

Series 35

The Amazing Gospel

It is good to be back again. This is Expose 247. You know we've been on this long discuss on John Chapter 4. And so we are trusting the Spirit of the Lord today to animate because the scriptures says it's the Spirit that quicken, flesh profit nothing.

So today we call you out of whatsoever you have put your attention to, maybe you have come to places, you have gone to people, and you are looking for a word of validation, you are looking for word of approval, you are looking for judgment or decisions just like that woman wanted to know where to worship.

So should you have such questions and you are looking at the wrong platform, you are looking at the new age media, you are looking at influencers, new age celebrity to answer some questions. We are calling you to come and listen, to come and hear from your creator, the one who has the manual for your life like this woman in John Chapter 4.

So we welcome you back as we continue from Series 34, which is 'Matters of the heart.' In case you have not listen to that, you know where to go on our Facebook page, on our website and the Youtube, Expose 247. You can listen to it.

So today we are going to continue, do you want to do a quick recap from where we stopped?

Yeah, viewers all over the world, whether you are viewing or you are listening to this episode; we welcome you again to another great episode of the Bucket Ministry Series.

Now, the last transmission like you did mention that we did was the Bucket Ministry Series 34, which is Matters of the Heart. Today by the grace of God, we'll continue on this journey, which is simply discuss between Jesus and the woman of Samaria.

But don't forget the goal, the mission, the purpose is to glean out of this discuss the core of the gospel whether for those who are not saved yet, and for those who are born again already, this will allow you to continue in the light of what you have received. So join us as we progress today on this new episode.

Now, the last verse that we actually stopped at was the 26th verse. So today by the grace of God, we can just start from the 26th verse and go on to 27th.

Can you read please?

John 4

26. Jesus said to her, I who speak with you I am he

Okay, the reason why Jesus said was because the woman said to Jesus that we're expecting a Messiah. We know that if he comes, he is going to teach us everything. He is going to tell us all things and clarify things, that is the 25th verse.

I think that should be very important especially in this environment and this age where people need clarification. People are talking now that is not about learning new stuffs that is about relearning and unlearning. So it is more about clarification. People are not even trying to get claiming knowledge, they just want to rest revise.

And we see some people made them relevance by debunking myths and coming back to all these age long traditions and norms. We really want to gain attention; you just have to talk something on the air especially the aged wisdom and esteem wisdom of the past.

So it is a season of clarification. We can found ourselves in the shoe of this woman like she needed clarification.

Well, thank you for that.

Now, she was talking about the 25th verse where the woman was trying to tell Jesus if I am confused now, it's okay because we are expecting Messiah who will clarify everything.

Again in context, in other word everything, did Jesus actually clarify everything? Because now for this woman, she was looking to the future of what Jesus would accomplished as a Messiah. But for you who are listening to this, Christ Jesus the Lamb of God has already come, he has already fulfilled the mission that this woman was looking to. She was looking forward; we are looking backward into this same event. So he has come.

The question you want to ask is, when he came did he actually do? When I say when he came because at this time, he was talking to this woman, when he went to the cross and accomplished the whole essence of his birth, death and resurrection. Did he actually clarify all things like this woman was expecting?

When we say all things, you might be watching this today, and might be wondering there are some things that come up in our generation, there are circumstance and situation that seem to be peculiar to our generation.

In fact there are some contentions, some challenges that we face in our generation that people didn't face 2000years ago. If you agree with me, there might be things that have come up because of our advancement in science, advancement in technology. Some problems that we are facing today, they didn't seem to face back in those days.

Again did Jesus answer all things? That is the question you want to ask. May I say to you, that everything that is in the Word, they've come under titles and heading.

If you notice 1John 2:15 when he says love not the world...

Watch this!

Love not the world nor the things that are in the world, if anybody loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him. For all the things that are in the world

He used the word all.

The scriptures doesn't have to target or specifically address the peculiar or unique circumstances of your life at the moment but what the Word of God is saying is, everything about your life can be classified into major headings which the scriptures has addressed.

He says all the things that are in the world, the lust of the eyes, the lust of the flesh and the pride of life. He said all the things that are in the world.

So it doesn't matter the peculiar conditions of your country, or the peculiar challenges of your life, of your family life. It doesn't matter the unique thing you are facing in your own private life. The scriptures say there is nothing new under heaven.

It might be a specifically unique circumstance, but the concept of it has been addressed in the Word of God. That is what we see there.

Also let me quickly remind our audience about what you are talking about, about Jesus being tempted in all points. It wasn't that he passed through every situations like that..

So everything has been reclassified, regroup to points and he satisfied that.

That is it!

Thank you for mentioning that.

It means Jesus faced every single human challenge. It doesn't mean that because we know that is not true because if you look at it, there are some things that we deal with that even in the days of Jesus, he didn't have to deal with that. We don't have to spend time out trying to list them out. There are some things that are unique to our generation.

But there is nothing unique in regards to the points. That is the point! He was tempted in all points as we are. Because book of Matthew Chapter 4 confirm he was... because if you notice the temptation of Adam was in three folds. It was lust of the flesh, lust of the eye, the pride of life. Please look for some of our previous transmission, where we've actually classified Adam's temptation into three fold.

And if you notice the temptation of Matthew Chapter 4 that Jesus went through was also in three folds. He also has to deal with the lust of the eyes. He saw the stone and say turn stones to bread. That was the lust of the eyes. He had to deal with the pride of life. He had to deal with the lust of the flesh. He was tempted in exactly the same points where Adam was tempted.

