

Series 34

Title: Matters of the Heart

Welcome to Expose 247 again and you know what we do. So we will like to invite you again as we go through this great discussion that Jesus had with this woman in John Chapter 4. So we are going to look like our usual custom, to go over the pages, look over the Word to do reflection on it as we continue from verse 24.

In the last transmission, we actually demystified worship and tell you that worship is not as hard as you think. those who worship in spirit and is not about how soulful the song is or whatever feelings that you feel during the time of ministration. It tells you what worship is about, where you put your confidence.

And so for those who... maybe their attorney who feel like oh! they might feel like they have the brilliance, they have the width, they know what to say but they choose to put that aside and trust his wisdom, and trust the surpassing knowledge of the Lord and let it be the voice for them. Those are the people who are worshipping in spirit. Those are the people who are in his frequency, in his range, who are in his hearing and communicating range in which they can hear him. And that is what Jesus was telling that woman that God is a spirit, and if you must worship him, you must worship in spirit and in truth.

So I hope that you've had all your questions answered about worship, and should you have any question about the last transmission, you know what to do. You can send questions to us maybe privately or openly on our Facebook page, on our Gmail as you already know as we continue.

So today we are moving away from verse 24 I think....

Well as the Lord will help us...

Now, viewers and listeners all over the world let me welcome you again on this new episode of the Bucket Ministry Series.

Now, just like you've recapitulated in terms of what we focused on in the last transmission about demystifying worship. The core of worship, what is it? And what it is not.

Now, you see! We are still back to verse 24 before we go on to the next verse. There are still some things that we need to go through in the 24th verse of the book of John.

Now, come back again unto that verse.

If you look at verse 24, he says

John 4

24. God is a Spirit and they that worship him must (KJV)

Not may, not they might choose what medium. You don't have a choice in this matter. There is a way it must be done. He says you must worship him in spirit and in truth.

Now, from my translation; the KJV translation, if you have that with you, you will notice the distinction between the two words spirit that were mentioned.

If you look at the first one, God is a Spirit. The Spirit there is capitalised. The S is capital S.

Is that the way it is in your translation?

No! It was just emphasised like the usual Amplified.

What does it say?

The source of life yet invisible to mankind

Go on please

And those who worship him must worship him in spirit and truth.

Is that a capital 's' or a small 's'?

The 's' there is actually small even in Amplified translation.

Now, the reason we are looking at that is just to let you know that he made a distinction between the Spirit of God and the spirit of man. Because it is we that will do the worshipping by the spirit, because God himself is a spirit. So it means we have to relate with him in his frequency like you have said.

Yes, in our last transmission, we actually did demystified worship and talked about what worship is. But what we did not actually go fully into is the medium through by which we do worshipping. And by the grace of God, we are going to look deeper into that today. That is what we will look more into today.

Now, he says we must worship in spirit. Now it means, there is this part of man, we are a spirit that must worship God who is spirit.

Now follow us quickly as we go through the book of Ephesians Chapter 2 from verse 1, you can read that.

Ephesians 2

1. And you he made alive when you were spiritually dead.

Now, he says you were dead in spirit. It means he is not saying you were dead in your mind. He is not saying you were dead in body. Of course we are walking around. He is just saying you are dead. Spiritually speaking you were dead!

Now, he is talking to those who are already saved, the Ephesians Christian.

and separated from him, because of your transgressions and sin

Now if you notice that word, he says separated... means he is trying to qualifying the deadness, that the reason why I said you are dead spiritually is because you are separated from God. You might be active in your mind. You might be active in your body, but in the spirit you were dead.

And you were dead because you were disconnected. So he qualifies this deadness. The definition was right there in that verse.

Go on please

in which you once walk. You are following the ways of the world influence by this present age in accordance with the prince of the power of the air (Satan), the spirit who is now at work in the disobedient.

It means there is another spirit that is at work

the unbelieving who fights against the purposes of God, among these unbelievers we all once lived in the passion of our flesh.

Now, since we lived in the passion of our flesh

our behaviour governed by the simple self

The KJV says our mind... can you see that?

indulging in the desires of human nature

So we are so proactive- mind wise, body wise, our desires, but what is the problem?

without the Holy Spirit and the impulses of the sinful mind. We are by nature children of the sentences of God's wrath just like the rest of mankind.

4. But God being so very rich in mercy because of his great and wonderful love with which he loved us, even when we were spiritually dead, and separated from him because of our sins, he made us spiritually alive with them in Christ.

Now, you see! The reason we've read this Ephesians 2 is just to bring a clarity to John 4:24. Because he says God is spirit and if you can worship God you must do it in spirit. You have to be in spirit.

Now the deep question is? What is a spirit being?

You see, to some Christians is quite vague. Is not something that is very clear to some people. They just take it as a general statement without really thinking deep about the

implication of that word, what it means to be in the spirit so you can worship God who is spirit.

And the reason why is very hard to understand in a natural course is because according to this world where we live in, in this side of eternity where we live, you will understand that there has been advancement in science and technology to be able to know the state of your body.

If you look at it, you have scans- you can determine your health status. You can go to the hospital, you can carry out blood test, they can do lot of scans, lot of images and they can tell people the exact state of their body. They can tell them their health status. They can tell them their health condition. They can tell if somebody is healthy or they are not healthy. They can tell your body temperature. They can tell the body condition. We have science. We have technology. We have medical advancement that can do this to you.

