

God is Absolutely Good!

Now, I must give credit where credit is due. The above title I got from Robin D. Bullock, but it is also complete truth, so I am using it here. To understand anything, we must first start with a Cornerstone. For those of you who are new to building, the cornerstone is the point that all aspects of the building are measured to; we also call it the plum line. If we want a building to be plum, we must use a plum line, or it will be off (not square) as we build it.

To keep us from listening to the father of lies, we must first establish some bedrock truths. God is absolutely good. There is no evil in him (Psalm 92:15; Titus 1:2; John 14:6; John 8:32). God cannot be contrary to His nature of absolute goodness. (Romans 3:3-4).

As I stated in the introduction, Satan is a liar. The Bible calls him the father of lies in John 8:44. So, he will do anything possible to get our building (our life) off plum. He will speak lies about our Cornerstone, Jesus Christ, to try and warp our thinking, so as we build our life with God through satan's veil of lies, it will begin to look crooked or askew. If we don't have a firm foundation, our building will crumble. If we don't have a firm, bedrock understanding of God's absolute goodness, we will question God's absolute goodness when Satan poses a thought against it and possibly believe every lie the enemy tells us, which will definitely lead us down a wrong path, for satan's lies lead to destruction. (1 Peter 5:8).

So, God is absolutely good is our plum line. This truth is our Cornerstone. Everything in scripture is measured to this plum line. God exists in the realm of absolute: He is absolute Truth, absolute Good, absolute Love, absolute Mercy, absolute Grace, absolute Judge—the list goes on.

Absolute, by definition, is not limited by restrictions or exceptions; total; being fully such; not mixed, pure; not to be doubted or questioned; positive. In the world of absolutes, it cannot be either or; meaning, if I say, "you always do that." Always is an absolute. Now, in truth, can a person *always* do that? Probably not. In relationship, we often speak in absolutes, and most of the time, they are used incorrectly. BUT, in reference to God, absolutes are fact. So, if scripture says God, "**will never** leave you nor forsake you." Joshua 1:5; Hebrews 13:5, then it is absolutely true. *Will* and *never* are absolutes. Obviously, God really wants us to know that truth; He used two absolutes to state it.

So, in the fullness of our plum line, God is absolute Truth. Everything He says He is, He is. Having this bedrock as part of the fullness of our plum line or cornerstone will help us when we read scripture. If we come across a portion of scripture that seems contrary to who we KNOW God to be, then we must pause and ask Holy Spirit to help us understand what we are not understanding.

Why do we ask Holy Spirit (the third Person of the Trinity—God the Father, God the Son, God the Holy Spirit)? "These things we also speak, not in words which man's wisdom teaches but which the Holy Spirit teaches, comparing spiritual things with spiritual. But the natural man does not receive the things of the Spirit of God, for they are foolishness to him; nor can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned." 1 Corinthians 2:13-14. God is Spirit, and if we want to know Him, we must ask Holy Spirit to teach us.

NOTE: To truly begin to know God in His fullness, we must first have a relationship with Him through His Son Jesus Christ (also known as the second Person of the Trinity). (John 3:16-21; John 14:6; John 8:31-32). How do we know Him? First, we must believe Jesus is who He says He is (read the scriptures I list above). He said He is the Son of God and that the only way to the Father is through Him. "Jesus said to him, "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me." John 14:6. To know God the Father, we must be born again, which just means, we must be born of the Spirit. (John 3:5-8). Because of original sin (Romans 3:23-26), we have to admit our sin before Jesus, believing He is the Son of God, confess with our mouth that He is Lord, and ask Jesus to come in and dwell in us as Savior and Lord of

our lives. (Romans 10:8-11). This brings us into right standing with God. In knowing Jesus, we can now begin to know God in His fullness.

Holy Spirit. Many, if not most, have stopped at Jesus relationship only. Why is that? Well, not to go into it too heavy here, Satan understands the power of Holy Spirit as well as why Holy Spirit is essential to God relationship, so as quickly as he could, Satan infiltrated church teaching to play down the need of Holy Spirit. How do we know Holy Spirit is not an option? Jesus **commanded** his followers to wait for the Holy Spirit before entering into any kind of ministry (Acts 1:4). "But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be witnesses to Me in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth." (Acts 1:8). Without Holy Spirit, we do not have power to do all of the things Jesus has commanded us to do, and we will not be in connection with the whole Godhead (Father, Son, Holy Spirit). Often Holy Spirit comes through the laying on of hands and prayer, but I also know that if we open our heart to Him, recognize Him as a gift from Father God to us, and ask Jesus to baptize us with Holy Spirit, He can and will. Evidence to us that we are full of Holy Spirit is we are able to speak in another language, a language of God. The Bible calls it speaking in tongues. (Acts 2; 1 Corinthians 14). As we ask Holy Spirit to come in, accepting the beautiful gift of Him from Father God, we often hear words in our head or even feel words impressed upon us, words we don't recognize, and often think are gibberish. Don't let that stop you. Begin to speak those words out loud, and as you do, you will solidify the language. Now, the enemy of your soul will most likely lie to you and say those words aren't real, but remember, he is the father of lies. (John 8:44). As you begin to say the words over and over, Holy Spirit will add words to them, and before you know it, you are using a complete prayer language that grows and sometimes changes as your relationship with Him deepens.

When I asked Jesus to be my Lord and Savior, my spiritual eyes and ears were opened, and I began to have an understanding for what I read in the Bible. But, when I was filled with Holy Spirit, I really began to understand the Bible even more. The deeper my relationship with the Godhead (Father, Son, Holy Spirit), the greater my understanding of the Bible and the hidden treasures God has skillfully woven among the pages. (Proverbs 25:2; Revelation 1:6).

Many times, I have been reading the Bible, set it down and said to God, "this doesn't make sense; this goes against who You are." The first time I said that statement to Him out loud, He said very clearly (not audibly, but it resonated loudly in me), "you are reading it wrong."

I was stunned by His answer, stunned silent for a time. Slowly, clearing my throat, I said, "Okay, how am I reading it wrong?"

He said to me that I was reading everything through the veil of religion and man's perception of what God's word said. Dumbfounded, I asked Him, "What do I do to see it clearly?" God explained to me to ask Him to remove the veil (or scales) from my spiritual eyes, ears, and heart, so I could see, hear, and perceive Him clearly. I obeyed, and thus began a long journey of reading, stopping, asking, and waiting for His answer.

That was my beginning of coming out from under the veil of a religious spirit. In that moment, although holding onto an amazing epiphany, I had no idea all that I had been under in regards to the cunning, lying tactics of the enemy, Satan. He couldn't take my salvation, but he certainly could try and twist and manipulate my understanding of who God truly is as well as how much God wants relationship with me (us).

BUT, God had now given me a certain truth to hold onto, and even when Satan (or his minions) would try to veer me off course from it, I would go back and hold fast because God had made it a bedrock truth inside of me, and nothing was going to remove it. "Therefore if the Son makes you free, you shall be free indeed." John 8:36. In regard to that truth, I had been set free. Many more freedoms would come.