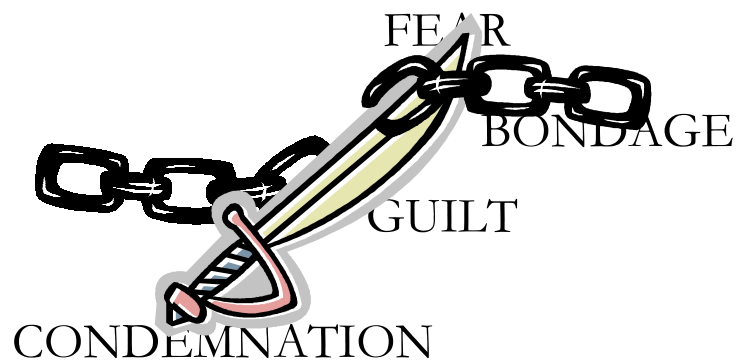


Volume

1

BRYAN ALTON CUFF

Discover the freedom in Christ that many are experiencing



The Truth that
sets FREE

BRYAN ALTON CUFF

The Truth that set's FREE

DEDICATION

This booklet is dedicated to you and all God's children around the world who are hungry and are seeking for more of Him.

Note: All scriptures taken out of the King James Version unless otherwise stated.

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THE TRUTH THAT SETS FREE

Introduction

*Scripture: Job 8:32 And ye shall know the **truth**, and the truth shall make you **free**.
Job 8:36 If the **Son** therefore shall make you free, ye shall be **free indeed**.*

Initially I wrote these notes for myself after listening to Warren Litzman, a man that has served in the ministry for over 40 years and who served with Oral Roberts, as well as Kenneth Hagin and Kenneth Copeland and many others. It has had a profound effect on me as a Christian. He is no novice to the ministry and has been involved in healing ministry, revivals and many other moves of God. I have not written this booklet for fame or fortune.

I give this out freely. I echo what the Apostle Paul said in 1Cor 9:18 “What is my reward then? Verily that, when I preach the gospel, I may make the gospel of Christ without charge, that I abuse not my power in the gospel.” My hearts desire is that you will truly experience God as I have and come to the fullness of knowing Him. Glory to God! Neither do I presume nor do I want to make as if I know everything – I don’t – but I do have Christ in my heart that wants you to know and to have this experience.

This booklet is about coming to Christ Himself and the revelation of His Word, which brings us to a place of such a liberty that you can experience yourself. The Truth will set you free. There is true freedom from sin, bondage and many other things through knowing what the scripture says. True knowing (not just a mental assent to it) and the revelation of who Christ is in you, will bring you into a freedom and rejoicing and growth that you didn’t think possible. I also want to add that today different *methods* are used to attempt to bring people into freedom. Only the TRUTH (which the Holy Spirit wants to reveal) sets us free.

Many Christians rely on or are co-dependant on other people for their sense of value, worthiness and esteem. These truths, when properly established in you, will free you of false feelings of unworthiness and valueless ness.

I hope that these truths will have the same effect on you. Just a word of encouragement here. ONLY THE HOLY SPIRIT can reveal these truths to you. My job is simply to share them. The Holy Spirit is the One that brings revelation. Be blessed as you continue reading.

Bryan Alton Cuff (B.Min)

*Scripture: 2Ti 2:15 Study to show thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, **rightly dividing the word of truth.***

Rightly dividing the word of truth

In order to fully grasp and to understand that which I would like to share with you, we need to understand about rightly dividing the word of truth. Now I also understand that we attempt to rightly divide the word with the understanding that we have at a particular moment in time. But in order to understand the Gospel of Grace, we need to understand the different dispensations in the plan of God. In other words, we must *divide* them in the proper way.

**Truth No. 1
Rightly dividing
the word of
truth is like
looking at the
word with the
right
spectacles**

If we look at the Word of God with the wrong perspective or with the spectacles of a different dispensation, we will see the word in a different way and we will not be rightly dividing the word. If we put on the spectacles of grace, we will see everything in a grace perspective. If we look at the word from a judgmental or legalistic point of view, we will see everything in that light (and believe me, I have done this in my Christian walk – just ask my wife).

