

Kingdom News

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

Volume 4, Issue 12

December 2010

Motto for the year of 2011

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

The Chief Cornerstone



Series: Pressing the Battle to the Gates

Summary – He is NOT Omni-Anything

... And the gates of hell shall not prevail against ...⁽¹⁾

The enemy **IS NOT** omni-anything!!!

Here we are at, both, the end of a year and the end of a series. At the beginning of the “*Pressing the Battle to the Gates*” series we purposed to go a particular route. It is our humble prayer that we have so honored the Lord in properly representing these truths as He has been gracious enough to share them with us. Where we have failed to do so, may the full weight of the blame rest on us; and may our Lord and His Christ be forever “free and clear” of our faults.

This was initially intended to be the month that we wrapped up this series. It seems, though, that this may actually segue to another series. We will see what the Lord says.

Our duty this month is to look back over this journey (that we were so delighted to have you attend) and to tell you where we’ve been. We will also share some new light that

Chief Cornerstone

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The Leadership Corner Leadership Living, Inc.

2011 Changing of the Guard

Deuteronomy 3:25 & 28 (KJV paraphrased)

Moses asked God to let him go over Jordan into the Promised Land. God replied, “Charge *Joshua*, and encourage him and strengthen him. He shall go over Jordan before this people and he shall cause them to inherit the land.”

There are times in our lives when God wants to “change the guard.” In order for Him to do in the earth what He has in His heart, He has to raise up new leadership. This is the word as we go into the month of December.

Now, you may ask why I am writing about this for the last month of 2010. Wouldn’t it be more appropriate to wait until the January 2011 edition to share this revelation? Very good question. The challenge with waiting until January is that by the time you read the article, the new season will already have begun. Now is the time to hear the voice of God concerning closing out 2010 and preparing for 2011.

Hear the word of the Lord for this month of December 2010.

Repent, Forgive, and Be Ready!

Repent for anything God placed in our heart to do, stop doing, change, let go of, take hold of, or anything else where we have not done what He has instructed us to do.

Forgive every person that has wronged us, offended us, left us, fired us, caused us to lose something valuable, failed us,

The Leadership Corner

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Son of My Wisdom



The Ethos, Logos and Pathos of God

What we're about to discuss will seem foreign to many. Others will feel right at home. For those who would normally be inclined to run at the sight of "Pathos" I would like to ask you to stick around.

Yes, this topic will stretch you. But I promise that you come away knowing some things about God and yourself that you probably hadn't heard quite like this before. Fair enough?

We will discuss three main terms which are used primarily in rhetorical or literary circles. But we'll look at them as they are revealed to us by God. Those terms are *Ethos*, *Logos*, and *Pathos*. Some of you are already familiar with at least one of those words, right? But even if you are at all familiar with these words, you'd probably guess correctly that they are Greek words. In rhetorical circles these three concepts are considered "modes of persuasion."

While we'll essentially introduce these strange works into your vocabulary in this edition; we believe that the Father is pleased to permit a more elongated discourse throughout 2011. I promise that this will be a journey you won't soon forget.

Roughly, *Ethos* is considered to be the *authority* and credibility of the speaker. I have for the sake of clarity in this article used 'character' in place of credibility. For the apostle Paul in Romans 16:1-2 commends Phebe to the Church at Rome not based on any credibility other than *character* Paul says of Phebe that "she had been a succourer (or helper) of many and of me also." Again in II Corinthians 4:2 we see Paul commending himself to men's consciences in the sight of God, by having renounced the hidden things of dishonesty, by not handling the word of God deceitfully, and by manifesting the truth. These have everything to with one's character. In Isaiah 5:2 we see God commending His character to Israel. He spoke of all that He had done in His vineyard, and asked why it yet brought forth rotten/bad fruit.

God has throughout the Old Testament told of all that He did for and in Israel, having so covenanted with her. He conveys, above so much else, His own Character. He, by means of His own Character, exposes and proves why He ought to so exercise authority, as He does.

Again it is the attribute of goodness within the character of God that brings us to repent, and to acknowledge the authority of God. In Romans 2:4 it is said that "the goodness



A Journey to Intimacy We Are the Mansions

In My Father's house are many mansions⁽¹⁾ –

Allow me to share with you some musings on this topic. Additionally, some of the following will have come from prior conversations with one of my accountability partners.

Caveat: Allow me to apologize up front for "bursting your bubble." Here we're sharing what we understand the Lord to have revealed. Our hope is that we retain the integrity and the purity of this promise. In either case, may the Lord and His Truth be forever esteemed and honored.

We often think of the opening scripture, as hinting that we *have* mansions awaiting us in heaven. I used to think that too. But, is it possible that we are being, here, told that "in our Lord's house *we* are many mansions?" Is it possible that Jesus is saying to us, "I go to prepare a place in My Father's house for *you* to be a mansion for Him to dwell in?"⁽²⁾ He goes on to say, "I am doing this so that where I AM, there you may be also."⁽³⁾ Well ... where is He? He says, "I AM *in* the Father and the Father is *in* Me."⁽⁴⁾ He didn't just say that He and the Father were in the same house; He's telling us that He and the Father are *in* each other. That They *abide* in each other. That they each have "taken up residency *in* each other." And we know this to be true, because in another place we are told, "In Him [Jesus Christ] *dwells* (or is resident) all the fullness of the Godhead bodily."⁽⁵⁾ This is exactly what the Lord intends for us. If this seems a bit too much to bear; be comforted, you're in good company. You are encompassed about by so great a cloud of witnesses.

In the Greek, the word used for *mansion* is the same word used for *abode*. It appears that the word "mansion" only occurs once⁽⁶⁾ in the KJV Bible. This same Greek word also means "residence" and is used in both the sense of the "*act* of taking up residency" and the "*place* of residency." Easy now ... there's more.

John 14:2 - In My Father's house are many mansions...

Precepts in Practice



Illumination for the Journey Ahead

Psalms 32: 8 (KJV paraphrased)

God will instruct us and teach us in the way that we should go. He will guide us with HIS eye. Have you ever felt like you were completely in the dark about which way to go or what option to choose? If so, join the family. Basically everyone has these feelings from time to time. Even as believers there are some situations where we need God to tell us step-by-step what we are to do.