And may I say to you today, your challenge, your contention with the world system will still be around those three points.

So what we see is, when the woman was saying when the Messiah comes, he will clarify all things. He did clarify all things. You look at them under the classification of heaven.

He spoke to every aspect of humanity. Maybe not specifically in unique circumstances, but in broad terms. It means whatever you are going through has been addressed through the gospel.

It is good that you brought that out because see these days people are asking Christians, should a Christians smoke? All these things are trying to bring out things.

Some people are talking about gadgets that are not even there in the Bible days, should we use this? And specifically they are looking for a verse that pin point this, and mention that thing specifically from the Bible.

So we are putting that to rest to know that at all points it was covered.

To be more specific, you just talk about should a Christian smoke? That is a good question. And somebody says if I can't find a verse in the Bible, then it is not true.

But again, you have to understand that God speaks in points. We have scriptures that say your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost. That body doesn't belong to you. You have been brought with a price. You are not of your own. He says you belong to God.

So it means how would you treat a body that has been given to you? You are a custodian of that body. It means you are highly responsible. There are things in the scriptures that address all those things.

The fact is, the more the woman said when the Messiah will come in the 25th verse, and he will clarify all things. He did clarify all things whether things you have experience now or you will experience later or the one that people have experienced in generations past. He did address the roots of all problems. He dealt with the foundation, the points of all things. He actually did that. That is what we see there.

And the book of Hebrews will always remind us that now he has spoken expressly through his son. Everything that he needed to say he has said it through his son. And that reminds me of this little joke; I think it was a Sunday School. They were asking the children and asking why do you think Jesus was called the Word of God? And one young girl just answered that everything that God wanted to say, he said through Jesus.

And so being the Word, he has clarified everything that we need to know. So everything has been said.

He has clarify the questions of life when you ask the questions, who I am? Why am I here? What is my purpose for existence? All those questions they are answered in Christ Jesus. He is the answer to every question. There is a song that says Jesus is the answer for the world today. Above him, beyond him, there is no other. He is the way.

So he is the answer to every question. He is the conclusion to every statement. The woman says when he comes, he would clarify all things.

Now if you are there today, and you are wondering, there are question going on in your mind and you don't seem to find an answer or you say well, I've been a Christians for quite some time and there are questions that you have that have not been answered. It could be that you've not actually had enough revelation of the Word of God or you have not actually dug deep enough to have insight into the mind of Christ.

But that is one of the reasons why we have this Bucket Ministry Series to bring insight into the Word. So that as we begin to look at Christ, as we begin to unveil Christ, as we begin to shine the light on Christ, the questions of your heart; things that seem confusing should be clarified as the gospel become unveiled unto you.

So welcome again, join us on our series not just this one but subsequent series and we trust the Lord will grant you insight.

And before we ran up to the next verse, I still want us to come back to that Hebrews Chapter 1 where he was saying **expressly**. At least trying on that word expressly because today oh! some people want to be Christians activist, apologetic, just want to try to make the Bible to answer this question in this new age. And feel like God was not expressly concern, God does not expressly express his opinion about all things.

He has spoken expressly through his Son. He is not hiding through it. It is not like it is a difficult discussion because these days, people are becoming politically correct when you

ask them some political questions, they try to bend around the points and try to avoid all these political gimmicks the way politicians do answer questions.

But we know that God has spoken expressly and the word is on expressly through this. So we have his mind known expressly. Nobody is trying to second-guess or somebody is trying to actively think, oh! this is what the Bible is saying. We've already known his mind about... he is not hiding about anything. His express mind is already revealed in his Word.

Thank you for that.

Let me just add this before we go to the next verse.

It is important that we know that Jesus spoke about the ministry of the Holy Spirit. This is one of the critical ministries of the Spirit of Christ. He said when "**he, the spirit of truth shall come, he will not speak of his own, but whatever he hears of me, that shall he speak unto you.**" He will not speak of his own; he will only speak of Christ. And he said, he will bring you into remembrance, all the things I've told you.

It means the major function of the Holy Spirit in your life is to bring insight into the words of Christ. It means he's meant to clarify what Christ said. He's meant to clarify what Christ represent. He is not meant to clarify himself, he is meant to clarify Christ. That is the ministry of the Spirit.

That is why when people teach about the Holy Spirit and people are talking about the rules of the Spirit, the fire of the Spirit, and people are not talking about Christ. They seem to miss the essence of what Christ said will be the mission of the Holy Spirit.

Anywhere the Holy Spirit is being amplified or he is being explained. It must be explained on the basis that he brings illumination to what Christ already taught. Illumination to the mind of Christ. Illumination to the person of Christ. Illumination to the revelation knowledge of Christ. That is what the Holy Spirit is supposed to do.

It means there are some confusion, there are some disturbance, there are some things that are going on in your mind today, there are still some things you might be going through in your life, if you trust the Holy Spirit to say open me up to what the mind of Christ is.. This is your ministry. Do it in my life. Trust the Lord to do that and I trust he will bring much more insight into your life as you trust him to do that. That is what we see there

So the woman actually said something about Christ, when the Messiah comes, he will clarify all things. That is his ministry. And she was right about that. Looking back now we can see she was right about what she said.

Can you read verse 26 again?

26. Jesus said to her, I who speak to you am he.

I am the Messiah that you've been hoping for. I am the reality of what has been foreshadow.