And so when it come to the state of your soul -your will, your emotions, there is so much of psychology, psychoanalysis, psychotherapy, lots of psycho this and psycho that, that can tell you the state of your emotions. They can tell you about somebody who is probably mentally unstable. They can tell you somebody who is sound in mind. They can tell you all these things, because we have developed psychological procedures that can determine the state of people's mind, people's emotions, people's soul.

But what mankind has never come to grab with is the fact that nothing in this things I have just talked about can tell you the state of your spirit man. There is no such technology that can tell the state of your spirit. And the reason is not far-fetched because for humanity who are without Christ, the scriptures tell us that they are dead in spirit.

If they are dead, it means no wonder, they don't even know it exist in this part of humanity- the spirit man, because it is dead. Ephesians 2 tells us that you were dead in sins and trespasses and you he quicken. He made you to come alive.

It means for those who are not born again, for those who are not saved, they don't even understand that there is this part of the spirit man. That is why things like 1 Thessalonians

5 does not make any sense to the unregenerated souls that says **may your spirit, soul and body be kept blameless to the coming of the Lord Jesus.**

They don't know there is a spirit man that does exist.

In fact, the last two verses in 1Corinthians 2 simply say, "**a natural man cannot understand the things of the spirit, for they are spiritually discern.**" And the reason why he can't understand because his spirit man is dead- unresponsive. He doesn't even know it exist.

So in John 4:24, he's saying to mankind that if you are going to worship God, you are going to worship God in spirit. He is actually talking about the part of humanity that the world does not even understand exist.

And that is why for you as a believer in Christ Jesus, may I sat this to you, this is one of the most critical part of your life.

Read Romans Chapter 2 verse 28 please.

In the last transmission we demystified worship, today's transmission we are demystifying the spirit man.

Oh yeah! Because people found that confusing...

Yeah that is it! We are demystifying that using the scriptures. We have the compass of the Word of God and we are navigating at the moment.

Listen to this!

28. For he is not a real Jew who is only one outwardly, none is true circumcision something external and physical.

He said the circumcision cannot just be merely external or physical

Go on please

Now watch verse 29!

29. But he is a Jew who is one inwardly...

Now please watch the Nouns. Watch the appellation. Watch the naming.

He said who is one inwardly. So there is something inwardly.

Go on

And true circumcision is circumcision of the heart by the Spirit not by the fulfilment of the letter of the law.

Have you notice that there is a term that has come into this. The term is whose circumcision is of the heart by the Spirit.

It will probably seem that the Holy Spirit is pointing to us that if anything is by the Spirit, it has to be of the heart. Now a new word has come into being.

So if you are asking what is the spirit of man? You see the word **heart** has a connotation. You know in Biology, in the human body, we have the heart that pumps the blood. Isn't it? It is something physical. You can touch that. I know we are talking with our daughter

who was confused about the heart in the body and she was wondering how do we talking about her heart?

I know it is a bit confusing because we use the word heart physically speaking and the scripture use the word heart as well for the spirit man.

Now, let's clarify that. The reason why science has use the word heart for the pumping station of the body is because they believe that is the centre of your being. In fact, they believe that is the one that runs the whole body- pumps the blood round the body. And because is right there, they think is at the core, that is why they use the word heart.

But the word heart really is not just a biological word for what pumps your blood; it is being used in literature generally to talk about the core of anything, the essence of anything. If you notice there, that is the reason why when Jesus was talking about Prophet Jonas, he said an evil and adulterous generation is asking for a sign, but he said, no sign shall be surely shown this generation except the sign of the Prophet Jonas.

Now watch this!

He said as Jonas was in the heart of the earth for three days and three nights so the son of man shall be.

Now some translation used the word belly, but others used the word heart. And you wonder, how can the earth have a heart?

He's saying as Jonas was in the core, in the depth, in the centre of the earth. So the word heart is as good as saying the centre of anything, the core of anything, the depth of anything. That is why in John Chapter 7 that we've quoted in our past transmission, a verse there says **in the last days of the great day of the feast, Jesus stood up and said if anybody believes on me, as the scriptures has said, out of his belly...** some translation used the word heart.

You know when we say belly, we are not talking about the stomach. That is why there was a man making a joke that some Christians seem to have river flow from their belly because of the protrusion... Jesus wasn't talking about the stomach. It doesn't mean out of the stomach shall flow rivers of living water. That is not what he meant.

When he said out of the belly, the word belly is also interchange for the word heart in the Bible. It means at the centre. Out of the core of your being.

So every time the scriptures use the word heart, he is talking about the reality of who the person is, the depth of the person. It's not amazing that Romans 2:29 then saying that if it is in the heart, that means by the Spirit. That is by the Spirit.

Your spirit man there is your heart, is the core, the essence of your being. It is a shame then to the world system. They've made the advancement in discovery how to know the status of your body, how to know the state of your health. They've made advancement in how to know your emotional, your psychological state. But that which is the core of your being, that which is the centre of your life, that which is the real person inside there, they have no clue about what it is.

So what we see in the scriptures (Romans 2:29) is calling our attention that the core or the heart of a man is the spirit of that man. That is what we see in the Word of God.

