

# Kingdom News

Yours is the kingdom, the power and the glory, forever... (Matt. 6:13)

Volume 3, Issue 1

January 2009

[Chief Cornerstone](#) – The Increase of His Government: *No End...*

[Leadership Corner](#) – What to Do in 2009?

[Son of My Wisdom](#) – Let the Dead Bury Their Dead

[Journey to Intimacy](#) – New Season, New Day

## ✎ SUMMARY ✎

### Chief Cornerstone

### The Increase of His Government

When the Lord teaches us how to pray, He directs us to agree with Him concerning His coming kingdom. Paraphrasing the King James (Matt 6:10) rendering of this petition; we are to pray that the Lord's kingdom be established *in the earth* and that His will be done, *on earth* as it is done in heaven.

**Side bar:** The term *earth* is often a metaphor for the *hearts of men*.

This is the understanding we'll focus on during this discourse.

As you can appreciate, governmental authority is only effective when established within the hearts and minds of its citizenry. Otherwise, you have mutiny (whether passive or aggressive). Governmental authority in books, and creeds, means absolutely nothing. Governmental authority in the hearts of a people is invincible, and most forceful.

### The Leadership Corner

### What to Do in 2009?

So, here is the call to all believers. We are to align ourselves with what the Word of God defines as our responsibilities, during this season. We are to "step up to the plate," "bite the bullet," or whatever other cliché we want to use.

The people of God need, more so now than ever before, to commit to obey the principles outlined in the Word of God. This means we are to cultivate our relationship with God, and with people that He Has placed in our lives. We are to seek His face and apply His principles to every area of our lives.

**"Align in 2009."** The world needs to see God when they look at the people of God.

### Son of My Wisdom

### Let the Dead Bury Their Dead

Therefore I admonish you to toss out your own goals for 2009, and ask the Lord what He wants you to do *right now*. When you find out, work that thing out with fear and trembling, as if it were your very salvation. You will see that by the time you finish the first task, the Lord will already have other activities awaiting your attention. He will

direct your steps. You will not accomplish even one of your own goals, but that's fine since you won't have any of your own.

## Journey to Intimacy

New Season, New Day

My delight is in the law of the Lord; therefore whatsoever I do, in 2009, shall prosper.  
*It can be the same for you, too. You choose.*

# Kingdom News

Yours is the kingdom, the power and the glory, forever.... (Matt. 6:13)

Volume 3, Issue 2

February 2009

[Chief Cornerstone](#) – How Did We Get Here? *Where Do We Go From Here?*

[Leadership Corner](#) – God is *Not* Coming!

[Son of My Wisdom](#) – What Does it Mean to Raise Your Hands?

[Journey to Intimacy](#) – What is God Up to in This World?

## ✧ SUMMARY ✧

### Chief Cornerstone

How Did We Get Here?

We as the people of God repent for the condition of our nation; because our Lord teaches that the favor (or disfavor) of a nation is a reflection on the people of God.

The reason the Lord agreed to spare the twin cities was because ... Oh, I'll let Him tell you what He said.

God: "... there are a great many laws and principles in My Kingdom, that you have yet to learn. There is a law regarding Public Justice; we'll call it *The Just for the Unjust*. It is seen most effectively in acts of prayer and intercession. The reason I agreed to spare Sodom and Gomorrah for the sake of ten righteous persons was because I knew that had they existed they could have changed the whole course of history for those two cities...

### The Leadership Corner

God is *Not* Coming!

... we decreed that we would **wait** on *Him* to deliver us.

Days went by and nothing happened. Weeks passed and we saw no signs of change in our finances. Finally, God whispered to me, "I am not *coming*." Confused and somewhat saddened, I engaged in discussion with God about that message. During our conversation, God said again, "I am not *coming*." This time He didn't just stop there. He went on to say, "Joyce, you act like you are waiting for the cavalry to rush in and rescue you from this difficult situation.

God cannot “*come*” to a believer. Because God is already “*here*.” He is always “*here*.” God said that he is a “*present*” help in time of trouble.

## Son of My Wisdom

## What Does it Mean to Raise Your Hands

John 8:32 teaches us that “... you shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.”

I’m sure this verse is familiar to many, as it is a frequently quoted portion of scripture. During my studies, I came to see that this verse has an interesting causal relationship to the preceding verse. I wondered why I hadn’t heard verse 31 quoted with the same frequency of verse 32.

John 8:31 says “Then said Jesus to those Jews which believed on Him, if you continue in My word, then are you My disciples indeed; and ....”

Here we have a conditional statement disconnected from its necessary condition; which of course makes it somewhat void or impotent.

## Journey to Intimacy

## What is God Up to in This World?

### A Metamorphosis of the Lord’s Prayer

I am your Heavenly Father, Whose name you are to regard as HOLY. My kingdom has been established and My will IS being done in the earth, just as it IS being done in heaven. Daily I supply you with a revelation of Myself; I AM to you bread sufficient for your needs. My rules on forgiveness are very simple. It’s an all-or-nothing proposition. You forgive, I forgive. You don’t forgive, I don’t forgive. In this case, I take My cues from you. Let’s be crystal clear on this, there are no points of negotiation here. Now regarding temptation; evil does not tempt Me; and if you follow Me, I will bring you to the place where evil does not tempt you either. I will deliver you either from (or through) the attempts of the evil one. Trust that I AM able to do it. Everything belongs to Me; the kingdom, the power and the glory, all Mine.

# Kingdom News

Yours is the kingdom, the power and the glory, forever... (Matt. 6:13)

Volume 3, Issue 3

March 2009

[Chief Cornerstone](#) – Are We Doing What They Did? – They Who?

[Leadership Corner](#) – Faith like “Dirt”

[Son of My Wisdom](#) – Tongue-tied to Dominion

[Journey to Intimacy](#) – Prisoners of War

## 🌀 SUMMARY 🌀

## Chief Cornerstone

## Are We Doing What They Did?

As a nation, we came from humble beginnings. In God we trusted. Over time we came to hold a place of political and economic esteem among the nations of our peers; or so this was our external posture. Internally, however, we began to forget the God “of our fathers.” We became progressively more “me-centered;” and increasingly less “God-centered.” During the Age of Enlightenment, the philosophical “thinkers” of the time, began to posit that perhaps we no longer needed a God; that man could be his own savior. Especially given that we had come to such acclaim by the might of our own hand. (Where have we heard this before?!?) As a nation, our eyes drifted from a focus on God, to a focus on self; we became the master of our own destiny, or so we thought ...

If we would win the world for Jesus, we must first win our own heart for Him. If we will not allow Him to change our own heart, we certainly cannot mean for Him to change someone else’s heart, can we?

