

Exposé 247

Bucket Ministry Series 32

Title: The Dividing Line

Hell world, this is Exposé 247, the platform for spiritual enrichment and edification. So we are happy that you are joining us today as we continue on this Bucket Ministry Series and we are on this long discuss with this woman with Jesus.

I don't know whether you are as a child or even as an adult, you have this childhood fantasy of asking, oh! When I get to heaven there is a question I want to ask. I want to ask Jesus something. Do you share that?

Yeah.

I know some people are just waiting there are some questions they have. Well, I don't think you need to wait to get to heaven.

Some people are so privilege during their time like this woman that we are discussing about who had the opportunity to ask Jesus something. And then you don't need to get to heaven to know that because it is all recorded for you. So you don't need to listen to and ask agony Aunty or a rating uncle or looking for any influencer online to answer question for you. The Bishop of your soul has answer that will not take advantage of your ignorance and enrich himself because of that.

So we know that all our questions are answer through the scriptures. We have life essay.

I was going through an article, a pitiful one of young successful tech guru who actually committed suicide. That was very shameful and that is very painful. But a friend was now giving account that he came into the money, he was very young. He was not expecting that level of wealth. But I was bringing out was, the friend was like there wasn't any manual for this lifestyle, so he did not know what to do when he came to that money. So he said there wasn't any manual. So really, we can't blame that.

But that tick me up and I say oh! there is a manual because I could remember there is passage, a paragraph that says a rich man, his field brought forth plentifully. And he said okay I will brake this down and build another one. You know that is expansion, talking about business expansion and I will say to my soul sit down...

So really we cannot say there is no manual. So we cannot say there is no question that is unanswered at this moment. We cannot say oh! this is 21st century question, there is no answer. The Bible was written in some ages, some century so it cannot answer.

Do you have questions to know whether you are a male or female? The Bible answers the question. What is my purpose for life?

So we have a manual for us. We can work on the template and we can even troubleshoot to know oh! something is going wrong what should I do?

And so this woman has the opportunity, never misused the opportunity to ask Jesus some questions.

So all the questions you might want to ask and there is a question that everybody needs to know the answer to. And so we are going to look again to the questions of this woman.

The last time we had this transmission we stopped on “**the common ground.**” I hope we had listened to that.

So we are going to kick off again to remind our viewers from that verse 20 and see the questions she is asking so that we can learn from it.

We don't need to get to heaven to get the answer, the answer is here already. Aren't we fortunate?

The reality anyway is for somebody who is in Christ Jesus, heaven is even right within you. You are in heaven. The scriptures says that **we are seated with Christ in the heavenly places.** He didn't say when we die we will sit with Christ. He said now we are seated with Christ (Colossians 3)

So if we are waiting to get to heaven to get the answers, it means right now if we are seated with Christ, we should have the answers right away for those who are in Christ Jesus. You are already seated with him in the heavenly places.

Now on that note, I welcome you again to this Bucket Ministry Series. Don't forget the vision and the mission, the mandate for this Series is to bring to bear the implication of the gospel, the reality of the gospel, understanding that which you have received if you are born again. And if you are not born again for you to understand the essence of the gospel.

You know I see some unbelievers today rejecting the notion of giving their life to Jesus or rejecting the notion of you saying to them that without Christ you are lost to say that you need Christ to be saved. And when you say that, a lot of them they reject that.

And then what is a big concern to me is, sometimes people reject what they don't even understand they are rejecting. If they are going to reject at least know what you are rejecting.

And for those people who are like that, this kind of ministration that we are having on this Bucket Ministry Series will help them to understand what really is the gospel of the Lord Jesus? So that when you reject it, you should know what you are rejecting.

So come down with us as we go to the 20th verse of the fourth Chapter of the book of John.

Can you read please?

20. Our fathers worship on this mountain but you Jews say that the place where one ought to worship is in Jerusalem at the temple.

So it means what you will notice is, there is a bone of contention. There seems to be a disagreement not really about whether to worship or not. That is what we focused in our last transmission. “**The Common ground!**” Everybody worship. Poor, rich, young, old, educated, illiterate, the outcast, the incast, the high standing, the lower standing, the morally righteous and the morally bankrupt, it doesn't matter what stratification society has placed on you or that you call yourself.

John 4:20 tells us that it doesn't matter whether you are a Jew or whether you are a Samaritan, everybody worship. That is what we dealt with in our last transmission

But today we are going to kick start from the **b** part of that 20th verse of the fourth Chapter. And the fact is, there seems to be a disagreement. There seems to be a contention about the place of worship, the object of worship. Where are you supposed to worship?

And may I say this to you if you are listening to this. This is not something that is limited to the time and the dispensation of this woman. It means this particular contention still revolves round till today. Today, there is no concession or no agreement about what should we worship? What should be the highest good of a person?

You know right in the days of Cicero. Cicero was a Roman Philosopher. He came up with a concept in trying to understand Aristotle Greek Philosopher and Cicero being a Roman came up with a concept called *sonne bonne*. This is a question that baffles the philosophers. What is the highest good of a person? What should a person live for? What is it that if you subscribe to in your life, you can know that your life is not a waste? Philosophers say what is *sonne bonne* of life? What is the highest good of a person?