December marks a time of celebration, spending time with family, reviewing the year and making plans for the coming year. This walk down memory lane can be fun and exciting or it may produce feelings of guilt, grief, inadequacy or other negative thoughts. Some people will mourn the passing of another year. While others can hardly wait until 2011 arrives.

How do you feel right now? Are you happy and excited or do you have feelings of anguish or disappointment? While it is easy to say that God has a plan for our lives, it is often challenging for many of us to ascertain exactly what that plan is.

As Christians we believe in general that God watches over us. He loves us. And He provides for our needs. But, there are also times when we can't perceive what He is doing. In short, we can't trace Him.

We started this article with a scripture in Psalms that speaks to us about God guiding us. The question now becomes, "How is God guiding us when we can't understand what He is up to?"

I grew up thinking that I had to always pray and ask God (or tell Him) what I needed or wanted Him to do in order for Him to grant my request. I believed that if I didn't do my diligence in making sure God was fully aware of my desires and needs, He would not know what to do for me.

I felt it was my "job" to keep God on His toes when it came to my situation or issues. God forbid that I would go a day without giving God a "to do" laundry list to complete in an allotted time frame.

Precepts in Practice

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Boot Camp

Christianity 101 – The Basics

Righteousness



This month our focus is *Righteousness*.

You'll remember that we're walking through the following list of basic Biblical Christian fundamentals.

- Forgiveness – What's your flavor of "forgiveness?" (May 2010 edition of the newsletter)
- Repentance – To so agree with God on a particular truth as to align one's self (in word and deed) with that truth. (June 2010 edition of the newsletter)
- Faith – An act of worship, allegiance and honor. (July 2010 edition of the newsletter)
- Obedience – Most often disobedience is the result of us having redefined for ourselves the precepts of God. (August 2010 edition of the newsletter)
- Truth – In the words of Pilate, "What is *truth*?" (September 2010 edition of the newsletter)
- Prayer – What is it and how do we do it? Is there a relationship between *truth* and *prayer*? (October 2010 edition of the newsletter)
- Sin – You know "sweet in the mouth; and bitter in the belly." (November 2010 edition of the newsletter)
- **Righteousness** – What is it? How does sin and *righteousness* relate to each other? (December 2010 edition of the newsletter)
- Etc. as the Lord pleases

WHAT IS RIGHTEOUSNESS?

Righteousness is a free gift.⁽¹⁾ The concept of "righteousness" is both broad and specific. It has both temporal and eternal elements; therefore I must admit my inability to do justice to this topic. It is with a great degree of reverence that I attempt this discussion.

True "righteousness" finds its definition in the very Person of God; in the Godhead itself. "Righteousness" is a full, manifest expression of "God-ness." In one sense (for us), it is a *doing*, birth out of a "right" faith in or "right" relationship with God. In another sense, it is a "right" *being*. The term "right" in this case is defined strictly by the nature of God. Essentially it is a "right doing" that is defined by God; in that "righteousness" is both "who God *is*" and "what God

Boot Camp

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Living Waters



Series Pt 2: The “BE” Attitudes

We continue with a fresh look at the “BE” attitudes. ⁽¹⁾ Let us also continue to regard these as directives, very specifically to ourselves. **Caveat:** A hint to the wise is sufficient.

Blessed are they which hunger and thirst after righteousness ...

(Hint: “BE” hungry and thirsty for righteousness)

Blessed are the merciful ...

(Hint: “BE” merciful)

Blessed are the pure in heart ...
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(Hint: “BE” pure in heart)

Last month we received light on being *poor in spirit*; what it means to be *mournful*; and on being *meek*.

This month, let’s receive life on being *hungry and thirsty for righteousness*; being *merciful*; and being *pure in heart*.

“BE” Hungry and Thirsty for Righteousness

Why are we directed to be hungry and thirsty? And why for righteousness?

Let’s address the second question, first. Why righteousness? Perhaps, it is because “Righteousness” is characteristically the sum of many, if not all, of the other virtues. Righteousness holds mercy and judgment in perfect tension. Righteousness is a balance of both love and justice. Righteousness both cuddles and chastens with the same sure-footed flare. Righteousness does not wink at disobedience or sin in an effort to spare discomfort.

Now for the first question, we have some empirical (personal) knowledge of both hunger and thirst; as we are acquainted with both appetites.

Admittedly, we are often confused when trying to differentiate between the two appetites. Nutritional experts will tell you that many times we “eat” when our body is simply “thirsty.” Those facts notwithstanding, we’ll look at what types of needs each of these two appetites are expressing.

To some of you this may sound a little parochial or juvenile, but bear with the rest of us, please. When the body is genuinely *hungry*, it is not asking for something to “drink.” And when the body is genuinely *thirsty*, it is not asking for something to “eat.” Which means in a very real sense, these two appetites are different, and they cannot ultimately be substituted for each other. So we see, in part, why the scriptures identify both of them in our pursuit of righteousness.

The hunger and thirst for righteousness is our composite appetite for the Way, the governance and the lifestyle of the Kingdom. How do we know this? Well, before we answer this question, you may recall this analogy. How do we know which crimes are most offensive to public justice? Shouldn’t it be evident to us in how the judicial authorities respond to the infraction? So again I ask how can we know that a genuine hunger and thirst for righteousness signifies an appetite for the Way and lifestyle of the Kingdom? Is it not made known to us by the way that Jesus responds to the appetite itself?

Throughout John, chapter 6, the Lord is telling us that “He is the bread of life.”⁽²⁾ He says to us that whoever “comes to Him” will never *hunger* again. But He doesn’t stop there, He goes on to say that whoever “believes on Him” shall never *thirst*. And He doesn’t even stop there. He goes on to say that “whoever *eats My flesh*” and “*drinks My blood*,” has eternal life. Now eternal life is the Way and the lifestyle of the Kingdom.

There is more ... there is MUCH more, but the Lord is saying, “That’s enough for now.” I am however, asking Him for permission to expand on this in the January 2011 edition. We’ll see what He says about that petition.

Blessed are they which do hunger and thirst after righteousness; for they shall have their fill of the righteousness of God in Christ Jesus. They shall receive sufficiently of the Way, the governance and the lifestyle of the Kingdom.