## The Leadership Corner

## Faith like “Dirt”

When seeds are planted in the ground (covered with sufficient dirt and water), the germination process begins. The elements in the soil and water act upon the seeds and literally “pull” the seeds apart and encourage the seeds to grow into whatever has been written (by God) on their DNA. This is how tiny seeds grow into massive trees.

Whew! This principle is so powerful that it is challenging to embrace. But for those of us who are willing and able to embrace it, we will begin to walk in the realm of impossibility on a daily basis.

## Son of My Wisdom

## Tongue-tied to Dominion

With all of the dominion that has been made available to us; why do we, the people of God, many times appear so weak? Why do even our “declarations” seem so ineffective?

What does scripture teach us? These are the things that must shape our conversation, replacing our old concepts, our old ideas. We cannot continue to speak things that are contrary to the Word of God. Trust me when I tell you that our “declaration,” even if biblical, has absolutely NO power if our conversation is inconsistent and does not sustain it.

## Journey to Intimacy

## Prisoners of War

I have a responsibility to measure every thought by the Word of God, by Truth.

Perhaps, your first thought may be, “How, exactly? Are you saying that I must literally stop and engage in-depth analysis of every single thought that crosses my mind as to whether or not it aligns with the Word of God?” “Talk about paralysis of analysis. I would never get anything else done,” you surmise. ...

This is actually a very natural process that is engaged automatically all of the time. Our minds do it all day, every day; without any effort on our part. The reason you know this happens is because, when you hear a thought or suggestion that is out of alignment with your beliefs, values or

principles, it is flagged up. And you contemplate it; often asking yourself, “where did that thought come from?” You quickly measure it against your morals and either discard it or accept it (having thus reset your moral parameters).

Imagine how *pure* will be our thought life as we bring every thought captive to the obedience of Christ.

# Kingdom News

Yours is the kingdom, the power and the glory, forever... (Matt. 6:13)

Volume 3, Issue 4

April 2009

[Chief Cornerstone](#) – After God’s Own Heart

[Leadership Corner](#) – Catch the Baton

[Son of My Wisdom](#) – Jesus Came for the Lost Sheep

[Journey to Intimacy](#) – Prayerfully

## ∞ SUMMARY ∞

### Chief Cornerstone

### After God’s Own Heart

King David talked *to* God and he talked *about* God. Isn’t this what you do when you love someone? When your heart refuses to rest in their absence. Isn’t that what you do, when you really ... I mean really ... *want* someone? Have you ever lay awake at night and thought about how everything you saw or heard that day somehow reminded you of that Special Someone? Have you ever noticed how difficult it was to try and “stop” thinking about the one your heart adores? Do you not hear their voice in every conversation, it seems?

From where, pray tell, comes such a fountain of passion? We, most certainly, didn’t create it ourselves. It seems, of its own volition, to well up from deep within us; when provoked. The yearning to love and to be loved; to pursue and to be pursued has a transcendent origin. Was it not written upon the heart of every one of us by the Creator of the ends of the earth; the Eternal One? Why? ...

Here you have both a map and compass for your journey to the “heart of God.” What you will find there, cannot be spanned for breath, nor plumbed for depth.

### The Leadership Corner

### Catch the Baton

Jesus’ resurrection marked a “*passing of the baton*” of sorts. When Jesus rose from the dead and was preparing to go back to glory, He let His disciples know that *now* it would be their turn.

As we step into this 2009 celebration of the Resurrection, let’s also be mindful to recommit to “*catch the baton.*” Let us set aside time to chat with God to understand what each of us should be

focusing on as we move forward in this year. God has a lot on His calendar for us (even if we do not yet have these events on our calendars). He may be waiting for some of us to “get with His program.” Oh, I’m sorry, am I reading your mail? God has been tugging at your heart urging you to move in the direction of your *true* desires and passions. What better time than now?

## Son of My Wisdom

## Jesus Came for the *Lost Sheep*

At this point in my life I've come to see more in the parable of the lost sheep, mentioned above ... This is what I've come to understand. In addition to Christ coming for the lost sheep (people), Christ has also come for something else, not already committed to His authority.

There is a sense in which the “lost sheep” can also reference all of our desires, ambitions, ideas, habits, etc. that we have not given over to His Lordship, in our lives. The desire to be rich, socially accepted, attractive, ambitious, ungodly thoughts and imaginations, the need to get revenge, etc. are all things that we have not committed to the authority of God. These are all things that can herein be referenced as “lost sheep.”

However, you (my friend) belong to God. You have God's image and superscription written all over you; so render unto God what is God's.

## Journey to Intimacy

## Prayerfully

Father,

Open our understanding that we may understand the scriptures; so that our faith will not stand in the wisdom of man, but in the power of God. (Luke 24:45; 1 Cor. 2:5)

Amen

# Kingdom News

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

Volume 3, Issue 5

May 2009

[Chief Cornerstone](#) – I Don’t Know...Ask the Father: *The Sovereign Wisdom of God*

[Leadership Corner](#) – Give, First

[Son of My Wisdom](#) – To Protect or To Embrace: *Which is an Expression of Love?*

[Journey to Intimacy](#) – I Am or AM I?

## ✿ SUMMARY ✿

**Chief Cornerstone****I Don't Know ... Ask the Father**

While contemplating the statement (Mark. 13:32 KJV paraphrased) “the day and hour of these series of events, has not been disclosed to anyone. It has not been disclosed to the angels in heaven and it has not been disclosed, even... to ... the ... Son. Only the Father knows.” I asked the Father, “given that Jesus Christ (the Son) is both God and man; how is it that He does not know this?” Being God and being Omnipotent, is it possible for the Son to “not know” something? If so; how so?

There is a sense in which Jesus divested Himself of His eternal glory in coming to the earth. This enabled Him to suffer and die (Heb. 2:9 KJV reference). Even so, He was not completely bereaved of access to His glory.

Through prayer, fasting and obedience Jesus availed Himself of the infinite authority of the Throne of God and His eternal power (Matt. 26:53 KJV reference). Our Lord's examples teach us that we may, likewise, avail ourselves of this authority.

**Leadership Corner****Give, First**

God places people in our lives who have the skills, talents and abilities we need to accomplish the goals he has given us. As we move along our paths of obedience to God, we come in contact with people. Many of these people have been ordained to help us, and vice versa. The challenges, however, with this concept are many. For instance, we do not usually know which people are here to help us; or which we are obligated to help. And, we don't know what talents, skills, financial capacities, or other resources have been assigned to contribute to God's plan for us or for them.

So, the questions that follow are, “How do determine who is here to help us; and who are we here to help. And how do we coordinate the transfer of these valuable resources?”

The secret is that we are to “*give first*.” We are to give what people need (as we are able), and we are to share with these people what we need and how they can help. Then, we will see how God has already worked in their hearts to prepare them to help us.

