness of sins will open the doors of our prisons.

We have to choose to come out.

God is a forgiving God, so He wants us to also forgive the people who have sinned against us.

Mat 6:12 KJV And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors.

To receive forgiveness and to forgive others is the way into the heart of God.

Also, we must let go of our bitterness, anger and resentment.

Everything we struggle with has to go to the cross.

Confess your sin, and the blood will cleanse you.

- ❖ As you do, know that the grace of God is here to establish you in the heart of our loving Father.
- ❖ Believe it and press into His loving arms.

Dwelling in Love

God is love.

The Father Himself loves us.

His love is pure.

The cross is the way into that pure love.

1Jn 4:16 And we have known and believed the love that God hath to us. God is love; and he that dwelleth in love dwelleth in God, and God in him.

Here on earth, God wants us to live and experience this pure love.

- ❖ God's love comes through the cross of Christ into our lives.
- ❖ The cross is God's doorway into His love.

(1Jn 4:9,10) In this was manifested the love of God toward us, because that God sent his only begotten Son into the world, that we might live through him. Herein is love, not that we loved God, but that he loved us, and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins.

His plan for us is to dwell in His love. Not only in heaven but here on earth today.

1Jn 4:16 And we have known and believed the love that God hath to us. God is love; and he that dwelleth in love dwelleth in God, and God in him.

- Dwelling in this love is being in God.

God's heart is crying out for you to come to this place of intimacy and fellowship with Him.

Dwelling means putting a tent of love over your body and your life.

It means staying in His love, living in His love, abiding in His love, and breaking through in His love.

My testimony of dwelling

Once I was deeply surrendered to God and had repented at the cross, I was filled with the Holy Spirit.

From then on, I was overwhelmed time and time again with God's love, joy and peace.

I learnt not to go back to the sinful things I did before.

- I learnt to dwell in this great love of God.
- Because of this, I have stayed on fire and lived in the first love for forty years now.

As I tarry and press into the cross daily, this great love is increasing.

I am hungry for more.

The cross is here for us as believers to grow daily deeper into fellowship with God and His love.

1Jn 1:2,3 (For the life was manifested, and we have seen it, and bear witness, and shew unto you that eternal life, which was with the Father, and was manifested unto us;) 3 That which we have seen and heard declare we unto you, that ye also may have fellowship with us: and truly our fellowship is with the Father, and with his Son Jesus Christ.

God wants deep fellowship with you.

Do you want deep fellowship with Him?

God first loved you

1Jn 4:10 Herein is love, not that we loved God, but that he loved us, and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins.

Many are angry with God because false religion has hurt them.

During the Dark Ages in Europe, people were killed by the religious systems of those days.

Today, we are still affected by those dark clouds of yesterday.

The truth is that those false religious systems had nothing to do with the love of God.

So we have to let go of our anger and open our hearts to the real love of God.

God is waiting to pour His love out on you.
HE FIRST LOVED US.

1Jn 4:19 We love him, because he first loved us.

He is waiting to win your heart.
He found you, and He is drawing you.
Your part to play is to surrender to that love.

Father's Glorious Love

Apostle Paul prays that the Father of glory may give unto us a Spirit of wisdom and revelation so we will know Him more in a deep, loving way.

For our heavenly Father's heart is full of love for us.

(Eph 1:17,18) That the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give unto you the spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of him: The eyes of your understanding being enlightened; that ye may know what is the hope of his calling, and what the riches of the glory of his inheritance in the saints,

This great, glorious love was seen, heard and experienced by Moses.
Moses prayed that he might see God's glory.
God heard his prayer and showed him His glory.

(Exo 34:6) And the LORD passed by before him, and proclaimed, The LORD, The LORD God, merciful and gracious, longsuffering, and abundant in goodness and truth,

Here the Lord told Moses about God's beautiful attributes of mercy, grace, longsuffering, abundance of goodness and truth.

In the New Living Translation, it says that God said He is filled with unfailing love and faithfulness.

Walk in Love

As believers, we are called to walk in love.

(Eph 5:2) And walk in love, as Christ also hath loved us, and hath given himself for us an offering and a sacrifice to God for a sweetsmelling savour.

Out of love for us, Christ gave His life on the cross to redeem us from our fallen nature so we could become a new creation. As believers, we who are a new creation are called to put on love, so we can learn to walk in love.

(Col 3:12-15) Put on therefore, as the elect of God, holy and beloved, bowels of mercies, kindness, humbleness of mind, meekness, longsuffering; Forbearing one another, and forgiving one another, if any man have a quarrel against any: even as Christ forgave you, so also do ye. And above all these things put on charity, which is the bond of perfectness. And let the peace of God rule in your hearts, to the which also ye are called in one body; and be ye thankful.

Apostle Paul shows us that we are to put on all these glorious attributes of God.
He says, " Put on, or clothe yourself with tender-hearted mercy, kindness, humility and patience."
However, according to him, love is the greatest attribute.
He says, therefore, above all, clothe yourself with love.
The blessing of this love is that it brings oneness and harmony.

Col 3:14 (NLT) Above all, clothe yourselves with love, which binds us all together in perfect harmony.

As we clothe ourselves with love as a new creation, we are ready to walk in love.
Love is the way that leads us higher, whereby we overcome hate, bitterness, and gossip and gives us the power to love everybody.

Love your Wife

This glorious love is here for us to enjoy a good marriage.
We, as men, are told to love our wives.

(Eph 5:25) Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ also loved the church, and gave himself for it;

Men are called to love their wives as Christ also loved us, as He demonstrated to us by dying on the cross to redeem us.

This love will make us selfless as we look to our Master, who gave all for us.

Apostle Paul says this to men because this does not come so easily for men, yet wives are also to love their husbands as they learn to reverence their husbands.

Going to the cross daily releases the power to love, for we are risen with Christ in the new life.

Love is a Fruit

Love is part of the fruit of the Spirit.

(Gal 5:22) But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith,

Love is mentioned as the first fruit of the Spirit.

It is mentioned first because it makes way for the other ones.

Christ said, by this the world will know that you are my disciples, that you love one another.

(Joh 13:34) A new commandment I give unto you, That ye love one another; as I have loved you, that ye also love one another.

Here, Jesus gave us the commandment to love one another.

Growing and Living in Love

In prayer and spiritual warfare, there is the principle of

- A. Sitting
 - B. Standing
 - C. Walking
-
- A. In prayer, we are seated with Christ in heavenly places.
 - B. We are then to stand in faith, as watchmen.
 - C. Our ministry of prayer is to do the walking, to pray, to do prayer walks and go and be a witness.

The Same is True for Love

1. We are first to be clothed with love.
 2. Secondly, we are to grow in love, this by being healed of old pain, hurts and abandonment. Then we become one with the bridegroom.
 3. As love is the highest way and we are called to love one another, now we live and love out of love.
- When we minister to people, we also do this out of love.
For love is the way that leads us higher.

A vision

This is a vision that I saw:

On the cross, He was beaten so much to show us how much He loves us.

His hands were pierced with nails because He cares so much about you.

His feet were pierced with nails because He has mercy and grace waiting for us.

He was hanging on the cross and bleeding to death so you could become one with His lovingkindness.

He was in a moment of great darkness and loneliness, and He felt forsaken by God the Father so you could come to know the Father's heart.

He died for you so you could have eternal life in His loving presence.

The prodigal son

- The Lord Jesus Christ has come from the bosom of the Father's heart of God to the Earth.
- He knew and understood the Father's love for us.
- He was also God's manifest love on Earth for us, for He is God.
- He told us about the heart of the Father from the Kingdom of Heaven's point of view.

He did this by telling us the story of the Prodigal Son.

Luk 15:11 - 24 And he said, A certain man had two sons: 12 And the younger of them said to his father, Father, give me the portion of goods that falleth to me. And he divided unto them his living. 13 And not many days after the younger son gathered all together, and took his journey into a far country, and there wasted his substance with riotous living. 14 And when he had spent all, there arose a mighty famine in that land; and he began to be in want. 15 And he went and joined himself to a citizen of that country; and he sent him into his fields to feed swine. 16 And he would fain have filled his belly with the husks that the swine did eat: and no man gave unto him. 17 And when he came to himself, he said, How many hired servants of my father's have bread enough and to spare, and I perish with hunger! 18 I will arise and go to my father, and will say unto him, Father, I have sinned against heaven, and before thee, 19 And am no more worthy to be called thy son: make me as one of thy hired servants. 20 And he arose, and came to his father. But when he was yet a great way off,

his father saw him, and had compassion, and ran, and fell on his neck, and kissed him. 21 And the son said unto him, Father, I have sinned against heaven, and in thy sight, and am no more worthy to be called thy son. 22 But the father said to his servants, Bring forth the best robe, and put it on him; and put a ring on his hand, and shoes on his feet: 23 And bring hither the fatted calf, and kill it; and let us eat, and be merry: 24 For this my son was dead, and is alive again; he was lost, and is found. And they began to be merry.

Many sinners and believers alike have to be brought into difficult situations before they can open their hearts to God's love. Many believers believe in God's love, yet they don't experience it.

The goodness of this story is that the Father is waiting and watching for you to come into His loving arms.

Surrender to His love.

The Older Brother

The prodigal son had an older brother.

The older brother was serving the Father with a religious heart.

Luk 15:25 - 28 Now his elder son was in the field: and as he came and drew nigh to the house, he heard musick and dancing. 26 And he called one of the servants, and asked what these things meant. 27 And he said unto him, Thy brother is come; and thy father hath killed the fatted calf, because he hath received him safe and sound. 28 And he was angry, and would not go in: therefore came his father out, and intreated him.

He was not serving the Father out of love but out of a religious mindset and a lukewarm heart.

From Religion to Dwelling in Love

The Father wanted the older brother to abide or dwell in love.

Then his heart would be as loving as the Father's heart.

1Jn 4:16 And we have known and believed the love that God hath to us. God is love; and he that dwelleth in love dwelleth in God, and God in him.

We see that the older brother was not compassionate and loving toward the younger brother.

He was angry!

- ❖ The older brother lived from a performance base.
- ❖ The performance base brings strife and anger.
- ❖ God's plan for the older brother was and is to dwell in the love of the Father's heart.

- ❖ The Father planned that the older brother would live out of acceptance and out of sonship.

Today, God's plan for the older brother is to be filled with the Holy Spirit that reveals the Father's heart.

Rom 8:15 For ye have not received the spirit of bondage again to fear; but ye have received the Spirit of adoption, whereby we cry, Abba, Father.

- The Father's heart wants to transform the older brother also into a son of love.
- The Father's heart also wants to transform the prodigal son into a son of love.

The Cross

To overcome the anger, the older brother needs to go to the love of the cross.

He needs to let the cross work in His anger. Anger is the work of the flesh.

1Jn 4:10 Herein is love, not that we loved God, but that he loved us, and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins.

The older brother can be a Pastor or Evangelist, a church worker or a churchgoer who has been in Christ for 40 years.

- Where your heart is angry and hurt, go to the love of God at the cross.

Love Healed My Broken Heart

When the Holy Spirit filled me in 1984 in Hawaii, I was overwhelmed by His glorious grace, love, mercy, goodness and holy fire.

The Holy Spirit started a process of healing my broken heart and traumas.

When I was 5 years old, my favourite brother of 12 years old, was killed by a drunken driver, which deeply traumatised me. Then I also received all kinds of abuse in my life, whereby many more traumas came, and my heart was broken and deeply wounded.

The Father of glory, through the Holy Spirit, has been touching me deeper and deeper all along my journey with His healing anointings and glory.

The love of God has been poured out time and time again, bringing healing.

I also learnt to repent and turn from anger, bitterness, and hate and surrender to His plans, bringing my daily failures to the cross so I could grow in victory.

Rooted in Love

Abba Father wants us to be rooted and grounded in His love.

If we walk into the arms of our loving Father and keep on surrendering to His love, we will become rooted in His love.

Eph 3:17 That Christ may dwell in your hearts by faith; that ye, being rooted and grounded in love,

The comforter

Today, here on earth, the Holy Spirit wants to reveal God's love to you.

He has all the love you need.

The Holy Spirit is our comforter. He wants to pour out the love of God into our hearts.

(Rom 5:5 KJV) And hope maketh not ashamed; because the love of God is shed abroad in our hearts by the Holy Ghost which is given unto us.

He is the one who fills our earthly hearts once we have surrendered and walk back into the loving arms of God. We may be stuck in dead tradition or dead religion. Once we see our emptiness and we repent and surrender to God's love, then the Holy Spirit wants to fill those empty places in our hearts.

So be open to the Holy Spirit. He is the one who pours God's love into your heart!

Love is the answer

We have read where Apostle Paul said, for not with enticing words but in demonstration of the Spirit and power.

(1Co 2:2 KJV) For I determined not to know any thing among you, save Jesus Christ, and him crucified.

(1Co 2:4 KJV) And my speech and my preaching was not with enticing words of man's wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power:

Paul had the revelation and experience that the gospel of the cross of Christ would bring the love of God into his life. His heart was being encountered by the love of Christ that came through him, surrendering to the cross of Christ in his life.

(Php 3:8) Yea doubtless, and I count all things but loss for the excellency of the knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord: for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and do count them but dung, that I may win Christ,

Apostle Paul's heart cry was to know the Lord in a deep, intimate relationship which is found at the cross, and this is called the high calling of God in Christ.

(Php 3:14) I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus.

Press in

Apostle Paul pressed into the heart of God, so he could have a deep and intense relationship with God. He knew the heartbeat of God and the love of God, which was revealed to him.

Narrow-Minded Preachers

Are you a narrow-minded believer or preacher?

Narrow-minded preachers preach about the strait gate and the narrow way.
They call sinners and believers to walk on the strait gateway.

The strait gateway has a name.

Its name is Jesus Christ.

The strait gate and the narrow way are glorious!

For it is a glorious gospel and there are no condemnations on this way.

For by the praise of His glorious grace, we are redeemed.

(Eph 1:6,7) To the praise of the glory of his grace, wherein he hath made us accepted in the beloved. In whom we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of his grace;

On this way are peace, love, joy, goodness and kindness.

On this way, we can experience and learn to live in God's glory.

An abundance of life is also in this way.

The Narrow Way and Everlasting Mercy

In this chapter, we teach about how to grow up from mercy into a lifestyle of everlasting mercy.

Mercy can be for a moment; everlasting mercy is forever.

Today, we see that many who become Christians or who say the sinner's prayer, later on, still fall away.

Why is this so?

This is because, at the start, they are not taught the strait gate and the narrow way.

Mercy is found at salvation, and everlasting mercy is found by staying on the narrow way.

- ❖ We stay on the narrow way by learning to walk in the fear of God.
- ❖ Obedience to the fear of the Lord will lead us through the strait gate.

Mat 7:14 Because strait is the gate, and narrow is the way, which leadeth unto life, and few there be that find it.

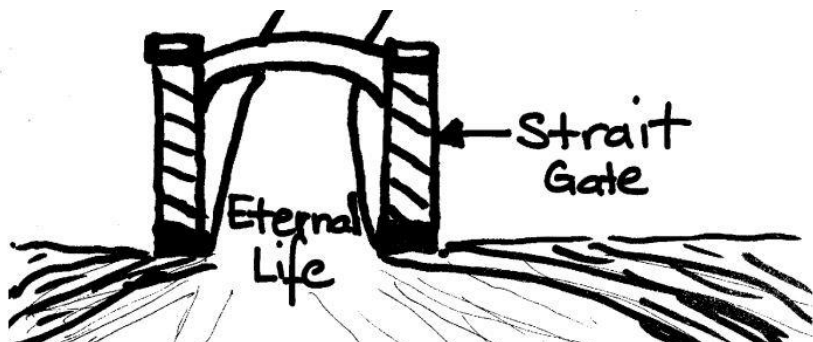
- The strait gate is a pressure point or a narrow waterway.
- This narrow waterway lets water flow through from a smaller sea to an ocean.

1. The Strait Gate

The gate of the strait gate is straight and narrow, for it is a pressure point.

Picture 1 shows the strait gate

1.



The gate of the strait gateway leads us on the way of life.

Mat 7:14 Because strait is the gate, and narrow is the way, which leadeth unto life, and few there be that find it.

When we receive Christ as our Lord and Saviour, we are on the way.

We have, therefore, received redemption and salvation.

The way is here to change us.

For we are not only to be saved but are called to become holy in our Christian walk.

(Php 2:12) Wherefore, my beloved, as ye have always obeyed, not as in my presence only, but now much more in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling.

Our lifestyle has to become holy.

Only those who are saved and holy in their lifestyle will go into heaven.

(Heb 12:14) Follow peace with all men, and holiness, without which no man shall see the Lord:

2. The Narrow Way

Jesus Christ said, 'I am the way, the truth and the life'.

Jesus Christ also told us about the strait gate and the narrow way.

He is the narrow way of this gateway.

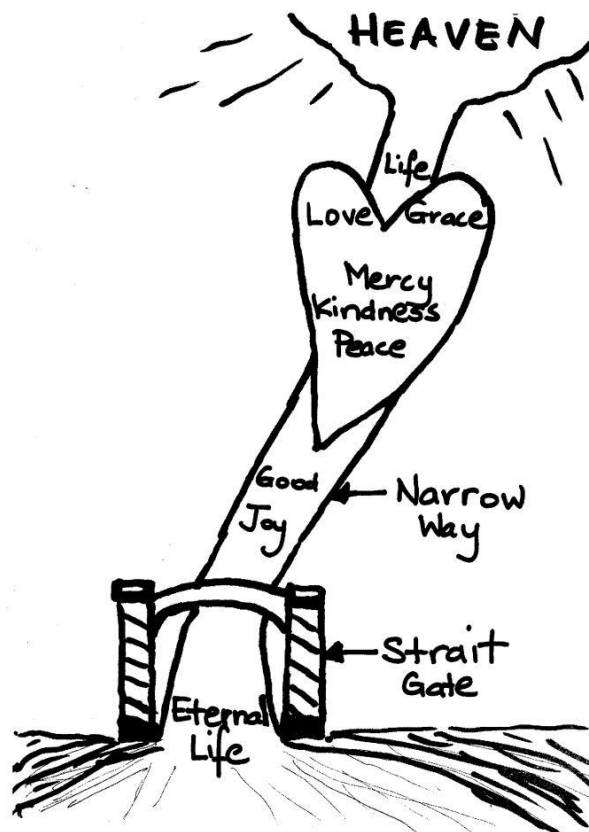
The way is narrow.