The different dispensations of God

Dispensation: A religious system (METHOD) regarded as divinely ordained for a particular nation or period; the age characterized by such a system; any established or prevailing system under which one lives or works. (New Shorter Oxford English Dictionary)

We need to rightly divide the different dispensations that God had in place in various times in the history of the earth. There are 7 dispensations in the word of God. They are as follows:

1. The dispensation of Innocence.
2. The dispensation of Conscience.
3. The dispensation of Human Government.
4. The dispensation of Promise.
5. The dispensation of Law.
6. The dispensation of Grace and lastly,
7. The dispensation of the Millenium.

Now this is the problem. If we mix any of these methods that God had instituted for man, that is, the methods that man had to use in that particular time-frame, then we are mixing those methods with the method that God gave us to use now. It won't work. If we use a previous method, all of which man had failed by the way, or use a future method i.e. the Millennium dispensation with the method that He intended for now, we will reap confusion. We can't steal, so to speak, or misuse things from a different dispensation. If we mix law with grace, it is like taking water and mixing it with a good wine. The wine dilutes. When Jesus changed water into wine, there was no mix. The wine that was tasted at the wedding was the best wine. It was unmingled wine. If one had to mix a good wine, it would lose its taste. It would become *watered-down*. The water is now no longer pure water and the wine is not wine in its purest form. This is the same with the gospel of grace. If we mix it with anything else, it becomes **a watered-down gospel. It loses its power in us!** I truly believe that that is why many Christians find themselves struggling with things like identity (I did), temptation, sin, fear, bondage, condemnation, etc. Here is the GOOD NEWS, you don't have to anymore! The truth will set you free! Okay, a little more about dispensations.

We are now in the dispensation of grace. This is the dispensation that Paul was the minister of. (Paul also called it the *mystery*)

Colossians 1:25 Whereof I am made a minister, according to the dispensation of God which is given to me for you, to fulfill the word of God;

Paul said that he was a minister according to the dispensation of God, (the current dispensation of grace), which was given to him to give to us. So we really need to study and look at what Paul said about this. He said that we need to be established according this dispensation.

Now if we try to FIT TRUTH that belongs to another dispensation or another gospel, it's like David trying to put on Saul's armour. Its armour alright, but it was not designed for David, it was designed for Saul – We have to put on the correct armour (so to speak).

I want to add something very important here. The word says that : “All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness,” But in 2 Tim 3:15 it says: “Study to show thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.” The word DIVIDE means “to cut straight, to divide right” or “to rightly and skillfully distribute the word”. It also means:

1. Simply to cut straight, or to rectify.
2. To walk in the right way; it is thus used by Gregory Nazianzen, who, in Orat. Apol. fugae, opposes *ορθοτομειν* to *κακως οδευειν*, walking in a right way to walking in a bad way.

Thus, *καινοτομειν* signifies **to walk in a new way**, and *κατευθυνειν* to walk in a straight way. Clarkes commentary.

We need to learn to cut straight, to divide right and to skillfully distribute the word so that we can walk in the right way.

The reason for confusion in the church i.e. a divided church (many denominations)

Now by way of introduction in what I want to share with you, I need to talk about the Apostle Paul here. By the time that Paul had received the revelation of the mystery from heaven, none of the other apostles at the time had received this revelation. Paul was the first

person to receive it. (See diag. 1) When he received this revelation (which is the primary reason for this booklet), he did not go to Jerusalem to share it with the other apostles. He went up to Arabia for a period of three years, after which he went to Jerusalem to share with the other apostles.

Now this is an important point, because their revelations were based upon what they knew, and not on the revelation of Paul. Therefore the writings of Matthew, Mark, Luke, (called the synoptic gospels), Peter (to some degree), James and Jude were written without the revelation of the Gospel of Paul. They were the *Judaistic writers*. Most of the topics, so to speak, were written to the Jews at the time. I just need to make that clear. (In fact the letter of James is addressed to the twelve tribes of Israel). It did not contain the mystery that was revealed to Paul. (Incidentally, it was only added to the bible some 300 years later) In fact this mystery was hidden from before the foundation of the world and was revealed for the very first time to the Apostle Paul in Rom 16:25 (who writes approximately two thirds of the New Testament).