And it seems that right from that time to now, people have not come to agreement to what should be the highest good? In Wall Street, they tell you the highest good is how much money you make. If you ask them, they think money should be your pursuit so that you can buy the things you want to buy.

And if you go to those in Harvard or those who believe that your degree, your qualification, they will say to you, don't mind people on Wall Street. They will tell you that really, how much knowledge you are able to acquire is the key thing.

In fact, when somebody in the educational world does things just because of money rather knowledge, they will say. Money is not the most important thing. They will say how much research, how much knowledge you build to the existing knowledge. To them, they think that is the highest good. Everybody seems to have an inclination to what they think should be the highest good.

You go to the Art world, artist and all that. Artist don't live for money, they live for self-expression. As far as Artist can express themselves in what he is doing, that is the most important thing. If he makes money, good, if he doesn't make money, that is not the key thing for an Artist.

It seems to me that humanity is actually contending for what should be the highest pursuit, highest good of a man's life. What is it that if I live for then I know my life is got meaning? We don't seem to come to agreement on that. And that is the same thing up till today.

In fact, some people believe that if you believe in God that should be the most important thing about your life. And some people says well, if you are able to critically think about yourself and don't allow religion to impose mentality on you, that means you are a somebody to be reckoned with. Can you see the contention?

Right in the 20th verse of the fourth Chapter of the book of John, we see where the woman was telling Jesus, there is a contention about where to worship. There is a fight going on. And that is why everyone you meet, everybody you meet, friends, your work colleagues even no matter what sphere of life, everybody seems to have a take on reality, to say that they think this is the highest good of life. This is what we see right there.

So this thing that the woman told Jesus about, there is nothing new about it. What she was simply saying is Jesus, there is a contention going on and we know right up till now, that contention is still carry on till now in our generation. That is what we see there.

There is no agreement about what should be the highest good of life. That is what we see. In fact, some people think that as long as you are able to express yourself then you are very important. Some think well, as long you are able to follow the rules and regulations of the community that you found yourself, that is the most important thing. We don't have an agreement on that. So that is what we see there.

Where to worship, what to worship has always been the bone of contention.

Now you want to carry on,

Verse 21, Go on please

21. Jesus replied woman, believe me the time is coming when God kingdom comes, when you will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem.

Okay!

Well, Jesus then comes and actually makes a very strange statement.

And Jesus said you know what? All these contentions about where to worship or what is the highest good of life or what should somebody subscribe to as their pursuit in life? Christ is saying it is irrelevant. It is not about whether in Jerusalem or in Samaria or that. That will not be the most important question to ask.

And that is why we need to tell humanity, there is no point you trying to say the way I live my life is the best way to live life and you trying to condescend or look down on somebody else based on your perspective, your race, your religion, your background where you came from, whatever. All these things that we have used to say this is the most important thing about life.

Jesus is saying those things will become immaterial. But the fact is, he gave us the yardstick, he gave us the basis of how to judge these things.

Now, look at what he said...

I will read from the KJV version,

He says **Jesus said unto her, woman believe me, the hour comes when you will neither in this mountain nor yet at Jerusalem worship.**

He says the hour comes.

Jesus is saying what will determine this thing about worship, what will determine the reality of what to worship or who to worship is about the coming hour. It's got nothing to do with where are you? You want to claim that Jerusalem or in that temple, that will not be the deciding factor. The coming of the hour is what will make a separation between those who are ...

See! Look at the next verse,

I want you to read verse 22

22. You Samaritans do not know what to worship. We Jews do know what we worship for salvation is from the Jews.

23. But a time is coming and is already here when the true worshippers will worship the Father in Spirit.

Now look at that, he is saying the hour is what will be the fanning point, the separation point between those who are true worshippers and those who are false worshippers.

You know we've already established in pervious transmission that everybody worship. Just because everybody worship doesn't make everybody true worshipers.

So Jesus said what will make a separation between those who are worshipping unto life or those who are worshipping unto death between those who are worshipping truly and those who are worshipping falsely or those who are worshipping unto liberation or those who are worshipping unto bondage. Difference between those who are worshipping unto resurrection or those who are worshipping unto death. Jesus said the dividing line will be the coming of the hour.

It means every worship that doesn't have an hour as part of it is not true worship. It is false worship. It will lead to death. And this is what Christ is simply presenting to the woman and say the hour comes. So the hour is what we are going to use to judge.

Now the question you want to ask is, **what is this hour that is the separation point? What is this hour that makes the distinction between whether you are worshipping right or worshipping wrong?**

Now, I know in your translation it says my time.

Now, every time Jesus uses my time or the hour this is not the first time in the scriptures. Let's do some proper exegesis at the moment. This is the not the first time in the scriptures that the Lord Jesus mentioned my hour.

Now, we are going to check this out in the scriptures using other verses. When we see what it means, we are going to import that understanding into this discuss between the Samaritan woman and Jesus.

Let's go quickly to John Chapter 7 verse 30.

The hour is what makes a difference between if you are worshipping unto life or you are worshipping unto death.

What does it says please?

John 7

30. So they were eager to arrest him but no one lay the hand on him because his time had not yet come.

Now because his time had not yet come...

We are trying to build a case for this coming hour. So the reason why they couldn't lay hand on him, or you want to put this way the reason why they couldn't at that point put

him to death or at that time arrest him and subsequently crucified him is because his hour or his time had not come.