Mat 7:14 Because strait is the gate, and narrow is the way, which leadeth unto life, and few there be that find it.

- The way leads to eternal life.
- The way leads to heaven.

Picture 2 shows the narrow way

2.



If you wilfully go to sin, you are back on the broad road which leads to destruction.

(Mat 7:13) Enter ye in at the strait gate: for wide is the gate, and broad is the way, that leadeth to destruction, and many there be which go in thereat:

Narrow Way Preachers

Today, what we need is strait gate and narrow way preachers, evangelists and teachers.

The important thing for them is to also understand these truths.

Jesus Christ said, 'I am the way, the truth and the life'.

Joh 14:6 Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me.

Jesus Christ is the way to receive eternal life.

Jesus Christ is also the strait gate and the narrow way whereby we shall enter heaven if we are faithful and become holy in our lifestyle.

Evangelistic preachers have to bring home this truth when they lead unbelievers to Christ.

They have to tell them about the narrow way and its difficulties.

They also have to preach the reality of heaven and hell.

Mat 7:13 Enter ye in at the strait gate: for wide is the gate, and broad is the way, that leadeth to destruction, and many there be which go in thereat:

Then many more will be truly redeemed.

Progressive Sanctification

What we have to understand is that those who start to walk on the narrow way can go back to the broad way when it gets difficult in their spiritual life.

They received mercy, yet let go of everlasting mercy.

Jesus Christ told us about these truths in the parable of the sower.

When the new plants started to grow as the seed came up, difficulties, such as persecution, they died.

- ❖ To receive mercy and faith, we call positional sanctification.
- ❖ To stay on the narrow road and to be transformed by the narrow way as you stay on this way, which is Christ Jesus Himself, is progressive sanctification.

We then go from mercy to everlasting mercy.

For we are called to be saved and to become holy in our lifestyle.

4 Points of Mercy

God's heart is —→ 1. Merciful, whereby He sends us saving grace

We start by —→ 2. Redeeming and saving grace.

We grow up by —→ 3. Mercy that changes us.

We mature in —→ 4. Everlasting mercy.

Rich in Mercy

Our God is merciful and rich in mercy.

Eph 2:4 KJV But God, who is rich in mercy, for his great love wherewith he loved us,

Our God, whose heart is full of love and mercy, set up a plan of redemption through redeeming and saving grace, to show us His merciful heart.

In this plan of redeeming grace, out of God's merciful heart, through the shedding of Christ's blood, our holy God upheld His standard of righteousness and justice.

What is mercy?

- ❖ Mercy is Father God's heart attitude toward those who are in distress.

Therefore, mercy is

- a. Compassionate or kindly forbearance is shown toward an offender, an enemy or other person in one's power.
- b. Compassion.
- c. Pity.
- d. An act of kindness.
- e. The discretionary power of a judge to pardon someone.

Father of mercies

- ❖ God is the Father of all mercies.

2Co 1:3 KJV Blessed be God, even the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies, and the God of all comfort;

- Out of His merciful heart, He has mercy on the sinner.

Out of His Father's heart of mercy, He sent Christ to save us by His grace.

Therefore, out of God's mercy, He redeems and saves us.

Psa 109:26 KJV Help me, O LORD my God: O save me according to thy mercy:

David understood this, and therefore he was trying to touch God's merciful heart in prayer.

Psa 51:1-2 KJV Have mercy upon me, O God, according to thy lovingkindness: according unto the multitude of thy tender mercies blot out my transgressions. 2 Wash me thoroughly from mine iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin.

Exo 15:13 KJV Thou in thy mercy hast led forth the people which thou hast redeemed: thou hast guided them in thy strength unto thy holy habitation.

Son of David

Many different people in Scripture called Jesus the Son of David.

One of these people was Bartimaeus.

He was a blind man.

He didn't stop shouting for Jesus Christ's help.

He knew that Jesus Christ was the Son of David.

Jesus Christ was given power by God to heal the sick because He was the Son of David.

He was also the Messiah.

Bartimaeus knew that the God of Israel was merciful.

Therefore, Bartimaeus cried out: Have mercy on me.

Mar 10:47-48 KJV And when he heard that it was Jesus of Nazareth, he began to cry out, and say, Jesus, thou son of David, have mercy on me. 48 And many charged him that he should hold his peace: but he cried the more a great deal, Thou son of David, have mercy on me.

God could have compassion and pity on him because Jesus Christ was and is the Son of David.

He cried louder, and Jesus Christ said Your faith has made you whole.

Mar 10:52 KJV And Jesus said unto him, Go thy way; thy faith hath made thee whole. And immediately he received his sight, and followed Jesus in the way.

Due to God's mercy, Bartimaeus received his sight.

Pray boldly for mercy

We need to pray boldly to receive grace and mercy.

Heb 4:16 AMP Let us then fearlessly and confidently and boldly draw near to the throne of grace (the throne of God's unmerited favor to us sinners), that we may receive mercy [for our failures] and find grace to help in good time for every need [appropriate help and well-timed help, coming just when we need it].

This is the throne where we receive God's forgiveness as we pray.

It says that we may receive mercy when we fail.

❖ In the throne of grace, we obtain mercy.

Mercy makes us experience God's loving kindness and goodness.

When we pray and receive God's mercy, we experience God's loving Father's heart; we are being clothed by love and growing in love.

For mercy releases God's love.

God wants to give young believers lots of grace and mercy.

As we grow up in Christ, God wants us to still ask for grace and mercy, yet we also need to mature in our character.

Mercy Released the Glory

- When Israel praised God for His mercy and goodness, the cloud of His presence came down in the temple.

The priests could not stand on their feet any longer; they also experienced God's mercy.

2Ch 5:13 KJV It came even to pass, as the trumpeters and singers were as one, to make one sound to be heard in praising and thanking the LORD; and when they lifted up their voice with the trumpets and cymbals and instruments of musick, and praised the LORD, saying, For he is good; for his mercy endureth for ever: that then the house was filled with a cloud, even the house of the LORD;

As we press into His goodness and mercy by prayer and worship at the throne of God, God's glory is released.

Then we will experience God's love in a greater way.

This love will strengthen and change us from glory to glory.

This love will give us the power to become a living sacrifice.

A living sacrifice

His mercies are the ground upon which believers are to present their bodies as a living sacrifice.

God's mercy gives us the grace to do this.

For our whole lifestyle has to become holy and acceptable to God!

Rom 12:1 KJV I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service.

- When we are redeemed, we are in Christ.
- When we are in Christ, we stop doing evil sins.
- This is our true worship of God.

Rom 6:1-2 KJV What shall we say then? Shall we continue in sin, that grace may abound? 2 God forbid. How shall we, that are dead to sin, live any longer therein?

We have to yield our bodies and lives as an instrument of righteousness unto God.

This is our reasonable service.

Rom 6:13-14 KJV Neither yield ye your members as instruments of unrighteousness unto sin: but yield yourselves unto God, as those that are alive from the dead, and your members as instruments of righteousness unto God. 14 For sin shall not have dominion over you: for ye are not under the law, but under grace.

When we surrender in this way to God, God's mercy will release God's victorious power so we live victorious over sin and the old man, which is our fallen nature.

Everlasting mercy is eternal mercy.

- ❖ This everlasting or eternal mercy is found by staying on the way!

If, as Christians, we go back on the broad way and don't repent and turn back to the gate way, we will lose our salvation.

Jesus Christ said not all that says to me Lord, Lord will enter into heaven.

Mat 7:21 KJV Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven.

It is important to hear what Jesus Christ said.

- ❖ Jesus said you can be a believer in Jesus Christ, yet if you don't do the Father's will and therefore live in sin, heaven will be closed to you.

Even if you are born again, and you live in the sin of lying, stealing, fornication, adultery, homosexuality or gossip, heaven will be closed for you.

We are called to repent of these sins and turn away from them to live on the gate way.

The Fear of the Lord

The fear of the Lord is the key to growing in a holy lifestyle.

- ❖ His everlasting mercy is for those who fear Him.

The fear of the Lord is to hate evil.

Pro 8:13 KJV The fear of the LORD is to hate evil: pride, and arrogancy, and the evil way, and the froward mouth, do I hate.

- ❖ The fear of the Lord helps us to stop sinning and helps us to walk on the narrow way or gate way.

Learning to fear the Lord helps us to grow in His everlasting mercy.

Psa 103:17 KJV But the mercy of the LORD is from everlasting to everlasting upon them that fear him, and his righteousness unto children's children;

An angelic dream

One day, I read a book about heaven that was sent to me.

It had a scripture with it.

This book talked about how the road to heaven was narrow and that only a few would find it.

I was sceptical about this book.

One day, as I looked out the window while I was reading in it, there at the end of the road was standing a huge angel.

In my shock, I put the book away.

About four weeks later, I had a dream, and the angel talked to me as we were above the city of Rome.

He said you have gone half the way, now you must go the other half.

Rome is the city of false religion; therefore, God wanted me to grow up into the full truth, not being half-hearted.

The next morning, I saw John Bevere on the God Channel.

He said that God showed Him a vision of believers who died and were coming to the gates of heaven.

Many believers were told they were not allowed to come in.

Why? Because of their lifestyle as believers, they had lived on the broad road.

So they were sent to hell.

John Bevere's vision shook me.

Going Deeper

Now I knew I needed to read this book about heaven.

Then God convicted me that I didn't care and love my wife enough.

For days, God's hand was heavy upon me.

I wasn't even sure anymore if I was a believer.

I was not living in sin and was on fire for God, but God was dealing with bad attitudes in my life.

- ❖ Then I went through the Bible to find answers about how to live as a Christian, so we can enter heaven when we die.

I found the answers in the Bible.

Praise God.

Answers on how to get into Heaven

A. Christ-like character

The biggest answer was in 2 Peter 1: 2- 11.

- ❖ Apostle Peter talks about how our faith has to grow into knowing Jesus Christ more deeply and intimately, so that we live in the first love.
- ❖ Then we have to grow into the Christ-like characteristics of temperance and patience.
- ❖ Then we have to grow into godliness.
- ❖ Through godliness, we grow in love and want to reach out to people with charity and the gospel of the good news.

2Pe 1:2,3 KJV Grace and peace be multiplied unto you through the knowledge of God, and of Jesus our Lord, 3 According as his divine power hath given unto us all things that pertain unto life and godliness, through the knowledge of him that hath called us to glory and virtue:

It says if we have grown this way, produced its fruits, and reached out to others with love and the gospel in evangelism, Heaven is open for us.

2Pe 1:11 KJV For so an entrance shall be ministered unto you abundantly into the everlasting kingdom of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

- ❖ It even says that Heaven is opened abundantly.

The door is open for us in a greater way into Heaven's everlasting kingdom.

Amen, Praise the Lord, this gives us hope.

B. Lordship

We have to surrender our will.

We have to die to self-seeking and self-love.

We can do our ministry out of self-seeking and self-love.

Yet, we are called to make Yahushua Lord of All and do all out of His perfect will and His loving heart.

His motives have to become our motives.

C. Abiding in Father God's will

When we crucify the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes and the pride of life, then God's love will be in us, and we will do God's will.

- ❖ Doing the will of God allows us to abide forever.
- ❖ Doing the will of God was also Jesus Christ's point of contention about whether you would enter heaven or not.

Mat 7:21 KJV Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven.

John says if we love the world and all that is in it, the love of the Father is not in us.

1Jn 2:15-17 KJV Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world. If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him. 16 For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world. 17 And the world passeth away, and the lust thereof: but he that doeth the will of God abideth for ever.

D. Walking on the narrow way or gate way

To make sure we are going to heaven, we must make sure that we are walking on the narrow way.

Many Christians think they are alright because they are born again, and therefore they can live as they want.

The news for this is that Christians who walk on the broad way will end up in hell.

Mat 7:13-14 KJV Enter ye in at the strait gate: for wide is the gate, and broad is the way, that leadeth to destruction, and many there be which go in thereat: 14 Because strait is the gate, and narrow is the way, which leadeth unto life, and few there be that find it.

Once saved, always saved is only true if you believe and walk on the narrow way that leads to heaven!

This leads us to the next point.

E. The fear of God

The fear of the Lord leads us to everlasting mercy.

When we are saved, we need to learn to walk in the fear of God.

We need to work out our salvation with fear and trembling.

Php 2:12 KJV Wherefore, my beloved, as ye have always obeyed, not as in my presence only, but now much more in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling.

Therefore, the fear of God leads us into His everlasting mercy, which means that the fear of God leads us into heaven!

Psa 103:17 KJV But the mercy of the LORD is from everlasting to everlasting upon them that fear him, and his righteousness unto children's children;

F. Building upon the rock

We are called to do the will of God.

When we do what the Bible tells us, then we are doing God's will.

When we are obeying Christ and God's word, we are building upon the rock.

Mat 7:25 KJV And the rain descended, and the floods came, and the winds blew, and beat upon that house; and it fell not: for it was founded upon a rock.

Our houses will stand into eternity.

We are not saved through our works, but we do work because we are saved.

Eph 2:8-10 KJV For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: 9 Not of works, lest any man should boast. 10 For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them.

We are now Christ's workmanship on earth.

The Bible calls us to:

1. Pray daily
2. Read the Bible daily
3. Tithe to God's house
4. Do evangelism as a witness
5. Help in God's work in the church, mission and end time army

G. The fruits of the Spirit

We are called to become Christ-like by growing the fruits of the Holy Spirit in our lives.

Jesus said, 'By their fruits, you will know them if they are true believers.'

Mat 7:20 Wherefore by their fruits ye shall know them.

To grow in these points of everlasting mercy is not easy; therefore, in the next chapter, we talk about being broken at the cross of Christ in places where we are still not living out of our new creation. Brokenness over these weaknesses will help us grow fast in all of these points.

Repentance and Brokenness bring Transformation

True repentance at the cross of Christ that is followed by yielding, surrender, and brokenness brings forth transformation.

- ❖ Repentance that doesn't bring forth real transformation is not repentance but worldly sorrow.

(2Co 7:9, 10) Now I rejoice, not that ye were made sorry, but that ye sorrowed to repentance: for ye were made sorry after a godly manner, that ye might receive damage by us in nothing. For godly sorrow worketh repentance to salvation not to be repented of: but the sorrow of the world worketh death.

Worldly sorrow brings death and no life eternal, nor real transformation.

- ❖ When we really repent and press into daily repentance to become like Christ, it will bring us to a true place of brokenness and transformation.

(2Co 7:9, 10) Now I rejoice, not that ye were made sorry, but that ye sorrowed to repentance: for ye were made sorry after a godly manner, that ye might receive damage by us in nothing. For godly sorrow worketh repentance to salvation not to be repented of: but the sorrow of the world worketh death.

Brokenness brings Abundance of Life

Jesus Christ said that He came to give us the abundance of life.

(Joh 10:10) The thief cometh not, but for to steal, and to kill, and to destroy: I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly.

Abundant life is being transformed by God's glorious love, kindness, humility, gentleness and mercy.

As you are transformed by God's glorious nature through brokenness at the cross, these godly fruits of the Spirit and godly attributes will grow in you.

(2Pe 1:5 - 8) And beside this, giving all diligence, add to your faith virtue; and to virtue knowledge; And to knowledge temperance; and to temperance patience; and to patience godliness; And to godliness brotherly kindness; and to brotherly kindness charity. For if these things be in you, and abound, they make you that ye shall neither be barren nor unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ.

- ❖ As a result, in your daily walk, you will display these fruits of the spirit and shine forth His glorious light.

Christ said that He was humble of heart and gentle, and called us to be humble and gentle.

(Mat 11:28, 29) Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls.

Godly humility and gentleness in our lives will bring us into a place of deep rest; it will break strife in our hearts, and we will bring peace to others.

My Testimony of Godly Brokenness

As a young man, I was bound with much bondage and had been hurt in many ways.

My heart was broken because of the traumas that I had experienced as a young boy.

As a new believer, I started to see God heal my negative, traumatic, broken heart.

As a young believer, I was full of pride, hardness and stubbornness to protect myself; this was due to the traumatic brokenness in my life.

Therefore, I needed to receive godly brokenness at the cross about these sins of pride, hardness of heart and stubbornness.

- ❖ Through godly brokenness, God taught me the way of victory and triumph!
- ❖ Godly brokenness at the cross brought victory over my deepest bondages, hurts and pain!

2 Kinds of Brokenness

1. Brokenness through trauma

The first kind of brokenness is negative brokenness.

The first kind of brokenness comes through the traumas of life, which give us a traumatic broken heart.

When you have a broken heart due to traumatic experiences, at times, life will be difficult.

The good news is that Jesus Christ came to heal the broken-hearted.

Jesus Christ wants to heal you of those traumas and heal your broken heart.

Isa 61:1 KJV The Spirit of the Lord GOD is upon me; because the LORD hath anointed me to preach good tidings unto the meek; he hath sent

me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and the opening of the prison to them that are bound;

2. Godly Brokenness

- ❖ The second type of brokenness is the one God is after.

This kind of brokenness helps us to truly let the life of Jesus Christ shine through us.

Psa 51:16,17 AMP For You do not delight in sacrifice, or else I would give it;
You are not pleased with burnt offering. My [only] sacrifice [acceptable] to God is a broken spirit;
A broken and contrite heart [broken with sorrow for sin, thoroughly penitent], such, O God, You will not despise.

We are a new creation and called to live out of our Christ-like new nature.

2Co 5:17 Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.

- ❖ Yet, at times, we struggle with anger, selfishness, sexual lust and other works of the flesh.
- ❖ In these places, where we struggle, God wants to bring brokenness.

Then we will be able to abide in Christ.

Out of this abiding in Christ, we will bring forth much fruit.

Issues of Life

As we live the Christian life and as we do Christian ministry, we don't always seem to be close to God.

Why is this?

- ❖ This is because the works of the flesh fight the spirit.

The Bible tells us that the issues of life come out of our hearts, and we have to watch over our hearts with all diligence.

- ❖ The words 'heart' and 'spirit' are synonymous or similar words in the Bible.
- ❖ Therefore, the flesh wants to rule or dictate our heart or spirit. Only by living in the spirit will we be close to God.

Pro 4:23 KJV Keep thy heart with all diligence; for out of it are the issues of life.

King David's sins

King David was a man after God's own heart, yet he fell into some deep sins.

King David had several wives, yet one day he saw a beautiful woman, named Bathsheba, bathing herself on a rooftop and lusted after her.

He fell into an adulterous relationship with her and let her husband die on the battlefield. A true setup.