You know it is amazing that this is the Messiah they've been looking for, for thousands of years. This was the Messiah prophesied in the Garden of Eden, when Adam and Eve fell. There was a prophesy that says even though the serpent will bruise the heel of the seed of the woman, but that seed of the woman will actually crush the head of the serpent.

A prophecy that was thousands of years old! Prophets have been prophesying about this. Isaiah talked about it, even all of them. The likes of Elisha, they all mirror this seed. They foreshadow this and just like that, he showed up on the scene.

And strange enough I don't think is actually a hard thing to think about, why the woman missed the fact that he is the Messiah, because he didn't come package or in the way they expected him to show up. Because they had ideas about who the Messiah will be and how he will show up and smashed the enemy of Israel and all that, but he showed up on the scene hungry, tired... she actually missed it and

All along he has been showing up in a way that people will actually miss him. He came in the manger. He came in the village of Bethlehem.

You wouldn't expect the king of the world, the lord, the governor among the nations, the mighty God. Isaiah called him the counsellor, the prince of peace, he is called the ancient of days in the book of Daniel. He is the mighty God. Such as you don't expect...

The reason why we read history today and talk about Great men in history like Alexander the great, Napoleon, Julius Ceaser, you read about these great men, when they talk about their names, a picture get painted in your mind of the magnificence and the glory of the kingdom that they ruled over. You know that...

But you see, he who was going to come as the mighty God, and yet he was born with a manger. And so it's not amazing that she missed it.

And when she actually found in this John Chapter 4, he was somebody of no significance; he was just hungry, tired, traveller... that is the point. There is nothing memorable, maybe to draw any attentions and something like nobody is waving a palm for when he was passing about. He is not a state dignitary that you are expecting. He was hungry, tired who needed something, who needed to be helped.

See! It has pleased God to choose the weak things of this world to display power and his strength. It has pleased God to choose the foolish things of this world to display his wisdom. And it has pleased God to use the poor things of this world to display the riches and the vastness of his wealth. That is how God has chosen to work.

That is why the Bible says that the Greeks stumble at such a wisdom, and a stumbling block to the Jews because there was a way Jews understand wisdom, there was a way Greek understand wisdom. And Jesus did not come in the way they expected wisdom and power to be displayed and the Bible says they stumble because of that. They just couldn't wrap their head around it.

And up till today many are still stumbling at this expression of Christ. Because Christ is not coming in the way and the pattern they actually understand based on their culture, but scriptures tells us, it pleases God to display his strength and power. May I say this that in the reality of it, any where there is self- sufficiency of wisdom and power, it repels the glory of God.

I repeat that, anywhere there is self sufficiency of the glory and power, where people have come to the point to say I think I'm wise, I think I have all it takes, such places are not recipient of the glory and the grace of God. That is why he says blessed are the poor in the spirit.

Now the question is, if the poor in the spirit are blessed, what happened to a middleclass in the spirit? They are not blessed. There is no middle ground around it. If the poor in the spirit are blessed, you can simply say middle class in the spirit are not blessed. It has pleased God to demonstrate his power, the greatness of his wisdom using the baseless things of this world. And that is how God has chosen to reveal and unveil. See how he unveils the Messiah of the world.

In fact, the next verse we are going to, there is an insight the Lord will show us there as we go on.

And today the Lord is still using the foolishness of the gospel to bring many sons into glory. So if anyone wants to ride into glory, you just have to come through this smiley foolish talking. Paul calls it foolishness of preaching.

They says it is a waste of scholarship. Waste of all the years and investment in education or critical reasoning. It is a waste of all the inputs, of all the things you've read and all the training and schooling you've had. But God has chosen to use the foolishness of the gospel to bring many sons and daughters into glory.

So it is wise for us to just climb unto this and ride with the wave of this foolishness to get a grasp of his glory.

Thank you for that.

It is call the foolishness of preaching. In fact the Apostle Paul said if the preaching of our gospel is veil, it is veil to those whose mind has been blinded. (2Corinthians 4: 3-4)

When he says veil, it means, they can't grasp it. It is veil to them. They say what is the meaning of all these? This doesn't make any sense. This is not power. This is weakness at work. Foolishness at work. God has chosen to unveil and to reveal his glory to those that belief.

And we can see all these things have baffle people using the foolishness of the gospel, the weakness of the cross. Do you remember this Museum in Denmark where we were checking those crucifixions, where they have to put Jesus and put the golden crown on him on the cross? It doesn't make sense.

That was in Oslo. Isn't it?

No! Denmark.

In the National Museum there, we saw the crucifixion, the people could not grab that how can a saviour be this weak?

On the cross, they have to put golden crown and say no! we cannot identify with such a saviour.

So all through the centuries, people could not wrap their hand around weakness and strength. How can something that is so weak be the strength and the power of God? It doesn't make any sense. The picture doesn't make any sense. And so people have been trying in their own ways, in their own understanding to remodel.

So people are trying to remodel gospel today, to make sense to people. Let's speak the language of the middle class people. Let speak in the language of the government people. You know you just have to embrace the foolishness. You cannot remodel this. If has pleased the Lord to use it this way. You just have to accept.

Thank you for that.

Now, if you have listen to this, you are wondering what are we actually targeting?