The letter of John was written some twenty years after Paul's letters and for the first time, the rebirthing is mentioned, which was one of the primary things that Paul speaks about. Abiding in Christ is written about in John Chapter 14 and this was one of Paul's main focuses. Peter, later on, comes to the knowledge of Paul's gospel and writes in 2Pet 1:12 "Wherefore I will not be negligent to put you always in remembrance of these things, though ye know them, and be **established in the present truth.**" This *present truth* was Paul's gospel, of which he said that we need to be established by. (See next chapter). (I would like to just insert a commentary from Gill here. This is what he says about the above scripture: "by "the present truth" may be meant, either the **whole scheme of the Gospel, which was now come by Christ, in opposition to the exhibition of it under the former dispensation, by promise and type**; and it being so called, shows that it is always now, and new; that there will be no alteration in it, nor addition to it, it being like the author of it, the same yesterday, today, and for ever, and will not give place to another scheme of things;)

So in rightly dividing the word, we need to understand where the people who wrote the different letters and gospels were at the time. Paul says that we ought to be established "according to my gospel". This is what I will deal with in the next chapter.

*Scripture: Rom 16:25 Now to him that is of power to **establish you according to my gospel**, and the preaching of Jesus Christ, according to the revelation of the mystery, which was kept secret since the world began,*

Paul's Gospel

I found this to be so interesting. I never thought of it like this before. Paul called the gospel that he was talking about “my gospel”. I thought, okay, it must be the gospel as I know it, that Jesus died for my sins, and that he paid the price for me. Of course that is the gospel; however, the Apostle Paul had another revelation of Christ which he called “my gospel”. What is this gospel of Christ that Paul claimed to be his? Well, this is the most amazing thing. It was something that had been kept secret since the creation of the earth. And God chose Paul, a murderer of His own people, to reveal an incredible mystery.

He mentions this in ***Rom 16:25 Now to him that is of power to establish you according to my gospel, and the preaching of Jesus Christ, according to the revelation of the mystery, which was kept secret since the world began,***

**Truth No. 2 -
We must be
established
according to
the gospel of
Paul.**

Points relating to this scripture

- Trust God to establish you according to this truth.
- You can be **established** according to Paul's gospel.
- You can understand the revelation of the mystery, which has been kept secret since the world began.

So Paul received something, which up to that point in time, had never before been shared with another human being. In fact, he was the first person to write scripture in the New Testament. (Paul's epistles were written between 51-68 AD, the Synoptic gospels were written between 68-71 AD and the Gospel of John in 95 AD) In Galatians, chapter one, Paul speaks of his experience that he had with Christ.

Paul's experience

Gal 1:11 But I certify you, brethren, that the gospel which was preached of me is not after man.

Gal 1:12 For I neither received it of man, neither was I taught it, but by the revelation of Jesus Christ.

Here Paul says that no man taught him this revelation, but it was received from Jesus Christ Himself. As we read further, we see that after three years, Paul goes up to Jerusalem and confers with Peter and tells him about the revelation of the Lord which he received.

In Colosians 1 vs 26 and 27, it says the following: Even the mystery which hath been hid from ages and from generations, but now is made manifest to his saints:

The mystery of the ages revealed: Christ in you, the hope of glory.

To whom God would make known what is the riches of the glory of this mystery among the Gentiles; which is **Christ in you, the hope of glory**

What an awesome God who would reveal this to us. There is something just so incredible about us having Christ dwelling in us, if we are Christians of course.

Paul's experience can become your experience

Because now this is the start of you becoming the person that God intended you to be. A friend of mine said to me the other day that so far this year, he has not had peace. He has struggled with things. So this is the thing. You have Jehovah Shalom, the God of peace, LIVING IN YOU. You have Jehovah Rapha, the God of Healing, living in you. You have the God of rest, living in you. This is the completion of your creation. (I am talking about at this moment in time. Our bodies will still be changed in the twinkling of an eye). You can have total peace, joy and the life of God living through you. (The Kingdom of God is righteousness, peace and joy in the Holy Ghost) and the Kingdom of God is IN YOU! You just need to accept this by faith. It becomes the END, I will say it again the END of your struggles. You won't need to feel that you need to fit in, or get to the right place or feel accepted or whatever! Christ is in you. You are totally accepted by God.