“BE” Merciful

The Lord thy God is a merciful God;⁽³⁾ therefore He tells us to be merciful. Like Father, like son; right? He says “I AM merciful to you; now you be merciful to others.”⁽⁴⁾ Now here’s the catch ... the Lord has

our Lord has given, along the way, regarding these truths. From there we will put the “axe to the root of the tree” and finger our real enemy (more on that later).

The following are excerpts from the prior editions in the “*Pressing the Battle to the Gates*” series. We would like to reiterate some of the key concepts and truths.

Here is what we intended to share at the beginning of this series:

- August 2010 edition – Introduction
- September 2010 edition – He [the enemy] is not omnipotent – Here the Lord showed us the boundaries of the enemy’s power.
- October 2010 edition – He [the enemy] is not omniscient – Here the Lord disclosed the circumscription of the enemy’s knowledge.
- November 2010 edition – He [the enemy] is not omnipresent – Here the Lord educated us on the prohibitions and restrictions of the enemy’s presence.
- December 2010 edition – Summary

Excerpts - August 2010 Edition

“Upon this rock I will build My church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it.”⁽²⁾ Will you allow me to give a very soft “*translation*” of this beautiful proclamation? There is a sense in which Jesus is saying that “upon the grounds of the revelation of the Spirit of God⁽³⁾, I will build and strengthen My Body (church). The authorities and emissaries of the enemy shall be helpless to withstand the military campaigns of the Body of Christ.” For the record, this is an “offensive” strategic proclamation, instead of a “defensive” one.

Back in August 2010 when we offered this *soft translation* of the scripture (there referenced) I heard some feathers bristle. Allow me to expand a bit.

I believe we “get” that “*the gates of hell shall not prevail against the church.*” Whether or not this knowledge is empirical (whether or not we know this on a personal level) is another discussion, for another time.

But let’s look at “*Upon this rock I will build My church*” because there are many different understandings of what (or who) this “rock” is. I do not intend to “argue” any specific misgivings. Where it runs aground someone else’s position, I do not wish to “set at naught” my brother or sister. I will simply add to these various positions, how the Lord revealed it to me.

When Jesus made this “declaration,” it came on the heels of the “explanation.” Jesus gave the explanation first (verse 17), and then made the declarative statement (verse 18). Jesus asked the disciples “who do *you* say that I AM?” Since neither Peter (nor any of the other disciples) really KNEW who Jesus was; the Lord (Father) took the liberty of

speaking on Peter’s behalf. [This was done in the same fashion as when the Lord spoke through the donkey to the prophet Balaam, upon seeing the angel.]⁽⁴⁾

We know that Peter didn’t KNOW who Jesus was, for a number of reasons:

- 1) Because Jesus said plainly that “no *man* knows the Son, but the Father; neither does any *man* know the Father, save the Son”⁽⁵⁾ The Father is the only One who really *knew* Who the Christ was (is). The Son reveals the Father to us; and the Father (through the Holy Spirit) reveals the Son to us. That is the ONLY way we *know* Who Jesus Christ really is.
- 2) Because of the fact that Peter later attempted to rebuke Jesus, for sharing details of the plan of salvation.⁽⁶⁾ This was a very clear indication that Peter (himself) didn’t really know who Jesus Christ was. What Peter had said previously was uttered by the provocation of the Father.

So we see that Peter could not have *known* Who Jesus was and that it is the Father Who unveils Christ to us. We can now begin to see what that *rock* that Jesus mentioned was. The term *rock* here simply implies a “sure foundation.” The only sure foundation we have is the “revelation of Jesus Christ.” This is the only foundation upon which we can build; nothing else will sustain us. Where Jesus Christ is not revealed to us, we can be sure of nothing. The only thing (pardon the expression) that is “sure” is when, where and how God reveals Jesus Christ to us. And it is this revelation of Jesus Christ to the heart of every son that builds or strengthens the church. This is also the reason that the gates of hell shall not prevail against the body of Christ. As God reveals to us Jesus Christ, in all of His offices, roles and expressions, we can and will (of necessity) mount offensive strategic campaigns to destroy the works of the enemy. And that is done, based on the fact that Jesus Christ has been revealed to us.

Excerpts - September 2010 Edition

The enemy **IS NOT** omnipotent!!!

Jesus says to us, “Behold, I give you ... power over all of the power of the enemy, and nothing shall by any means hurt you.”⁽⁷⁾ *If* the enemy were omnipotent, then *we* would have to be supra-omnipotent, since we have been given power over him.

The enemy has what amounts to three weapons (theft, murder and destruction). Confirmed, they are powerful weapons indeed, but they have their respective limitations (bless God!!).

These weapons disguise and express themselves in manifold variations of:

- The lusts of the *flesh*,
- The lust of the eyes and

The pride of life.⁽⁸⁾

When we die to the lusts of the *flesh*, the lusts of the eye and the pride of life, the enemy has NOTHING to work with.

What do we know about the *flesh*? That it is at enmity with God and does not (or cannot) agree with the things of the Spirit of God.⁽⁹⁾ Anything that cannot come into agreement with God is a very useful instrument in the hands of the enemy.

In the arsenal of the enemy there are lots of ammunition (shells, explosives, etc.) But the primary munitions that he uses against us is our own *flesh*. And every other weapon is simply a means to bring the *flesh* (mind, will and emotions) under the jurisdiction of the enemy. Deception is one means by which the *flesh* is enticed into bondage to the enemy.

When we live our lives with the present knowledge that our *flesh* has been crucified with Christ; our “walk” and “talk” is different. When we live our lives lacking that very real truth, our thoughts, words and deeds bring us into bondage to the enemy.

Excerpts - October 2010 Edition

The enemy **IS NOT** omniscient!!!

Omniscience is the characteristic of “being in possession of *all* knowledge.” It implies the ability to “know *all* things.”

“Omniscience” as a characteristic belongs solely to the Only Sovereign God. Again, the enemy is not omniscient!!! For those of you, who still aren’t convinced, consider this; that one attribute of “omniscience” is that has the quality of being *infinite*.⁽¹⁰⁾

The enemy (the devil) is a created being; which means that he is not *infinite*, nor has he eternally existed.⁽¹¹⁾

If the enemy were **omniscient**, he would have known the plan of salvation from the onset. If the enemy were **infinite**, he would have had either to participate in or to refute the plan of salvation from its inception. The plan of salvation was intended to destroy the works of the devil, he certainly would not have agreed to it; had he any say in the matter.⁽¹²⁾ And if he were *infinite*, he would also have been *omnipotent* and would have been able to stop the plan of salvation. The enemy could not stop the plan of salvation in “the heavens,” for our Savior descended from there. Nor could he stop the plan of salvation “in the earth,” for our Lord finished it here.