**Son of My Wisdom****To Protect or to Embrace**

I was recently having a conversation with a person about their being protective of themselves. It was as if whenever this person told a story, if anyone was to be the bad guy of the story, it could NOT be them, even if that meant leaving out every situation where they had ever been at fault. In talking with them about this we, together, began to understand that it was the protecting of “self” that had brought about so many of the issues from which they further felt a need to protect “self.” It was an underlying sense of self-exaltation that had been the root of so many problems that they were facing. This was the nerve (or genesis) of the problem. If it were the case that this person was not so protective of “self,” many of the things that this person is currently dealing with would be different.

In protecting “self” from another we gender division; but in embracing we affect communion. Remember so long as you protect “self,” you create division.

**Journey to Intimacy****I Am or AM I?**

During a conversation with a beautiful woman one day, I noticed that whenever we talked about a virtue such as *uprightness* or *integrity*; she would (directly or indirectly) respond “I am upright,” or “I am a person of integrity.” This part of the discussion was a bit troubling to me, because there was much evidence to the contrary. I wondered how does one “help” a person like this. I sincerely believe that she wants to be a person of integrity; but she seemed to think that she had already “arrived.”

My later thoughts were that, if a person believes that they “ARE” something, then there is a sense in which they may no longer seek to “BE.” They may no longer be open to ways to “BECOME.”

Essentially, the Lord is the great “I AM.”

We on the other hand, may prove wise to ask, “Father, am I, what you require me to be?” or “Do I do what you command?”

# Kingdom News

Yours is the kingdom, the power and the glory, forever... (Matt. 6:13)

Volume 3, Issue 6

June 2009

[Chief Cornerstone](#) – The Sovereignty of God and/or the Will of Man: *Either or Both?*

[Leadership Corner](#) – Change from the Inside Out

[Son of My Wisdom](#) – The Servitude of Leadership

[Journey to Intimacy](#) – My Biography

[Boot Camp](#) – A Series of Meditations

## ∞ SUMMARY ∞

**Chief Cornerstone****Sovereignty and/or the Will of Man**

There are at least two *Schools of Thought* (SOT) on this topic.

One *School of Thought* (we’ll call this SOT1) believes that the sovereignty of God determines everything; and the will of man doesn’t really account for much; outside of what to eat for breakfast; what color socks to wear.

Another *School of Thought* (we’ll call this SOT2) believes that the independent will of man determines outcomes. We define our destiny; we make it happen.

Now, oddly enough there is scriptural support for both *Schools of Thought*. There are ways of interpreting scripture that would seem to agree or concur with both perspectives; as divergent as they may seem. This is a very key and pivotal point; because there are some who refute the authenticity and authority of the Bible (as the inspired Word of God), for these very reasons. An undiscerning eye would see the presence of two seemingly, mutually exclusive perspectives as “contradictions.”

I will tell you from personal experience there are absolutely no contradictions in Divine Truth, none.

God’s Sovereignty is infinite and absolute; man’s free will is finite and circumscribed.

## The Leadership Corner

## Change from the Inside Out

Undoubtedly we could think of hundreds (maybe even thousands) of changes we would like to see take place in the lives of those around us.

But, how can this happen? None of us can control the choices other people make. And, as many have already learned, we can’t change other people’s behaviors ... or can we? I submit to you that each of us holds the key to helping those in our environments to experience positive changes in their lives.

A mystery? Not really ...

Allow the Holy Spirit to change you on the inside. And people in your environment will begin to follow the pattern they see in you.

## Son of My Wisdom

## Servitude of Leadership

It is becoming ever more popular to speak about being “the head and not the tail.” We have well aroused our emotion with being “above and not beneath.”

Why has the Lord placed anyone in leadership? What are His purposes for this structure within the hierarchy of mankind?

I challenge you...that the reason any person whatsoever has been put in a place of leadership is to lift up those who are not so placed. The reason you have been left with the food is to feed those who have been left without. And as His Word portrays above: blessed are you O servant who is faithful and wise...so as to feed those without food, clothe those without clothes, and house those without home.

If resources of any kind have been bestowed upon you it is so that you supply those without. This is what it means to be the head.

If our elevated position does not lead us to fall down in servitude; then we have not *understood* our position. If our fortune does not lead to the fortune of others; then our fortune will be counted by God as misfortune when our works are judged.

**Journey to Intimacy****My Biography****PROMISE**

Father, if we confess our sins, You are Faithful and Just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. This is Your promise to your children. (1 John 1:9)

**MY CONFESSION**

Father, I confess that my heart is deceitful above all things and desperately wicked. I cannot know the depths of its depravity. Who can know it? (Jer. 17:9)

Father, You have judged righteously. How weak is my heart, seeing the things that I do and I allow. They are even the works of an idolater. (Ezek. 16:30)

I thank God through Jesus Christ our Lord. I'm beginning to understand. I see that when I submit to the truth of God, that I believe in my heart; I serve God.

**Boot Camp** *(New Column)***A Series of Meditations**

One sometimes contemplates writing his memoirs or an autobiography even; an opportunity to memorialize our journey here on this earth.

During one of my contemplative periods not long ago, I noticed that someone had already written my biography.

My skeletons aren't in the closet any more... they are written across the pages of the most widely distributed book in the world. Talk about airing one's dirty laundry.

It reads ...

Oh, wretched man, that I am, who shall deliver me from the body of this death?

Father, we receive your command to make for myself a new heart and new spirit. But we cannot do this without You. Therefore we beseech You, Father, please create in us a clean heart; and renew a right spirit within us.

# Kingdom News

Yours is the kingdom, the power and the glory, forever... (Matt. 6:13)

Volume 3, Issue 7

July 2009

[Chief Cornerstone](#) – When His Will Becomes Our Will: *Not Just My Will*

[Leadership Corner](#) – Living in the *Rest* of God

[Son of My Wisdom](#) – Knowledge of Good and Evil – Part I

[Journey to Intimacy](#) – Peace or a Sword?

[Boot Camp](#) – The Heart is Deceitful Above All

## ❧ SUMMARY ❧

### Chief Cornerstone

### When His Will Becomes Your Will

From time to time we talk (or hear talk) about the *Will of God*. What is the will of God? Wouldn't it be great to know the *Will of God*? It would go a long way toward helping us understand how to live our lives, wouldn't it? Would this not literally define for us our purpose? Would this not answer the age old question, "What is the meaning of life?"

I submit to you, that the whole of God's *Will* for mankind can be represented by this phrase "...that we may know Him." (Deut. 29:6; John 17:3 KJV, etc.) Can you image that? The Everlasting, the Almighty, the Eternal One, Alpha and Omega, the Holy One wants to be known. I cannot tell you how mind-boggling this truth is to me.

The Infinite desires (*wills*) to be apprehended by the finite; what a *Grand Condescension*.

