

Kingdom News

The Kingdom is Yours; the power is Yours and the glory is Yours, forever.... (Matt. 6:13)

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Motto for the year of 2011

Render therefore unto God ... **the things that are God's.** (Matthew 22:21 KJV)

The Chief Cornerstone



It Isn't Really ... Is it?

While praying one afternoon, I was repenting for a casual, *nonchalant* disposition that I had taken regarding a particular duty, before the Lord. A most interesting thing occurred. Please give me a couple of minutes to frame the event and the subsequent revelation.

Sidebar: The scriptures teach that we don't know how to pray as we ought. But that the Spirit of God intercedes for us ...⁽¹⁾ Why does He intercede for us? Well there are a myriad of divinely wise and vital reasons for this. While it is the case that we do not know what to pray for as we ought; even if we did know, much of what needs to be said on our behalf, we probably wouldn't say it even if we knew it. Much of the time when the Spirit is interceding for us, it is with "groans that cannot be uttered." But sometimes, the Spirit prays in ...

Chief Cornerstone

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The Leadership Corner *Leadership Living, Inc.*

The Process of Prayer (Part 2) **What Happens to You**

In the September edition, we discussed what "we do" when we pray. In this article we will contemplate what actually happens "**to us**" when we pray to our Heavenly Father.

In our discussion we will utilize the KJV version of the bible with some paraphrasing as we go. We will start this discussion by getting an understanding of what it means to pray to God. This is a necessary first step because there are many people that say prayers, but who are not praying to God (numerous professing Christians are included in this lot).

In Matthew 6:6-8 Jesus lets us know the posture we are to take to prepare to gain audience with our Father. He tells us that we are to approach God in secret. We are to "close the door" of our hearts so that our only focus is our Father God. It's important to do this even when we are a part of public prayer. We are to go to our "secret place" to commune with God.

Let me give you an example. When I am at church or when I am praying with my husband at home, clearly I am not alone. Still, whenever I begin to pray, I have to focus my complete attention on God. I have to cast off all other thoughts to get God's attention. If I am cumbered with how the prayer is going, the tone of the person

The Leadership Corner

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Son of My Wisdom



God's Pathos and the Pathos of Man: How They Relate

A number of months ago, in this column, we mused about *The Pathos of God*, what the experience of God is. We discussed the Godhead, both the poverty and the fullness therein. We examined the reality that God has revealed Himself as both rich and poor. His poverty is seen in His crucifixion; His fullness is seen in His resurrection: poverty of character, and fullness of power. His poverty is seen in His incarnation, and His fullness is seen in His ascension. Jesus says *take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls.* ^(Matt. 11:29) He was meek and lowly in heart, yet His fullness of power is undeniable. So we have at least some clear illustrations of both, the poverty and the fullness of God, with an emphasis on His experience, His *pathos*.

Along the way, we also considered the pathos of man. We dealt with how, as a result of the Fall, man's *ethos* (character/authority) is in ruin; and how his *logos* (thoughts/words/deeds) is vain. We saw how that man is without the power to restore his *ethos*. We discovered, therefore, that man's experience (*the way that mankind related to this life*) was perpetual sorrow, hopelessness, and internal contradiction. ^(Genesis 3:17-19) We acknowledged that man's general life experiences may not seem to accord with these truths; therefore they are not always so obvious. Then we uncovered the means by which man anesthetizes himself from his sorrow: idolatry. Man has sought to make himself as God since the Garden of Eden. Therefore man has declared in his own 'sovereignty,' that he is fine. ^(Proverbs 14:15; 21:2)

Now, as with *ethos*, and with *logos*, so it is with *pathos*. Man's pathos, man's experience and his emotions are patterned after God. **They are meant to be an expression of God's experience and His emotions.** Man was created to express the image of the Living God; this is what Jesus showed us in (and with) His own life. God has within Himself poverty of character, and fullness of power. Man is designed to express, to manifest the poverty of God's character and the fullness of His power, and to therein experience both. We already saw that Jesus said to "learn of Him because He is meek and lowly."



A Journey to Intimacy The Spirit of the Lord God is Upon Me

The Spirit of the Lord God is upon me; because the LORD has anointed me to preach good tidings to the meek; He has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, *recovering of sight to the blind* and the opening of the prison to them that are bound...⁽¹⁾

I believe that over the next few months, the Lord is going to open a few new doors to us. He will expand upon and enlighten us concerning the opening text.

The Spirit of the Lord God is upon me; because the LORD has anointed me to preach good tidings (gospel) to the meek (poor); ... He has sent me to bind up (heal) the brokenhearted, ... to proclaim liberty (preach deliverance) to the captives, ... *recovering of sight to the blind* and ... the opening of the prison to them that are bound or to set at liberty them that are bruised.

This month, we'll begin by sharing something of an introduction.

While praying one day, the Lord led me to Isaiah 61. I read the first few verses of this familiar text. I could hear our Lord, making this pronouncement about Himself.

The Lord, very sweetly and very promptly redirected my focus. He said, "Look again." I read it a few times through, with our Lord as the object of this truth. The Father, said, "Look again." He went on to say, "Can you see this as true for you? ... Personalize it." I don't mind telling you that this scared me a bit. Okay, it frightened me!! I knew this was true of our Lord. What I didn't know, was that it was to be true

Precepts in Practice



Economic Recovery – We Can Do It Ourselves

Have you wondered recently about what it would take to turn our nation's economy around? Each of us must know that the President cannot do this, nor can any of the presidential candidates. All of the "talking heads" are blurting out that they have the best plan to stimulate job growth. They have a guaranteed way to turn the recession around. Or they have a secret plan to undo the financial ills of the so-called wealthiest nation in the world.

Hmmm.....sounds like a bunch of rhetoric to me.