King David had Mother Issues

In Psalm 51, David reveals that he was born out of wedlock and therefore an illegitimate son, which brought a love deficit in his heart.

He tried to fill this hole in his heart by having multiple sexual partners.

King David said that he was conceived in sin and shaped in iniquity.

(Psa 51:5) Behold, I was shapen in iniquity; and in sin did my mother conceive me.

A child in a godly family is not conceived in sin but in love.

In this, we see that David was an illegitimate son.

We could also see this because he was put in a field with the sheep away from his brothers.

Could this be an outworking of illegitimacy, which brought shame to his mother and father, Jessie?

King David's brokenness through the Fear of the Lord

King David knew that God was loving, kind, merciful and forgiving.

(Psa 51:1) To the chief Musician, A Psalm of David, when Nathan the prophet came unto him, after he had gone in to Bathsheba. Have mercy upon me, O God, according to thy lovingkindness: according unto the multitude of thy tender mercies blot out my transgressions.

When the prophet Nathan told King David that God knew his sin, King David was shocked.

Deep in his heart, King David feared God; therefore, he repented and knew that his repentance had to become real so that he could be transformed.

This is why he said, God, you want truth in the inward, hidden parts of my heart.

(Psa 51:6) Behold, thou desirest truth in the inward parts: and in the hidden part thou shalt make me to know wisdom.

For it is not about our sacrifices or works but about transformation, which comes to us by grace.

(Psa 51:16) For thou desirest not sacrifice; else would I give it: thou delightest not in burnt offering.

David said that transformation comes through God's mercy and repentance leading to surrendering and being broken in heart, soul and spirit.

(Psa 51:17) The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit: a broken and a contrite heart, O God, thou wilt not despise.

This will bring true transformation, which will bring us to truly bring forth the fruit of the spirit and Christlikeness in our lives.

True sacrifice to God is a broken spirit and a broken and contrite heart.

Then it is no longer I that live but Christ.

Then this truth brings glory to God's mercy and grace and the work of Christ's redeeming blood at the cross.

(Eph 1:7) In whom we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of his grace;

Coming closer

The cross is God's instrument to bring brokenness in a believer's life where we fall short.

1. What many believers don't know is that the blood of Jesus Christ deals with our sins and the cross deals with our hearts.

Rom 6:6 KJV Knowing this, that our old man is crucified with him, that the body of sin might be destroyed, that henceforth we should not serve sin.

- ❖ If we want to live close to God, we need to let the cross of Christ deal with our hearts daily.
Joh 15:2 KJV Every branch in me that beareth not fruit he taketh away: and every branch that beareth fruit, he purgeth it, that it may bring forth more fruit.
- ❖ Living at the cross daily brings brokenness of our self-will and self-help.
- ❖ Therefore, if we surrender daily in our weakness to the cross and the life of the Holy Spirit in our lives as a new creation, then we will experience a close walk with God, bringing forth much fruit.

Christ's crucified Body brings brokenness

Christ gave His body to be broken on the cross so that we could be forgiven and have brokenness in our lives.

The body and the blood are both parts of the redemption.

Yet they have different functions.

At the Last Supper, Jesus Christ said Eat my body and drink my blood for the forgiveness of sin.

The different functions of the bread and the blood are:

The function of the body or bread at the cross	The Function of the blood at the cross
• To crucify the flesh	• To forgive sin
• Dying to self	• To sanctify us
• Brings victory over sin	• To justify us
• To break the curses	• To reconcile us with God
• To break demon powers	• To give life
• To bring brokenness of self	
• So we can abide in the vine	
• Healing of the body	

Satan's power was also broken at the cross.

Col 2:14-15 KJV Blotting out the handwriting of ordinances that was against us, which was contrary to us, and took it out of the way, nailing it to his cross; 15 And having spoiled principalities and powers, he made a shew of them openly, triumphing over them in it.

The heart of man and hypocrisy

Our Lord knew what would stop us.

In the book of Isaiah, Isaiah said to us that some, as traditional believers, have hearts that are far from God.

Jesus Christ quotes a scripture from Isaiah to show that our hearts can be deceitful or hypocritical.

Therefore, we need to keep our hearts with all diligence.

Mat 15:7-8 KJV Ye hypocrites, well did Esaias prophesy of you, saying, 8 This people draweth nigh unto me with their mouth, and honoureth me with their lips; but their heart is far from me.

- The heart of men is where the sin nature is, and we need to crucify the old man when it rises back up.
- Our Lord said that out of the heart proceed evil thoughts, murders, adultery, etc.

Mat 15:19 KJV For out of the heart proceed evil thoughts, murders, adulteries, fornications, thefts, false witness, blasphemies:

Therefore, our heart is the seat of our pride, self-willfulness, and sin nature.

The heart or soul is where the cross of Christ has to come and bring death to all of me when the old man has come back to life.

- ❖ For the cross is the instrument whereby we crucify the flesh.
- ❖ For the instrument of the cross killed Christ.

The flesh fights the Spirit

- ❖ Our flesh, or our old heart, fights the Spirit of God, which dwells on the inside of our hearts.

Gal 5:16-17 KJV This I say then, Walk in the Spirit, and ye shall not fulfil the lust of the flesh. 17 For the flesh lusteth against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh: and these are contrary the one to the other: so that ye cannot do the things that ye would.

The Apostle Paul tells us what the works of the flesh are.

Gal 5:19-20 KJV Now the works of the flesh are manifest, which are these; Adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lasciviousness, 20 Idolatry, witchcraft, hatred, variance, emulations, wrath, strife, seditions, heresies,

- ❖ These are the same sins that our Lord Jesus Christ says dwell in our hearts.

Mat 15:19 KJV For out of the heart proceed evil thoughts, murders, adulteries, fornications, thefts, false witness, blasphemies:

Therefore, we see that the flesh, or the heart, is where sin comes from.

- ❖ Even blasphemies come out of the heart.
- Therefore, the old fallen heart will fight the lifestream of the Holy Spirit in us.

If blasphemous anger is hidden in our hearts or we are oblivious to it, then it will quench the Holy Spirit in our lives.

- We need to learn to crucify all that stops the Spirit of God in our lives.

We are a new creation

- ❖ We are called to live as a new creation and out of the new creation.
- ❖ As a new creation, we walk by faith.
- ❖ In Christ, we are victorious.

2Co 5:17 Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.

However, the flesh will try to rise up again.

This is why so many pastors and evangelists fall, because they do not discern this.

There, where the old self rises through self-will, strength and anger, we have to put this back to death at the cross.

To live as a new creation and have victory as a new creation, God wants to bring brokenness to those places.

Brokenness over self-will and the works of the flesh can truly put our flesh to death so that we live out of the new creation.

This we call progressive sanctification!

The start of my godly brokenness

As a young man, my heart was hardened and as a bad saying says: "Men don't cry".

The Lord Jesus shows us that His heart was soft and loving; He wept over Jerusalem's hardness.

The Lord wants us to be as gentle and soft-hearted as He is.

- ❖ He wants to do that by bringing godly brokenness into our lives so that the new creation we are can shine.

The start of my godly brokenness happened in the DTS (Discipleship Training School) in Singapore in 1984.

Our leader, James, had given a great message, and, after it, I went to seek God.

The Lord spoke to me: 'Psalm 23'.

It says that the Lord is our shepherd.

Then the Holy Spirit said, 'Is the Lord your shepherd?'

In other words, are you following the shepherd's voice the whole day, or are you doing what you want to do?

Then He showed me how I almost died one day and what had saved me from death.

That day, I was driving my car in the Sandia Mountains, Albuquerque, USA, to go snow skiing. Fresh snow was on the road, and my car slipped, went out of control and slid toward the canyon. I cried out, and at once, my car stopped with a sudden, loud bang, and I could look out over the canyon.

There was no safety guardrail there, and I should have gone down to my death.

The Lord showed me an angel who stopped the car and saved me.

I saw then how much God loved me. I broke down and cried, and my heart was softened by God's love.

This was the beginning or start of the road of godly brokenness in my life.

Only brokenness

As we see this battle in our hearts, what can we do?

- ❖ We can learn to walk through the Spirit of God on the road as a new creation and let brokenness come where we don't have victory over the works of the flesh.
- ❖ Only brokenness of self and self-will, through the cross of Christ, can help us to abide in the will of God as a new creation.

The Holy Spirit will show us daily where we have to surrender, repent and become broken.

Rom 8:5-6 KJV For they that are after the flesh do mind the things of the flesh; but they that are after the Spirit the things of the Spirit. 6 For to be carnally minded is death; but to be spiritually minded is life and peace.

Then the life of the Holy Spirit will start to flow more freely out of us, giving us peace and joy.

Then we will grow in a deep relationship with God and bring forth much fruit.

- ❖ Through this process, God can also establish His truth and His throne in all of our hearts.

Psa 51:6 KJV Behold, thou desirest truth in the inward parts: and in the hidden part thou shalt make me to know wisdom.

Our Example of a Broken Life

Christ Jesus was broken for us on the cross.

- He is the example for us.
- The brokenness of Christ's death on the cross and His resurrection power show us the way.

Psa 51:16,17 AMP For You do not delight in sacrifice, or else I would give it;

You are not pleased with burnt offering. My [only] sacrifice [acceptable] to God is a broken spirit;

A broken and contrite heart [broken with sorrow for sin, thoroughly penitent], such, O God, You will not despise.

- ❖ Brokenness is the sign of Holy Communion.

Therefore, He took bread and broke it.

Mat 26:26 KJV And as they were eating, Jesus took bread, and blessed it, and brake it, and gave it to the disciples, and said, Take, eat; this is my body.

- ❖ Brokenness was the way to victory for Christ as He died on the cross.

- ❖ Brokenness is the way to victory! Where the old self will rise, we let God break us at the cross of Christ.

Psa 34:18 KJV The LORD is nigh unto them that are of a broken heart; and saveth such as be of a contrite spirit.

Preaching the Cross and Brokenness

When I went to preach in the church that we had started, I made a wooden cross as a symbol and put it in the front.

God had put His desire in my heart to preach the cross and to preach the importance of godly brokenness.

I made this cross after the Lord had put His hand on me for 10 days to bring deeper repentance and purity.

As the angel spoke about repentance in my dream, I saw John Beveré's vision on God Channel, which I talked about in chapter 8.

I preached about the cross and how God wants us to surrender and be broken, yet we still fall into sin.

I preached about the ways that will assure us of salvation and entering heaven.
I did an altar call, and nearly all came and bowed down in repentance and surrender.
Now God could bring brokenness into these lives.
Now they could also start to grow in the ways that lead to heaven.

The Olive and Brokenness?

An olive has oil on the inside.

When we have an olive in our hand, we still can't use the oil.
We need to crush the hard outside crust so that the oil comes out.
It will not happen until the olive is broken.
We have the anointing oil and the Holy Spirit on the inside; only through brokenness will he flow through us from the inside out.

The Alabaster Box

We see the same principle in the story of the Alabaster box.
In the Bible, there was a woman who had an Alabaster box that she broke to anoint Jesus' feet.
The price of this box and ointment was worth a year's income.
The expensive ointment could not come out until the box was broken.

Mar 14:3 KJV And being in Bethany in the house of Simon the leper, as he sat at meat, there came a woman having an alabaster box of ointment of spikenard very precious; and she brake the box, and poured it on his head.

What this woman did was an act of worship.

❖ Our worship will not be strong in flavour until all of self has been stripped away!

Why do we need brokenness?

We need to be broken so:

1. The flesh is out of the way, and we will have sorrow over our sin.
Psa 51:17 AMP My [only] sacrifice [acceptable] to God is a broken spirit;
A broken and contrite heart [broken with sorrow for sin, thoroughly penitent], such, O God, You will not despise.
2. That self is not doing the ministry.
3. That our will is surrendered to the Father's will.
4. That we can abide in Him and bring forth much fruit.
5. God's Spirit can flow through us into the world.
6. That we are true followers of Jesus Christ.
7. We can grow into the likeness of Jesus Christ.
8. That will open the way to grow into deep intimacy with God.

Weeping for Souls

God wants our hearts to be one with His burdened heart for the lost.
Johnny Goodfellow was a leader in Go-teams' evangelism outreach in Europe.
He was an ex-gangster from Nottingham, U.K.
He was leading prayer meetings in England.
He started to weep, and we started to weep for the lost souls.
This happens when we have godly brokenness.
Later on, many souls were saved during the outreach.

The glory of God revealed through Christ's brokenness on the cross

❖ The greatest manifestation of God's glory on earth is Jesus Christ, who died for us on the cross.

Jesus Christ reveals this truth in the Bible.

Joh 12:23 KJV And Jesus answered them, saying, The hour is come, that the Son of man should be glorified.

Jesus Christ was showing His glorious nature on the cross.

Joh 12:32 KJV And I, if I be lifted up from the earth, will draw all men unto me.

He said that He would be lifted up on the cross.

There we would see His beauty displayed.

The effect would be that many people would come to Him for salvation.

The millions of saved souls before the throne of God are the fruit that Christ has brought forth.

On the cross

On the cross, we see Jesus Christ's glorious nature revealed.

❖ The greatest act of forgiveness was displayed.

Luk 23:34 KJV Then said Jesus, Father, forgive them; for they know not what they do. And they parted his raiment, and cast lots.

In all the pain, all the suffering, all the mocking, slander, and hate against Christ, He says, Father, forgive them.

- ❖ In the suffering, He shows patience.
- ❖ In all the hate surrounding him, He shows love.
- ❖ In the deepest weakness, He shows strength.
- ❖ In the lowest place of loneliness, He shows faithfulness.
- ❖ When the bitter words were spoken He forgave them.
- ❖ When He was physically powerless, He restrained His kingly authority.
- ❖ When they spat on Him, He shone in His purity on the cross.

The greatest victory, honour and glory

We see Jesus Christ received the greatest honour because He was broken and crucified.

Rev 5:12 KJV Saying with a loud voice, Worthy is the Lamb that was slain to receive power, and riches, and wisdom, and strength, and honour, and glory, and blessing.

What has death on the cross by Jesus Christ accomplished?

- He is now seated at the right hand of the Father as the Son of Man and the Son of God.
Heb 1:3 KJV Who being the brightness of his glory, and the express image of his person, and upholding all things by the word of his power, when he had by himself purged our sins, sat down on the right hand of the Majesty on high:
- He has the highest name.
Php 2:9-11 KJV Wherefore God also hath highly exalted him, and given him a name which is above every name: 10 That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of things in heaven, and things in earth, and things under the earth; 11 And that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.
- He redeemed us back unto God.
Rev 5:9 KJV And they sung a new song, saying, Thou art worthy to take the book, and to open the seals thereof: for thou wast slain, and hast redeemed us to God by thy blood out of every kindred, and tongue, and people, and nation;
- Made the way for us to become sons of glory.
Heb 2:10 KJV For it became him, for whom are all things, and by whom are all things, in bringing many sons unto glory, to make the captain of their salvation perfect through sufferings.
- Victory over Satan's power over mankind.
Heb 2:14 KJV Forasmuch then as the children are partakers of flesh and blood, he also himself likewise took part of the same; that through death he might destroy him that had the power of death, that is, the devil;
- Delivered us from the slavery of the fear of death.
Heb 2:15 KJV And deliver them who through fear of death were all their lifetime subject to bondage.
- Destroyed Satan's power.
1Jn 3:8 KJV He that committeth sin is of the devil; for the devil sinneth from the beginning. For this purpose the Son of God was manifested, that he might destroy the works of the devil.

Jesus Christ is our example of a broken life or lifestyle.

Jesus Christ set the example.

Php 2:5-7 KJV Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus: 6 Who, being in the form of God, thought it not robbery to be equal with God: 7 But made himself of no reputation, and took upon him the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men:

Brokenness and triumph

- ❖ Brokenness is not an end in itself; the end is transformation, life more abundantly and Christ's victory in our lives.

Jesus Christ was broken on the cross for our sins.

The outcome was forgiveness for us and victory over Satan.

Redemption and Brokenness

- ❖ Through repentance and faith, we are redeemed.
- ❖ However, redemption is an ongoing process of growth.

Now we are called to grow in being holy in our ways, walk and talk.

True brokenness will help us in this process.

The Cross and The Altar

In 2013, when I was in New Zealand preaching at a revival school, God showed me a vision of a cross on an altar.

The truth about the cross and the altar will bring transformation to many.

I asked a friend to make a cross on the altar so we could pray there and take it to meetings.

Rom 12:1-2 I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, *which is* your reasonable service. (2) And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what *is* that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God.

- Wherever it talks about an altar in the Old Testament, we can see the cross of Christ.
- Everywhere it talks about the cross of Christ in the New Testament, we can see an altar.

Abraham, Jacob, Moses and Elijah all made altars, yet even for them, true salvation comes through Jesus Christ's sacrifice on the cross.

A Living Sacrifice

We are called to be living sacrifices as believers.

Rom 12:1 I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, *which is* your reasonable service.

How can we be a living sacrifice without an altar?

- Therefore, where the cross is, is the altar and where the altar is, is the cross.



- Where there is an altar, there is also fire, for we can not be a living sacrifice without the Holy Spirit's fire.

Many believers are lukewarm and not burning for God because their flesh has not been put on the burning altar.

Gal 2:20 I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me.

The Holy Spirit is the life given to us as a new creation; He also puts us on fire. Therefore, the Holy Spirit brings the fire and power of God into our lives for service, yet at the same time, He is also our purifying fire on the altar.

Blood and Fire and Brokenness

In the process of brokenness, blood and fire go hand in hand.

- ❖ The blood of Christ flooded from Him as He was broken for our sin, guilt and punishment.
- ❖ As a result, the fire of the Holy Spirit was poured out on the day of Pentecost to keep us burning and to refine us.

God's desire for us is to become godly broken so that the fire of God can burn brightly in our lives.

God's purging fire is here to refine us like silver, 7 times in the smelter or oven.

Psa 12:6 The words of the LORD *are* pure words: as silver tried in a furnace of earth, purified seven times.

As we surrender to godly brokenness, this purging fire will be able to refine us more and more deeply.

The result is that we will come forth as pure silver and pure gold.

King David's Refining Fire

King David, who lay with Bathsheba, made her pregnant, and God sent the prophet Nathan to make known his secret sin to rebuke and reproof the king.

King David knew he needed brokenness in his life because of his sin with Bathsheba.

(Psa 51:17) The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit: a broken and a contrite heart, O God, thou wilt not despise.

King David went through refining fire that was upon the altar of incense, as he was a worshipper and a prayer warrior, so brokenness would come into his life.

He was being refined 7 times.