So if you are wondering what is your spirit man? The spirit of Christ is saying your spirit man is the core of your person, is the depth of your person. So it means anytime I listen to some people saying that I want to go for some Yoga session or I want to go for some meditation or I want to go for trans-meditation or for some things and they ask them why do you want to do that? They said I want to get in touch with my reality. I want to get in touch with my real being.

Sorry! You are not getting in touch with your real being if all you get in touch with is your mind, if all you get in touch with is your soul, if all you get in touch with is your body. Because the Word of God has brought a dimension to us today to say the heart of a man, the core of a man's being is a man's spirit. (Romans Chapter 2 verse 29).

And that is what was quickened and made alive in Ephesians 2 when you came into Christ. God wasn't going to quicken things that are not the very essence of your life. That is why your heart is your spirit man and is the essence of your being. That is what we see in the Word of God.

And is good that we saw again in this verse that the argument about what is the true circumcision was put to rest. *Because we have a completing side you have to be this, and you have to be careful to become, to really align yourself.* So we have this practises, in our days it might not be the real circumcision but we have some practices. But we see Jesus, we see the distinguishing here in the way Apostle Paul with the help of the Holy Spirit to tell us which one is the true circumcision today so don't get bother and burden by all the external observation of some practices. And say the true circumcision; we should focus on which is done inwardly, which is done with our heart in the spirit.

So let us not be carry away, be bothered by interpretation should we do this? Some people cover this, some people not cover, mode of all these things. We should be focus on what is the true circumcision. We should not be carried away.

You know why those things are very common?

I think the reason why those things are very common – those religious forms and dogma and tradition is because people have very little or next to nothing understanding of the spirit man. And that is why those things about forms, about dogma are getting really common because people are trying to relate with God in the spirit by trying to figure out the state of their body or figure out the state of their mind and they want to use that as a basis to connect with God who is a spirit.

That is why the Apostle Paul is warning us saying this circumcision am talking about is not something that is outward. This transformation didn't happen in your body, neither did it happen in your mind, it is in the heart, is of the spirit.

So it means the good news is we have a medium by which you can know the state of your spirit.

Now the bad news, which is the Word of God, there is nothing that the world system offers us despite advancement to help us to know about this spirit man. They have nothing outside the word to help us. If you want to know the state of your body, go to your Doctor. Go for medical check-up. If you want to know the state of your mind, of your emotions, you can talk to a psychologist. He can probably help you.

But if you want to know the state of the core of your being, the heart of your life, the depth, the belly, there is nothing in the world system- they have no meter, they have no metric for measuring this. They don't even know it exist. They even deny its existence because it is dead in a sinner. It is dead. But for you who are in Christ Jesus, you have been quicken and made alive.

Infact Ephesians 2, I think in a verse there, it talks about the fact that **we are his workmanship, we were created.**

See! This is what a distinction between the believer and a non-believer. For an unbeliever his/her spirit man is dead. They have lost touch with reality. They have lost touch with the core of their life. They have lost touch with the essence of their being. But for you who are in Christ Jesus, what the Bible says you were created in Christ Jesus, a lot of people don't understand what does it mean to be created in Christ Jesus?

This today is the explanation. To be created in Christ Jesus means your spirit man is now made alive. What was dead as is quicken. And if you are wondering what is my spirit man? Can't see, what are you talking about? I am glad you ask.

Romans 2 tell you that your spirit man is the heart, the core, the centre of your being, of your life. That is what the Lord tells us there.

Please the only way you can know the state of your spirit man is to come to the platform or the medium of the Word of God, that is the only thing that describe... that is the mirror

that reflect the state of your spirit man. That is the Word of God. And that is what we see there.

So this is what we see... and you see before we carry on to read other places, I want you to understand that you as a believer, if you are born of the Spirit, if you are born again, you will understand that the Word of God gives us the reality of how to live life. I say the reality of how to live life.

You know why? Other ways to live life they are counterfeit. Other ways to live life, they are caricature. Other ways to live life, they are not the real plan that God has in the beginning.

Don't forget that Adam, in the Garden of Eden was a man that has a capacity to communicate and fellowship with God in the cool of the day but God told him, if you eat of that tree of the knowledge of good and evil, that day you will surely die. But we know that right after Adam did that, there was no single record in the book of Genesis that he fell down. Adam communed with God. He lost all fellowship. He lost all communions, lost communication with God because his spirit man.... Ephesians 2 says separated, disconnected that is what we saw there.

So from that time every kind of life he was living by himself and through his generation was counterfeit.

And that is why if you notice, even today I will say in traditional times before we have globalization and civilization, there is a way people live life. People most times live life from their will, from their soul.

For example, if somebody knows (am talking about traditional culture) which still exist up till today especially in some parts of the world- in some third world countries, some part of Asians, Africa that have this kind of traditional culture where the way people want to change their life or live a better life, you have to put a pressure on your will.

For example, you know something is wrong, you know something will cause a disgrace if you do it, if it is a wrong thing. You'll try to put pressure on your will. You'll say that feeling is not who I am. Who I am- I know what the right thing is, I know the culture demands from me and I try to exercise my will to always try to do the right thing. This is the way people try to change, to look better. They put pressure on the way they live from that...