It means when his time come or when his hour comes then it will be possible for them to lay hands on him.

So we are building a case for this hour that is coming. Any time Jesus uses the word my time has not come, my hour has not come, there is a connotation to that in the scriptures.

Hold on to that, let's go on again to John Chapter 8 verse 20.

Now, we are building a case to going back to John Chapter 4 verse 20.

What does it says?

John 8

20. Jesus said these things in the treasury as he taught in the temple, the courtyard and no one ceased him because his time had not yet come.

Now, this says not even the same John 7:20 that we read, this is just a Chapter after where the scriptures repeated the fact that any time when he says my hour has not come, is about talking about arresting him and putting him to death. It's not just a phrase that is used loosely in the scriptures when Christ says my hour has not yet come.

The scriptures says out of two or three witnesses let every matter be established.

Again let's go on, John Chapter 12 from verse 23 to verse 27. Let's see the use of the word my time has not come, my hour has not come. In what context has Christ used those words in other places apart from John Chapter 4?

John 12

23. And Jesus answered them the hour has come for the Son of man to be glorified and be exalted

Now watch that!

So let's look at that hour. What is going to happen?

24. And am assuring you and most solemnly saying to you unless the grain of wheat fall into the earth and dies, he remains alone just one grain never more. But if he dies, it produces much grain and yield the harvest. The one who love his life will eventually lose to death, but the one who hates his life in this world and his concern is pleasing God will keep it to life eternal.

26. If anyone serves me he must continually faithfully follow me without hesitation, holding steadfastly to me or conforming to my example in living and leave it be

suffering or perhaps dying because of faith in me. And wherever in heaven's glory there will my servants be also, if anyone serves me, the Father will honor him.

27. Now my soul is troubled and deeply distressed or what shall I say? Father save me from this hour, the trial and agony but it is for this very purpose that I've come to this hour, this time and place, rather I will say Father glorify, honour, extol your name.

Now if you look at that, so when Jesus said save me from this hour.

Now, you can see from verse 23 to verse 27 in the 12th Chapter of the book of John, the word hour appears three times from verse 23- 27. And if you look at the connotation, the context of that word, it is about death. Because he said unless the corn of wheat falls down to the ground and die it abides alone. And he goes on to say Father save me from this hour and he said for this hour have I come.

This is the whole point of all the miracles, all the healings, all the salvation, everything was going to consummate at his death.

So from three different aspects of the Bible, John 7:20, John 8:20, John 12: 23-27 we see specifically that the word my hour was only used in the context of his death and resurrection. That is clear cut.

So let's go back to the fourth Chapter of the book of John when Jesus said to that woman, he said woman! the hour comes. Can you see? The hour comes...

Can you read that again?

John 4

21. Jesus replied woman, believe me a time is coming when God's kingdom comes when you will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem

Go on please...

Now, let's talk about that.

Viewers all over the world, now what we are sharing today is the life and the power in the essence of the gospel. Because Jesus told that woman, there is going to be a coming hour and that would make the distinction in how and what you worship.

You want to say one or two things?

Just saying that the timing sign post to the relevance of what you worship and is going to put to rest, this question of what, where?

Exactly! He said when the hour comes

So if we have the understanding of the time, we know what happen at the time, the time settles it once and for all.

Don't forget one thing, when he says the hour comes, or the time comes, he is not just specifically talking about a dispensation, he is talking about an event.

It takes scriptures to explain scriptures. So this coming hour, it could be a time, but really it is pointing not just time in terms of *chronos*. He is talking specifically about an even that will happen. That is why he's talking about specifically about his death.

So he could have just replace that word when he says my hour come, he could have say my death comes or my burial comes and then will then make a distinction between those who worship truly and those who are worshipping falsely. He said that will be the defining event that will make the separation. That is what we see in what Christ is saying.

I think we should make the practical application...

Practical application of that is that Jesus is simply saying let's look at worship. We've talked about different things that people derive meaning satisfaction and form in life, and Christ is simply saying which of those things? Which of the things that men have called their *sonne bonne*, their highest good? Which of them will take the fall? Which of them will be willing to go to death? Which of them will be willing to pay the price for humanity?

Because every time people subscribe to something being the highest good, the thing always requires that you meet a certain requirement for it to confer an identity on you.

For example, if you are not educated, if you are not somebody that has level of degrees upon degrees, you don't get the status within the academics society as somebody who is highly knowledgeable. You don't get it. Isn't it?

And for somebody if you are talking about money, financial wealth, you need to have some level of money for us to simply say that you've got a very high net worth.

And for some people it is about societal acceptance. People they know. There has to be a level of attainment that you need to have in those field for you to receive the identity that that thing is willing to confirm on you. That is what we see there.

But any time you refuse to meet up, every time you fail the idol, every time you fail this object of worship, what it does is, it disqualifies you and tell you, you don't counts in this arena. It doesn't forgive you for not meeting up to the expectation. It disqualifies you.

And Jesus is simply saying this is how you are going to know true worship. He says the hour is coming. In this case I am going to take a fall. It means he is the only object of worship that humanity has, that even for the fact we have failed him.

The scriptures say **for all have sinned and fallen short of the glory of God.** Romans 5:6 talking about humanity, he was saying to all of us, he said why we were yet sinners, it means while we have all failed our God. We failed him, he is our object of worship.

