



www.gardenpublishingco.com



Deliverance Ministry

The Garden Training Center, Inc.
An Apostolic School of Ministry



Copyright ©2024 by The Garden Training Center, Inc.
Published by Garden Publishing Company LLC
For more information, please visit gardenpublishingco.com

All rights reserved. No parts of this publication may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system, or transmitted in any form or by any means, electronic, mechanical, photocopying, recording, or otherwise, without the prior written permission of the copyright owner.

This book is sold subject to the condition that it shall not, by way of trade or otherwise, be lent, resold, hired out, or otherwise circulated without the publisher's prior consent in any form of binding or cover other than that in which it is published and without a similar condition including this condition being imposed on the subsequent purchaser. Under no circumstances may any part of this book be photocopied for resale.

Scripture taken from the New King James Version of the Bible ©. Used by Permission, all rights reserved.

ISBN 979-8-9890762-4-6
Cover design by Garden Publishing Co./BTSM
Interior design by Garden Publishing Co.

Printed in the United States of America.

Acknowledgments

Holy Spirit is the inspiration for the content of this book, however someone put words to it. This book was written by Lauren Caldwell, Jessica Doggett, and Brandy Helton.

This book is one of a series of books written and distributed by The Apostolic School of Ministry from The Garden Training Center, Inc. The series arises from the foundational teachings of the school of ministry, founded by Brandy Helton. Brandy wrote several sections that are included in each book such as “God’s Love” and the prayers included at the end of each book.

Many thanks to the team of writers of the series for their collaboration to make the series available to the public. The writers are: Lauren Caldwell, Jessica Doggett, Danetta Ferguson, Debra Gray, Elisa Griffith, Nancy Hadley, Robin Harmon, Brandy Helton, Grant Hill, Kevin McSpadden, and Paula Pelzel. Each have sought Holy Spirit for the words He wants to speak through them. The result is a mixture of personalities and communication strategies that convey the total message in a beautiful, diverse way.

A special thanks goes to Nancy Hadley, Kevin McSpadden and Chelsey Butcher with Garden Publishing Co., for their preparation and fine tuning of the text.

Encouragement and Prayer for the Reader

Beloved of God, these teachings are written to reveal Jesus Christ and His heart of love for all who call upon His name to save them.

God has sent His only begotten Son, Jesus Christ, to save all who would believe in Him and His Word.

God desires to reveal Himself and to give us His divine nature in Christ Jesus our Lord through the power of His Holy Spirit.

God is Jealous. He wants us to encounter His presence daily and walk with Him in glory – intimate communion - today, while it is called today, and forever.

It is my prayer that this teaching would so impact the readers that all would come to know and believe JESUS, the King of Kings and Lord of Lords, our Great God and Savior, and receive the PERFECT LOVE He has for us all as we grow up into Him and mature as true sons and daughters of God.

May you grow in faith and knowledge of your God and Savior and come to know the love that He has for you. I pray for you the Apostle Paul's prayer for spiritual growth:

Ephesians 3:14-21 The Living Bible (TLB)

“14-15 When I think of the wisdom and scope of his plan, I fall down on my knees and pray to the Father of all the great family of God—some of them already in heaven and some down here on earth— 16 that out of his glorious, unlimited resources he will give you the mighty inner strengthening of his Holy Spirit. 17 And I pray that Christ will be more and more at home in your hearts, living within you as you trust in him. May your roots go down deep into the soil of God’s marvelous love; 18-19 and may you be able to feel and understand, as all God’s children should, how long, how wide, how deep, and how high his love really is; and to experience this love for yourselves, though it is so great that you will never see the end of it or fully know or understand it. And so at last you will be filled up with God himself.

20 Now glory be to God, who by his mighty power at work within us is able to do far more than we would ever dare to ask or even dream of—infinitely beyond our highest prayers, desires, thoughts, or hopes. 21 May he be given glory forever and ever through endless ages because of his master plan of salvation for the Church through Jesus Christ.”

In Christ our Lord,
Brandy Helton
A child of God

God's Love

God's love is good news! Don't believe the lie that God is distant, unapproachable, and angry!

God is love. He is the only true, eternal God. He is perfect and holy, and He is truth. God is One. He has revealed Himself in three distinct, individual, equal persons: God the Father, God the Son – Jesus, and God the Holy Spirit.

The Bible tells the story of God's perfect love. In that love, God created the first family to live on the earth with Him. Through their deep intimate relationship with the Father, Adam and Eve were meant to fulfill all that was in God's heart on Earth just like it is in Heaven, for God's glory and purposes. Adam and Eve were chosen to walk with God, clothed in His glory presence and were perfect, as He is perfect, and they lived in His beautiful garden, the secret place called Eden. He gave them His breath, life and power to have dominion over all He created and wanted them to reproduce that LIFE replenishing the earth with it, until all the earth is filled with His glory.

Genesis 1:26-28

“26 Then God said, ‘Let Us make man in Our

image, according to Our likeness; let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth.’ 27 So God created man in His own image; in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them. 28 Then God blessed them, and God said to them, ‘Be fruitful and multiply; fill the earth and subdue it; have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over every living thing that moves on the earth.’”

God created His children in His likeness. He made them spirit beings, with a soul – mind, will and emotions – and placed them in a physical body. He gave His children the choice to love Him and to walk with Him in obedience to His every word. He gave the first family the power to overcome any temptation offered to them through God’s adversary, the devil, who had rebelled against the Most High God in Heaven’s glory and was cast down to the earth. The devil, Satan, brought great darkness and chaos prior to Adam and Eve’s existence.

Adam and Eve were deceived into thinking that God was not perfect in love as Satan, the adversary, tempted them to believe that God would not keep His Word to them. Through their own will, Adam and Eve disobeyed the Father by eating from a tree that had the power to open their eyes to both good and evil. Through their choice of disobedience, they willfully gave their inheritance and authority over to the devil and his kingdom. Sin entered mankind, which produced death, eternal separation from a Holy God. Adam and Eve were banished from the dwelling and intima-

cy of perfection in the garden and were sent into the world as a fallen creation.

Father God knew He had to come Himself and save His family, and in His wisdom, He chose to send His Son, Jesus Christ into the world to save us and restore fallen mankind back to relationship with Him. Through His Son, He destroyed all the works of the devil and the curse of death. Hebrews 9:22 says, *“And according to the law almost all things are purified with blood, and without shedding of blood there is no remission.”* Remission means to cancel the penalty, so according to the law there must be shedding of blood to cancel the penalty for sin. The Father cancelled the penalty for the sins of His children through the shedding of the blood of His innocent, holy Son Jesus, who was the Sent One, called and chosen to die for all, so all could live.

John 3:16-21

“16 For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life. 17 For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through Him might be saved. 18 ‘He who believes in Him is not condemned; but he who does not believe is condemned already, because he has not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God. 19 And this is the condemnation, that the light has come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil. 20 For everyone practicing evil hates the light and does not come to the light, lest his deeds should be exposed. 21 But he who does the truth comes to the light, that his deeds may

be clearly seen, that they have been done in God.”

Jesus was conceived by God's Holy Spirit in the womb of a young virgin named Mary. He appeared as the second Adam, in the flesh, with the choice to walk in perfect love and obedience, full of God's Spirit, as a man to do the will of His Father.

Jesus grew up as any male child did in the flesh but He had divine fellowship with His Father and Holy Spirit. At the appointed time, He was revealed as being sent from God to save. Jesus went around doing good and healed all who were oppressed by the devil spiritually and physically. He revealed His Father's heart and perfect love to all who believed through His teachings, grace and miraculous power.

Salvation means eternal life, healing, deliverance, protection, peace, wholeness, and forgiveness. Salvation came to all men through the cross, where the Son of God, the perfect One, was slaughtered as a lamb, bearing all sin for all times from a fallen people. Jesus bore the wrath of God against the darkness that separated God's family from Him. Jesus was punished for our sin and died to cleanse us from the guilt, shame and condemnation sin produces. Sin separates. Love restores.

Jesus was crucified, dead and buried, spending three days and nights in the depths of Hades, the realm of the dead fallen race. Jesus took back the keys of death and hell from that old serpent the devil, Satan, and therefore, all authority was restored back to Jesus.

Great Holy Spirit breathed LIFE into Jesus and raised Him from the dead. He appeared to His disciples, those who followed Him and obeyed His teachings. He showed them that He conquered sin, death and the grave and now, had the keys of hell and death, and would give ETERNAL LIFE to ALL who chose to believe in Him. King Jesus ascended back to the Father of glory where He ever lives to make intercession for us all, and He is coming again to the earth in power to establish His Father's Kingdom on Earth.

Jesus Christ is the head and Lord over His church, those who have made Him Lord and Savior, by believing He is the Son of the Living God and God in the flesh, who finished the work the Father gave Him to do. He not only died for our sins to save and heal us, He chose to give His authority to those He called and chose to follow Him as His disciples, His family.

Jesus has commissioned His followers to do the same works that He did while He lived on the earth.

John 14:12-14

“12 Most assuredly, I say to you, he who believes in Me, the works that I do he will do also; and greater works than these he will do, because I go to My Father. 13 And whatever you ask in My name, that I will do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son. 14 If you ask anything in My name, I will do it.”

God loves us and desires that none should perish. He desires for His family to be with Him where He

is. These books are written to inspire all who read them and to reveal the heart of God the Father, Jesus Christ the Son, and Holy Spirit in order that we might RECEIVE THE LOVE HE HAS FOR US and be CHANGED INTO HIS VERY LIKENESS. God desires to dwell with His family forever and ever just as He did in the beginning. How glorious it is to live in His presence and dominion, beholding His goodness, forever and ever, amen.

The book of Revelation describes the time that is coming when all things are made new according to God's heart of love:

Revelation 21:1-7

“1 Now I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away. Also, there was no more sea. 2 Then I, John, saw the holy city, New Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. 3 And I heard a loud voice from heaven saying, ‘Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men, and He will dwell with them, and they shall be His people. God Himself will be with them and be their God. 4 And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes; there shall be no more death, nor sorrow, nor crying. There shall be no more pain, for the former things have passed away.’ 5 Then He who sat on the throne said, ‘Behold, I make all things new.’ And He said to me, ‘Write, for these words are true and faithful.’ 6 And He said to me, ‘It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End. I will give of the fountain of the water of life freely to him who thirsts. 7 He who overcomes shall inherit all things, and I will be his God and he shall be

My son. ”

To understand what is presented in the Bible, you must start by understanding God’s love. The good news is that God loves you!

From the Author

I want to encourage all who read this book from my personal experience and faith. The Lord has been so good to reveal this ministry to me personally. Once I was born again and made Jesus Christ my Lord and Master, He began His amazing work of grace in my life. I have personally been delivered, healed, and transformed by His power and Word.

The first time I encountered healing deliverance was on a Sunday morning church service by a visiting evangelist, James Maloney. He had a word of knowledge from Holy Spirit that there were some ladies who had some serious heart issues, including heart palpitations. I had been having some irregular heart rhythms since I was 18, and I was familiar with my own family's history of heart failure.

I went forward for prayer and when he got to me, he said, "I see a dark spot on the lower left side of your heart." "It's broken in Jesus' name!" At that point I was overcome by Holy Spirit and fell to the ground, where I stayed for the next 40 minutes.

I wondered when the minister said, “It’s broken in Jesus’ name”, why he didn’t say, “Be healed in Jesus’ name!” I was new to the ministry of deliverance and soon learned about this delivering power from God.

Since my forefathers had a generational weakness, or propensity, to heart disease, including heart attacks and premature death, I knew the “dark spot on the lower left side of my heart” was the literal curse this man of God saw in the spirit realm. The curse was passed down to me, from one generation to the next. Doctors call it inherited disease. Well, God moved powerfully and from that day forward I was healed as He sovereignly moved on my behalf.

I continued to abide in the Word of God, and allowed Holy Spirit to teach me as we should as believers. The Lord began to give me dreams at night and giving me prophetic encounters. He was teaching me of my authority in Christ Jesus, including the casting out of demons, in order to set the captives free. I began to see angels in my dreams as well, and I saw how powerful they are to carry out God’s Word in this ministry. Holy Spirit has trained me all along the way, to this present day!

The Lord uses His body to equip and minister to the saints of God. About 6 years after I was saved, I was introduced to Dr. Henry Malone and his ministry of deliverance and inner healing. He wrote a book named, *Shadow Boxing*, that gave the basic principles of deliverance and laid out so simply how to receive deliverance and minister to others. I honor the Lord in this man of God

and his ministry to this day.

As it is in our Christian walk, the Lord causes the growth in His body. I have studied many teachings on the ministry of healing and deliverance over the years and have implemented each as much as the Lord has empowered me.

I would like to honor a godly man and woman of God, whom the Lord provided to help me in my life and ministry during a in a very intense season of spiritual warfare - Ken and Carolyn Howerton, of *Radah Ministries*. I had reached out to some ministries here in Texas who were known for their powerful intercession and prayer. Through them I was given Ken and Carolyn's names, and from that time forward, the training began!

The Kingdom of Heaven was being revealed in my midst, as well as the spiritual warfare and resistance from the enemy, satan, and his wicked forces. It was a very intense season to say the least. As I called Ken Howerton for the first time and relayed my story of what was happening in my walk with Jesus, he said some of the most powerful words I have probably heard from a minister who listened to my story. He told me, "I believe you!"

I was like a new recruit in the spiritual battle-ground, and God brought to me these two mature generals. God used them to help equip me in my next season of ministry. I recommend Ken Howerton's book, *Say Father*, to all who desire to grow in revelation knowledge of the Kingdom of Heaven and deliverance ministry.

Through the Ephesians 4:11-16 mandate to equip the saints to do the work of the ministry, I have seen many saints delivered and healed; then empowered and anointed to set more captives free and continue to raise up mighty warriors for His kingdom.

This mini book is a simple, foundational teaching to help bring the believer into basic spiritual understanding of deliverance. Deliverance is part of the working of miracles.

It is my prayer all will lay hold of what Jesus Christ has already laid hold of for us. His bride, His body, His church.

Blessings to all.

“36 Therefore; if the Son makes you free, you shall be free indeed.” John 8:36

Brandy Helton
Senior Pastor and President of The Garden Gathering Church, and The Garden Apostolic Training Center, Inc.

The Heart of It Freedom

God is love and the heart of God is revealed through His Son, Jesus Christ. Jesus came to forgive our sins, and to set us free from the negative effects of it. *“1 It was for freedom that Christ set us free.” Galatians 5:1 NASB95*

Our heavenly Father is love and He desires for all to come to Him and be saved by believing on the Lord Jesus Christ and His finished work on the cross. *“16 For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.17 For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through Him might be saved.” John 3:16-17.* By believing on Jesus Christ as Lord, we are delivered from darkness and eternal damnation. *“13 For He rescued us from the domain of darkness and transferred us to the kingdom of His beloved Son, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.” Colossians 1:13 NASB95*

True salvation has only just begun when we make Jesus our Lord and Savior! Through the power of Holy Spirit and the Word of God, the believer

is led by so much **grace** from the Lord. He heals wounded hearts and minds. He delivers us from bondage and evil. Our physical bodies can also be affected by our sin and the affliction of the evil one, Satan, and his demonic oppressors. These evil forces wage spiritual war against humanity, bringing mental torment, sickness, diseases, and deep pain.

Deliverance means freedom from oppression, and inner healing to the spiritual, physical, and emotional levels of a believer in Jesus Christ. It is the way of God to not only save and deliver a believer, but to then empower this saint to go out themselves, and minister the same salvation, freedom, and deliverance to others found in any form of bondage. Jesus commanded His disciples to, *“8 Heal the sick, cleanse the lepers, raise the dead, cast out demons. Freely you have received, freely give.”* **Matthew 10:8**

It is our desire that all who read this book would receive freedom and healing. That they would be equipped and empowered through Holy Spirit and God’s Word. And go out in the ministry of deliverance with true Kingdom authority.

Deliverance Ministry

I. The Gospel of The Kingdom

We will begin our study on the ministry of deliverance with the glorious **Gospel of the Kingdom**. It is important to be deeply rooted in truth and in the good news Jesus delivered to mankind, and to those who would call upon His name. Romans 5:12 tells us “*12 Therefore, just as through one man sin entered the world, and death through sin, and thus death spread to all men, because all sinned.*” When sin has been present, there are consequences that are evident. These consequences are slavery to sin or spiritual strongholds, that can work to keep us bound in sin or deep hurt, severe suffering, or emotional harm. These are areas in our lives in which we need deliverance. John 10:10 states that “*10 The thief [Satan] does not come except to steal, and to kill, and to destroy. I [Jesus] have come that they may have life, and that they may have it more abundantly.*” Praise God for Jesus and the **life** He gives to those who believe and follow Him! Jesus came preaching about the Kingdom of Heaven, calling all to repent and seek first the Kingdom of God.

