

FORGIVENESS AND A NEW MIND

Bertie Brits

February 26, 2017

GREETINGS in the name of Jesus. It is a blessing, an honor, for me to come to you and just bring you the Gospel of God's Grace, the message of the goodness of God.

Father, I want to thank you for Your Grace and Your mercy and Your kindness. I want to thank You for the love that You have towards us and I want to thank You that You care for us. Thank You that You embrace us with such a warm embrace. You are such a good God and I thank You that You speak powerfully through me today and that people's lives will be deeply impacted by this message. Glory to God.

Thank You, Holy Spirit, for Your kindness, Your forgiveness and the power of the resurrection that works in us. In Jesus' name.

COMMUNION It is an honor for me to have Communion with you today and bring you the message of the body and the blood of Jesus Christ and what it means. When it comes to the blood of Jesus and the body of Jesus, there is such a wealth of depth that is inside that we can never end it. We can never exhaust it. It is so great! It is so high, so wide, so deep, so long, that it is absolutely unending. So I would like to read one of my favorite passages from the Book of Acts and just why God made us. It is when Paul comes and speaks to the Greek philosophers. You guys know that I love to preach on this passage and today we are going to use it in the Communion.

This is the reason why God made us: *Acts 17:27*

That they (we) should seek the Lord, if happily they might feel after him, and find him, though he be not far from every one of us:

What he says here is that God has made us for the purpose that we could happily feel after Him. Happily feel after means that we will have joy when we experience what He has done for us and also joy in touching Him. That is His whole purpose and that came through the physical body of Jesus Christ where He has come to have all of us experience what it is to have His quality of life.

So what Jesus Christ did in His death and His resurrection was very simple. He came and He died away all of our sin so that He could be raised from the dead in an immortal body which is equal to God and that He would then give us that immortality so that we could feel Him, that we could touch His quality of life! Then above all of that, in His return He will walk among us and we will feel and touch Him. We will feel and touch Him not just in physical form where we would see Him standing before us, but we will feel and touch Him by actually having the fullness of God dwell in us. That is the only way you can really know God. That is why the Bible says, ***“This is eternal life, to know the only true God.”*** In other words, the only way you can truly know Him is through eternal life. This is eternal life: to know Him.

I want to say it again and it might sound a little weird, but that passage is actually saying in **John 17** is that the only way that you can know God, true knowledge about God, is eternal life and eternal life is the true knowledge about God. This is eternal life, to know Him. When we receive that eternal life, that is what it means to truly know God. Then we know God by experience. Then we have felt God. Then we have experienced God in our fullness. That is what happens through the death and resurrection of Jesus.

So when we take the bread, that was broken for us, it is broken and it talks about the end of the body of death, the end of sin. We see all our disqualifications broken in the body of Jesus. We see all our sin broken in the body of Jesus and we see that we are fully accepted in Christ and that we can, even as we touch this bread, we are already starting to experience the fullness of God's life and first fruit of that in our lives. So as you partake of the body of Jesus and the blood of Jesus, I want to say to you that you are fully innocent before God, You are accepted before God. You are loved by God and this spells your innocence.

The blood of Jesus talks about the New Covenant and that the Old, where we tried to have life by our own works, is gone and the Covenant of life is ours. That is what this is all about. As we partake of this, let us minister to one another, let us pray for one another and just experience the love of God. Glory to God! Let us just enjoy the Communion together.

TODAY'S MESSAGE

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Today I want to talk about the renewal of the mind and forgiveness and how this works together. I want to start off by just saying to you how God brings forth life in us.

Yesterday I visited somebody and they showed us a video of a guy who teaches on worship. After watching the two minute clip, what I got out of it was that worship is basically a resonance that is from us towards God where God brings forth a vibration inside us. Now this guy loves music and he came from a more scientific and physics kind of a thing and explained worship. What he did was he took a guitar and put it in front of a loud speaker and then he would sing a tone and he would just be standing there and when he stopped singing the tone you would hear how that guitar is just playing that same tone by itself. So what happens is the vibration that comes out of the speaker excites those strings and then they start to vibrate at the same frequency, each one of them to make that perfect tone that he did when he sang. It's just common physics, common sense, but it's a nice picture of what God does with us. If Jesus is the Word of God and that can be heard, it will bring forth that vibration. While he was showing that it was amazing and then this morning when I preached, I was thinking of that and I saw one of those clamps that they clamp on the guitar. I don't know how it works but I was just thinking that if you can clamp that right in the middle of all those strings, you would hear no noise out of that because it is like a dampening effect on most strings. I realized that a wrong belief about who the Father is, the Law, works righteousness, wrong understanding of why God made you and the gift that God has freely come to give you, that you are part of His family, it's like a dampening effect on you.