He said while we were yet sinners. We were failures. Christ died for us. I challenge you that whatever is the highest good that you are living for, whatever is the object of your worship, check it out, none of them will be willing to forgive you when you fail them.

And Christ says I am the only love of your soul that even when you don't meet up my demands, even when you fall short of my glory I will take the fall for you. I will take your place in the failure, in the agony, in the pain. I will take your place.

So he says this coming hour, my death is coming and it will show you that it is when you worship that you worship the true God. Any other worship, any other meaning, any other thing you subscribe to in life, they will not take this kind of fall. This will be the separation point for those who are worshipping truly and those who are worshipping falsely. That is what we see that Christ was simply saying.

And we found out that Jesus was referring to this woman because his death has not happened yet at that time. But for us now that we've known the end of it all, we know the end of the story that he died and resurrected so really the issues of worship should be settled once and for all. We shouldn't be confused.

Well, that is a very good thing to say.

We are at an advantage point to see. You see what he was telling this woman was in future tense, preposterous for her.

But we have seen the outcome, so this is the time now for us.

Again for us, the hour has come because Christ has died, but you see for those who are believers in Christ Jesus. If you are born again, you are born of the Spirit, you see, a good illustration I want to put into this is...

For example, if you are watching a TV program and you are trying to listen to an Audio program at the same time. You know these are the days of multitasking. Some people today they are trying to read emails, they will be listening to music, they trying to eat their food. It is a multitasking generation who want to get so many things done at the same time.

If you are trying to watch something in the TV, something visual and you are trying to engage in something audio at the same time, you will notice that at most times, some people will believe that what you look at moved you much more than what you listen to.

I want to use that as an example for us who are believers in Christ Jesus, even though we know the hour has come for us. We know that we serve a God even that when we failed. I didn't say when we failed, all of humanity failed. There is a place in Romans 1:6 **even though he created all things, but they refused to acknowledge him as God...** Is that okay?

We refused to acknowledge our creator, our source, our life. And even in that we failed him and refused to acknowledge him, he still came to save people who refused to acknowledge him. John Chapter 1 says **he came unto his own and his own did not receive him.**

How can his own not receive him and still want to go the cross? If they asked you, I am dying for the sins of people that did not receive me. I am dying for the sins of the whole world. (John 3: 16)

It means he is the object of our worship who is willing to die for our own failure. No other idol is willing to do that.

So we know that but functionally in our experience we tend to defect away from that reality. That is why, why is it that we become so anxious?

Yeah, I am expecting you to bring the illustration how you want to anchor it into this.

Which one is that?

About the victual...

I've just said it, the victual is just like for us... Most people God is on audio and life is on victual.

Life situation, life circumstance is on victual and God is audio, so they can hear, they can know what they believe, but in reality when people respond to circumstance, you wonder why will the living be anxious about life? Why is it that we are so fearful about things?

The reason why we are fearful.

The only thing that can make you fearful and anxious, idols are the one that makes us fearful and anxious. They are the one that tells you if you don't get this you will be in trouble. Is idols that say that. They are not going to take the fall. They are one that says, I have no hour to give you. Idols don't give you any hour. There is no hour coming for them.

Jesus is the one that says my hour, he didn't say the hour of the idol. He said only him has the hour for us. Idols has no hour for you. They demand that you worship and you subscribe to them and if you don't subscribe to them, they disqualify you from the goal. That is what we see in the scriptures there.

So for those who are believers, those who are saved now, the fact is, even though we say we believed in Christ Jesus, in most times like I said, God is on audio and life is on victual and there is a distraction going on there.

I was making reference to anxiety, why would be people be anxious? For example, why are we atimes anxious about what is going to happen? Some of us we are thinking what is going to happen to my children, what is going to happen to ... If I am not there what's going to happen?

One of the reason you get so anxious in most cases is, we have tied down our identity, our meaning, our source of value of who we are to things. Any time you tie down your life to anything, you are bound to be anxious, because the thing will keep demanding, will keep placing a hold on you and that is why we are anxious.

Why are we fearful?

It is the same reason why we are fearful of things. We are concern, we are bothered, and that is why when Jesus began to talk about do not worry about what to eat, about what to drink. Can you see that?

When Christ was talking about that, if you notice in the next few verses, he began to talk about pagans... because that is why any time we are worrying, I think the issue of worry should go beyond the issue of advice.

Before when we are counselling people, we can tell them don't worry Jesus knows tomorrow, which is a good thing to say. But if you go beyond the peripheral, beyond the superficial most time when there is worry and anxiety, there is an underlining idol. There is something that the person subscribes to that is the most significant to them and is not God, and is not the grace of God.

Because in the arms of the loving savior, who actually took the fall for you, who actually decided to fail on your behalf, is because you failed and he took the place for you. You are relaxing in his loving arms knowing fully well that you acceptance by him is not based your performance, is not based on your qualification, is not based on your pedigree, then you relax in the hand of such a person.

But if your acceptance and your qualification is based on your performance, of course you have every reason to be worried and to be fearful. You have every reasons... that is why worry and anxiety is tie down and connected to idols. I didn't say that. Please read Matthew 6:33 very well. Jesus connected it to idols, paganism.