So, if our elected officials (and yes, many of us did our civic duty and voted for some of these people – for better or for worse) don't have the answers we need to change our situation, who does? Now, hold on. I know every Bible-toting Christian is about to shout out "God, God has the answer!" And we all know this. But, there is more to the story.

Yes, God **IS** the answer, but how do we bring into natural manifestation the solutions we need in our communities across the country? We are talking about details. If you are ready, we can delve into what might "curl your hair" by the time we are done. I hope you ate your "Wheaties" (so to speak).

Our country is supposedly in a recession. And by some estimates, we won't be coming out of it any time soon. National unemployment is at about 9% (Bureau of Labor Statistics). However, unemployment for some minorities is much higher. Unemployment among African American males is at about 16% (CBS News Report).

Poverty rates also continue to soar. While there is no definite number for actual rates of homelessness, the best estimates show that every year hundreds of thousands of people experience homelessness. And, that roughly 35% of these people are children.



Boot Camp

Submission - The Sanctification of the Soul



Milestone #2 – Your Self, Your Cross and Your Lord

The sanctification of the soul, the transforming of the soul into the image of the Lord Jesus Christ; this is the purpose of God for our lives. Nothing short of that is salvation.

For this is the will of God; even your sanctification that you should abstain from fornication. That every one of you should know how to possess his vessel in sanctification and honor. Not in the lust of sexual desire, even as the Gentiles which know not God. ⁽¹⁾

As our Lord was preparing to go to the Cross, His prayer to the Father was that we would be sanctified through the truth of God's Word. ⁽²⁾

Repeat: The Spirit of God intends, by the human spirit, to mentor and lead the soul into sweet submission and obedience to the Word of God. Thereby we become progressively sanctified into an amazing expression of "Sonship."

In the gospels⁽³⁾ our Lord challenges that if any man would come after him, let Him deny himself, take up his cross and follow Jesus. This month we'll highlight what it means to "deny our self-life." Over the following months we'll cover the "taking up of our crosses" and the practice of "following the Lord."

Light and Insight: Historically what is happening here is that Jesus is placing a wager before those who were not willing to receive the gospel from the His hands. They thought within themselves, "Why must we follow you? Yours is not the only "good news." There are other "thinkers and teachers" to consider. To which Jesus offers, "That's cool ... but any man, any thinker, any philosopher or teacher worth his *salt* (no pun intended) should be willing to die for the truth that he proffers."

You may have noticed, that He didn't say particularly (in this place) that to come after Him one must cease

Living Waters



Frames of Reference

Last month in the Chief Cornerstone column, article entitled *When “No” Means “I Disagree”* we mentioned briefly the following:

Quick sidebar: *When we are dealing with others (but especially with God) we must recognize that people speak from THEIR frame of reference. One must be an extremely objective person to effectively take into account someone else’s frame of reference. Definition of “objective:” not influenced by personal feelings, interpretations, or prejudice; based on facts; unbiased.⁽³⁾ By and large, we speak from our OWN frames of reference; for it is how we come to know and relate to our worlds. Add to that our subliminal arrogance and covert selfishness. As a result, we tend not to be as objective as we could be. Now, one does not get to be MORE objective or unbiased than God. But God (even in His objectivity) speaks from His OWN frame of reference. As well He should. Because one thing that’s unusually beautiful about His frame of reference is that it has accounted for everything else. He has this most peculiar blend of subjectivity and objectivity to His character that is overwhelmingly wonderful.*

Frames of Reference

We each have a frame of reference in which we view the Christian life (conceptually); and *our* Christian life (personally). It will be more the case that our varied frames of reference will not, at all, even slightly resemble that of our Heavenly Father. What ... oh what ... do you suppose we do about that?! Let’s see ... if we have one frame of reference for what this “way of life” ought to look like; and the Lord has another, completely other, frame of reference; it seems that there will need some reconciliation between the two, right. Job said, Oh that I had a daysman betwixt me and God to mediate this situation.⁽¹⁾ If I may be so presumptuous as to put words in Job’s mouth:

Nutrition, Health & Wellness



More on Spirulina and Chlorella

*And God said, Behold, I have given you every herb bearing seed, which is upon the face of all the earth, and every tree, in the which is the fruit of a tree yielding seed; to you it shall be for meat.
(Genesis 1:29)*

Last month, we promised to return to the discussion of some of the benefits of adding Chlorella and Spirulina to your nutrition regimen.

We also talked about the two laws that are operational in our food system. Natural foods tend to operate by the principles of the *Law of the Spirit of Life in Christ Jesus*. Whereas processed foods tend to operate by the principles of the *Law of Sin and Death*. And as you can appreciate it, these two laws oppose one another.

- The law of the Spirit of Life in Christ Jesus; gives.
- The Law of Sin and Death, takes; as it has nothing of value to give.

What characteristics do, Spirulina and Chlorella have that are consistent with the principles of the Law of the Spirit of Life in Christ Jesus?

One of the first things you want to know about both of these super foods, is that they are both whole foods. They possess an attractive ensemble of vitamins, minerals, phytochemical, etc.

“Did you know that a phytochemical found in chlorella can actually rebuild nerve damage in the brain and nervous system? That’s why chlorella is being used in the recovery of patients with Alzheimer’s and Parkinson’s disease.

Were you aware that both chlorella and spirulina can actually reverse cancer in the

well... English (or whatever your native tongue may be).

On that note, while I was praying, I heard the Spirit pray on my behalf (I actually heard Him say this). The prayer went this direction: "Father, this walk, this way of life that I have, it really isn't Christianity, is it?" Gulp!!!

Not something that I had sense enough (or inclination enough) to pray at that point. But when He said it, I had to say "Amen." For I knew it to be painfully true, for me. At that moment, a dam broke within me. And my soul was flooded with godly sorrow, which leads to genuine, life-changing repentance.