For God to bring forth that vibration in you, to bring forth that sound in you, is very simple. What He will do is He will remove things like guilt and condemnation because inside our hearts we have been designed to bring forth praise. We have been designed to bring forth a resonance and a manifestation of who God is and just the love of God in our hearts. We have been designed to just see, as God loves upon us, it will just shape and form us. It doesn't mean that if God says a word then we must start to worship Him. No, when God's word is spoken to our hearts, we naturally, easily, worship Him. It just comes forth in our hearts. So what God would do is He would remove that dampening effect. He would remove wrong understandings from us. That is what He will do.

When we look at Genesis, I want to talk a little about why God made us and then we will look at the fall of man and how this whole forgiveness thing works. I want to talk about a simple message of God's acceptance and how God comes and how He created us. Then we will talk about forgiveness and then we will talk a little bit about the renewal of the mind. It is God made you, Forgiveness, and Renewal of the mind.

Why did God make us? We all know that God made us so that He could share His family life with us. He has come and He has made us so that we can have peace, we can have joy, we can share His quality of life. He has made us for friendship. He has made us for sharing in eternal life. God lives in the unapproachable bright light and He wanted people to enter into that bright light but since it was unapproachable, He came and made it accessible by creating matter, forming mankind from that matter and then He incarnated that matter. The moment He did that, then man became that place of that unapproachable bright light and Jesus dwells in that light and since He dwells in that light and He became a man and represents all of us as the last Adam, we entered that light so that we can share in that. That light will manifest the fullness of god's life in us and that is what we possess in the seal of the Holy Spirit and He will manifest the fullness of that life in us. Now that is a mouthful and you can go and listen to this again because there is so much life in that statement.

So God made us to share His life with us. The wonderful thing about God when He made Adam, Adam was man and He called him and said to him when he sinned, He said, "Adam, where are you?" The beautiful thing when God made man and called him after he sinned was He still called him by his name. It wasn't, all of a sudden, a different name. It wasn't all of a sudden that something changed. It wasn't all of a sudden it is a God who isn't caring anymore. He still remembers the original. So, here is God. He made man for the purpose of sharing God's quality of life with man. Then man came and he sinned. After he sinned, God still came in the cool of the day and came to walk with man. Let us just read that quickly in ***Genesis 3***.

This is just after Adam and Eve ate of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. I think what they felt here is how a person would feel if he would cheat on his wife or when the wife would cheat on her husband or something like that. It is like you have done something and guilt is in your heart and the other person comes, basically ignorant of what you've done. He just comes and just continues as if life is as always. God comes and He just continues as always. He comes and wants to walk with man and talk with man and here man is caught up in guilt. He is caught up in shame but God comes like always.

Now I know that God wasn't ignorant of what happened but God cannot change who He is. Neither can He change His view about man. Neither can He have Who He is and how He deals with man based on what man has done. He loves man like always. He comes and this is what verse 7 says as it talks about man.

Genesis 3:

7 And the eyes of them both were opened, and they knew that they were naked; and they sewed fig leaves together, and made themselves aprons.

8 And they heard the voice of the Lord God walking in the garden in the cool of the day: and Adam and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the Lord God amongst the trees of the garden.

9 And the Lord God called unto Adam, and said unto him, Where art thou?

He called to Adam and said, "Adam, where are you?" He was saying, "Adam, where are you?" I see God going through the Garden and He would say, "Adam, where are you? Adam where are you?" He was looking for His people. He was looking for the person He loves and He would call to the man. He was looking for Adam. He was not looking for anything else because His view of man has not changed. He loves man. Then when He found Adam, coming out of hiding, Adam said, "We were hiding." God asked, "Why?" Adam said, "Because we are afraid." God asked, "Why are you afraid?" Adam said, "Because we are naked." God said, "Who told you that you were naked?" That telling of nakedness there was from the devil. Whenever you hear about your nakedness from the devil, it will leave you with guilt and condemnation and a wrong view about yourself and also a wrong view about God. That is what will take place.

