



AUTHORITY IN IDENTITY: PLAYTIME IS OVER

Part 3: Redeeming Our Imaginations

“There’s no crying in Baseball”





EXAMINE YOURSELVES THE LORD'S SUPPER

Test yourselves to make sure you are solid in the faith. Don't drift along taking everything for granted. Give yourselves regular checkups. You need firsthand evidence, not mere hearsay, that Jesus Christ is in you. Test it out. If you fail the test, do something about it.

2 Corinthians 13:5 MSG

PREP TIME!

- **Grace** is the invitation
- **Faith** is our Acceptance
- **Love** is the Fruit
- **Work** is the Output

We are His Workmanship!

His Poetry



COMING UP...

- ~~Who, really, is Jesus?~~
- ~~The Multiple Layers of True Grace (Maturing in Christ)~~
- **Dreaming: Letting the Creator redeem our Imaginations**
- The Current War & What's Coming
- Understanding the Spiritual Realm
- What authority do we really have? How do we exercise it?
- The Voice of God: Seeking, Hearing, & Obeying

PICKING UP FROM LAST TIME...



And I, brothers, was not able to speak to you as to spiritual men, but as to fleshly men, as to infants in Christ. **I gave you milk to drink, not solid food**, for you were not yet able to receive it. Indeed, even now you are still not able, for you are **still fleshly**.

1 Corinthians 3:1–10 LSB

Now the Lord is the Spirit, and **where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom**. But we all, with unveiled face, beholding as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, are **being transformed into the same image from glory to glory**, just as from the Lord, the Spirit.

2 Corinthians 3:17-18 LSB

WHERE IS YOUR MIND SET?

Imagination: the act or power of forming a mental image of something not present to the senses or never before wholly perceived in reality; the part of your mind that allows you to form pictures or ideas of things that do not necessarily exist in real life.

Fantasy: the power or process of creating especially unrealistic or improbable mental images in response to psychological need

Faith: Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen. (Hebrews 11:1 LSB)



NATURAL VS. SPIRITUAL (KEEP GROWING!)

Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit who is from God, so that we may know the things freely given to us by God, which things we also speak, not in words taught by human wisdom, but in those taught by the Spirit, combining spiritual thoughts with spiritual words.

But a natural man does not accept the things of the Spirit of God, for they are foolishness to him; and he cannot understand them, because they are spiritually appraised.

But he who is spiritual appraises all things, yet he himself is appraised by no one. For WHO HAS KNOWN THE MIND OF THE LORD, THAT HE WILL INSTRUCT HIM? **But we have the mind of Christ.**

1 Corinthians 2:12-16 NASB

HOW DOES A TRUE FOLLOWER SMELL?

“Our lives are a Christ-like fragrance rising up to God. But this fragrance is perceived differently by those who are being saved and by those who are perishing.

To those who are perishing, we are a dreadful smell of death and doom. But to those who are being saved, we are a life-giving perfume...”

2 Corinthians 2:15–16a. NLT

[SELF-TEST: THIS IS A GREAT INDICATOR
OF WHERE YOU ARE]



JOSEPH THE DREAMER



Then Joseph had a dream, and he told it to his brothers; so they hated him even more.

Genesis 37:5 LSB

And they saw him from a distance, and before he came close to them, they plotted against him to put him to death. Then they said to one another, "Here comes this dreamer!"

Genesis 37:18–19 LSB

~

They sold him into slavery, which God used to save His people.

TUNING INTO GOD'S THOUGHTS FOR US!

“...but just as it is written, ‘THINGS WHICH EYE HAS NOT SEEN AND EAR HAS NOT HEARD, AND which HAVE NOT ENTERED THE HEART OF MAN, ALL THAT GOD HAS PREPARED FOR THOSE WHO LOVE HIM.’”

1 Corinthians 2:9 NASB

For I know the **plans** that I have for you,’ declares the LORD, ‘plans for welfare and not for calamity to give you a future and a hope. Then you will call upon Me and come and pray to Me, and I will listen to you. **You will seek Me and find Me when you search for Me with all your heart.**

‘I will be found by you,’ declares the LORD, ‘and I will **restore** your fortunes and will gather you from all the nations and from all the places where I have driven you,’ declares the LORD, ‘and I will bring you back to the place from where I sent you into exile.’

Jeremiah 29:11–14 NASB

WALK IN THE SPIRIT – CALL IN THE SPIRIT

But I say, walk by the Spirit and you will not carry out the desire of the flesh. For the **flesh** sets its desire against the **Spirit**, and the Spirit against the flesh; for **these are in opposition to one another**, so that you do not do the things that you want.

But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not under the Law.

Galatians 5:16–18 LSB

Set your mind on the things above, not on the things that are on earth.

Colossians 3:2 LSB

‘Call to Me and I will answer you, and I will tell you **great and mighty things**, which you do not know.’

Jeremiah 33:3 NASB

TO BE BORN AGAIN IS TO BE THREE PARTS

“Now may the God of peace Himself sanctify you entirely; and may your **spirit** (pneuma) and **soul** (psyche) and **body** (soma) be preserved complete, without blame at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.”