Gospel means *good news*. The Gospel of the Kingdom is the good news that God created His domain and wants to share His Kingdom with His children. Let's look at how God's love and the Gospel of the Kingdom is revealed through the Scriptures.

Matthew 6:9-10

"9 Pray, then, in this way; Our Father who is in heaven, Holy is your name. 10 Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven."

Genesis 1:1

"1 In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth."

There is only one true, eternal God. He is love. He is perfect. He is holy, and the truth. God is One, yet He has revealed Himself in three distinct, individual, equal persons: God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit.

Philippians 2:5-11 New Living Translation (NLT)

5 You must have the same attitude that Christ Jesus had. 6 Though he was God, he did not think of equality with God as something to cling to. 7 Instead, He gave up His divine privileges; He took the humble position of a slave and was born as a human being. When He appeared in human form, 8 He humbled Himself in obedience to God and died a criminal's death on a cross. 9 Therefore, God elevated Him to the place of highest honor and gave Him the name above all other names, 10 that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on

earth and under the earth, 11 and every tongue declare that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.”

God the Father is the creator and author of all life.

2 Timothy 3:16 New Living Translation (NLT)

“16 All Scripture is inspired by God and is useful to teach us what is true and to make us realize what is wrong in our lives. It corrects us when we are wrong and teaches us to do what is right.”

Matthew 6:9 New Living Translation (NLT)

“9 Pray like this: Our Father in heaven, may Your name be kept holy.”

God the Son, Jesus Christ, creator of all things within the Father, was manifest in the flesh, fully God, yet fully man, conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of a virgin. He was anointed and empowered by the Holy Spirit to bring God’s Kingdom to earth. He was crucified, dead, and buried, but then resurrected bodily on the third day, according to the Scriptures, and appeared to His disciples. He ascended to Heaven, where He sits presently at the right hand of God the Father, and continually intercedes for His people. Jesus will return again to the earth for His pure, spotless, glorious Church and will execute judgment upon the wicked.

John 1:14 New Living Translation (NLT)

“14 So the Word became human and made His home among us. He was full of unfailing love and faithfulness. And we have seen His glory, the glory of the Father’s one and only Son.”

Ephesians 5:23-32

“23 For the husband is head of the wife, as also Christ is head of the church; and He is the Savior of the body. 24 Therefore, just as the church is subject to Christ, so let the wives be to their own husbands in everything.

25 Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ also loved the church and gave Himself for her, 26 that He might sanctify and cleanse her with the washing of water by the word, 27 that He might present her to Himself a glorious church, not having spot or wrinkle or any such thing, but that she should be holy and without blemish.

28 So husbands ought to love their own wives as their own bodies; he who loves his wife loves himself. 29 For no one ever hated his own flesh, but nourishes and cherishes it, just as the Lord does the church. 30 For we are members of His body, of His flesh and of His bones. 31 “For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh.” 32 This is a great mystery, but I speak concerning Christ and the church.”

The Holy Spirit is the Spirit of Truth, the Comforter, the Promise of the Father and the One who reveals Christ and His work on the cross. The Holy Spirit dwells within every believer, sanctifying the believer and enabling them to live holy, supernatural lives.

Acts 2:33 New Living Translation (NLT)

“33 Now He is exalted to the place of highest honor in heaven, at God’s right hand. And the Father, as He had promised, gave Him the Holy Spirit to pour out upon us, just as you see and

hear today.”

John 16:13

“13 However, when He, the Spirit of truth, has come, He will guide you into all truth; for He will not speak on His own authority, but whatever He hears He will speak; and He will tell you things to come. He will glorify Me, for He will take of what is Mine and declare it to you.”

The Bible is the inspired, infallible Word of God. Both the Old and New Testament are fully inspired by the Holy Spirit, without error and an infallible guide in matters pertaining to life and godliness. It reveals God’s complete will for the salvation of mankind. His Word is trustworthy, and the supreme authority in all points of doctrine, life, and godliness.

2 Timothy 3:16 New Living Translation (NLT)

“16 All Scripture is inspired by God and is useful to teach us what is true and to make us realize what is wrong in our lives. It corrects us when we are wrong and teaches us to do what is right.”

The Love of God

Often people think God is just a being who created everything, but He is so much more. He has emotions and has invited us to know Him intimately through a relationship with Him. He has always existed and always will. He doesn’t need us, but He does want us. God does not simply have love, He is love. He is the origin of any form of true love you have ever experienced. True love is more than

emotional attachment. Love is a choice followed by action. Jesus came to us in the physical realm and took part in humanity to put action to the love God has for us. His love is tangible and the greatest force in all eternity.

I John 4:19

“19 We love Him because He first loved us.”

I John 4:16

“16 And we have come to know and have believed the love which God has for us. God is love, and the one who abides in love abides in God, and God abides in Him.”

Father, Son, and Holy Spirit have always existed. They are perfect in every way. They chose to create a planet with living things on it. So, they agreed together to create a planet and furnish it for their children, mankind. The first family was a perfect creation in the image of God. Father, Son, and Spirit delighted in their perfect relationship with the first humans created, Adam and Eve. He breathed His life into them through His Spirit.

The Blessing - Empowerment for Good

Genesis 1:26-28

“26 Then God said, ‘Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness; and let them rule over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the sky and over the cattle and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth.’ 27 And God created man in His own image, in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them. 28 And God blessed them; and God said to them, ‘Be fruitful

and multiply, and fill the earth, and subdue it; rule over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the sky, and over every living thing that moves on the earth.”

As you well know, every family has rules. This family only had two rules. The first was to be totally obedient to God as they spread the garden, which was a lot like Heaven, over the whole earth. The second rule was that Adam and Eve were not supposed to eat the fruit of one particular tree within the garden because it would kill them if they did. God gave them a choice to demonstrate that He had created humanity with a free will to choose.

Sin Entered Mankind.

Sometime before time on Earth began, Lucifer, whose name means “light bringer,” was one of God’s angels. The Bible says he used to be beautiful, and his whole body was designed to worship God. But because he thought so much of himself, Lucifer decided he would be the king of Heaven and rule it instead of God. Lucifer and one third of the angels joined him and waged war against God for control of everything. Of course, they lost and were removed from Heaven by God. Adam and Eve were supposed to make the whole earth something like God’s home, Heaven. Satan wanted Heaven, but would settle for the copy, earth.

You have to realize that God and satan aren’t equals, so there was no way for satan to compete with God’s power. That’s why satan had to come up with a scheme to gain control of Earth. Satan knew if he could get Adam and Eve on his side, he

could take control of what their Father had given them, the domain of the world. Satan deceived Eve. He told her she could be like God and know about good and evil if she only ate fruit from the one tree on the planet Father God had forbidden them to eat. Well, she listened to satan and ate the fruit. The sad part of the story is that Adam, who was right beside Eve the whole time, also ate the forbidden fruit. Another word for disobedience or when you “miss the mark” is *sin*.

Remember, God had told Adam that if he ate of the fruit he would die. When Adam believed satan over God and ate the fruit, his spirit died. I always picture the spirit of Adam going dark, or out like a flame. Suddenly, Adam no longer had his connection to God the Father. Adam lost the presence of the Holy Spirit within him.

God is a three-part being in a way, Father, Son, and Spirit. We too are made in three parts according to the Bible. We have a body. We have a soul. We have a spirit.

1 Thessalonians 5:23-24

*“23 Now may the God of peace Himself sanctify you completely; and may your whole **spirit, soul, and body** be preserved blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. 24 He who calls you is faithful, who also will do it.”*

You have a body, which is all the parts of you that you can see and touch. Your soul is your mind, will, and emotions. In other words, your soul is how you think, act, and feel. And your spirit is where the Spirit of God dwelt in humanity before Adam lost his connection with God. Because you

are a descendent of Adam, you were reproduced as he and Eve were after their rebellion...without a spirit-connection to God. Your spirit is the part of you where that must be “born again”. Once you believe in your heart and confess with your mouth the truth about God, the Spirit of Jesus, or Holy Spirit, can spiritually reconnect with you and cause your spirit to come back alive. Only the spiritual realm can understand things of the Spirit. There is an invisible spirit world going on right now at the same time as the physical world you can see. The spirit world is what you were created for and will outlast the present form of the world you now see. So, it is important to understand spiritual things.

John 3:3

“3 Jesus answered and said to him, “Most assuredly, I say to you, unless one is born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God.”

John 3:5-7

“5 Jesus answered, “Most assuredly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God. 6 That which is born of the flesh is flesh, and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit. 7 Do not marvel that I said to you, ‘You must be born again.’”

God’s Reconciliation - Jesus

From the very moment Adam and Eve sinned, Father God announced that He would bring One to restore all that had been lost. The prophets in the Bible spoke of the One who was to come and rule and reign over all peoples. He would be empowered from Heaven and called the Messiah. The

very word Messiah basically means “The Anointed One.” To be anointed means to be set apart for a task and empowered to do it. The word *Christ* also means “Messiah” or “Anointed One.”

Jesus was born of the Holy Spirit (heavenly) and a human (Mary, earthly). In order to do what Adam was supposed to do, He had to be born of both Heaven and earth. He’s even called the second Adam in the Bible. His Father had to be Holy Spirit so that Jesus was born with His spiritual connection to God still intact. He never fell for satan’s lies or temptations, so He was sinless on the earth. He was the only one who could win the right to take the keys to the planet back from satan. In order for that to happen, though, somebody had to pay for all the wrongdoings done all the way back to Adam. Jesus had the right to pay for all those mistakes, including ours, because He didn’t make any. Jesus was a perfect sacrifice because He never sinned. He perfectly obeyed Father God. Jesus was so obedient that He even obeyed Death.

Romans 3:23

“23 for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God...”

2 Corinthians 5:18-21

“18 Now all things are of God, who has reconciled us to Himself through Jesus Christ, and has given us the ministry of reconciliation, 19 that is, that God was in Christ reconciling the world to Himself, not imputing their trespasses to them, and has committed to us the word of reconciliation. 20 Now then, we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God were pleading

through us: we implore you on Christ's behalf, be reconciled to God. 21 For He made Him who knew no sin to be sin for us, that we might become the righteousness of God in Him."

John 3:16

"16 For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life."

Romans 10:10-12

"10 For with the heart one believes unto righteousness, and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation. 11 For the Scripture says, 'Whoever believes on Him will not be put to shame.' 12 For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek, for the same Lord over all is rich to all who call upon Him. For 'whoever calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.'"

When Jesus obediently went to the cross carrying the entire world's brokenness, Death and satan thought they'd beaten the second Adam too. That is, they thought they had defeated Him until God raised Jesus from the dead to show all the wrongs were now completely paid for. Mankind could live again connected to our Father God, born again just like in the garden. Our God is the one and only true God. He is the creator and sustainer of our lives. His love is real and passionate. Not only does He love us as a Father, but He is also the lover of our soul. He has given us every good thing and deserves our devotion to Him and Him alone. He is not jealous of us, but He is jealous for us. He knows any other type of love in our life is a lesser thing and will not bring true satisfaction.

Exodus 34:5-7

“5 Now the Lord descended in the cloud and stood with him there, and proclaimed the name of the Lord. 6 And the Lord passed before him and proclaimed, ‘The Lord, the Lord God, merciful and gracious, longsuffering, and abounding in goodness and truth, 7 keeping mercy for thousands, forgiving iniquity and transgression and sin, by no means clearing the guilty, visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children and the children’s children to the third and the fourth generation.’”

Luke 12:32

“32 Do not fear, little flock, for it is your Father’s good pleasure to give you the kingdom.”

Matthew 6:33 New Living Translation (NLT)

“33 Seek the Kingdom of God above all else, and live righteously, and He will give you everything you need.”

Jeremiah 29:11

“11 For I know the plans I have for you,” declares the LORD...”

Call to Repentance

Sin is like when an archer shoots at a target, but the arrow falls short of the mark. To God, sin is when we miss the mark He had for our lives. Most people think of lying, cheating, stealing and murder when they think of sin. However, if you know something is wrong and you do it, it is sin. When you know the right thing to do and don’t do it, that is also a sin. Sin is what separated Adam and

Eve from God to begin with and we as humans of their family line have done the same thing. They chose to sin with their will, and so do we until we repent. To *repent* means to change how you think and behave differently. When you come to a place that you realize what you believed was not right and change your mind to agree with the truth, you repent. Your actions will flow out of the change of thinking and freedom you have received with the truth.

Acts 2:36-38

“36 Therefore let all the house of Israel know assuredly that God has made this Jesus, whom you crucified, both Lord and Christ.’ 37 Now when they heard this, they were cut to the heart, and said to Peter and the rest of the apostles, ‘Men and brethren, what shall we do?’ 38 Then Peter said to them, ‘Repent, and let every one of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins; and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. For the promise is to you and to your children, and to all who are afar off, as many as the Lord our God will call.”

When we believe Father God loves us and sent His Son Jesus to pay for our wrongdoings, we gain the authority over satan that Adam lost. God has not changed His mind about what He wanted to do with the planet! He still wants us to bring His Kingdom to the earth. So, when we're born again in our spirit, we get to do what Adam and Eve were supposed to do. Jesus got the keys and authority back and gave them to us. Jesus also gave us His Holy Spirit to live inside of us and empower us to do what He created us to do. He created us

to make wrong things right and extend His Kingdom.

When you are born again in your spirit, there is so much more than what most people have been taught. *Sozo* is the Greek word for “salvation” in the New Testament. It not only means to be forgiven for your sins and live with God forever in Heaven, but it can be translated into a few other terms as well. Jesus paid for sickness, lack, emotional and physical pain, and a lack of peace in our lives. If you need any of those things, ask for them. Those things are already paid for by Jesus, you just need to receive them.

When we talk about the Gospel of salvation, being saved or becoming a Christian, we are talking about all of those things happening within us and for us. The Gospel of the Kingdom is basically extending what’s happening within us to the territory around us through the empowerment and leadership of Holy Spirit. That’s why Jesus taught us to pray, *“Your Kingdom come, Your will be done, on Earth as it is in Heaven”* in Matthew Chapter 6.

We bring one kingdom to take the place of another. A transfer from earth’s kingdom to Heaven’s kingdom.

I John 3:8

“8 He who sins is of the devil, for the devil has sinned from the beginning. For this purpose the Son of God was manifested, that He might destroy the works of the devil.”

There are at least 3 baptisms identified in Scripture. The first is when you are born again and

Holy Spirit baptizes you into the Body of Christ. Another baptism (these next two do not have a particular form) is when you are immersed in water as a witness to people publicly of your having been born again. Another baptism is to be baptized in Holy Spirit by Jesus Himself for empowerment. When we surrender to the Holy Spirit speaking, or moving us, to be born again, it is He who baptizes us into Christ's body. We are born again and become a part of the Kingdom of Light. This is the initial baptism and must be first, although you can receive all 3 baptisms at once! This is the baptism by which you receive salvation. As a born-again believer in Jesus Christ, you are born into His body. There are many meanings to being in His body. One is that as He, our Head, is in Heaven, we are His body on the earth. He speaks to us and leads us as His body, and we obey and act on His behalf through the Holy Spirit on the earth.

1 Corinthians 12:13

“13 For by one Spirit we were all baptized into one body—whether Jews or Greeks, whether slaves or free—and have all been made to drink into one Spirit.”

Water baptism is an act of obedience to what Jesus told us to do. He gave the example by being immersed in water Himself. We are commanded to do it ourselves and to others as they are born again. Water baptism alone does not save you, but is an outward picture of what has happened within you. You are showing the world that you were only alive physically before, but dead within your spirit. So when you are immersed in water for baptism, it reveals you have come alive again

in your spirit just like Jesus did by the power of God when He resurrected bodily from the dead.

Matthew 28:19

“19 Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit...”

John the Baptist, or the Baptizer, told the listeners that he only baptized with water, but Jesus would baptize them with fire and power. We must have the empowerment from Heaven to accomplish what Jesus commissioned us to do. There's no way we can do it on our own. That's why He instructed the disciples to go and wait for “The Helper” to come.

