

BEING

I like to share a few thoughts and some scriptures with you about being.

One of the names used for God in the Old Testament is Jehovah. It comes from the Hebrew word Chavah which means to live or to be.

You probably remember when Jehovah met Moses at the burning bush and told him that he was going to send him to deliver the children of Israel from bondage in Egypt. Moses asked the question, who shall I say sent me? God told him, tell them I AM sent you.

In John's vision of the Christ in revelation chapter 1, He said I am the first and the last. I am the ever-living one.

God doesn't have a beginning or an ending. He just is. He's eternal.

Everything about God is exactly like him. He's holy, perfect, and eternal and He is the source of all things.

For example, God doesn't do love, He actually is the source of love. He doesn't do things that are holy, He actually is holiness. He doesn't just create things, He actually is the creator.

He said in Isaiah 46, I am God there is no other, I am God and there is no one like me. Truly I have spoken, truly I will bring it to pass. I have planned it, surely I will do it.

In Genesis chapter 1, God said eight times, let there be, and all things came into being.

In Isaiah 55, He said my word will accomplish whatever I sent it to do, and it will not return to me empty without accomplishing it.

In other words I am the voice of authority in every realm, the natural realm, and the spiritual realm.

Through the years Satan with the help of religion, has tried to turn the Bible, God's written word, into a book of teachings, doctrines, and bible stories to teach our kids.

Many people believe them to be concepts and ideas, that we need to process and ponder with our minds, to decide whether we accept them as true or not.

The Greek word used for truth in the scriptures means reality.

God's words are actually statements of reality from the ultimate authority and creator of the universe. In God's mind, they are not up for debate or discussion. They are reality.

I'd like to share a few up those statements of reality that God has spoken.

For example, When God said in 2nd Corinthians 5:17, if anyone is in Christ Jesus he is a new creation, old things are passed away, and all things are new.

He was not saying, here is a concept that you might want to consider, and decide whether you think it's real or not, and then decide whether you want to be that or not. He's stating reality. In His mind, it's an established fact, because He made it happen.

In 1 John 5.11, God testifies that He has given us His eternal life, and that life is in His Son, he who has the Son, has the life. He's not saying here's a new teaching that you might want to buy into. He's saying this is your reality.

In John 17:22 Jesus said to Father God, the glory that you have given me, I have given to them, that they may be one, just like we are, so that the world would know that you sent me, and that you love them, even as you love me.

Again, he's not saying this is something you might want to think about, hope for, and someday in the distant future acquire. He's saying I made you one with us, period. It's a done deal, it's reality.

When God sent Christ to the Earth, by means of a supernatural virgin birth, He put on a human nature just like ours.

Philippians 2:7 says,

That He stripped himself of all privilege and rightful dignity, so as to assume the guise of a servant, a slave, and He became like men and was born a human being. And after He appeared in human form, He abased and humbled Himself still further and carried His obedience to the extreme of death even death on the cross.

Hebrews 2:14 states that

Since, therefore, these His children share in flesh and blood, in the physical nature of human beings, He Himself in a similar manner partook of the same nature, that by going through death He might bring to naught and make of no effect, him who had the power of death, that is, the devil.

Jesus was very clear about who He was.

He made a lot of "I AM" statements about Himself.

I am the way, I am the truth, and I am the life.

I am the light of the world.

I am the bread of life.

I am one with My Father who is in heaven.

When the high priest asked him are you the Christ, He said, I AM.

He was also very clear about what He was sent to accomplish for the Father.

When he began His ministry, He stood up in the temple and said, the spirit of the Lord God is upon me, because the Lord has anointed and qualified me to preach the gospel of good tidings to the poor, He sent me to bind up and heal the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives and the opening of the prison and of the eyes of those who are bound. To proclaim the acceptable year of the Lord and the day of vengeance of our God.

He began to preach everywhere, repent, for the Kingdom of Heaven is here. In other words what you were actually created for from the very beginning is now available.

He had taken on the same human nature that we have. He had the same kind of body, the same kind of brain, the same emotions, the same limitations of this flesh. He got tired, He got sleepy, and He got hungry just like us.

Yet He continually went about the cities and villages, demonstrating as the Son of God, the eternal life that God has made available for all of His children, as their inheritance.