We are targeting the essence of the gospel to simply say, the only way you could have come to Christ in the first place, the only way you can become born again, you may have become born again if you are listening to this. Maybe you didn't know there are times we go through some procedure and we don't even know what we went through. This happens in even every day life, people made decisions. Later they learn, what did I do? What was the implication of what I did? People vote for some political aspirant and they go back and check what did I just do? What is the meaning of what I did?

Some people get born again, give your life to Jesus but today, we've come to clarify the procedure of what actually happened to you and to say the same way it happened to you at the point of new birth, that is the same way you have to work after new birth. If you don't understand what happened to you at new birth, even though you are born again, how will you know how to apply that principle to work after the new birth?

The scriptures say as you have received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk in him. By the same principle walk in him. But the reason why that kind of scriptures is very hard for some Christians to live by is because they don't even understand how they received Christ Jesus the Lord because you only say that to people who knew how they received Christ Jesus the Lord. They have received him but they didn't know how they received him.

So we are trying to clarify to you how did you received him so you can know how to walk in him. This is how you received him. You must have received Christ because you've come to the point to say that your own righteousness cannot save you.

It means you are simply saying your own strength cannot save you. You cannot even justify the goodness of your life. You cannot justify that you are a good person. You can't even justify that you are somebody to be reckoned with. You needed the righteousness of Christ to clothe you. You needed the perfection of Christ to clothe you. You needed God to see you the way he sees Christ. You couldn't even use your morality to qualify yourself.

So you must have come to the point of weakness, to the point of poverty for you to even receive Christ in the first place. That is the way it is. And the scriptures say if you receive him that way, that is the way you must walk in him.

That is why the Apostle Paul even after he became an Apostle, you know what it means to become an Apostle? He got saved. He was first a teacher among the brethren. And after some time, he got to the point of Apostleship. Even the Apostle Paul in the book of 2Corinthians said I went to the Lord three times, the Lord said **my grace is sufficient for you.**

Now watch this!

my strength is made perfect in your weakness.

You need a disposition of weakness, of dependence on God for my power to work. It means anywhere there is no exhibition of dependence, anywhere there is no reliance on me, my power is short-circuited. It doesn't work in such life. And this is the point.

So Paul said the Lord told me; you want to see my strength that works. Then I need you to show a great level of reliance, of weakness, of dependence, of foolishness, of stupidity before me, that is when you have the opportunity to see me at work in your life.

Are you there believing for wisdom, you are believing God for insight in your life, in your family, even in your job, in your ministerial work, if you are trusting God for

insight, are you approaching him with a sense of reliance and dependence to say, I don't know what to do? I wouldn't know where to go? I don't know who to trust, God help me. Give me insight.

You must always approach the Father with such a kind of disposition. It is in that decision that his wisdom would be displayed and reveal in your life. That is why when Jesus was born in the flesh; he had to come up also with the same disposition. He had the weakness of humanity. He had to carry the foolishness of humanity.

You know what happened when he did that? What the scriptures say about him? Philippians 2 said because **he humbled himself to the point of death, even the death on the cross, wherefore the Father....**

That is the medium for display...

wherefore the Father give him a name that is above every other name, that at the name of Jesus, every knee should bow.

You see! He presented himself in such a way that the Father could unleash his power.

So if you are trusting God for unleashing of power, release of Grace in your life, you must continually come on the platform of weakness, because his strength is only made perfect in weakness. That is what we see there in the Word of God.

It means if you are born again, you have the grace of God in your life. You have Christ living in you. But we are talking about the release, the manifestation, the exhibition that is what we are talking about now. It only works when there is a platform of weakness. That is what we see in the Word of God.

Meaning not at any time should you outgrow grace and sufficiency and say I am all in enough, I have been long in faith and I know how this works. I have mastered this art. No! You cannot...

In fact there is nothing you have in your life, whether you have people's support, whether you have people's connection, whether you have enough money, whether you want to say you have enough resource, whether you have maturity in years, whether you have exposure, do not allow anything to speak sufficiency into your life. Sufficiency must only come from the voice of Christ through his Word.

Don't give such a right to anything else in your life. Fight it! Anything else that wants to take up that position, tell them that is not your place. Sufficiency is the place of Christ and say God is able to make all grace abound towards you that you having sufficiency in all things, may abound unto every good work.

So this is what we see. That is why Jesus himself had to display and show up in such weakness. That is the way the Father was able to display his power in him and through him. That is Philippians 2 verse 8-11. That is what he says to us there.

Now going to verse 27, can you read please?

27. And at this point, his disciples came and they marvel that he talked with a woman, yet no one said what do you seek or why are you talking with her?

This is a junction that we have to trust the Lord to give us insight, yet...

See the word yet... first they were surprised. I was checking a Greek for that word marvel. It was where we used the word alarmed, surprised. Why were they surprised? The reason they were surprised was pretty obvious, because he was talking with a woman.

Talking with means it was not expected. That is not what you expect at that time within that culture. We've actually looked at this many weeks ago in our previous transmission where we said there is a power distance, there is an obvious power distance in that culture at that time.

Jesus passed through three major power barriers to talk with this woman. There was the male-female partition where you don't expect a man to be talking to a woman like that in public. And there is also the religious divide, this was supposed to be a Rabbi- teacher, a highly respected religious leader talking to a woman whose moral life was in question. This wasn't expected. There was meant to be a power guard between them.

You know the parable of Jesus about the Samaritans, the reason why the priest had to go the other way is obvious because he was not even meant to touch the dead way. He touch something immoral, something unclean, you cannot even.... if you are a priest, a teacher of the Word, you can't even get close. But Jesus crosses that barrier.