Now imagine, here comes God and He's calling Adam, He's calling him by name. He was looking for Adam. He was looking for the holy, righteous person whom He loves, whom He is kind to, whom He has given His eternal life. Remember, He knew, God knows all things, He knew that Adam had sinned. He knew that Adam had done that thing but He didn't come looking for anybody else. He still came, with the knowledge that that man fell and He was still looking for the original man because in His mind, He only sees us in that way. When He came to man and He saw that man cannot see himself the way God sees him, he cannot see God anymore as a good God because look at this actions. He's ashamed of God. He's walking in the knowledge of his nakedness. He's walking in the knowledge of his inability. He's walking in fear about God. His heart has believed a lie about God. When God saw that, He knew that He had to fix this and He knew it wasn't up to Adam to fix it and Adam could not fix it. Adam was too weak to fix it. Adam didn't have the knowledge on how to fix that. Adam was lost in the lie. He was lost in his guilt. He was ashamed. He was afraid. He was naked.

Do you know the first thing that God did when they saw that? He said, "Man became like one of us, knowing good and evil and this is one of the major things that God did that changed a lot of things. The first thing that God did was He acted in a way to preserve man from eternal misery and torture. That's what He did. What did He do? He said that it was better for man to go out of the Garden lest he eat of the Tree of Life and live forever.

We know that God's promise from the beginning was eternal life. We know that God wants man to have eternal life but here Adam and Eve comes and they eat of the Tree of the Knowledge of Good and Evil. They fall. They are in a life of guilt. They are in a life of works righteousness. They are in a life of obligation. They are at a place where they behold the good, cannot do the good and have knowledge on how to have their own lives destroyed and God said, "I don't want to grant eternal life to a person in that state of misery."

I said to my wife on the way here, that sometimes on Sunday I just want to bring an encouraging message of Grace. Obviously, I will say something radical during the week on short messages on Facebook but when it comes to Sunday, it's almost like we say, "Let us not challenge our minds every day but let us just enjoy some of the simplistic things about God." But I have to say this and I just feel that I am going to say this. Here God comes. Adam is in a fallen state. He is in a state of death. The Bible says that in the day you eat thereof, of this death, you will die."

We see the first signs of death come to Adam and what does God say? He says, "I will never let this Adam live in this state of misery." What He was saying is, "I cannot grant eternal life, eternal existence, in misery. I cannot do that! I will not do that." God said He would forgive Adam and He would set him free. The context of forgiveness where we look at God, where He said, "Adam, you cannot come to the tree of life", when we look at that we see love. We see kindness. We see mercy. We see God saying, "I will never have man live eternally in this misery."

Let us recap: God makes a man. When this man falls, He comes and still in the same platform, in the same understanding that He always came towards Adam, and He loved on Adam. He was good to Adam and all of a sudden Adam was gone and God spoke to Adam and said, "Adam, where are you?" I think if we could just use simple language, Adam had to answer Him and say to Him, "God, I am all caught up with works righteousness here. It's not about relationship anymore. It's all about my shortcomings. It's all about what I need to do to have a breakthrough. It's all about my failures and my five steps to a successful life. It's all about self preservation. That's where I am. I'm sitting here in guilt I am sitting here in a full knowledge of my inability and I've come to experiential knowledge of my inability."

I think Adam had head knowledge of his inability because he was naked and unashamed but now he has come to a place where he has experienced and has eaten of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil where he has engaged that inability, or the power of dust, and he is trying to have life by it and he can't. He sitting there frustrated in all his works and God said, "Adam, where are you?" He said, "God, I'm here. I'm ashamed! You've warned me about this. I see my inability. I see Your ability. I see how holy You are. I see how righteous You are but I'm ashamed. I don't measure up!" And God said, and I am using my own words here, God said, "It is not good that man would live in this misery. It is not good that man would live in this absolute state of despair." He said, "I will not grant eternal life to man in that condition. I will first clean up his condition, bring innocence, bring a new mind, bring everything new, wipe the slate clean and bring the message of righteousness, bring the message of a man in the Trinity equal with God so that man can identify with that. When that comes to man's heart and that life enters into man, when that message comes to man, God said,"I can then grant eternal life to man."

Look at the mercy of God! Look at how kind God is. Look at how good God is. All life comes from God. There is no being that can have life outside of God granting him life since He is the Alpha and the Omega. He is the beginning of all forms of life and in Him all things consists. That means that from Him flows life for everything. What God has done is He has given life to man and that life has a certain time code on it. There is a certain amount of time that that life has. Then should that life want to be eternally preserved, God can do that.

So, here Adam comes and he decides to basically find a different life source which is his own works and his own ability and we see misery and God says, "Listen, (and it might sound funny) I am not going to allow eternal life to be plugged into this. I am first going to sort it out."

And God came to Adam and when He saw how Adam looked at himself, and the way that Adam looked at God, and the way God looks at Adam, what God thinks about Himself is not congruent. He said, "We have to first fix this up. We need to come and bring a picture about man to mankind that there is no difference between God and man but there is an equality so that when man can come to God he can come outside of guilt, outside of condemnation, outside of works righteousness. That he can come from a platform of life, a platform of equality."