So Christ is simply saying these how you can know true worship from false worship. Which of the gods? Which of the lords took the hours, fell, took the fall? Which of them

took that fall? That is how you can make the distinction between true worship and false worship.

So let's say this in a nutshell before we carry on, you are not saved in the hands of lower gods. You are not saved in the hands of idols. You are not saved in false worship because they will not take the hour for you. That is what we see in the Word of God.

So verse 23... go on please

23. But a time is coming and is already here when the true worshippers will worship the Father in spirit.

Check out the last word, true worshippers...

We have so many false worshiper now.

Every other worship that does not come on the basis of this hour is false worship. That is what we see there. It's not about whose god will take on reality. That is what we see there.

...when the true worshipper will worship the father in the Spirit, from the heart, the inner self and in truth, for the Father seeks people to be his worshippers.

So the emphasis is on "in spirit and in truth."

Again, it has to be in spirit and in truth if it is based on the hour. It's just the same connection point. If it is spirit and in truth will have to be based on the hour.

The word spirit there talks about the core, talks about the reality, the main thing.

In fact, but he says your worship is not just going to be peripheral or is not going to be superficial worship. That is why Jesus did say in the scriptures about the Pharisees, he said they draw near to me with their lips but the core of their being is far from me.

So the Lord doesn't want us to get to a point where we just say I believe in Jesus or I believe in God but at the core something else is our significance. This is what he is actually dealing with. He want to be our significance at the core level, at the heart level.

If we take away all the layers about life at the core level, what really is my salvation? What really is my righteousness? Jesus said I want to be that righteousness for you.

So if you are born again, you are saved, now this kind of teaching and this exposition should begin to make you to meditate on the Word of God to understand the fact that Jesus said I am your righteousness. I am your vindication. I am your value. I am your net worth. I am your significance. I am your life. I am what really makes you excited to get out of the bed.

Today, I want to be the reason why you live. I want to be the purpose for your life. I want to be the pursuit of your life. I want to be the over-arching *sonne bonne*, your highest good. That is what I want to be to you. And I want to be in truth.

So he is simply he is saying it should be at the core level, not just a lip service. Not just something that you just say the creed and you say I agree to that. It has to be at the heart level. If it is at the heart level, it will affect your emotions, it will affect your will, it will affect your desires.

In fact, this is really how to change deeply. That is why people have lots of ideology about how you can transform your life, how you can change your life even religion has lots of notion to say you want people to act right and do the right thing. You have to just set them the rules and set them the regulations.

Of course that is easy because is by acting on the will of people. It is not about the spirit level and truth. And it is not about the core. Can you see that?

You can force people to uniformity.

You can do all that.

You can worship peripherally...

Some allegiance even saying things that they do not mean. Even they open their mouth falsely, open their lips just like the Pharisees. We can turn people to Pharisees...

Of course you can! As long as you make them worship peripherally.

As long as they are targeting the outward allegiance. The conformity on the outside.

And that will be an idol too.

Not that that could be, that is! of course the idol in that situation I can the idol of morality.

I know when I said that now, some people wonder how can morality be an idol?

Of course, it can be when you believe the highest good is about the fact that, if I can act right, that is the ultimate goal. But if you think act right is the ultimate goal, am telling you the truth today, a lot of people who have not even believe in God can actually act right and do things out of good intentions in most cases.

And people who believe in other religion or other ways of life, some of them even have notions about how we ought to live life. Even some of them live right on purpose more than so many Christians today, the way they are going to live life.

So if morality or outward conformity was the ultimate good of life, it means Jesus wasn't needed.

In fact, the Apostle Paul said in one of the epistles, **if righteousness could be attained by the law then Christ died in vain.** Who needs Jesus if morality is the highest good? Morality is not the highest good of Christianity, is not the highest good of God per se, but Christ. Hanging your identity, your life, your value, your worship on Christ is the highest good. That is what we see there.

So he's saying that he is not just interested in outward conformity, he is not just interested in practices, he is interested in to say at the deepest level of your heart what really justify me? What really is my righteousness? He says Christ is that to us. That is salvation? That is why he says, it must be spirit and in truth. That is what we see.

It was good that this question came up and Jesus was ready to devote time to talk about it. It is a very crucial question because most of the worship has been attached to observance and those external observation or following protocols. But we need to get to the core of worship is about in spirit and in truth. We should not forget that.

Thank you for that.

You know one thing about the Spirit because the scriptures talks about the circumcision is in the spirit. There is a place in Philippians 3 when he says that **we are the circumcision that worship God in the spirit and put no confidence in the flesh.**

It simply means once a man's spirit is resurrected, once a spirit man is recreated and he has the life of God in his spirit. Now, the issue about the will, the emotions, all those things will actually fall in line as long as the man understand what he has received. But when they fall in line, that is not the point where you got accepted by God.

That is where some people get it all wrong. They think by the time I actually begin to conform my character to be like Jesus Christ, then God will accept me more. God never accept you on the basis of that. You were accepted because Christ was accepted.

In fact, the reason why the Father accepts you because he doesn't see you, he sees Christ in you, the hope of Glory. So when he looks at you, he is looking at Christ.

Now, of course if you understand the life of Christ you have received, if you understand that you are forgiven, your will, your emotions, your character, your mentality will fall in line. But that is not the level or the point where you get fully accepted.