But now as the world has gone global and there is a lot of individualism growing on in western culture encroaching into those traditional cultures at the moment. What is in vogue is, you don't put pressure on your will. You just look for your feelings and your emotions and whatever your feelings and emotions tells you, just accept that, that is who is you are and express your feeling, express your emotions.

If your emotions tell you that this is who you are, just express it. And if you express it, and anybody think you are bad, just ignore them. It is your life, live it. See! that is another way people say a better way to live life is to just express your feelings. Traditional culture says don't express yourself, exact your will to conform to what people think is right.

But now, who cares what people think is right? Whatever your feeling says is right, if you feel like today, you are black, today you feel like you are a man, just act like a man. Tomorrow you feel like a woman, just act the way you feel like acting. Who is to say is right or wrong? That is all about how humanity knows how to make changes to their life.

But the Lord is simply saying there is a core, there is a depth, there is a real person; the heart, the core, the spirit man and that is what humanity has not gotten in touch with. And that is what Christ came to do; to revamp that part.

I will like to read Ephesians Chapter 2 verse 10 in Amplified Version

10. For we are his workmanship, his own master work, work of art, created in Christ Jesus, reborn from above, spiritually transformed, renewed ready to be used for good work, which God prepared for us beforehand. So that we will walk in them living the good life which he pre-arrange and made ready for us.

So we are his work of art.

We are his workmanship created in Christ Jesus unto good works.

So we are not a product of our feelings. We are not even a product of our will, we don't live life and this is the reason why a lot of people... that is what you were talking yesterday about being hypocritical, you know when the changes and the transformation is not of the heart, when the transformation is not of the spirit. But you want to transform by the will, conformed by all means. That is why people put pressure on their will to change and leads to hypocrisy and because the transformation, the recreation is not in the spirit man. This is what the world cannot fake. They can't manipulate this. Is either you are recreated or you are dead in your spirit man. There is no middle ground.

That is why there is no point in arguing, I have spoken with some people in the past, and they said, there is nothing like a spirit. It's just you have your body and you have your mind, your will and emotions. They said there is nothing like spirit. And the reason why it doesn't make sense arguing with such people is, if somebody's spirit man is dead, he is not even aware. He is even unconscious that he has a spirit man.

So what is the point of arguing with somebody who doesn't even have a consciousness of what he is talking about? This is why it is a pointless argument.

It takes somebody who is revived and recreated to say common! I've got a spirit man and I can commune with God who is spirit. This is the benefit of the cross. This is the benefit of the cross that we have. And that is the great thing about being born of God.

Can you see?

That is what we see there.

So you mention that we are recreated in Christ Jesus unto good works.

So today I encourage you in the Holy Ghost, the recreation happened to you at new birth. The recreation that happened to you when you give your life to Jesus was not in your mind, neither was it in your body, is in your spirit man. And it should cause you to rejoice, you know why? Because the recreation happen in the core of your being, not in the peripheral. In your heart, in the depth, in the centre, in the belly, that is where it happens.

And this should be a relief for those who are burden looking for their own part, who want to walk out, to exact their own will and for those good works.

Ephesians 2 verse 10 was telling us that we are created for good works. So is already part of our creation. You just subscribed, if we will yield to this.

So you don't need and take all the effort of trying to exact your will or trying to be a better person or trying to be in alignment. People will say they are expressing themselves because they want to be in alignment with their body, with their nature. You are already created. You have all these pre-package. He said you because some people are so confused, they are wanderers, wander lost. They don't even know who they are. And they are just trying to find the expression, I want to discover myself, or I want to find myself.

He said there is a path set around for us and taking path, which he already set. So in Christ Jesus, we are already wired for this good work. So you don't need to produce anything on yourself, you don't need to exact whichever way, or you say you want to express and look for something inside of you to express or you want to exact and do something again. If you follow the pathway of your operation, it is already wired. You are already created reborn, already wired for this work and the path is already set for you.

It means your heart, the core of your being, the depth of who you really is actually pre-package, fully loaded with the qualities, with the righteousness, with the holiness, with the perfection, with the beauty and the glory of Christ. It's already there.

This is why it is very hard to walk with God unless people understand these things. Because the reason why is anytime God speaks, anytime God's Word says anything about you, if you are not careful, you might be interpreting what the Word of God says with your mind or you might be checking it out with your body. And that is the problem because God is not speaking to them.

God says what I recreated, what I made 100% percent like Jesus is our spirit man. That is what we see there. That is why Hebrews Chapter 12 calls our Father the Father of spirits. He didn't say the Father of body, even though 1Corinthians 6 tells us to glorify God with our body, but Bible says what God gave birth to in us, what he birthed in us is our spirit. He is the Father of spirits.

It means our spirit man; this new core that we have is exactly like our Father. I repeat, you know is just like in the natural, if a father gives birth to a son, there is only way they can test if that son belong to that man genuinely is to carry the DNA test. And if they carry out a DNA test, they can actually figure out or actually tell the paternity of that child.

Now Hebrews 12 says God is the Father of our spirits. That means if I check the DNA of your spirit man, if I check the genetic makeup of your spirit man, it looks exactly like God our Father. That is what the scriptures say.