I spoke to a young friend and we talked about being in the image of God. You know the word, image, means idol. It's almost like a false God, if you want to call it like that. It's an idol. That's what image means. So you would have a graven image of a certain God and you find all these different religions. You find these images that they make out of stone or whatever. And that would be a representation of the true God and God came and He made us. When He made us, He made us in His image. In other words, that means He made us as representation of the God in heaven. I also think that is why God said, "You shall not bring any false gods, or any graven images before Me because there is no image that can bear my image but you!" So it's like we are a certain idol. An idol means a representation of the God who is in heaven and that is who we are and that is what He made. Then He would give life to this being that He has created and only a being who is full of life, who has a mind, will and emotions that is flooded with joy, flooded with life, is the only being that can be a representation of the true God.

What happened is man came and got a wrong idea, when man fell, by looking at what was going on in him since he is the image of God, he got a wrong image of God. And he got a wrong image of himself because he looked at himself in his fallen state. He looked at himself in that state of absolute despair and from that he came to the conclusions about who God is. When we look at ourselves in our fallen state and we come to conclusions about God, it will always be the wrong conclusion and we can see that. That is why people come and say, "We need to do these five steps to get a breakthrough in the church otherwise God cannot bless us." We would have things for when we find storms and hurricanes and all those kind of things, people will say, "It is God that brought these things over us, because the image of God is in the earth, which is man, that which shines forth, which was called Adam, got perverted. When that was perverted, that was the view man started to have about God. He looked at himself. And this is the image of God and we see our own ability and it falls and from a fallen state we try and interpret God. We have a veil over our face which is the administration of death.

So when the administration of death comes to man and then starts to work in man and man lives by his own ability, his view about God is distorted and his view about himself is also distorted. From there we cannot know God. That is why God had to come and He had to recreate all of this. He had to come and say, "Let Me take a piece of dust again and let me bring forth that being as a true image of Me. When there is a true image of Me, and I can take that image and also put it in My likeness, which is eternal life, when we see that and that image and likeness of God is seen in a man again, then we can see the image of God which is in equality with God in the form of Jesus, full of life, full of glorification, a man seated at the right hand of God. We can have an image of God and we can have an image of ourselves, and from that truth we find our minds being renewed.

This whole process is called forgiveness where God forgives us! The word, forgive, means to carry a burden, to lift the distress, to take a burden away, to carry a burden, forgive, to exalt. Forgiveness also means, one of the Hebrew meanings of forgiveness, is to bring exaltation, to exalt, to lift. So what did God do? He looked at Adam and He saw his warped mind. He saw the warped image that this man is not in the image of God anymore. He is not a representation of God anymore. He's not walking in innocence. It is not God giving him life, having a relationship with him where God is then animated or shown forth in his life. It is not like that anymore.

This being has now basically become an idol of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. In other words, he started to show forth something in the earth that was not God but death. That is what he started to show forth and God said, "You are not made for that. That's not My plan with you and I've come to bring forth true life in you. And that is what He came to do. When God came to bring that forth, when God came to shine that forth, the only way He could do it was by incarnating this darkness and bringing life to it. Isn't that beautiful!

So God comes. He deals with man after man fell, he came as always, walking in the Garden of Eden and He saw that man's mind is corrupted. He saw that man's heart, man's belief is corrupted. He saw the platform from where man reasons, is corrupted. It is still His man. It is still the one He loves, but He sees that this man needs to be restored and that is the word, forgiveness. "I need to take this away from Him. I need to divorce him from this death where he is. I need to do that."

The way that forgiveness takes place, and I've preached it many times before, is not from a platform of punishment where God says, "I need to punish Adam." The last thing that Adam needed was punishment from God. Adam was a very confused, very hurt, dying man, not walking in what he was designed to walk in which was experiencing emotions which he never experienced in his life. He felt something he never felt before. He was afraid, naked; he felt alone. He felt deserted. He was hiding himself. He was not coming forth. I look at somebody and I think of a child alone and frightened. I also think of when people shoot fireworks and the dogs start to run. When my friend's dog was still young, they had fireworks. My friend wasn't at home and people shot this stuff in town not caring about the laws. The dog jumped the fence and started to run. It ran until his feet were bleeding. He ran past the golf estate, bleeding, and so scared. That is the idea I get about Adam when he partook of this tree. The last thing a dog, that ran away like that, needs is for the owner to take out a whip and start to whip that dog to get back home. That dog is suffering. That dog needs to be lifted up. That dog needs to be exalted. That dog needs to be delivered from his fear. He needs comfort. The last thing that dog needs is to continue in that fear and to continue to run in that state forever. That's the last thing. That kind of a misery is what I see on Adam.