This helper, the Holy Spirit, did come! He was poured out on a day named Pentecost and is the gift from God to empower all believers as promised by the Lord Jesus Christ. The baptism of the Holy Spirit is received by faith as a separate work of the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit gives gifts to believers for empowerment to be a witness.

Acts 1:8 New Living Translation (NLT)

“8 But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you. And you will be my witnesses, telling people about me everywhere—in Jerusalem, throughout Judea, in Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.”

Matthew 3:11

“11 I indeed baptize you with water unto repentance, but He who is coming after me is mightier than I, whose sandals I am not worthy to carry. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and

fire."

Mark 1:8

"8 I indeed baptized you with water, but He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."

If you haven't come to the time in your life where Jesus Christ is not only your Savior, but is your Lord and Master, you can do that right now. Jesus is the only way to get back what was stolen from you – your rightful spiritual family. If you want to be rescued out of the Kingdom of darkness and Hell and be born again into the Kingdom of light and Jesus, today is your day. Pray this prayer below:

"Father, I admit I've done just what Adam and Eve did. I've chosen to listen to the enemy and chosen my own way instead of Your way. I was born dead in my spirit, and I want to be born again by Your Holy Spirit. I want to give You my entire life. I will serve You and love You forever. Please rescue me, forgive me, heal me and bring me peace. I believe Jesus was Your Son and He died so I didn't have to. Please take care of me and love me forever. Jesus, I ask You to baptize me in Your Holy Spirit. Immerse myself in You and empower me to do all that You did and more. Open my eyes, and my ears, and my heart to hear and receive all You have for me. Thank You and I choose to make you Lord and Master of life from this day forward in Jesus' Name."

Now, if you were just born again by the Spirit find someone else who knows Jesus and tell them. It is time for you to be taught how this new King-

dom works. Ask your Heavenly Father to help you find someone to grow you up into a mighty vicious warrior for His glory. We are not meant to be alone or separate from the rest of His body. He created all of us to work together with our different gifts and callings to accomplish all He has in mind on the earth. Jesus is the only one who can do it all. Father created us in such a way as we need to learn, and to love, and be dependent on one another, just like a family. You are now born again and are called to make disciples just as Jesus did!

Matthew 28:18-20

“18 And Jesus came and spoke to them, saying, ‘All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. 19 Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, 20 teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age.’ Amen.”

John 20:21

“21 So Jesus said to them again, ‘Peace to you! As the Father has sent Me, I also send you.’”

Conclusion of the Gospel of the Kingdom

There is more to the story told in the Bible than Jesus coming to save you from your sins. It is a beautiful story of a magnificent, loving God who created the world, put man in charge of that world, and gave man a choice to love Him back and participate with Him in setting up His Kingdom on earth just like it is in Heaven. When man disobeyed and died in spirit, God did not give up.

He loved His creation so much that He sent His only Son, Jesus, as a sacrifice to restore man's spirit back to life so man could participate with God in overseeing His Kingdom on earth and live with God in eternity.

God wants all of His precious children that He created to love, obey, and participate with His plans, but He gives every person the choice to follow Him. God is not mad at you and furthermore, He has great plans for you and desires to give you His Kingdom. You have a choice to believe the Bible and make it your final authority. If you believe the Bible, and in Jesus described in it, you can have both eternal life with a loving God and you can participate with Him now in extending His Kingdom on the earth.

II. Understanding Salvation

Jesus was the chosen Christ to bring salvation to mankind. He was anointed – called and set apart – to save, heal, and deliver. He came to God's chosen people, Israel, first.

Acts 2:36

“36 Therefore let all the house of Israel know assuredly that God has made this Jesus, whom you crucified, both Lord and Christ.”

Acts 10:34-43

“34 Then Peter opened his mouth and said: “In truth I perceive that God shows no partiality. 35 But in every nation, whoever fears Him and works righteousness is accepted by Him. 36 The word which God sent to the children of Israel, preaching peace through Jesus Christ—He

is Lord of all—37 that word you know, which was proclaimed throughout all Judea, and began from Galilee after the baptism which John preached: 38 how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power, who went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with Him. 39 And we are witnesses of all things which He did both in the land of the Jews and in Jerusalem, whom they killed by hanging on a tree. 40 Him God raised up on the third day, and showed Him openly, 41 not to all the people, but to witnesses chosen before by God, even to us who ate and drank with Him after He arose from the dead. 42 And He commanded us to preach to the people, and to testify that it is He who was ordained by God to be Judge of the living and the dead. 43 To Him all the prophets witness that, through His name, whoever believes in Him will receive remission of sins.”

The scriptures speak of the Messiah, or Christ, who would come. Jesus would fulfill many prophesies, in His first coming, and He shall fulfill all the prophesies in the Bible in the fullness of time.

Isaiah 9:6-7

*“6 For unto us a Child is born,
Unto us a Son is given;
And the government will be upon His shoulder.
And His name will be called
Wonderful, Counselor, Mighty God,
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.
7 Of the increase of His government and peace
There will be no end,*

*Upon the throne of David and over His kingdom,
To order it and establish it with judgment and
justice
From that time forward, even forever.
The zeal of the Lord of hosts will perform this.”*

Isaiah 53:4-6

*“4 Surely He has borne our griefs
And carried our sorrows;
Yet we esteemed Him stricken,
Smitten by God, and afflicted.
5 But He was wounded for our transgressions,
He was bruised for our iniquities;
The chastisement for our peace was upon Him,
And by His stripes we are healed.
6 All we like sheep have gone astray;
We have turned, every one, to his own way;
And the Lord has laid on Him the iniquity of us
all.”*

Jesus has paid in full the price of our sins by His sacrifice on the cross, and all the consequences of it as well. He died for all willful sin, generational iniquity, and weaknesses. He shed His blood for every sickness and infirmity to be healed.

I Peter 2:24 KJV

*“24 Who His own self bore our sins in His
own body on the tree, that we, being dead to
sins, should live unto righteousness: by whose
stripes ye were healed.”*

Acts 10:38

*“38 How God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with
the Holy Spirit and with power, who went about*

doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with Him.”

Therefore, we must by faith, receive with joy the empowerment He made available to those who believe in His name. Through His word, we believe what He atoned for with His perfect blood. We can pray His word and bless ourselves, and others, to be healed in our spirit, soul and body.

Mark 11:24

“24 Therefore I say to you, whatever things you ask when you pray, believe that you receive them, and you will have them.

The Messiah, the Christ, was set apart by God to bring forth His **salvation**. He came to seek and save the lost.

Luke 4:18-19

*“18 The Spirit of the Lord is upon Me,
Because He has anointed Me
To preach the gospel to the poor;
He has sent Me to heal the brokenhearted,
19 To proclaim liberty to the captives
And recovery of sight to the blind,
To set at liberty those who are oppressed;
To proclaim the acceptable year of the Lord.”*

Matthew 4:23-24

“23 And Jesus went about all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues, preaching the gospel of the kingdom, and healing all kinds of sickness and all kinds of disease among the people. 24 Then His fame went throughout all Syria; and they brought to Him all sick people who were afflict-

ed with various diseases and torments, and those who were demon-possessed, epileptics, and paralytics; and He healed them.”

It is vital for Christians to understand the ministry of Jesus Christ. He demonstrated the Kingdom of Heaven and the heart of the Father by His works. **I John 4:17** declares, “*17 because as He is, so also are we in this world.*” As His children, we need the heart of God and to know in whom we have believed, as we carry out His will in our lives.

Jesus testified to his cousin, John the Baptist, of His amazing works. He was manifesting salvation to the people, and this brought assurance to John while he was in prison and persecuted for his own personal work for God.

Matthew 11:2-5

“2 And when John had heard in prison about the works of Christ, he sent two of his disciples 3 and said to Him, “Are You the Coming One, or do we look for another?” 4 Jesus answered and said to them, “Go and tell John the things which you hear and see: 5 The blind see and the lame walk; the lepers are cleansed and the deaf hear; the dead are raised up and the poor have the gospel preached to them.”

Jesus taught his disciples that He would drive out demons by the Spirit of God.

Matthew 12:28

“28 But if I cast out demons by the Spirit of God, surely the kingdom of God has come upon you.”

Jesus explained to His dearest friends of a sal-

vation that would bring forth resurrection power and life.

John 11:25-27

“25 Jesus said to her, “I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in Me, though he may die, he shall live. 26 And whoever lives and believes in Me shall never die. Do you believe this?” 27 She said to Him, “Yes, Lord, I believe that You are the Christ, the Son of God, who is to come into the world.”

Jesus demonstrated this power as He raised His friend Lazarus from the dead.

John 11:38-44

“38 Then Jesus, again groaning in Himself, came to the tomb. It was a cave, and a stone lay against it. 39 Jesus said, “Take away the stone.” Martha, the sister of him who was dead, said to Him, “Lord, by this time there is a stench, for he has been dead four days.”

40 Jesus said to her, “Did I not say to you that if you would believe you would see the glory of God?” 41 Then they took away the stone from the place where the dead man was lying. And Jesus lifted up His eyes and said, “Father, I thank You that You have heard Me. 42 And I know that You always hear Me, but because of the people who are standing by I said this, that they may believe that You sent Me.” 43 Now when He had said these things, He cried with a loud voice, “Lazarus, come forth!” 44 And he who had died came out bound hand and foot with graveclothes, and his face was wrapped with a cloth. Jesus said to them, “Loose him,

and let him go.”

Jesus manifested the true meaning of salvation: He would give eternal life to those who would believe in Him for forgiveness of sins; healing; deliverance, wholeness, peace and prosperity.

Saved and Salvation = Sozo; Soteria

Let's look briefly into the meanings of the words used for *salvation* according to the Greek.

SOTERIA (Strong's 4991) - rescue or safety. deliver, health, save, saving, salvation.

“12...continue to work out your salvation [soteria] with fear and trembling...” (Philippians 2:12)

“25 Therefore he is able to save [soteria] completely...” (Hebrews 7:25)

SOZO (Strong's 4982) - deliver, protect, heal, preserve, salvation, save, do well, be (make) whole.

“10 For the Son of Man came to seek and save [sozo] what was lost...” (Luke 19:10)

“15 Jesus came into the world to save [sozo] sinners...” (1 Timothy 1:15)

In the Hebrew these are the words translated into the English word *salvation*:

YESHUAH (Strong's 3444.) – something saved, deliverance; hence, aid, victory, prosperity.

“2...proclaim His salvation [yeshuwah] day after day” (Psalm 96:2)

YESHA (Strong's 3468) – liberty, deliverance, prosperity. KJV: safety, salvation, saving.

“1 The Lord is my light and my salvation [yeshua] - whom shall I fear?” (Psalm 27:1)

Sozo – salvation for the spirit

“21 And she will bring forth a Son, and you shall call His name Jesus, for He will save [sozo] His people from their sins.” Mat. 1:21

“47 (the people were) praising God and having favor with all the people. And the Lord added to the church daily those who were being saved [sozo].” Acts 2:47

Sozo – healing for the body

“15 And the prayer of faith will save [sozo] the sick, and the Lord will raise him up. And if he has committed sins, he will be forgiven.” James 5:15

“34 Daughter, your faith has made you well [whole-shalom]. Go in peace, and be healed of your affliction”. Mark 5:34

“56... (they) begged Him that they might just touch the hem of His garment. And as many as touched Him were made well.”[whole-shalom] Mark 6:56

Sozo – deliverance

“3 They also who had seen it told them by what means he who had been demon-possessed was healed [sozo].” Luke 8:3

The Human Structure

In understanding how satan and demonic spirits can influence an individual, and how strongholds within the mind can occur, we must understand the make-up of the human structure. In Scripture we, as humans, are described as having three parts to our design. We are a spirit, that has a soul which resides in a body. We are *spiritual beings* dwelling inside of an earthly body. Our spirit is the place where God dwells. Our soul is made up of our mind, will and emotions. Our body has the senses and is the flesh and bone part of us. In our body we experience taste, touch, sight, smell, and hearing. When we become saved, our spirit is complete and restored to God and possessed by the Spirit of God. But our soul and our physical body is still in the process of redemption and isn't perfect like God yet. Christians can have strongholds and demon spirits that take residence within their soul and bodies. Praise God for such a great salvation that Jesus brings to all who believe in Him.¹



¹ Image: <https://www.recoveringgrace.org/2011/12/body-soul-spirit-an-alternate-view/>

The following scripture refers to the three-part design:

1 Thessalonians 5:23

“23 Now may the God of peace Himself sanctify you completely; and may your whole spirit, soul and body be preserved blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.”

Through salvation each part of our human make-up is brought into a state of God-given perfection (we are made whole again). However, God does not manifest all this perfection right away. Our spirit is made perfect when we confess Jesus as our Lord and Savior because we are spiritually reborn and given the Spirit of God at that time. Our souls are being perfected daily as we receive the Word of God and His sanctifying work in our lives.

James 1:21

“21 Therefore, lay aside all filthiness and overflow of wickedness, and receive with meekness the implanted word, which is able to save [SOZO] your souls.”

We will receive new bodies at the Lord's glorious appearing. The second coming of Jesus Christ.

I Thessalonians 4:14-17

“14 For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so God will bring with Him those who sleep in Jesus. 15 For this we say to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive and remain until the coming of the Lord will by no means precede those who are asleep. 16 For the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of an archangel, and

with the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first. 17 Then we who are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air.”

Through salvation, we are receiving increasing measures of freedom until the day the Lord perfects us in glory. This is a journey of deliverance, freedom and inward and outward healing. We work out our imperfections with fear and trembling!

Philippians 2:12

“12 Therefore my beloved, as you 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.”

We choose to surrender to the Holy Spirit daily to lay hold of all that Jesus died for us to have.

Philippians 3:12

“12 Not that I have already attained, or am already perfected; but I press on, that I may lay hold of that for which Christ Jesus has also laid ahold of me.”

In his book, *Say Father*, Ken Howerton explains the reason a Christian soul must be delivered from these imperfections. “The blood of Jesus covers your spirit man and protects it against demon possession. Think about it: if the blood of Jesus covered your physical body, you could not get sick, you could not have an injury, and you couldn’t have any kind of disease. There could not be any kind of sin in you, period, because the blood of Jesus is sinless. Therefore, while it is ab-

solutely true that the blood of Jesus has redeemed your spirit beyond the reach of the devil, it is also true that we continue to work out that salvation in our souls and our bodies. The goal is to remove all influence of the devil from every part of us. We want our souls and bodies to be just as pure and sinless as our spirit man is. That's why we need deliverance.” “Say Father”, Ken Howerton, p. 60.

Jesus said, “*the Kingdom of God is within you.*” **Luke 17:21.** The Lord is renewing our mind through His Word to think as He does. Through His salvation, your soul and body will receive increasing measures of freedom until the day the Lord perfects them in glory.

I John 3:2-33

“*2 Beloved, now we are children of God; and it has not yet been revealed what we shall be, but we know that when He is revealed, we shall be like Him, for we shall see Him as He is. 3 And everyone who has this hope in Him purifies himself, just as He is pure.*”

I Peter 1:8-9

“*8 whom having not seen you love. Though now you do not see Him, yet believing, you rejoice with joy inexpressible and full of glory, 9 receiving the end of your faith—the salvation of your souls.*”

As God’s children receiving the revelation of salvation, it is important to understand our righteousness in Christ Jesus and who we are in Him. The Holy Spirit will empower the believer and bring spiritual understanding of the power of God within us in order to manifest His Kingdom authority

in our lives.

I. The Righteousness of God in Christ Jesus

Scripture declares, “*Your throne, O God, is forever and ever; a scepter of righteousness is the scepter of your kingdom.*” **Psalm 45:6**. This verse confirms God’s eternal dominion and declares that from His throne, righteousness shall reign. A scepter according to Dictionary.com is “a rod or wand borne in the hand as an emblem of regal or imperial power. It represents royal or imperial power or authority; sovereignty.” A scepter is simply God’s way of ruling righteously in absolute truth and power and justice. The scepter represents God’s Rule of Authority.

Psalm 125:3

“Those who trust in the Lord are like Mount Zion, which cannot be moved, but abides forever. As the mountains surround Jerusalem, so the Lord surrounds His people from this time forth and forever; for the scepter of wickedness shall not rest on the land allotted to the righteous, lest the righteous reach out their hands to iniquity.”

The Scepter of Righteousness Rules the Land

Righteous is defined as: “(1) characterized by uprightness or morality (2) morally right or justifiable (3) acting in an upright, moral way; virtuous: a righteous and godly person.” (Dictionary.com). Righteousness is simply God’s way of doing things! He is holy, honest, moral, and pure.