On a personal level, can you imagine what your life will look like, when God's *will* becomes your own?

### The Leadership Corner

### Living in the Rest of God

No longer do we have to rely solely on our own intellect, resources, or energy to handle what life tosses our way. He is here to help us handle everything we will ever encounter as we walk this path of life.

It's possible we may just need a bit of revelation as to how we can better cooperate with the Holy Spirit so that we can live in the Rest of God. By doing so, we can come to the place where we depend on the Holy Spirit's help to handle life's challenges. In turn, we will be able to fully release our burdens (life's issues) to God via the Holy Spirit. Here is how we can do this...

### Son of My Wisdom

### The Knowledge of Good and Evil

What was wrong with mankind having the knowledge of good and evil?

... This leads us to the crux of the decision to choose the knowledge of good and evil. To see this we need to understand one law: purpose defines good and evil. God is purpose. Therefore to attempt to have knowledge of good and evil without purpose, without God, without the Omega is to have no universal definition to good and evil. So in attempting to live life, without purpose, with our own definitions to good and evil; we find out that life without purpose if ultimately death. We see also that 'good' and 'evil' without purpose are words without universal definition.

Just think of issues such as abortion, homosexuality, premarital sex, racism, etc, etc. What we have here are issues where different people derive their own definition of right and wrong, good and evil.

## Journey to Intimacy

## Peace or a Sword?

What might He have meant when He said, “Do not think that I AM come to send peace on earth: I came not to send peace, but a sword. ... I AM come to set a ... daughter at variance against her mother” (Matt. 10:34-35 KJV paraphrased).

Hebrews (4:12 KJV) tells us that the Word of God is quick and powerful, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing and dividing asunder (separating) the ... thoughts and intents of the heart (earth).

What, then, is the relationship between *thoughts* and *intents*, and in this case, *actions*? “Thought is the mother of *intention*.” This implies that *thoughts* can give birth to *intentions*; and *intentions* often bring forth *actions*. Much like a *mother* gives birth to her *daughter* and the *daughter* gives birth to the *grand-daughter*.

The Word of God will set the *intentions* at variance against the *thoughts*. Knowing the Word of God, will enable (it will even cause) us to discern between our *thoughts* and *intentions*. The Word of God will give counsel to our decision-making.

## Boot Camp

## The Heart is Deceitful Above All

For a series of mornings, it seemed that He woke me up with these words “the heart is deceitful, above all and desperately wicked.” Admittedly I was puzzled at such a greeting. I said, “Yes, Lord,” acknowledging that this was scripture. But not quite understanding the current application for me.

One use of the term deceitful in the Hebrew is fraudulent. The Hebrew origin for this use of the term in (Jer. 17:9 KJV) is *aw kobe*’; which comes from another root word *aw kab*’ which implies ‘to supplant.’ One definition of supplant is to supersede, or to take the place of, by force or cunning. Fraudulent is also defined as “someone who is not what they pretend to be.” When we think about the term to supplant, who comes to mind ... Jacob, perhaps? (Gen. 27:18-19)

When Jacob approached *the father*, to take the birthright, he came in the name of the firstborn. He “pretended” like he was the firstborn. He desired the inheritance of the firstborn. He wanted to be the firstborn.

When we approach *the Father*, let’s do so acknowledging that our heart tends towards fraudulence, and would lead us to believe that we are Esau, when we’re really Jacob.

Wait ... why are we talking about Jacob and Esau? What does that have to do with “the heart being deceitful above all and desperately wicked?”

Fair enough.

Okay, let me ask you the question. What is *your* name? Is it Esau? Or is it Jacob?

In this particular transaction, Esau is symbolic of the “firstborn among many brothers” (Ref. Rom. 8:29 KJV). He is symbolic of Jesus Christ who is rightful Heir to the Throne. The

inheritance naturally flows to Jesus Christ. It is in Christ Jesus, that we obtain our inheritance (Eph 1:11 KJV). We do not have any rights to this inheritance, apart from Jesus Christ. And to intend to gain it by any other means is to attempt to supplant or to “take the place of the older brother.”

# Kingdom News

Yours is the kingdom, the power and the glory, forever... (Matt. 6:13)

Volume 3, Issue 8

August 2009

[Chief Cornerstone](#) – Knowledge of Good and Evil – Part II

[Leadership Corner](#) – Allow God to Fund You, His Way!

[Journey to Intimacy](#) – Process of Reciprocity

[Boot Camp](#) – Partnership: A Clean Heart & A Right Spirit

[No Column Header](#) – Why Doesn't God Answer Prayer?

## ∞ SUMMARY ∞

### Chief Cornerstone

### Knowledge of Good and Evil

So then we see that the reality behind **the tree of life** is **life**; but the reality behind the **tree of the knowledge of good and evil** is **death**. Now we are in a position to better see the type of choice they really had before them. The choice was *not* a competition between “life” versus “knowledge.” This choice was between wholeness, unity, and Shalom in God (represented by the tree of life); versus division, separation, and destruction outside of God (represented in the tree of the knowledge of good and evil). The tree of the knowledge of good and evil was indicative of the problem of sin and selfishness. The reality (death) of the tree of knowledge of good and evil was separate from the name of the tree. The tree of life, however, had a reality (life) that was consistent with its very name.

### The Leadership Corner

### Allow God to Fund You, His Way!

The scriptures are replete with examples of how God blesses His people and causes nations and kingdoms to fund their destinies. Now, you will also notice that these people had to go through various tests and trials that actually prepared them for advancement. They had to be obedient and faithful.

We must understand that it is a kingdom principle that God will have people and businesses to fund the destinies and ministries of His people. As we seek His face, obey His word, and allow the Holy Spirit to guide us, we will see this principle manifest itself in our lives.

## Journey to Intimacy

## Process of Reciprocity

The Father gives to the Son and the Holy Spirit; the Son gives the Father and the Holy Spirit, the Holy Spirit gives the Father and the Son. (Perpetual Communion)

We then see this internal *Process of Reciprocity* reaching out to include mankind; again a glimpse of the *Great Condescension*.

The Father gives to the Son (a body); the Son gives to the world the Holy Spirit (a Comforter), the Holy Spirit gives to us (an understanding of the Father and the Son); thereby giving to the Father (more sons). But it doesn't stop here, because there's a sense in which we have not entered into the cycle.

As we receive this gift of salvation and die to the flesh and the world (by the sanctification of the Holy Spirit), we enter into this *Process of Reciprocity* and the cycle looks like this....

## Boot Camp

## Partnership: A Clean Heart & A Right Spirit

This month, the Lord is telling us about how we can partner with Him in the “creating of a clean heart and the renewing of a right spirit” (Ps. 51:10 KJV reference).