(Psa 12:6) The words of the LORD are pure words: as silver tried in a furnace of earth, purified seven times.

He wanted to stay in a close, intimate relationship with the Lord, yet he sinned badly.

To stay close to the Lord in his life, in prayer and worship, he feared the Lord, so the Lord had to take him through the refiner's fire that is on the altar.

God had to break David's self-will and own strength,

God's strength and joy would be his, and God could heal his love-deficient heart.

Through the prophet Nathan, God said that the child which Bathsheba was having would die and trouble would come into his house to deal with the king, even though he was forgiven.

(2Sa 12:13,14) And David said unto Nathan, I have sinned against the LORD. And Nathan said unto David, The LORD also hath put away thy sin; thou shalt not die. Howbeit, because by this deed thou hast given great occasion to the enemies of the LORD to blaspheme, the child also that is born unto thee shall surely die.

God said you have opened up a great door to the enemy, which is Satan.

Sin can be forgiven, yet there will still be consequences.

When David fasted and prayed so that God would save the child, God did not want to listen, and the child died.

King David went through much trouble because of his sin; he was forgiven, yet God was dealing with his iniquities.

In this way, God brought brokenness into David's life and, therefore, King David kept living in a deep presence of God in His life.

This is why he says that the true sacrifice of God is brokenness and not only prayer and fasting.

(Psa 51:17) The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit: a broken and a contrite heart, O God, thou wilt not despise.

Holy Purging Fire

Our God is holy.

(Rev 4:8) And the four beasts had each of them six wings about him; and they were full of eyes within: and they rest not day and night, saying, Holy, holy, holy, Lord God Almighty, which was, and is, and is to come.

Our God is holy and also a consuming fire.

(Heb 12:29) For our God is a consuming fire.

As our God is holy, He sends His purifying fire into our lives.

The purging fire of the Holy Spirit is sent into our lives so we are refined, and then we can come forward as God.

When we become open in the convicting light of God, as we see in point A below, God's refiner's fire of the Holy Spirit will start to burn in us.

This brings us to the process of brokenness.

True brokenness brings victory and fruit-bearing.

Summary of the process

We are now going to give you the steps to brokenness and fruit-bearing.

Brokenness and surrendering to the will of God are the fruit of real repentance.

Openness by living in the light, deeper repentance, surrender, brokenness, abiding and bringing forth fruit

Steps of the process

- A. Openness and refiner's fire
- B. Surrender
- C. Yielding
- D. How to be broken
- E. Abiding
- F. A deeper relationship and fellowship with God the Father, Son and Holy Spirit and bringing forth much fruit

The process

a) Openness and Refiner's Fire

Openness by living in the light will bring us to a deeper place of repentance.

We need to learn to live in the light.

God is light, and He wants deep fellowship with us; let us be open to the light.

Living in the light of God's presence brings transformation.

(1Jn 1:5) This then is the message which we have heard of him, and declare unto you, that God is light, and in him is no darkness at all.

1Jn 1:5 KJV This then is the message which we have heard of him, and declare unto you, that God is light, and in him is no darkness at all.

1Jn 1:7 KJV But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin.

Open your heart for the glorious light of God's love, goodness, grace, mercy and purity, for He wants to have communion with you.

Cleansing

We are a new creation, and therefore, we don't have to live in condemnation.

Rom 8:1-2 There is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit. (2) For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus hath made me free from the law of sin and death.

However, at times, a believer will struggle.

Out of God's holy and loving heart, the light of the Word and the Holy Spirit will convict us of sin.

The light will show the hidden sins we can't see or aren't aware of.

As we see these sins revealed by God's light, we can repent more deeply and deal with the roots of the sins.

Sin stops us from deep fellowship or communion with God.

The greater the glorious light is shining in our lives, the deeper our relationship will be with God.

Openness to God's light

- Openness to the light of God will bring deeper repentance and cleansing.
- Openness to the light of God will bring deeper fellowship and victory.
- Openness to the light of God will bring personal revival, transformations and more fruit-bearing.

Purgeth

God wants to purge us with the refiner's fire.

When we are open to the light of God, the light of God releases the refiner's fire.

Refiner's fire is used to purge gold.

In the Old Testament, God comes as a refiner's fire to purify the Levitical priest.

He purges them with refiner's fire as gold and silver to bring forth offerings of righteousness to the Lord.

(Mal 3:2, 3) But who may abide the day of his coming? and who shall stand when he appeareth? for he is like a refiner's fire, and like fullers' soap: And he shall sit as a refiner and purifier of silver: and he shall purify the sons of Levi, and purge them as gold and silver, that they may offer unto the LORD an offering in righteousness.

This is why the Lord Jesus Christ and Timothy use the word 'purgeth' to cleanse us with refiner's fire so we bring forth more fruit.

Joh 15:2 KJV Every branch in me that beareth not fruit he taketh away; and every branch that beareth fruit, he purgeth it, that it may bring forth more fruit.

The Lord uses the word 'purgeth' to make pure, which comes from the word 'to purge' in Greek.

❖ The Greek word is *Kathairo*.

It means: pure, purgeth, clean.

The Lord used it in the story of the vine as a way of pruning the vine.

This is why the King James Version uses the word purgeth.

The Lord told us the story of the vine and the branches.

The Father is the husbandman or vinedresser.

He wants to cleanse us as a branch by pruning or purging it.

The King James Version calls it to be purgeth.

❖ 'Purgeth' is to get rid of unwanted things, to make pure.

❖ 'Purgeth' is a term used for cleansing from impurities, guilt, sin and idolatrous ways.

❖ Purging comes through the refiner's fire.

This is why we need more of the Holy Spirit's fire in our lives.

The second book of Timothy gives some more understanding about it.

(2Ti 2:20,21) But in a great house there are not only vessels of gold and of silver, but also of wood and of earth; and some to honour, and some to dishonour. If a man therefore purge himself from these, he shall be a vessel unto honour, sanctified, and meet for the master's use, and prepared unto every good work.

If we are purged or purified as gold and silver, we are ready to be vessels or golden cups ready for the Master's service.

Out of God's light comes the fire to clean or purge us.

Therefore, we need to be in the light as He is in the light, so He can purge us or prune us.

❖ 'Pure' is clean, fresh and unadulterated.

❖ This is what openness to the light of what God does.

❖ It shows what needs to be purified in us.

You repent by saying yes to this purifying fire.

Now we need to surrender to the purifying process or the purging process that the Lord wants us to go through.

The result will be purity and the bringing forth of much fruit.

Gal 5:16-20 KJV This I say then, Walk in the Spirit, and ye shall not fulfil the lust of the flesh. 17 For the flesh lusteth against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh: and these are contrary the one to the other: so that ye cannot do the things that ye would. 18 But if ye be led of the Spirit, ye are not under the law. 19 Now the works of the flesh are manifest, which are these; Adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lasciviousness, 20 Idolatry, witchcraft, hatred, variance, emulations, wrath, strife, seditions, heresies,

- The flesh and its sins fight the things of God's Spirit and the true holy fire of the Holy Spirit.

We need the revelation of the Holy Spirit to find what is stopping us when we don't bring forth much fruit.

Therefore, we need to come into the light of God.

We need to stand in the light and be open to the light.

We need to be open to what the Holy Spirit will reveal to us.

Be humble and teachable.

b) Surrender and Transformation

We are called to be open and then repent, so that the convicting and purging light of God shines to be transformed into the image of Christ.

God is after our transformation and uses the tool of surrender to do this.

- ❖ Surrender is a major key for transformation.
- ❖ As we surrender, we will be more ready for the process of yielding, brokenness and bringing forth much fruit.

Jesus Christ Preached Brokenness

Jesus Christ preached, taught and demonstrated brokenness.

- ❖ He showed and demonstrated brokenness on the cross.

King David understood that the sacrifices of God are a broken and contrite heart.

(Psa 51:17) The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit: a broken and a contrite heart, O God, thou wilt not despise.

David already looked to the coming Redeemer who would be broken for his sin.

Only through grace are we redeemed and saved, yes, by Jesus Christ's broken body.

- ❖ Jesus Christ is our example of godly brokenness.

Communion and Brokenness

Jesus Christ preached brokenness, purging or pruning, abiding and bringing forth much fruit.

He taught and preached brokenness at His Last Supper.

He took bread and broke it.

(Mat 26:26) And as they were eating, Jesus took bread, and blessed it, and brake it, and gave it to the disciples, and said, Take, eat; this is my body.

Why did He break the bread?

As it was only through His body being broken on the cross and by physically dying, could life come.

(Rom 6:4) Therefore we are buried with him by baptism into death: that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life.

The Church in the book of Acts did daily communion; they understood that only through brokenness and death to self could they walk in the newness of life, resurrection life, power and glory.

(Gal 2:20) I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me.

As we surrender and yield to the newness of life and its resurrection life and power, as we are broken of me, myself, and I, we will bear much fruit.

Definition of Surrender

1. Ceases resistance to the enemy or opponent and submits to their authority (Oxford Dictionary)
2. Ceasing resistance.
3. Giving up in the battle.
4. Letting go of control and trusting God.

As Sinners, we were enemies of God

As sinners, we were God's enemies.

As sinners, we needed to be reconciled with God. We were enemies of God and, therefore, partners of Satan.

(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.

Saul of Tarsus

Saul of Tarsus, as a Pharisee of Pharisees, was driven by a religious spirit.

He was an enemy of Christ as he persecuted the believers of Christ in the church.

The church was praying, and Christ arose to deal with the Pharisee called Saul of Tarsus.

As Saul of Tarsus went to Damascus to persecute the believers, a great light shone round about him.

It made him blind, and the impact made him fall to the ground.

(Act 9:3, 4) And as he journeyed, he came near Damascus: and suddenly there shined round about him a light from heaven: And he fell to the earth, and heard a voice saying unto him, Saul, Saul, why persecutest thou me?

Saul was an enemy of Christ, and Christ asked, 'Why do you persecute Me?'

(Act 9: 4) And he fell to the earth, and heard a voice saying unto him, Saul, Saul, why persecutest thou me?

Saul asked, 'Who are You, Lord?' Christ replied, 'I am Jesus Christ of Nazareth.'

(Act 9:5) And he said, Who art thou, Lord? And the Lord said, I am Jesus whom thou persecutest: it is hard for thee to kick against the pricks.

Saul recognised that he was small and a sinner and that the greater One was speaking to him.

❖ He did not fight back but surrendered.

Then he believed, was baptised and became the great Apostle Paul.

I Surrender All

Do you know the song 'I Surrender All'?

The song says, 'All to Jesus I surrender, I surrender all'.

God wants us to surrender all.

Where we have hardened our hearts and lost our joy, God wants to bring brokenness as we surrender all.

If we are going back to the world of the flesh, like anger, hate, uncleanness or pride, it says we are slaves to the flesh.

❖ We are called to surrender to God's righteousness by living in the spirit.

(Rom 6:16 AMP) Do you not know that if you continually surrender yourselves to anyone to do his will, you are the slaves of him whom you obey, whether that be to sin, which leads to death, or to obedience which leads to righteousness (right doing and right standing with God)?

God allows us to come between a rock and a hard place so we can surrender all to have joy in our lives and bring forth fruit.

❖ When we surrender all, God wants to bring us to the place of brokenness, which releases rivers of life from within our whole being.

The Word Surrender in the Bible

The word surrender is not really in the Bible, yet the concept of surrender is.

God is the ruler and authority of all, yet He wants to come to us as a Father and reveal His fatherhood.

He uses the process of surrender so we give up and receive His embrace.

The God of the Bible is after a relationship and raising up a warrior bride for His Son.

The Prodigal Son

God is after our hearts and wants to restore us to an intimate relationship.

Then we will live in the first love and the joy of the Lord.

God can powerfully confront us like Paul, so we surrender, or He can reveal slowly, as with the prodigal son.

The Lord told us the story of the prodigal son.

The prodigal son had free will and chose the wrong pathway of sin and the flesh.

The loving Father, who let him go, allowed the son to come between the rock and the hard place.

When he saw that the food he ate with the pigs was not nice, and when he came to himself, he said, 'My father's servants have it better'.

(Luk 15:17) And when he came to himself, he said, How many hired servants of my father's have bread enough and to spare, and I perish with hunger!

❖ This became the place of surrender as he thought about his loving father's heart in this low place.

(Luk 15:18) I will arise and go to my father, and will say unto him, Father, I have sinned against heaven, and before thee,

❖ It is the goodness and severity that lead us to repentance and transformation.

This is the way the prodigal son went back home, for it is all about an intimate relationship.

c) Yielding to the Conviction of the Holy Spirit

Definition of Yielding

The Biblical definition of yielding is

- a) to cease opposition
- b) to comply
- c) to allow
- d) to give way
- e) to present yourself

Yielding is used 30 times in the Bible.

- ❖ Yielding and surrendering are very similar.
- ❖ However, yielding is our spontaneous response to the Holy Spirit's conviction.
- ❖ Surrendering is when we do not obey the prompting of the Holy Spirit, and we are brought between a rock and a hard place.

When the police put a gun to a gangster, he says to surrender.

- ❖ Yielding is our quick response to the Holy Spirit's conviction!

Surrendering is what King David did when God confronted him about his sin through the prophet Nathan.

We are called to yield to a righteous lifestyle, and the Holy Spirit, who convicts of sin, is the righteous spirit.

The key to the conviction of the Holy Spirit is obedience and yielding.

- ❖ Through this obedience and yielding to the Holy Spirit, He can bring forth brokenness in our lives.
- ❖ Through yielding and abiding, the fruits of the Holy Spirit will grow.

A Traffic Sign

I did my driver's licence exam in the USA.

- ❖ They have a big triangular traffic sign which says yield.

You stop and yield as other traffic comes on the other road you want to enter.

Your yielding will lead to safety; you will not get into danger and will not crash.

As we yield to the conviction of the Holy Spirit, we are saved and being transformed into the image of Jesus Christ.

- ❖ Yieldedness brings forth the fruit of meekness or gentleness.

Yieldness makes us tolerant and shows a yielding spirit.

The words yielding and submitting come from the same root word in Greek.

When we are called to submit to one another in the fear of God, it will bring unity and oneness.

There is a song about Yielding:

I yield my mind, I yield my heart,
I yield my life to Your Spirit, O Lord.

Holy Spirit, I need You now
Holy Spirit, send Your fire down
Holy Spirit, I need You now
For revival

Yielding to Grow in Becoming Holy

God's purpose for us is to become pure in heart and holy in all our ways.

Therefore, we are called to yield to the new life of the new creation we are in Christ.

However, many times we are in emotional or rational struggles with sin.

- ❖ In these struggles, we are called to yield to the righteous ways.

(Rom 6:13) Neither yield ye your members as instruments of unrighteousness unto sin, but yield yourselves unto God, as those that are alive from the dead, and your members as instruments of righteousness unto God.

We are not to yield and give in to the old works of the flesh.

This is why, daily, God wants to bring us to brokenness at the cross of Christ with whatever we struggle with.

As we yield in our struggle, God will send His refiner's fire and break the strongholds so we can grow in being holy.

(Rom 6:19) I speak after the manner of men because of the infirmity of your flesh: for as ye have yielded your members servants to uncleanness and to iniquity unto iniquity; even so now yield your members servants to righteousness unto holiness.

(Rom 6:22) But now being made free from sin, and become servants to God, ye have your fruit unto holiness, and the end everlasting life.

Yielding to God's Will

Through Jesus Christ's example of yielding, He shows us the way to God the Father's will.

Yielding is saying, not my will but thine will.

Yielding is to give oneself over to God's will, God's purpose and God's plan.

In Gethsemane, Jesus Christ yielded to the Father's will.

Yielding goes together with obedience.

Mar 14:36 KJV And he said, Abba, Father, all things are possible unto thee; take away this cup from me: nevertheless not what I will, but what thou wilt.

- ❖ Yielding brings us into brokenness and a deeper, intimate relationship with God.
- ❖ Yielding brings us into brokenness and then abiding and fruit-bearing.

Joh 15:4 KJV Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself, except it abide in the vine; no more can ye, except ye abide in me.

- ❖ The bridegroom is waiting for the bride to yield to His love through brokenness, so they can be one in true love.
- ❖ We are called to be rooted and grounded in love.
- ❖ God also wants us to bring forth much fruit. This can only come through yielding and the brokenness of the self-life as we yield to the will of God's Spirit and life.

Joh 15:8 KJV Herein is my Father glorified, that ye bear much fruit; so shall ye be my disciples.

Our yielding goes as deep as we die daily at the cross of Christ, where we still sin.

- ❖ Our yielding and abiding in the vine is all part of the gospel of the cross of Christ.

This is why the Apostle Paul said, "For the preaching of the cross is the power of God"

1 Cor 1:18 KJV For the preaching of the cross is to them that perish foolishness; but unto us which are saved it is the power of God.

Therefore, the Apostle Paul yielded 100% to the cross of Christ and the will of God so he could walk in the high calling of love and bring forth much fruit.

d) How to be broken

The Way to Brokenness

- ❖ True brokenness is the heart of our evangelistic gospel message.
- ❖ The great example of brokenness is our Lord Jesus Christ.

He said that He was going to be a ransom or the sacrifice, as He would be broken on the cross for our sin.

On Passover, at His last supper, He took a piece of bread to show that His body was going to be broken on the cross of Calvary.

He took the bread and broke it and said, do this in remembrance of Me.

His sacrifice on the cross is the greatest example of true brokenness.

(Mat 26:26) And as they were eating, Jesus took bread, and blessed it, and brake it, and gave it to the disciples, and said, Take, eat; this is my body.

This brokenness of Christ's sacrifice happened because He did the will of God the Father.

At Gethsemane, He sweated blood to overcome His own will.

He said, not My will but Your will be done.

(Mat 26:39) And he went a little further, and fell on his face, and prayed, saying, O my Father, if it be possible, let this cup pass from me: nevertheless not as I will, but as thou wilt.

Therefore, true brokenness and transformation in our lives will come when we do the will of God.

Nathan Reynold's Testimony of Brokenness

Nathan came out of deep darkness.

He cried out for more freedom and change from dark sins and addictions, and he became more broken over these sins.