That is why what matters to God really is our spirit man. It matters to God a lot. He knows that in your spirit, in your heart, in the deepest recess of your soul, if Christ is your salvation, every other thing in your life will fall in line. That is why he goes for our spirit man.

So we should work from the inside out. That is why Hebrews Chapter 12 calls our God the Father of spirits. That is why he says **shall we not subject ourselves to the Father of spirit and live?**

Oh! Verse 24 is saying

24. God is spirit, the source of life yet invisible to mankind and those who worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth.

He was just reiterating... That is the point.

He said that is what matters.

Now, can you now see what that means?

What that simply means is, this is where the whole thing is, every other idol, every other object of worship cannot satisfy the deepest yearnings of the spirit. It will not. This is where it really get to a point where we are going to pause and think.

Jesus is guarantying humanity that every other thing that people lay their life on to say this is what makes me who I am. He said those things cannot touch the core of your spirit man. What they do is, they do what we call a make-up. It's something that gives you the feeling that you have arrived. It makes you feel that you have... It makes you feel that you are not bad. It makes you feel that you have a lot together.

But what it says it cannot scratch the core, the deepest yearnings of your heart. It cannot get this. He says it takes only one thing to actually get into a man's spirit and is for you to come to a point where you know that you have a God, you have a Lord, you have a King over your life who took the hour on your behalf, who went for the hour, who actually fell, who actually even when he knows that you are an abject failure, he was still willing to give you a name.

Which other idols does that?

He gives you a name and names you, qualifies you in your failure because he took the hour. That is the power of the gospel.

That is why it's like Jesus was doing what we can an adverts, like a taste test. You know they do say show me which of them? That is why I like the place in Ezekiel **which of your lover god is willing to save you?** They don't save. They demand. They asked that you meet a requirement before they can give you an identity. That is what we see in the Word of God. And this is what separate true worship from false worship.

So if you are asking today, who are the true worship? What is the right place to worship? What is the right object of worship?

Now no more questioning, the answer is right there, Christ is saying which of them will take on the hour? Which of them will take the fall for you to qualify? That is what we see.

Yes, in verse 24, there is an emphasis again that God is Spirit and he was repeating that this worship, we should not forget worship, we must worship him in spirit and truth. And he is telling the woman, don't sell the small stuff. He was just thinking, is it this mountain that I need to climb? So many people are sweating out... we go to country to see all these religious places and mountain and people are going to see and people will say oh! mine is even better. Up till today, people are still figuring out, which mountain again?

This same question, we have the quest and some people are trying to even build their own religious monuments on top of the mountain, let it be for the highest, for all life to see. At least fuelling this discussion again, fuelling the confusion.

But all the same, Jesus is telling this woman, don't sell the small stuff. It's not about just walking your way up to how many stair case. If you go to Bragga you will see a particular place of worship, is like how many steps? Like 2000 or something for you to get to that religious monument.

Don't sell this small stuff, because this woman was saying should I make my trip to Jerusalem or not? There are so many unnecessary trip. This is what is from your heart. The travel you need is from your heart.

You just say something and some people will even say to you that if you want to go to Jerusalem and go to the exact spot in River Jordan where... and some will even put a phone call through to people and say you ask anything from God at this time, at this period because I am right inside River Jordan where John the Baptist baptized Jesus. Anything you ask for at that time, God will answer.

People feel like they can take advantage of that.

Do you know that there is nothing really special about the fact that you are going to climb so many steps to get to that place?

You know why I said that?

You could categorize religion in that form with every other endeavors in humanity. Most endeavor will say these are the steps you need to take if you want to be somebody like a political heavy weight in a community. If you have a political career, they will say you've got to climb this step before you can actually gain that level of strength and force within the community.

Whatever idol including religion, they will always give steps to you. Isn't it?

You've got to climb steps to get to the top. Whether physical or psychological, whether financial. You have to subscribe to be my this and this... I have to be your mentor. I have to be your father in the Lord, mother in lord all those things.

No idols come for any hour for anybody. You've got to climb the steps before the idol can say now that you've climb the steps, now you are qualify. That is what idols do.

And Jesus said to that woman, you want to know the distinction between true worshippers and false worshipper? The hour is coming and that is going to make distinction. Because those idols cannot go through that hour. They will never go through the hour.

Every journey you need to make is just an inward journey. You don't need to go to any historical or spiritual place or any mountain. Because he's got to the mountain on our behalf. That is what the gospel says that somebody climbs the steps for us. And you need not do that. Don't put yourself on the altar any more. That is what he does.

And that is why Jesus stand today and he is speaking to all of humanity and he's challenging every false gods and say which of you actually went for the hour?

No! They can't answer that question.

But despite that, some people are not just hearing this for the first time, they really know this and is it pride that they want to save themselves, they want to put something on the ground? They are just trying to be modest, what would you?

That is a very good question

...because some will say if my savior could go through stations of the cross, I need to do something to show that I appreciate this, let me take part, that kind of a thing.

Well you've said something there which is you just said it is a pride... you know one thing I found out.

Let's put it this way, if I am handling out gift to people, think about it. Who is the person that is most likely to reject gift? Not works now, not performance.

I am handling out gifts to people. Two different classes of people. Somebody who has enough resources, somebody who is devastated, who is in abject poverty, who is completely bereft, who is more likely to accept a gift?