Jesus Christ is righteous! He became sin for us in

order to save lost souls. He conquered sin on the cross and made a way for all to be right with God!

I John 2:1-2

*“1 My little children, these things I write to you, so that you may not sin. And if anyone sins, we have an Advocate with the Father, **Jesus Christ the righteous**. 2 And He Himself is the propitiation for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the whole world.”*

II Corinthians 5:21

“21 For He made Him [Jesus] who knew no sin to be sin for us, that we might become the righteousness of God in Him.”

According to Romans 3, there is none who is righteous!

Romans 3:10-12

“10 As it is written: “There is none righteous, no, not one; 11 There is none who understands; there is none who seeks after God. 12 They have all turned aside; They have together become unprofitable; there is none who does good, no, not one.”

Mark 2:17

“17 I [Jesus] did not come to call the righteous, but sinners, to repentance.”

Yet, through Christ's atonement, righteousness is revealed through faith in Him.

Romans 3:22-26 NLT

“22 We are made right with God by placing our faith in Jesus Christ. And this is true for every-

one who believes, no matter who we are. 23 For everyone has sinned; we all fall short of God's glorious standard. 24 Yet God, in his grace, freely makes us right in his sight. He did this through Christ Jesus when he freed us from the penalty for our sins. 25 For God presented Jesus as the sacrifice for sin. People are made right with God when they believe that Jesus sacrificed his life, shedding his blood. This sacrifice shows that God was being fair when he held back and did not punish those who sinned in times past, 26 for he was looking ahead and including them in what he would do in this present time. God did this to demonstrate his righteousness, for he himself is fair and just, and he makes sinners right in his sight when they believe in Jesus."

The believer in Jesus Christ is justified (made right) by faith and reconciled to God.

Romans 3:28 NLT

"28 So we are made right with God through faith and not by obeying the law."

Romans 5:1-2 NLT

"1 Therefore, since we have been made right in God's sight by faith, we have peace with God because of what Jesus Christ our Lord has done for us. 2 Because of our faith, Christ has brought us into this place of undeserved privilege where we now stand, and we confidently and joyfully look forward to sharing God's glory."

This is why the Gospel of Jesus Christ is called the GOOD NEWS! What mercy and grace from

our Heavenly Father to send His own Son into the world to pay the price for sin, to reconcile all to Himself, and to declare them blameless and free from punishment!

Romans 5:6-11 NLT

“6 When we were utterly helpless, Christ came at just the right time and died for us sinners. 7 Now, most people would not be willing to die for an upright person, though someone might perhaps be willing to die for a person who is especially good. 8 But God showed his great love for us by sending Christ to die for us while we were still sinners. 9 And since we have been made right in God’s sight by the blood of Christ, he will certainly save us from God’s condemnation. 10 For since our friendship with God was restored by the death of his Son while we were still his enemies, we will certainly be saved through the life of his Son. 11 So now we can rejoice in our wonderful new relationship with God because our Lord Jesus Christ has made us friends of God.”

Righteousness is known as “a gift!” This gift is given by the mercy and goodness of God, and this “gift” must be RECEIVED, by those WHO BELIEVE.

Romans 5:17-21

“17 For if by the one man’s offense death reigned through the one, much more those who receive abundance of grace and of the gift of righteousness will reign in life through the One, Jesus Christ.) 18 Therefore, as through one man’s offense judgment came to all men, resulting in condemnation, even so through one

Man's righteous act the free gift came to all men, resulting in justification of life. 19 For as by one man's disobedience many were made sinners, so also by one Man's obedience many will be made righteous.

20 Moreover the law entered that the offense might abound. But where sin abounded, grace abounded much more, 21 so that as sin reigned in death, even so grace might reign through righteousness to eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord."

Salvation literally comes as the sinner believes in the finished work of the cross and confesses Jesus Christ to be Lord of their lives.

Romans 10:8-13

"8 But what does it say? "The word is near you, in your mouth and in your heart" (that is, the word of faith which we preach): 9 that if you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved. 10 For with the heart one believes unto righteousness, and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation. 11 For the Scripture says, "Whoever believes on Him will not be put to shame." 12 For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek, for the same Lord over all is rich to all who call upon Him. 13 For "whoever calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved."

When we are born again in Jesus Christ, it is important not only to BELIEVE in His finished work, but to RECEIVE this work with all our heart and being!

Jesus made us righteous! He declares we are literally a new creation IN HIM. We can no longer see ourselves as “sinners,” but REDEEMED, BORN AGAIN SONS AND DAUGHTERS OF GOD.

II Corinthian 5:17

“17 Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new.”

II Corinthians 5:21

“21 For He made Him who knew no sin to be sin for us, that we might become the righteousness of God in Him.”

The apostle Paul instructs the believer to “put on the armor of God,” which represents the spiritual clothing Christ has provided. Paul used the phrase, “14 and having put on the breastplate of righteousness...” in **Ephesians 6:14**. This breastplate must be put on by faith! We should keep the armor of God on! The believer should never take the armor off, but rather live in it and with it, keeping it on by faith in His Word. Believers must come to know and believe that they are clothed by God in truth and empowered by the Spirit to overcome anything the enemy may hurl at them in this life.

Romans 13:12

“12 The night is far spent, the day is at hand. Therefore, let us cast off the works of darkness, and let us put on the armor of light.”

Jesus has liberated us from sin and all spirits of darkness that may have kept us bound. The Lord

has come to set the captives free!

John 8:36

“36 Therefore if the Son makes you free, you shall be free indeed.”

I John 3:8

“8 He who sins is of the devil, for the devil has sinned from the beginning. For this purpose the Son of God was manifested, that He might destroy the works of the devil.”

Jesus empowers His disciples to bring freedom to those in bondage!

Once, we were “slaves” to sin; now in Christ Jesus the apostle Paul declares by Holy Spirit, we are slaves of righteousness!

Romans 6:16

“16 Do you not know that to whom you present yourselves slaves to obey, you are that one’s slaves whom you obey, whether of sin leading to death, or of obedience leading to righteousness?”

Romans 6:18

“18 And having been set free from sin, you became slaves of righteousness.”

Jesus gave His disciples authority over the works of darkness. Through Holy Spirit, Jesus empowers the believer to repent of sin, to change bad habits, and to cast out demons that torment and afflict the soul of the individual. All His works are done through the anointing of Holy Spirit.

Matthew 10:7-8

“7 And as you go, preach, saying, ‘The kingdom of heaven is at hand.’ 8 Heal the sick, cleanse the lepers, raise the dead, cast out demons. Freely you have received, freely give.”

Luke 10:19

“19 Behold, I give you the authority to trample on serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy, and nothing shall by any means hurt you.”

Acts 1:8

“8 But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be witnesses to Me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.”

I John 2:27

“27 But the anointing which you have received from Him abides in you, and you do not need that anyone teach you; but as the same anointing teaches you concerning all things, and is true, and is not a lie, and just as it has taught you, you will abide in Him.”

By faith, we receive the righteousness of Jesus Christ, and we are called to press forward, to go onward and upward in the high call of God in our lives. The past is under the blood of Jesus, forgiven. When we receive true revelation of God's work in our lives, it is truly transforming! Once we KNOW what He has done, it just seems to launch us all the more into His will for us. Moreover, receiving the righteousness of Jesus comes with an increase in the same authority He carries as believers lay hold of not only their righteous status,

but their power as ambassadors of the Kingdom of Heaven.

II. Kingdom Authority

Authority is defined from The American Heritage Dictionary as – “The power to enforce laws, exact obedience, command, determine, or judge. One that is invested with this power. Power assigned to another, authorization. Power to influence or persuade resulting from knowledge or experience.” (The American heritage Dictionary of the English language, 5th edition copyright at 2022 by Harper Collins Publishers).

Authority is also defined, according to the Strong's Concordance, *as privilege, delegated influence; the ability or strength with which one is endued, which he either possesses or exercises.* (Strong's 1849. EXOUSIA)

Dr. Henry Malone, author of the book, Shadow Boxing, explains the authority of God and His kingdom:

“God’s throne is established on His authority. All things were created, and the laws of the universe are maintained, through this self-existent divine authority system. The archangel Lucifer became Satan when he usurped God’s dominion. By competing with God, he became God’s adversary. Satan’s desire to set his throne above the throne of God violated the divine authority structure. Self-exultation was the culprit; rebellion was the cause. Satan’s hostility against us today is the direct result of our attributing authority to God. When we

violate God's authority, we are, in essence, submitting to the dark principles of rebellion. Satan is still a usurper today. He doesn't care how much we preach or teach or whatever we might choose to do in the church. Satan is not afraid of our prayers, Bible study, fasting, scripture quoting, or confession as long as self-exultation reigns in our hearts! His only fear is when we submit ourselves to God's authority. Our entire relationship with God is regulated by whether or not we've acknowledged His sovereignty - whether we've bowed our knee to Him. Before we can work for God, we must submit to Him. Each of us at some point in our Christian journey must encounter the authority of God, be broken into submission, and learn to live in obedience to him." (Shadow Boxing, p. 31-32)

For Christians to walk in kingdom authority, it is important for us to understand and have revelation knowledge of the authority of Christ and all that He has done for the Kingdom of Heaven to be revealed to mankind.

Before going to the cross, the Lord Jesus prayed in the Garden of Gethsemane to His Father in heaven. Jesus overcame his flesh, defeated the devil, and submitted His will to His Father. We know that He literally surrendered His heart to His Father's love for all to be saved.

Matthew 26:39

"39 He went a little farther and fell on His face, and prayed, saying, "O My Father, if it is possible, let this cup pass from Me; nevertheless, not as I will, but as You will."

Consider what Henry Malone writes about the depth of Jesus's sacrifice and the authority He won for those who trust Him as Savior and Lord:

"As Jesus submitted to death on the cross, bowed His head and released His spirit without even one small defeat or failure, Satan's fate was sealed. When Jesus died without once rebelling against the Father, He vanquished Satan. All of Satan's legal claims upon the earth and the entire human race were cancelled. The war was won! Jesus Christ had disarmed and dethroned the adversary of mankind. He burst forth victoriously from the bowels of death. Christ alone had become the scapegoat for the sin of the whole world, as if He Himself were guilty of the entirety of that sin. As His soul was made an offering for sin, He had to "descend into hell" (Ephesians 4:9).

The Father had to pour out the full force of His wrath against sin and upon His beloved Son. This act demonstrates the infinite value God places on obtaining not only a family of His very own, but also a bride for His Son. Christ, resurrected in a human body, ascended into the heavens and sat down at the right hand of the Father, proving conclusively that Satan's bankruptcy was complete. Jesus "took the teeth out" of demonic powers and made an open show of them by triumphing over them." (*Shadow Boxing*, p.37)

Revelation 1:18

"18 I am He who lives, and was dead, and behold, I am alive forevermore. Amen. And I have

the keys of Hades and of Death.”

Hell was thrown into total chaos! Satan was stripped of his usurped legal authority over mankind. His dominion over the earth was snatched. From this climactic struggle with the underworld of darkness, Jesus emerged triumphant with the keys to death and hell. Furthermore, Jesus translated us from the kingdom of darkness into the kingdom of light.

Colossians 1:13-15

“13 And you, being dead in your trespasses and the uncircumcision of your flesh, He has made alive together with Him, having forgiven you all trespasses, 14 having wiped out the handwriting of requirements that was against us, which was contrary to us. And He has taken it out of the way, having nailed it to the cross. 15 Having disarmed principalities and powers, He made a public spectacle of them, triumphing over them in it.”

The purpose of this mighty conflict was to restore man to fellowship, authority, and dominion. When Jesus stormed forth from the dark abyss of death and ascended into the heavenlies, all believers were raised and seated together with him! Every believer is completely identified with Christ from Calvary to the ascension.” Dr. Henry Malone, “Shadow Boxing”, p. 37-38.

Ephesians 2:4-8

“4 But God, who is rich in mercy, because of His great love with which He loved us, 5 even when we were dead in trespasses, made us alive together with Christ (by grace you have

been saved), 6 and raised us up together, and made us sit together in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, 7 that in the ages to come He might show the exceeding riches of His grace in His kindness toward us in Christ Jesus. 8 For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God.”

James 4:7

“7 Therefore submit to God. Resist the devil and he will flee from you.”

Oh, what a VICTORY IN CHRIST JESUS! The body of Christ must learn of Jesus and all His ways. We mature in our faith as we behold Him for Who He Is! Jesus was under authority and therefore was given authority. In similar fashion, we are under the authority of Jesus, and thus we receive authority from Him.

Jesus was under authority. He fully submitted to God the Father and Holy Spirit in His ministry.

John 5:19

“19 Then Jesus answered and said to them, “Most assuredly, I say to you, the Son can do nothing of Himself, but what He sees the Father do; for whatever He does, the Son also does in like manner.”

John 5:30

“30 I can of Myself do nothing. As I hear, I judge; and My judgment is righteous, because I do not seek My own will but the will of the Father who sent Me.”

Jesus taught with authority. His teachings were

full of life and power. His very words changed and convicted hearts with so much love and truth.

Matthew 7:28-29

“28 And so it was, when Jesus had ended these sayings, that the people were astonished at His teaching, 29 for He taught them as one having authority, and not as the scribes.”

Jesus ministered with authority. Jesus demonstrated the authority He had been given as He saved, healed, and delivered people with power.

Luke 4:31-36

“31 Then He went down to Capernaum, a city of Galilee, and was teaching them on the Sabbath. 32 And they were astonished at His teaching, for His word was with authority. 33 Now in the synagogue there was a man who had a spirit of an unclean demon. And he cried out with a loud voice, 34 saying, “Let us alone! What have we to do with You, Jesus of Nazareth? Did You come to destroy us? I know who You are—the Holy One of God!” 35 But Jesus rebuked him, saying, “Be quiet, and come out of him!” And when the demon had thrown him in their midst, it came out of him and did not hurt him. 36 Then they were all amazed and spoke among themselves, saying, “What a word this is! For with authority and power He commands the unclean spirits, and they come out.”

As Jesus raised up His disciples, He demonstrated to them His kingdom authority, and they saw His great love and compassion. They also beheld the power and glory in which He walked. Moreover, Jesus has given power and authority to His

followers to go and do the same works as He Himself has done.

Matthew 10:7-8

“7 And as you go, preach, saying, ‘The kingdom of heaven is at hand.’ 8 Heal the sick, cleanse the lepers, raise the dead, cast out demons. Freely you have received, freely give.”

Mark 16:15-20

““15...Go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature. 16 He who believes and is baptized will be saved; but he who does not believe will be condemned. 17 And these signs will follow those who believe: In My name they will cast out demons; they will speak with new tongues; 18 they will take up serpents; and if they drink anything deadly, it will by no means hurt them; they will lay hands on the sick, and they will recover.”

19 So then, after the Lord had spoken to them, He was received up into heaven, and sat down at the right hand of God. 20 And they went out and preached everywhere, the Lord working with them and confirming the word through the accompanying signs. Amen.”

Luke 10:19

“19 Behold, I give you the authority to trample on serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy, and nothing shall by any means hurt you.”

John 14:12-14

“12 “Most assuredly, I say to you, he who believes in Me, the works that I do he will do also;

and greater works than these he will do, because I go to My Father. 13 And whatever you ask in My name, that I will do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son. 14 If you ask anything in My name, I will do it.”

Jesus has given His authority to His church – His Bride. It is through the church that the Lord brings forth the manifestation of the Kingdom of God and salvation to the people therein!

Ephesians 1:19-23

“19 and what is the exceeding greatness of His power toward us who believe, according to the working of His mighty power 20 which He worked in Christ when He raised Him from the dead and seated Him at His right hand in the heavenly places, 21 far above all principality and power and might and dominion, and every name that is named, not only in this age but also in that which is to come.” 22 And He put all things under His feet, and gave Him to be head over all things to the church, 23 which is His body, the fullness of Him who fills all in all.”

The church has the privilege of carrying Jesus Christ’s authority and influence. As Christians we need to learn how to walk and minister in the authority He has given us. The wisdom of God in His church is made known to the ruler of darkness, satan, and his fallen angels and demons.

Ephesians 3:10-12

“10 to the intent that now the manifold wisdom of God might be made known by the church to the principalities and powers in the heavenly places, 11 according to the eternal purpose

which He accomplished in Christ Jesus our Lord, 12 in whom we have boldness and access with confidence through faith in Him.”