In prayer at the cross for daily repentance, he said:

"Father I ask You to wash away my sin, to cleanse me of my transgressions and to remove all my ancestors' iniquities (Exo 34:7). I renounced the oaths that I spoke, the curses over children, and the cutting words out of my tongue. I asked for cleansing and healing to be given to my wife, daughter and myself. I wept at times during that prayer and shook uncontrollably. I trembled from head to foot like I'd dove beneath the waves of an icy tomb. I felt things cracking loose in my heart. Waves of nausea, sorrow, and pain washed over me. I wanted to stop the prayers; something else was screaming out within me to resist. I knew I needed to continue to renounce these wicked oaths. I continue to cry out to the Great Redeemer Jesus and ask Him to cleanse us and purify us. (Reynolds, N. 2018)

- Apostle Paul knew that only through the brokenness at the cross, over his failures and sins, would intimacy with God grow.

(Php 3:10) That I may know him, and the power of his resurrection, and the fellowship of his sufferings, being made conformable unto his death;

- This would lead to victory and an increase in the life of the Holy Spirit in our lives.
- ❖ Without the cross, there is no crown.
- Biblical brokenness is not trusting in self or the flesh anymore because we are crucified with Christ and alive in Christ through faith as a new creation.
- Instead, it is trusting in God's word and God's Spirit.

2. The Holy Spirit will pour out God's love, Holy purging and purifying fire and goodness upon us.

Rom 2:4 KJV Or despisest thou the riches of his goodness and forbearance and longsuffering; not knowing that the goodness of God leadeth thee to repentance?

- ❖ We have to press into His goodness and severity to gain a deeper level of repentance and yielding as the light of God reveals hidden sin or ungodliness.
- ❖ As we surrender, yield and are broken, then cleansing will come.
- ❖ Weeping and brokenness go hand in hand.
- ❖ When conviction comes, and we let the cross work in us, we will feel what God feels and hear what God hears and see what God sees.

Usually, we are moved by the Holy Spirit and start to cry because the purging (holy fire) process is working in us. Sometimes this process goes on for days, weeks or months.

Psa 30:5 KJV For his anger endureth but a moment, in his favour is life: weeping may endure for a night but joy cometh in the morning.

Not the end

- ❖ Brokenness is not an end in itself; through brokenness, the Holy Spirit will be poured out into our lives in a greater and deeper way so we know the Lord more intimately.

This will help us to grow into deep fellowship with God the Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

- ❖ Through brokenness, we will be able to live as a new creation in its fullness.

The promise for the new creation is to live an abundant life; brokenness over our failures will help to see this happen.

e) Abiding and more Holy Spirit Outpouring

When we learn to be open, surrendered, broken and abiding, we will see more Christ-likeness, more fruit and more of God's power in our lives, bringing forth fruit and growing in Christ-likeness.

As we press into prayer and its brokenness, God will pour out more of the Holy Spirit in our lives.

- ❖ Now we need to learn to abide and not quench the new outpouring of the Holy Spirit.

Joh 15:4 KJV Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself, except it abide in the vine; no more can ye, except ye abide in me.

Abiding is a major key, yes, abiding in the presence of the Holy Spirit.

Abiding is being united.

Abiding is being one with God's heart, nature, plan, will and purpose.

Joh 15:10 KJV If ye keep my commandments, ye shall abide in my love; even as I have kept my Father's commandments, and abide in his love.

More Holy Spirit Outpouring in our Lives

There are different levels in the Holy Spirit.

- ❖ When we learn to be open, broken, surrendered, yielding and abide in what God gives, we can grow in greater levels of the Holy Spirit; this is an outworking of brokenness.

The Lord desires to take us deeper into the brokenness of our hard hearts, self-centeredness, etc.

- ❖ Once we have been broken in this deeper place, more of the Holy Spirit is given to us.
- ❖ Then we have to abide in this greater portion of the Holy Spirit.

Psa 27:4 KJV One thing have I desired of the LORD, that will I seek after; that I may dwell in the house of the LORD all the days of my life, to behold the beauty of the LORD, and to enquire in his temple.

- ❖ If we don't abide in the greater level He gives us, we lose it!

We can then repent and ask Him to give it back.

If we are willing to grow in this process and learn to abide, dwell and stay in greater levels of His Spirit and presence, we can grow from glory to glory.

2Co 3:18 KJV But we all, with open face beholding as in a glass the glory of the Lord, are changed into the same image from glory to glory, even as by the Spirit of the Lord.

f) The Outworking of more Brokenness is:

1. A deeper fellowship or intimacy with God the Father, Son and Holy Spirit.
(1Jn 1:3) That which we have seen and heard declare we unto you, that ye also may have fellowship with us: and truly our fellowship is with the Father, and with his Son Jesus Christ.
 2. Greater realms of holy glory
 3. Growing deeper in bridal love.
 4. Becoming more like Jesus Christ, our Daystar.
 5. The fruit of the Spirit will grow faster.
 6. Bring forth much fruit.
- The outworking of this process is growing in our love relationship with God the Father, Son and Holy Spirit.
 - It is to grow to love God more, and the love of the bridegroom will grow deeper in our hearts as we press into our first love.
 - We are now buying more oil of love purified in the fire.

(Rev 3:18) I counsel thee to buy of me gold tried in the fire, that thou mayest be rich; and white raiment, that thou mayest be clothed, and that the shame of thy nakedness do not appear; and anoint thine eyes with eyesalve, that thou mayest see.

The Bible shows that the Great Commandment is to love the Lord your God with all your heart, soul, mind, and strength, comes first.

Out of this love, we do the Great Commission to bear fruit.

Jesus Christ said some 30-fold, some 60-fold, and some 100-fold.

The will of God is that we will bring forth much fruit.

Joh 15:8 KJV Herein is my Father glorified, that ye bear much fruit; so shall ye be my disciples.

God's purpose is that we will bring forth fruit that will remain.

Joh 15:16 KJV Ye have not chosen me, but I have chosen you, and ordained you, that ye should go and bring forth fruit, and that your fruit should remain: that whatsoever ye shall ask of the Father in my name, he may give it to you.

Many people do things for God, but much does not remain.

Many chose to do it their way and not God's way.

God's way is to bring forth fruit through this process, so our fruit will remain.

If our surrender is 100%, we will bring forth much fruit.

Peter's brokenness and victory

The Apostle Peter is a good example of what fruit can come forth through a broken life at the cross of Christ. He was first full of human zeal and pride and said he would never deny Jesus Christ. Then he denies Jesus Christ. After this fall, he goes into repentance and brokenness.

Mar 14:72 KJV And the second time the cock crew. And Peter called to mind the word that Jesus said unto him, Before the cock crow twice, thou shalt deny me thrice. And when he thought thereon, he wept.

He went into a season of brokenness.

After Christ arose from the dead, He blew on His disciples and said, 'Receive the Holy Spirit'.

Peter was then born again and became a new creation.

Then, on the day of Pentecost, he was used to lead 3000 to repent. This was 100% fruit-bearing.

Act 2:38 KJV Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost.

Act 2:41 KJV Then they that gladly received his word were baptized: and the same day there were added unto them about three thousand souls.

The way of the cross and glory

We are called to grow into the image and glory of God through being broken at the cross over our failures, sins and mistakes.

2Co 3:8-9 KJV How shall not the ministration of the spirit be rather glorious? 9 For if the ministration of condemnation be glory, much more doth the ministration of righteousness exceed in glory.

The glory also comes through suffering.

Rom 8:17 KJV And if children, then heirs; heirs of God, and joint-heirs with Christ; if so be that we suffer with him, that we may be also glorified together.

When we walk in the way of the cross and overcome, we will also receive power in the days to come.

Rev 2:26 KJV And he that overcometh, and keepeth my works unto the end, to him will I give power over the nations:

- ❖ Today, we are called to move forward and receive the power of the Holy Spirit.

The more open, broken over our failures, and surrendered to God's will you are, the greater the measure of God's power will be in your life and ministry.

As we abide in His Holy Spirit and His will, plan and purpose, we will bring forth much fruit.

Act 1:8 KJV But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth.

Being prepared

- ❖ The gospel of the cross of Christ and being broken makes us ready for hard times.
- ❖ It makes us ready for persecution.

The Lord said that we should be ready to face persecution in our lives.

Mat 10:23,24 KJV But when they persecute you in this city, flee ye into another: for verily I say unto you, ye shall not have gone over the cities of Israel, till the Son of man be come. The disciple is not, above his master, not the servant above his lord.

This can come in many ways.

This can be in your family, at work or in your community.

When we focus on the cross of Christ, we see the suffering He went through.

This can prepare us for the suffering we may face in life.

Yet the resurrection power will strengthen us to go through it.

Take no offence

The gospel of the cross makes us ready not to be offended.

Jesus Christ said I tell you these things so you would not be offended.

Joh 16:1 KJV These thing have I spoken unto you, that ye should not be offended.

Jesus Christ said the offence would come.

We must prepare ourselves so that we can stand when that offence comes.

Jesus said persecution and hardship would come for those who follow Him. We see this very much in Muslim nations where Christians are being killed and martyred because they are following Jesus Christ.

Brokenness through the cross of Christ in our lives prepares us not to be offended when these persecutions come.

Therefore, when we understand the gospel of the cross of Christ, this makes us ready for the persecutions we might have to go through.

This will make us strong for the last days, which will be filled with persecution.

Jesus Christ said that if they persecuted Me they will also persecute you.

Joh 15:20 KJV Remember the word that I said unto you, The servant is not greater than his lord. If they have persecuted me, they will also persecute you; if they have kept my saying, they will keep yours also.

He said they will even throw you out of the synagogues for My name.

Joh 16:2 KJV They shall put you out of the synagogues: yea, the time cometh, that whosoever killeth you will think that he doeth God service.

In the last days, the whore of Babylon will bring persecution: this is the false church that will deny the true authority of Jesus Christ in the last days.

Our faith is that there is only one way of salvation, and His name is Jesus Christ.

Only He will lead us to God the Father in Heaven.

By growing in the gospel of the cross of Christ and being broken, we are being made ready for that day.

Then we will not take offence but will stand our ground for Jesus Christ here on earth.

The Kingdom Cross

In this chapter, we talk about the kingdom cross.

- ❖ The Lord Jesus Christ revealed to Nicodemus the secrets of the kingdom through the cross.

(Joh 3:14) And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, even so must the Son of man be lifted up:

The Lord Jesus Christ revealed to Nicodemus that the message of the cross is the power for those who believe.

(1Co 1:18) For the preaching of the cross is to them that perish foolishness; but unto us which are saved it is the power of God.

Jesus showed Nicodemus that through faith in the redemption at the cross, you will be born again of the spirit of God and the kingdom of God.

As a result, the power of God's Holy Spirit and the kingdom of God's power will start to flow through your life.

The Cross

- ❖ The gospel of redemption through the cross is the gospel of the Kingdom of God.

- Through the redeeming sacrifices of Christ on the cross, we can enter the kingdom of God.

Everywhere Jesus Christ went, He preached the gospel of the kingdom of heaven and the kingdom of God.

This was His message.

- ❖ He said; repent for the kingdom of God is at hand.

Mat 4:17 KJV From that time Jesus began to preach, and to say, Repent: for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.

The true preaching of the kingdom of God starts with the preaching of repentance.

As believers, we are called to grow in kingdom life, and daily repentance will help us let go of the old life and grow into the new life.

Kingdom life

Jesus Christ preached and demonstrated kingdom life.

He came and explained what heaven was all about.

Mat 5:3-5 KJV Blessed are the poor in spirit: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. 4 Blessed are they that mourn: for they shall be comforted. 5 Blessed are the meek: for they shall inherit the earth.

Mat 5:10 KJV Blessed are they which are persecuted for righteousness' sake: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

He came out of all of heaven's glory and riches and was born in a stable with animals.

- ❖ He showed us how to live a sacrificial lifestyle.

Yet while He lived this lifestyle, He was full of peace and contentment.

- ❖ While He didn't walk around in worldly riches and splendour, He was full of joy and life.

He said that while we live for Him, we can experience this life more abundantly.

Joh 10:10 KJV The thief cometh not, but for to steal, and to kill, and to destroy: I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly.

- ❖ Life more abundantly is Heaven's joy, peace, goodness and love experienced here on earth.

- ❖ This is the kingdom of Heaven in manifestation in our lives today, here on earth. This is living and experiencing life more abundantly.

The Kingdom Anointing comes through the Cross

What Jesus Christ was declaring to the world was that the kingdom of Heaven had come down to earth.

- ❖ He said the king is in your midst.

This is why they were angry; He didn't fit their description of a king.

- ❖ For Jesus Christ brought an upside-down kingdom.

- If you wanted to be great, you had to be humble and meek.

- If you wanted to be a leader, you had to be a servant to all.

- If you wanted to be a disciple of the king, you had to pick up your cross.

➤ If you wanted to be a great spiritual leader, then you had to have the faith of a child.

❖ We see here that the true anointing comes through a crucified life.

Gal 2:20 KJV I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me.

Nicodemus

There was a Pharisee called Nicodemus.

He knew that Jesus was sent from God.

He understood that Jesus Christ could not do the miracles He did if He were not a prophet or the Messiah.

Joh 3:2 KJV The same came to Jesus by night, and said unto him, Rabbi, we know that thou art a teacher come from God: for no man can do these miracles that thou doest, except God be with him.

Nicodemus was waiting for the kingdom of God to be established on earth.

All Israelites understood the kingdom in a natural way.

The king would take the land by a natural force.

All of Israel was waiting for the Messiah King who would bring peace or shalom for Israel.

It was going to be built on King David's kingdom.

Psa 89:3-4 KJV I have made a covenant with my chosen, I have sworn unto David my servant, 4 Thy seed will I establish for ever, and build up thy throne to all generations. Selah.

The Lord Jesus knew the faith that Nicodemus had in him and chose Nicodemus to receive divine revelation about the Kingdom of God.

This leads us to understand how to enter the kingdom of God and how to operate in it through the conversation held between Jesus Christ and Nicodemus.

The way in

Jesus Christ explained to Nicodemus how to enter the kingdom.

He said you must be born again, which is part of redemption.

Some churches focus on how to be born into the church, but this takes the focus away from being born of the kingdom of God.

Jesus Christ said that we must be born again to enter into the kingdom of God.

❖ So we are born again of the Spirit and the kingdom of God.

Joh 3:3 KJV Jesus answered and said unto him, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God.

❖ We are called to be born of the Spirit and the kingdom of God.

This is why Jesus Christ started to share these truths with Nicodemus.

Jesus Christ was a Jew, and salvation is from the Jews.

Jesus Christ had also come from the Kingdom of heaven to earth.

❖ He was now able to teach a teacher of the Jews, Nicodemus, how to be born of the Spirit and the kingdom of heaven.

Nicodemus was a ruler of the Jews, a Pharisee and a teacher.

Nicodemus became a secret disciple of Jesus Christ and stood up for Him in the Sanhedrin, for he was part of the Sanhedrin. (Joh 7:50 KJV)

When Jesus Christ died, Nicodemus, together with Joseph of Arimathea, bought spices for His burial and buried Him.

Joh 19:38-39 KJV And after this Joseph of Arimathaea, being a disciple of Jesus, but secretly for fear of the Jews, besought Pilate that he might take away the body of Jesus: and Pilate gave him leave. He came therefore, and took the body of Jesus. 39 And there came also Nicodemus, which at the first came to Jesus by night, and brought a mixture of myrrh and aloes, about an hundred pound weight.

The kingdom cross

The Lord Jesus Christ revealed the secrets of the kingdom cross to Nicodemus.

The cross of Christ is the way into the kingdom of God and, therefore, the kingdom cross.

As Nicodemus was hungry for spiritual food, he said, how can this be? How can we be born again of the Spirit and the kingdom?

The Lord had said flesh is flesh, and flesh has to die so that the spirit can be born again.

- Then the Lord revealed to him the instrument whereby this would happen.
- ❖ He said that the Son of Man had to be lifted up just as Moses lifted up the serpent.

Joh 3:14 AMP And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the desert [on a pole], so must [so it is necessary that] the Son of Man be lifted up [on the cross], [Num. 21:9.]

The serpent was placed on a pole.

Therefore, the Lord was teaching Nicodemus the message of the cross.

(1Co 1:18) For the preaching of the cross is to them that perish foolishness; but unto us which are saved it is the power of God.

The Lord was effectively saying:

- The way into the kingdom of God is through the cross.
- Therefore, the cross is the kingdom cross.
- The kingdom cross releases the kingdom keys to us as we believe in Christ as our Redeemer and Messiah.

(1Co 4:20) For the kingdom of God is not in word, but in power.

The divine revelation to Nicodemus

1. The first point Jesus Christ made to Nicodemus was that the divine revelation brings what we need to be born again of the spirit and in the kingdom of God.

Joh 3:3 KJV Jesus answered and said unto him, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God.

2. The second point was the way this would happen by the Son of God dying on the pole, which was the cross.

Joh 3:14 And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, even so, must the Son of man be lifted up.

3. The third point is that if we believe in this sacrifice, our sins will be forgiven and we will live eternally with God in heaven.

Joh 3:16,17 KJV For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life. 17For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be saved.

4. The fourth point that Jesus Christ made later was that all the kingdom blessings and kingdom power and authority of God came to us because of the gospel of the cross.

Mat 28:17,18 KJV And when they saw him, they worshipped him; but some doubted. 18 And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth.

It's all through the cross

The divine revelation to Nicodemus was that everything we receive from God comes because of what Christ did at the cross for us.

- To be born again of the kingdom of Heaven comes to us because of the gospel of the redeeming cross.
- All the kingdom life, like peace, joy, love, etc., comes to us because of the redemption at the cross.
- Kingdom power and authority all come to us because of Christ's sacrifice on the redeeming cross.
- The kingdom of Heaven's miracles, signs, wonders and healings all come to us because Christ shed His redeeming blood for us on the cross at Calvary.

Jesus Christ prepared Nicodemus as a teacher in Israel to reveal these truths to other Pharisees.
After the day of Pentecost, many Pharisees believed in Jesus Christ.
Teachers such as Nicodemus and Joseph of Arimathea would have played a big role in that.

The Two Emmaus Men

After Jesus' death, burial and resurrection, they started to believe in the Messiah.
The risen King Jesus appeared to two men, yet they did not know Him.
These two men were on the way to Emmaus.
They were sad and didn't understand that He was not sad.
Then Jesus Christ explained that the Messiah had to suffer.

Luk 24:25-26 KJV Then he said unto them, O fools, and slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have spoken: 26 Ought not Christ to have suffered these things, and to enter into his glory?

He said, I, as the Christ, according to the scriptures, had to suffer these things so that you could be redeemed and saved from your sin.

The angels

There were two angels in shining garments by the empty grave Christ had lain in.
They said that Christ had risen and that Christ had said He must be crucified.