Yes, the one that doesn't have anything is more open to receive the gift.

That answer the question.

Now the reason why people reject the free gift of salvation or even those who have receive that free gift do not make a demand on the free gift. Is because they think... you think you have resources, that I can do something.

You think I can do the mental labour. I can climb the steps or I have what it takes. When I climb the steps, I know that I have take part. Is because you know you can pay but for somebody who knows they cannot pay, they are ever open to receive the gift. That answer your question.

That is the reason why it takes somebody who think they've got something to reject the free gift of salvation. And that is what the gospel tells us in Christ Jesus. That is why the Apostle Paul came with boldness in Philippians 3, he said all these things I count them but dung for the excellency of the knowledge of Christ.

So those things he could have as a substitute... He said I refused to rest on any of them. I counts them but dung.

So he says as a believer, the only reason why I keep making demand on the righteousness that Jesus offers, we can keep making a daily demand is to every day keep counting but dung everything that idol offers and say, I can name you. No! Sorry I don't have what it takes for you.

So he says we have to continually and consistently count as dung all these things for the excellency of the knowledge of Christ. So this is what we see there.

And that is why he says we must worship in spirit. You know he reason why we've got to worship in spirit? This is the reason, the reason is when it comes to worshipping in spirit, it means you have to come to a point where you know you cannot relate with God in your mind. You cannot relate with God in your body. God is spirit.

That is why I atimes if you tell somebody you are the righteousness of God in Christ Jesus or you can say you have the joy of the spirit in your soul. They go to the mirror and say, this? Are you saying I've got joy? I don't look like somebody who is got joy. Is because when I spoke the Word of life into you, you are going to check on the accuracy of what I said by looking at your face, by looking at your body, by looking at your circumstances. You cannot walk with God in your mind. God is spirit and he must be related to in spirit and in truth.

And then in borrowing your analogy, there is a victual and audio. There is dissonance. The interference is not as same bandwidth with what you see and what you hear.

That is the whole point. When you also say things like by his stripes you were healed, when you say that by the Word of God, somebody might want to check their physical body. Can you see that?

They might say do I feel the pain in my body? Do I feel as if I am sick? Do I feel like I have got the disease?

Again, God is Spirit and they that must worship, must worship in spirit and in truth.

You must come to an agreement in your soul of the name that Jesus gives you. You must come to an agreement within your heart of who he calls you. Of what he calls you. If you come to an agreement without feelings. You don't judge it by feelings. You don't judge it by your pocket. You don't judge it by your bank account. You don't judge it by your connection. You don't judge it who you know. You don't judge it by who your status is in the society.

You don't judge it by any of those things. You only judge it by the fact that he that said is faithful and he is just and he is true. That is what we see there.

So this is what it means to walk in spirit. You can't walk with him in mind.

You see! Your mind and body are the things you walk by processing what you have in your spirit man. So that is why it is your responsibility, Romans 12 says **do not be conformed to this world, be transformed by renewing of your mind.**

Your job, your responsibility is to take what is in your spirit and super impose in your mind by laying hold on God's Word. That is your job.

But you don't expect God to then say, you know what? I think am going to convince your mind and convince your body. That is not God's job. He relates with your spirit. God is Spirit and he will be talking to your spirit man. It's spirit to spirit connection. That is what we see in the Word of God.

This is why a lot of people can't receive the Word of God, because of course you see that other things about life are speaking to their mind, but God is speaking to your spirit. You can see where the problem is.

God is talking to your spirit man, life is talking to your mind, life is talking to your emotions, life is talking to your body but God is talking to your spirit. You can see where that dissonance is.

And so most people then, the question is which one is more real to me? Is it your spirit man that is more real or your mind? Or which one will I believe more? Which one do I think is the reality? That is why a lot of people who are born again are still falling to the hands of the lower gods. That is the point.

But don't forget those gods, they never came any hour for you. That is what I want to remind you today. They never came to any hour for you. They cannot and they will not.

That is why we see Jesus says the hour is coming and that is what will make the distinction between true worship and false worship. That is what we see.

If you are struggling to understand this concept and this spirit and truth, the emphasis that Jesus was talking to this woman about worship and you feel like oh! really I want to go outside the spirit and truth bandwidth, and feel like I can do something, I want to be really resources. I want to put something on the table. My savior do this, I can do this too as a token and feel like I have something to offer.

So it shows that you are doing your Math's the wrong way, you are not doing your accounting properly. Just like Paul was saying that he accounted properly. So in your column of profit and loss, you are not apportioning things right.

Because some things should have moved from your profit, some things should have moved from your strength to the loss column. Because if you still feel you have some resources and I can put something, I can do like a man, I can do like a woman, I can do like somebody who appreciates this so I can do something. I can go on this trip, I can do something for the Lord just because your asset column you have not move things that should be moved to the loss. So you are still keeping them on the profit column and feel like you have something.

But you need to sit down, just like we saw in that Hebrews 12, you need to do this accounting. You have to reckon. You have to reckon these things, account all these things that you think you have them as something as loss, then you found out that oh! I have nothing to offer. That is the way that can help you.