In all *your* dwelling places the cities shall be laid waste, and the high places shall be desolate; that *your* altars may be laid waste and made desolate, and *your* idols may be broken and cease, and *your* images may be cut down, and *your* works may be abolished. (Ezek. 6:6 KJV)

- *Our* “dwelling places” are the places in our lives (and in our hearts) where we find what we consider to be “rest and security.”
- *Our* “high places” speak to worship; the places where we “give our selves to something or someone.” Among the Israelites, God was to be worshiped in the temple. Other gods were worshiped in “high places.” The term “high place” is analogous to the term “mountain” and signifies spiritual authorities other than the One True God.
- *Our* “altars” are the objects upon which (or in which) we sacrifice ... you know ... the kitchen, the bedroom, the club, the garage, the mirror, the office, the TV, the internet, and the imaginations of our own hearts, etc.
- *Etc.*

## Special Edition

## Why Doesn't God Answer Prayers?

While listening to one of my mentors, I heard repeated references to the fact that people are in turmoil over why “God does not answer prayers.” Believers and unbelievers alike are at odds over this situation.

It is not so far-fetched to conceive that our prayers and petitions ought to cause us to enter into the great work that God has already designed. Everything that will support Gods overall purpose has already been established and provided. And when our prayers and petitions accord with His design, we may often receive immediate and favorable responses. And this is true in every area of our lives. There is not one single area of our lives that God has not taken into consideration; and

for which He has not already made provision in accord with His grand design. It is our responsibility to enter into relationship with Him and thereby become privy to His will and intentions. We then, in sympathy and in agreement with His wisdom, submit petitions to that end.

Now, we must understand that God will NEVER grant a petition that is inconsistent with the law of His Nature, NOT EVER. In order to do so, would require that He deny Himself. As one can appreciate, this will NEVER happen.

# Kingdom News

Yours is the kingdom, the power and the glory, forever.... (Matt. 6:13)

Volume 3, Issue 9
September 2009

[Chief Cornerstone](#) – Knowledge of Good and Evil – Part III

[Leadership Corner](#) – Touch God & Be Healed of Spiritual Blindness

[Journey to Intimacy](#) – Notice of Relocation

[Boot Camp](#) – Worthy is the Lamb to Receive: *Power*

[No Column Heading](#) – Life’s Rods of Correction – Keeping the “Main Thing,” the Main Thing

## ❧ SUMMARY ❧

### Chief Cornerstone

### Knowledge of Good and Evil

God may very well have said, “Eve, how could you see those qualities concerning this tree when *I AM* taught you otherwise? How could you see this tree as good, pleasant, and desirable; when *I AM* told you it was deadly?” For death is neither good, nor pleasant, nor desirable. God said one thing, but when Eve looked at the tree, somehow she seemed to have seen something quite different. How was that possible?

What God told them about this tree was the objective truth. Objective in the sense, that it was true whether or not they believed it so. He said that by eating of the tree they would surely die. Just as God had promised, death came, expressing itself in three very distinct ways.

- Immediately mankind was *spiritually* dead, intimate communion with the Divine was terminated. Whereas before, they were ever in His presence almost seamlessly; afterwards the sound of His voice walking in the garden, evoked fear and trembling in them.
- The *soul* was condemned to eternal death; judgment on the docket, execution pending but certainly forthcoming.
- The *body* began the process of gradual death, one of the fruits of which we call aging; the clock began to wind down. Many others of the fruits we, as the descendants of Adam, are confronted with on a daily basis. One such is the inability to discern the movement of God in our daily lives.

## The Leadership Corner

## Touch God & Be Healed of Spiritual Blindness

... Oh, but there was a difference. While many people were pressing against Him, they were not touching Him in a spiritual sense. This lady was the exception. She not only touched Him physically, she touched Him spiritually. It was this touch that made her whole. If you are wondering if we are talking about the touch of faith, you would be correct. But, it's really much more complex than this. It wasn't just that she believed she could be healed. More to the point, she believed in who Jesus was and what He could do. Her faith did not rest in what she wanted. Instead, it was founded on the truth of Jesus' identity and purpose.

## Journey to Intimacy

## Notice of Relocation

### Relocation Notice #1 (Residence)

This is just a notice to advise you that we have relocated, to avoid the hazardous conditions of our former residence. *Our* former dwelling places, in the cities are being laid waste; *our* images are being cut down; and *our* works are being abolished (City Ordinance: Ezekiel, Section 6:6 KJV).

New Location #1 (Residence) 9101 Psalm Ave.

We now dwell in the secret place of the Most High, and abide under the shadow of the Almighty. Not only did we get a new place of residence, but we have a new 24/7 security system. He is our refuge and our fortress. We are secure from the snare of the fowler; noisome pestilence; terror at night and arrows by day. We are each assigned our own personal bodyguards, as He gives his angels charge over us. And we are learning to trust Him.

## Boot Camp

## Worthy is the Lamb to Receive: Power

It is important, here, to note that God is Supreme and Set Apart, because from that we can understand that God will ONLY receive from us that which He gives to us. Let's read that again, because it is imperative that we *get* this. God will ONLY receive from us that which He gives to us. We cannot of our own volition *give* God anything, apart from Himself. He cannot and will not receive it from us. Whatever we offer to God must itself be holy (set apart) as ascribed by Him. And given that ALL holiness resides in Him, it follows that ALL things *holy* must come from Him.

*Example:* When the Lord gave Israel the instructions for the work of the temple, He gave very specific directions for the sanctification of all of the utensils and artifacts. He gave extremely detailed instructions on what could (and could not) be offered as a sacrifice; defining types of sacrifice, when to offer and who could offer, who could touch the sacred items, etc. (Throughout the book of Leviticus). He did not leave these details up to us. And He would not tolerate anything, not already circumscribed by His instructions; and that on the penalty of death. *The weight and gravity of a law is known by the severity*

*of its penalty.* (1 Sam. 6:19; 2 Sam. 6:6-7) This is a descriptive expression of a prescriptive reality. Here God is teaching us how to approach His Holiness.

## Special Edition

## Life's Rods of Correction

### GLOSSARY by JoAnn

*Rods of Correction* – *n*: People, places or things specifically designed to expose you to opportunities to put the Word God to work in your life. These opportunities are hand-picked for each of us, tailor-made even, to create j-u-s-t the right situation to evoke from us a favorable response to the truths of God. These events can be either desirable or undesirable.

Example: The Lord told Peter, that Satan has petitioned the throne of God for permission to try Peter (not so desirable?). The enemy wanted to sift Peter as wheat (Luke 22:31 KJV).

Contrariwise: The Lord warned Israel that when they arrived in the Promised Land (desirable) to not become so full of leeks and garlic that they forget Who brought them there. Nor did He want them to forget the way by which He brought them out of Egypt (Deut. 6:10-12 KJV).