How God sees us

In fact, when He looks at you, He sees His Son in you. He sees, righteousness, holiness, JESUS! I just found this SO AWESOME! 1Cor 1:30 "But of him are ye in Christ Jesus, who of God **is made unto us wisdom, and righteousness, and sanctification, and redemption:**" He is made unto us WISDOM, RIGHTEOUSNESS, SANCTIFICATION AND REDEMPTION. We are righteous because God sees His only beloved son, is us. On our own, our righteousness is like filthy rags. In other words, there is no goodness in us that we can boast about. None of our own goodness can get us to heaven. In fact, it is not sin that sends us to hell, but it's not having Christ that sends us to hell.

Something to remember!

Now I just feel that I need to encourage you here. You will not learn this overnight. You experience day to day struggles and you see righteousness as something that cannot be attained to. We feel that we need to *try harder* or to attain to it by some method or another. We even feel that we need to work at acceptance. So we draw the conclusion that God sees us as failures. This is not true. **We are victors in Christ.** That is why we have to renew our minds daily with these truths. That's why I wrote this short booklet.

But I want to elaborate more about this in the next chapter.

Revision Questions:

- a. According to which gospel did Paul say that we need to be established?
- b. What is the mystery that was revealed to Paul?
- c. Who is our wisdom, righteousness, sanctification and redemption?

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

I live, yet not I, but Christ lives in me

Now when I read this scripture the first time, I thought to myself: “Gee, Paul really had it together. I mean, I don’t feel all that crucified and I don’t feel crucified to the world like Paul – what a righteous dude”. Now this is the point. A Christian **IS ALREADY CRUCIFIED WITH CHRIST**. He just might not know it. This is simply a statement of fact. In Romans 6 vs 6, it says: “Knowing this, that our old man is crucified with him...” There is a **knowing this** involved. Do you really know this? It goes on to say in Romans 6 vs 11: “Likewise, **reckon** ye also **yourselves** to be dead indeed unto sin...” To reckon means to come to the complete conclusion through meditation and saying it to yourself that you **are dead to sin and this world and that you have been crucified**. It is a statement of fact. When you received the Lord Jesus as your Lord and Saviour by faith, you were put in His Body and you were crucified with Him. Now Paul goes on to say:

Truth No.3 -You have been crucified with Christ.

“Nevertheless, I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me.” Now again, this is an incredible statement. This is the mystery revealed. You live, but Christ lives in you. You are a Christ-you! You are no longer a “sinful you”. It’s almost like we should be called “christiams”. We are CHRIST I AMPERS. This was in fact what was meant by “Christians” so first called at Antioch.

Then Paul says: “and the life which I now live in the flesh...” The life that you now live IS CHRIST! For example, I am not a pastor, I am a pastor by Christ in me. I am not a teacher, I am a teacher by Christ in me. I am not a mechanic, I am a mechanic by Christ in me. That’s a huge difference. (I am going to speak about ABIDING later. This is part of it). This is where Christ starts shining through you. So I live, yet not I, but Christ lives in me. Now Paul continues to say: “the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God...”) I DON’T EVEN HAVE MY OWN FAITH. I live by the faith of the Son of God! I just receive HIS FAITH to live by. Who am I to think that I can muster up enough faith to live the Christian life? My friend, God provides it for you. Each one has been given faith. You just receive what He gives. It is the gift of God. Stop striving, and receive. This, by the way, is the work of the Holy Spirit, to reveal the Christ-Life in and through you. Through continuous abiding, we receive more grace.

Let’s look at this. In Galatians 1:15 and 16, it says: “But when it pleased God, who separated me from my mother’s womb, and called me by his grace, **To reveal his Son in me**, that I might preach him among the heathen; immediately I conferred not with flesh and blood:” You see God wants to reveal His son in you. The work of the Holy Spirit is to reveal the Christ that is in you to the world. When we live this, the fruit of the Holy Spirit becomes evident.

Now I just want to emphasize something that I said earlier. That only the Holy Spirit can reveal this to you. Look at the following scripture again: In Galatians 1:15, it says: “**But when it pleased God ... To reveal his Son in me**”. God will reveal this truth to you when it pleases Him. Some won’t receive this

because they are not ready. No one can force this upon you, that's what religion does. Now what if you don't really understand or know this. If you are born again you will obviously go to heaven. But this message, my friend, **is for the journey!!** It helps you to deal with adversity and all the things that you go through in life.