Look again at the fact that, he was even a Jew. So racial wise, ethnic wise, he was a Jew, the woman was a Samaritan. Jews always look down on Samaritans. We've discussed this in full in our previous episode. But Jesus crossed that barrier as well. He crossed every limitations set up by humanity, every erroneous distinction, every separation, every wall that has been set up by religion, set up by culture, set up by the environment. He crossed the barriers, broke down the wall of partition by birth and ancestry... And he was talking with the woman.

So Ephesians 4 was telling he is our peace, because he has broken through those walls. Jesus is the gospel in person. He is the expression of the gospel in person. That is what we see there.

So he broke down every wall to speak to this woman. That is why I like that song that says there is no wall he will not climb down. There is no mountain you will not climb. He says there is no wall you will not kick down, chasing after me, running after me...

So Jesus kicks down walls to be speaking to this woman. You may not have seen physical walls; he kicked down psychological, spiritual, cultural walls to speak to this woman. And he has done that for humanity.

And for you today and for humanity today, Christ has kicked down all the walls. In fact, this was their distinction, separation... economical walls that separated the haves and the have not. Jesus has torn down these walls by the gospel, the clergy from the laity. This

clergy-laity thing, Christ has broken down the wall to say these are the priests and these are the members. Christ has broken down every wall of partition that is why the Bible says he has made us a royal priesthood. He is talking to every one.

The walls that separated nations that say these are developed and underdeveloped. He has broken down every walls making us one new man. He says there is no Jews, there is no Greek, there is no male, female. He said all are one in Christ. He has made out of them all, one new man.

So the gospel of Christ is the wall-breaking gospel. It is a gospel that shatters barriers; break down distinction, breaks down separation. That is what the gospel does. Everywhere you see the gospel, the true gospel you will see an expression of the true gospel. It shatters down and breaks down separation.

And people that have gender identity crisis, there is no need to bother whether male and female because in Christ, he has broken those law. People that need to cross and change their race, change their skin colour, he has broken down.... All these problem that is nagging and tugging at your heart, and just making you...

Should we say Christ is your peace? And he has solve this question of am I male? Am I female? Am I this or am I that? Why should I be in this? And all the things and allegation, he is our peace. He is the peace is in your heart.

Thank you that you mention that.

What that means is, whatever people are going through today... you sees so many of this problem that people are facing and see like the roles, the gender roles, these one, people are fighting for this, exact this, people have been subdued and these are... the privilege, should we withdraw? Should we do this? He is our peace. He has broken this wall of partition.

So it means the reason why there is such agitation in people that I want to become that, I want to change is because there is no peace as an agitation. When you have the peace of

God ruling in your heart, you don't need the agitation. It is going to solve every question, every confusion, every crisis within Christ. Because in Christ you would know that whatever benefit gender brings to people, whatever benefit racial identity brings to people, whatever benefit colour brings to people, whatever benefit all these things bring to people that make you think you want to cross to the other side, so you can get that same benefit.

The scripture says if you are in new Christ, you are a new creation, old things have passed away, behold all things have become new. It means all those things by which people identify themselves, they have passed away for you. You have a new way to be identified and that new way to be identified answers every other identity question in your life. It is more of excellent value.

It answers every other identity questions. That is why he says if you are a new creation, all those things have passed away. Behold all things have become new. That is what Christ is; he shattered and broke down all those barriers.

In fact, when the Bible says Christ breaks down the barrier, I think we need to clarify this. Some people end up running away and think oh! It means if I am a male, then I am equally a female. Well, that is you not interpreting the scriptures very well. It doesn't say you can say I am a Jew and a Samaritan. That is not what he is saying. It's not saying oh! I am a moralist, I am an immoralist whatsoever or I am a leftist. I am a rightist. That is not what he is saying by breaking down the wall of partition.

What he is simply saying is, he has removed the need for humanity to define themselves by their own context of where they came from. The wall agenda because of that... there is a wall that comes from the fact that you are male, I am female and you are a Jew, I am a Samaritan.

the brewing wall inside, he has become the peace.

There is hostility in the flesh. Every time we identify because we are not of the same persuasion, every time we identify with yours and with mine, is going to create contentions. What about if both of us do not identify by any of those things? How about

if we live our life by a new life. That is why he says he has broken down walls. He has a new identity. That is what it means to break down. It doesn't mean you a female want to become a male. That is not what he is saying. He is simply saying, you have no need to be defined by whatever context, background you find yourself.

And by the time you understand the privileges, the excellency of this new man. It makes you to look at all those privileges and advantage of being of either of this as dung. That is Apostle Paul, he had a Roman citizenship, he has all these things that people are clamouring and transiting for. He had all these privilege, he learns under Gamaliel, he said these are dungs. That is the thing! Estimating the excellency of privilege of being a new man, the peace he has broke out for us.

See! there is something that came to my mind, an illustration to bring this light. You know when they are having a musical concert, a symphony. There is one way you can tune all the instrument. You know there are times somebody playing the Guitar, somebody playing the Violin and they are trying to say let's be on the same key.

If you play music, you might understand what I am saying. They try to say can I tune my own instrument to be on the same key as yours? There is contention and let see whether you can tune yours to mine and all that.

You see! they can be doing that, but one of the easier way to get things align so quickly is let's introduce a 3rd party and somebody says there is a tuning fork. I am going to make a sound, everyone tune to that one thing. Let every one tune to that same thing rather than you trying to adjust among yourselves.