So it means there cannot be any sin, there cannot be any failure, any darkness, any confusion, any depression; nothing of the enemy can be in your spirit man because God is the Father of spirits.

In fact, Ephesians 2 that you are reading, if you look at verse 5, can you read verse 5 please?

What we are trying to do this morning, is to describe what your spirit man is about...

5. Even when we are spiritually dead and separated from him because of our sins he made us spiritually alive together with Christ.

See what I have just said!

So it means when he quicken your spirit man and it came alive in you, he said it happened with Christ.

So your spirit is composed of Christ. Your spirit man is the spirit of Christ. So it means whatever is in Christ, whatever Christ is, is exactly what your spirit looks like because your spirit was made alive with Christ. It wasn't just by itself. It was with Christ.

So it means like I was saying that everything the Word of God says about you is talking to your spirit. For example let's look at the example in the scriptures when he says that you are sitted with Christ in the heavenly places, he is talking to your spirit man.

When he simply says that "**he that knew no sin was made sin so that we can be made the righteousness of God in him.**" You are the righteousness of God. You are exactly as righteous as God is. He is not talking again to your body. He is talking to your spirit man.

When he simply says that the fruit of the spirit is at work in you, joy, love, gentleness, kindness, longsuffering, all these things, he is saying that your spirit has the fullness of these capacity now.

See! Your prayer life, or your study of the Word of God does not improve this or make it better. No! It doesn't.

He said you were quicken with Christ not apart from Christ, with him. It means whatever was in Christ at that time is in your spirit. You were quicken with Christ (Ephesians 2: 5). You were raised with him. So your spirit is made up of whatever is in Christ.

Can you see that?

But I know you are wondering, what are they talking about? I don't feel the meekness. I don't feel the gentleness. I don't even feel the temperance. I know you lose your temper. I know you are wondering... but if you are saying that my spirit man is exactly like Christ, I don't see all these at work...

Maybe I need to pray more to acquire, to attain...maybe I need to fast to attain.

You need to stay with us as we continue with the Word of God this day because we are going to come to that. But what we are trying to settle by the Word of God is to simply say that what is the spirit man?

In our last transmission we didn't go fully into that, what is the spirit man?

Ephesians 2, Romans 2:29 all say that the spirit man is the core, is the centre. In fact, Romans 2:29 says is the heart, the middle or the core of a man's life. And blessed be God at new creation, at new birth, that is what God goes for; the core of our life. And that is what we see by the Word of God there.

And we see that is exactly identical with Christ. And I like that place in 1John 2 where he says so that we will not be ashamed in the day of redemption **for as he is, so are we or so we are in this world.**

Now, that statement can be more clearer. Isn't it?

He didn't say so shall we be if we walk with him. He didn't say so shall we be if we are faithful and committed to the Word of God. He said so are we in this world. If that scripture does not make sense to you, it means you are trying to hear what we just said with your body. You are trying to hear it with your soul.

No! When he says so are we... the 'we' he was talking about is the core of your being, the centre of your life.

And you know why the centre is so important? You know just like the headquarters of a company. You can simply say a company's headquarter is the centre of operation. It doesn't matter if you go to the branches; they say let's go to the headquarters because you know where the decision flows from the centre. It doesn't matter even if you go to the branch and they make a decision about your case in the branch, they can up turn it at the centre, at the headquarters. So the headquarter is where everything flows from.

You know what the scriptures say about the spirit man? He says **guard your heart** why? That is the headquarters!

If you lay hold of the headquarters, that is it!

Just quickening a man's spirit goes for his heart. That is what God did in Christ. He didn't want to waste energy and time on the mind, and the body of men because he knows if he can grab the headquarters, the centre, the core, the being of a man, you can control everything else in that man's life.

That is why...you know I was reading some things sometimes ago about some of the wars- people fighting battles. You know when some people take over a country, there are times that some battle goes on for 5, 6, 7, 10 years. You know atimes the enemy can take hold of the part of a country and yet the war can go on. Most times, they want to target the capital of that country. They want to go to the centre of operation because if you can grab hold of the headquarters, you've taken over the whole place.

So the scriptures tell us that what God did for us in Christ, he grabs hold of our headquarters. He went straight for the core of a man's life and quicken us. This is what the spirit man- the centre of operation, the core of your life. That is what we see in the Word of God, and that is what happens.

I think the Lord has brought clarity on this for people when they hear the Word of the Lord or they read and they don't understand what is the Lord saying? Who is he talking to? Because you need to understand the recipient.

The Lord is actually talking to in your heart. So your heart is the recipient for it, what he is talking about... your heart is the one that must listen. Is the one that you can... and if you need to do any cross checking, it is from your heart. And that is the problem some people start looking at their body and feeling the temperature.

And it is true when he says by the stripe of Jesus you are heal. You look for the symptoms and check their body but they don't know that the recipient of that was the heart. And I think the clarity has come.

At least, I want to reiterate one more time, don't go about looking for a meter to measure your heart to say where is it? Where is my spirit man? Unfortunately like we said, we have no such device in the world as we have said that can tell you the state of your spirit.

The only mirror that we have according to James Chapter 1 is the word of God. It mirrors and tells you about your spirit. Some people are trying to move away and going to this occultic and all these esoteric and trying to get in touch with their spirit and all those kind of thing. Well, for every of the original, there will be a counterfeit.