If you and I were chatting casually at some point, and you asked me if I were a Christian; my heart would rejoice to say, "Yes, by God's grace, I am." And I would genuinely mean that.

But after (and probably before) that prayer, I had began to broach the consideration with one of my accountability partners that this brand of Christianity that I claim, is such a broad departure from the Christianity of the disciples or apostles; and from the Christianity of the scriptures at large. But the Cross and the Blood that saved them, is the same Cross and Blood that I claim. How is that!?!?

The power of God and the integrity of His character that was resident among our "forbearers in the gospel" seem to be at least *absent*; and at best *altogether foreign* to me. I "*believe what I see*" when I read about it in the scriptures. But I now need to "*see what I believe*" about it in my life.

The prayer went on; this time *I* was the one praying (I believe): "... It seems that sometimes I am cold and careless about You; and about Your Word; and about Your salvation, aren't I. Although I would argue differently, it seems that "everything else in this world" is more important to me than You are. Forgive Me!!! I have forgotten the price You paid for our salvation. Admittedly it is easy to forget how much something costs, when someone else is picking up the check. Help Lord!!! Because that is not the way of *True* Christianity, is it? *True* Christianity knows that not only are we co-laborers with Christ; ⁽²⁾ but that we actually died with Him. ⁽³⁾ And that our salvation was borne out of His resurrection. When He got up, we got up with Him; to a new life. Which I know is quite different from the life that I currently live. Help!!!!" ⁽⁴⁾

I want that *new* life; I want that *new* heart, I want to walk that *new* way. I want to earnestly contend for the faith that was once delivered to the saints. ⁽⁵⁾ Because the one I have (of myself) is barren and it is a liar. A way of life that has not the Lord God as its foundation and chief cornerstone promises much, delivers little, and is extremely expensive. I can no longer afford it. It is costing me my eternity.

This always happens when we are confronted with the Living God. I hear my "big brother" Isaiah, "Woe is me, I am undone. ⁽⁶⁾ Reverberating in my ear is his cry, "I am a man of unclean lips, and I dwell among a people of unclean lips." Echoing behind him is my other brother Peter crying, "Depart from me I am a sinful man." ⁽⁷⁾

If we do not sense our need for God and the things of God; if we do not sense our poverty of spirit; we betray the darkness of our own heart.

Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. ⁽⁸⁾ Now this is really Christianity ... isn't it!?!? <ccc>

Sr. Editor, JoAnn C. White, sMHG

Scripture References - King James Version (KJV), unless otherwise stated.

- ⁽¹⁾ Romans 8:26-27
- ⁽²⁾ 1 Corinthians 3:9
- ⁽³⁾ Romans 6:6; Galatians 2:20
- ⁽⁴⁾ Psalm 146:5
- ⁽⁵⁾ Jude 1:3
- ⁽⁶⁾ Isaiah 6:5
- ⁽⁷⁾ Luke 5:8
- ⁽⁸⁾ Matthew 5:3

LOST AND FOUND

*My mind has wandered and gone astray
But God through His infinite wisdom has
spoken and set me on the right way*

*For without Him I am lost
So I must follow Him at all cost*

- *By Gerardo Cantu, August 2011*

praying, or other details about the environment, I need to know that I do not have God's ear. He must be my sole focus no matter who else is around or what else is going on.

So, the first thing that happens to me when I pray to God is that I begin to focus (with the help of the Holy Spirit) in a way that is deeper than when I focus on anything or anyone else.

When I am preparing to approach God, I also need to realize that I don't have any *new* news to give Him. Verse 8 in Matthew chapter 6 tells me so. There is nothing I can tell or ask God that He does not already know. By embracing this knowledge, something else happens to me. I begin to cast off any thoughts or intentions to "tell God all about my problems." I start to empty myself of "my" agenda and open myself to God's agenda. Now, I'm ready to approach my Holy God in a humbled posture of faith.

Now, we see that Jesus has given us the pattern of prayer that we, as believers, should follow. People who have been Christians for any length of time are usually familiar with the "Lord's Prayer." Our challenge, though, is that we may not know just what this pattern is telling "us" to do.

In Matthew 6:9-13 Jesus lays out the pattern of prayer by which we can gain access to the Father. Once again, if we do not follow this pattern, we need to check to see if we really are talking (and being heard) by our Jehovah God.

The prayer pattern starts with sincere worship. We come with our hearts bowed low before the Holy God. We say "Hallowed by thy name!"

Next, we repent before His Holiness. We turn from our way of thinking and we say, "Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth (this earthen vessel we call a body), as it is in heaven. We are at once relinquishing our earthly will to His sovereign will.

Then, we beseech Him to provide **ONLY** what He, in His divine wisdom, has determined to be sufficient for us. We say, "Give us this day our daily bread."

We move from there and acknowledge that we are mindful of His law concerning our covenant access to His provisions. We say, "Forgive us our debts **AS** we forgive our debtors." We understand that we can only receive grace to the extent we have given grace

to others. And, if we have not given grace, then we stop right there, leave our gift at the altar and extend grace as it is needed (i.e., husband, wife, children, coworker, supervisor, stranger, cashier at Wal-Mart, etc.). Then, we come back and pick up where we left off. When we do this, we begin to come in line with the law of the Lord.

Next, we enter into a mode of confession. We begin to denounce, renounce, and condemn our fleshly hearts as the sinful, deceptive evil they are. And, we turn our hearts to God seeking to be washed by the water of His Word so that no flesh would glory in His sight. We say, "Lead us not into temptation (the temptations of our own flesh), and deliver us from evil (the evil that resides in our own hearts: Jeremiah 17:9 – the heart is deceitful above all things and desperately wicked).

When this happens, we receive the cleansing power of God that changes our erroneous thoughts, fractured thought processes, perverted perspectives, and lying attitudes.