Excerpts - November 2010 Edition

The enemy **IS NOT** omnipresent!!!

To be *omnipresent*, is to have infinite, simultaneous presence. Although it sometimes seems that we as people are “all over the place;” created beings do not bear the attribute of *omnipresence*. And given that all of these “omni-” characteristics (specifically omnipotence; omniscience and omnipresence) have inherent in them the quality of infinite-ness; it naturally excludes all created people, places and things.

You can (and are required to) launch offensive campaigns to destroy the works of the devil, in your self, in your life and the lives of those around you.⁽¹³⁾ The Lord promised that “the gates of hell would not prevail against us,” “but he didn’t say that the enemy would not launch a counter-attack. So gird up the loins of your mind. “Quit yourselves like men.”⁽¹⁴⁾

“Attack,” he will ... “win” he cannot. He is not “omni-anything.”

For the child of God, the enemy’s “bark is far worse than his bite.” And the reason we ought to know this is because Jesus says “nothing shall by any means hurt you.” That’s settled.

To this point we’ve been talking about the enemy (i.e. the devil); because the scripture, pivotal to this series, speaks specifically regarding the devil and the kingdom of darkness.

HOWEVER there is a more “formidable” enemy (one more difficult to defeat); that we must reckon with. That enemy is the *flesh*! The flesh is both a weapon against us and an enemy to us. You’ll recall from the article entitled *Beyond the Cross*⁽¹⁵⁾ the following exposure:

The concept of disciplining the *flesh* is a misnomer. The *flesh* cannot be disciplined. That is why; in His infinitely wise council the Lord prepared a cross for the *flesh*. **NEWS FLASH:** The cross (both historically and spiritually) was prepared for the *flesh*, very specifically. You’ll recall that it is the *flesh* that is at enmity with God; not the *soul*.⁽⁸⁾ It is the *flesh* that sits upon the throne of our heart. Here is where the head begins to reel a bit. **The “flesh” and the “soul” are two different entities.** They are not the same. First Peter 2:11 teaches that “it is our fleshly lusts that war against our soul.” These two must be separate, because “a house divided cannot stand nor retain its unity.”

Our problem is not the “soul” it is the “*flesh*.” The *flesh* represents the fallen nature that governs the faculties of the *soul* (apart from God). When Adam was created, he was created a *living soul*. And as such, how he related to this world was quite different, prior to the Fall. The *flesh* is the immoral state of existence into which mankind fell (that fateful day in the Garden). It is the *flesh* that drives the *soul* to choose sin either transactionally or as a way of life. And the soul that retains this governance (or any part

thereof) will most certainly meet with an untimely or inopportune death. It is just this, for which the *cross* was prepared ... to destroy the works of the devil. The means, by which the enemy brings us into subjection, is the *flesh*. Where the flesh has been remanded to the cross, the enemy has no anchor.

So we see that the most effective weaponry that the adversary uses is ... the *flesh*. This is the strategic ploy the enemy intends to use against us. Without the *flesh* the devil is useless in our lives; other than to whet our appetite for God, and the things of God. It is clear that we've been given power over all of the power of the enemy. There's no two ways about it. He's not omni-anything.

Our mandate, then, is to mortify the deeds of the *flesh*. Within the arsenal of the adversary there resides the following goal, strategy, tactics and munitions:

One Goal: To usurp authority over God; to make himself like the Most High.⁽¹⁶⁾

One Strategy: To reign sovereign over the creation of God in the earth realm.

Three Tactics: The lusts of the flesh, the lust of the eyes and the pride of life.⁽¹⁷⁾

Three Weapons: To steal, to kill and to destroy.⁽¹⁸⁾ And any use of these means necessary to excite the *flesh* to anarchy. The *flesh* wants a "world" without the overarching governance of God.

As we press the battle to the gates of the enemy, we will find that to the degree that we have not mortified the deeds of the *flesh*; it is to that same degree that we find ourselves routed by the enemy. The most potent weapon that the enemy has against us is our *flesh*. He's not omni-anything.
<cc>

Sr. Editor, JoAnn C. White, SMHG

Scripture References - King James Version (KJV)

⁽¹⁾ Matthew 16:18

⁽²⁾ Matthew 16:17-18

⁽³⁾ John 16:13-15

⁽⁴⁾ Numbers 22: 27-31

⁽⁵⁾ Matthew 11:27

⁽⁶⁾ Matthew 16:22-23

⁽⁷⁾ Luke 10:19

⁽⁸⁾ 1 John 2:16

⁽⁹⁾ Romans 8:7

⁽¹⁰⁾ Referenced Dictionary.com on 9/30/10 at

<http://dictionary.reference.com/browse/omniscience>

⁽¹¹⁾ Ezekiel 28:13

⁽¹²⁾ 1 John 3:8

⁽¹³⁾ 1 John 3:8b

⁽¹⁴⁾ 1 Peter 1:13-16; 1 Samuel 4:9

⁽¹⁵⁾ November 2010 Kingdom News edition; Beyond the Cross article; Son of My Wisdom column

⁽¹⁶⁾ Isaiah 14:13-14; Ezekiel 28:2, 6, 9

⁽¹⁷⁾ 1 John 2:16

⁽¹⁸⁾ John 10:10

or who has let us down in any way.

Make ourselves ready to take up the mantle of leadership. Begin a consecration for God to speak specifically to each of us about how He plans to use us in the coming year.

There is no time to wait, hesitate, wonder, or vacillate between opinions. The month of December is the only time we have left to prepare to "cause the people of God to inherit the land."

If we think back over 2010 it was a year of change, closing of existing doors, and opening of new doors. Some of us moved from one place of employment to another, others lost their jobs. There are also those who may have lost their homes. Some people encountered major health issues, endured relationship challenges, or recognized that they need some key changes in their lives.

We also watched as our government, economy, and leaders did things that brought us to a place of spiritual, emotional, and mental sobriety as never before (at least in our lifetime).