Defiantly!

For some people are moving on and feeling like we are not just going to stay on the surface, on the temporal, we are going to encounter to get to the spirit and try to come into this awareness and get into their spirit persons with all these ungodly means, but we are calling you that...

Of course, there is one thing for there. For any original, there has to be counterfeit. Again I have seen some books they call your spirit animal. People have come up with lots of things. But whether people are engage in occultic practices, witchcraft or whatever kind of practices or those who don't believe in such things, you know one thing? Ephesians 2 made a very powerful statement and says that **there is a spirit that now works in the children of disobedience.**

It means if somebody is not saved, if you are not born again, the spirit of disobedience is at work in them. It doesn't matter whether they acknowledge that or not. If they are not saved, that is the reality. They are very nice person. People that says that guy looks very nice. But the scriptures says, as long as the Holy Ghost has not recreated their spirit man, something else is right in there- the spirit of disobedience.

Now, follow us quickly to Romans Chapter 12. We are going to be spending more time on this. Don't forget that the only reason we've look at what is the spirit man is to connect it to worship- he that must worship God must worship in spirit and in truth.

Let's go to Romans 12 from verse 1 to get a better picture.

Romans 12

1. Therefore I urge you brothers and sisters by the mercies of God to present your body, dedicating all of yourself...

Now if you notice that statement, watch that statement!

Now a translation says in view of God's mercy. People can look at that.

This one says by the mercies of God. One says in view of God's mercies.

What am asking you to do now, is it must be done out of the revelation or the understanding of the mercy of God.

Now you see! When we say mercy, one major distinction between mercy and grace- people think is the same, is **you just think about the fact that the mercy of God is God not treating you based on what you deserve.** That is just a summary of what mercy is.

When Jesus gives a parable and says who is he that has mercy on the man? The reason he used the word mercy is simply because that man was a Jew and the Samaritan was not supposed to be dealing with the Jews. But the Samaritan had mercy. He didn't treat the Jewish man who was on the ground as he deserved.

Mercy is when you get treated not the way you deserve. You deserve to be ostracised, you deserved to be forsaken but yet you got treated not the way you deserve. That is mercy. And that is what we see there.

He says that in view of God's mercy. You see! This is the reason why a lot of people have come up with legalist doctrine where they tell people what to do- dos, dos and don'ts. And people try to put a pressure on their will to try to please God.

No! You don't talk about that. Everything people must do, they must do by the mercies of God. They must do it in view of the mercy of God, in view of what has been done for them. In view of the fact that Jesus did not give us what we deserve, but Jesus gave us what he deserved.

He said in view of that, in that revelation then come...

Don't come with other revelation. Any revelation outside of that revelation is religion. Is going to be burdensome. Is going to be pressure... The Bible says his commandments are not grievous. If people have to receive God's commandment and is being grievous to them, it means who ever is presenting that to them is not presenting it to them in view of God's mercy. Because God is not asking you to live life this way or do that so that he can take up (or come up with the resources yourself).

No! he came up with everything.

Even the motivation, you don't have to come up with it yourself or motivation to have a better reputation. No! He says in view of that mercy. The motivation is his mercy. And that is what is in view. And anything that is not in front, that the mercy of the Lord not

being in the fore front, fore burner, any kind of dedication, any kind of sacrifice is futile, is empty.

That is what the world system does. They try to make changes and look at other means other than the grace of God to make a change.

Discipline themselves under some other rigorous training.

In view of God's mercy and that is why even when it comes to giving offerings in the church, the Apostle Paul in 1Corinthians 9 says **for you know the grace of our Lord Jesus that even though he was rich, yet for your sake he became poor so that you through his poverty might be rich.** He is telling you that if you are in Christ, you are loaded with all the benefit of heaven.

The Psalmist said **blessed be the Lord my soul and do not forget his benefits, who forgives your sins, who heals your diseases, who fill your mouth with good things and your youth renewed like the eagles. Psalm 103**

He was recounting the benefits of redemption.

If you are going to come at all to give anything or to be a blessing to the body of Christ or to people, it must come from the understanding that you have been blessed already. That God has been so good to you, that...

And in view of the abundance that God himself has, the grace... you are not trying to help him...

No, not all!

Or you are trying to help yourself because you are already helped in him. Because people do it to help themselves or people do it to help God and feel like...

Some people even do say No! his work will get undone if they don't come around. How will it get done? God is just depending on you to get his work done. It's already...

You know what? That strategy is being used by a lot of charity organization today. If you watch TV Promos, especially those people that do charity to African country, they will bring a child having some diseases and the child looks like skeleton. And they will say can you sleep tonight? Look at that child on your TV. Just 1 or 2 pounds will save a child's life. Most times they try to wet the guilt of people, to raise up their guilt and make you feel bad, blackmail you and say, can you see? Somebody is there, you are living a good life and people respond to all those things. But respond out of guilt and condemnation.

Or people responses to become a saviour and hero. They want to feel like yes! They are the one providing for your community, to feel good about this. You can respond like that out of guilty and respond like a messiah.

