

Unlocking Our Personal Potential!

Part 1: "Introduction"

Last time together... Unlocking the "Whatever..." of our future... *"Whatever* you do in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus..." **Colossians 3.17** "We want every detail in our lives; words, actions, *whatever...* to be done *in the name of Jesus...*" in His name... signed off in His name... *Whatever* we do, we want it to be HIS will, in HIS name, for HIS glory!

Specifically dealing with unlocking our potential obeying HIS VOICE financially... Because everything we need to touch our community can materialize by *group fidelity to tithe!* *72% hold the keys to "doubling income!"*

"The key to unlocking our future is in our active faith and deciding that now is the time to act!" "Let's face our future with faith and watch God draw the unsaved and the unskilled!"

Honestly say that I hope this unlocking goes much better! Unlocking our personal potential to grow and act and display the glory of God in these "earthen vessels!"

So, we begin preparation by crossing the t's that we know about... fulfilling the rightness we know we should!

We begin preparation for entering our worlds with Jesus, His preparation, and His life as our preparation!

Matthew 3.13-4.1 Then Jesus came from Galilee to John at the Jordan to be baptized by him. And John tried to stop Him, saying, "I need to be baptized by You, and are You coming to me?" But Jesus answered and said to him, "Permit it to be so now, for it is fitting for us to fulfill all righteousness." Then he allowed Him. When He had been baptized, Jesus came up immediately from the water; and behold, the heavens were opened to Him, and He saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and landing on Him. And suddenly a voice came from heaven, saying, "This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased." Then Jesus was led by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tested by the devil.

From the Beginning... Need the same *enlightenment*: "the heavens were opened!" The same *enablement*: "the Spirit of God descending and lighting on Him!" The same *encouragement*: "This is My beloved son in whom I am well pleased!" All the *empowerment* that comes from fulfilling righteousness! For the same *engagement* of warfare!

The Warfare... "If you are His son..." (or daughter) Devil casts doubt on our identity, value, God's love, Father care... Challenges the family tie! 3x "If you are" and "let me!" "He may not care/know about your need... "He may care but let Him prove it... "Ok. Maybe He cares but His way is hard... "Use your will, ability, to get what you want... Let me..." Devil wants to hear Jesus talk like his minion, "I will..." **Isaiah 14.13,14**

Asides 1... Jesus didn't need baptism for repentance! He lived a sinless life! **Heb 4.15 2Cor5.21** Jesus was baptized as a proclamation, *no longer just the Carpenter's son!* We are forgiven at the Cross, baptism is not the means of salvation for us! But it is the moment of declaration: "I am going under for Him to rise up with Him!" Need to get yourself prepared by fulfilling this bit of righteousness! **No longer a natural son only!**

Asides 2... See the Trinity present at the bank of the Jordan... "The Beloved Son" standing in the water... "The Voice of God the Father... My Beloved Son in whom I am well-pleased..." "The Spirit of God

descending and landing like a Dove..." "Baptize them in the name of the Father and Son and Holy Spirit!" **Mt 28.19 *It's not only your natural family present when you're baptized (righteousness)! Asides 3...*** Listen to Jesus answers to the warfare for His soul... Care for yourself! "Man does not live by bread alone but by every word that proceeds from the mouth of God!" **Matt 4.4** Make God prove His love! "You will not tempt the Lord your God!" **Matt 4.7, 12.38,39 John 20.29** Take the short cuts! "You will worship the Lord God and Him only will you serve!" **Matt 4.10**

So, we begin getting prepared by crossing the t's that we know about... fulfilling the rightness we know we should!

Stuff we know... Turning from dead works, *works we did when we were dead in sin!* **Heb 6.1** Trusting God with our lives... *simple faith, not stuck between two opinions, double minded!* **1Kings 18.21 Jam1.6-8** Putting off childish lusts! **2Tim2.22** Not letting things (offenses, bitterness, unforgiveness, distractions) tangle and trip us! **Heb 12.1**

Stuff we need to employ... "Jesus turned water into wine!" John 2 *MASTER OVER NATURAL PROCESS AND ESTABLISHMENT OF QUALITY KINGDOM!* Earliest token of the "change," not the "doctrine for drinkers!"

"Jesus came into the world not to condemn the world but that thru Him it might be saved!" John 3.17 *A SPRING OF LIFE!* Deep care and provision for restoration!

"Jesus went out of His way to cross the divide!" John 4 *EVERY LIFE MATTERS!* The harvest is plentiful! PLENTY-FULL!

"Jesus relieved suffering then dealt with sin!" JOHN 5 "Do you want to be made whole?" "You have been made whole, sin no more lest a worse thing come upon you!"

"Jesus is the Master over impossibilities!" John 6 He takes what is too little, prays, gives and watches it grow! He mixes what "is" with faith, not what "if's" with daydreams!

"Jesus is the Master over natural laws and circumstances!" v19ff Sudden storm, circumstance! Walking on water, unnatural! How do you "walk it out" when sudden circumstances hit? How you do, what you do or say, when sudden circumstances come tells how prepared you are!

Sudden Circumstances... Bad diagnosis! Death of a loved one! Accusation! Adulterous affair! Job loss! Violence! Accident! Opposition! Broken expectations!

What we do next does, or undoes, our testimony of the life of Christ in us!

As He Was So Are We in the World...

Confident in His relationship w/God! "In you Lord I put my trust... you are my strong rock... for your name's sake lead and guide me... pull me out of the net laid for me... *Into Your hand I commit my spirit!*" **Ps 31.1-5** "I know whom I have believed and I am persuaded that He is able to keep what I have committed to Him..." **2Tim2.12**

Living/operating on the words of God! The Son does nothing of himself but what he sees the Father do..." "The things I speak are the things I have seen with my Father..." "Because His commands have life everlasting in them I speak what he says to me..." "The words I speak to you, they are spirit and life..." So, "If any man speaks, let him speak as an oracle of God..."

The Sons/daughters do nothing of themselves but what they see their Father doing... and I speak the things I have seen of Him, in Him and hear from Him... Because His commands have everlasting life in them, Spirit and life in them, I strive to be His mouthpiece to the world around me!"

Looking forward to the joy set before us! What are you going to do today that carries over into eternity? What are you going to let get under your skin... that itself... lives in the temporary category? Enjoy the good things that come and go but always keep an eye on the eternal and a hand reaching to bring people into it with you!

Paul lives under the most ridiculous circumstances imaginable! *Every front!* He says, "I'm looking not at the things which I am seeing, but at the things which are not seen! I know the things I am seeing, feeling, hearing, are temporary but that there are things coming which are eternal!" He's looking up, higher, "*house of God!*"