When God saw Adam in that state He said, "I need to forgive Adam. I need to set him free. I need to take away that which is in his heart. I need to take away his guilt. I need to take away this massive burden that is on him where he sees what it takes to be like God and what it takes to be in the image and the likeness of God where all of a sudden he discovers all the good you have to do to be like God and he realizes it is impossible. "I have to remove this mountain of a load of, not discomfort, but disappointment that is upon him. I need to give him a new vision again. I need to talk to him. I need to encourage him." That is the word, forgive.

The word, forgive, means to divorce, separate or end a contract. God came to end that. The way He did that was in the incarnation, in the death and in the resurrection. When that takes place, whosoever can see that truth and can believe on that truth, you will find that his heart opens up to the reality of what took place there and the Spirit that raised Christ from the dead also starts to quicken our thoughts, our emotions and our feelings and all those kind of things and so we are forgiven.

Colossians 1:

9 For this cause we also, since the day we heard it, do not cease to pray for you, and to desire that ye might be filled with the knowledge of his will in all wisdom and spiritual understanding;

10 That ye might walk worthy of the Lord unto all pleasing, being fruitful in every good work, and increasing in the knowledge of God;

What he is saying here is, he is praying that they may be filled with all knowledge and all wisdom in the will of God. When we start to realize that the will of God is that we will have eternal life, what Paul is saying here is, "I want you to be filled with all wisdom and all knowledge in that." That means that part of the forgiveness process is when God comes and renews our mind. That is part of the deliverance process. It is not something that we must take over. It is not something that we are reliable for. What God has come to do is He has come to divorce us of every wrong thing we believed about ourselves and believed about God. If we come to the conclusion that God conquered sin, conquered death, put a man at the right hand of the Father and that man is a free will agent and he can have a choice, I don't want to argue about free will and those kind of things but I just want to say this: We have a choice! If we are a choice orientated being for we are in the likeness of God and God comes and He restores this image and likeness in Jesus so He can restore our belief, restore our understanding, which is called forgiveness, by His death and resurrection. When He's come to do that I want to tell you that it is not enough to just know by mere, I'm not talking about experiential knowledge, I'm just talking about knowing, knowing scriptures, knowing that Jesus died for us and that He took away our sins. No, Paul says, "I want you to excel in all knowledge and all wisdom, in the will of God. What he is actually saying there is he wants us to look at what Christ has done and come to a bottom line conclusion about who we are and how things work in every area of our life.

If you read the whole chapter 1 in Colossians, you will see that these are fruit bearing people. These are people who are really understanding a lot of the Gospel. The Grace of God is bearing fruit in them and not even the Law, but just Grace is bearing fruit in them. Then Paul comes and say, "I'm already seeing fruit in you but I want you not to get stuck there. I want you to know that this Gospel, this will of God, can expand into so many areas of your life where it becomes your logic and where it becomes a platform from where you reason and think and arrange your life. It is where you have the knowledge and you know how to apply that in every area of your life. He says, "I want you to come there and get to that place, not by you trying to work it up." This was his prayer: and I see that prayer is actually for complete deliverance, a complete setting free of things. And this I say so that you can know that we, as people who know Grace, the Apostle Paul comes and he says, he prays, in Ephesians that we will understand the depth, how high, how wide, how deep and how long this love is. He prays to God for people who already understand.

So what I want to say to you is: Forgiveness is not defined in, "Well, I've said I am sorry and now I am forgiven for God is not angry and He is not looking at things anymore." If we think God was angry with us, we have a very shallow thinking about God. I think God was very concerned about us and He was angry, if you want to call it like an anger or very passionate, with the System that brought that and whatever being introduced that System to us and He will destroy that. He will bring an end to that System so that we can be saved for He knows in whosoever that System lives, it will bring destruction. So He comes and He wants to save man.

Now if we say, now please hear me out, if we say that God is not angry with us anymore, I want to ask you this: When would God be angry with you? I was born in 1972. Why would God ever have been angry with me? I mean, Jesus died 2,000 years ago. So if we have a penalty substitution system where we say that Adam sinned and God was upset with Adam. Jesus came to deliver God from His anger basically where He would say, "I'll take the punishment that they deserve for the moment Adam partook of the Tree of death, God would just want to really kill them before they die of that tree!" No, they are already going to die. They partook of the greatest poison! Do you know that the Tree of the knowledge of Good and Evil, or a Works Righteousness System, or finding your identity in your works, was so powerful that it brought Satan to the point where he was now dying... and he fell?