Essentially, the Lord was saying to Israel “when times get better for you, don’t forget Me.” And to Peter, He was saying “when times get worse for you, don’t forget Me.” Both of these types of events are intended to show us where our allegiance resides.

Lastly: The Lord told Israel, very specifically, that He lead them through the wilderness for the express purpose of *humbling* them, *proving* them, *disclosing* to them what was in their heart (Deut. 8:2 KJV). So when you walk through the wilderness or the valley of the shadow of death, know that these are simply life’s little *rods of correction*.

# Kingdom News

Yours is the kingdom, the power and the glory, forever... (Matt. 6:13)

Volume 3, Issue 10

October 2009

[Chief Cornerstone](#) – The Symbolism of Calvary – *The Cross as a Descriptive Expression of Sympathy*

[Leadership Corner](#) – Where Should I Put God?

[Son of My Wisdom](#) – From Root to Fruit – Part I: *How Does This Thing Work?*

[Journey to Intimacy](#) – Tick, Tock, Tick, Tock: *The Gift of “Time”*

[Precepts in Practice](#) – Make Me Do It!

[Love and The Truth](#) – The Great Why – Part I

[Boot Camp](#) – Worthy is the Lamb to Receive: *Riches*

## ∞ SUMMARY ∞

### Chief Cornerstone

### The Symbolism of Calvary

There is a sense in which Israel “feared” God; but they didn’t love Him. They didn’t know how. In their eyes, God was lofty (and perhaps in their estimation, He was somewhat aloof). They forbid themselves to call Him by name. They could not approach Him, except as circumscribed by the law. In the old covenant, there was much talk of God loving Israel and that Israel ought to love their fellowman. But not much talk of Israel returning God’s love. They thought that God was not “like” them; “He didn’t understand them. He was Holy, they were not. How could He identify with them?” they must have wondered.

But then there came a Man<sup>(4)</sup> ... and a cross. What does the cross of Christ symbolize? And what of the nature of God does the cross of Calvary reveal to us?

The symbolism of the cross was an awesome showing of the immense humility and condescension; as well as the enormous expense that the Great and Terrible God of the Tanakh (the old covenant) was willing both to endure, and to pay on our behalf.

Scarcely for a righteous man will one give his life, forget about someone dying for a sinner<sup>(12)</sup>. And this is exactly what the Lord did on our behalf.

## The Leadership Corner

## Where Should I Put God?

You will recall I said I was told that the universal question was, “What is the meaning of life?” Interestingly enough, I found out that this was the wrong question. Imagine that all of my life I’d been pondering the *wrong* question!

Scientists and researchers understand that if they start with the wrong question, it will lead them to outcomes or inventions that are not what they expected. Some of the outcomes are great, while others are disappointing. Therefore, they have learned that once they determine they are not getting the information or results they intended, they have to go back and refine the original question that started the project.

## Son of My Wisdom

## From the Root to the Fruit

So then, the enemy had a conversation with Eve in order to appeal to her desires (food/sustenance, beauty, and wisdom.) Question: Were these desires good, or bad? Remember now, that at this point in the conversation human nature had not yet fallen. She was wholly a product of the creative act of God. These desires, these lusts then, must have been good. So first she is drawn away of her desires. Next... she is enticed, or brought to consider these desires. No problem here; for at this point, according to James 1:14, she has only been tempted. Until now we have seen two events that are wholly acceptable in the eyes of God. That we have passions, appetites or desires is acceptable. For someone to try and tempt us may not be pleasant, but is not itself a crime. What comes next is where we see the potential for problem.

This is where sin is birth. We may either have a wrong concept of what means are appropriate to satisfy our desires. Or ...

## Journey to Intimacy

## The Gift of Time

I’d like to share a very amazing discovery. You may have already known this, but this almost toppled me when the Lord revealed it to me. While studying the first chapter of the book of St.

John (when I reached verse four ... in Him was life ...) I assumed that the term “life” in this instance meant Eternal Life. I was so excited, because Jesus Christ is, to us, Eternal Life. And so I had always “read” this scripture, in this manner “In Him was Life (Eternal Life), and this Life was the light of man. Now there is a sense in which, this is a true understanding of this verse.

In Jesus Christ is Eternal Life; better still, He is Himself Eternal Life. And Eternal Life is the light of men. It is through Eternal Life (abiding in us, through the Spirit of God) that we may know “all things transcendent.” Without this Eternal Life, we are confined to a temporal, material existence. With an understanding that is devoid of an infusion of the transcendent. We are resigned to interact with our world, according to the knowledge of good and evil; as introduced to us by our senses.

I felt the finger of God pushing me in my back. He said, “Research the word “life” in this verse;” which I thought a peculiar directive (I already knew what it meant ... didn’t I? Or did I?) ...

## Precepts in Practice

## Make Me Do It!

It is interesting to note that our lifestyles are made up of habits. And, habits in and of themselves are not bad. In fact, we were created to live by habits. Our brains store information and use it to help us. Habits give us a sense of normalcy. Habits also take some of the stress out of “living.” Behavior psychologists will tell you that humans need routine. Without some sort of common or repeated activity our minds would go into shock. Humans need mental structure to some degree. Not all people want the same amount or type of structure, but we all need a basic level of common practices in our lives. Wouldn’t you agree?

There is a way for people, especially Christians to change, break, and undo habits that do not serve the purpose of God in our lives.

## Love and the Truth

## The Great Why (Pt. 1)

“*The Great Why?*” of the Christian ... I think every Christian, who really wrestles with Jeremiah 17:9 which says:

*The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked: who can know it?*

... and comes to embrace it, will eventually ask “the great why?” Lord God, this is Your Word. Were it just the words of man, we may have had to study psychology, ethics, economics, politics, journalism, and the likes to even begin to determine if this were true. But because it is Your Word, we know this to be as true as the fact that we ourselves exist. Then we also have the witness of our own hearts as it lifts Self above all else either in ways that appear dishonorable, or in ways that seem noble.

## Boot Camp

## Worthy is the Lamb to Receive:

## *Riches*

Perhaps you’ve either seen or experienced this situation. An adult is holding, or otherwise interacting with a young child. The adult gives the child a piece of food. The adult then says to

the child, “may I have some?” This is a peculiar ritual, isn’t it? For the adult, one may say, if you wanted “some” you should have kept it for yourself, in the first place.

But I think we all understand that the objective of this lesson is, essentially, to teach the child to share.

**RICHES** are intended to be shared; that we may establish community and communion within the family of man. In so doing, we honor God and invite Him into the transaction.

# Kingdom News

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

Volume 3, Issue 11

November 2009

[Chief Cornerstone](#) – From Borrower to Lender: *The Relationship between Lending and Giving*

[Leadership Corner](#) – Who Am I?