And I also need to say, because it is a mystery, God will reveal it to whom He pleases and He will reveal it to those who really want to know. It is a completely individual experience with the Father who is training His children.

Scripture: Eph 1:4 According as he hath chosen us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before him in love:

Eph 1:5 Having predestinated us unto the adoption of children by Jesus Christ to himself, according to the good pleasure of his will,

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

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

We are in the wrong house!

Now this is the most incredible thing. In Ephesians 1 vs 4, it says that we have been chosen in him **before the foundation of the world**. I believe that God the Father wanted children who would populate his house. He wanted children who would love Him and He created man. This was His plan before the foundation of the world. Jesus said that we are in this world but not part of it. Joh 15:19 “If ye were of the world, the world would love his own: **but because ye are not of the world**, but I have chosen you out of the world...” We as Christians, are designed for heaven. We are strangers and aliens in this world and are ambassadors in a foreign country, so to speak.

The Grace Gospel started before the world began. But when man (Adam) blew it, Christ came as the last Adam to set it straight. Now for me, this is some deep stuff here. Jesus based his relationship with the Father on what happened before the world began. John 17 vs 24: Father, I will that they also, whom thou hast given me, be with me where I am; that they may behold my glory, which thou hast given me: for thou lovedst me before the foundation of the world.” See, we get so stuck with things around us. We get stuck with the condition of the world, (ofcourse we are meant to share Christ with the world, but I want to just make a point here). In fact, we think somehow that we have to straiten out the world. Jesus never came to straiten out the world, so to speak. He will do that in the next dispensation. (I am speaking about politics, etc.) He didn’t come to straiten out Rome, government or religion. Those are the things that killed Him. He will come and do that in the next dispensation in Israel. Even in our own lives, Jesus isn’t just a *fixer upper* to come and fix up our world, or our attitudes, or our minds, etc. He is LIFE. Christ is our life, being lived through us. He said we will still have problems. He came so that those who *believe on Him would be saved, rebirthed into His house. We receive a BRAND NEW LIFE, the CHRIST-LIFE*

This brings me to Romans 12:2 And **be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind**, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God. I want to deal with more of this later, but here Paul says that we can be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Your mind is your soul which is your intellect, emotions and feelings. (These are reshaped by the Word of God and the Holy Spirit and made whole and healthy. I want to just state what I have discussed already. Our minds have to be renewed by BELIEVING THE FOLLOWING:

THE TRUTH THAT SETS FREE

- That we are not **conformed to this world** and that we of His House and that our **relationship with the Father** is based on His plan that was laid **before the foundation of the world**
- That we **have been crucified** with Christ and that we are to reckon ourselves **dead** to sin and **alive to Christ** (this is freedom from bondages and sin – the truth shall set you free)
- That **Christ lives in you** – and that you are a *Christ-I-am'er*
- That the live you now live, you live by the **faith of the Son of God.**

I really hope that you are getting this. The Holy Spirit is the one who reveals the fullness of revelation. Even as Paul prayed this for us: “Eph 1:16 Cease not to give thanks for you, making mention of you in my prayers, Eph 1:17 That the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give unto you **the spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of him:** Eph 1:18 The eyes of your understanding being enlightened; that ye may know what is the hope of his calling, and what the riches of the glory of his inheritance in the saints,” I believe that this what Paul was praying, that we would truly “see” and LIVE CHRIST OUT IN OUR LIVES.

We are saved to inhabit His House.

Scripture: Col 3:3 For ye are dead, and your life is hid with Christ in God. Col 3:4 When Christ, who is our life, shall appear, then shall ye also appear with him in glory.

The reason why we battle

If we have been taught that happiness and joy comes from things from the outside, we will only have those emotions when our expectations are met. When we receive miracles, healings, spiritual manifestations, etc, (and these aren't bad to receive at all, we all want them) we feel that then we are being spiritual. But these are all outward forms.