The apostle Paul taught the early church how to stay armed and ready to defeat the works of the devil and his kingdom. We are not “wrestling” against mere human flesh, but rather the spiritual forces in the heavenly places. Through abiding in Christ Jesus and His Word (John 15), we have spiritual communion with Him. When the Bible says, “Be strong in the Lord,” it’s simply a lifestyle of communion and love.

Ephesians 6:10-18

*“10 Finally, my brethren, **be strong in the Lord and in the power of His might.** 11 Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. 12 For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this age, against spiritual hosts of wickedness in the heavenly places. 13 Therefore take up the whole armor of God, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand.*

14 Stand therefore, having girded your waist with truth, having put on the breastplate of righteousness, 15 and having shod your feet with the preparation of the gospel of peace; 16 above all, taking the shield of faith with which you will be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked one. 17 And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God; 18 praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, being watchful to

this end with all perseverance and supplication for all the saints—”

The Kingdom of God has order. God has established authority within His Kingdom, and the line of command goes like this:

God the Father - Jesus - Holy Spirit - church.

God made Jesus the head over everything for the church, the body of Christ. He also put everything under Jesus's feet (Psalm 8:6; Col. 2:25), so that means that as Jesus's body we have everything under our feet, including our enemies, and particularly Satan. Jesus expresses His authority on earth today through His church. If we stay submitted to the authority and Lordship of Christ, we will be protected by His authority. As we begin to grasp the concept of the authority the Father has given us through Christ, we should continue to give all the glory to God and to rejoice above all that our names are engraved in eternity with the Father.

Ken Howerton, author of “Say Father,” Lessons in Spiritual Warfare from a Deliverance Ministry Pioneer, relays the revelation the Father gave Him concerning spiritual authority and the chain of command:

“One of the most important truths He has shown me is what I know as the line of authority, or the chain of command in the spiritual realm. Until someone really understands this concept, they cannot fully understand who they are in Christ Jesus. Part of the confusion has happened because of some mis-

understandings or even misinterpretations of the Word of God. For instance, in Genesis 1:1, the original text does not say, “In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth.” What it says is, “In the beginning, Elohim, the Aleph and Thav, created the heavens and the earth.” If you do a quick search on this word, you’ll discover that Elohim refers to a plural, and yet it is the name God chose with which to describe Himself at creation. Notice that in Genesis 1, God says, “Let US...” each time He’s getting ready to create. Taken together this establishes that Jesus as the living Word of God, and the Holy Spirit were creating with and alongside God the Father. And so, the Trinity, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, were mentioned from the very beginning. Continuing that line of thought, consider Psalms 8:5, which many translations misinterpret as saying that man has been made a little lower than the angels. That word for “angels” is “Elohim” in the original text. We now understand that to mean that man was made a little lower than the Elohim, or a little lower than the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. That changes the way we begin to think about our authority. In fact, if we lined it out properly, we discover that redeemed man has a much higher level of authority than many people believe. With that in mind this is what Holy Spirit taught me about the true chain of command in the spirit world. At the very top of the order, we have God the Father, Jesus Christ, and Holy Spirit. Right beneath them ranks redeemed man. After redeemed man come the angels in all their rank and order. Then comes Satan, followed by the fallen angels in all of their rank in order, demon spirits, and at the

very bottom, with no spiritual authority whatsoever, comes fallen man. So that means that redeemed man ranks 4th in spiritual authority, above the angels, not beneath them. That's why in Hebrews 1:14, it says of the angels, "are they not all ministering spirits, sent forth to minister for them who shall be heirs of salvation?" That tells us that angels minister for us according to the will of the Father.

This should start to change the way you understand the spiritual authority God has given you if you are a believer in Jesus. However, Satan has been very clever in the way he has worked in the church to keep us from knowing our authority in Christ Jesus. Once we truly understand who we are, Holy Spirit starts revealing to us how we are to rise up to destroy the works of the devil. The thought of an army of redeemed men and women who know who they are in Jesus terrifies the enemy. That's why he worked so hard to keep us ignorant of our real identity and authority." Pages 39-40.

Let's rise up, in Jesus' name! The Lord empowers His church, and He gives further instruction in how to rule and reign in this life. Jesus explains more about KINGDOM authority and gives the church "keys" – for prayer and ministry.

III. Keys to the Kingdom - Binding and Loosening

Matthew 16:19 describes the keys to the Kingdom. Peter had just confessed that Jesus was the Christ, the Son of the Living God, and Jesus told Peter that upon Peter's confession He would build

His church. Then Jesus said, “*And I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven.*” Before we look more closely at binding and loosing, let’s ponder what the “keys of the kingdom” means. These are the keys that will unlock the kingdom for the church! A key unlocks something that was previously locked up. What was inaccessible is accessible with a key. A key is of crucial importance, so we must pay particular attention to what this means for the church. According to Jesus, the keys of the Kingdom are binding and loosing, and these principles will bring heaven to earth.

Binding means “to tie up or restrain,” and loosing means “to set free or let go.” Binding is declaring evil is illegal and forbidden; loosing is declaring God’s Word and GOOD will is legal and permitted. So, it is of crucial importance that we, the church, bind what is evil and loose what is GOOD.

Psalm 73:1

“1 Truly God is good to Israel, to such as are pure in heart.”

Psalm 145:9

“9 The LORD is good to all, and His tender mercies are over all His works.”

Thus, we know that part of what we are doing when we loose something is to release God’s goodness to it, over it, or into it. Building on this understanding, let’s dig further into what heaven means in Matthew 16:19. The Greek word for heaven here means air or sky, so it speaks to the spiritual realm. Therefore, in the spiritual realm,

whatever you bind on Earth is bound in the spirit realm, and whatever you loose on Earth is loosed in the spirit realm. So just by declaring that a spirit is bound, it is restrained, forbidden. Conversely, by pronouncing something is loosed, it is unleashed, or opened up. It is like a door that was open, but then is closed. Or it can be like a door that was closed, but then is opened. The difference is that the door requires a physical act to change from one to the other, but in the spirit realm, our words and faith cause the change. We often overlook the power of our words, thinking mere words won't make a difference. Satan is counting on this lie to neutralize us and keep us in the dark about the weapon of our words. Nonetheless, God wants His people to understand that our words are immensely powerful.

Proverbs 18:21 clearly states, *“Death and life are in the power of the tongue.”*

Let me give you an example. If I am around a person who is angry and throwing a fit, the person may be under siege by demonic forces that he/she can neither see nor control. I can eliminate unseen forces from contributing to the situation by binding the spirit of anger in the name of Jesus. The person who was angry could still choose to be angry on his own, but the extra push from the spiritual realm to be agitated will cease to contribute to the circumstances. If I loose comfort to the person in Jesus' name, I am calling for the Comforter, Holy Spirit, to come and release comfort to the person. Another example is if there is much confusion in a situation, I can bind the spirit of confusion and loose the Spirit of Wisdom in the name of Jesus. In this case, the enemy may

be working generally to influence a group of people. By releasing the Spirit of Wisdom, I am inviting Great Holy Spirit to come and hover over all of them. In any case, we are to look into the spiritual realm for causes to everyday issues because God's Word says not to wrestle with "*flesh and blood*," but to take authority over spiritual hosts of wickedness (**Ephesians 6:12-13**). In doing that, the church is operating to bring the realm of Heaven to Earth. As always, you must depend on Holy Spirit to lead you. Others still have a choice in the matter, but you can neutralize demonic impact, which opens the door for the Holy Spirit to operate. Satan wants this knowledge locked up, so we are destroyed for lack of knowledge! **Hosea 4:6** tells us, "*My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge.*"

The Lord Jesus gave His church the authority to rule and govern with His Blessing and kingdom authority. How wonderful to know that what is not permitted in heaven, we have authority on earth to bind it from earth. How wonderful to know that which is permitted in heaven, we have authority on earth to loose it.

The Lord Jesus is empowering the church to understand how to walk according to His will, and He has not left us "alone" or "without power." Now that we have laid a foundation in understanding how to bind and loose, we will next address spiritual strongholds that can be set up against individuals and the church, and we will discuss how to overcome them.

IV. Strongholds

According to the Strong's Concordance, [G3794] the definition of the word "strongholds" is: "a castle, stronghold, fortress, fastness, anything on which one relies of the arguments and reasonings by which a disputant endeavors to fortify his opinion and defend it against his opponent." The Bible identifies strongholds as something the believer must pull down in spiritual warfare.

II Corinthians 10:3-6

"3 For though we walk in the flesh, we do not war according to the flesh. 4 For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal but mighty in God for pulling down strongholds, 5 casting down arguments and every high thing that exalts itself against the knowledge of God, bringing every thought into captivity to the obedience of Christ, 6 and being ready to punish all disobedience when your obedience is fulfilled."

A STRONGHOLD SETS ITSELF UP AGAINST THE KNOWLEDGE OF GOD. It can be understood as a system of thinking that is contrary to the Word of God. It is like a structure that we have built in our souls by patterns of unhealthy behavior or unscriptural choices. Strongholds can be empowered by the "flesh" or "old man" before we were born again from above. Strongholds can be patterns of thought in which an individual automatically "defaults" to in times of trouble. Perhaps it is best to think of strongholds this way: it is a place where the enemy operates, where he stages his attacks and schemes that are designed to keep believers from truly knowing God.

How do these strongholds get built? Strongholds and spiritual attacks can come as a result of in-

trusion. Intrusion is when satan just barges into your life though you have not done a thing to deserve it. **John 10:10** says, “*10 The thief does not come except to steal, and to kill, and to destroy. I have come that they may have life, and that they may have it more abundantly.*” Satan is the thief and his motives are only evil. He may intrude into your life with his lies and wicked schemes simply because he hates you. But because he had no authority or right to come into your home or mind, you can use authority to help you make him leave. When Satan intrudes into your life and you recognize what’s going on, you just run straight to the Father. Since the devil had no right to do what he was doing, God will help you kick him out of your life!

Strongholds can also develop progressively, beginning with the first cooperation (voluntarily or involuntarily) with some activity from the demonic world. What we believe about the experience of that act of cooperation is what will (a) secure and/or strengthen the stronghold (e.g. lies about ourselves and/or the Word of God), or (b) tear it down (by identifying it and making it come into line with the Truth). Satan sets up rule in our lives by the lies he gets us to believe, keeping us from knowing God as He really is - a loving, powerful, and sovereign Redeemer.

Jesus said that Satan is the father of lies. He manipulates mankind through lies, deception, manipulation, condemnation, guilt, and accusations.

John 8:44

““*44 You are of your father the devil, and the desires of your father you want to do. He was*

a murderer from the beginning, and does not stand in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaks a lie, he speaks from his own resources, for he is a liar and the father of it.”

Jesus was revealed to destroy the works of the devil!

I John 3:8

“8 He who sins is of the devil, for the devil has sinned from the beginning. For this purpose the Son of God was manifested, that He might destroy the works of the devil.”

We have been given the mind of Christ. God helps us as we “renew our mind and thoughts” to agree with what God says and according to His Word. What we consistently think about we often succumb to or become.

John 16:13

“13 “However, when He, the Spirit of truth, has come, He will guide you into all truth;”

John 17:17 KJV

“17 Sanctify them through thy truth: thy Word is truth.”

Philippians 2:5

“5 Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus.”

I Corinthians 2:16

“For “who has known the mind of the LORD that he may instruct Him?” But we have the mind of Christ.”

Philippians 4:8-9

“8 Finally, brethren, whatever things are true, whatever things are noble, whatever things are just, whatever things are pure, whatever things are lovely, whatever things are of good report, if there is any virtue and if there is anything praiseworthy—meditate on these things. 9 The things which you learned and received and heard and saw in me, these do, and the God of peace will be with you.”

Ultimately, we overcome spiritual strongholds through faith in Jesus Christ and through obedience to His Word. We have authority to use our words and repent for our participation with the lies/strongholds we have been enslaved to in our minds and hearts. When we repent, we are empowered to overcome. We can overcome the flesh and all that it entails by simply surrendering to Holy Spirit and by walking with Him in truth. We can literally command the stronghold to be destroyed at its root and beginning and command any evil spirits that have accompanied the thoughts to leave in Jesus' name!

The truth that I know and receive sets me free!

Romans 8:1-2

“1 There is therefore now no condemnation to those who are in Christ Jesus, who do not walk according to the flesh, but according to the Spirit. 2 For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has made me free from the law of sin and death.”

Romans 8:5-10

“5 For those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who live according to the Spirit, the things of the Spirit. 6 For to be carnally minded is death, but to be spiritually minded is life and peace. 7 Because the carnal mind is enmity against God; for it is not subject to the law of God, nor indeed can be. 8 So then, those who are in the flesh cannot please God. 9 But you are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if indeed the Spirit of God dwells in you. Now if anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, he is not His. 10 And if Christ is in you, the body is dead because of sin, but the Spirit is life because of righteousness.”

Romans 8:14

“14 For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, these are sons of God.”

God is our ultimate stronghold. When we are facing troubles and life seems to overwhelm us, He wants us to run to Him for safety and refuge.

Psalm 9:9-10

“9 The Lord also will be a refuge for the oppressed,

A refuge in times of trouble.

10 And those who know Your name will put their trust in You;

For You, Lord, have not forsaken those who seek You.”

Psalm 18:1-3

“1 I will love You, O Lord, my strength.

2 The Lord is my rock and my fortress and my deliverer;

*My God, my strength, in whom I will trust;
My shield and the horn of my salvation, my
stronghold.
3 I will call upon the Lord, who is worthy to be
praised;
So shall I be saved from my enemies.”*

By understanding the authority, and spiritual empowerment for truth and freedom imparted to believers in Jesus Christ, we will now delve in to further instruction on the ministry of deliverance.

V. What is Deliverance?

The truth is everyone has a story. Everyone has walked through some kind of trauma, heartache, or sin lifestyle. The moment we choose to make Jesus Christ our Lord and Savior, He starts working in our hearts to see us set free from those old lifestyle habits and thought patterns which have become strongholds. This is through the process of deliverance.

Deliverance is the spiritual freedom in your soul (mind, will and emotions) from sin, demonic torment, and oppression. Born again believers in Jesus Christ can and do have demonic forces and influences that work in and through them. This does not mean you are owned or possessed by a demon. As previously stated, we are all born in sin. When we become born again believers our spirit man is sealed into perfection. It is in our mind, will and emotions that we begin to work out our salvation. Holy Spirit can deliver each believer however He chooses through personal prayer, repentance, fasting, or through another

anointed believer in Jesus. Often, deliverance requires a person of authority in Christ to walk you through the process of getting spiritually free and delivered because it is difficult to know when you are deceived. It takes someone else to point that out to you. This someone needs to be filled with the power of Holy Spirit, trustworthy, and solid in their foundation of the Word of God.

Holy Spirit has given understanding of how the enemy can gain access in people's lives. A good way to see this is by looking at doors in the physical world, and how they are opened or closed by those going in or out of them.

Open Doors – Legal Ground

When your front door is open it's very easy for intruders to come right in. It's no different in the spiritual realm. Open doors give the enemy legal access into your mind, will and emotions or body. It's only by the power of God that these demonic forces can be cast out or told to leave. You may willfully open the door, giving Satan opportunity.

Ephesians 4:27

“27...and do not give the devil an opportunity.”

Or Satan may have kicked the door in and is challenging you to see if you know how to kick him out.

2 Corinthians 2:11

“11...in order that advantage be taken of us by Satan; for we are not ignorant of his schemes.”

Either way, by opening the door yourself, or by

intrusion, an open door gives access to the enemy. Willful sin, Unforgiveness, Trauma, Curses/Iniquity, and Judgements and Vows are open doors through which demons have entry into your life. The ultimate goal of deliverance is to remove the devil's place in our lives, expose all darkness within us, and allow those places to be filled with the light and power of God. We want to be a people who are not ignorant of the devil's plans. In order to walk in such a lifestyle, we need to be empowered by Holy Spirit. This way we can go about doing good. Jesus did that! He was so intimate with His Father that He was able to continuously turn His back to satan and not give in to the temptations placed in His path. What an amazing model we have in Christ.

You can look at deliverance this way: When you walk into a filthy, dark room and turn on the light what happens? The roaches flee back to all the dark and hidden places. We want to be people with no hidden dark places in our souls for demons to hide, so deliverance helps us rid ourselves of those dark places. The evil one sowed many bad seeds in our lives until the day we were born again. God is just pulling up and out of us those things He did not plant.

