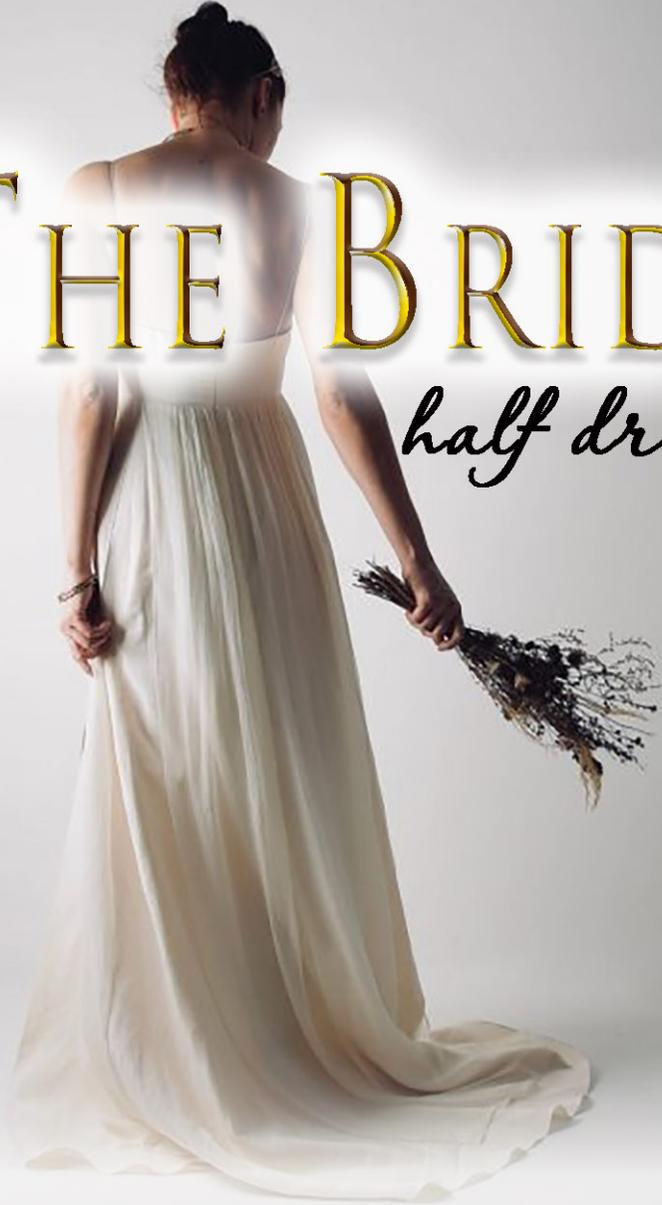


Shane Vaughn Th.D.



THE BRIDE
half dressed

**UNDERSTANDING THE DIFFERENCE IN
“The Garment of Salvation”
& “The Robe Of Righteousness”**

This book is presented by;
First Harvest Ministries
as a presentation of truth for those who hun-
ger for more knowledge and understanding
of our Heavenly Father and our Heavenly
Groom.

Please note; in this book you will notice that
we use the proper name of The Creator,
Yahweh- rather than the generic term *God*.

We also use the original name of the Messiah,
Yahshua rather than the english version of
Jesus. Both of these names, Yahweh & Yahshua
are the original Hebrew names of The Father
& The Son and are being properly restored
into the laguage of the House of Israel; the
church.

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Drawing hard lines of division is the human nature and has led to many unnecessary wars, divisions and painful separations of family, friend and foe.

Men, in their inability to reason and compromise have created an either/or existence and sadly this has permeated into the world of theology and the and driven deep wedges into the congregation of Israel.

One subject that finds itself victim of this sad tragedy is the subject of SALVATION AND SANCTIFICATION, often times referred to as Holiness.

On one side of the chasm you will find the group that preaches salvation by faith alone with absolutely no need for works.