During this process, we are actually in the presence of our Heavenly Father being washed, delivered, healed, and anointed for what He has in store for us.

We can now conceive that prayer to God is so **NOT** about telling God **ANYTHING**. Instead, prayer to God is about us being changed from glory to glory. It's about God doing to us what **He** wants done as opposed to us trying to get God to do what **we** want done.

In Philippians 4:6 & 7, we find out that when we follow this perfect pattern of prayer, we can release all of our worries, and become enveloped in God's supernatural peace – no matter what we are facing. How is this possible, you ask? Good question.

When we allow God to minister to us in His presence, He changes us so that we can go back out into our environments and change our worlds. At some point, we come to understand that life is not so much about asking God to change our situations as it is about Him changing us, and using us to change situations according to His plan.

Jesus is our example on this one. When humanity needed a savior, Jesus came to die for our sins and rise for our salvation. Part of this process had to do with going to the cross. Well, while Jesus was preparing for this piece, his flesh was getting anxious. So what did he

do? In the garden of Gethsemane, Jesus prayed earnestly to the Father. In Matthew 26:36-47 we learn that Jesus prayed to bring his flesh under subjection for what he came to do.

Jesus was not praying to get God to change His mind. Oh no, no, no, no, no. Jesus was praying to get his flesh to submit. Jesus prayed three times. The first time he said, "Father, if it be possible, let this cup (task of dying for the sins of the world) pass from me; nevertheless not as I will, but as thou wilt."

The second time he said, "If this cup may not pass away from me, except I drink it, thy will be done."

The third time he said basically the same thing. Jesus prayed until his words and his heart (from the abundance of the heart the mouth speaks) lined up with God's will. This is exactly what we must do.

We don't pray until God changes His mind. We are to pray until we change our minds to agree with God. This is what is supposed to "**happen to us**" through prayer.

Be blessed.

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Joyce White, LMSW

All scripture is KJV paraphrased.

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Son of My Wisdom

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Elsewhere we also noted that all creation is meant to be put under man ^(Heb 2:8). Man is truly, and in more ways than can be expounded in a newsletter, made in the image and after the likeness of God. **Man is meant to both experience God, and to express God.** He is created to be in eternal covenant union with God.

Now to consider how the pathos of God and man are related more specifically, let's meditate on the following. The scripture lets us know that that which is unseen and spiritual is more substantial and real than that which is seen and natural. ^(2 Cor 4:18) **Obviously God is most substantial of all that is unseen. So then, the most prominent experience each person of the Godhead has is that of each of the other persons of the Godhead.** So then, to the Father that which is most real and substantial is the Son, and the Holy Spirit. For the Son, it is the Father and the Holy Spirit; and for the Holy Spirit it is the Father and the Son.

Following this line of thinking on what is most

substantial in our experience, we consider man, and then the connection between man's pathos and God's pathos. The most substantial and real to man, that which naturally has the deepest impression upon our experience is other humans.

Now we discover the relationship between the pathos of God and that of man. Man was created for the purpose (with reference to his pathos) that is shown forth in this verse: *for now we see through a glass, darkly; but then face to face: now I know in part; but then shall I know even as also I am known.* ^(1 Cor 13:12)

Right now, all that is in the world is more real an experience to us than God is; and Him we only see through a glass darkly.

But the goal of the pathos of man, and the relationship between his and God's pathos is this: that we should come to know God with the sort of knowledge wherewith He knows us. Man is to come to know God so experientially that God is most prominent in man's experience even as God is most prominent in God's own experience. Right now the world is more real to us than God is (in many ways). However, man was created to come (and in Christ man is coming) to the knowledge of God so experientially that God is more real to us than even our own selves.

Again we see: God's pathos IS; man's pathos is coming to be. Thus man's pathos is coming to be as God's pathos very really IS. The key is Jesus Christ. God knows man most perfectly by Jesus (who was God the Son) becoming the Son of man. We likewise know God most perfectly in Jesus (who was the Son of man) even as we (who are the sons of man) are becoming the sons of God. -SOMW-

David L. White

Great Gain of Godliness

by Thomas Watson (p19)

**The godly fear and sin not
The wicked sin and fear not**

The lack of the fear of God is the innate cause of all wickedness and disobedience.

(Italics added)

about me too. I said, “Lord, I’m afraid.” He returned, “If you can *receive* it, then you shall *see* it.”⁽²⁾ He said, “If you [JoAnn] can receive this as personally true about you; you will see the manifestation.”

One of my “sons in the gospel” said that “the Bible was never intended to be a history book.” James calls the Bible a mirror.⁽³⁾ He says that if we do not take the Word of God personally, it is like looking in the mirror and walking away and straightway forgetting what we just saw there.

So I began to read it personally. And when I would meet our Lord in prayer, He would remind me to repeat that confession before Him. I would. Then one day I said, “Father, HOW do I bind up the brokenhearted...?” He said, “*You don’t.*” Not by power, nor by might, but by My Spirit;” said the Lord.⁽⁴⁾ He said, “The clear and genuine *proclamation of the gospel* binds up the brokenhearted...”⁽⁵⁾ Therefore it behooves you [JoAnn] to get a proper and personal understanding of the gospel of Jesus Christ.

Proclamation of the gospel: “See it, say it, be it and do it.”

The Spirit of the Lord God is upon me; because the LORD has anointed me to preach good tidings (gospel) to the meek (poor);

What does it mean for the Spirit of the Lord God to be upon us? Among other things the presence of the Holy Spirit, conveys our Lords pre-commitment to “begin construction.” Do you remember the first time we are told of the Spirit of God moving upon something? Sure you do. He moved upon the face of the waters that covered the earth in Genesis 1:2. And what does God say, when His Spirit has positioned Himself upon the face of the waters. He says, “Let there be light...” And this is what He does with us, when the Spirit of the Lord God is upon us. He begins to speak over us *the life of Jesus Christ*. Why? The life of Jesus Christ is the light of men. And as we receive His life, we also receive power to become the sons of God.⁽⁶⁾ Here, we **are not** talking about mere

conversion. We’re talking about a deeper drawing from the wells of Living Water, a cultivating of the presence of God in our daily lives. Here, we **are** talking about an equipping one to be used of God. “Well” you say, “doesn’t God use everyone?” He can. But let me share the differences with you, this way.