Everywhere He went, people were healed, demons were cast out of people, and people got a revelation of the love that God had for them.

And from all accounts in the Gospels, it appeared to be an absolutely effortless expression of the Father's eternal life.

His submission to God's Holy Spirit within Him empowered Him to go wherever the Father told him to go, to say what the Father told Him to say, and do whatever the Father told him to do. He was able to do what only the Father was able to do.

He continually overruled sickness, death, natural processes, and natural laws by the Holy Spirit's presence in Him.

Hebrews 1. 3 says that

He radiated God's glory, He was the exact representation of God's nature, and He upheld all things by the word of His power.

When John the Baptist was in prison, he sent his disciples to ask Jesus if He was the Messiah, Jesus responded, Go and tell John that the blind receive their sight, the lame walk, the deaf here, and the poor have the gospel preached to them.

Jesus said that you will know people by their fruit, and the supernatural expression of His life, was the proof of who He was.

He said in the John 14.8, if you've seen me you've seen the Father. I only say what the Father says and I only do what the Father does.

In other words, I am the expression of the Father's life in this earth.

I've shared in the previously that God brought about the creation of all things because of who He is. The Great I Am, The Creator, and the ultimate authority in the universe.

I also stated that Jesus was able to radiate God's glory, to be the exact representation of His nature, and speak God's word with power, because of who He was and His oneness with God.

These things beg the question, "what about us?"

Let's look at a few more of God's statements of reality.

John 1:12 amp says,

But as many as did receive and welcome Him, He gave the authority, the power, the privilege, the right to become the children of God, that is to those who believe in, adhere to, and trust in and rely on His name.

Who owe their birth neither to blood, nor the will of the flesh, that of a physical impulse, nor the will of man, that of a natural father, but to God. They are born of God.

God gave us THE AUTHORITY TO BE HIS CHILDREN, who are born of God. In other words the very thing that makes God, God, His eternal nature, is the same thing that makes us His children.

According to Colossians 1.18, Jesus was the firstborn from the dead. What about the rest of God's children? What was God's plan for them? Let's look at a few more statements of reality from God.

Romans 8.29 amp states God's original intention for us. It reads,

For those whom He foreknew, of whom He was aware and loved beforehand, He also destined from the beginning, foreordaining them to be molded into the image of His Son, and share inwardly His likeness, that He might become the first born among many brethren.

Jesus was the first fruit of God's crop. The rest of the crop was planted with the same imperishable, eternal seed from God. They are destined by God's design to also grow into the same image and manifest the same life as the first born Son.

Hebrews 1.2 says that Jesus was appointed, heir of all things.

In Romans 8.16 God declares another reality.

The Spirit Himself bears witness with our spirit that we ARE children of God, and if children, heirs also, heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ. OF ALL THINGS.

In John 16.14 Jesus said when He gave us His Holy Spirit,

He will honor and glorify me, because He will take of what is mine and will reveal, declare, disclose, and transmit it to you.

Everything that the Father has is mine. That is what I meant when I said that He, the Spirit, will take the things that are mine and will reveal, declare, disclose, and transmit them to you.

In John 14:12 Jesus said, Truly, truly, I say to you.

(My paraphrase is, I really, really mean this.)

He who believes in Me, the works that I do shall he do also, and greater works than these shall he do, because I go to the Father.

The scriptures use a number of metaphors to illustrate God's intention of continuing to express the life that Christ made available to God's children and modeled to the world. He wants to continue it through us.

The Father has determined that His children should, radiate His light, bear his eternal fruit, reek of the presence of His eternal life, and have rivers of His eternal life flowing from us to the entire earth.

Again, in God's mind these are not literary metaphors, they are realities that He has made available to us by His supernatural work on our behalf.

If God has already paid in full the penalty for our sin and delivered the Holy Spirit to guarantee our inheritance of everything that Christ has, why does it seem like such an unending struggle for us to manifest His life to this world?

My personal opinion is this. That many people in the church over many generations have tried to walk in the things of God in their flesh, without the transforming power that the Holy Spirit was sent to accomplish in our lives.

The failure to see God's kind of results by their own effort, caused religion to come up with several doctrines that these things have passed away and are no longer available to us.

That the first church was the only one who had access to them.