Matthew 15:13

“13 But He answered and said, ‘Every plant which My heavenly Father has not planted will be uprooted.’”

Any kind of sin that we commit even in our minds is still considered sin. Some may ask, “When I got saved didn't all of those things get taken away immediately?” The answer to this is no. Jesus de-

stroyed the entire sin system on His cross and we are receiving liberty over all sin as we receive by revelation His atoning work! That is why we are to walk out our salvation with fear and trembling before the Lord. We want to walk in a lifestyle of true repentance in constant preparation for Jesus to return. True repentance not only means you are sorry, but you intend to change the way you think about sin. You will notice in dealing with any open door that you will use the keys to the kingdom, binding and loosing. Once you have identified the open door, you repent for opening the door, you bind the spirits you let in, cast them out by commanding them to leave in the name of Jesus and loose goodness to fill the void left. You can loose peace, God's love, healing, comfort, or any other good thing that comes to mind, then receive it. It's important to verbally and actively receive like you receive and open a present. Take it in!

Let's look at the open doors!

A. Willful Sin or Disobedience to God

Willful sin is the act of doing something that is out of line with the will of God. When you're in willful sin, you fully know an act is wrong, but are choosing to do it anyway. Willful sin gives demonic spirits free and legal access to your mind, will, and emotions. When you sin, you are opening the door and choosing to partner with the enemy. You come out from under God's protective covering when you sin willfully. People often say the phrase, "It's better to beg for forgiveness than to ask for permission." That is not true. We as believers have to change our mindsets if we are going to be sold out lovers of Jesus living to bring

Heaven to Earth. Just one small act of sin to get what we want in a moment is also what caused mankind to fall at the very beginning of time. It caused a cataclysmic separation of mankind from God. He made us a way back to Himself through Christ. It is imperative that we protect and guard our relationship with Him. To close the door to willful sin, you must first confess the sin out loud and repent for your willful participation with it. Then bind the demonic spirits associated with the sin, command them to leave in the name of Jesus, declare the door is shut, and seal it in Jesus' name. Loose goodness that comes to mind.

I John 1:5-9

“5 This is the message which we have heard from Him and declare to you, that God is light and in Him is no darkness at all. 6 If we say that we have fellowship with Him, and walk in darkness, we lie and do not practice the truth. 7 But if we walk in the light as He is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanses us from all sin. 8 If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. 9 If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.”

A simple prayer of repentance for willful sin may look like this:

“Father in Jesus name, I am so sorry for my sin of _____. Please forgive me Lord. I repent and receive your forgiveness now! Thank you, Lord Jesus.”

B. Unforgiveness

We are commanded to forgive because God has forgiven us.

Ephesians 4:32

“32 And be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God in Christ forgave you.”

We are warned to not let unforgiveness turn into bitterness.

Hebrews 12:14-15

“14 Pursue peace with all people, and holiness, without which no one will see the Lord: 15 looking carefully lest anyone fall short of the grace of God; lest any root of bitterness springing up cause trouble, and by this many become defiled...”

Unforgiveness is recognized by bitter and cynical behaviors. Forgiving someone is a choice, and sometimes we ask God to help us to forgive. He can give you the grace to do it, but you have to choose to forgive. It doesn't mean the person deserves forgiveness, or what they did to hurt you was right. Forgiveness is a choice. Often times people have the mindset of, “You don't know what that person did to me,” or “I'll never be able to forgive them for what they've done.” It is at this point that we have to let Holy Spirit go deep into our hearts and heal us. I heard it said once, “Unforgiveness is like drinking poison and hoping the other person dies.” When you do not forgive, you're the one affected while the other person probably

has no idea they've done anything wrong. When you choose to forgive someone, you're releasing that person to the Lord for Him to bring justice.

Jesus taught on forgiveness, but the conclusion is always for the individual to choose to forgive and give all to the Lord.

Matthew 18:21-22

“21 Then Peter came to Him and said, “Lord, how often shall my brother sin against me, and I forgive him? Up to seven times?” 22 Jesus said to him, “I do not say to you, up to seven times, but up to seventy times seven.”

Matthew 18:23-35

“23 Therefore the kingdom of heaven is like a certain king who wanted to settle accounts with his servants. 24 And when he had begun to settle accounts, one was brought to him who owed him ten thousand talents. 25 But as he was not able to pay, his master commanded that he be sold, with his wife and children and all that he had, and that payment be made. 26 The servant therefore fell down before him, saying, ‘Master, have patience with me, and I will pay you all.’ 27 Then the master of that servant was moved with compassion, released him, and forgave him the debt. 28 “But that servant went out and found one of his fellow servants who owed him a hundred denarii; and he laid hands on him and took him by the throat, saying, ‘Pay me what you owe!’ 29 So his fellow servant fell down at his feet and begged him, saying, ‘Have patience with me, and I will pay you all.’ 30 And he would not, but went and threw him into prison till he should pay the

debt. 31 So when his fellow servants saw what had been done, they were very grieved, and came and told their master all that had been done. 32 Then his master, after he had called him, said to him, ‘You wicked servant! I forgave you all that debt because you begged me. 33 Should you not also have had compassion on your fellow servant, just as I had pity on you?’ 34 And his master was angry, and delivered him to the torturers until he should pay all that was due to him.

35 “So My heavenly Father also will do to you if each of you, from his heart, does not forgive his brother his trespasses.”

To close the door to unforgiveness first you must choose to forgive the offender and release him/her to the Lord. Next, you repent for holding that unforgiveness. Then, you bind the demonic spirits associated with that unforgiveness, cast them out in Jesus' name, declare the door is shut, and seal it in Jesus' name. Loose goodness to yourself and receive from Jesus.

A simple prayer to forgive someone can look like this:

“Father in Jesus name, I choose to forgive _____ for _____ and I release them to you and bless _____ in Jesus' mighty name. Please heal me of _____ that they caused me. I receive Your healing, Father.” Amen.

C. Trauma

Trauma is any unexpected event in your life that may have wounded you deeply or caused you to fear. Trauma can be physical, mental, and emotional. Some examples of trauma can be abuse in any form, car accidents, failing an important test, losing a friend/family member, or just plain falling down. Trauma is an intrusion from the devil. Because it is an intrusion, you will need healing from it.

Luke 4:18

“18 He has sent Me to heal the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives.”

Start the healing process by releasing it to Jesus. Tell Him how it made you feel and ask Him to heal you body, soul, and spirit. Don't hold back. Tell Him all that comes up in your spirit. Give Jesus time to work. It is ok to let your emotions go because Jesus can handle your emotions. After you've released all to the Lord check with Holy Spirit to see if you need to repent of any behaviors or agreements with which you participated. Then bind every demonic spirit that entered you through that trauma, command them to leave you immediately in Jesus' name. Loose peace to yourself and receive it. Once you have peace you have shut the door to trauma.

A simple prayer over trauma in your life could look like this:

“Father in Jesus name, I release all the trauma I have concerning _____ to You now. I give you the shock, pain, fear, and all ungodly flashbacks or ungodly recall of this trauma. I command any spirits of fear, shock or trauma

itself to leave me in Jesus' name. I plead the blood of Jesus over this trauma now and decree I am healed and whole Lord. Amen.”

D. Curses-Iniquity

You can either speak blessings or curses with your words. A curse is a word or words spoken to bring harm or punishment on someone. When used in witchcraft, the person who is cursing invokes a demonic, supernatural power to carry out the harm or punishment. A curse is an empowerment for evil. Curses are mentioned many times in the Old Testament and the New Testament. God Himself promises to protect Abraham by cursing those who curse him in **Genesis 12:3** saying, “*I will bless those who bless you (Abraham) and I will curse him who curses you.”*

Jesus redeemed us from the curse associated with breaking God’s Old Testament law.

Galatians 3:13-14

“13 Christ has redeemed us from the curse of the law, having become a curse for us (for it is written, ‘Cursed is a man who hangs on a tree.’), 14 that the blessing of Abraham might come upon the Gentiles in Christ Jesus, that we might receive the promise of the Spirit through faith.”

So, curses are real. Curses can also be things that we speak out of our mouths. We call them word curses. We often don’t realize that popular phrases are word curses. Then, other times we are very aware, and choose to speak it anyway. One that’s normal for parents to speak out is, “If

you don't get off that table you're going to fall and bust your head open." Although what the parents are saying may have happened in the past, using the power of their words in speaking it out attracts the spiritual realm to make it true. Another example is when someone is going on stage for an event and we tell them, "Go break a leg." One more popular saying when something is particularly discouraging, we say, "This is going to be the death of me." We don't mean these phrases literally, but the words are still going forth while demon spirits are listening. Words spoken in faith will accomplish their goal. Words spoken in doubt will accomplish their goal. Remember not only is there power of life and death in the tongue, but the tongue can also defile the whole body and set fire to the course of nature.

James 3:6

"6 And the tongue is a fire, a world of iniquity. The tongue is so set among our members that it defiles the whole body and sets on fire the course of nature; and it is set on fire by hell."

What are you speaking? To destroy a word curse you must come out of agreement with it. We say you are in agreement with it if you speak it, even if you say it flippantly because of **Matthew 12:34**, "... *For out of the abundance of the heart, the mouth speaks.*" This verse underlines the fact that what comes out of your mouth comes out because the sentiment is really in your heart. It may be hidden, but it is there. If you are saying it out of habit or ignorance, you are not keeping your heart with all diligence. **Proverbs 4:23** says, "*Keep your heart with all diligence, for out of it spring the issues of life.*" So, it is important

to not only say you are sorry for a word curse but check your heart to make sure you come out of agreement with your words. Repent for speaking the word curse then renounce the words spoken by saying, “I renounce my words.....”. After that, by the authority of Christ in you, you destroy the power of that word curse spoken and declare that it will not accomplish what it was set to do.

A curse can be on an object. Those practicing witchcraft sometimes verbally put a curse or spell on an object. When there are cursed or witchcraft objects in your home, the enemy has an open door access to bring chaos, torment, calamity, arguments, and the like. It’s wisdom to go through your home and ask Holy Spirit what is not from Him, and what needs to be removed. He is faithful to show you. When he shows you, you get to exercise obedience and get rid of it along with any demon spirits. You will be rewarded for your obedience, and will also see a change in your home, undoubtedly.

Acts 19:18-20

“18 And many who had believed came confessing and telling their deeds. 19 Also, many of those who practiced magic brought their books together and burned them in the sight of all. And they counted up the value of them, and it total fifty thousand pieces of silver. 20 So the word of the Lord grew mightily and prevailed.”

According to **Proverbs 26:2**, a curse without cause cannot land. *“Like a flitting sparrow, like a flying swallow, so a curse without cause shall not alight.”* Look for the cause if you suspect a curse operating. However, the cause may be buried in

your family line. Generational curses are sinful habits to which you are naturally drawn or calamities and illnesses that seem to plague generation after generation in families. They are traits or issues that “run in your family.” This iniquity is an inherited weakness which produces a propensity towards the sin, sickness, or bondage. Many family members struggle with them and can’t seem to overcome no matter what they do. We don’t know if we have ancestors who have participated in activities for which there was reason for the curse to still be actively affecting the family, but the possibility that we inherit generational curses along with hair color and skin type is likely. Some examples of generational curses can be divorce, premature death, alcoholism, sexual sins, poverty, heart disease, cancer, abuse, and any addiction in general. Generational curses do not have to be passed down to your children. It can stop with you. It is encouraging to know that Jesus died for freedom from generational curses as well!

Dr. Henry Malone lists common evidence of curses in his book, “Shadow Boxing”, PP. 90-94

“It would be misleading to suggest the only reason a person fails in life is due to a curse. There’s a strong possibility that a curse may be operating if you recognize several of these problems occurring repeatedly in your life.

1. Insanity, personality, and emotional disturbances. (Deut. 28:28)
2. Hereditary afflictions, chronic illnesses. (Deut. 28:22)
3. Difficulties with conception, pregnancy, and other female problems. (Deut. 28:18)

4. Divorce and division in family relationships. (Deut. 28:41)
5. Persistent financial shortage. (Malachi 3:9; Deut. 28:17, 29, 47-48)
6. Being accident prone. (Deut. 28:29)
7. Suicide or unnatural, premature, or violent deaths." See: Hebrews 2:14-15.

He also explains primary causes of curses. We will just list them here with scripture references.

1. Disobedience and disrespect for parents. Ephesians 6:1-3
2. Acknowledging or worshipping false gods. Exodus 20:1-3.
3. Involvement with the occult. Galatians 5:20-21.
4. Iniquity and oppression, especially aimed towards the feeble and the defenseless. Deuteronomy 27:17-19.
5. All forbidden, apparent, or unlawful sexual relationships. Deuteronomy 27: 20-23.
6. Anti-Semitism. Genesis 12:3.
7. Dependence upon human strength, wisdom, and goodness. Jeremiah 17:5-6.
8. Stealing and lying. Zechariah 5:3-4.
9. Withholding of tithes and offerings. Malachi 3:8-9.
10. Words spoken by those in authority. Genesis 31:32.
11. Negative idle words pronounced by anyone against themselves. Matthew 12:36-37.
12. Oaths or covenants taken for admission to secret societies and ungodly organizations. Exodus 23:32.
13. Curses that are pronounced by witches, warlocks, witch doctors, or other occultists.

Ezekiel 13:17-23.

14. Carnal talk directed against others. James 3:14-15.

15. Manipulating prayers that accuse or seek to control others. Proverbs 28:9." PP. 95-106"

If the Lord reveals that you have participated with anything on this list or have had a curse put upon you as described above, simply repent of it. Forgive the people involved with it against you and forgive yourself as needed. Then destroy the curse to its root and beginning. Command all spirits that have been assigned through the curse to leave you in Jesus' mighty name. Ask Holy Spirit to push all up and out of you, never to return.

When dealing with generational curses you must first confess what they are and renounce them. Then, repent on behalf of yourself and your forefathers for any participation you or they had in it. It's ok to repent for your relatives that have gone before you. Repent for just accepting it as an unavoidable part of your family. Receive that Christ became a curse for you. Then bind every demonic spirit associated with that curse in your family line, cast them out by commanding them leave in the name of Jesus and shut the door to it. Loose goodness.

A simple prayer of repentance to destroy curses could look like this:

"Father in Jesus' name I forgive my forefathers for the sin of _____. I destroy the generational curse of _____ back to its root and beginning. I release myself from this iniquity, and command any and all spirits associated

with it to leave me now in Jesus' mighty name."

Iniquity or the overall sin nature of mankind is like generational curses in that it is passed down from generation to generation. God's Word says that for those who hate Him, the consequences of the iniquity of the father is passed down to the children, but He shows mercy on the families who love Him.

Exodus 20:4-6

"4 You shall not make for yourself a carved image-any likeness of anything that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth; 5 you shall not bow down to them nor serve them. For I, the Lord you God, am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children to the third and fourth generations of those who hate me, 6 but showing mercy to thousands, to those who love Me and keep My commandments."

Because everyone is born into iniquity, everyone must renounce the iniquity and participation with the iniquity from their forefathers, bind the demon spirits associated with the iniquity in their family line, and command them to leave in the name of Jesus. Loose goodness.

A simple prayer for renouncing and destroying generational iniquity of sickness or diseases could look like this:

"Father in Jesus' name, I destroy every generational curse of cancer, heart disease, reoccurring sickness, _____ (whatever is prevalent in family line), back to its root and beginning. I

renounce these spirits and I command all spirits of infirmity and _____ (name sickness), to leave me now in Jesus mighty name! Father, please heal me and make me whole. Thank you for delivering me. I shall surely live and not die! Amen.”

“Father in Jesus’ name, I destroy every generational curse of calamity, bondage, poverty, hate, divorce, witchcraft, etc...back to its root and beginning. I renounce these spirits and command them to all to leave me in Jesus’ mighty name.”

E. Judgments and Vows

Inner vows and judgments are things we speak over ourselves and others. If you've ever said anything to the effect of, "I'll never be like my mother," then you've made an inner vow to yourself and a judgment on your mother. Almost always when you use phrases like, "I'll never..." or "I'll always be...", you're making a judgment and vow on yourself. When you think you know the thoughts and intentions or someone else's motive, you've also made a judgment on them. Believers in Christ need to guard their words, especially if there is an offense or deep hurt.

Matthew 7:1-2

“1 Judge not that you be not judged. 2 For with what judgement you judge, you will be judged; and with the measure you use, it will be measured back to you.”