The way I see it is, there are very different views, but this is where I am at, you find a cherub, a messenger of Light, a Light bearer that covers, and he believes that in this tree, he believes he finds his identity in his own works. What happens to that mighty cherub? He falls and death starts to work in him! Satan partook of a tree that will bring his destruction! That is it! And now he wants as many people as possible, he wants the likeness of God, the image of God in the earth, to be utterly destroyed and so kill man. He was a murderer of man from the beginning when man was made. He just wants to bring this destruction through the very thing, not by him killing us because he, himself, cannot kill us. The thing that kills us is that he wants to introduce us to the thing that killed him. When God sees that in man, He's not about to kill man. He doesn't want to destroy man! That thing is killing man and He comes with compassion. He comes with love and He says, "Listen, I am reversing this thing. I'm ending this thing and I'm delivering you from the bondage that this tree has on you so that you can have a choice again and so live by just believing the truth!" That is what He has come to do.

When we look at God and we look at the love that He has for man, there is such a compassion in the heart of God for you! There is such compassion in the heart of God for mankind that He cannot come and kill us. God is not the murderer! He is not the killer! It is the tree that brought sin to man through this system by the devil. Then sin entered, through Adam, into this world when Adam believed. That is how it works and God knows that we partook of the poison and He says, I can see man suffering. I can see that poison getting him to convulse from it and I am not going to keep him in that state. I'm not granting eternal life in that state because I cannot see him being tortured forever by the system. I will end the contract he has with that system and I will heal their flesh. I will heal their sickness, introduce them to life and I will bring life to them again." When He brings this, I want to tell you that as we believe upon this and we say, "Thank You, Jesus, that You died for me!" I want to tell you there is a wealth of wisdom. There is a well of knowledge. There are so many things we can know about God in the light of this truth. .. not outside of this truth but in the light of this truth, there is so much more to discover! There is so much that we can know.

When I look at my interactions with people, I can sometimes see that when we say something that is outside of our traditional knowledge of Scripture, yet inside of this salvation plan, people get scared. But why would Paul come and pray for people and say to them, "You are already believing the Grace of God, but I want to show you more of the Grace and a greater thing about this Grace." Why does Paul say that to people who have already understood Grace for a certain period of time and say to them, "I want to teach you more but you cannot understand this because you became dull of hearing again." It's because there is a thing where we take this logic of the cross and it is applied to everything in our lives and we expand in all wisdom and all knowledge. That means we see the wisdom of God in Christ applied to every area of our life as the Holy Spirit teaches us and in that form, we find fruit come into our lives by the Holy Spirit.

So this is what I want to say to you. When we talk about the renewal of the mind, it is part of the forgiveness thing because forgiveness means that I am ending what you believe, Adam. I see you need to be forgiven of what you believe about Me. I see that you need to be forgiven from death. (The word, forgive, in a very accurate way I would see as being redeemed or delivered, divorced.) "You need to be divorced from what you believe about yourself, Adam. You need to be divorced about what you believe about Me, but in order for you to be divorced about that you need to have a change in logic. So let Me change your logic that your logic is and where you can see the true image of God in Christ who is, as we say in Afrikaans, die perfekte beeld, the perfect image. He's the perfect image, the expressed image of God. In other words, if you want to see an earthly, perfect representation, of what the Father is like, it is Jesus in His resurrected state when He walked on the earth and He shall walk on this earth again!

That is the perfect image of God at the right hand of the Father, a man. That is the perfect image and when we can see that image is when our logic can change and our logic is not from the foundation of works anymore but we have been forgiven from the Law. We can see this truth now when we have a different logic, then we can come to different conclusions in this life. We can come to different conclusions about family. We can come to different conclusions about business and different conclusions about so many things. We can come to different conclusions about what the Book of Revelation actually meant.

If you still have the veil of the Law on you how will we see what these Old Testament things mean? Now what happens is we have looked at the Old Testament from the perspective of the Law. We have looked at the Old Testament from the perspective of works or we weren't seeing so clearly and we got into Grace and we saw certain things but we also have some Law understanding about things. As God now comes and brings new it's as if our minds just jumps back to the Old System, the Old Default setting.. "Oh no, that's scripture means that, that and that."

