4/23/24: We Create Our Own Reality presented by The Ministry of YOU

Our Heavenly Father wants us to choose to co-operate with Him and create His reality or Truth into us and then our lives. What is reality? According to the Webster 1828 reality is defined as the actual being or existence of anything; Truth; fact; in distinction from mere appearance. What is God’s reality or Truth for us? The Holy Spirit revealed it through the Apostle Paul in his letter to the Romans. The Voice Translation Romans 8:29-30; From the distant past, His eternal Love reached into the future. You see, He knew those who would be His one day, and He chose them beforehand to be conformed to the Image of His Son so that Jesus would be the Firstborn of a new family of believers, all brothers, and sisters. As for those He chose beforehand, He called them to a different destiny so that they would experience what it means to be made right with God and share His glory.

In other words, what our Heavenly Father wants for His family of children is to be just like Jesus! This is exactly what the word “conform” means. To be similar or identical; to be obedient or compliant, to act in accordance with prevailing standards or customs. What are the prevailing standards or customs? The Thoughts or Ways of God. However, this conformity will not happen automatically. Unfortunately, this is a huge misconception in the family of God. In the words of John Maxwell, Author, and Motivational speaker, “The problem is we don’t improve by simply living. We have to be intentional about it. You must take complete ownership of the growth process, because nobody else will do it for you.”

John Maxwell in his book, the 15 Invaluable Laws of Growth discusses “The Law of Intentionality.” The word “intentional” is defined in the Merriam and Webster dictionary as a determination to act a certain way; what one attends to do or bring about, done or brought about of one’s own will. A few synonyms will also help us to get an even better understanding of the word “intentional.” Deliberate, willing, voluntary, or resolve are a few of the synonyms. What should be perfectly clear is that our God-given will or autonomy must be activated, in other words, we must decide or choose to conform to the Image of Jesus!

According to John Maxwell, there can be a lot of activity and busyness in our lives but not necessarily growth or improvement. In his book, he also quotes another Author, James Allen, from his book, As a Man Thinketh; “People are anxious to improve their circumstances but are unwilling to improve themselves; therefore, they remain bound.” In other words, unwillingness to work on yourself will keep you unchanged! John Maxwell also discusses another law that is the reciprocal of the Law of Intentionality. The Law of Diminishing Intent. This law is based on the longer you wait to do something you should do now, the greater the odds that you will never actually do it. This law was based on a riddle that John Maxwell said his father told him when he was growing up. “Five frogs were sitting on a log. Four decided to jump off. How many are left? Five because there is a difference between deciding and doing.”

Our Heavenly Father wants us to understand that we choose to create our own reality. It’s not up to Him alone, our destiny or where we will eventually end up. Why? Because He has given us free will or autonomy. The word “destiny” is defined as a predetermined state or end. We need to understand that it is us, who determines where we end up and not God! God’s Word is His Will, and it shows us what He would like our destiny or destination to be. However, it’s not automatic, we still have to choose it and then walk it out by faith working through Love. The Apostle reveals this spiritual Truth in his letter to the Romans. In the beginning of his letter, he explains the Will of God and what God’s Intentions are for mankind. AMPC Romans 1:17; For in the Gospel a righteousness which God ascribes is revealed, both springing from faith and leading to faith (disclosed through the way of faith that arouses to more faith). As it is written, the man who through faith is just and upright shall live and shall live by faith.

So, Paul presents the Will of God or the Thoughts of God to them. The Way of Faith! Now, they would have the opportunity to walk and live by faith. Then Paul discloses that there are those who didn’t choose the Way of Faith! AMPC Romans 1:18; For God’s (Holy) wrath and indignation are revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who in their wickedness repress and hinder the Truth and make it inoperative. In other words, there are those who rejected the Truth or God’s Reality. So, in their lives it was inoperative! In this example, Paul is referring to the children of Israel. AMPC Romans 1:19; For that which is known about God is evident to them and made plain in their inner consciousness, because God (Himself) has shown it to them.

In other words, God made it very clear about Himself and His Truth or Reality in their minds. AMPC Romans 1:20; For ever since the creation of the world His invisible nature and attributes, that is, His eternal power and divinity, have been made intelligible and clearly discernible in and through the things that have been made (His handiworks). So, (men) are without excuse (altogether without any defense or justification). So, now they had a choice to make. God had revealed Himself plainly and clearly to them. Unfortunately, they chose poorly. They did not choose God’s reality for them. AMPC Romans 1:21; Because when they knew and recognized Him as God, they did not honor and glorify Him as God or give Him thanks. But instead, they became futile and godless in their thinking (with vain imaginings, foolish reasoning, and stupid speculations) and their senseless minds were darkened.

So, even though they knew and recognized God, they still did not acknowledge Him. The outcome of this decision was their minds were affected in a negative way. Since they rejected the Thoughts of God, they became godless in the way they thought. As a result, their minds became darkened or ignorant of God’s Reality or Truth by choice. Unfortunately, they thought they could be wise apart from God. AMPC Romans 1:22; Claiming to be wise, they became fools (professing to be smart, they made simpletons of themselves). The reality or Truth that God is the Only True God was now lost to them. AMPC Romans 1:23; And by them (their reality) the glory and majesty and excellence of the immortal God were exchanged for and represented by images, resembling mortal man and birds and beasts and reptiles.