Luk 24:7 KJV Saying, The Son of man must be delivered into the hands of sinful men, and be crucified, and the third day rise again.

The angels were openly saying the word crucified for Satan was now defeated at the cross.
It was no longer a mystery.
Now the gospel of the cross of Christ could be openly preached.

Thomas

Thomas was in unbelief.
He had seen Jesus Christ bleeding and dying on the cross.
He couldn't believe that the King of glory had risen.
Then Christ appeared to Thomas.
He said, put your hand on my pierced hand and put your finger in my side where the soldier speared me.

Joh 20:27 AMP Then He said to Thomas, Reach out your finger here, and see My hands; and put out your hand and place [it] in My side. Do not be faithless and incredulous, but [stop your unbelief and] believe!

Thomas believed.
He saw the risen king of glory.

- ❖ Now Thomas knew that the kingdom cross was the way into the kingdom of God.

Activation of the Kingdom Keys

- ❖ The kingdom cross releases the kingdom keys.

(Mat 16:19) And I will give unto thee the keys of the kingdom of heaven: and whatsoever thou shalt bind on earth shall be bound in heaven: and whatsoever thou shalt loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven.

- ❖ Christ died on the cross and rose again, and that is why we can enter the year of Jubilee.

This leads to the outpouring of life and anointing of the Holy Spirit.
Joy, freedom and deliverance are here.

The Year of Jubilee

- All the kingdom blessings from the Spirit of the Lord in Isaiah 61 come to us through the gospel of the cross.
- ❖ The gospel of the kingdom is the gospel of the kingdom cross.
- ❖ What Jesus Christ was saying and declaring in Nazareth and all of Israel was that the Messianic year of Jubilee had come.

(Luk 4:18) The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he hath anointed me to preach the gospel to the poor; he hath sent me to heal the brokenhearted, to preach deliverance to the captives, and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty them that are bruised,

He said, "This is the acceptable year of the Lord", which means the year of Jubilee has come.

- ❖ The year of Jubilee brings forth great joy.
- ❖ The oil of joy brings brokenness of the spirit.

(Isa 61:1-3) The Spirit of the Lord GOD is upon me; because the LORD hath anointed me to preach good tidings unto the meek; he hath sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and the opening of the prison to them that are bound; To proclaim the acceptable year of the LORD, and the day of vengeance of our God; to comfort all that mourn; To appoint unto them that mourn in Zion, to give unto them beauty for ashes, the oil of joy for mourning, the garment of praise for the spirit of heaviness; that they might be called trees of righteousness, the planting of the LORD, that he might be glorified.

- ❖ But the acceptable year of the Lord, which they knew as the year of Jubilee, could only come through the cross.

(Lev 25:9, 10) Then shalt thou cause the trumpet of the jubilee to sound on the tenth day of the seventh month, in the day of atonement shall ye make the trumpet sound throughout all your land. And ye shall hallow the fiftieth year, and proclaim liberty throughout all the land unto all the inhabitants thereof: it shall be a jubilee unto you; and ye shall return every man unto his possession, and ye shall return every man unto his family.

- ❖ The Day of Atonement was the foreshadowing of Christ's redemption on the cross.
- What Jesus Christ was saying was: I am your Messiah and King, and through My sacrifices on the cross, I will make atonement for you and redeem you, and then the Year of Jubilee will start.
- The kingdom cross is, therefore, the redemption cross.
- The kingdom cross is, therefore, the cross that brings redemption.
- The kingdom cross is the redemption cross because the year of Jubilee spoken of in Isaiah 61 comes to us through the atonement of the cross.
- ❖ The blessings of the year of the Jubilee can come to us because of the Day of Atonement or redemption.

The year of Jubilee was once every 50 years.

The day of Pentecost, which means 50, was fifty days after the day of the first fruits.

- ❖ On the day of the First Fruit, which is three days after Passover, Jesus Christ rose.
- ❖ Therefore, we see that the outpouring of the Holy Spirit on the day of Pentecost is a direct result of the Year of Jubilee.

Therefore, the Spirit of the Lord (the manifestation of the Holy Spirit) and the Holy Spirit of the kingdom of God come to us because of the gospel of the cross of Christ.

Isa 61:1 KJV The Spirit of the Lord GOD is upon me; because the LORD hath anointed me to preach good tidings unto the meek; he hath sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and the opening of the prison to them that are bound;

This is, therefore, another blessing that comes because of the Year of Jubilee.

Other blessings of the Year of Jubilee

All our stolen possessions shall return.

All slaves are set free, which is part of the word redemption.

Redemption is paying the ransom, which is to buy back the slave's land and possessions.

Lev 25:10 KJV And ye shall hallow the fiftieth year, and proclaim liberty throughout all the land unto all the inhabitants thereof: it shall be a jubile unto you; and ye shall return every man unto his possession, and ye shall return every man unto his family.

Fathers who were slaves returned to their families.

Christ Jesus set us free and broke the curse of poverty, the chains of slavery and the addictions.

❖ Redemption means buying back from slavery, which is what Christ did on the kingdom cross.

All the other blessings of Isaiah 61 come to us because of the Year of Jubilee or the acceptable year of the Lord, which comes to us because of the gospel of the cross of Christ.

We see that Jesus Christ was anointed to:

- Preach the good news.

Isa 61:1 KJV The Spirit of the Lord GOD is upon me; because the LORD hath anointed me to preach good tidings unto the meek; he hath sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and the opening of the prison to them that are bound;

- Bind up the broken-hearted.
- Proclaim liberty.
- Bring deliverance to bound people.
- Bring comfort and receive comfort.

Isa 61:2 KJV To proclaim the acceptable year of the LORD, and the day of vengeance of our God; to comfort all that mourn;

- Receive joy and a garment of praise.

Isa 61:3 KJV To appoint unto them that mourn in Zion, to give unto them beauty for ashes, the oil of joy for mourning, the garment of praise for the spirit of heaviness; that they might be called trees of righteousness, the planting of the LORD, that he might be glorified.

The other side of the cross – Kingdom life and resurrection power

❖ At the other side of the cross is resurrection and kingdom power, eternal life and life more abundantly.

Jesus Christ's purpose was that through His death on the cross, He would bring forth His kingdom life and power in our lives.

❖ Therefore, the other side of the gospel of the cross of Christ is resurrection life and empowerment for all who want to receive it.

True believers die to self at the cross of Christ and then rise in resurrection life and kingdom power and learn to live and walk in the spirit.

Rom 8: 1,2KJV There is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit. 2 For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus hath made me free from the law of sin and death.

I Received a Kingdom Anointing

As a young believer, while in Amsterdam, I went to buy a book about the kingdom of God written by John Wimber.

On that day, an anointing of the kingdom of God came upon me.

I learnt that Isaiah 61 says that the Spirit of the Lord God comes upon us to heal the broken-hearted and set the prisoner free.

Therefore, I learnt how to use the kingdom keys, which we receive through faith in the redeeming blood of the kingdom cross.

From then on, I prayed for hurting, broken people and have seen them changed by God's love, goodness, mercy and kindness.

Out of this, I have prayed for many for deliverance and seen them set free from many evil spirits, demons and devils. Their lives were changed for the better.

The Same Power

Jesus Christ has called us to walk in resurrection life and power, for He has commissioned us to raise the dead and heal the sick.

Only through resurrection life and God's power can we do this.

The Apostle Paul said that the same power that raised Christ Jesus from the grave lives in us.

Eph 1:19,20 KJV And what is exceeding greatness of his power to us-ward who believe, according to the working of his mighty power. 20 which he wrought in Christ, when he raised him from the dead and set him at his own right hand in the heavenly places.

- ❖ There is also healing through resurrection power for our bodies.

(Rom 8:11) But if the Spirit of him that raised up Jesus from the dead dwell in you, he that raised up Christ from the dead shall also quicken your mortal bodies by his Spirit that dwelleth in you.

Therefore, we have to learn how to live, walk and use this resurrection life and power in our lives.

- ❖ We call this learning school: life in the Spirit.

Rom 8:13,14 KJV For if ye live after the flesh, ye shall die: but if ye through the Spirit do mortify the deeds of the body, ye shall live. 14 For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, they are the sons of God.

- ❖ All the promises of Isaiah 61 are the kingdom of God promises, and they work through the resurrection life and kingdom authority and power.

Therefore, it is important to learn to listen to the Holy Spirit, who is the Spirit of the kingdom of God and live and do as He tells you to.

- ❖ Therefore, our focus is not only on the death of Christ on the cross but also on His resurrection and the outpouring of the Holy Spirit in our lives.
- ❖ This must all happen so that we can worship the Father in Spirit and in truth in a greater way.
- ❖ Yet the deeper the cross works in us, the more the Holy Spirit will work through us in resurrection life, kingdom authority and kingdom power.
- ❖ The deeper the cross goes, the more the Holy Spirit flows.

One king

There are many nations and many tribes.

There are many earthly kingdoms.

The kingdom of heaven is above all other kingdoms.

Yet God has a special plan for Israel, where Christ is going to reign on the throne of King David for a thousand years.

Yet there is only one kingdom of God and one King.

Now, through the cross, we have to serve one another in humility and love, and then we are true disciples of the kingdom of God.

From the perspective of the Kingdom of Heaven, no culture is above another culture here on earth.

Therefore, let us prefer one another as we are called to be true servants of the King of glory.

Evangelist Johnny the Evangelist

When I was a young believer, I travelled with an evangelist team through Europe.

We did evangelistic outreaches with drama teams, music and worship.

Johnny Goodfellow was our leader.

Before he was redeemed and saved by God's grace and mercy, he had been a gangster and criminal.

He would rob jewellery stores, do hold-ups and even steal handbags from old ladies as they drove on their motorcycles.

So, at this time, he was not a good fellow, but a bad fellow.

Christ was sent by God's mercy, out of His love, to give Johnny forgiveness and grace.

5. Yet, Christ had to pay the penalty for our sins and reconcile us to God by becoming a curse for us.

The Depth of Redemption

Christ Jesus came to redeem us through His blood sacrifice on the cross, so through faith in Him, we have eternal life.

- ❖ His kingdom cross is the cross that redeems us from sin, the curse, the devil and hell.

(Col 1:13, 14) Who hath delivered us from the power of darkness, and hath translated us into the kingdom of his dear Son: In whom we have redemption through his blood, even the forgiveness of sins:

- A deeper part of Christ's redemption lies in the fact that Christ came to set us free from the curse by becoming a curse for us.

(Gal 3:13) Christ hath redeemed us from the curse of the law, being made a curse for us: for it is written, Cursed is every one that hangeth on a tree:

- When I saw the depth of this truth, it broke my heart, for I saw how much Jesus Christ loved me.

As I received this revelation, I went in prayer to the cross and wept for a long time.

I was deeply broken and refreshed by the Holy Spirit.

All Men under the Curse of the Law

The Bible says that all men are under the curse of the Law.

All sinners have fallen short of the glory of God, for no one has been able to perfectly keep the Law.

6. It says that anyone who has tried to be a good person and tried to keep all the Law, yet failed just once, is under a curse.

(Gal 3:10) For as many as are of the works of the law are under the curse: for it is written, Cursed is every one that continueth not in all things which are written in the book of the law to do them.

Rebels

The Rebels were Stoned

The scripture says that the soul that sins shall die.

(Eze 20:8) But they rebelled against me, and would not hearken unto me: they did not every man cast away the abominations of their eyes, neither did they forsake the idols of Egypt: then I said, I will pour out my fury upon them, to accomplish my anger against them in the midst of the land of Egypt.

Under the Old Covenant, if a child was a glutton, drunkard and rebellious, he or she was stoned to death.

(Deu 21:20,21) And they shall say unto the elders of his city, This our son is stubborn and rebellious, he will not obey our voice; he is a glutton, and a drunkard. And all the men of his city shall stone him with stones, that he die: so shalt thou put evil away from among you; and all Israel shall hear, and fear.

Children who were stubborn and rebellious, who did not want to listen to the voice of their father or mother, were rebellious against the Law which said 'Honour your father and your mother'.

As they sinned against the Law of God, they were under a curse and put to death, so all would fear God and His Laws. Christ came to redeem us from the curse of the Law by becoming a curse for us, so we could all be reconciled to God and have eternal life and peace with God.

Understanding reconciliation in this way brings back the fear of God in our lives.

(Eph 2:15,16) Having abolished in his flesh the enmity, even the law of commandments contained in ordinances; for to make in himself of twain one new man, so making peace; And that he might reconcile both unto God in one body by the cross, having slain the enmity thereby:

7. Christ, by giving His body on the cross, abolished the Law and commandments against us because of our sin and rebellion and reconciled us as He broke the curse and made peace for us with God.
8. Christ made peace, is our peace and preaches peace.

Justified Through Redemption

We are Justified by Faith through the Redemption

We are not justified by the Law or by being a law-abiding person, or being a good individual, but through faith.

(Gal 3:11) But that no man is justified by the law in the sight of God, it is evident: for, The just shall live by faith.

We are justified or made righteous by faith in the redeeming blood sacrifice of Jesus Christ on the cross.

(Rom 3:24) Being justified freely by his grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus:

By this, all the legal laws against us and Satan's control and curses were broken.

(Col 2:13, 14) And you, being dead in your sins and the uncircumcision of your flesh, hath he quickened together with him, having forgiven you all trespasses; Blotting out the handwriting of ordinances that was against us, which was contrary to us, and took it out of the way, nailing it to his cross;

Disgrace by being Hanged

In the Old Testament, we see the depth of these truths of what Christ, out of His love and compassion, has done for us.

- ❖ In the Old Testament, it says that if someone had been hanged on a tree because of a sin worthy of the death penalty, he is accursed of God.

(Deu 21:22, 23) And if a man have committed a sin worthy of death, and he be to be put to death, and thou hang him on a tree: His body shall not remain all night upon the tree, but thou shalt in any wise bury him that day; (for he that is hanged is accursed of God;) that thy land be not defiled, which the LORD thy God giveth thee for an inheritance.

Hanging was imposed as an additional disgrace after death.

He was accursed by God when he was hanging on a tree and had to be taken down before nightfall, otherwise the land would also be defiled.

So a law-breaking, rebellious evil person could be stoned, killed and hung on a tree and be accursed because of his great sin.

In the New Testament, it says that anyone trying to keep the Law yet fails in one thing is accursed.

(Gal 3:10) For as many as are of the works of the law are under the curse: for it is written, Cursed is every one that continueth not in all things which are written in the book of the law to do them.

The Vilest of Sinners Hanged

In the Old Testament, we see that the vilest of sinners, after death, were hung on a tree.

Joshua, after the King of Ai was put to death, hung him on a tree until the evening.

(Jos 8:29) And the king of Ai he hanged on a tree until eventide: and as soon as the sun was down, Joshua commanded that they should take his carcase down from the tree, and cast it at the entering of the gate of the city, and raise thereon a great heap of stones, that remaineth unto this day.

Joshua does the same with 5 other evil giant kings.

The Romans also made crosses where they hung their criminals.

The murderer on the cross next to Jesus received forgiveness as he believed in the Messiah's redeeming blood sacrifices and went to paradise.

Hanged to Break and Redeem us from the Curse

As we saw earlier, someone who was hanged on a tree after death as capital punishment was accursed.

Jesus Christ came to redeem us from all curses.

Jesus Christ took our sin, became sin and became a curse to redeem us as he was bleeding and hanging on the cross made from a tree.

They took His body down before darkness, so it would not affect Israel in great judgment.

(Gal 3:13) Christ hath redeemed us from the curse of the law, being made a curse for us: for it is written, Cursed is every one that hangeth on a tree:

- ❖ Christ redeemed us from the curse by becoming a curse for us.
- ❖ Cursed is anyone who hangs on a tree.
- ❖ Christ redeemed us from the curse of the Law.
- ❖ Christ redeemed us from any generational curses.

This is why we can deal with generational curses.

Blessing or Curse

In Israel, there is a Mountain of Blessings and a Mountain of Curses

Moses told Joshua that when they arrived in the Land of Canaan, they had to do a prophetic act.

They had to set up a mountain of blessings and a mountain of curses.

(Deu 11:29) And it shall come to pass, when the LORD thy God hath brought thee in unto the land whither thou goest to possess it, that thou shalt put the blessing upon mount Gerizim, and the curse upon mount Ebal.

- ❖ Mount Gerazim became the mountain of blessings.
- ❖ Mount Ebal became the mountain of curses.

Moses then gives the list of blessings.

He says you shall be blessed in the city, in the field, in the land. Blessed shall be the fruit of your body, of your cattle and of the ground.

All these blessings and curses are found in Deuteronomy 28.

Moses also gives a list of curses.

When the people of Israel did not obey the voice of the Lord, they would be cursed in the city, in the field, on the ground, etc.

When they came to Canaan, Joshua proclaimed these blessings on Mount Gerizim and the curses on Mount Ebal.

(Jos 8:32, 33) And he wrote there upon the stones a copy of the law of Moses, which he wrote in the presence of the children of Israel. And all Israel, and their elders, and officers, and their judges, stood on this side the ark and on that side before the priests the Levites, which bare the ark of the covenant of the LORD, as well the stranger, as he that was born among them; half of them over against mount Gerizim, and half of them over against mount Ebal; as Moses the servant of the LORD had commanded before, that they should bless the people of Israel.

Today, the good news is that Christ has redeemed us from the curse, and now the blessing can come to us.

(Gal 3:13,14) Christ hath redeemed us from the curse of the law, being made a curse for us: for it is written, Cursed is every one that hangeth on a tree: That the blessing of Abraham might come on the Gentiles through Jesus Christ; that we might receive the promise of the Spirit through faith.

This story of Israel shows us the reality of the blessings and curses in our lives.

Through Christ's redemption, all blessings can come to us, and all curses in our lives through sin and its generational curses can be broken.

The Blessing of the Holy Spirit

- ❖ As Christ redeemed us, by faith we receive the Holy Spirit.
- ❖ Apostle Paul asks the Galatians, 'Did you receive the Holy Spirit by works of the Law or by hearing of faith?'

(Gal 3:2) This only would I learn of you, Received ye the Spirit by the works of the law, or by the hearing of faith?

Apostle Paul uses Abraham, the father of faith, as an example.

God promised Abraham that through his seed, all nations would be blessed.

Through the seed which would bring forth the Messiah, all nations would be blessed.

This blessing, which was a promise, is that we would have a restored relationship with God through the Messiah's redemptive sacrifice, which would release the Holy Spirit in our lives.