On the other side you will find a group of legalist who are focused on works and the necessity thereof for salvation.

Both sides have drawn their lines in the sand. This book will seek to find if perhaps there is no need for those lines. Perhaps the truth is hidden on both sides and revealed to us when we properly understand the difference in **THE GARMENT OF SALVATION** and **THE ROBE OF RIGHTEOUSNESS.**

“And I heard as it were the voice of a great multitude, and as the voice of many waters, and as the voice of mighty thunderings, saying, Alleluia: for the Lord God omnipotent reigneth. Let us be glad and rejoice, and give honor to Him: FOR THE MARRIAGE OF THE LAMB IS COME, AND HIS WIFE HATH MADE HERSELF READY. AND TO HER WAS GRANTED THAT SHE SHOULD BE ARRAYED IN FINE LINEN, CLEAN AND WHITE: FOR THE FINE LINEN IS THE RIGHTEOUSNESS OF SAINTS”
(Rev. 19:6-8).

Journey with me into this majestic vision as seen by the beloved Apostle of our Lord and allow him to end for us the age long contention between grace and works, between faith and faithfulness. This entire argument can end and find rest when you and I behold the mysterious revelation that is made so plain in this verse of scripture above.

Notice the Command given to all the inhabitants of the earth! *“Let us Be Glad and Rejoice”* This command is not just given to the church or to the elect or to the 144,000 but rather to every human on our planet. This is a command to rejoice and be glad because of something so very important that has come upon the earth; **THE GREAT SABBATH DAY HAS ARRIVED !!!**

The Day of the Lord is the Great Sabbath Rest that is soon to come to our planet when *“The wicked shall cease from troubling and the weary shall be at rest”* This day is the final wedding that all other weddings have been the type and shadow of, it is the wedding that all other weddings have pointed to.

YOUR BIBLE BEGINS WITH A WEDDING AND ENDS WITH A WEDDING! The entire story of the Bible is about a wedding and thus the reason why Satan, the perverter of all truth, has worked so hard in these final hours of time to eradicate the importance of weddings and marriage. In the beginning, *Yahweh*, established the metronome of the original pattern of marriage as a celebration of Covenant between man and woman. *Yahweh* is the creator of marriage and He alone has the right to set the terms and the pattern of His holy and righteous institution. No state or earthly government has any power to dictate the terms of marriage any more than they have the right to dictate the terms of baptism or communion.

Satan would love to lay claim to this holy establishment just as he's tried to lay claim to the Sabbath Day and the Tithes - all holy creations of *Yahweh*. He knows that his time is short, He knows better than the church what time it is and that he has been allotted six days until he is arrested and placed into incarceration during the Great Sabbath Day - **THE MILLENNIUM REIGN**. Therefore, He is determined to wreak havoc upon the upcoming marriage of Yahshua and His Bride -

the Israel of God. How does he plan to do this? By planting His ministers of light into the pulpits of God's church who preach grace alone and therefore will cause billions to be unprepared for the greatest wedding that the world has ever seen and missing their place as *The Bride Of Christ who has made themselves ready*. Sad will be the day when millions realize that salvation was not the goal but rather sanctification.

Now we come to an even greater wonder! Not only does the vast multitude, in the verse above, express their praise to *Yahweh*, but now they speak AS TO ONE ANOTHER, proclaiming with joy and gladness, "*Let us be glad and rejoice, and give honor to Him...*" But Why?

Is it because the Jews have all returned to Palestine? Is it because we see a revived Roman Empire in Europe and thereby know that the end of the age is at hand? Is it because the great increase of earthquakes, tsunamis, droughts, wars, immorality, terrorism, and evils and catastrophes of all kinds point unerringly to the soon return of our Lord? Is it because the "rapture" has just taken place and we will supposedly escape the seven years of the reign of Antichrist and the indescribable hell of the Great Tribulation? NO — not at all! It is just because THE MARRIAGE OF THE LAMB IS COME, AND HIS WIFE HATH MADE HERSELF READY! What a theme for the song of a multitude!