Once they had rejected God’s reality for them. There’s was only one thing God could do, let them live out the reality they had embraced and created. God gave them the power of choice and so, He had to let them choose. They chose poorly. AMPC Romans 1 :24; Therefore, God gave them up in the lusts of their (own) hearts to sexual impurity, to the dishonoring of their bodies among themselves (abandoning them to the degrading power of sin). Why did God have to do this? Because it was their choice to reject Him and His Reality or Truth for the lie or false reality of the devil. They decided not to believe or obey God but the devil instead. AMPC Romans 1: 25-26; Because they exchanged the Truth of God for a lie and worshiped and served the creature rather than the Creator, Who is BLESSED forever! Amen (so be it). I know this had to be difficult for God to have to leave them to their own devices knowing how degrading and detrimental this would be to them, their families, and their lives. Verse 26; For this reason, God gave them over and abandoned them to vile affections and degrading passions. For their women exchanged their natural function for an unnatural and abnormal one.

Paul goes on to explain what happened as a result of their exchange from God’s Reality to the devil’s reality. AMPC Romans 1:27; And the men also turned from natural relations with women and were set ablaze (burning out, consumed) with lust for one another, men committing shameful acts with men and suffering in their own bodies and personalities the inevitable consequences and penalty of their wrong-doing and going astray, which was their fitting retribution. There is only one way according to NLT John 14:6; Jesus told him, “I Am the Way, the Truth, and the Life.” So, to choose to live any other way is to suffer the penalty of wrong-doing and going astray from the Truth.

AMPC Romans 1:28; So, since they did not see fit to acknowledge God or approve of Him or consider Him worth knowing. God gave them over to a base and condemned mind to do things not proper or decent but loathsome. As we can see, this was their decision or choice to consider God valuable or worthy enough to take the time to get to know Him. They chose the devil’s reality instead of the Truth about God. Again, because He’s the One Who gave them the power of choice or autonomy, He had to give them over and allow what they had chosen. Let’s take a look at the reality they chose. AMPC Romans 1:29; They were filled (permeated and saturated) with every kind of unrighteousness, iniquity, grasping and covetous greed, and malice. They were full of envy and jealousy, murder, strife, deceit, and treachery, ill will and cruel ways. They were secret backbiters and gossipers, slanderers, hateful to and hating God, full of insolence, arrogance, and boasting, inventors of new forms of evil, disobedient and undutiful to parents. They were without understanding, conscienceless and faithless, heartless, and loveless and merciless.

Paul makes it abundantly clear in this letter that they were fully aware of the decision they made to exchange the Truth of God for the lie of the devil and except his reality. AMPC Romans 1:32; Though they are fully aware of God’s righteous decree that those who do such things deserve to die, they not only do them themselves but approve and applaud others who practice them.

In the Gospels there is a very good example of someone who made a different exchange. She exchanged the lie of the devil for God’s Truth! She created her own reality which was God’s Truth. Her legacy is recorded by Mark. AMPC Mark 5:25-30; There was a woman who had a flow of blood for twelve years and had endured much suffering under (the hands of) many physicians and had spent all that she had and was no better but instead grew worse. (At this time, this was her reality). She had heard the reports concerning Jesus, and she came up behind Him in the throng and touched His garment. For she kept saying, If I only touch His garments, I shall be restored to health. Immediately her flow of blood dried up at the source, and (suddenly) she felt in her body that she was healed of her (distressing) ailment. Jesus recognizing in Himself that the power proceeding from Him had gone forth, turned around immediately in the crowd, and said, who touched My clothes?

The account of her story goes on to tell us that Jesus continued to look around and inquire until He found out who had done this. AMPC Mark 5:33; But the woman, knowing what had been done for her, though alarmed and frightened and trembling, fell down before Him and told Him the whole truth. Jesus responded with an important and powerful spiritual Truth. AMPC Mark 5:34; And He said to her, daughter your faith (your trust and confidence in Me, springing from faith in God) has restored you to health. Go in (into) peace and be continually healed and freed from your (distressing bodily) disease.

Jesus simply acknowledged what she had done. She created her own reality based off the Truth about Jesus she had heard. Let’s review, remember the word “reality” is defined in Webster 1828 as actual being or existence of anything: Truth, fact, in distinction from mere appearance. She had to believe and then receive the Truth she was hearing about Jesus. In addition, she knew and understood something very significant about Jesus’ apparel. KJV Malachi 4:2; But unto you that fear My Name shall the Sun of Righteousness arise with healing in His Wings; and ye shall go forth and grow up as calves of the stall. The word wings in this verse are from the Hebrew word kanap (kaw-nawf), it means border, skirt, corner of a garment.

The Scripture said there was healing in the border of His garment. Jesus as a Rabbi was wearing a tallit, a fringed garment worn as a prayer shawl. The tallit has special twined and knotted fringes known as tzitzit attached to it’s four corners or borders. This is what she reached out and touched. True biblical faith is believing and speaking. AMPC Romans 10:10; For with the heart (mind) a person believes (adheres to, trusts in, relies on Christ) and so is justified (declared righteous, acceptable to God), and with the mouth he confesses (declares openly and speaks out freely his faith) and confirms his salvation.

The next important and powerful Truth the amplified classic brings out is that Jesus said, “Go in peace and (into) peace.” What He was saying to her is go and enjoy this beautiful reality you have created for yourself based on My Truth! Continue to live out this reality for the rest of your life and don’t allow the devil to come back into your life with his lies and reality!

Notes