(Gal 3:13,14) Christ hath redeemed us from the curse of the law, being made a curse for us: for it is written, Cursed is every one that hangeth on a tree: That the blessing of Abraham might come on the Gentiles through Jesus Christ; that we might receive the promise of the Spirit through faith.

- ❖ Therefore, the promise of the Holy Spirit comes to us by faith in Christ!

(Eph 1:13) In whom ye also trusted, after that ye heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation: in whom also after that ye believed, ye were sealed with that holy Spirit of promise,

As we repent, believe and are redeemed, we receive salvation and are born again, which releases the Holy Spirit into our lives.

The Blessings of Abraham

- ❖ In Christ, we are blessed.
- ❖ Through Jesus Christ's redemption, all the blessings of Abraham and Israel come to us.

(Gal 3:14) That the blessing of Abraham might come on the Gentiles through Jesus Christ; that we might receive the promise of the Spirit through faith.

Christ redeemed us from the curse of the Law so that all the blessings of Abraham can come to us.

Therefore, we are blessed.

In the first place, the blessings are spiritual.

Jesus Christ told us about these blessings in Matthew 5.

Blessed are the poor in spirit; those who mourn; those who are meek; those who are pure in heart, etc.

Yet also the natural blessings come to us, which Yahweh gave to us in Deuteronomy 28.

The Cross is the Hidden Wisdom of God

- ❖ Jesus Christ knew that the transforming power would come through redemption at the cross.

By Christ redeeming us from the curse of the law, sin and enmity with God, Satan's legal power was broken.

(Col 2:14,15) Blotting out the handwriting of ordinances that was against us, which was contrary to us, and took it out of the way, nailing it to his cross; And having spoiled principalities and powers, he made a shew of them openly, triumphing over them in it.

Christ knew the impact it would have, and it would be a jailbreak for many souls who were in Sheol's paradise.

(Eph 4:8,9) Wherefore he saith, When he ascended up on high, he led captivity captive, and gave gifts unto men. (Now that he ascended, what is it but that he also descended first into the lower parts of the earth?

This wisdom of the eternal outworking of redemption at the cross needs to stay a secret.

Therefore, Jesus Christ did not preach much of the message of the redeeming cross to keep its knowledge, wisdom and understanding hidden.

Christ knew the power of the cross while He was walking here on Earth, yet He didn't openly preach about the cross and God's transforming power because it had to remain a mystery at that time.

Why?

It wasn't the time to reveal this great mystery.

1Co 2:6-7 KJV Howbeit we speak wisdom among them that are perfect: yet not the wisdom of this world, nor of the princes of this world, that come to nought: 7 But we speak the wisdom of God in a mystery, even the hidden wisdom, which God ordained before the world unto our glory:

- ❖ It was the hidden wisdom.
- ❖ It was ordained before the world was made.

The Hidden Wisdom

Why was it hidden wisdom?

- ❖ It had to stay hidden in the ministry of Jesus Christ because if Satan had understood it, he would not have crucified Jesus Christ.

1Co 2:8 KJV Which none of the princes of this world knew: for had they known it, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory.

- If Jesus Christ had revealed the mystery, Satan would have understood that he would lose and his power would be destroyed at the cross.
- ❖ Satan's power was lost at the cross of Christ.

Col 2:14-15 KJV Blotting out the handwriting of ordinances that was against us, which was contrary to us, and took it out of the way, nailing it to his cross; 15 And having spoiled principalities and powers, he made a shew of them openly, triumphing over them in it.

Satan is the prince of this world and thinks along with the ways of the world and its pride, which is his fallen nature, and therefore this heavenly wisdom was foreign to him.

Apostle Paul

- ❖ The Apostle Paul was given the revelation and the wisdom of this ancient mystery.

Eph 3:3-5 KJV How that by revelation he made known unto me the mystery; (as I wrote afore in few words, 4 Whereby, when ye read, ye may understand my knowledge in the mystery of Christ) 5 Which in other ages was not made known unto the sons of men, as it is now revealed unto his holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit; This mystery was given to Paul, the apostles and prophets.

Rom 16:25 KJV Now to him that is of power to stablish you according to my gospel, and the preaching of Jesus Christ, according to the revelation of the mystery, which was kept secret since the world began,

Jesus Christ understood the gospel of the cross, but only spoke vaguely about the cross so Satan would not understand it.

- ❖ Paul especially understood it and was called to reveal and make it known to us.
- ❖ So we can understand that we are redeemed from the curse of the Law through the redeeming blood sacrifice on the cross.

1Co 2:2 KJV For I determined not to know any thing among you, save Jesus Christ, and him crucified.

- The redemption at the cross and the resurrection power are the ancient mysteries.
- The preaching of the cross and the resurrection life and its power is the mystery revealed and demonstrated.

Jesus Christ mysteriously preached about the cross.

For it was not God's time to reveal the mystery.

- ❖ Paul, through the revelation of the Holy Spirit, revealed and preached the mystery of the cross openly.

❖ He preached, wrote and taught it for it was God's time to do so.

Jesus Christ and the gospel of the cross

Jesus Christ spoke in many parables and in ways that outsiders could not understand Him.

To His closest disciples, He revealed many of these mysteries.

He spoke about the cross to them in an unrevealed way.

Even the closest disciples didn't understand what He said to them about His death on the cross and His resurrection.

Jesus asked: who do you say I am?

After Peter had answered, You are the Christ, Jesus Christ said that I have to die and be resurrected.

Mar 8:31 KJV And he began to teach them, that the Son of man must suffer many things, and be rejected of the elders, and of the chief priests, and scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again.

Then we see that Peter didn't understand Christ's future sacrifice and death and the gospel of the cross of Christ.

Mar 8:32-33 KJV And he spake that saying openly. And Peter took him, and began to rebuke him. 33 But when he had turned about and looked on his disciples, he rebuked Peter, saying, Get thee behind me, Satan: for thou savourest not the things that be of God, but the things that be of men.

Peter didn't understand this truth, and Jesus Christ rebuked Satan, who spoke through Peter.

Jesus Christ said: "Satan, you do not have a mind or intent in promoting what God will, but what pleases men."

The Resurrection and the Life

In Bethany, when Jesus Christ was going to raise Lazarus from the dead, He made a statement.

❖ He said, "I am the resurrection and the life."

Mary and Martha were there.

Joh 11:25-26 KJV Jesus said unto her, I am the resurrection, and the life: he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live: 26 And whosoever liveth and believeth in me shall never die. Believest thou this?

The raising of Lazarus was a foreshadowing of the resurrection of Jesus Christ Himself.

Mary of Bethany Understood The Gospel

Mary, who lived in Bethany, was the only one who knew and understood the gospel.

She knew that Jesus Christ came to die for our sins and would be raised from the dead.

She anointed Jesus Christ for His funeral.

Mar 14:8 KJV She hath done what she could: she is come aforehand to anoint my body to the burying.

Jesus Christ said, "Leave her alone; she understands that I am going to die."

In other words, she understood the gospel of the cross of Christ and that Christ Jesus is the resurrection and the life.

Jesus Christ said that wherever this gospel will be preached, people will also speak about Mary, for she understood what I have come for.

Mar 14:9 KJV Verily I say unto you, Whersoever this gospel shall be preached throughout the whole world, this also that she hath done shall be spoken of for a memorial of her.

She worshipped God and Christ with a great gift.

She worshipped in Spirit and truth.

Later, she became a preacher of the gospel and the resurrection power herself.

Therefore, the gospel of the redeeming cross and resurrection life is the power of God for us.

Therefore, the power of the cross redeems us from the curse of the Law, sin, death, hell and Satan's power.

Through faith in Christ's redemption at the cross, we receive eternal life and God's divine nature.

Therefore, we are blessed and receive blessings whereby we can bless others.

Miracles in Nepal

- ❖ In our life and mission, we go through dying to self, and also rise up in resurrection life and power.

Rom 6:4, 5 KJV Therefore we are buried with him by baptism into death: that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life. For if we have been planted together in the likeness of his death, we shall be also in the likeness of his resurrection:

When we go through adversity, problems and trials, we have to learn to stand firm in our faith.

I was ready for my second mission trip to Nepal.

When I went to the Brisbane Airport, they did not want to let me fly because I did not have the proper visa.

So we went home, but I did not give up the fight.

I sent more online books to the main apostle/pastor and trained him online.

The fire of the Holy Spirit fell on him, and then it fell in the meetings I was going to be in.

With God, there is no distance, for He is omnipresent.

Then, on the day of Atonement, we sang and preached online on the screen before 1200 Nepalese.

Miracles happened as a man who had to go for an operation to remove kidney stones, yet as the Holy Spirit touched him, he ran to the bathroom, and the stones came out.

Another lame man started to walk.

Many were baptised in the Holy Spirit and started to speak in new tongues.

- ❖ This is called resurrection life and resurrection power.

2 Sides of the Cross

There are two sides to the cross.

1. To die to me, myself and I and the old sins that so easily beset us.
2. The side of resurrection life, victory and the power of the Holy Spirit in our lives.

Many Christians chose 1 of the sides or the other.

Our full calling lies on both sides until we walk in perfection.

Put up your Crown

There is a saying, 'Without the cross, there is no crown'.

- ❖ Therefore, this is saying that through the cross we receive a crown.
- ❖ The crown represents authority and victory.
- ❖ As we have received a crown, now we, by faith, have to learn to walk in faith and victory.

As believers, we have to learn to use our authority over sin, the flesh, the devil and his demons.

Isa 54:17 KJVN weapon that is formed against thee shall prosper; and every tongue that shall rise against thee in judgment thou shalt condemn. This is the heritage of the servants of the LORD, and their righteousness is of me, saith the LORD.

The reasons for Christ's death and resurrection

- ❖ By carrying the punishment of death, He totally redeemed and reconciled us unto God.
Rom 5:10 KJV 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.
- ❖ Through death and resurrection, Jesus Christ presents us holy and blameless to God.
Col 1:21-22 KJV And you, that were sometime alienated and enemies in your mind by wicked works, yet now hath he reconciled 22 In the body of his flesh through death, to present you holy and unblameable and unreprouvable in his sight:
- ❖ To destroy the effect of the law of sin and death on us so we can live and live in the spirit.
Rom 8:2 KJV For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus hath made me free from the law of sin and death.
- ❖ To destroy Satan's power over death.
Heb 2:14 KJV Forasmuch then as the children are partakers of flesh and blood, he also himself likewise took part of the same; that through death he might destroy him that had the power of death, that is, the devil;
- ❖ To break the power of death and give us resurrection and life.
1Co 15:21-22 KJV For since by man came death, by man came also the resurrection of the dead. 22 For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ shall all be made alive.
- ❖ To deliver us from the fear of death.
Heb 2:15 KJV And deliver them who through fear of death were all their lifetime subject to bondage.
- ❖ To take back the keys of hell and death from Satan's hand.
Rev 1:18 KJV I am he that liveth, and was dead; and, behold, I am alive for evermore, Amen; and have the keys of hell and of death.

- ❖ So we could be born again.
1Pe 1:23 KJV Being born again, not of corruptible seed, but of incorruptible, by the word of God, which liveth and abideth for ever.
- ❖ His name is above every other Name because He conquered death and hell.
Php 2:8-9 KJV And being found in fashion as a man, he humbled himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross. 9 Wherefore God also hath highly exalted him, and given him a name which is above every name:
- ❖ To give us the keys of power and authority to go and preach the gospel.
Mat 28:18-19 AMP Jesus approached and, breaking the silence, said to them, All authority (all power of rule) in heaven and on earth has been given to Me. 19 Go then and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them into the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit,

The Inheritance

In Ephesians 1:17,18 it says that the eyes of our understanding may be enlightened, that we may understand what we have received in Christ Jesus, for we have received an inheritance.

God, through the Holy Spirit, wants to show us what we have received through faith in Christ Jesus.

Eph 1:18 KJV The eyes of your understanding being enlightened; that ye may know what is the hope of his calling, and what the riches of the glory of his inheritance in the saints,

When someone dies, the heir can receive the inheritance.

Christ has died and is risen, and we are the heirs.

- ❖ There is a great inheritance we as saints can walk in because God released this to us through Jesus Christ.

We can walk and live here on earth in the glory realm because it is part of our inheritance.

We need to receive the revelation about it.

Ephesians 1: 17,18 says it is ours.

The same resurrection power

Jesus Christ promised us that we would be filled with the power of the Holy Spirit.

- ❖ The Apostle Paul says that we even receive the same power in us that raised Jesus Christ from the grave.

Eph 1:19-20 KJV And what is the exceeding greatness of his power to us-ward who believe, according to the working of his mighty power, 20 Which he wrought in Christ, when he raised him from the dead, and set him at his own right hand in the heavenly places,

- ❖ We have resurrection power in us.

This is why Jesus Christ said, you will do the same miracles that I do and even greater ones.

Why, He also said go and heal the sick and raise the dead.

Mat 10:7-8 KJV And as ye go, preach, saying, The kingdom of heaven is at hand. 8 Heal the sick, cleanse the lepers, raise the dead, cast out devils: freely ye have received, freely give.

This is for today.

- ❖ We are called to walk in the resurrection life and the power of the Holy Spirit today.

Why?

Because Jesus Christ is alive.

Rev 1:8 KJV I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the ending, saith the Lord, which is, and which was, and which is to come, the Almighty.

It is our glorious inheritance.

The Cross is God's Power

- ❖ The message of the cross is God's power to us.
- ❖ Apostle Paul said our faith should stand in the power of God because Jesus Christ is resurrected.
- ❖ Therefore, we are called to learn to move in spirit and power.

1Co 2:2 KJV For I determined not to know any thing among you, save Jesus Christ, and him crucified. And I was with you in weakness, and in fear, and in much trembling. And my speech and my preaching was not with enticing words of man's wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power: That your faith should not stand in the wisdom of men, but in the power of God.

He said that the same power that raised Jesus Christ from the dead is inside of us.

Therefore, we need to learn to move with this resurrection power to see people redeemed and saved as God does signs and wonders through us.

Eph 1:19, 20 KJV And what is the exceeding greatness of his power to us-ward who believe, according to the working of his mighty power, Which he wrought in Christ, when he raised him from the dead, and set him at his own right hand in the heavenly places,

Jesus Christ also worked with this power when He ministered on earth, yet now He wants to do this through us.
Act 10:38 KJV How God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Ghost and with power: who went about doing good, and healing all that were oppressed of the devil; for God was with him.

Dead Man Raised to Life

In Burma, a very devoted Buddhist monk died.

He went straight to hell.

In hell, he saw Buddha.

God had mercy on him and showed him that Jesus Christ is the true way to heaven.

Then he was also shown heaven.

God raised him back to life at the moment that they were going to burn his body.

He came back to life, and he then preached Jesus Christ, and other Buddhist monks repented and believed in Jesus Christ.

Many Buddhists in Burma came to Christ when they heard this story.

Salted with fire

Our Lord said we would be salted with fire.

Mar 9:49 KJV For every one shall be salted with fire, and every sacrifice shall be salted with salt.

Why?

Every sacrifice in the Old Testament was salted.

Lev 2:13 KJV And every oblation of thy meat offering shalt thou season with salt; neither shalt thou suffer the salt of the covenant of thy God to be lacking from thy meat offering: with all thine offerings thou shalt offer salt.

Salt preserves gives taste and purifies.

Salt is a type of righteousness that preserves, and a type of sanctification that purifies us unto holiness.

- ❖ The cross is a sign of death to our flesh; this is the sacrifice. The fire with which we are to be salted is the righteous and holy fire of God.

What is the salted fire?

In many ways, the church has lost its salt today, which is its light and power.

Why is this so?

Because there is not much preaching on the cross, and death to self and true life in Spirit and truth.

Therefore, much of the true meaning of the gospel of the cross of Christ and the baptism of the Holy Spirit with fire is not understood, experienced and lived in.

- ❖ The promise is that you shall be salted with fire!

John the Baptist, who was a preacher of righteousness and true repentance, said that we would be baptised with the Holy Spirit and fire.

Mat 3:11 KJV I indeed baptize you with water unto repentance. but he that cometh after me is mightier than I, whose shoes I am not worthy to bear: he shall baptize you with the Holy Ghost, and with fire:

This is a fire of

- Repentance
- Resurrection life and power
- Righteousness
- Holiness

This fire can only be received and maintained by the dying of self at the cross daily and then walking in the resurrection life and power.

God's manifest presence in Burma

In 2010, I was ministering in a Baptist Church in Burma. I was preaching about God's holy fire presence on Mount Sinai.

I was preaching that only through the gospel of the redeeming cross can we live there. As we die to self at the cross and live in the resurrected life of Christ, can we stand in that holy place where God's holy manifest presence moves.

I didn't need to lay hands on the people, for the manifest holy presence was in the house. All we sang was "I Surrender All". The congregation were on their knees before God. People were repentant and broken as the Holy Spirit kept sweeping over that place. They were healed as they were on their knees.

Believers saw angels; others were caught up in heaven. We had meetings for a week there because God's manifest presence abode with us.

The pastor was changed and carried that same holy presence into India. He said, "I preached the message that you preached, and the people were transformed."

- ❖ This is what happens when we let the gospel of the redeeming cross and the resurrection power transform us.

Christ said, 'I am Alive'

There is a great release of power when we preach about the resurrection of our Lord and Saviour.

- ❖ It is important to understand the victory that Christ had over hell, death and the power of Satan and his darkness.

Rev 1:18 I am he that liveth, and was dead; and, behold, I am alive for evermore, Amen; and have the keys of hell and of death.

- ❖ Jesus Christ made the way for us to be redeemed, which is the word the New Testament uses for the Old Testament word of atonement.
- ❖ We receive eternal life, deliverance, healing, and God's blessings through redemption.

You are my Healer

Don Moen wrote this beautiful song called 'You are the God that healeth me.'

The song goes:

*You are the God that healeth me,
You are the God, my healer
You sent Your word and healed my disease
You are the Lord my healer*

One of the names of God under the Old Covenant is Yahweh Rapha.

Healing is part of the covenant.

Yahweh Rapha means 'I am the God who healed thee'.

God made a blood covenant with Israel; part of it was healing, for He said I am Yahweh Rapha.

Victory at the Cross

- ❖ We are called to walk in the victory, power, healing and blessings that Christ provided by His redeeming blood sacrifices on the cross.

We are now going to look at the 7 geographical places where Jesus Christ shed His blood for us, as well as the 7 physical places where He shed His blood for us.

We are redeemed and saved by grace, and now we have to put our faith in action to walk in His resurrection life and victory, power and miracles.