The earth rejoices when THE BRIDE IS READY !!! The final ministry of Elijah that is now upon the earthy is a ministry of THE RESTORATION OF ALL TRUTH, it is a preparation ministry; preparing the way of the Lord, preparing the bride for her place into the celestial kingdom. This ministry of Elijah will come out of the obscurity of the wilderness to bring forth a people who have fled from the mindset of Babylonian religion of all sorts and sizes. Elijah will present her as a WORD BRIDE! She will not identify as a Baptist Bride or a Catholic Bride or a Pentecostal Bride, she will only present herself as a Word bride!

There is a pattern in the book of Revelation that you need to notice! Can you not discern the sequence? As soon as Babylon falls — His wife makes herself ready for the marriage! Individually and personally this happens within the experience of every member of the BRIDE COMPANY. Until you rid yourself of your old coverings, your old paradigms, your old mindsets, it is impossible to prepare yourself for the wedding. BABYLON MUST FALL IN YOU BEFORE IT FALLS IN THE WORLD !

The moment that you can hear the crumbling sounds of the walls of Babylon in your thinking; it is at that moment that you will feel the call of isolation into the wilderness of preparation. You will begin to notice the change in every area of your life. You will no longer desire the fellowship of carnal Christians who seek to con-

tinue the lies inherited by their fathers. HOWEVER, YOU WILL BECOME A LOVER OF TRUTH, BECAUSE YOUR HUSBAND, YAHSHUA THE MESSIAH, IS TRUTH!

When you have finished reading this book you will find the two sides of faith and works coming together into one glorious bridal gown. No longer will you wonder IF WE ARE SAVED BY WORKS OR BY FAITH, the confusion will crumble before you, because when we are finished there will be no noticeable separation between the two. The secret lies in the fact that the modern church in their teaching has failed to understand the difference in the garment of salvation and the robe of righteousness.

In our scripture reference above we read that the Bride has MADE HERSELF READY! How could this be? If Christ finished the work at Calvary and there is nothing that I can do to add to that work, as the church teaches, then how is it possible that the bride has done anything to “MAKE HERSELF READY”? After all, if she ACCEPTED CHRIST AS HER SAVIOR AND BELIEVED IN HER HEART then by all accounts she should be ready without doing anything to “*make herself ready*.”

John, the write of this vision sees a different picture than our churches present to us. He sees that the bride has done something to qualify for this great position of brideship. It is no mystery what she has done because in the very same verse he tells us what she has done to *make herself ready*.

“AND TO HER WAS GRANTED THAT SHE SHOULD BE ARRAYED IN FINE LINEN, CLEAN AND WHITE: FOR THE FINE LINEN IS THE RIGHTEOUSNESS OF SAINTS.”

Take off your modern church glasses and read that verse carefully! She MUST BE arrayed or draped in something more than a confession of faith. She must be covered in fine linen! What is fine linen the symbol of? THE RIGHTEOUSNESS OF THE SAINTS!

I will quote it as it is given in the Greek and rendered in the Revised Version. “*And it was given unto her to array herself in fine linen, bright and pure, for the fine linen is the righteous acts of the saints.*” In this text it says, “It was granted to her” — a privilege — “to array herself” — it was something SHE could DO!

There is one time in the life of a woman when she is most extravagant in her dress; one time when she diligently and at great cost and with much patience and care arrays herself in garments of particular elaborateness and intricate beauty — and that time is on her wedding day! SO HERE THE BRIDE ARRAYS HERSELF IN A GARMENT OF HER OWN MAKING. She obtains the material from beyond herself, but she by her own effort fashions it, forms it, and clothes herself with it!

She reaches beyond her normal financial ability and splurges beyond her means. She cares not about her budget or her resources; borrow if she must but she will form and fashion the dress of her dreams.