Many of us have been fasting and praying for God to "Do Something!" Well, our request has been granted. With the going out of 2010 and the coming in of 2011 God has a new game plan in play. He is ready to move His people into key positions of leadership in every sector of society. Many of us will become engaged in international issues. Others will work at the local and national level. No matter where He places us, we must be ready.

In 2011 God will do through His people what our government and business community could not do. He will begin to create new economies. He will release in His people innovation as some of us have never experienced.

Are you ready? Then, do the three things outlined above "repent, forgive, and be ready."

We have no time to waste. The "changing of the guard" begins now! ~LLI~

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His Holy Hill

LORD, who shall abide in Your tabernacle? Who shall dwell in Your holy hill? He that walks upright and works righteousness, and speaks the truth in his heart. He that backbites not with his tongue, nor does evil to his neighbour, nor takes up a reproach against his neighbour.

Psalm 15:1-3 (KJV modified)

of God leads you to repentance.” Within the Kingdom, we will consistently see that *authority* corresponds with and is somewhat dependent upon one’s *character*.

We also see the “sine quo non” (that without which) relationship between *character* and *authority* in how God deals with man. Among others, Joseph, Daniel, King David, Mordecai and Esther are all examples of how *character* precedes (or is proven), and then *authority* follows. So when we speak of *Ethos*, we are speaking of *character* fundamentally and of *authority* additionally.

Now *Logos* is rhetorically considered to be expressive of reason, or logic. Although *logos* is conventionally approached this way, the Scriptures seem to convey something more. In light of the scriptures, I regard *Logos* as composed of three parts.

Logos is composed of: 1) Thought/Reason; 2) Word and 3) Deed

Since *logos* is the foundation or root of the word “logic” it is not a stretch to see it also expressing “thought.” This would be understandable.

We see in *The Logos*, the mind of God; and from that it is reasonable to see the Word of God also.

Most English bibles translate the term *Logos* into the English term “word.” *Logos* is also a root from which we get our terms ‘dialog,’ ‘monologue,’ and other such terms. So then we can see ‘thought’ and ‘word’ in ‘*Logos*,’ but where did I come to understand deed as being apart of the *Logos* of God? There are several places.

- First, “all things were made by Him, and without him was nothing made that was made,” as John 1:3 tells us.
- Again, “by Him were all things created, that are in heaven and that are in earth, whether visible or invisible...” as Colossians 1:16 tells us.
- Yet again, “by Him all things consist,” as in Colossians 1:17.

Who does the term “Him” refer to? Jesus Christ, the Word of God, makes, creates, sustains, and does deeds. The *Logos* has created, made, and kept all created things going both in heaven, and in earth. It is safe to say that it is by the *Logos* that God does all that we know. For Yeshua testified that He [the Word] *does* what He sees his Father do, and again we see that He testifies that He does the will of the Father. In summary, *Logos* represents thought (reason/logic), word and deed. As we go on throughout 2011, you see many more such references.

The third term is *Pathos*, which is traditionally understood to be an “appeal to emotion.” This is a mistake, a very grave mistake. *Pathos* is NOT an “appeal to emotion;” though emotion is a subcategory of *Pathos*. Within *Pathos* we find

two categories: “emotion” and more fundamentally “experience.” In fact, the very meaning of *Pathos* as shown in the scriptures is “suffering or experience.”

What a well versed speaker, or experienced writer will tell you is this: in order to even elicit emotion, in the reader or audience; a writer or speaker must **not** direct a person to feel a particular emotion. Rather a speaker or writer must convey the type of scene, circumstance, or **experience** which effectuates the intended emotion. When you think of *Pathos*, most fundamentally you are thinking of experience, and only subsequently of emotion.

Having laid the foundation, I will continue with you into perspective on the subject.

But first, an encapsulation:

1. The *Ethos* of God is comprised as *character* and *authority*. We see both of these expressed in the names of God.
2. The *Logos* of God is comprised as *thought*, *word*, and *deed*. We understand this to be the glory of God, the self-expression of God, the Person of Jesus Christ.
3. The *Pathos* of God is comprised as *experience*, and *emotion*.

All of this is to set forth a foundation for viewing scripture in light of the Ethos, Logos, and Pathos of God. We will explore salvation, sanctification, and a godly life among other things in light of these three categories. For now, as you look through the scriptures, remember that the *thoughts*, *words*, and *deeds* of God reveal His *character*. If you come upon any interesting observations or questions, please send them to me at Kingdomnewsletter@yahoo.com.

We’ll be going further in depth next month. I love you Kingdom News readers. <SOMW>

David L. White

AFFLICTION

~|~|~|~|~|~|~|~|~|~

Affliction is a pill, which, being wrapped up in patience and quiet submission, may be easily swallowed; but discontent chews the pill, and so embitters the soul.

John Flavel in *On Keeping the Heart* p16
(slight modifications)

~|~|~|~|~|~|~|~|~|~

John 14:23 - We will come unto him and make Our *abode* with him.

Again, the Greek word for *mansion* and *abode* is the exact same word. In fact, the whole fourteenth chapter of St. John speaks of *abiding*: God *with* us; God *in* us; the Son *in* the Father; the Father *in* the Son; the Father and the Son *in* us; the Spirit *with* us and *in* us.⁽⁷⁾

Now that I have sufficiently wreaked your theology; in telling you that we are to “be” mansions; as opposed to “owning” mansions; allow me to qualify this point. In the Kingdom (or any kingdom for that matter) the citizens don’t “own” anything. We are simply stewards of another’s wealth. Further more, we ourselves are but possessions of the Kingdom’s Sovereign. Now this truth may (or may not) give you goose pimples; but may I encourage you to read on?

Is this a bit anti-climatic for you? If so, may I suggest another look at our Lord’s journey with us? Jesus came seeking to save the lost;⁽⁸⁾ not to establish an earthly empire or kingdom.⁽⁹⁾ He said, “Foxes have holes; and birds of the air have nests; but the Son of Man has no place “of possession” in the earth, to lay His head.”⁽¹⁰⁾ Even here our Lord is not talking about “houses and land;” He’s talking about the “hearts of men.” He came searching for a place of *dwelling* for His Father. We know this because when he didn’t find a ready place in the hearts of men; He carved out a place in the hearts of a few faithful followers. Then when He left, He promised that He and the Father would send a Comforter to abide “with us and in us.”⁽¹¹⁾ The Lord has always desired the hearts of men as His *dwelling* place. He says “For the Lord hath chosen Zion; He hath desired it for His habitation. This is My rest for ever: here will I dwell; for I have desired it.”⁽¹²⁾ Is this all beginning to look a bit different to you now? It is for me. Come let us reason together.