[Son of My Wisdom](#) – From Root to Fruit – Part II

[Journey to Intimacy](#) – Wisdom Cries!!! – *The Voice of Wisdom*

[Precepts in Practice](#) – Make Me Do It! - II

[Love and The Truth](#) – The Great Why – Part 2

[Boot Camp](#) – Worthy is the Lamb to Receive: *Wisdom*

[Living Waters](#) – Why is My Life so Chaotic, Unstable?

## ❧ SUMMARY ❧

### Chief Cornerstone

### From Borrower to Lender

We all live on borrowed time. Time we didn’t ask for; time we certainly didn’t create. We don’t deserve it. Someone was kind enough to entrust it to us. We live with borrowed breath and borrowed energy. We come about borrowed innovations and ideas; they may be new to us, but that which is, is that which has been. After all there is nothing new under the sun.

We see that our life, while a gift, is also borrowed. And we see that God is the gracious “lender,” thereby we sustain a relationship of indebtedness, to Him. But then a peculiar proposition is made. We have the option to move into the position of a lender. Imagine that, a borrower becoming a lender too, hmm. How, exactly?

### The Leadership Corner

### Who Am I?

To answer the question of, “**Who am I?**” one must look at his or her relationships. This is important because our relationships connect us to benefits and consequences. For example, if I choose to marry a drug addict, this makes me a wife. It also exposes me to the issues that go along with this lifestyle (even though I don’t take drugs). Are you seeing where we are going? Our relationships create our identities and determine the quality of life we will experience. This is true in the spiritual and in the natural realms.

If we develop a deep and intimate relationship with God, our quality of life increases. **As we discover who God is, He tells us “who we are.”**

## Son of My Wisdom

## From Root to Fruit

The need for security at some point expresses itself in desire. In a *baby* it expresses itself as a desire to be held. In a *child* it expresses itself as a desire for parental affirmation. In an *adult* it expresses itself as a search for God. Of course we usually don't know that we're looking for God. People will usually say they are looking for their purpose, or truth, or love, or wisdom. Note that these are all things that God has said that He is.

- Purpose - God told us that He is the beginning and the end, and that all things were created for His pleasure. (Rev 22:13; Rev 4:11)
- Truth - Jesus said “I AM the ... Truth.” (John 14:6)
- Love - the scriptures tells us “God is Love.” (1 John 4:8)
- Wisdom - “spirit of the Lord shall rest upon him, the spirit of wisdom...” (Isa 11:2; Rev 3:1, 4:5)

## Journey to Intimacy

## Wisdom Cries!!!

There were many ways in which we considered ourselves, in some sense superior among our contemporaries, albeit “humbly” so. But the scriptures teach that Wisdom is justified of her children. Essentially wisdom is known to be present where the fruits of wisdom are borne. The struggles that we face today are not the unfortunate fruit of some unsuspected turn of events, as some would like to think. What we pull up in our fields today, is what we planted in them yesterday. The reason we know this to be true, is because the scripture cannot be broken and God will not be mocked, whatever we sowed then, we reap now.

We can affect the decisions that we either directly control or indirectly influence. We actually have more control over the things in our lives, than we think.

*Hint:* You will find that the more you obey the dictates of Wisdom; the tables begin to reverse. Whereas, it seemed that you had very little control over the things in your life. As you grow in Wisdom, you will find that there is very little that you do not have control over.

## Precepts in Practice

## Make Me Do It!

“Who is in charge of this habit-forming brain activity?” It would be futile for us to engage in a lengthy discussion about how to break habits if we find we have little (if any) control over this cerebral function.

Now, let's get back to the question of, “Who is in charge of the habit-forming brain function?” We have already said that when the brain is exposed to information (i.e., I see someone put trash in a trash container), it stores this information in the memory. So, when a similar event occurs (I finish eating and I have trash), the brain tells the body what to do (put the trash in the trash container). If I don't learn anything different, I will basically follow this pattern. Why? My brain has saved this activity as a “habit” for me. How nice! But, we need to understand that the brain

can only process information. It does not create it. As we interact in the environment our brains take in information and processes it based on previous programming (from birth to the current time). We understand also that our brains process information that has been taken in by our physical senses.

## Love and the Truth

## The Great Why (Pt. 2)

Lord, if our hearts are desperately wicked, and deceitful above all things; how could You so love us as to send your only begotten Son, in whom we may believe and have everlasting life?

Herein we see the essence of “The Great Why.” In ownership and authority we see yet another thing ascribed to God...responsibility. God has declared His responsibility over mankind by showing us His ownership and authority over mankind. But where exactly do we first see God taking responsibility for mankind? Well ... we see it first in all of creation, don't we? We see it in the garden, the animals, the trees, the rivers, and the whole world. God provided everything that mankind would need to live. God created a place to stay, and fully furnished the place with food, entertainment, work, etc. He clearly expressed his responsibility for mankind.

## Boot Camp

## Worthy is the Lamb to Receive: *Wisdom*

Who is WISDOM?

That's right “Who” is Wisdom? Wisdom is a person, she abides in the presence of God. Her biography is given to us in the book of Proverbs, with a nice introduction in chapter 8.

For me it is important to acknowledge the personification of Wisdom. 1) Because the scriptures portrays Wisdom to us this way. 2) Because I want to deal with truth, the way the scriptures deal with truth. Granting the personification of Wisdom, enables me to understand how she can say, “I love them that love me ...” inanimate objects cannot “love.”

Wisdom cries, speaks, counsels, leads and rewards. Hear her.

## Living Waters

## Why is My Life so Chaotic, Unstable?

Honestly, I wanted to entitle this article “Why is my Life so Raggedy?” But I wasn't sure if the word “raggedy” would translate. Now that you understand what I'm saying, I have a question for you.

For many people who are professed Christians, their lives are incongruent, at times chaotic and unstable. It seems that the things that are supposed to be happening to them are not happening. And the things that are supposed to be happening to someone else are happening, to them.

Does any of that sound familiar regarding your relationship with God? When we receive Jesus as our Lord and Savior, we are espoused (or betrothed) to Him. But too often, we never come to terms with what this means or what it is supposed to look like in our lives.

Before long, we're in the divorce courts, pleading "irreconcilable differences." Or we leave for work one day and just never return home to Him.

# Kingdom News

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

Volume 3, Issue 12

December 2009

[Chief Cornerstone](#) – The Responsibility of the Strong: *The Strong for the Weak*

[Leadership Corner](#) – Where Did the Time Go???