Let’s say that you’re a parent or that you had/have parents (it works both ways). What is the difference within the relationships between a parent ...

And the child, who takes out the trash, does the laundry, mows the lawn, when asked; versus the child who does these things, because the child knows that these things please the parent.

You get the picture. Likewise, the Lord can choose to use you (at His discretion); or you can present yourself to Him (at your discretion), having crucified the flesh with the affections and lusts.⁽⁷⁾

Vital note: there is no virtue accruing to your account where the Lord (at His discretion) uses you.

What is this light, though? It is the knowledge of God and His Christ, in such a way, as to transform one’s life to be a manifest proclamation of the good news of the gospel. One is then equipped to be an expression of the gospel transformation in the eyes of the meek.

The Lord went on to say, that the proclamation of the gospel or the good tidings is for the meek only. And in as much as the brokenhearted, the captives, the blind, the bound and the bruised are meek or poor in spirit; then as much so will they receive the proclamation of the gospel. He said, “Don’t worry; the gospel is only for the meek. They are the only ones who will receive it.”

The original text was translated “*meek*” in Isaiah; and was translated “*poor*” in Luke.⁽⁸⁾ God has a special responsibility to the meek and to the poor.

- The Lord lifts up the meek. ⁽⁹⁾
- For the Lord takes pleasure in his people: he will beautify the meek with salvation. ⁽¹⁰⁾
- The meek will He guide in judgment: and the meek will he teach his way. ⁽¹¹⁾
- Blessed are the meek: for they shall inherit the earth. ⁽¹²⁾
- Our Lord says, “I am meek and lowly in heart....”⁽¹³⁾

- Blessed are the poor in spirit: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. ⁽¹⁴⁾
- The poor have the gospel preached to them⁽¹⁵⁾.
- Blessed be you who know your poverty: for yours is the kingdom of God. ⁽¹⁶⁾
- When a feast is made, the poor are to be called. ⁽¹⁷⁾
- For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that, though He was rich, yet for your sakes He became poor, that you through His poverty might be rich. ⁽¹⁸⁾ (

Is it perhaps that the meek and the poor KNOW that they need God? Well, the Lord wants to anoint *you* to proclaim the good news of the gospel to them, if you can look into the mirror of Isaiah 61:1 and see *yourself* there. <π>

Sr. Editor, JoAnn C. White, SMHG

Scripture References - King James Version (KJV), unless otherwise stated.

- ⁽¹⁾ Isaiah 61:1; Luke 4:18-19
- ⁽²⁾ Mark 9:23
- ⁽³⁾ James 1:23-24
- ⁽⁴⁾ Zechariah 4:6
- ⁽⁵⁾ Psalm 147:3
- ⁽⁶⁾ John 1:4, 12
- ⁽⁷⁾ Galatians 5:24
- ⁽⁸⁾ Isaiah 61:1; Luke 4:18-19
- ⁽⁹⁾ Psalm 147:6
- ⁽¹⁰⁾ Psalm 149:4
- ⁽¹¹⁾ Psalm 25:9
- ⁽¹²⁾ Matthew 5:5
- ⁽¹³⁾ Matthew 11:29
- ⁽¹⁴⁾ Matthew 5:3
- ⁽¹⁵⁾ Matthew 11:5; Luke 7:22
- ⁽¹⁶⁾ Luke 6:20
- ⁽¹⁷⁾ Luke 14:13
- ⁽¹⁸⁾ 2 Corinthians 8:9

Oh, how glorious is the One, Who can love a wretch into a son. And teach that son to do the same by bringing glory to His name. (Romans 7:23)

– by JoAnn C. White (slightly adapted) 9/26/11

Many of us are also keenly aware of the devastation various parts of the county have experienced just this year. We had flooding, hurricanes, and ravishing fires. Many homes, business, and whole communities were wiped out in days or hours.

We could go on, but I believe the point has been made. For those of us seeking a way to bring our economy back to an acceptable level so that we can begin to rebuild lives, families and communities, we need some viable solutions. Interestingly enough, one remedy immediately comes to mind.

Without getting too deep into the “why” of what is happening, let’s talk about whether or not we, as believers, can do anything to cause the tide to shift in a positive direction. We understand that human decisions got us into the economic troubles we are facing. There was no alien being, black magic, or voodoo to blame this on. Loss of jobs, homes, and livelihoods happened at the hands of humans (with the exception of the natural disasters).

So, if humans got us into this pickle, would it be sensible to think that humans must play a part in getting us out of this mess? I would say so, but, not the same humans. **We need different humans doing different things to bring about effective solutions.**

Let’s take a look at what God told Solomon (and the people of Israel) about human economy. In II Chronicles 7:12-14 something interesting comes into play. Here the people of Israel were seeking God’s blessing on their nation. So, in order to get God’s attention, they offer the required sacrifices according to the law. Then, once everyone went home, God tapped Solomon on the shoulder one night.

God proceeded to give Solomon a major key to economic stability. God told Solomon that when his nation’s economy is in a recession, depression, or any other catastrophic downturn,

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there is a sure way to bring it back into alignment. God told Solomon about kingdom recovery. This kind of renewal rests squarely on the shoulders of believers.