Because psychologically some people will not be able to stand up to accept this because they are thinking, I still have something. I have the time to give. I have the mental strength to give. I can climb the mountain. It makes you feel great that you contributed to these. That is what you think. Isn't it?

When you realize yourself and you've done the reckoning and found out that oh! I thought I could lay hold on my strength, I found I have no strength, my strength is incomparable to... I can't meet up this. I don't have this strength. You know you are really helpless.

It is not about my spirit accept this or not accept this. It is about just doing the accounting. That is what we should do every day. Because if we don't do this every day, we'll muddle up this worship thing. And the more we do that, the more we defect to true worship. Isn't it?

Because you have to say did anybody takes the fall for me? Did anybody takes the poverty for me? Did anybody takes the abandonment for me? Did anybody was forsaken for me? That is when you become recipient of the gospel.

So stop putting yourself in arms way by making some unnecessary journeys. You know journey does not have to be even physical. Journey to feel like I need to this for the Lord. What he has already done for you and feel like I need to proof something and some people might even charge you, prove something to your God. Proof something and feel like I need to respond to this.

No! Don't put yourself in arms way. When you go on such a journey, you know you are open to exploitation. You are open to the night marauders and all kinds of it physically, psychological, spiritually. And so you need to get your worship right. You need to have the understanding of this and do not sweat out on unnecessary mountain and feel like I need to make a trip to Jerusalem. Or stay on this side of Samaritan or where ever is the closest or not.

The worship is in the spirit and truth. It's from the inward journey and then it will reflect. Your body will catch up with what is in your spirit.

So the emphasis should be on this the spirit and the truth because you might want to make an appearance to people while you want to do and feel like oh! I am a worshipper. Some people want to prove to their neighbor they are real worshippers.

You know some people think that when you say worship is when you sing praises and when the song slow down, then there is no worship.

Even about where do you worship? I worship at this denomination and people want to prove, people has stickers to prove all these things.

I think they are right.

Even worship is greater.

I think they are right.

Yes, maybe they are worshipping the G.O

Yes, the denomination is the highest good for them.

They are right.

Watch what he says, I worship at that church or I worship in that denomination. We belong to that particular set of Christianity.

Philippians say we are of the circumcised. That is it! That is your identity. You are not label by any denomination or anything.

We are not saying that you should not fellowship with body of Saints around. We are encourage to fellowship with it but we don't make a god out of it. Some people can physically fight over which denomination is better or not. People have really gone crazy

about that. That means you are touching their idol. You can't even make any reference to any of their spiritual leader and you will not get a beating for. You see that you have touched their idol by the way they go about it.

If you have been with us on this transmission for previous episodes in the past, you'll understand that by the Word of God, we've given you the yardstick of how to measure your idol. Not just your idol, other people's idol. It is simple. What makes people gag, go crazy, go angry, what is it that causes hostility because the Bible says there is hostility in the flesh. What creates hostility between people in their lives, what creates anger, resentment, and uncontrollable madness? That is the idol.

So if you talk about somebody's GO or General Overseers and they are willing to fight tooth and nail, there is no point trying to investigate what their idol is, you know exactly what their idol is? And the question you want to ask them is, hey! Did your G.O go through the hour?

Oh! Paul was asking the people so there is nothing that is happening that has not happened. Did Apollo died for you, did I died for you?

Now, there is a revelation in there, does that then go back to John 4 when Jesus said to that woman, if you can tell between true and false worshippers, you see my hour is going to come.

Because then they were saying oh! am for Paul, the others are for these.

Which of them went through the hour for you?

And Paul made that reference and say did I die for you? That is it.

That is why I said, the hour is what separates between true worship and false worship.

Every idol that did not go through the hour for you, you are not safe in their hands. That is false worship. That should be the measurement yardstick to know between true and false worship. Did that go through the hour for me?

We could go on and on, on this because we have live scenario...

Let me just say this, just to summarize what you just said about the fact that people think they believe they have something to offer.

Does that not explain why Apostle Paul did say look at yourself brethren not many of you are wise, not many of you are wise by the standard of the world, not many of you are rich, not many of you are intelligent. And you are wondering, Paul said look at yourself it is a very low fraction because people who have all those assets they think that there is something to buffer their identity in life. Can you see?

That is why you notice that some people are arguing about the fact that it is nations that are very poor that believe in gospel. I say yes, you are right because they are willing to receive the gift... That is what we see in the Word of God.

So finally today we are just drawing the curtain on this episode. You have to identify yourself and sit down to know are you a true or false worshipper? Are you worshipping in spirit and in truth? Are you just doing external observance? Are you subscribing to other means of identity? If they didn't die for you, run for them. Are you for Apollo or Paul?

I want you to be able to say we are of Christ. We are the circumcised. That is it!

That is the only identity that matters. That is my label. Let me be known I'm circumcised. I am of Christ. We are Christ made. We are Christ reliance. So people today are taken pride in being self-reliant or this is under this commission, under this church, under this thing. We are Christ made. He has made us.

Because some people they put even more of the honour and glory to their pastors and everything. Prophecy and this is it before they mention the name of Jesus or anything anyhow. Prophesying into your life. But we know he is the one that made us. We are sheep of his pasture, the Bishop of our soul.

So till we see you next time as we continue on this transmission, we want to say as you have received Christ Jesus the Lord, So walk in him in spirit and truth.

God bless you

Bye!!