As you and I prepare ourselves for our wedding day, we will need more than human ability to make this happen. We will need more than our normal and natural resources of the flesh. We will need to tap into a deep reservoir of power from on high to walk a life of righteousness. We will not be able to do it in our own efforts. However, as we live a life of prayer and dedication, we will have access to a Holy Helper that lives in us, called the Holy Spirit (Ruach Ha'Khodesh in Hebrew) and He is our helper! He gives us power over sin!

Let's read Isaiah 61:10 and we will find the biblical principle of two garments that is required for the Bride.

"I will greatly rejoice in the Lord, my soul shall be joyful in my God; for HE HATH CLOTHED ME WITH THE GARMENTS OF SALVATION, He hath covered me with THE ROBE OF RIGHTEOUSNESS, as a bridegroom decketh himself with ornaments, and as a bride adorneth herself with her jewels.

This verse teaches us two things: (1) that God has clothed us with the GARMENTS OF SALVATION and (2) He has covered us with the ROBE OF RIGHTEOUSNESS. The Spirit here points out to us that NOT ONLY IS THERE A GARMENT OF SALVATION, BUT THERE IS IN ADDITION A ROBE OF RIGHTEOUSNESS.

It is key that you grab this concept! The Garment of Salvation is not the same as the Robe of Righteousness. You only need The Garment of Salvation to be saved but you must have the robe of righteousness to become the Bride of Messiah.

In times past we did not understand the difference in THE CHURCH AND THE BRIDE. We did not know anything other than HELL OR HEAVEN. We were clueless of the different levels of rewards in Heaven and the coveted positions in the Coming Kingdom of God and therefore people were either lost or saved. However, in these days of restoration our eyes are beginning to see what hitherto has been hidden from us; the glorious revelation of The Restitution of All thing and the consecration of the set apart Bride of Christ.

I wish to make it abundantly clear - Yahshua (Jesus) is our salvation! We are saved by grace through faith, Paul tells us, and that not of ourselves: it is the gift of God: not of works, lest any man should boast (Eph. 2:8-9). WE ARE CLOTHED WITH THE GARMENT OF SALVATION AS A FREE GIFT. Yahweh clothed each and every child of God with the garment of salvation in that blessed moment when we

believed on The Messiah as Saviour and Redeemer. We are to greatly rejoice in the Lord that He has clothed us with the garment of salvation!

Because, we teach obedience to the law of Yahweh and because we keep the Sabbath Day, the Holy Days, the Dietary restrictions and believe in the Commandments we are often accused of teaching a works based Salvation. I completely understand how one could assume such. However, when you come to the understanding of the Robe of Righteousness and the necessity thereof, then you do none of these things for salvations sake but rather in preparation of the Wedding Day!

As soon as man sinned, Yahweh made them garments, the Bible declares. That means that Yahweh accepts men just as they are in their consciousness of their humanity and their fleshly condition. He affirms them as carnal, sinful, as sheep gone astray, each turned to his own way. But, blessed be God! HE DOES NOT PERMIT THEM TO STAND BEFORE HIM IN THE CONSCIOUSNESS OF THEIR NAKEDNESS, OF THEIR EXPOSED FLESH — nor does He expose their flesh to one another in their nakedness. Oh, no! HE HIMSELF COVERS THEM. By making garments for men, Yahweh shows that He first of all accepts them as they are, in all their fleshiness. In this way He covers their flesh but does not destroy it. Yahweh's first action towards man is that He preserves him in his sinful state of being, with the physical body, the carnal mind, and the fleshly inclinations, giving him an "atonement," that is, a "covering" to hide or take the attention away from his flesh, making him "accepted in the Beloved" — UNTIL HE CAN BE CHANGED!