In the earth, we are the temple of the Lord (and His Spirit).⁽¹³⁾ However, in the Kingdom, the Lord is (Himself), the temple.⁽¹⁴⁾ And we are the mansions. We have hints of that in the following scriptures:

- But we have this treasure in earthen vessels,⁽¹⁵⁾ What treasure? Christ *IN* us; the hope of glory.⁽¹⁶⁾
- Jesus promised when He left; that He (and the Father) would come abide in us.⁽¹⁷⁾

Mansions are rich places where there are treasures forevermore, right? Now you understand why our

Lord admonishes us to lay up for ourselves heavenly treasures?⁽¹⁸⁾ Said otherwise, “lay up *in* yourselves heavenly treasures.”

Question: What treasures are we to lay up *in* ourselves?

Answer: Wisdom, knowledge, understanding, judgment and righteousness; to name just a few.

The scripture says that we are destined to be conformed into the image of Jesus Christ. Well, the scriptures also say that *in* Jesus Christ are hid all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge.⁽¹⁹⁾ And you thought He was talking about laying up treasures as articles of “possessions.” Well, He is. But He’s not as much talking about us “owning” treasures; as He is talking about us, ourselves “being” a treasure. This is how He says it, “Now therefore, if you will obey My voice indeed, and keep my covenant, then you shall be a peculiar treasure unto Me, above all people.”⁽²⁰⁾ That’s how He said it to Jacob’s Israel; but are we not also the Israel of God.⁽²¹⁾ He says, “...other sheep I have, which are not of this fold: them also I must bring ... and there shall be “one fold and one Shepherd.”⁽²²⁾ There are other subtle hints that the heart is where the treasures are to be. The scriptures say that your heart and your treasure are in the same place.⁽²³⁾ Don’t like that reference? Okay. The scriptures also say that a man out of the good treasure of his heart brings forth good things.⁽²⁴⁾

In the earth, we *have* this treasure in earthen vessels; in the Kingdom we *are* the treasure in earthen vessels. In this world we *have* possessions; in the Kingdom we *are* the possession.

We *are* the many mansions, in which the Godhead will dwell. To other worlds throughout eternity, we will be an expression of what Jesus Christ is to us; a representation of the fullness of the Godhead, bodily.
JTI

Sr. Editor, JoAnn C. White, sMHG

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

- ⁽¹⁾ John 14:2
- ⁽²⁾ John 14:2b
- ⁽³⁾ John 14:3b
- ⁽⁴⁾ John 14:10a
- ⁽⁵⁾ Colossians 2:9
- ⁽⁶⁾ John 14:2
- ⁽⁷⁾ John 14: 16-17, 20

- (8) Luke 19:10
 (9) John 19:36
 (10) Matthew 8:20
 (11) John 14:16-18
 (12) Psalm 132: 13-14
 (13) John 2:21; 1 Corinthians 3:16
 (14) Revelation 21:22
 (15) 2 Corinthians 4:7
 (16) Colossians 1:27
 (17) John 14:23
 (18) Matthew 6:20-21
 (19) Colossians 2:2d-3
 (20) Exodus 19:5-6; Psalm 135:4
 (21) Galatians 6:15-16
 (22) John 10:16
 (23) Matthew 6:21
 (24) Matthew 12:35; Luke 6:45

PLAN OF YOUR SALVATION



If you could *just* see how God in His secret counsel has exactly laid the whole plan of your salvation, even to the smallest means and circumstances; *how* could you *help* but discern the admirable harmony of Divine dispensations, their mutual relations, together with the general respect they all have to the intended purpose for your life.

And having there seen the wisdom of God, if you had liberty to make your own choice, you would, of all conditions in the world, choose that in which you now are.

(Adapted slightly)

John Flavel in *On Keeping the Heart* p16



Am I alone in this thinking? Have you ever felt this way?

As I matured in my relationship with God (spending quality time with Him in His word and practicing applying kingdom principles in my life), I stumbled upon a new revelation about how God spends His time.

I found out that God is not in heaven “sitting on His thumbs” waiting for me (or anyone) to bellow out commands for Him to fulfill. He is not patiently (nor anxiously) waiting for us to shine a flood light into the night sky to signal to Him that we need something (as if we are calling for the Batman).

No, God is not like the Maytag man (for those of us old enough to remember that guy). He is actually entirely different than what most people (believers included) think about Him.

Instead of thinking about God like Batman, Superman, or Wonder Woman; try perceiving Him as an eternal generator or engine. Instead of thinking that He is somewhere waiting for us to call on Him, try understanding that He is always at work.

Frankly, there has never been and there will never be a time (year, month, week, day or minute) that God is not working actively in our lives. He gives us breath, personality, temperament, ability (mental, physical, and emotional), resources, time, and energy. He places desires, passions, and dreams in our hearts. And, He speaks to us daily (and throughout each day) by His Holy Spirit, through His word, and He uses other people and circumstances to direct our steps.

God is a God of vision and provision. He funds everything He expects us to do in our lifetimes. He is the eternal generator. He never sleeps, goes on vacation, takes sick leave, or goes potty. God is always here ever-present with us.

Even when we don't listen for Him or seek Him, He is still present and active. Even when we make decisions we know are not in our best interest (or God's desire for us), He is still present with us. He doesn't make us do anything we don't want to do. Instead, He speaks to us using any and all resources in our environments to guide us.

This is what Psalms meant when it said, “He will

guide us with His eye.” He knows what He placed in our hearts. He knows what each day holds for us. He whispers to us to do certain things and to refrain from doing other things. Sometimes we listen and sometimes we don’t. Still He is with us.

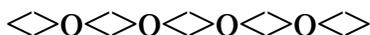
You see, God illuminates our hearts with ideas and He lights our way to do what He has placed in our hearts to do. He brings the people, funds, and all of the resources we need to do what He has ordained for our lives.

As we close out 2010 and peek into 2011, we understand that each of us has a journey ahead. We don’t have to know every detail about what is in store for us. Why? We have an eternal generator who illuminates our way.