That is why what the people of the world do today and what they call... you know it is not only in Christ that we know this, even people of the world today, they try to brake down the wall of partition.

Jesus said my peace I leave with you not the way the world brings peace. So when he says in Ephesians that he is our peace and broken down the wall of partition, the world system says, okay we bring our peace, we also can break down the wall of partition. But the way they break down the wall of partition in the world system today is by compromise. They say well, you know what? You give up accept this people, you too

accept them. Also some of your convictions, some of your persuasion, you have to step down on your traditions. You have to just forget some things. You have to in a way put yourself in arms way whatever. You can come up with lots of stuff.

You have to go against and they do all these things. Some even say they are accepting, they are tolerant. They even tell you to lose your own conviction. For example, if you are somebody... even some definitions of some things.

If you believe that the man and female genders, at times in some countries you are seen as a threat. Because they will say, you know what? Just forget those convictions so that we call all be at peace. Let's stand break down the wall of partition. But what they call breaking down is simply compromising our convictions.

Jesus didn't do such a thing. Not at all! That is not how he broke down.

He says forget, male gender whatever benefits, whatever sense of value you got from there, female gender. It doesn't have to be on gender. Your economic class, your cultural class, your family class, your educational class, your skin colour class, he said whatever benefit you think they afford you in life. I am simply saying they are nothing compared to what I gave you on the cross, to what I gave you at resurrection, to the life I gave you, to the identity I gave you, to the name I call you. That is what the breaking down means in Christ.

And when we all come to that unity of faith, it creates true unity, true peace because even though we still have those things in the flesh, but yet we are not defined by those things. That is how Jesus broke down the wall of partition. The world cannot imitate that. They tried and it failed and it cannot work because it is not coming from the core of what really peace is.

We see what the world is doing, when they try to resolve this in their innocence and they want to resolve, they tilt more privilege to the other end

God bless you for that.

and they will now do again after some generation and decades, they will now turn it to the other side.

Have you notice when they tilt to the other side, the opposite side suffers. When they see the effect again, they tilt again. They will just be doing that because they have not invited the prince of peace. Jesus has broken down the wall of partition but is important you know how he did it. That is what we see there.

In verse 27, so they were surprised. So you can simply say the marvel or the surprise they had there was how he shattered down those walls. That was what created the surprise there.

And I may say today, if you are a minister of the gospel, if you are somebody that brings the Word of God to people, you must understand the walls that have been broken down so that you don't like Apostle Paul said, if I rebuild the things I have destroyed, I become a transgressors.

Some ministers of God today, the very walls that Christ had shattered, some are busy rebuilding those walls. They are even busy setting them up. That is why you have some places where if you are somebody who is financially okay, there is a level of respect that the man of God has for you than somebody who is not. There is a special ministry for you and there is a special attention and focus, you are giving to such people. If you are such a minister or you have such a perspective, you are simply building the very walls that Christ has destroyed.

And the same thing to you, if you are a minister and you believe that it is more important to minister the gospel to some kind of colour, you think it is more important for you to preach the gospel to them than other people, I am not talking about where specifically where God might give you a direction to focus on some people for one reason or the other. I am talking about where you believe that some people are more important and more valuable, in fact some people talk about valuable members in their church, when you come with such statement, it means we are rebuilding the very walls that Christ came to crash down. So don't be found as a transgressor.

Paul said if I rebuild the walls I destroyed, I become a transgressor. Be amazed. Be surprised. Be in the sense of awe at the walls that Christ has broken down. As they were amazed let it amaze you, the shatter walls that Christ actually did.

And we have to see that it stays broken.

The walls must remain broken down.

So 27th verse of the 4th Chapter of the book of John shows up people that marvel. They were amazed at the wall that was broken down.

So stay amazed at the walls that Christ broke down. Be fascinated like they were in 27th verse. Be amazed by it, let it be your awe. Be awe and say oh! Father thank you for the walls that were shattered. These people were amazed at what Christ shattered.

Even the world are doing something better in some of these things, people come and watch the Berlin wall in Germany to see the wall that was broken down. It's just like a cultural thing to see the wall that was broken down. So stay fascinated now. We should count ourselves in Ephesians 4 and see how he has broken all these walls- the rich, the glory... he has broken down the wall to reach.

We took pictures when we got to the Berlin wall, when we saw the wall that was shattered between the East and Western Berlin, which actually politically separated East and Western Germany. We saw a lot of people from different countries coming to look at where this wall was. They were fascinated by the walls that were broken down. They were amazed at the walls that were shattered and the possibilities that it brought to a new generation of Germans.

And see! that is the same way we should stay fascinated that Christ has shattered the reason why people fight each other, tribes fight each other, gender fight each other, you see patriarchy, feminisms, communism, you don't have need for all these things. All the

ism and ism are there because we have a mentality of walls being erected. Christ has shattered those walls. Let it keep us amazed. Let it keep us in amazement. Let it keep us in wonders and say wow! Like when we were taking pictures of the fallen wall of Berlin, let us continually be amazed by the walls that were broken down.

Let's look at Ephesians 4 and look at how he has broken the wall between the Jews and Samaritans, between the underdogs and the top dogs. And we saw him not just preach or teach it, we saw him live it because they were amazed that he was talking to a woman. That is what we see there.