It means the scriptures is saying for you, if you understand the gospel and you understand the death, burial and resurrection of Jesus, your response to life in general must come out of the view of God's mercy and grace. It must come! Everything must flow from that. Even if you are sacrificing your body, you are sacrificing your mind, you are sacrificing your time, you are sacrificing your money, you are sacrificing your intellect. You are sacrificing your will, whatever you sacrifice for the sake of the gospel, if it doesn't come in view of the mercy of God, you are just right in religion.

Because we are not talking against sacrifice or dedication or discipline because this Romans 12 is saying you present yourself but we don't need any presenting without setting it straight that it must be. The first thing before you do anything, before any sacrifice, before any dedication or any discipline is set that mercy in view. You must not lose sight of the mercy and the grace of God. It is the foundation.

You cannot bring your strength first before his mercy. The mercy and the grace of God must be in focus and be the motivation for what you do and what we don't do.

Now, thank you for that.

That is why 1John 3: 16 says...

That is why I normally say people shouldn't read John 3:16 without 1John 3:16 because I will simply say 1John3: 16 is the b part of John 3:16. And most people know John 3:16.

You need to read 1John 3:16.

He says **herein we perceive God's love...**

Here in we are able to understand... you know that God's sacrifice himself for us. We know that he became poor so that we through his poverty might become rich. We know that Jesus took the curse- he that knew no sin became an outcast. He was forsaken so that we can be the beloved. So we are the beloved. We are the accepted in the beloved. We know that already. We are not trying to make that happen. We are not trying to work towards that.

He says we perceive (KJV Translation). We've come to

Amplified Version says

By this we know and have come to understand the depth and essence of his precious love that he willingly laid down his life for us because he loved us.

Can you see?

And we ought to lay down our lives for the believers.

See that!

Our sacrifice.... Most people do not even know this.

Did he just say we understand?

Yes, people should not do anything whether to sacrifice or dedicate or anything unless they come to that knowledge. That is the thing.

So most places should not be asking for any sacrifice, any dedication from anybody, any commitment from anyone until you bring them to this knowing this fully. They must perceive this. They must understand this even in their sleeping or waking moment. They have unshaken belief in what he has done.

Thank you for that

That is why if you are a minister of the gospel, you are somebody that preach the gospel or you are somebody that live by the gospel. Listen to this! This is the reason why you cannot take just any sacrifice from any one. This is one of the reasons why you can't take any commitment from any one.

That is why the Apostle Paul excluded a particular church from giving to him. He said he intentionally excluded that church because that church has not come to this understanding.

Does that explain the reason why Gehazi went to collect the gifts from Namaan, we know what Elisha told him? He said is it time?

We don't know why he said is it time? But most likely by using this kind of scripture, it could be Naaman has not come to this understanding. He didn't say it is wrong. He just said is not time. That person has not come to this understanding yet.

It means if people dedicate or commit themselves to the cause of Christ without this revelation, what happens is, they can hold the church to ransom.

Holding God to ransom.

They are the one that try to hold God to ransom. They are the one that says after all I have done; see what you did for me. They are the one that go to the place of prayer and say see! God after all I have done for you, see what you have done me?

And they are the one that serve the Lord without joyfulness because they felt they had something on the Lord. For God loves a cheerful giver, that is why some giving are without cheers. Yes, service without joy, because he made the commitment.

This is not only about money, because people might think is about money. We can put it everywhere, for Romans Chapter 10 was talking about sacrificing, dedicating ourselves. So it's beyond whether money or offering or so we don't want people to label it to this.

But we saw some people because of the commitment, have we not met the brethren in which they feel the Lord owes them, so they are doing the present service out of Joy. They are not serving the Lord joyfully as he wants us to do in the book of psalms (**make a joyful noise unto the Lord, serve the Lord with gladness**) because they felt they have put in the time commitment. They have put in a peg on some things they would have done and they feel like they did this. They thought they were helping the Lord expecting the Lord to fulfil the bargain of it. And that is what we see...

We just have to put in view of God's mercy. He said don't do presentation, don't present anything no matter how the urgency. He said I beseech you. I'm begging you.

I think the tempo of the church, of the body of Christ is to bring people to this. This is not the time for offering. This is not the time for commitment. This is time for them to bring us all into the full knowledge of the grace of the Lord, what he has done in view of God's mercy.

In view to know that he has all the help in himself. And again is a double knowledge for them to even know they are already helped themselves.

That is what mercy tells us that you are already helped.

Because some people they tell them, for you to take part in what he has done, you have to do this. For you to be helped, you have to do this. So people are trying to help themselves by committing their time, their work, their labour, the fruit of their labour, and their money into things because they really want to be helped.

And so he says you are already helped. They have to come into the full understanding that he has helped you with all of his work on the cross. Everything you need for life, you already have it. And they must know this, come to that understanding and perceive it.

It's a different thing from knowing something and the perception of it. People can have a mental knowledge of this because hardly can you find anyone as a Christian that does not know that Christ died on the cross, what it means literally to them. That is they are free from the world; they are free from the hold of sin and poverty. They knew all the benefits but the perception of it. Can you smell it? Can you unshakeable in this no matter what is happening.

You know when we say perception is no matter what is happening, be it the mountain removed and you know that his eternal kindness cannot be removed from you, you are unshakeable because you have perceive it. You are in strong awareness of this even in your sleeping moment, even in your slumbering moment, nobody can talk you out. Talk you out of the love of God and what he has done, because some people are good orators who can talk you out of it. They come with stories and what they have read and they have revelations and dreams. And they can even bring prophecies to talk you out of it.