God says that if the entire country or nation has been devastated, change can come at the hands of the believer. When we, as believers, humble ourselves, pray, seek the plan of God for our families and communities, and turn from our wicked ways; then God will hear, He will forgive, and He will heal our lands. **This is Kingdom Economic Recovery.**

Let's discuss a workable example. In my community we are experiencing all of the problems I mentioned earlier. A handful of believers got together and began to ask God what He wanted us to do. When we did this, God told us to repent for our personal sins; take spiritual ownership of our community; and commit to do whatever God told us to do to bring about change.

As we engaged in this interaction with God, He began to give wisdom and direction. He did not tell us what He, alone, would do. On the contrary, He said that if we would be committed to making changes, He would give us a new economy right in our community. We then began to talk with other like-minded people, agencies, and business owners. They too have begun to join this movement. Now, we are starting to see changes that we had only dreamed about several months ago.

Please keep in mind that none of us has a lot of money. Most of us have very few financial resources. But, we are discovering that when we partner with what we have (i.e., skills, time, space, services, etc.) God is supernaturally multiplying the results of our efforts.

He has guided us to set programs in place to increase family functioning so that families can begin to work together instead of working against each other. Micro businesses are forming partnerships to capitalize off each other's strengths instead of competing to the point of exploitation.

And people are beginning to see new ways to use the resources they have available to meet not only their needs, but also the needs of others in our community.

God has begun to show us that true economic recovery will not necessarily start at the White House. But, it most certainly can start in my house and your house and our community. **All we need are a few people who will take spiritual responsibility for their communities. This does not mean that we focus our prayers on the sins of the people in the community. No, it means that we will repent for our own sins and commit our lives to carrying out the will of God on behalf of our communities. Then, God promised to hear, forgive (our sins), and heal our lands (the communities that we occupy).**

Wont' you join the Kingdom Economic Recovery movement in your community? -PIP~

Joyce M. White, LMSW

Boot Camp

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from sin. Comparatively, to "cease from sin" is essentially liken to kindergarten or considered basic; whereas to "deny one's self" is more akin to grade school.

If you will allow me a little fun, here is one way (not the only) of looking at it:

- Pre-K - Conviction of Sin
- Kindergarten – Forsaking Sin (as a way of life)
- Primary (Grade) School – Denying the Self-life
- Secondary (High) School – Taking up One's Cross
- Post-Secondary (aka Under-grad) – Following Him
- Graduate School – Bearing about in the body the dying of the Lord Jesus
- Real Life – Glorifying God (being conformed to the image of Christ)

He said we are obliged to deny our "selves." In order to deny one's "self-life," one must first have put away sin (as a way of life). There is no dealing with the self-life, without first dealing with sin. This may sound unusual, but sin is easier to put away than is the

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self-life. The Law clearly identifies sin for what it is. The Law points to “sin” with a solemn directive to man “thou shalt not...” Whereas the self-life robs itself in righteousness ... self-righteousness, that is. The self-life is hardly distinguishable, where sin doeth abound. Thank God for His abounding grace that gets us through that valley. But we must come *through* that valley. We must put off sin and crucify the flesh; for we are the temple of the Living God. He has been pleased to put His name upon us. Nothing that profanes is allowed in the temple of God. The priests were judged for profaning the temple and the holy things of God. ⁽⁴⁾ Therefore let us not find ourselves there.

Jesus told the rich, young ruler the same thing in a most interesting way: “One thing is lacking to you, go and sell whatever you have, and give to the poor, and you shall have treasure in heaven (i.e., deny yourself) and come, take up the cross, and follow Me.” ⁽⁵⁾

What does it mean to deny our self-life? The “self-life” is the way of life that draws upon the (mind, will and emotions) as its source for perspective and for decision-making. As we live the “self-life” we find that our language littered with the unholy trinity of “*I, me and my ... I feel, I think, etc.*” We do not seek the counsel of the Lord, as God, as Sovereign. The Lord, His name or His Word finds its way into our conversations, in so much as He may be used to support *our* agendas and *our* campaigns. When we live the “self-life” the Word of God is **not** the Ark of the Covenant for us. It is not the central focus of our covenant relationship with the Lord. Contrariwise, when we begin to deny our “self-life” we restore the Word of God as the rule of our life. We look to it, through the revelation of His Spirit, for counsel and guidance. We learn to stop making decisions based on “*I think, I feel.*” We consult the Lord for direction, and actually listen for His response. We regard His directives as Sovereign over our lives. We actually learn what it means to “love our neighbor as our very own selves.”

Next month let’s talk about what it means to “take up our cross.” Meanwhile, consider restoring the Word of God as your guiding light.

Once more, off we go, down the Via Dolorosa realizing that we must deny our self-life and take up our crosses.

If “die” we must; then “die” we shall. For in three days we get up. -BC-

Sr. Editor, JoAnn C. White, sMHG

Scripture References - King James Version (KJV), unless otherwise stated.

- (1) 1 Thessalonians 4:3-5
- (2) John 17:17; Romans 8:29; Ephesians 5:26
- (3) Matthew 16:24; Mark 8:34
- (4) Ezekiel 22:26
- (5) Mark 10:21

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Job: “In my eyes, I think I’m *not so bad*. But it seems that God has another version of the story, altogether. But who shall judge between us? Who shall mediate reconciliation between us, so that we (God and I) share a unified frame of reference?”

Why does it matter whether or not our frame of reference aligns with God’s frame of reference? One reason is that God has expectations of us, that we must come into agreement with; if we are to fulfill our divine commission. There are many, but one of them is the commandment to “*be holy, as He is holy.*” ⁽²⁾

Be Holy

Now is a good time for us to stop being afraid of the term “Holy.” And to re-introduce it back into our vocabulary. The enemy is a liar, enough of his frame of reference. He thinks that if he causes society to frown on the use of the word, “Holy” that the Body of Christ will not only stop using the term, but that we will altogether stop seeking its accomplishment in our life. For all intents and purposes it may seem (from the looks of things) that the Body of Christ has abandoned this ordinance. Not so, for the Lord always reserves for Himself a remnant. ^(2a) A people who will take God at His Word.