Explaining that they needed the supernatural signs and miracles to validate the Gospel message, but since we have Bible we don't need them now.

That Christians aren't perfect, they are only forgiven and that we are sinners, only saved by grace.

The scriptures don't quite bear this out though.

Under the old Covenant, the people's sins were atoned for by the blood of the sacrificial lamb, on the Day of Atonement. The sacrifice was made every year, until the Messiah was to come and completely deliver them from their sin nature and redeem them back into oneness and fellowship with God.

Christ's one time perfect sacrifice of Himself purchased for us a complete deliverance from sin, Satan, and our old unfixable nature inherited from Adam and Eve.

The Apostle Paul explains in his letter to the Hebrews the benefits of Christ's amazing sacrifice.

Hebrew 9.12

...not through the blood of goats and calves, but through His own blood, He entered the Holy Place once for all of us, having obtained eternal redemption.

Hebrews 9.15

Through His death we receive an eternal inheritance.

Hebrews 10.10

We have been sanctified (made holy) through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ, once for all of us.

Hebrew 10.14

For by one offering He has perfected for all time those who are sanctified.

And as Hebrews 7.25 states,

He is able to save us "to the uttermost". The word translated "to the uttermost" means completely, perfectly, and forever.

I said previously that God originally intended for His children to be filled with and manifest His life to every nation and people group on this planet.

I also stated that Christ came to declare that the kingdom of God was here and He invited all of mankind to be born again of His Holy Spirit and enter His kingdom.

He also came and modeled before the whole world the life that God has made available for His children.

With God the Father planning it for us, Jesus Christ paying the price for us to have it, and the Holy Spirit being given as the guarantee of our possessing this amazing inheritance as our reality.

How do we lay hold of this reality and express it in our lives?

In His Parables Jesus said that the word of God is like a seed. Seeds have within them everything necessary to create a full grown, fruit bearing plant.

God's word has everything necessary to fulfill every purpose that He has for our lives. Everything begins with the seed, the word of God.

In 1 Peter 1.23 he explains that,

You have been born again not of seed which is perishable but imperishable, that is through the living and abiding word of God.

God's words are not methods, and techniques to apply with our own human effort.

Jesus said John 6.63

It is the spirit who gives life, your flesh profits absolutely nothing.

The words that I have spoken to you are spirit and they are life.

The gospel is not a religion. It's an eternal relationship with the Living God. That was paid for and made available to us by our death and resurrection with Christ.

The Holy Spirit was given to expand and grow this eternal relationship until we reach the full measure of the stature of Christ

I'm going to share just a few scriptures that give us direction on how to allow the Holy Spirit to make this destiny our ongoing experience.

Repent. Matthew 4.17

Repentance is not sorrow over our sins, it's the rejection of our old nature that produced them, and our obedience to God's word.

Lay aside our old self, and put on the new self, which is created in righteousness and holiness like God. Ephesians 4.22+23

Consider yourself to be dead to sin, but alive to God in unbroken fellowship in Christ Jesus. Romans 6.11

Present yourself to God as those alive from the dead, and your members as instruments of righteousness to God. Romans 6.14

Allow the Holy Spirit to be Lord in your life. 2 Corinthians 3.17

Behold with an unveiled face, as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, and be transformed into the same image from ever increasing glory to glory, but just as from the Lord, the Spirit. 2 Corinthians 3.18

Abide in God's love. By this union and communion we are perfected by love, and become like Him in this world. 1 John 4.16+17

These are only a few of the directions that God gives us to walk in His life.

I encourage you not to read the Bible for information. Read it remembering that they are statements of reality from God to make us aware of who WE ARE and who HE WANTS TO BE IN AND THROUGH US.

Then ask the Holy Spirit to make those realities your life. The eternal results of our doing, and saying, will come from our BEING who He has made us to BE.

One final scripture.

If then you have been raised with Christ, to a new life, thus sharing His resurrection from the dead, aim at and seek the rich, eternal treasures that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God.

Set your mind and keep it set on what is above, the higher things, not on the things that are on the earth.

For as far as this world is concerned, you have died, and you're new, real, life is hidden with Christ in God.

When Christ, Who is your life, appears, then you also will appear with Him in the splendor of his glory.

God bless you.

Jim Fuller