Our job is to “*Walk into the Light!*” ~PIP~

Joyce M. White, MSW – CEO Leadership Living, Inc.

CONSCIENCE

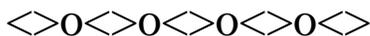


It is guilt upon the conscience that softens and makes cowards of our spirits: but “the righteous are bold as a lion.”(Psalm 28:1b) It was guilt in Cain's conscience that made him cry, "Every one that finds me will slay me."

A *guilty* conscience is more terrified by *imagined* dangers, than a **pure** conscience is by **real** ones. A guilty [person] carries a witness against himself in his own bosom.

A *guilty* conscience is the devil's anvil, on which he fabricates all those swords and spears with which the guilty *person* pierces himself.

John Flavel in *On Keeping the Heart* p23
(slight modifications)



does.”

There is a sense in which “righteousness” is a means to an end; that end being “holiness.” In this sense, “righteousness” is the doing that brings us to the “being” holy.⁽²⁾

CAN WE BE “**RIGHTEOUS**” BY GOD’S STANDARDS?

Yes, only in Christ Jesus. It is our being found in Him; not our going about to establish our own brand of “righteousness.”⁽³⁾

IS THERE A RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN SIN AND RIGHTEOUSNESS?

This is by no means a comprehensive expression of the relationship between “sin” and “righteousness.” It is but one meager expression of a very complex synergy. There is a sense in which “sin” is a transactional term; whereas “righteousness” can be considered more of “conditional or positional” description. Yes, there is an interesting relationship between the two. Let’s explore that further.

Sin is transactional in that it is not so much “who we are,” it is more so “what we do.” Both believers and unbelievers can “sin” transaction-ally. (You like that new word? Somebody call “Miriam Webster.”) James identifies “sin” as the *fruit* of our lust.⁽⁴⁾

“Sin” is essentially a legal concept; until someone does it. Then it becomes an illegal transaction, word or deed. There is a sense in which “sin” is born out of the law. Never heard that before? Of course you have. Paul said, “I didn’t even know what sin was, until the law showed me.”⁽⁵⁾ Did “sin” exist prior to the law? Absolutely!! Just like atoms exist before someone sees them under a microscope. But neither of them can be seen or known without the proper instrumentation. The law reveals “sin” and special instruments of magnification reveals the atom. Scanning-tunneling microscopes (STMs) and atomic-force microscopes can see individual atoms.⁽⁶⁾ Also an electron microscope and enable one to see atoms.⁽⁷⁾ Just as it is impossible to see an atom without a special microscope; likewise it is impossible to identify “sin” without the law.

There is a sense, in which righteousness is also a legal concept. It is a judicial standing that we are given as we abide in Christ, by faith. Abraham believed God, and it was counted unto him for righteousness.⁽⁸⁾ Abraham did not *become* righteous by faith, but righteousness was attributed to him on account of his

faith. Likewise to him that does not try to gain righteousness through works; but believes on Jesus Christ, Who justifies the ungodly, *his* faith is counted for righteousness.⁽⁹⁾

As long as we are in this earthly body “positional” righteousness will have to suffice. Please don’t let that fill your eyes with tears. This is really a blessing, in disguise. It is really something of a bequeathing of His righteousness upon us. There is no righteousness (to speak of) apart from Christ. As we abide in Him, we are able to “do” what righteousness does; and to receive the benefits of righteousness.

So what is the relationship between “sin” and “righteousness?” They are inversely related; in that where sin *is*, righteousness *is not*. And in some sense, where righteousness is as a way of life, sin does not exist as a way of life. Sin is death; righteousness is life and peace. They are antagonistic the one to the other. But they are heads and tails of the same coin.⁽¹⁰⁾
=BC=

Sr. Editor, JoAnn C. White, sMHG

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

⁽¹⁾ Romans 5:17-19

⁽²⁾ Romans 6:22

⁽³⁾ Romans 10:3

⁽⁴⁾ James 1:14-15

⁽⁵⁾ Romans 7:7-8

⁽⁶⁾ Reference

<http://www.newton.dep.anl.gov/askasci/gen01/gen01122.htm> on 11/24/10

⁽⁷⁾ Referenced 11/24/10 article entitled Researchers say microscope can see atoms - Plan to watch how materials bond together at atomic level

http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/6062668/ns/technology_and_science-science

⁽⁸⁾ Romans 4:3

⁽⁹⁾ Romans 4: 5

⁽¹⁰⁾ Romans 6:13

Character

Character is etched, more profoundly, in the diligent seeking; not as much so in the mere asking. Some things you can simply ask for; other things you must diligently seek; still others the violent must take by force (knock).

– JoAnn C. White 5/17/10 ~9:58PM

agreed to be *as* merciful to us; *as* we are merciful to others.⁽⁵⁾ The good you do to another, is the good you do to yourself. The merciful man does good to his own soul.⁽⁶⁾

While we’re talking about being merciful, it might be useful to understand what mercy really consists of. In a sense, “mercy” is a disposition to extend compassionate forgiveness. It is the refraining from harming an offender. We see this in the sinner’s petition for the Lord’s mercy.⁽⁷⁾ And we ought to see this same posture of the heart, when our offenders petition our mercy.

Let’s do a bit of “compare and contrast;” looking at mercy and grace. “Grace” is the extension of undeserved favor or kindness. But “mercy” is the extension of “grace” to one who has a present offense on the docket. Still not seeing the jagged edges of this mandate? Let’s look a little closer, shall we. “Grace” is like a passing smile to a neighbor who does not regard your presence. “Mercy” is a full course meal personally purchased, prepared and delivered to the door of the one who has just defrauded you in the worst way. Is the air beginning to clear up a bit? In the words of Romans⁽⁸⁾ My children, do not seek revenge, instead allow others to express wrath. As previously stated, “Vengeance is Mine, says the Lord; I will repay.” So if someone offends you and is later hungry, feed him. If you find that he is thirsty, make it your business to give him a drink ... Don’t let their evil overcome you; instead allow your mercy to overcome their evil.