We have a mandate from the Throne. Our God is Holy and we are *directed*, no we are *commanded* to be **holy**, too. Please do not let this get past you. Just because we’ve stopped talking about “*holiness*,” does not therefore, absolve us of our responsibility to “*be holy.*” The foundation of God stands sure, having this seal. The Lord knows those who are His. And those who are His are “*holy.*” ⁽³⁾

Mandate

As obedient children, not fashioning yourselves according to the former lusts

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in your ignorance; but as He which has called you is Holy, likewise you be holy in all manner of conversation; because it is written, *be ye holy; for I AM Holy.*⁽⁴⁾

Glossary

Holy (definition) of such an inviolable character, as would issue forth from one's relationship; one's proximity (nearness) or likeness to God

Inviolable (definition) Incapable of being violated, or corrupted. Irrefutable

That being the case, let's reintroduce ourselves to the concept of *holiness*, in a non-threatening and non-violent manner. In a very simple sense, *holiness* is a departure from iniquity (lawlessness). It is a return to the Holy Scriptures as the governing principles of our lives. It is the seeking of the kingdom of God and His righteousness as preeminent within our frames of reference.

Not sure if you've picked up on it yet or not, but the world is changing. Our adversary is attempting to make inroads into the hearts and minds of the people of God, in such a way as to subvert our mission in the earth: which is the coming of our Lord's Kingdom.⁽⁵⁾ Beloved, now are we the sons of God, but it is not yet apparent (even to us) how God intends that we shall manifestly represent our son-ship. But when we have a clearer vision of our Lord and His Lordship over our lives then we shall be like Him.⁽⁶⁾ Our ethos shall be like His Ethos, unimpeachable character and unapproachable authority. And we shall see our Lord's enemies become His footstool.⁽⁷⁾

While *holiness* is not the only Kingdom principle that we've hid our faces from; there is a sense in which it is something of a "catch-all." Be ye holy and all these other things shall be added.⁽⁸⁾ Now that's from God's frame of reference. =LW=

Sr. Editor, JoAnn C. White, sMHG

Scripture References - King James Version (KJV), unless otherwise stated.

⁽¹⁾ Job 9:32-33

⁽²⁾ 1 Peter 1:15-16

^(2a) Ezekiel 6:8

⁽³⁾ 2 Timothy 2:19

⁽⁴⁾ 1 Peter 1:14-16

⁽⁵⁾ Matthew 6:10

⁽⁶⁾ 1 John 3:2

⁽⁷⁾ Matthew 22:44

⁽⁸⁾ 1 Peter 1:16; Matthew 6:33

human body? Both of these superfoods have been clinically shown to demonstrate stunning preventive and curative properties when it comes to all sorts of cancers.

And finally, did you know that these superfoods also contain a high content of essential fatty acids such as GLA that are routinely missing from the diets of most Americans and yet are critical for healthy brain function?"⁽¹⁾

Spirulina

What is Spirulina? And what does it give? *Spirulina is a vivid blue-green algae that commonly grows in freshwater lakes and ponds. It is considered a **complete protein**, as it contains an ideal balance of all essential amino acids, and Spirulina powder is immensely more digestible than other rich protein sources like red meat and even soy. Its whopping protein content isn't the only asset that gives Spirulina superfood status—it is loaded with **vitamins A through E, iron, potassium and calcium**. All it takes is one to two teaspoons per day, mixed into virtually any food or liquid, to add a major boost of protein, vitamins and minerals to your diet."*⁽²⁾

*Spirulina's predigested protein provides building material soon after ingestion, without the energy-draining side effects of meat protein; its mucopolysaccharides relax and strengthen connective tissue while reducing the possibility of inflammation; its simple carbohydrates yield immediate yet sustained energy; its GLA fatty acids improve hormonal balance; and its protein-bonded vitamins and minerals, as found in all whole foods, assimilate better than the synthetic variety. Spirulina can generally be considered an appropriate food for those who exercise vigorously, as evidenced by the many world-class athletes who use it. - **Healing With Whole Foods by Paul Pitchford**⁽³⁾*

Chlorella

What is Chlorella? And what does it give?

Chlorella is a tiny, single-celled water-grown alga containing a nucleus and an enormous amount of readily available chlorophyll. It also contains protein (approximately 58 percent), carbohydrates, all of the B vitamins, vitamins C and E, amino acids, and rare trace minerals. In fact, it is virtually a complete food. It contains more vitamin B12 than liver does, plus a considerable amount of beta-carotene. - A-to-Z Guide to Supplements, James F. Balch M.D.⁽⁴⁾

Chlorella has been touted as the perfect whole food. Aside from being a complete protein and containing all the B vitamins, vitamin C, vitamin E, and the major minerals (with zinc and iron in amounts large enough to be considered supplementary), it has been found to improve the immune system, improve digestion, detoxify the body, accelerate healing, protect against radiation, aid in the prevention of degenerative diseases, help in treatment of Candida albicans, relieve arthritis pain and, because of its nutritional content, aid in the success of numerous weight loss programs. - Earl Mindell's Vitamin Bible⁽⁵⁾

A good way to start to turn around your nutritional practices is with a nice, safe detoxification routine. *"If you're looking for a natural way to cleanse and detoxify, adding a small amount of this potent powder to your daily diet is an easy, gentle way to start. Chlorella algae are thought to bind with heavy metals, synthetic chemicals and other toxins, making them easy to expel from the body. It can also promote a healthy balance of natural bacteria in the gastrointestinal tract, which may even help to soothe ulcers, constipation and other intestinal issues."*⁽⁶⁾

"Chlorella has the powerful ability to help detoxify your body. Since additives are almost impossible to avoid in today's food supply, it's important to take Sun Chlorella regularly. In fact, we highly recommend that you take a serving of Sun Chlorella with each meal, because whatever pesticide may be in the food that you are eating can be absorbed by the chlorella, and may not even get a chance to be absorbed into your body. These chemicals in the food we eat, the water we drink, and the air we breathe bind to the chlorella, and are then excreted....!"⁽⁷⁾

I suggest that you do a little research of your own. Sometimes we would love to do more or we want to do better, but don't know just where to start. Perhaps here is a good place to start. When we're young and invincible, we may not pay much attention to nutrition and health. But as we age, we tend to want more living out of our life.