Matthew 5:37

“37 But let your ‘Yes’ be ‘Yes,’ and your ‘No,’ ‘No.’ For whatever is more than these is from

the evil one.”

Fleshly judgment is when you decide for yourself the heart and intent of someone else. Humans just judge other humans in the flesh from time to time. You draw your own conclusion from the other person’s words or actions without knowing his/her heart. Don’t confuse this type of judgment with righteous judgments which we are supposed to make. **John 7:24** says, “*Do not judge according to appearance, but judge with righteous judgment.*” Righteous judgment is another topic. For now, just know that there are righteous judgments, but many judgments are made on assumptions that are incorrect or appearances. To be free from inner judgments and vows first repent for speaking and participating with them. Next, renounce the words you spoke with agreement, and then destroy the power of those words in the name of Jesus. Then, shut the door and seal it all in the name of Jesus.

A simple prayer of repentance could look like this:

“Father, please forgive me for judging (insert name here) _____. Please forgive me for being so prideful in thinking I knew what was in their heart. Only You know that. I forgive them for _____. I renounce the judgment (what you thought and/or said) _____. and destroy the power of those words. Please remove the glasses of judgment from me and show me Your TRUTH. Open my eyes to see them as you see them. Please heal me inside and out. In Jesus’ name, any evil spirit that gained access to me through this must

leave! Holy Spirit, please fill me up.”

F. Soul Ties

A soul tie occurs when two individuals share a part of themselves with the intent of giving themselves to each other. A soul tie can be ‘ungodly’ when an individual needs or takes part of someone else to fill an insecurity or emptiness of their own. There is a possible sense of “drawing life” from the other individual, e.g., “I will die or not be able to go on if that person leaves me.” This can be in the physical or in the soul realm. In the soul realm, this could look like a mother-and-daughter relationship, where although the daughter is now married and living away from home, she consults her mother on every issue and problem in her life instead of submitting those to her husband. Ungodly soul ties are usually evident if a person feels manipulated or controlled by another, which can lead to bondage. In some dating relationships, hearts can be wounded if the couple ‘broke up’. Oftentimes, an individual can even have dreams in the night seasons about the one they used to date that would cause them to be sad. Once soul ties are severed, the dreams stop.

The most common soul tie is in the area of sexual relationships. God intended for all intimacy and sex to be within the marriage covenant between a man and a woman. This would be a healthy soul tie as the two become one in marriage.

Genesis 1:26-28

“26 Then God said, “Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness; let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds

of the air, and over the cattle, over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth.” 27 So God created man in His own image; in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them. 28 Then God blessed them, and God said to them, “Be fruitful and multiply; fill the earth and subdue it; have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over every living thing that moves on the earth.”

Mark 10:6-9

“6 But from the beginning of the creation, God ‘made them male and female.’ 7 ‘For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, 8 and the two shall become one flesh’; so then they are no longer two, but one flesh. 9 Therefore what God has joined together, let not man separate.”

Sexual relations unite two people into one flesh. Intimacy outside of the covenant of marriage would be an ungodly soul tie. That’s why so many hearts are “broken” – souls fragmented – when the relationship “breaks up,” and they have such a hard time “getting over” the relationship.

1 Corinthians 6:15-20

“15 Do you not know that your bodies are members of Christ? Shall I then take the members of Christ and make them members of a harlot? Certainly not! 16 Or do you not know that he who is joined to a harlot is one body with her? For “the two,” He says, “shall become one flesh.” 17 But he who is joined to the Lord is one spirit with Him.” 18 Flee sexual immorality. Every sin that a man does is outside the body, but

he who commits sexual immorality sins against his own body. 19 Or do you not know that your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit who is in you, whom you have from God, and you are not your own? 20 For you were bought at a price; therefore glorify God in your body and in your spirit, which are God's.”

Unfortunately, some people not only contract physical illness due to willful sin but can also be affected by the spirits that dominate the one person can now dominate the other, especially if an individual has had multiple sexual partners. Sometimes it is necessary to release the “fragmented” soul parts from the person(s) that were left in them, and to ask for God to fill up those empty places with His Spirit, and for the “part” of them that was stolen or given away would be restored.

If the individual you are praying for has suffered the loss of a loved one, you might hear this: “When they died, they took a part of me with them!” or “I’ll always have a part of them in me”, or “I could never get over them being gone.” If an individual is constantly reminded of, thoughtful of, or even fearful of someone in the past, the likelihood of a soul tie being present is high.

Soul ties can be good. As we stated the original intent in marriage, the two become one flesh. Another form of a soul tie is a joining of two individuals for a beneficial purpose, which seems to go beyond just a friendship to a strong “brotherhood,” or “sisterhood.” David and Jonathan are examples of this in scripture. There is a “knitting together.”

I Samuel 18:1

“1 Now when he had finished speaking to Saul, the soul of Jonathan was knit to the soul of David, and Jonathan loved him as his own soul.”

Ecclesiastes 4:12

“12 Though one may be overpowered by another, two can withstand him. And a threefold cord is not quickly broken.”

Due to human weakness or emotional wounding, some people will “feed” on someone else’s “life.” That is why God must be the strength and source of all life. Someone else’s “life” in you does not add to yours.

Think of a soul tie like an umbilical cord from a momma to a baby. Once the child is born, the cord is cut. Sometimes cords just need to be cut between individuals so all can “go on” in life and live in peace and wholeness.

A sample prayer to sever an ungodly soul tie would be like this:

If willful sin was involved in the relationship, then simply repent to the Father for all, as specifically as you need, and receive forgiveness. Forgive the one you had a tie to if needed as well.

Prayer: “Father, in the name of Jesus, I destroy and sever the ungodly soul tie between [name] and [name], mind to mind, body to body, soul to soul, it is severed and gone. Whatever I took from them, I release it back to them, and what-

ever they took from me, I call back to myself in Jesus' name." Amen.

Shutting the Doors – Wisdom and Repentance

Deliverance prayer starts by shutting all doors. Forgiveness is the place to start. Holy Spirit will lead, but it is common to start there. Take your time and address each person and each issue thoroughly. Then you can proceed to ask Holy Spirit about the other doors. Once you have shut all doors, you can proceed to ask Holy Spirit to shine the light on all the dark places. You want Him to be thorough! It is helpful to know what types of spirits might be scurrying to hide, so let's look at some big ones we call root spirits.

VI. Root Spirits

Dr. Henry Malone defines in His book, Shadow Boxing, 14 root spirits mentioned in Scripture. Each root spirit has many other spirits working with it, producing much havoc, so each root spirit represents a whole category of problems. A root spirit will identify itself with a stronghold that has been established in an individual. Strongholds are fortifications set up by the devil made up of lies that an individual has believed. Until that person is delivered from the root, manifestation of sin from the root and the other associated spirits can be expected. We are calling a manifestation a display or indication. The sin that is manifested is commonly called fruit of the specific root. A root spirit can manifest in various kinds of fruit, but they are all related in some form or fashion. For example, the root of haughtiness can manifest fruit such as arrogance, stubbornness, supe-

riority, racism, control, or ungodly domineering attitudes. Good and bad fruit are described in the verse below:

Matthew 7:16-20

“16 You will know them by their fruits. Do men gather grapes from thornbushes or figs from thistles? 17 Even so, every good tree bears good fruit, but a bad tree bears bad fruit. 18 A good tree cannot bear bad fruit, nor can a bad tree bear good fruit. 19 Every tree that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. 20 Therefore by their fruits you will know them.”

An individual can pray against a specific fruit and even cast it out, but unless the root is removed, the same problem will eventually reoccur, or a different type of fruit will manifest itself. The following verse shows the wisdom of binding the strongman [root], then plundering the strongman’s house of all the fruit and other inhabitants.

Mark 3:27

“27 No one can enter a strong man’s house and plunder his goods, unless he first binds the strong man. And then he will plunder his house.”

So, it is wise to ask Holy Spirit for the root of the problem so you can bind it and cast out every demon spirit associated with it and all of the fruit to leave in the name of Jesus. That way, you clean house! Consider this example of an apple tree: The ROOT of the tree is compared to the “root cause or spirit.” The tree itself grows up into the ‘stronghold’ it may have over the person. The “fruit = the

apples" are the different symptoms, sins, bondages, weakness, ungodly thoughts, etc. If we just 'pick the apples' without pulling up the tree by the "roots" all will just continue the same and the individual can remain in the spiritual bondage.

Matthew 3:10

"10 "And even now the ax is laid to the root of the trees. Therefore, every tree which does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire."

We list the common 14 root spirits and the associated Scriptures.

Spirit of Infirmity/Causing Sickness/Crippling

Luke 13:11

"11 And behold, there was a woman who had a spirit of infirmity eighteen years, and was bent over and could in no way raise herself up."

Spirit of Fear/Timidity

2 Timothy 1:7

"7 For God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power and of love and of a sound mind."

Spirit of Divination/Witchcraft/Predicting the Future

Acts 16:16-18

"16 Now it happened, as we went to prayer, that a certain slave girl possessed with a spirit of divination met us, who brought her masters much profit by fortune-telling. 17 This girl followed Paul and us, and cried out, saying,

‘These men are the servants of the Most High God, who proclaim to us the way of salvation.’ 18 And she did this for many days. But Paul, greatly annoyed, turned and said to the spirit, ‘I command you in the name of Jesus Christ to come out of her.’ And he came out of her that very hour.”

Spirit of Whoredoms/Harlotry/Prostitution/ Sexual Sins

Hosea 4:12

“12 My people ask counsel from their wooden idols, and their staff informs them. For the spirit of whoredom has caused them to stray, and they have played the harlot against their God.”

Spirit of Bondage/Addictions

Romans 8:15

“15 For you did not receive the spirit of bondage again to fear, but you received the Spirit of adoption by whom we cry out, ‘Abba, Father.’”

Spirit of Haughtiness/Pride

Proverbs 16:18-19

“18 Pride goes before destruction, and a haughty spirit before a fall. 19 Better to be of a humble spirit with the lowly than to divide the spoil with the proud.”

Spirit of Perversity/Distortion/Dizziness

Isaiah 19:14

“14 The Lord has mingled a perverse spirit in her midst; and they have caused Egypt to err

in all her work, as a drunken man staggers in his vomit.”

Spirit of Anti-Christ/Against the Anointed One

1 John 4:3

“3 and every spirit that does not confess that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is not of God. And this is the spirit of the antichrist, which you have heard was coming, and is now already in the world.”

Spirit of Deaf and Dumbness/Mute

Mark 9:25-27

“25 When Jesus saw that the people came running together, He rebuked the unclean spirit, saying to it, ‘Deaf and dumb spirit, I command you, come out of him and enter him no more!’ 26 Then the spirit cried out, convulsed him greatly, and came out of him. And he became as one dead, so that many said, ‘He is dead.’ 27 But Jesus took him by the hand and lifted him up, and he arose.”

Spirit of Heaviness/Fainting/Despair

Isaiah 61:3

“3 To console those who mourn in Zion, to give them beauty for ashes, the oil of joy for mourning, the garment of praise for the spirit of heaviness; that they may be called trees of righteousness, the planting of the Lord, that He may be glorified.”

Spirit of Lying/Deceiving/Withholding Information

2 Chronicles 18:22

“22 Therefore look! The Lord has put a lying spirit in the mouth of these prophets of yours, and the Lord has declared disaster against you.”

Spirit of Jealousy

Numbers 5:14

“14 if the spirit of jealousy comes upon him and he becomes jealous of his wife, who has defiled herself; or if the spirit of jealousy comes up on him and he becomes jealous of his wife, although she has not defiled herself...”

Spirit of Stupor/Slumber/Deep Sleep

Romans 11:8

“8 Just as it is written: God has given them a spirit of stupor, eyes that they should not see and ears that they should not hear, to this very day.”

Spirit of Error/Falsehood

1 John 4:6

“6 We are of God. He who knows God hears us; he who is not of God does not hear us. By this we know the spirit of truth and the spirit of error.”

In addition to these specified root spirits, it is helpful for your freedom to know about two other spirits, Death and Python, which is the Greek word for Divination.

Death

Hebrews 2:14-15

“14 Inasmuch then as the children have partaken of flesh and blood, He Himself like-wise shared in the same, that through death He might destroy him who had the power of death, that is, the devil, 15 and release those who through fear of death were all their lifetime subject to bondage.”

Death is not referred to as a “spirit” in Scripture, but it can act like one and can also operate as a curse. Often death is prevalent in those who have been terrified to die, or who also have suicidal tendencies. It can also manifest in the individual with numerous near-death experiences or calamities.

Python - Greek for Divination

Deuteronomy 18:10-12

“10 There shall not be found among you any-one who makes his son or his daughter pass through the fire, or one who practices witchcraft, or a soothsayer, or one who interprets omens, or a sorcerer, 11 or one who conjures spells, or a medium, or a spiritist, or one who calls upon the dead. 12 For all who do these things are an abomination to the Lord and because the abom-i-nations the Lord your God drives them out from before you.”

Fruit from this python or divination spirit can include: witchcraft, addictions, drugs, apathy, infirmity, death, loss of vision or purpose, controlling environment, heaviness, depression, suicide, and

literally “squeezing the life” out of the individual, aimed especially against the call of God on a person’s life and destiny.

Spirits of Jezebel and Ahab

Read I Kings 16-21; II Kings 9, 10

In the Bible we read the story of a wicked king, Ahab, and his wife Jezebel. Both were known for their idolatry, blatant hatred, and rebellion against God and His prophets. They both used manipulation and control in their rulership. Ahab was known for what we call a “passive/aggressive” temperament, yet was definitely one who was controlled by the aggressive, domineering wife Jezebel. Demon spirits can operate against people in the same manner using passivity, self-pity, manipulation, or compromise. They can make a “strong man” weak; and subjected to fear. These spirits work to control the individual and hate all authority. They bring division, gossip, slander, and are drawn to the pride of mankind. They are counterfeit authorities working to gain dominion over anything or anyone. They work with words of failure, defeat, guilt, and condemnation. Spirits of murder and hate coincide in, with, and through these demons. The flesh, human nature, can be drawn to entertain the fruit of these spirits by pride and flattery.

As all demons do, they feed on weakness and love to work on hearts who have been wounded, rejected, betrayed, or just have deep insecurities.

In summary of this section on identifying many different demonic spirits, it is important to un-

derstand the concept of how the enemy works to “steal, kill and destroy” through the demons that serve him. This is not an exhausted list of names of demons, but knowing the root cause of most gives you a greater understanding of the nature and methods which the devil uses to bring people into bondage or oppression. Holy Spirit will empower the people of God, and through the Holy Spirit’s gift of the discerning of spirits, He will lead the believer to identify the spirit at hand in order to rebuke it and command it to leave. We will now learn more about how to pray specifically, but remember, there is no “model” prayer necessarily, but all will learn to trust and rely upon the Lord for all.

James 5:14-16

“14 Is anyone among you sick? Let him call for the elders of the church, and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord. 15 And the prayer of faith will save the sick, and the Lord will raise him up. And if he has committed sins, he will be forgiven. 16 Confess your trespasses to one another, and pray for one another, that you may be healed. The effective, fervent prayer of a righteous man avails much.”

VII. Deliverance Prayer

Deliverance prayer is a process, meaning there are layers of freedom that occur. It is often best to start out with the help of someone who has been through it themselves, someone filled with the power of Holy Spirit, trustworthy, and solid in their foundation of the Word of God. Other layers may follow, but at least you start out with some-

one to guide and teach you as you go through deliverance prayer. Remember, Holy Spirit can deliver the child of God at any time and in any way! At any rate, relationship with Holy Spirit is the key to deliverance. Invite Him into the process and He will guide. After shutting all open doors, it is typical to go down the list and ask Holy Spirit about each root spirit to see if there is any bondage within you. If you feel conviction, that is the Lord offering you repentance and freedom is near!

He convicts you of the problem, not to condemn you but to free you. So, it is wise to run to repentance. Once you repent, bind the spirits, cast them out in the name of Jesus, then loose goodness you can be confident of your freedom until or unless Holy Spirit brings something else to your attention. Remember it is a process!

Romans 8:30

“30 Moreover whom He predestined, these He also called; whom He called, these He also justified; and whom He justified, these He also glorified.”

Here is a sample prayer for repentance and casting out the root spirits. Just address each one as the Spirit directs and take authority over all and command to leave in Jesus' mighty name.