Note this well - the garment of salvation will not place you into the Bride! It will rather allow you to be a guest at the wedding! Remember the story? What was required of all guest at the wedding in the parable? They must have a wedding garment and that garment is the garment of Salvation. But this garment ALONE is not enough to be counted WORTHY of the HIGH CALLING beloved.

The Garment of Salvation is Free but the Robe of Righteousness will cost you everything!

There are two types of Righteousness that I wish to teach you about! The First is "Imputed Righteousness" and this has caused many to lost out with God because they have believed that as long as they have imputed righteousness, this is all that is needed. First, let me say that the garment of salvation is the righteousness of Christ imputed to us by faith. "For what saith the scripture? *Abraham believed God, and it was counted unto him for righteousness.* Now to him that worketh is the reward not reckoned of grace, but of debt. But to him that worketh not, but believeth on Him that justifieth the ungodly, *His faith is counted for righteousness.*

Even as David also describeth the blessedness of the man, unto whom *God imputeth righteousness without works*, saying, Blessed are they whose iniquities are forgiven, and whose sins are covered. *Blessed is the man to whom the Lord will not impute sin*” (Rom. 4:3-8). “*Abraham believed God, and it was counted unto him for righteousness.*”

This word “counted” translates the Greek word *logizomai* which means; to reckon, number, account, impute, all of which mean to credit to one’s account.

Because Abraham believed God, it was imputed or credited unto his account that he was righteous. The Amplified Bible says, “*Abraham believed (trusted in) God, and it was credited to his account as righteousness — right living and right standing with God...* thus David congratulates the man and pronounces a blessing on him to whom God credits righteousness apart from the works he does.” Paul continues, “*Now it was not written for his sake alone, that it was imputed to him; but for us also, to whom it shall be imputed if we believe on Him that raised up Jesus our Lord from the dead; who was delivered up for our offences, and was raised again for our justification*” (Rom. 4:23-25)

This is the sphere with which most Christians are acquainted, and we bless God for this beautiful and precious truth, for it is the solid foundation upon which we can build as we experience God in His great dealings and plan and purpose in our lives. Our practical, daily experience has revealed the undeniable fact that **just because the righteousness of Christ has been “imputed” to us, “charged to our account,” doesn’t mean that there has been even one iota of change in our STATE OF BEING!**

We honestly believe in the modern church that imputed righteousness is all the God requires! This is the thinking that has turned the church into a weak anemic army of zombies marching to the tune of the pied piper of hell. Remember this well - Satan doesn’t mind if your saved but He despises the fact that you can be sanctified and walk in a position outside of His realm of authority. As long as you are a slave to sin; He can lay claim to you. However, when the Holy Spirit gives you power over sin and gives you the power to live a righteous life, to be in a righteous state of being, this causes shrieks in the dark caverns of the underworld. Because every time you live in a state of righteousness you are serving as a witness that all men are not rebellious to God and this will serve against Satan at his trial on the judgement day. His argument to Yahweh is that **NO MAN CAN LIVE HOLY** and therefore He should not be sentenced to eternal torment for rebelling against God as no one is able to live righteously. You Are A witness Against Him When you say **YES LORD** and you walk in obedience to His commandments.

It is incumbent on us to realize that just because we have imputed righteousness It doesn't mean that we are any less carnal, any less sinful, any less bound by weaknesses, habits, and addictions, any less likely to fear, be upset and angry, gossip, smoke, drink, lust, or be any more godly in thoughts, desires, and actions. It means that we now possess by faith, and as a free gift, the GARMENT OF SALVATION, and clothed in this garment we are legally saved from (the guilt of, or punishment for) our sins, being forgiven, acquitted, and all our past, present, and future has been covered by God's matchless grace! This garment of salvation was wrought out (or woven) on the loom of Calvary by Christ our Lord. HE worked out this great salvation for us! HE made the garment of salvation. We never could. We had absolutely nothing to do with it — it was His work, gracious, noble, profound, and eternal! Ah, yes, my beloved, you have received all this as a gift, but you yourself have not yet been fully changed, transformed from the earthly into the heavenly, having experientially put on ALL HE IS!