We'll stay humble like this, and walk with Christ. We must keep this wall down. In our lifetime, we will not raise this just because of personal privileges or for so ever that can accrue, personal gains from this. Because people are doing it for personal gain. They want to undermine what Christ has done. They just want to scatter it based on any personal profit. But we will stay and say we will walk together with the Lord in this and stay ground and while we are still work on this, we maintain that the wall stay down.

And I think if you are watching or listening to this today, you will understand that one of the reasons, like you said personal gain and all that. There are some people that do that out of the sincerity of their heart, because they don't even understand the full gospel, out of ignorance, which is when Peter was eating with some of the gentiles and as soon as Paul came in Galatians 3, Peter withdrew from eating with the gentile because there were some Jews that came and Peter wanted to please those Jews, because those Jews were not expecting him to eat with the gentiles. So Peter withdrew when he saw those Jews.

When Paul was going to comment on that, Paul used that as an opportunity to present the gospel. Paul did not say, Peter this is not right. It is not the good thing for us as an elder. It wasn't a time for admonition or parental advice.

Paul simply used a phrase and said, Peter was not acting in line with the gospel. That is the phrase he used. He wasn't acting in line. You are not even living out the implication of the gospel. He even understands what the gospel is. He understands that the gospel of Jesus Christ simply says whether you are a Jew or you are a gentile, that is not your life. If you knew that was what the gospel is, it will make no difference whether you are eating with the gentiles or the Jews.

So it means some people were even sincere in doing all these things, settings up walls in the body of Christ. Some out of ignorance not even understanding the import of the gospel, that there life is in none of those things anymore, that is now hidden with Christ in God. If people understand that, then it helps to shatter down those walls.

This is a clarion call for us to get our heart together, in line of what you said about the admonition of Paul to Peter that we should just line up for the gospel. Let what we speak and how we interpret the scriptures, whatsoever, any platform and any thing, any means of influence, or anything we are using to be in line with the gospel, in line with the finished work of Christ. If we are ignorant about it, we need to study. There is no excuse for ignorance. He says study to show yourself approved.

So we cannot just go off and say we did this in ignorance. Yes, because these days we received emergency of people who are coming to say, we did this, we taught this in ignorance all the years, and we have done a lot of damage. You were able to be helped. Some did not get the kind of help, rehabilitation.

So ignorance is not an excuse anymore and says I will wake up in the next 10years and come and preach again and say this was in ignorance. No! We have to get our heart together and lie up with the gospel because we might be able to save ourselves, but we might not be able to save those that hear us.

And that is what 1 Timothy says, you have to take heed man of God to save those who will hear you. So some people are not saved, they are in danger of your ignorance and though if you come to repentance, and you have saved yourself. You have not saved those people that heard. So we need to come out of ignorance, if ignorance is our problem and if it's about personal profiting, we just have to get our house together. What would you like to say to these?

Yeah, the fact is, there are some people that even listen to when you are repenting, but they don't even want to hear about that. They are not even interested in your repentance after you've actually influence them.

And we see that happened today. In fact we see some people even fighting against the repentance of the person they learnt from in the first place, because they have assumed an identity, they too have found a personal profiting from that too, or the level of ignorance is so much or they get confused, because they have believed so much in what this person could have said in the other time, so they invested their intellect and their loyalty. Some are even naturally disowning the person that taught them and said, well we don't have anything to do with it.

But you see, what you are saying, one thing that came to my heart was the book of James, one thing about the gospel... I don't know whether it's a good thing or a bad thing, you be the judge, whether it is a nice thing or not a good thing. You be the judge. The gospel is very accommodating atimes of other things that are antagonist.

I will clarify that which means when you believe in the Lord Jesus and you live by the gospel, if you don't on a daily basis look at the Word of God and refine your heart with the gospel, what happens is other things may creep in and stay side by side. Why did I say that?

I will clarify that, look at what James said. James says if somebody comes in into your midst as a congregation and he has a golden apparel and because of that, you say to the person, come and take this special seat, and somebody comes in and you say come and seat at my feet because there is no chair for you.

Now, he said my brethren do not have the faith of the Lord Jesus with the respect of person. James said, you can have the faith of Christ but with something else, that is why I said the gospel... he said don't hold it with the respect of persons. People thought it might not be possible. That is why I said the gospel is so accommodating. This is the danger of it...

What I am saying is, see! there are some knowledge out there that you can get into those esoteric knowledge, you have no room for anything. Before you can accommodate, it is exclusive. No! It is a call sort of.

But in the gospel, that is why I said, I don't whether it's a good thing because it may be a good thing in the sense that, it allows you to use your mind, is not a knowledge that terrorise you. It doesn't impose on you. It comes into your life. The revelation of Christ come on you and yet by the grace of God and you have to walk out daily challenges using the mind of Christ. So it allows you to use the life, use the grace of God that you have to explore life. It allows you that opportunity.

Is it not the book of Timothy that was talking about perilous times, even the people that were deceiving people will get deceived? That is how serious it could be!

That is it!

So James is saying I know you have the faith of Christ. I don't even deny that because James could have said, the person that allowed somebody who was rich to seat at the highest seat have lost the faith. No! James didn't say that. He didn't lose his faith. He's still of Christ. He's born again. He's righteous by the death and the resurrection of Christ. If he dies, he is going to heaven anyway, but he's holding the faith of Christ along with the respect of persons.

So there so many alongs... the gospel is accommodating to that...