When the Lord directs us to be merciful; He is saying to us “freely and liberally extend forgiveness and be compassionate.” He knows that the human heart loathes *extending* forgiveness; but loves to *receive* it. Our ways are certainly “unequal.” But the Lord is telling us here, that we will inevitably and consistently need mercy and lots of it; so He admonishes us to sow “mercy.” He goes further when He says, that when you come before the Judgment Seat of Christ your mercy will be metered out using the exact same instrument that you used to meter mercy to others.⁽⁹⁾ My apologies for being so direct and abrupt; but sometimes things don’t really matter to us until the car is parked in our front lawn.

*Blessed are those who do not just show mercy (transactionally), but are characteristically merciful; for they shall always be on the receiving end of their **much needed** mercy. Goodness and mercy shall follow them all the days of their life*

and they shall dwell in the house of the Lord forever.

“BE” Pure in Heart

Okay, I see you sliding down in your seat. We hate to talk about *purity of heart*, don't we? Is it because we know that, on a personal note, we are not ourselves “*pure in heart?*” Is it because it seems so unobtainable?

May I ask you a few more questions?

Is it possible that ... to be *pure in heart* doesn't mean to be without flaw (as we have traditionally understood it)? It could not mean “to be flawless;” because that would exclude all of the sons of Adam from having pure hearts. If excluded, then this edict could not have been directed at us; could it? Is it possible that ... to be *pure in heart* means to have a heart that is “unmixed” or “without mixture?”

Will you humor me momentarily? Let's say that to be *pure in heart* means that the heart is “unmixed.” Let's say that it means that the one central controlling objective of one's life is to be conformed into the image of Jesus Christ. If our central desire or objective is to be conformed, then this directive is not only conceivable, but it is very really “do-able.” So we can see that to be *pure in heart* (on those terms) is within our dominion. Now we see how our Lord could require this of us. [Aaahhhh ... sigh of relief] Don't get me wrong, “do-able” and “easy” are not the same. But God never promised that this way would be “easy.” His “yoke” is easy; ⁽¹⁰⁾ but this “way of life” may not, at times, be regarded as “easy.” But that's okay.

The scriptures promise that “you shall seek God and find (see) Him when you shall have made God the single central focus of your life.” ⁽¹¹⁾ We all know that our life issues out of our heart. ⁽¹²⁾ So a pure heart; yields a pure life.

To be “unmixed” or *pure in heart* means to have a heart with a single life focus; ⁽¹³⁾ as opposed to being double-minded. James says “purify your hearts you who are double-minded.” ⁽¹⁴⁾ To be double-minded means to have multiple disparate objects in one's view. It means to be lead about by multiple competing influences. It implies the ability to hunger and thirst after both righteousness and riches. It implies the ability to desire that which “is;” while being occupied by that which “is not.” It implies the intent to serve both God and mammon. ⁽¹⁵⁾ To hold two disparate

objects in view is as impossible as being both “here” and “not here” at the same time. The scriptures say that we'll love the one and hate the other. I'm inclined to believe the scriptures. ⁽¹⁶⁾

The *pure in heart* shall see God. Said otherwise, the heart whose central life focus is to be conformed into the image of Jesus Christ shall see God. This is both a promise and an absolute necessity. If our singular heart's desire is to be conformed, we MUST see God; because it is that “beholding Him” that so conforms us. It is only by seeing God, that we may be made *pure in heart*.

Blessed are those whose single, central focus in life is to be conformed into the image of Jesus Christ; for they shall see God. For they shall have seen God, because without beholding Him, there is no purity of heart.

God takes the foolish things of this world to confound the wise “of this world.” What is foolish? According to this world's standards, it is foolish to hunger and thirst after righteousness. It is foolish to be merciful and pure in heart. These are all reckoned as signs of weakness and foolishness; are they not?! Whereas our Lord says, they are “blessed.” Whose report will you believe?

Man shall not live by bread alone, but man shall live by every “BE” attitude that proceeds out of the mouth of God. =LW=

Sr. Editor, JoAnn C. White, sMHG

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

⁽¹⁾ Matthew 5:6-8

⁽²⁾ John 6:35, 48

⁽³⁾ Deuteronomy 4:31

⁽⁴⁾ Luke 6:36

⁽⁵⁾ Matthew 5:7; Proverbs 18:25; 2 Samuel 22:26

⁽⁶⁾ Proverbs 11:17

⁽⁷⁾ Luke 18:13

⁽⁸⁾ Romans 12:19-22

⁽⁹⁾ James 2:13

⁽¹⁰⁾ Matthew 11:30

⁽¹¹⁾ Jeremiah 29:13

⁽¹²⁾ Luke 6:45; Proverbs 4:23

⁽¹³⁾ Matthew 6:22

⁽¹⁴⁾ James 1:8; 4:8

⁽¹⁵⁾ Matthew 6:24

⁽¹⁶⁾ Matthew 6:24

❧ SUMMARY ❧

The Chief Cornerstone



HOWEVER there is a more “formidable” enemy (one more difficult to defeat); that we must reckon with. That enemy is the *flesh*! The flesh is both a weapon against us and an enemy to us.

Son of My Wisdom



- The **Ethos** of God is comprised as *character* and *authority*. We see both of these expressed in the names of God.
- The **Logos** of God is comprised as *thought*, *word*, and *deed*. We understand this to be the glory of God, the self-expression of God, the Person of Jesus Christ.
- The **Pathos** of God is comprised as *experience*, and *emotion*.

Precepts in Practice



I found out that God is not in heaven “sitting on His thumbs” waiting for me (or anyone) to bellow out commands for Him to fulfill. He is not patiently (nor anxiously) waiting for us to shine a flood light into the night sky to signal to Him that we need something (as if we are calling for the Batman).

Boot Camp



Essentially it is a “right doing” that is defined by God; in that “righteousness” is both “who God *is*” and “what God *does*.”

❧ SUMMARY ❧

The Leadership Corner

In 2011 God will do through His people what our government and business community could not do. He will begin to create new economies. He will release in His people innovation as some of us have never experienced.

Journey to Intimacy



In the earth, we *have* this treasure in earthen vessels; in the Kingdom we *are* the treasure in earthen vessels. In this world we *have* possessions; in the Kingdom we *are* the possession.

Living Waters



“BE” hungry and thirsty for righteousness
“BE” merciful
“BE” pure in heart

Man shall not live by bread alone, but man shall live by every “BE” attitude that proceeds out of the mouth of God.

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