But because Christ is in us, we experience joy. That's why Paul could say "Rejoice always, and I again I say rejoice" (Phil 4:4) Our identity is not in what we do. It's Christ in us that forms our identity. When

Truth No. 5 – Your identity is not based on what you do, but who you are, which is Christ in you.

our identity is formed on what we do, then when 'what we do' is taken away, we feel worthless and aimless in our life. But when our identity is "its not I that live, but Christ that lives in me" then that identity is never lost, because Christ said that He would never leave or forsake us. Christ in us is who we really are. It's HIS nature that lives through us. We used to have the devil's nature in us (Jesus said that's who our father was), but when we got rebirthed, we were adopted into His Family, and we become sons (and daughters) of God.

The problem we have with identity

Our identity is who we are, not what we are. When you open your identity document or book, who do you see? Well, you see **you!** There is a photograph of you and there are details of where you were born, the place of birth, your birth date, etc. It is who you are. It doesn't say what you do or who you claim to be or your gifts, etc. Many Christians base their identity or what they do or the gift that is inside them. Paul said that he doesn't live, yet he does, but it is CHRIST WHO LIVES IN HIM. He bases his entire identity on the CHRIST IN HIM. That brings us to such rest in Him because now we don't feel COMPELLED TO PERFORM anymore for our identity or acceptance. We are accepted in the beloved. We are sons of God. We are born from above.

I refer to the chapter that I wrote on wearing the right spectacles. If we look at ourselves through the spectacles of this world, we will not see ourselves the way Christ intended us to see ourselves. Lets look at the following scripture: 2Co 5:16 So from now on we regard no one from a worldly point of view. Though we once regarded Christ in this way, we do so no longer. (Jesus of Nazareth) 2Co 5:17 Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come! (THE NEW CREATION GOSPEL)

We cannot regard anyone (including ourselves) from a worldly point of view any longer. You see, the aim of this booklet is for you to live a “higher life” in a “higher gospel” not a lower one. (Remember that Paul said that you ought to be established according to HIS GOSPEL in Romans 16:25) You are because Christ is in you. You were never called to live in any anxiety or fear, but in a place of rest in Him. (Irrespective of the conditions or circumstances around you) Christ in you is rest. Christ in you is peace. It’s not about you, so to speak. It’s about Christ living through you. In ourselves we are nothing. But Christ living through us gives us LIFE. There is no live, except for the Son. He is our life, glory to God. My prayer is that you will get this and that the Holy Spirit will reveal the fullness to you, because it is glory!

With the understanding of “Christ in you”, there is no lack of spiritual blessings, answered prayers, healings and miracles. You are always in a “non-separated state” with Christ when you understand that He lives in us. (Study John 14). But now I would like to make it clearer with the following scripture, because I really want you to get this:

Col 3:1 If ye then be risen with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ sitteth on the right hand of God. Col 3:2 Set your affection on things above, **not on things on the earth.** (CARNAL /TEMPORAL THINGS) Col 3:3 For ye are dead, and your life is hid with Christ in God. Col 3:4 **When Christ, who is our life,** shall appear, then shall ye also appear with him in glory.

I feel that many Christians base their *success or failure as a Christian* in what they have or what they do. In other words, they must have *more faith* and they run around from place to place, conference to conference with promises of more faith, etc. No, I am not against faith (or conferences) at all. But what I am trying to say is that we are not to set our affections on things on the earth, because Christ is our life. Don’t be caught up with the temporal things of this earth and base your Christian success on this.

The foundation must be right

If our believe system is not right, our foundation is wrong. Jesus said this about foundations: Luk 6:48 He is like a man which built a house, and digged deep, and laid the foundation on a rock: and when the flood arose, the stream beat vehemently upon that house, and could not shake it: for it was founded upon a rock. Luk 6:49 But he that heareth, and doeth not, is like a man that without a foundation built a house upon the earth; against which the stream did beat vehemently, and immediately it fell; and the ruin of that house was great. Now Paul went on to say: 1Co 3:10 According to the grace of God which is given unto me, as a wise masterbuilder, I have laid the foundation, and another buildeth thereon. But let every man take heed how he buildeth thereupon. 1Co 3:11 **For other foundation can no man lay than that is laid, which is Jesus Christ.**

Jesus Christ is the only foundation that one can lay in someone’s life. Christ in you is such a solid foundation. We need to take heed as to how we build. Only the correct foundation and building will stand. Paul proceeds with this. 1Co 3:12 Now if any man build upon this foundation gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, stubble; 1Co 3:13 Every man's work shall be made manifest: for the day shall declare it, because it shall be revealed by fire; and the fire shall try every man's work of what sort it is. 1Co 3:14 If any man's work abide which he hath built thereupon, he shall receive a reward. 1Co 3:15 If any man's work shall be burned, he shall suffer loss: but he himself shall be saved; yet so as by fire.