There are so many alongs that we are going along with, embellished gospel, tainted, that is where the problem is. There are some principles that people feel like oh! it is profitable for service, profitable to get numbers, profitable for my life, people find wisdom, those are the alongs.

So that is point!

It means it is time to drop all those 'with.' The gospel by itself is all encompassing; don't hold the gospel with respect of person. Don't hold the gospel with the estimation of a race. Don't hold the gospel with estimation of social class. Don't hold the gospel with estimation of gender. Don't hold the gospel with estimation of your background, culture.

Don't hold the gospel with all these with, with... drop all those with... Don't hold the gospel with all those with. That is what we see...

And it is good that we refer to the book of James to know that it is possible for us because people just think that oh! if I have the gospel, then I have no problem, whether I have or I don't have and they feel like all work is done. So we need to personally be looking into ourselves...

Apostle Peter was an Apostle, he was saved. He had it with the respect of race.

Can you see that?

For some, it is not with respect of persons, financial, for some it is just with respect of one thing or the other. All these alongs have reluctance. Some are reluctance to walk fully into the will of God, so that the gospel... some with gospel with his self-consciousness, that anytime that God is asking you to go all out for him, you always think like how you will look like before people when you make mistake. Atimes, some people are overly self-conscious of how people look at you.

Now, why does that happen in people's life? That is the question you want to ask. If you go back to some of our previous transmission, we've talked about these things. We now want to say the reason why this happen is when people believed in Christ and are born of the spirit, the revelation of the dead, the burial and the resurrection of Christ, they don't process that into every look and cranny of their life.

That is why the Bible says be ye transformed by the renewal, you are the one, the Spirit of Christ will not come and terrorise your mind. You are the one that takes up what is in your heart, in your spirit man and process in your mind. Anywhere it is not process, that's where the darkness lurks in.

It is not that the gospel is not there...

Make decision and do go about the daily administration...

How you talk, how you see people. Are you a Boss? Are you an employee? You have to process the gospel into all these things. And a practical example, looking at James, that means the minister that James was addressing was like he could not process the gospel into the administration of seating arrangement.

No! I wouldn't say that.

Yeah because he says one should sit at this, and there...

The problem was putting value on people based on their financial status.

Yes, that is it!

because everybody is the same, for people have expectation...

Is it a seat problem or about everybody is the same?

Yes, is about his principle believing that some are not equal because of their financial status.

It might be that he doesn't have any problem with grace.

The reason why we need to spell it out and begin to draw out the practical example because people say they are facing real world problem, in a congregation there are seating arrangement, that is what I am bringing in that word seat.

In the real world, there must be seating when you have your auditorium and so people are facing this problem as we speak today. I feel like this person that Apostle James was addressing, the fallen out that we could read about it today is about not processing that gospel and he does not allow it. Because I feel like if has process to know that everybody is the same, the seating should be the same. And these days, we still come to congregation where we found seating are not the same, elevated above and all these things.

In administration, in seating even for arrangement, there won't be anything. So you will not be tempted to say somebody should come up or somebody should come down for everything is the same. Any way it will always show up in different area. It will always show in different area if the principle is there. In a practical way, in some churches and organization, there are times when the minister gives more focus and attention to some members than some other members.

In fact there are some ministers that if they say a particular person want to see them, they will say yes, let him even come to my house. What time can I come? To some people let him go and book appointment... these are practical ways.

Some people might feel that well, we have overcome that; we have a normal uniform seating arrangement in our congregation. But we still see this principle locking out. It might not be in seating. Your own might not be seating, and feel you have clarify that. But there are some things you begin to show preference for somebody or others. So it is not really about the seating as you have said. It is about the principle.

In fact, there are some places where if some people don't come to church on Sundays, some Pastors are like oh! Mr T is not here today why? Why is he not in church? But some people if they don't come to church, most of the Pastor, don't even care, why? What makes the distinction?

It doesn't have to be Pastors, even as Christians, the way we look at our brethren, people of value, and we esteem the Word of God in some people's mouth than the other maybe because they have gold apparel, maybe some things in their life. And feel like when he says something, if it is the same Word of God that Mr A says and Mr B says, because this

is a minister that feel like, oh! it is the person that has this and this one. So the esteeming of God's Word makes different things.

That is a very important thing.

Some people when they preach the same word. Some people take it serious, some you don't take it serious because of the status of the person saying it.

Just like you said, some minister build up this wall that is broken, they are going to prepare you to receive this one specially because this man is coming from this, this is what he has. This is how far he has travelled the world, this is what he is doing, so you are prepared. He actually builds this work for you to receive the same word. And we don't see all these effort being geared towards Bro B that want to minister. We can go on and on...

holding faith our Lord Jesus with the respect of person.

We can go and on about this, there is no end to it, because this example varies...

We've not even look deeply at verse 27.

We just have to stop today...

And so we do hope that you are going to join us. We do hope that this is not just going to be a discuss, we are going to look into our lives as we go back to process this gospel so that we will not have the faith of our Lord Jesus with other things, with respect of person, with every other things, even with the goods of this world, making choices with other things. All these all alongs, we will not have it.

Should you have any questions, anything that need clarification maybe you feel this is not this or that. You have anything that needs clarification, you know where to go.

You can just send us a comment or a private message we pray as the Lord gives us time, the opportunity to address it. And if not, till we see you next time on Expose 247 on this Bucket Ministry Series.

We want to say that scriptures that we have quoted on this transmission, as you have received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk in him

God bless you

Bye!!