Well, the Lord has provided a means by which we may either sustain or restore our health. Perhaps you've never asked the Lord for His perspective on your nutrition and health. I submit to you that now would be a good time to do this.

He will Lord over every area of our lives, if we let Him. But you must invite Him in; He tends not to usurp authority over the things that He has put under our jurisdiction.

Ask Him to teach you how the principles of the Law of the Spirit of Life in Christ Jesus, frees us from the Law of Sin and Death in our nutrition and health.

Let's have our nutrition and health transformed by the renewing of our minds!!

Sr. Editor, JoAnn C. White, sMHG

Scripture References - King James Version (KJV), unless otherwise stated.

⁽¹⁾ (by Mike Adams, the Consumer Wellness Research Center - pg2, from 7/12/11 from

<http://www.chlorellafactor.com>

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<http://www.nutsonline.com/cookingbaking/powders/spirulina/premium.html>

⁽³⁾ by Mike Adams, the [Consumer Wellness Research Center](http://www.consumerwellnessresearch.com) - pg 6, from 7/12/11 from

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⁽⁴⁾ by Mike Adams, the [Consumer Wellness Research Center](http://www.consumerwellnessresearch.com) - pg 7, from 7/12/11 from

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⁽⁵⁾ by Mike Adams, the [Consumer Wellness Research Center](http://www.consumerwellnessresearch.com) - pg 6, from 7/12/11 from

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⁽⁶⁾ (Collected 7/26/11 from

<http://www.nutsonline.com/cookingbaking/powders/chlorella/powder.html?page=2#reviews>

⁽⁷⁾ Slightly adapted, collected 07/30/11 from

https://www.sunchlorellausa.com/what-is-chlorella.html?utm_source=google&utm_medium=cpc&utm_term=algae&utm_content=search&utm_campaign=Chlorella%202010%20-%20Exact&247SEM&247SEM

Psalm 4

Lord, thou wilt hear me when I pray,
I am forever thine;
I fear before thee all the day,
Nor would I dare to sin.

And while I rest my weary head,
From cares and business free,
'Tis sweet conversing on my bed,
With my own heart and thee.

I pay this evening sacrifice:
And when my work is done,
Great God, my faith and hope relies
Upon thy grace alone.

Thus, with my thoughts
composed to pray,
I'll give mine eyes to sleep;
Thy hand in safety keeps my days,
And will my slumbers keep.

The Psalms and Hymns of Isaac Watts

Are You Sure?

There is a healthy contemplation that drives us to check our commitment to our various relationships with others. While I have your attention may I ask another question? Do you ever wonder if you're really saved? I don't mean to intrude ... okay maybe I do intend to intrude. Do you contemplate your loyalty and commitment to your relationship "with Christ" very specifically? Respectfully, we are not talking here about your relationship with a religious institution. We're asking about a very up-close and personal relationship with the Person of Jesus Christ. The scriptures encourage us to periodically check our "fruit." We are admonished to work out your own soul's salvation with fear and trembling. ⁽¹⁾

I can just imagine Jesus standing before the fig tree, asking "Hey guys, what type of tree is this?"

His disciples replied (almost snickering), "My Lord, it's a fig tree."

And Jesus asks again, "How can you tell, that this is a fig tree?" His disciples reply again (almost bursting at the seams), "Teacher, we can tell by the leaves."

Jesus once again, "Okay, let Me ask you guys one more question ... what is the purpose of a fig tree, if it won't bear figs." They all fell silent.

Jesus cursed the fig tree saying, "Any branch in Me that does not bear fruit, My Father will remove. It will not be allowed to continue to make demands of (or trouble) the ground." ⁽²⁾ He looked at the disciples and walked away en route to Bethany. ⁽³⁾

So I ask again, how do we know that we have a personal covenant with God?

May I make a few suggestions on ways to discover the truth? ⁽⁴⁾

1. How does your covenant with Jesus Christ affect your concept of God and your attitude towards Him?
2. How does your relationship with God affect your attitude towards Jesus Christ (Him as a Person and His Lordship over your life)?
3. How does your covenant with God affect your attitude towards the Holy Scriptures?
4. How does your relationship with Christ affect your attitude towards your "self-life" or your "flesh"?
5. How does your covenant with Christ affect your relationship with and attitude towards your fellow Christians?
6. How does your relationship with Jesus affect your relationship with and attitude towards the world?
7. Last, but in no way least, how does your covenant with Jesus affect your attitude towards sin?

Perhaps we should take the next couple of weeks or months and grapple with this? Try to answer each question thoroughly in light of the scripture's mandates on each of these respective relationships.

Now the God of peace, that brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, that Great Shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant, make you perfect in every good work to do His will, working in you that which is well-pleasing in His sight, through Jesus Christ; to Whom be glory forever and ever. Amen. ⁽⁵⁾

Be Sure!

Scripture References - King James Version (KJV), unless otherwise stated.

(1) Philippians 2:12

(2) John 15:1-2; Luke 13:7

(3) Matthew 21:17-19

(4) Gleanings and adaptations from A.W. Tozer's Man: The Dwelling Place of God, p.62-68

(5) Hebrews 13:20-21