1 Thessalonians 5:23 NASB

“For the word of God is living and active and sharper than any two-edged sword, and piercing as far as the division of **soul** and **spirit**, of both **joints and marrow**, and able to judge the thoughts and intentions of the heart.”

Hebrews 4:12 NASB

Three Part Beings

1 Thessalonians 5:23

Natural
Physical
realm

Intellectual
Decision
Emotional
realm

God's
Kingdom
Spiritual
realm

Body

Vessel
House
Tabernacle

World
Consciousness

Temporal

5
S
E
N
S
E
S

Soul

Mind
Will
Emotions

Self
Consciousness

Eternal &
Temporal

H
E
A
R
T

Spirit

Holy Spirit
Your spirit
Identity

God
Consciousness

Eternal

Relates to Environment

Going to be saved

Romans 8:23

Relates to Others

Being saved

James 1:21
Hebrews 10:39

Relates to God

Saved

Romans 8:16

CHECK THE STATUS OF YOUR HEART

And we know that God causes all things to work together for good to **those who love God**, to those who are called according to His purpose.

Romans 8:28 NASB

May He give you **what your heart desires** and fulfill your whole purpose.

Psalms 20:4 CSB

Complete your outdoor work, and prepare your field; afterward, build your house.

Proverbs 24:27 CSB



WHY IS THIS IMPORTANT? AN OBJECT LESSON

When they came back to the disciples, they saw a large crowd around them, and some scribes arguing with them. Immediately, when the entire crowd saw Him, they were amazed and began running up to greet Him.

And He asked them, “What are you discussing with them?” And one of the crowd answered Him, “Teacher, I brought You my son, possessed with a spirit which makes him mute; and whenever it seizes him, it slams him to the ground and he foams at the mouth, and grinds his teeth and stiffens out. **I told Your disciples to cast it out, and they could not do it.**”

And He answered them and said, “O **unbelieving** generation, how long shall I be with you? How long shall I put up with you? Bring him to Me!”

They brought the boy to Him. When he saw Him, immediately the spirit threw him into a convulsion, and falling to the ground, he began rolling around and foaming at the mouth.

And He asked his father, “How long has this been happening to him?” And he said, “From childhood.

Mk 9:14–21 NASB

THE AUTHORITY IS IN THE IDENTITY

“It has often thrown him both into the fire and into the water to destroy him. But **if You can** do anything, take pity on us and help us!”

And Jesus said to him, “ **‘If You can?’ All things are possible to him who believes.**”

Immediately the boy’s father cried out and said, “**I do believe; help my unbelief.**”

When Jesus saw that a crowd was rapidly gathering, He rebuked the unclean spirit, saying to it, “You deaf and mute spirit, I command you, come out of him and do not enter him again.”

After crying out and throwing him into terrible convulsions, it came out; **and the boy became so much like a corpse that most of them said, “He is dead!”**

But Jesus took him by the hand and raised him; and he got up.

When He came into the house, His disciples began questioning Him privately, “**Why could we not drive it out?**”

And He said to them, “**This kind cannot come out by anything but prayer.**”

Mark 9:22–29 NASB

WHY COULD WE NOT DRIVE IT OUT?

- There is always a need for greater (and fresh) faith
 - Both the Disciples and the boy's father
- Jesus' answer didn't focus on procedure
 - They didn't say the wrong words or perform an incorrect ritual
- Their past successes had given them confidence in *their own* abilities
- Jesus calls them to more prayer—greater dependence on God
- Our authority is *mediated* authority
- We must have 100% dependence on the one who has “disarmed the powers and authorities...triumphing over them by the cross,” (Colossians 2:15) as well as discernment and humility.

Doing great things for God means seeking His guidance, being led by the Spirit, and allowing His power to work *through* us daily.

GO DEEPER – LOST SOULS DEPENDS ON IT!

“Now, will God not bring about justice for His elect who cry to Him day and night, and will He delay long over them?”

“I tell you that He will bring about justice for them quickly. However, **when the Son of Man comes, will He find that faith on the earth?**”

Luke 18:7-8 LSB

“But know this, that in the last days difficult times will come...

...holding to a **form of godliness, but having denied its power.** Keep away from such men as these.”

2 Timothy 3:1,5 LSB

BEFORE WE PARTAKE



- Examine Ourselves
- Come With Thanksgiving
- Come Humbly
- Surrender, Accept, Go Deeper
- His Agenda, His Plans, His Purpose

COME TO MAKE AN EXCHANGE

HIS LAST SUPPER & OUR NOW SUPPER

While they were eating, He took some bread, and after a blessing He broke it, and gave it to them, and said, “Take it; this is My body.”

And when He had taken a cup and given thanks, He gave it to them, and they all drank from it. And He said to them, “This is My blood of the covenant, which is being poured out for many.

Truly I say to you, I will not drink of the fruit of the vine again, until that day when I drink it, new, in the kingdom of God.”

Mark 14:22–25 NASB