So, while imputed righteousness gives us a clean slate before God, we soon discover by experience that this leaves us far short in our state of being of the image and glory of God, far short of either maturity or perfection. We still find in our nature the law, the very working of "sin and death," and all the old emotions and cravings of "the flesh" are continually surging, seething, bubbling up just beneath the surface. In our salvation experience we have found mercy, goodness, graciousness from God, a covering, an atonement, and yet, is it not true, beloved of God, that our hearts are not satisfied? Why? Is it not because we know in our deepest heart that the garment of salvation has covered over all our sins, but beneath that garment still lies our flesh — our INNER STATE OF BEING STILL REMAINS PITIFULLY UNCHANGED!

Yahweh dearly loves all His little children unto whom He has imputed the righteousness of Christ by faith. And they are His no matter how they are living today! But He doesn't want to leave us in this unrighteous state! His plan and purpose is to change us, transform us into His very image and likeness, to actually make us pure as He is pure, righteous as He is righteous! He wants to impart His righteousness to us, not just impute it. "For He hath made Him to be sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be MADE THE RIGHTEOUSNESS OF GOD IN HIM" (II Cor. 5:21). CAN YOU NOT SEE THAT THERE IS A WORLD OF DIFFERENCE BETWEEN BEING COUNTED RIGHTEOUS AND BEING MADE RIGHTEOUSNESS!

After righteousness has been imputed to you, then righteoueness must be birthed in you! When you begin to feel the desire for this righteousness, that is the evidence that you are "moving on to perfection". There are two relams of experience in God and only you can choose your level of experience. You will either be "In the Governement" or you will be "The governed"... you will either be The Bride in full

maturity or you will be “The Children Of the Kingdom” the ones who are saved but you never matured into righteous saints.

This is why I cringe when I hear believers ask me when I teach on how to please Him in our daily lives “*Is that a hell or heaven issue*”. This very question proves to us that your goal is to be saved rather than righteous. There will come a time in your journey out of Babylon that you do not long for salvation as much as you long for sanctification. When you spend more time preparing your garments than you do worrying about your destination, it is then that you are walking worthy of your calling.

What will you settle for? All very good is this talk about imputed righteousness, but I cannot — will not — settle for a righteousness that is only imputed. If it is not imparted, it is not a power within us at all. There will be guest at the wedding of the Bride and the GRoom, all of them are saved but none of them were ready. They will be outside of the city where the bride dwells, they will be outside of the gates where the lamb is the light and there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth and what they have lost out on. Salvation will not look so beautiful to them then when they behold the beautiful bride of Christ who laid it all down to be pleasing to her husband while living in this life. When the glistening crown she wears, every tear will have the sweet taste of victory, every battle will have the sweet sounds of victory!

To be covered with the robe of righteousness means that when men look at us they SEE NOTHING BUT RIGHTEOUSNESS! Ah, it is easy to find people wearing the garments of salvation, for we see His salvation upon them, we can tell they have met the Lord, they know they are His children, they rejoice in sins forgiven, and they trust Him to help them and bless them in various ways. They have been reconciled to God by the death of His Son, but few have gone on to the second step of His redemption of which Paul spoke when he wrote: “For if, when we were enemies, we were reconciled to God by the death of His Son, much more, being reconciled, we shall be saved (from all sin, carnality, limitation, and death) BY HIS LIFE” (Rom. 5:10)

__Isaiah speaks of our putting on the robe of righteousness, in the very next verse he declares, “For as the earth bringeth forth her bud, and as the garden causeth the things that are sown in it to spring forth; so the Lord God WILL CAUSE RIGHTEOUSNESS TO SPRING FORTH BEFORE ALL THE NATIONS” (Isa. 61:11).