Christ in you is the hope of glory. If discipleship, for example, is just a bunch of rules and laws that we lay on somebody, that is not a solid foundation. The foundation has to do with Christ in you and the

relationship that we have with Him. If we just bring correction to somebody, people will *do alright for a while*. The gospel is not correction. It is God birthing us into His sons.

I refer again to what Peter wrote, that we should be established according to present truth. Peter wrote this: 2Pet 1:4 “Whereby are given unto us exceeding great and precious promises: that by these ye might be **partakers of the divine nature**, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust.” We cannot correct the old nature that we had, we are given a **new divine nature**. That nature comes about with Christ in us. He now lives His nature through us as I discussed before.

Previously, we did not have God’s nature. We had the devil’s nature. After we get born again, we receive the nature of the Lamb. This nature is broken, humble, contrite and giving. There is an EXCHANGE OF NATURES which took place. This cannot be received by somebody shouting at you, yelling that you have to change, by the law, being told what to do, or being written on stone. God is love, and this is what God puts in us. Not a bunch of laws. But His nature, His love, His grace. As we abide in Him, we abide in His presence.

*Scripture: John 15:4 Abide **in me, and I in you.** As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself, except it abide in the vine; no more can ye, except ye abide in me.*

Job 15:5 I am the vine, ye are the branches: He that abideth in me, and I in him, the same bringeth forth much fruit: for without me ye can do nothing.

Abiding in His presence

Jesus said that abiding was the basis of intimacy and being in His presence. The Message version says: "...When you're joined with me and I with you, the relation intimate and organic, the harvest is to be sure and abundant..." It is us abiding in Christ and Christ abiding in us, that brings us into the ABUNDANT LIFE full of the harvest of His fruit in us.

Truth No. 6 – You are inextricably joined to Christ. You live in a non-separated state with Him!

In his book "Practicing the presence of God", brother Lawrence said that wherever he went, he would practice God's presence. He would have the habitual practice or doing or awareness of the knowledge of God wherever he was and whatever he was doing. He would do it all to the glory of God. When we are so aware of the truth that Christ is in us, we will abide in Him in a consistent way.

When we go to Church, we don't go into His presence and when we leave, we are not now "outside" of His presence. We remain in that place of intimacy and abiding, because He abides in us.

Developing a love relationship with Him

With the revelation of Christ in you, you will develop or fashion a love affair with Him. Our first love is rekindled. I cannot stop telling people about Him because the basis of our relationship is that He so loves us that He comes to dwell inside us. What grace that is. What a love that is. God is love. In Jude 1:21, it says: "Keep yourselves in the love of God...", and if we love Him, we will keep His commandments. We will WANT TO DO IT! His commandments are no longer LAW TO US. 1Jo 5:3 For this is the love of God, that we keep his commandments: and his commandments are not grievous. When we love Him and our love relationship develops, his commandments are not longer grievous. The word also says in 1Jo 4:18 "There is no fear in love; but perfect love casteth out fear: because fear hath torment. He that feareth is not made perfect in love." This love of God, casts out FEAR! As a fruit of abiding in Christ and Christ abiding in us, FEAR IS KICKED OUT THE DOOR! The perfect love of Christ CASTS OUT FEAR.

You see, this is the TRUTH THAT SETS FREE! 2Tim 1:7 "For God hath not given us **the spirit of fear**; but of power, and of **love**, and of a sound mind."

I want to just add a note here. You never ever again, HAVE TO RECEIVE ANY CONDEMNATION FROM ANYONE. You are free of this. Christ Jesus declares you free. You never need to receive any kind of legalistic righteousness or any legalism that anybody tries to put upon you. Nothing can be forced upon you. We serve out of love and God's calling. God loves you and it is this love that causes us to serve Him. You do not need to be intimidated, manipulated or controlled. Serve Him because He loves you and you love Him.