But because you are rooted in this knowledge, you have grown and accustomed to this perception. It is the fragrance of the Lord that you carry with you. If the fragrance of his love is all over you, no matter the circumstance of what is happening around, you are

rooted in this. You are deeply connected into this knowledge and so you cannot be taken away. No wind of doctrine... no like this is another great Apostle is saying this cannot shake you from this.

Until you are rooted in this, I think you should hold on to your sacrifice. You should hold on to your offering until you get a reason and the reason must be in view of God's mercy.

You know the thing that actually amazes me is the tenses of the Word of God. That 1John 3:16 and this Romans Chapter 12 were in present tenses.

He didn't say having viewed of the mercies of God. He said in view...

It means as you are coming to present your sacrifice, you have it in view. He didn't say having perceived. He says herein perceive we. It is a current tense. It is something that is happening. It is a lifetime looking into it.

As you are presenting yourself it is being done in view of the mercies of God.

Every day your actions must proceed from the knowledge of what you are looking at, for what was done for you, what was done in you in Christ Jesus. Not at any time must you set your gaze below the mercies of God.

Hold on to your commitment first because if you go on with your commitment, there will be problem.

Come along, you have to adjust your mirror in view of that grace. All your actions must proceed from the view of the grace. I am looking at it directly.

You see! I read one book one time, one of this classical writers I have forgotten who he was... but one thing that he said about this thing you are talking about, is not about just

hearing or just what you have in your mental assent or knowledge of it. He was talking about a practical Holy Ghost revealed reality of it.

He gave an example to say "you have a father and a son, maybe a man and his child who is two years old. They are walking on the road. This man said, when he saw them walking he knew that, that child belongs to that father. He had no doubt about it. Legally that was the fact that that child is the father's."

But he said right at the point when he was looking at them; he said he saw the father take up the child in his arm. He said even though legally that is the father, that is the son, but the moment the father taking the child in his arm affectionately, that did not change or improve on the father - son but you could see the child at that point had a deeper sense of that communion. There is one thing about being a fact, you can sense it...

He said the child could experience the reality by the time the father scooping him up in his arm. That is why the writer was talking about the perception of it. You must come to the experiential knowledge of it.

And so today we pray that people will move away from the head knowledge of this fact. That it will not just be another biblical fact or putting it in their archives in their brain. That they will have the experiential knowledge; the perception of this love.

Until when people come to perceive this, they cannot be shaken away with any rules of a story. People will come with their... confabulate things and make things big and all those things. It is the perception of it, that you will come.

It is our prayer that you will come to this experiential knowledge of this love of the Lord. That you will have the experiential knowledge of this grace. It will not be a story to you. It will not just be a point of argument for or against to you. It is something you live in. It is what is ingrain into your consciousness, what people smell around you or somebody understood this and who is walking in this. To be unruffled by what is happening around, or by what people say or what is even happening around or any circumstance cannot shake you from this.

So today I think we are going to round up from this point. But it is our prayer today that we will come fully into this perception. **If there is anything you need to understand today is about having the experiential knowledge of the mercy of the Lord and always setting your gaze every time and let your actions proceed out of the view of the mercy of God.**

No action without the view first.

That you do not listen in view of people or what people say. Those stores does not come in view, does not come above what the mercies of the Lord is. Because people today when they hear some stories, hear some testimonies, they just set down the mercies and grace of God. Set it down and set their gaze below that...

Your gaze will constantly be in view of God's mercy. That you will need to withhold your dedication, your commitment until you fully understands this.

Please that is the word! Withhold the gift, withhold the commitment, and withhold the dedication. That is not what is important when you have a view. Is the Holy Spirit allowed in your life to make active or to make real what is your legal status, making it real for you? That is the work of the Spirit of Christ.

In fact, thank God for scriptures is in the book of Romans that the Spirit bears witness with our spirit that we are sons of God.

That is the job of the Spirit of Christ to keep witnessing to you that don't you know your status? Don't you know what was done to you? What was done in you? What was done with you in Christ Jesus? Making it come alive in you, making it real. That is the work of the Holy Spirit, to bear witness with your spirit man. This is what he's meant to do in your life.

I think we can only say this is not the time for the body of Christ to make a demand for commitment, dedication or sacrifice. I think it is more for us to understand this, to deep ourselves in the understanding of the experiential knowledge of the grace and the view of the Lord because everything will just hold together, because that is the epicentre- that is the centre of it all.

Instead of attacking this, there is no right attitude to this, there is a different tautology. Everything will fall in line. Every doctrine will align with this. So we need to walk into this.

So till we see you next time as we continue this story of the conversation of this woman with Jesus, as we go back to John Chapter 4. We do hope you will join us next transmission.

We are still in verse 24 and we are in Romans 12. We are going to tidy it up to worshipping in spirit.

See! We've not even actually finished up this digression to Romans 12. You want to stick with us; you want to join us in our next transmission as we go deeper into this worshipping in spirit and truth that Jesus told the woman of Samaria about.

So finally we want to say bye....

As you have received Jesus Christ the Lord, so walk in him

God bless you.

Bye!