I want to say to you that many things will change. It's not just about the wisdom where Jesus is seated at the right hand of the Father. It is what that concludes in every day life, what makes us experience the truth about God. We need to understand that we cannot be at a place where we only look at God from the perspective of works righteousness. We need to say to God, even as we are Grace believers, we need to say, "God, I want to see a man in the Godhead and thank You that I will not just have that wisdom but I will come to the fullness of that wisdom and the fullness of that understanding. I want to come to an understanding about this life and now based on this wisdom." That is what God has come to do and that is part of the forgiveness plan.

In order for you to be free, in order for you to be forgiven, it is not within your power to forgive yourself or deliver yourself. The only one who can forgive you is God. So what I want you to do is say to yourself and speak in your heart to God and say, "God, I want to have full knowledge and I want to have all wisdom and all understanding as what it says in Colossians 1:9.

9 For this cause we also, since the day we heard it, do not cease to pray for you, and to desire that ye might be filled with the knowledge of his will (They were filled with the knowledge of His will but listen to what Paul says) ***in all wisdom and spiritual understanding;***

So he says, "I want you to have the very wisdom of God in spiritual understanding." They had fleshly understanding of the Old Testament. They had fleshly understanding, Law based understanding, where it related to Judaism and the Jews and Gentiles and all those kind of things. But he wants spiritual understanding... all spiritual understanding, and how that ends with a physical conclusion. Because if we look at Jesus, for instance, Jesus came and He interpreted the scriptures in a spiritual way. When he looked at the scapegoat, He said that is spiritual and because it is spiritual it has a different meaning than the physical meaning there. The conclusion is still inside the physical but the physical is Jesus. That's what he means and the end is a resurrected life which would be from a physical grave. So there is an application in this world, which is not just spooky, out there, New Age stuff. It's an application in this world, but he said, "I want you to have all wisdom in spiritual understanding.

One of the meanings would be, for instance, you go to Isaiah 14 and you read about Lucifer and you look at that from a spiritual understanding. What are you going to see in the spiritual understanding? You are going to see Satan and his logic and how he fell and how God promised to bring destruction to him. Like the Bible says in Hebrew 2:14 where He says He destroys the devil.

We look at that and we see the spiritual understanding and we see how He destroys guilt, how He destroys accusation, and how He destroys the wisdom of the devil, how He destroys that whole system and that whole kingdom and how He makes an end to death and how He brings life and immortality to man.

So many times we can have questions and people can ask questions but I cannot go and take every scripture and explain every scripture in the Old Testament or the New Testament to you from a spiritual understanding. I want to say to you that understanding the scriptures, understanding God, to having a spiritual relationship with God where you understand things within the logic of the Gospel, is part of the salvation plan. You don't have to look to a man to do all of that for you. Paul says here that he prays to God that they may have that, meaning it's something between you and God and I want to say to you that God took it upon Himself, He took that responsibility upon Himself to explain these things to you. The only thing you need to do is to say, "Let it be done unto me." That is what I want to end off with.

It's so beautiful and I've mentioned this many times. When we look at Mary, the angel appeared to her and said to her, "You will be with child and the Savior, the Messiah, will come to the earth through you." The first thing she thought was, "How can I bring this forth?" In other words, God says, "This is what I will do." She says, "How must I bring this forth?" This was immediate Law thinking. The beautiful thing about Mary was she realized her inability. She said, "I don't even have a man. How can I become pregnant out of thin air. There must be something wrong with this prophecy." Then the angel comes and he explains to her, "No, no, no. This child will be of the Holy Spirit." (That means the Spirit that hovered over the earth, the power that can bring forth life, it hovered over the earth when it was without void.) That Spirit can bring it forth in you." Do you know what she said then? She said, "Well, I can not do it by myself. I don't have the ability. This is a promise of God." Then she said, "Let it be done to me as you have said!" And it happened!

In conclusion let us say, "Lord, I see what You've done and I see Your salvation plan and that salvation plan, that forgiveness, that deliverance, includes completely renewing my mind where I can believe about myself what I need to believe about myself, and about God, what I need to believe about God, and I come to You and I say to You, 'God, thank You, that You come and You bring forth that life in me and let it be done to me as You have said.'" And we will find that in this deliverance, and the beautiful thing that I want to bring to you is, remember where Adam sat the moment he got confused, the moment he had a different logic, God said, "I want to save Adam from that belief and the effect of it."

