

Summary

- a) This session is the first of five sessions that looks at what is right about you because Christ is in you and He has transformed your spirit.
- b) As you will learn in this session, focusing on what's wrong paralyzes you but focusing on what's right propels you. When you discover that Christ in you is God's glory and rivers of living water, it helps you make spiritual progress.
- c) Also, you will see that dead religion blinds you to the treasure in you, keeping you poor. But divine revelation enlightens you to the treasure in you, making you rich. When you realize the treasure of Christ in you, you can experience the riches of His overcoming life.
- d) Finally, this session explains that you can now have a holy-of-holies relationship with Christ in your spirit. When you come to Him in your spirit, you can dine with Him in deep communion and fellowship.

Introduction

- a) James said:

21 Therefore, putting aside all filthiness and all that remains of wickedness, in humility receive the word implanted, which is able to save your souls.

22 But prove yourselves doers of the word, and not merely hearers who delude themselves.

23 For if anyone is a hearer of the word and not a doer, he is like a man who looks at his natural face in a mirror;

24 for once he has looked at himself and gone away, he has immediately forgotten what kind of person he was.

25 But one who looks intently at the perfect law, the law of liberty, and abides by it, not having become a forgetful hearer but an effectual doer, this man will be blessed in what he does. (James 1:21-25)

- b) Since we have already done six sessions in this class, I want to start today's message asking you this question: "How much of what you have heard so far have you experienced?"
- c) You see, these lessons are not meant to just be heard and understood mentally. They are meant to become your daily experience. These lessons are meant to help you experience the depths of Jesus Christ every single day.
- d) So far, have you been a forgetful hearer who deludes yourself? Or are you becoming an effectual doer of what you have heard? Have you begun to experience Christ's indwelling life or have you only understood mentally?
- e) If you have only heard but not experienced, then what proactive steps will you take to ensure that you remember the lessons you have heard, implement them into your life, and become an effectual doer of the Word?
- f) One note: A few weeks ago, I said we will look at the carnal mind and heart beliefs rooted in lies. I have decided to do these teachings in later sessions.

Do You Know What's Right with You?

- a) Do you know what's wrong with you? If you have any self-awareness, humility, and honesty, my hunch is you could create a rather lengthy list of sins, faults, and shortcomings. I certainly could.
- b) But here's an even more probing question, not often asked. Do you know what is right with you?
- c) Let me push pause and explain what I don't mean. I am not referring to self-help psychology and becoming a better version of you. Instead, I mean, Do you know what's right with you because Christ dwells within you? Do you know what's right with you because He has transformed your spirit?
- d) In my long journey of learning to live by Christ's indwelling life, I can't even count how many books I have read and messages I have heard that focused on what's wrong with me. I am a sinner. I am selfish. My flesh is wicked. I am proud, rebellious, and independent. The list goes on. Haha – I even preached this message myself last week!
- e) Guess what? I already knew this about myself. I bet you already know this about yourself as well.
- f) What I didn't know was the treasure of Christ in me and how He had transformed my spirit. When I discovered this, it was a game changer. My life was transformed.
- g) And here's what I realized: Focusing on what's wrong paralyzes you but focusing on what's right propels you.
- h) Please understand this doesn't mean we should ignore our sins, shortcomings, and selfishness. We certainly should be self-aware and acknowledge what's wrong with us. But if we aren't grounded deeply in what is right with us because Christ dwells in us, it will cripple us rather than motivate us.

You Are Rich

- a) Jesus told the church of Smyrna, "I know your tribulation and your poverty (but you are rich)" (Rev. 2:9).
- b) Spiritually speaking, you are already rich beyond imagination. Right now! Before you go to heaven!
- c) Whether you know it or not, you are rich. Whether or not you live from the treasure within, you have untold spiritual wealth.
- d) Tragically, if you are ignorant of Christ dwelling in you and how He has transformed your spirit, you will remain a carnal Christian, characterized by the mixture of flesh and soul with the spirit. You will live in spiritual poverty.
- e) This is like the story of Ira Yates, a West Texas landowner who became a millionaire overnight, striking oil on his property in 1926.

Revelation Unearths Spiritual Riches

- a) Underneath Ira Yates' feet resided untold wealth, yet he lived in poverty for eleven long, hard years. Why? Ignorance.
- b) Ira Yates didn't know the treasure buried deep in the ground. Yates was a multimillionaire who lived in poverty because he didn't know the treasure he already had. The eleven years he struggled to provide food, clothing, and pay the bills were unnecessary. He already had vast wealth but didn't know it.
- c) Similar to Yates, dead religion blinds you to the treasure in you, keeping you poor. But divine revelation enlightens you to the treasure in you, making you rich.