God is going to spring forth righteousness until all the nations SEE IT! Hallelujah! This, beloved, can only be wrought by the power of the indwelling Christ. Oh, yes, Christ Himself IS the righteousness of God! And Christ dwells within our

regenerated spirit.

So where do you suppose the robe of righteousness comes from? Not from God up in His heaven, but right out from the Christ within you! Oh, how near the robe of righteousness is!

Therefore are we admonished, “*Put ye on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make not provision for the flesh, to fulfill the lusts thereof*” (Rom. 13:14). Yes, my beloved, the almighty Father Himself gave us this robe of righteousness right within our spirit and WE MUST PUT IT ON — ARRAY OURSELVES in it so that what is true in our spirit appears outwardly, super-imposing our fleshly mind, will, and ways. That is the mystery! How wonderful are the words John heard concerning the bride of the Lamb: “*And it was given to her to array herself in fine linen, bright and pure, for the fine linen is the righteous acts of the saints.*”

HE is bringing forth a firstfruit company, the work of His hands, the branch of His planting, to BECOME ONE IN CHRIST, and of this very Christ, Head and body, the Son and the sons, the Lamb and His bride, we read, “*this is His name whereby He shall be called, THE LORD OUR RIGHTEOUSNESS*” (Jer. 23:6).

No more of our own self-righteousness, no more stumbling and blundering and falling, but so fully clothed with Him, that our very state of being testifies “THE LORD OUR RIGHTEOUSNESS.” Certainly HE shall be glorified, because HE alone shall be exalted, magnified through the revelation of His grace and glory through the completed work of His hands. This desire has been implanted by God, and HE shall certainly bring about its fulfillment!

We have tried to do it ourselves, but praise the Lord, He is now stripping us of all our self effort and fig-leaf works, while the great hand of God Himself begins to work, raising up within us a righteousness that is neither self-appropriated nor self-proclaimed, but the finished work of His hands, and how it shall redound to His praise! Yes, as His life alone becomes our life, all that we do shall be righteous. There is no grand leap from the simple garments of salvation to the exquisite robe of righteousness, but there must be that active and experiential inworking of Himself.

When people see a life that is beyond and contrary to any life they have ever witnessed, then the righteousness of Christ is revealed. When people behold us in our problems, under the pressures of job, family, and bills; in the perplexities of trouble and the horrible disappointment of tragedy and loss — when they see us facing these things and never see a reaction from us of our flesh, but only the peace, joy, confidence, and stability of the Christ within —

then men see righteousness springing forth from us and they perceive that we are decked with the robe of righteousness for HE IS SEEN. When nothing but HIM is revealed men will declare, “I never saw people act like these act, I never heard people speak like these speak; how can a person stand so calm, cool, and collected in the face of such difficulties, pressures, and testings — something supernatural is here!”

Put ye on Christ! To this you are called. Seek to walk worthy of this calling. Yield yourself to the mighty Christ within you to reveal the wonderful grace and the omnipotent power of His life that enables you to be clothed in a divine righteousness. Take time to realize that it is the King’s own robe that you are invited to wear!

It is the token that you are the chosen one whom the King delights to honor and to raise up to His side to sit with Him in His throne. The Psalmist revealed the great truth that “*Righteousness and judgment are the habitation of His throne*” (Ps. 97:2). His throne means HIS RULERSHIP in and through our lives, as His will replaces our will, His thoughts replace our thoughts, and HIS LIFE becomes the sphere of our daily activity. The fruit of righteousness is the fulfilling of His will in us, and the filling up of our life with His rulership, His throne fixed in us, where He rules and reigns supreme. Take time to remember that as much as you need it in the palace, in the King’s presence, and in the midst of His “many brethren,” no less do you require it when He sends you forth into the world, where you are the King’s representative. Live your life daily in the full consciousness of being covered with the robe of righteousness, an object of honor, dignity, power, glory, and delight in the kingdom of God!

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