“Father, in Jesus' mighty name, I repent for my participation with the root spirit of _____, and the fruit of _____. I receive Your forgiveness, Father! I renounce it and destroy the curse and assignment working in, with and through it in Jesus' name. Spirit of _____, I command you and the (fruit)

*to leave me now in Jesus' name.
Go! Holy Spirit, push it all up and out of me!"*

When the spirits leave you may feel the release. Some take a deep breath and exhale; some may burp; some may literally cough or vomit them out. Some may feel a physical release as in a sudden pain in body is now just gone. Some may feel light and simply at peace, as the Spirit of God lifts the burdens and oppressions from them.

Another prayer can be for the Lord to remove the **burdens and cares** you have taken upon yourself that you were not meant to carry.

A simple prayer can look like this:

"Father, in Jesus' mighty name, I repent for carrying heavy weights, burdens, yokes, cares and concerns that you didn't ask me to bear. I receive Your forgiveness and I command all to leave me now in Jesus' name. Father, push it all up and out of me. Amen!"

I receive Your Word Father, according to Jesus:

Matthew 11:28-30

"28 Come to Me, all you who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. 29 Take My yoke upon you and learn from Me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. 30 For My yoke is easy and My burden is light."

Staying Free

The key to staying free in your mind, will, emotions and body is to abide with the one who created you! Spend time in His Word and be filled with His Spirit. Worship Him as much as you can, and then some. Walk with the true body of Christ. Take the Scriptures and speak them over yourself every day. In the moments where you feel the temptation to fall back into your old ways, the best way to combat that is to speak Scriptures out loud until the temptation passes. The more you spend time with God, the more you begin to know His thoughts, His ways and His heart. Then, you will find yourself with a renewed mind and pure thoughts, motives, and intentions **John 3:32** says, *“And you shall know the truth and the truth shall make you free.”* Only the truth you know from God’s Word will set you free and keep you free. If you choose to dabble back in your old ways after having been set free you can end up worse than what you were before. The Scripture below explains how once a spirit has left, he tries to come back. If you don’t replace your old thought patterns with new ones and the Word of God, the spirit that has left can come back and bring seven other spirits with him.

Matthew 12:43-45

“43 When an unclean spirit goes out of a man, he goes through dry places, seeking rest, and finds none. 44 Then he says, ‘I will return to my house from which I came. And when he comes, he finds it empty, swept, and put in order. 45 Then he goes and takes with him seven other spirits more wicked than himself, and they enter and dwell there; and the last state of that man is worse than the first. So shall it also be with this wicked generation.”

This is why it is so important to gird yourself with truth in God so that you can withstand the devil. Holy Spirit will empower you to take ungodly thoughts “captive” and He will teach you how to condemn those thoughts and bring truth from God’s Word to replace them.

II Corinthians 10:3-6

“3 For though we walk in the flesh, we do not war according to the flesh. 4 For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal but mighty in God for pulling down strongholds, 5 casting down arguments and every high thing that exalts itself against the knowledge of God, bringing every thought into captivity to the obedience of Christ, 6 and being ready to punish all disobedience when your obedience is fulfilled.”

Draw near to God, and He will help you resist the devil so the devil will flee permanently. Once you have been liberated you don’t ever have to be bound again in that area! Amen!

James 4:7-8

“7 Therefore submit to God. Resist the devil and he will flee from you. 8 Draw near to God and He will draw near to you. Cleanse your hands, you sinners; and purify your hearts you double minded.”

Jesus was able to withstand the temptations the devil put out to Him. If He can do it, we can too because He is in us. Abiding The Lord calls each and every believer to remain with Him through intimacy and communion with His Word. Abiding means to await or remain stable or fixed. In John

15, Jesus explains it perfectly:

John 15

“1 I am the true vine, and My Father is the vine-dresser. 2 Every branch in me that does not bear fruit He takes away; and every branch that bears fruit He prunes, that it may bear more fruit. 3 You are already clean because of the word which I have spoken to you. 4 Abide in Me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in Me. 5 I am 52 the vine, you are the branches. He who abides in Me and I in him, bears much fruit; for without Me you can do nothing. 6 If anyone does not abide in Me, he is cast out as a branch and is withered; and they gather them and throw them into the fire, and they are burned. 7 If you abide in Me, and My words abide in you, you will ask what you desire, and it shall be done for you. 8 By this My Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit; so you will be My disciples. 9 As the Father loved Me, I also have loved you; abide in My love. 10 If you keep My commandments, you will abide in My love just as I have kept My Father’s commandments and abide in His love. 11 These things I have spoken to you, that My joy may remain in you, and that your joy may be full. 12 This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. 13 Greater love has no one than this, than to lay down one’s life for his friends. 14 You are my friends if you do whatever I command you. 15 No longer do I call you servants, for a servant does not know what his master is doing; but I have called you friends, for all things that I heard from My Father I have made known to you. 16

You did not choose Me, but I chose you and appointed you that you should go and bear fruit, and that your fruit should remain, that whatever you ask the Father in My name he may give you. 17 These things I command you, that you love one another. 18 If the world hates you, you know that it hated Me before it hated you. 19 If you were of the world, the world would love its own. Yet because you are not of the world, but I chose you out of the world, therefore the world hates you. 20 Remember the word that I said to you, ‘A servant is not greater than his master.’ If they persecuted Me, they will also persecute you. If they kept My word, they will keep yours also. 21 But all these things they will do to you for My name’s sake, because they do not know Him who sent Me. 22 If I had not come and spoken to them, they would have no sin, but now they have no excuse for their sin. 23 He who hates Me hates My Father also. 24 If I had not done among them the works which no one else did, they would have no sin; but now they have seen and also hated both Me and My Father. 25 But this happened that the word might be fulfilled which is written in their law, ‘They hated me without a cause.’”

Read John 15 over and over until you understand and agree with it in your heart. The heart of the Lord is to be with you because He loves you. Spending time reading God’s Word and listening for His voice is everything. This is how you learn to come to know His voice and how He speaks to you. This is the secret place where the Lord will reveal Himself to you and pour out His love upon you. Without Jesus we can do nothing, just like it says in John 15. Without abiding in Him we can-

not spiritually mature and become all that God created us to be. Abiding is your personal one-on one time with Him on a daily basis. Abiding is also as you go because when you're filled with Holy Spirit, you are able to acknowledge and commune with Him 24/7. We will be with Him for eternity, but we get to start now on this side of Heaven.

VIII. Ministering Deliverance

When ministering to individuals in need of deliverance, believers must follow Holy Spirit and allow Him to direct all prayers. We represent Jesus in all areas of this ministry, and all must be done in authority, power, and love. I have found that one of the most important needs for the one ministering is the ability and heart to truly LISTEN to the person who is receiving freedom. When people know you really care, are genuinely concerned about them, and desire for them to be healed or free from any stronghold, they can trust you and really open up their hearts.

We will explain now what it may look like for a "scheduled ministry session." That means you have set aside a time to meet with a person in need, and they have asked for help and prayer.

We always encourage women to meet with women, but if a woman meets with a male pastor, it is wise to have another woman present. It is wise for men to meet with men, and a woman minister can join them as well if they are invited by the male in need.

Welcome Holy Spirit to lead and direct all prayer and ministry. Welcome the presence of the Lord

and thank Him for bringing help and healing and deliverance for the individual. I always ask for the Father's love to be revealed to every individual I pray for. The Scripture says, "God is love," and "perfect love casts out fear" (I John 4:8; I John 4:18). Knowing all people need to encounter the love of God, I have witnessed firsthand for years His tangible presence and His love transform many souls.

Next, allow the person you are praying for to open their hearts and explain to you their need, hurts, bondage, torment, troubles, sickness, etc. What do they need from the Lord? If you have made an appointment with them, you usually already have some idea of what the need is. Yet, as the person expresses their feelings and begins to talk, the Spirit of God begins revealing His heart for them and will direct the flow straight from the beginning.

Then, it is important to lead the person into forgiveness. If they need to repent for any sins or fleshly judgments of others, they express their hearts to God and begin that process of specifically telling the Lord what they have done. I encourage the individual to confess afterwards, "Father, I receive Your forgiveness, in Jesus' name!" Usually, a great deal of healing comes through repentance alone! Let God move!

Once they are through with personal repentance, now they can ask the Father whom they need to forgive. I ask them to tell me whom the Lord brings to their heart first, and we begin there. They will speak forth, "Father, I choose to forgive _____, for _____ in Jesus' name." Al-

low them to cry or fully open their feelings to God, releasing all hurt, disappointment, etc. to the Father as they forgive.

Remember, we close doors with each step!

If there are some ungodly soul ties with anyone, lead the individual to ask the Father if they have a tie, and then begin to lead them in prayer. "Father, it is my will to sever/cut the ungodly soul tie between me and _____, and _____ and me in Jesus' name! What they took from me, I call back to myself. What I took from them, I loose back to them in Jesus' name. Amen."

Then bind the controlling, ruling spirits from the individuals they had a tie to, and command it to leave, in Jesus' name!

If the person has experienced any kind of trauma involving the people they are forgiving, have them speak to that trauma and command it to leave their souls and bodies. Allow them to really let Jesus heal them as He takes the horror, shock, fear, and torment from the experiences away. Command all trauma, and all spirits of traumatized and traumatizer to leave in Jesus' name. Cut and sever ties to it in Jesus' name.

Next, depending on the need and/or bondage they are in, you begin the process of repenting on behalf of forefathers and themselves for generational iniquity/sin. It is important to receive forgiveness as explained above.

If there is clearly a curse at work passed down from the bloodline, you will lead them to destroy

the curse back to its roots and beginnings, and command the controlling, ruling spirits and all other demons involved to leave them in Jesus' name!

Continue on through the root spirits until all have gone and the person has peace.

Sometimes it may take more than one appointment as the Lord ministers His freedom to them. He knows what each one can handle. So much counsel comes in the ministry of deliverance. Often, you will explain and teach them as you go. You will read the Bible to them as you go. You can answer questions as you go. Just flow with it! God is amazing, and Holy Spirit truly does guide and direct all.

If there was a physical need for healing, grab the oil and/or lay hands on them and pray healing to their bodies. Remember, the Lord has commanded us to heal the sick.

Thank God for all He has done during the session and give Him all the glory. Encourage the person to pray, read the Bible, mediate on His truth for them. It is important to fill ourselves up daily as stated earlier.

There are going to be times in life where the Lord flows through you in unscheduled times of deliverance. The ministry works the same, and Holy Spirit will empower you and give you discernment that you need for the moment. Trust Him.

Conclusion

Beloved of God, once you have received freedom yourself, you *know!* You now have a working knowledge of how the Lord delivers and heals. You are ready. You are armed. You are prepared through a lifestyle of abiding in God, in His Word, and in His power to destroy the works of the devil and set the captives free!

It was for freedom that Christ set us free! So, give freely, beloved of God. Give freely.

“Father, I ask in Jesus’ name, that you will bless and keep those reading this book and reveal Your great LOVE to them. I pray Father, that the eyes of their understanding would truly be opened to KNOW Jesus Christ, and the love of the Father, and the communion of Holy Spirit. I pray for a fresh impartation and anointing upon this child of God of healings, miracles, and true spiritual discernment. I pray for a fresh impartation in the revelatory gifts of Your Spirit in the word of wisdom, revelation knowledge, and the gift of faith. May they truly be filled to overflow and walk in Your power and grace. We promise to give you all the glory Lord! Amen!”

Prayer for Salvation

If you have not made Jesus Christ your personal Lord and Savior, and you desire this with all your heart, then please, join me in prayer:

“Heavenly Father, I choose to believe with all my heart, Your love for me. I believe that Jesus Christ is Your Son, the Son of God, and that He is God in the flesh. I believe that You sent Him to this earth to save me. Thank You. I believe He died on the cross for my sins and He was dead and buried three days, and then rose again from the dead and that He ascended to Heaven and is now seated at Your right hand and is returning again.

Father, please forgive me for all my sin and iniquity and I choose to forgive others who have sinned against me. I give You all my heart and choose to live with You forever. I believe I have been born again according to Your Word and that I have been transferred out of the kingdom of darkness and into the kingdom of light. I declare I am forgiven and healed! Now, I ask for Holy Spirit to fill me. Jesus, baptize me in Holy Spirit and fullness in order that I may know You intimately and serve You all my days.

Thank You, Lord, for loving me. Amen.”

Scriptures:

John 14:6

“6 Jesus said to him, ‘I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me.’”

Romans 10:8-13

“8 But what does it say? ‘The word is near you, in your mouth and in your heart’ (that is, the word of faith which we preach): 9 that if you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved. 10 For with the heart one believes unto righteousness, and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation. 11 For the Scripture says, ‘Whoever believes on Him will not be put to shame.’ 12 For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek, for the same Lord over all is rich to all who call upon Him. 13 For ‘whoever calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.’”

John 3:3-8, 16-18

“3 Jesus answered and said to him, ‘Most assuredly, I say to you, unless one is born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God.’ 4 Nicodemus said to Him, ‘How can a man be born when he is old? Can he enter a second time into his mother’s womb and be born?’ 5 Jesus answered, ‘Most assuredly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God. 6 That which is born of the flesh is flesh, and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit. 7 Do not marvel that I said

to you, “You must be born again.” 8 The wind blows where it wishes, and you hear the sound of it, but cannot tell where it comes from and where it goes. So is everyone who is born of the Spirit.”

“16 For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life. 17 For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through Him might be saved. 18 He who believes in Him is not condemned; but he who does not believe is condemned already, because he has not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God.”

II Corinthians 5:17

“17 Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new.”

I Corinthians 15:3-5

“3 For I delivered to you first of all that which I also received: that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, 4 and that He was buried, and that He rose again the third day according to the Scriptures, 5 and that He was seen by Cephas, then by the twelve.”

II Corinthians 5:21

“21 For He made Him who knew no sin to be sin for us, that we might become the righteousness of God in Him.”

Colossians 1:13-14

“13 He has delivered us from the power of dark-

ness and conveyed us into the kingdom of the Son of His love, 14 in whom we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins.”

Luke 11:9-13

“9 So I say to you, ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you. 10 For everyone who asks receives, and he who seeks finds, and to him who knocks it will be opened. 11 If a son asks for bread from any father among you, will he give him a stone? Or if he asks for a fish, will he give him a serpent instead of a fish? 12 Or if he asks for an egg, will he offer him a scorpion? 13 If you then, being evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask Him!”

Acts 1:8

“8 But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be witnesses to Me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.”

I Timothy 3:16

“16 And without controversy great is the mystery of godliness:

*God was manifested in the flesh,
Justified in the Spirit,
Seen by angels,
Preached among the Gentiles,
Believed on in the world,
Received up in glory.”*

Fresh Infilling of Holy Spirit

Acts 1:8

“8 But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be witnesses to Me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.”

If you have been born again and filled with Holy Spirit and you desire MORE and want to encounter the Lord's presence afresh and anew, please join me in prayer:

“Father, in the name of Jesus, I thank You for loving me and I ask according to Ephesians 1:17-19, that You would give me the spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of Him, Jesus, and the eyes of my understanding would be enlightened; that I may know what is the hope of His calling and what are the riches of the glory of His inheritance in the saints, and what is the exceeding greatness of His power toward us who believe, according to the working of His mighty power towards us who believe, according to the working of His mighty power which He worked in Christ when He raised Him from the dead and seated Him at His right hand in the heavenly places. Amen.

Father, according to Colossians 3:9-12, I ask in Jesus name, that I would be filled with the knowledge of His will in all wisdom and spiritual understanding; that I would walk worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing Him, being fruitful in every good work and increasing in the knowledge of God; strengthened with all might, according to His glorious power. Amen.

I surrender and yield my life to the fullness of Holy Spirit; His power and anointing; the spirit of wisdom and revelation; counsel and might; the spirit of the fear of the Lord and knowledge according to Isaiah 11:2, in Jesus' name. Amen.”

The Garden Training Center, Inc. The Apostolic School of Ministry

The Garden Apostolic Training Center is a place that fosters spiritual growth. The center provides training to equip believers in Jesus Christ for the work of the ministry and to be victorious and free in all areas of their lives through the supernatural empowerment of the Holy Spirit. For more information check out thegardenstc.org.

The Garden Gathering Church

The purpose of The Garden Gathering Church is to encourage believers in Jesus Christ: to fully embrace the love of God; to walk in freedom; to carry His presence and glory; and to be equipped and trained for the work of the ministry through worship, teachings, and impartation.

“It’s all about Love. When you see His eyes of Love for you, nothing else matters. That’s it. That’s all you need to know.”

-Brandy Helton