These 7 biblical places give you the biblical foundation to stand on scripture in faith and victory, so you can stop the negative voices, unbelief and doubt.

Then there are also 7 Biblical feasts connected to the message of redemption.

7 Geographical Places Jesus Christ Shed His Blood

These 7 geographical places are all part of the message of the cross.

1. Gethsemane – sweat turns to blood. Luke 22:44
2. At the Governor's place – blood flowed from Jesus Christ's back when he was whipped and flogged. Matthew 27:26
3. Common Hall (City Hall) – blood flowed from His head as the crown of thorns was placed upon His head. Matthew 27:29
4. Via Delarosa Road – blood flowed from the wounds on His body as He was carrying the cross along this road. John 19:17
5. On the ground at Golgotha – blood flows on the ground due to the nails being put in His hands and feet. Matthew 27:35, John 20:25
6. Hanging on the cross at Golgotha – blood flowed over the wood from His body to break the curse. Matthew 27:42
7. Into the Earth (Hades) – blood flowed from the cross to the Earth during the earthquake and entered the cracks to go to Hades. Matthew 27:51

Every one of these 7 places shows that Jesus Christ made the way for you in your struggles to give you hope and victory.

At Gethsemane

Faith in when His sweat became blood gives you victory over temptation.

Governor's Place

If you are dealing with a spiritual battle on a national or state level, Jesus Christ gives you victory, for He shed His blood on both levels.

City Hall

If you are in a mental battle or have to go to city hall, where the court wants to arrest you legally, Jesus Christ paid for your sins and crimes, and, therefore, there is freedom for you.

Via Delarosa Road

Jesus Christ shed His blood on the roads of the Old City of Jerusalem as He walked the streets with the cross.

If you are tempted to go sinning in the city, Jesus Christ's blood can give you faith and victory over your fleshly temptation.

On the Ground at Golgotha

The ground symbolises a harvest of crops and making lots of money.

If the love of money and covetousness have a hold on you, the blood shed on the cross as the nails went into Jesus Christ's hands and feet can set you free.

- ❖ Free from the love of money and the greed of covetousness.

Hanging on the Cross

Christ hung on the cross to shed His blood for you.

This is to break the curse over your life so you can receive the blessings of the Holy Spirit and Abraham.

Into the Earth (Hades)

Jesus Christ's blood fell to the ground, into the earth; this also represents that it broke the power of death and hell.

He went to take our punishment and took the keys of death and hell from Satan as He rose back to life.

Now, you can learn to walk in faith, resurrection life and power.

The Cross from Gethsemane to Resurrection

Jesus Christ shed His blood in 7 geographical places.

When we talk about the power of the cross, we are talking about the time of suffering of the Lord Jesus Christ from Gethsemane to the resurrection or resurrection day.

- ❖ Resurrection Day is also the day of first fruits.
- ❖ For on the resurrection day or the feast of Firstfruits, He presented His blood to the Father in heaven.
- ❖ On the feast of the Firstfruits, the Cohen Gadol presents the first-fruit barley wave offerings in the temple.

The Seven Feasts of the Lord

God's number of perfection is 7, and He uses this number to teach us His ways of perfection.

In the Bible, there are the 7 Feasts of the Lord.

Deu 16:16 Three times in a year shall all thy males appear before the LORD thy God in the place which he shall choose; in the feast of unleavened bread, and in the feast of weeks, and in the feast of tabernacles: and they shall not appear before the LORD empty:

These 7 feasts are split up into 3 groups:

1. Passover season, firstfruits is part of group 1 when Jesus Christ arose.
2. Pentecost season
3. Tabernacles seasons

In the Tabernacle of Moses, there were 3 places.

1. Outer court
2. Holy place
3. Holy of Holies

Passover brings us into the presence of God. In the first chapter, we taught that Jesus Christ is our Passover lamb, yet most believers are satisfied with living in the outer court.

Now there is a deeper meaning to Christ's atoning blood, which we can find in the fall feast, yes, on the Day of Atonement.

The Feast of Tabernacles is the fall feast.

The Day of Atonement is part of the Feast of Tabernacles.

On the Day of Atonement, many of the secrets of the gospel of the cross are revealed and made clear.

The Day of Atonement makes us ready to live in the Holy of Holies daily.

Opening of Heaven's Gates (Psalm 24)

Passover includes three different feasts:

1. Passover
2. Feast of Unleavened Bread
3. FirstFruit

FirstFruit

FirstFruit talks about the barley harvest; barley is sown in the winter.

In spring, the harvest is nearly ready.

At FirstFruit, a sheaf of barley is harvested and given to the High Priest.

It becomes a wave offering before the Lord on the day after the Sabbath, at the end of the Feast of Passover.

(Lev 23:11) And he shall wave the sheaf before the LORD, to be accepted for you: on the morrow after the sabbath the priest shall wave it.

❖ This day is called Yom Ha-Bikkurim.

❖ Yom Ha-Bikkurim is on Sunday morning, which is the resurrection day.

For Jesus Christ is the FirstFruit offering, the first among many brethren.

The Cohen Gadol (High Priest) and Resurrection Life

❖ The Cohen Gadol (High Priest) was to be in seclusion in the priests' chambers on the Temple Mount from the time of the marking of the Firstfruits on the side of the Mount of Olives until he presented the Firstfruits offering in the Temple on the morning of Yom haBikkurim.

Likewise, Yeshua was in seclusion for his three days in the grave, and his seclusion was not yet finished when he forbade Mary from touching him after his resurrection.

❖ Later that morning, after Yeshua presented the First Fruits offering before the Father's throne in heaven, He then allowed others to touch him, for His time of seclusion was finished.

❖ This is why Thomas could touch Jesus Christ, as it was after Yom Ha-Bikkurim.

Yeshua, as the Cohen Gadol, after the 'order of Melchizedek,' fulfilled the rehearsal that was prophetically put in place by the prophet, King David – who 'foresaw the coming of the Messiah.'

❖ After Yeshua presented the First Fruits offering before the Father's throne in heaven, He returned to earth to meet with two disciples who had left Jerusalem for the village of Emmaus. (The Chronological Bible of the Gospels, John 20:1,2)

This is also the fulfilment of Psalm 24, which says that the King of Glory opens up the ancient gates.

Jesus Christ opened the portal into heaven for us. He said He is the door.

Psa 24:9, 10 KJV Lift up your heads, O ye gates; even lift them up, ye everlasting doors; and the King of glory shall come in. Who is this King of glory? The LORD of hosts, he is the King of glory. Selah.

7 Physical Places Jesus Christ Shed His Blood

As there were 7 geographical places where Jesus Christ shed His blood for us, so there are 7 physical places on His body where He shed His blood for us. On the Day of Atonement, the High Priest had to sprinkle the blood before the veil 7 times. Leviticus 4:6

1. His sweat became blood because He surrendered His will to God's will; He became our saving sacrifice. Luke 22:44
2. Blood flowed from His head. This was when the crown of thorns was placed on His head so that our minds could be renewed. Matthew 27:29
3. Blood flowed from His ripped beard. He was shamed to take away our shame. Isaiah 50:6
4. Blood flowed from the wounds on His back because of a flogging. By these stripes, there is healing for our sicknesses. Matthew 27:26
5. Blood flowed from His nail-pierced hands. So we can come before our Heavenly Father with clean hands. Matthew 27:35
6. Blood flowed from His nail-pierced feet. So our feet can go to proclaim the good news. Matthew 27:35
7. Blood and water flowed from His side. His blood flowed as He died to break Satan's power over death and spiritual darkness. John 19:34

Joh 19:34 But one of the soldiers with a spear pierced his side, and forthwith came there out blood and water.

Jesus Christ Ministered Healing, Miracles and Power

When He was baptised, the Holy Spirit came upon Him in fullness.

From then on, He had the Holy Spirit without limits.

- At the appointed time, He went to the cross to redeem us.
- ❖ He redeemed us so we would live an abundant life through the inward working of the Holy Spirit.

When Jesus Christ ministered healing, deliverance, and miracles through the power of God, He moved out of the fullness of the Holy Spirit.

Mat 8:16, 17 KJV When the even was come, they brought unto him many that were possessed with devils: and he cast out the spirits with his word, and healed all that were sick: That it might be fulfilled which was spoken by Esaias the prophet, saying, Himself took our infirmities, and bare our sicknesses.

Joh 7:38 KJV He that believeth on me, as the scripture hath said, out of his belly shall flow rivers of living water.

- ❖ He redeemed us so that through faith in Christ, we can minister healing, deliverance, miracles and God's power through the Holy Spirit within us and upon us.
- ❖ He redeemed us so we can walk in faith and victory.

Jesus Christ ministered healing and deliverance as spoken of by the prophet Isaiah.

Mat 8:16, 17 KJV When the even was come, they brought unto him many that were possessed with devils: and he cast out the spirits with his word, and healed all that were sick: That it might be fulfilled which was spoken by Esaias the prophet, saying, Himself took our infirmities, and bare our sicknesses.

Now, through the redemption and the working of the Holy Spirit, Jesus Christ wants to minister the promises of Isaiah 53 through us.

Isaiah 53 shows that healing and deliverance are part of the atonement and New Testament redemption.

Isaiah 53: Redemption and its Eternal Life

As Christians, we are called to call men to repentance of sin and faith in Christ so men can be redeemed and, therefore, born-again, saved and have eternal life.

- ❖ Redemption through repentance and faith, whereby we are born again and saved, was Christ's main calling in dying for us on the cross of Calvary and being resurrected.

Isaiah 53 shows us that Christ was the Lamb of God who died for our sins to redeem us.

Isa 53:6, 7 KJV All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned every one to his own way; and the LORD hath laid on him the iniquity of us all. He was oppressed, and he was afflicted, yet he opened not his mouth: he is brought as a lamb to the slaughter, and as a sheep before her shearers is dumb, so he openeth not his mouth.

Christ's body, blood and soul were given as an offering for sin to justify, which is part of being redeemed.

Isa 53:10, 11 KJV Yet it pleased the LORD to bruise him; he hath put him to grief: when thou shalt make his soul an offering for sin, he shall see his seed, he shall prolong his days, and the pleasure of the LORD shall prosper in his hand. He shall see of the travail of his soul, and shall be satisfied: by his knowledge shall my righteous servant justify many; for he shall bear their iniquities.

God's main plan of redemption is to save men from sin and the sin nature to have eternal life.

Isaiah 53 also gives us the basis of healing, deliverance and blessings Christ won for us on Calvary's cross.

- ❖ However, even in the region of Galilee, where Christ did His greatest miracles and healings, He rebuked them because they did not repent.

Mat 11:20, 21 KJV Then began he to upbraid the cities wherein most of his mighty works were done, because they repented not: Woe unto thee, Chorazin! woe unto thee, Bethsaida! for if the mighty works, which were done in you, had been done in Tyre and Sidon, they would have repented long ago in sackcloth and ashes.

The main reason for healing and miracles that occur is to glorify God and to lead sinners to repentance.

- ❖ In Capernaum, where Christ did His greatest miracles, Jesus said that they would be brought low to hell, for they did not repent of their sin and lifestyle.

Mat 11:23 KJV And thou, Capernaum, which art exalted unto heaven, shalt be brought down to hell: for if the mighty works, which have been done in thee, had been done in Sodom, it would have remained until this day.

Isaiah 53: Grounds for Healing and Deliverance

Isaiah 53 is the legal ground for healing and deliverance.

It is said of Jesus Christ that wherever He went, He was healing the sick, casting out evil spirits and setting the captives free.

Act 10:38 KJV How God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Ghost and with power: who went about doing good, and healing all that were oppressed of the devil; for God was with him.

He was moving through the gifts and the power of the Holy Spirit.

- ❖ He went to the cross as our redeeming Lamb, and Isaiah 53 lays out all the blessings, benefits and eternal life that come to us through Christ's atonement, which is the New Testament redemption.
- ❖ Through faith, we have to lay hold of these blessings, benefits and all that He has done for us.

Psa 103:2 – 4 KJV Bless the LORD, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits: Who forgiveth all thine iniquities; who healeth all thy diseases; Who redeemeth thy life from destruction; who crowneth thee with lovingkindness and tender mercies;

Isaiah 53: Healing of Grief and Sickness

When Jesus Christ went to the atoning, redeeming cross of Calvary, He bore our grief.

Many people are grief-stricken because of traumas and tragedies; they are sick or have lost their full potential in life.

- ❖ Other words for grief are sickness, weakness and distress.

Jesus Christ carried it all when he carried the cross to Calvary, as He had received the 39 stripes with the whip.

Isa 53:4 AMP Surely He has borne our griefs (sicknesses, weaknesses, and distresses) and carried our sorrows and pains (of punishment), yet we (ignorantly) considered Him stricken, smitten, and afflicted by God (as if with leprosy)

Based on Isaiah 53, your grief, its sicknesses and weaknesses can now be healed.

Isaiah 53: Freedom from Sorrow and Pain

- ❖ Many afflictions of sorrow and pain bring sickness into people's lives.

Isa 53:4 AMP Surely He has borne our griefs (sicknesses, weaknesses, and distresses) and carried our sorrows and pains (of punishment), yet we (ignorantly) considered Him stricken, smitten, and afflicted by God (as if with leprosy)

- ❖ Many pains are brought on by evil spirits.

Many times I have had to learn to resist the demon of pain, and he lost because I used my authority.

In Matthew, we see the reverse, as Jesus Christ cast out evil spirits, and this led to their healing for many.

Mat 8:17 KJV That it might be fulfilled which was spoken by Esaias the prophet, saying, Himself took our infirmities, and bare our sicknesses.

Not all sickness is a demon, but when they are, we need to discern it and cast out the demon to see healing happen.

As Jesus Christ carried our sorrows and pains, we can be free of guilt, sorrow, pain and sicknesses.

Isaiah 53: Peace and Wellbeing

- ❖ Due to sins, transgressions and iniquities, guilt is one of man's greatest burdens.

Many times, this will bring forth mental disorders.

- ❖ As Jesus Christ was wounded for our transgressions, bruised for our iniquities and guilt and died for our sins, we can receive peace and well-being.

Isa 53:5 KJV But he was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace was upon him; and with his stripes we are healed.

Jesus Christ came preaching peace (Shalom), made peace with God and is our peace.

Eph 2:14 – 17 KJV For he is our peace, who hath made both one, and hath broken down the middle wall of partition between us; Having abolished in his flesh the enmity, even the law of commandments contained in ordinances; for to make in himself of twain one new man, so making peace; And that he might reconcile both unto God in one body by the cross, having slain the enmity thereby: And came and preached peace to you which were afar off, and to them that were nigh.

We can now cast our guilt at the cross and receive deep peace (shalom), so all mental sicknesses can be healed.

As a believer, Christ is our peace.

(Rom 5:1) Therefore being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ:

Isaiah 53: Apostle Peter and Healing by His Stripes

There is healing in the name of Jesus Christ.

As He has given us His blood and body for our sins, sicknesses, bondage and diseases, there is eternal life and healing in the name of Jesus Christ.

- ❖ Apostle Peter, who was saved and had the Holy Spirit within and upon, said that through His stripes we are healed.

Apostle Peter was used to do great signs, wonders and healing and saw the glory of Sharon rise in that region of Sharon with revival fire.

He stood on the word by faith and said, 'By Christ's stripes that you are healed'.

Apostle Peter used the scripture of Isaiah 53, which says that by His stripes that wounded Him, we are healed.

Healings at Reinhart Bonnke's Miracle Crusades

In 1987, at a Reinhard Bonnke miracle crusade, great healing happened.

There was a school for deaf children.

All of the 8 children were healed of deafness that day.

Another deaf person came up; he was under a curse of witchcraft which had made him deaf.

The curse and spell were broken, and the deaf person could hear again.

Apostle Paul's Ministry in Ephesus

In his ministry, Apostle Paul's longest stay as a free man was in Ephesus.

It was there that he preached that men had to repent and have faith in Christ, whereby they would be redeemed and born-again of the spirit and the kingdom of God.

Act 20:21 KJV Testifying both to the Jews, and also to the Greeks, repentance toward God, and faith toward our Lord Jesus Christ.

- ❖ He taught the Elders in Ephesus that this was the most important.
- ❖ Here you see that Apostle Paul started with the repentance message, just as John the Baptist and Jesus Christ did.

This foundation of repentance was so important for Apostle Paul as he knew that after his departure, ferocious wolves would enter and spare not the flesh.

Mighty Signs and Wonders in Ephesus

Ephesus had earned a reputation as the magic capital of the world.

It also had the biggest temple to worship Diana (Artimaeus).

This city had a port and was also a big trading place and a financial stronghold.

God used Apostle Paul in a mighty way to lead many to repentance and faith in Jesus Christ.

- ❖ Then God worked mighty miracles through Apostle Paul.

Now they could see that the God of Jesus Christ was the greatest healer and miracle worker there is.

Act 19:11, 12 KJV And God wrought special miracles by the hands of Paul: So that from his body were brought unto the sick handkerchiefs or aprons, and the diseases departed from them, and the evil spirits went out of them.

- ❖ It says that many who believed made a full confession of their sin and really repented, as they also burned their magic books.

We need to call people to real repentance, and also to acts of repentance whereby they throw out their idols.

Act 19:19 KJV Many of them also which used curious arts brought their books together, and burned them before all men: and they counted the price of them, and found it fifty thousand pieces of silver.

Ephesus: Apostle Paul's Main Base

God shook the whole region of Asia Minor through the ministry of Apostle Paul.

All in Asia Minor heard the gospel.

Act 19:10 KJV And this continued by the space of two years; so that all they which dwelt in Asia heard the word of the Lord Jesus, both Jews and Greeks.

Ephesus became Apostle Paul's main base where he lived.

The sale of idols went down because people stopped worshipping Diana (Artimaeus) as they repented and believed in Jesus

Christ.

Miracles in Burma

Apostle Paul was full of God's power, so the handkerchiefs that were laid on his body healed people from them at a distance as they laid them on their bodies.

Act 19:11, 12 KJV And God wrought special miracles by the hands of Paul: So that from his body were brought unto the sick handkerchiefs or aprons, and the diseases departed from them, and the evil spirits went out of them.

When I was in Burma, God moved with His glory and did mighty miracles and healings as people were weeping at the cross in repentance.

When I was leaving, the pastor asked me to visit and pray for his worship leader, who was dying of cancer.

I said I was sorry, but I had no time. He gave me a handkerchief, and I prayed over it and sent it to the worship leader.

When I was back home, the pastor called me and said that the worship leader was healed, all glory to God.

Bibliography

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