So, that salvation could only take place through the shedding of blood and forgiveness. Forgiveness is not defined in anger. It's not anger management. Jesus is not God's anger management program. Jesus is the deliverer. He is the Savior. The job of a savior is not to go to someone out in the ocean who is drowning and start to give him five lessons in swimming! It is the job of the saviors to get him on the boat because the dude cannot swim! He is at his end and the worst thing would be if someone is in the ocean there and he is busy drowning to go there with a whip and beat upon him and tell him how he needs to swim and how he needs to be sorrowful because he disobeyed the laws. He didn't swim where he was told and now he is out there because of his own disobedience and he's dying. That would be the worst thing because he is being tortured there. He is in the clutches of death! That is what God saw in man when man was dying, when Adam was dying. And He's come to bring us life.

I want to say to you that the salvation plan of Jesus Christ includes the renewal of the mind. So say to the Lord, "Let it be done unto me." And don't come to a place where we say, "Lord, I'm not willing to see the basic logic of a man that represents, a man that is a free will agent, that is in Your image and Your likeness which can have a mind, a will, emotions, feelings, a man like that, presented with a loving God, that can believe in this God and have this God formed and shaped in him inside this basic salvation plan, to say that I want to understand everything from that perspective. Say to God, "I want to understand everything from that perspective. I want to understand every scripture from that perspective."

When you start to find things, and man I want to tell you, just for those of you who like to study Scripture or those of you who are introduced with new concepts which is still inside the Salvation plan, perfectly in the middle of the salvation plan, which it seems that the scripture contradicts that. Like for instance, Jesus came with the perfect salvation plan and He basically said that this woman shouldn't be stoned. He said, "You who are without sin, stone her." And then He said to her, "I don't condemn you." But the Scripture says that she has to be condemned and here comes Jesus and inside the Salvation plan something happens with Scripture doesn't talk about.

Like for instance when Jesus misquoted a passage. Satan came to Jesus tempted him and then said to Him, "You know worship me and I will give You all these kingdoms." Jesus quoting from Deuteronomy 6:5 said, "No, no, it is written, 'You shall **worship** the Lord your God and Him alone shall you serve". That scripture does not say that you shall worship the Lord your God. It says, "You shall **fear** the Lord your God." Jesus changed that word into worship. Now that is like, "What is this? How can this be. Bertie, that is not a very good understanding of Scripture! That is very unsafe!" I want to tell you that the safest place to interpret Scripture, the safest place to look at the Bible or anything is Jesus! Jesus is the manifested Word. He is the message of our forgiveness. He's the message of our power. He is the message of our freedom of choice and free will. He's the message of faith. He's the message of our union with the Father. He is the foundation from where we look at all things.

What if I was illiterate? I couldn't read or write. Does that take away my right to preach the Gospel and the life of the Gospel if I only had the simple message of the incarnation, death and resurrection, and then came to the conclusion of what that means from a foundation of a free will agent that can believe in this and so have life by the doing of the Holy Spirit? That is all you need to know and then God from that perspective will apply that to every area of your life. Glory to God!

PRAYER

I would like to pray for you. Maybe you are going through a difficult time and maybe you need wisdom. The Bible says that when you are going through a difficult time ask God for wisdom and He will give liberally and upbraided not. Upbraided means He does not look at the past. He will not recall that past. That means He is not going to recall the Old Law System and bring it back into practice in order for you to get out of your problem. He will give you wisdom.

Wisdom is, the Bible says, "And Jesus Christ became the wisdom of God to us." What He is going to do is He is going to show you what the finished work of Jesus, your union with God the Father, in Christ, can be applied to your situation and you are going to find resurrection power in that area of your life as the Lord shares that wisdom with you.

Father I want to pray for people who are going through a very difficult time. I'm thinking of people whose loved ones are at the brink of death, going through difficult times. Where they have prayed twenty times and nothing happened. They don't know what to do and they feel they need wisdom.

People who have done everything to have a financial breakthrough and nothing seems to work. People who feel oppressed. They feel they are scared of their family and scared of friends that will find out that they know this Gospel of Grace and actually believe it.

I think of people who are in churches, church leaders Lord, who love the Grace message but they are part of a great church organization and they are going to lose their jobs if they believe this and they don't know what to do.

I thank You, Father, that You come and I pray that You give them all understanding and all spiritual wisdom in this. And as we agree upon this, I thank You, Father, that the Holy Spirit comes and brings forth absolute life in each one of them. As we pray this that they will say, "I rest in You, Lord. Show me how the finished work of Jesus can be applied to this area of my life and I rest. You will give me an understanding and I thank You, Lord, that You will bring it forth, this Good News shall be applied, manifested, in their life by the power of the Holy Spirit as they say, "Be it done unto me." Thank You, Lord, for Your goodness and Your Grace! Amen"

Rest, don't be anxious, God will bring it forth. Thank you for sharing this message so that they can experience the true freedom of God, in Jesus' name.