The Christian's commission

In conclusion, I want to say that this is the Christian's commission. It is the ministry of reconciliation. It is to reconcile people back to God's plan. This has been God's plan from the beginning: RELATIONSHIP.

He made us to have a love relationship with Him. He is our Father. In order to do that, he had to create new creatures who would love Him.

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

2Co 5:18 And all things are of God, who hath reconciled us to himself by Jesus Christ, and **hath given to us the ministry of reconciliation;**

2Co 5:19 To wit, that God was in Christ, reconciling the world unto himself, not imputing their trespasses unto them; and hath committed unto us the word of reconciliation.

2Co 5:20 Now then **we are ambassadors for Christ**, as though God did beseech you by us; we pray you in Christ's stead, be ye reconciled to God.

2Co 5:21 For he hath made him to be sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him.

We have been given the ministry of reconciliation, to reconcile people back to God, through His Son Christ Jesus. This work is done by grace. It is not done by power, nor by our own might, but by the Holy Spirit. God works in us (Eph 2 : 10) so that He can reveal Jesus through us. He wants to reveal Christ in you to the world. I will discuss more of this in the next chapter.

Scripture: Gal 5:16 This I say then, Walk in the Spirit, and ye shall not fulfil the lust of the flesh.

Walk in the Spirit

It's a choice!

Gal 5:16 This I say then, Walk in the Spirit, and ye shall not fulfil the lust of the flesh.

We can choose daily whether we are going to live in the Flesh or the Spirit. We can react to circumstances in fear, judgment, criticism, anger, etc. (That is why we need to be filled with the Word of God to renew our minds Rom 12:1,2)

Truth No. 7 – As you walk and live in the Spirit, you have the Power of God to live an overcoming and full life.

On a Monday morning, I can choose to live in the Spirit that day. This is allowing Christ that is in us to live through us. This is often the problem with us. Christ lives in us but we often don't allow Him to live **through us**. We need to surrender and to submit to Him in our lives. I want to revisit the following scripture which I mentioned earlier: Gal 2:20 I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me. This scripture states that we **have been CRUCIFIED** with Christ already. Now as we live our daily lives, the Christ-life lives through us. The life we live in the flesh we live by the faith of the Son of God. But we choose to live this life on a daily basis. We will either react in the flesh or by the Spirit. For example, someone says something to us that pushes our button. The devil knows exactly which button to push. We feel like lashing out, but instead we remain calm and just chill and react by the Spirit which is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness and temperance (self-restraint or self control). We have the power to make this choice. When we react in the Spirit, then Christ is living through us. We don't let anything upset us, but we allow Galatians 5 to be seen on us.

The Joy of the Lord is our STRENGTH. But even when we are weak, He is strong.

Living in the Spirit is the power of God to live an overcoming life. It is something we need to practice every day. When we do this, we are practicing the presence of God (as Brother Lawrence once said). Our attitudes, emotions, minds, bodies and spirits will be in tune with God. We will have the mind of Christ. This is the power of God, for He has not given us a spirit of fear, but one of power, love and a sound mind (2 Tim 1:7). I think quite often, we just react out of fear, but we can train ourselves not to think that way. It is also a decision we make.

Gal 5:16 This I say then, Walk in the Spirit, and ye shall not fulfil the lust of the flesh.

When we decide to do this on every occasion, we will not give the flesh an opportunity to arise, but Christ will be living through us. The flesh loves religion, the law and its own works. But if we are led of the Spirit, we are not under any law. Gal 5:18 But if ye be led of the Spirit, ye are not under the law.

THE TRUTH THAT SETS FREE

The Spirit wants to lead us to freedom. It is important also then to forgive ourselves if we have done something wrong or have committed a sin. Often we hold things against ourselves and remain in bondage.

The word says:

Gal 5:1 **Stand fast** therefore in the **liberty** wherewith Christ hath made us free, and be not entangled again with the yoke of bondage.

We need to learn to stand fast in the liberty which Christ has given us.

Gal 5:16 This I say then, Walk in the Spirit, and ye shall not fulfil the lust of the flesh.

This is my prayer **for you**

Eph 3:19 And **to know the love of Christ**, which passeth knowledge, that ye might be **filled with all the fullness of God**.

GOD BLESS YOU!