[Son of My Wisdom](#) – From Root to Fruit – Part 3: *Right Foundations*

[Journey to Intimacy](#) – A Parable: *He Who Knows Not ...*

[Precepts in Practice](#) – Make Me Do It! - II

[Love and The Truth](#) – The Great Why – Part 3: “*Do-minion*”

[Boot Camp](#) – Worthy is the Lamb to Receive: *Strength*

[Living Waters](#) – Kingdom GAAP: *Understanding the Generally Accepted Accounting Principles of the Kingdom*

## ∞ SUMMARY ∞

### The Chief Cornerstone

### The Responsibility of the Strong

“We than that are strong ought to bear the infirmities of the weak, and not to please ourselves.”

He said to me, “this is a Kingdom principle.” In the Kingdom, the strong always bears the infirmity of the weak. That is the purpose for which strength is given.

However, the best historical display of this truth is Calvary.

The debt we owed, we could not pay. So One stronger than us, bore that burden in our stead. But don't get too comfortable. That does not mean we go burden-less. He then placed upon us a lighter burden; one we could bear.

We begin to bear this burden through prayer. In the Kingdom, prayer is the “finite drawing upon the Infinite.” Prayer is the “impotent tugging at the Omnipotent.” Prayer is the “blind groping after the Omniscient.”

### The Leadership Corner

### Where Did the Time Go???

It's amazing that we are at the beginning of the end of 2009. December has come much more quickly than many of us expected. It feels like just “yesterday” when we released the January 2009 newsletter. In that issue we shared the mantra for the year... Align in 2009!

In a recent quiet time with God, he gave me the word for 2010. Are you ready? It's “Accelerate!”

The word of the Lord is that He will do in 2010 what should take years to happen in our lives. Forget about the economy! Forget about what you don't have! And, forget about who you don't know!

## Son of My Wisdom

## From Root to Fruit

In Part 1 of this series (October 2009), we spoke of the progression from the *root of sin* to the *fruit of sin*. Then in Part 2, we spoke of the progression from the *root to the fruit of communion*. This was done partially to show the potential similarities between the two progressions. There is, however, a fundamental difference between the two.

Perhaps you've noticed that the progression of communion is a reverse engineering of the progression of sin as described in the book of James. While the book of James seems here to only map for us the progression of sin; I believe we all understand that sin is not the only destination for our desires. Essentially it is the case that something as "simple" as a desire for intimacy can travel either one of these progressions. Both opportunities seem to begin with a very legitimate *desire*, in this case a desire for intimacy...

## Journey to Intimacy

## A Parable: He Who Knows Not ...

He who knows not *and* knows not *that* he knows not is a child, *teach him*.  
 He who knows not *and* knows *that* he knows not is a man, *lead him*.  
 He who knows not *and* thinks *that* he knows is foolish, *pray for him*.

Here is a good place to note, that "*he who knows not and knows not that he knows not is a child.*" But he's not a child because his years are few. He is a child, because he *doesn't know* that he doesn't know. Translation: There are certain things in life that "*we know that we do not know;*" here we are "men." And there are many ... many ... many ... many things to which we are oblivious (pronounced "lost"). Not only do we not know them; but we *do not know* that we do not know them.

In every area of our lives where *we do not know*, that we do not know, we are children. But what the Lord is saying is that if we allow ourselves (as children) to be taught His testimonies, they will be to us Wisdom. And we may then find security in that we know Him, in Whom is all the fullness of the Godhead bodily. And that which we do not know, becomes so much more insignificant by comparison.

## Precepts in Practice

## Make Me Do It!

We agreed that in this wrap-up session, we would discuss how we, as humans (and Christians in particular), can re-program our brains to develop positive habits that support the plan God has for our lives.

Example (actual situation): ... Then, once the trip was completely set up and I simply needed signatures to approve my check request, both my supervisor and the CEO changed their minds. Needless to say both my team and I were greatly disappointed.

When my brain received this information, I noticed my behavior changed toward my supervisor and the CEO. I began to avoid them and it became difficult to engage in conversations with

either of them. I had developed a habit of not trusting anything they said and not communicating with them unless absolutely necessary.

Over time, I realized this behavior could not continue. Therefore, I asked the Lord to help me get over the hurt. The Holy Spirit ministered to me and let me know that God was using them to work His will in my life. Everything they did was part of God's plan for me. He reminded me that He uses the good, the bad, and the ugly to work out His will in my life. He told me to forgive them, cover them, and bring them back into fellowship (in my heart).

## Love and the Truth

## The Great Why (Pt. 3)

We have, in this series, been exploring *The Great Why*. We took a look at a few scriptures and came away with this question:

**Question:** “Lord, *if* our hearts are desperately wicked, and deceitful above all things; *then* how could You so love us as to send your only begotten Son, in Whom we may believe and have everlasting life?”

The Lord answered that question for us by showing us that He is, by nature, a Being comprised of three Persons (in eternal relationship with one another). God is a three-personal loving relationship. That's how God can love us, notwithstanding the condition of our hearts.

**Answer:** He does not love us because of who *we are*; as much as He loves us because of Who *He is*.

We explored that God's image and likeness were properties given to us by God. They were given to express God's ownership, authority, and responsibility over us. We had also mentioned, but not yet explored, that God had also given us dominion. Let us now approach 'dominion' in order to discover what it tells us about God and ourselves.

## Boot Camp

## Worthy is the Lamb to Receive: *Strength*

Worthy is the Lamb that was slain to receive POWER and RICHES and WISDOM and STRENGTH and HONOR and GLORY and BLESSING (Rev. 5:12 KJV).

We won't exhaust this topic here, but the Father, will show us that He gives us STRENGTH, and how we are to offer it to the Lamb of God.

Here are a couple of points that will help us frame an understanding of the topic.

- **How is STRENGTH defined and identified?**  
**How do we offer STRENGTH to the Lamb of God?**

## Living Waters

## Kingdom GAAP

Unlike many companies, God does not keep two sets of books. But there are some characteristics of GAAP (US) that correlate to Kingdom GAAP. A few of these similarities are *consistency*, *relevance*, *reliability* and *comparability*.

“**Consistency**” is defined as the characteristic of adhering to a prescribed set of principles or to a policy.

**Kingdom GAAP** – Consistency is required in that we are to love the Lord our God with our all, at all times.

“**Relevance**” is defined as a quality of information that affords one the ability to assess the future financial health of a company.

**Kingdom GAAP** – We are living epistles, read of men. Our words, our behavior, our attitudes and the postures of our hearts are all representative of our Lord.

**Reliability** means simply that the information presented in financial statements is reliable and verifiable by an independent party. This also means that the company is representing a clear picture of what really happened (and is happening) with their company.

**Kingdom GAAP** – The fruit on a tree is generally a reliable indication of the genus and species (type) of the tree. You shall know a tree by its fruit. We often deceive ourselves into thinking that although we don’t walk-like, talk-like, look-like or act-like we’re Christians that doesn’t mean that we aren’t. While there are certainly times when our lives may temporarily paint a different portrait, this ought to be the exception; not the rule.