- d) When you receive a revelation of Christ dwelling in your born-again spirit and how He has transformed your spirit at new birth, it will completely change you from the inside out.
- e) Your story will be similar to Ira Yates's. You will go from living in spiritual poverty—struggling with guilt, shame, condemnation, and defeat—to living in victory. Like an oil rig penetrating deep into the ground, you will begin drawing from the treasure of Christ within. You will exchange spiritual poverty for spiritual wealth and start living from Christ's indwelling life in your spirit.
- f) If you don't have revelation of Christ in you and how He has transformed your spirit, you will live in spiritual poverty. This is why many believers struggle, live defeated, succumb to various lusts, and remain immature for years.
- g) This is why many believers are selfish, powerless, depressed, anxious, and proud, even decades after they were born again.
- h) Like Ira Yates, they don't know the wealth they already possess. They are blind and ignorant of the treasure within them. As a result, they continue living in spiritual poverty, drawing from self-life in their soul rather than Christ's life in their spirit.
- i) This in mind, we will look at the treasure of Christ in you and how He transformed your spirit at new birth for the next five sessions. In this session, we will look at the glory of Christ in you.
- j) Paul said, "But we have this treasure in earthen vessels, so that the surpassing greatness of the power will be of God and not from ourselves" (2 Cor. 4:7).

A Temple of the Holy Spirit

- a) Paul asked the Corinthians, "Do you not know that you are a temple of God and that the Spirit of God dwells in you?" (1 Cor. 3:16).
- b) When you were born-again, the Spirit of God came into your spirit, raised it from the dead, and made it the holy of holies of His new temple.
- c) Amazingly, your spirit has become a dwelling place of God in the earth. God's glory has literally taken up permanent residence within your spirit in seed form.
- d) In the old covenant, the temple had three parts: the outer court, the holy place, and the holy of holies. In the new covenant, the temple also has three parts: the body, the soul, and the spirit (see 1 Thess. 5:23).
- e) Your body is like the outer court, visible for all to see.
- f) Your soul, with your mind, will, and emotions, are like the holy place, enlightened by the presence of God in your spirit.
- g) And the innermost place within you, behind the veil so-to-speak, lies the holy of holies. Here, in your spirit, where no light has ever penetrated and the naked eye has never seen, God's glory dwells. Your spirit is the secret place of the Most High where you meet with God and commune with Him.

The Ark of the Covenant

- a) Just as the ark of the covenant contained God's glory and dwelt in the holy of holies in Solomon's temple, the very same glory of God came into your spirit the day you were born again.
- b) To ancient Israel, the ark of the covenant was:
 - The place where God spoke (see Exod. 25:22);

- Considered an essential weapon in their military efforts against the enemy (see 1 Sam. 4:3);
- The centerpiece of David's tabernacle, where worshipers ascribed glory and honor to God twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week (see 1 Chron. 6:31, 37).
- c) When the ark of the covenant was placed in the temple of Dagon, the Philistine god, God's glory caused Dagon to break into pieces (see 1 Sam. 5:2-4).
- d) The ark of the covenant, when it was placed in the house of Obed-edom for three months, released great blessings to him and his entire household (see 2 Sam. 6:11-12).
- e) In the new covenant, your spirit is the holy of holies of God's new temple, and like the ark of the covenant, contains God's glory.
- f) This means you can hear God's voice, overcome the evil one, commune with God at any moment, and experience great blessings.

Your Spirit Is God's Holy of Holies

- a) Living in the twenty-first century, we don't know the full weight of being God's temple. To the Jew living in the first century, the temple was the center of culture, religion, politics, and life itself.
- b) The temple meant everything to ancient Israel. That's why Paul's statement that we are "a temple of God and that the Spirit of God dwells" in us is so profound (1 Cor. 3:16).
- c) In Old Testament days, God dwelt in a temple made of stones. Today, He dwells in temples of human spirits.
- d) When you really see that God has made your spirit His permanent dwelling place, it radically changes your life.
- e) When Paul told the Corinthians they were a temple of the living God, he likely had God's shekinah glory in mind. This means the fiery presence of God's shekinah glory resides within you.

Shekinah Glory

- a) Ancient Jewish rabbis coined the extra-biblical expression *shekinah* from the Hebrew word *shakan*, which meant to "settle down, abide, dwell, tabernacle, reside."
- b) *Shakan* was used to describe the glory of God resting in the form of a cloud on Mount Sinai, the tent of meeting, and the temple (see Exod. 24:16; 40:35; 1 Kings 8:12).
- c) Today, the phrase *shekinah glory* stands for the manifest presence of God dwelling among His redeemed people. It also refers to the first fruits of God's glory residing within you.
- d) Obviously, you don't have the fullness of God's glory yet, for this will cause heaven and earth to disintegrate when unveiled (see Rev. 20:11). But it does mean you have a down payment of His glory—and that's significant (see Eph. 1:14; Rom. 8:23).
- e) This means you carry God's presence wherever you go. When you go to work, you carry God. When you go to school, you carry God. No matter what you do or where you go, you carry God's presence because of the indwelling Spirit.
- f) Let this truth sink in. You don't just carry your Bible or even a life-changing teaching about God. You carry God Himself, for you are a temple of the living God and God's shekinah glory resides within you.

Rivers of Living Water

- a) In Old Testament days, the Rabbis taught every young Jewish boy and girl that living water would one day flow from the temple. When the Messiah came and established His kingdom, the Jews were confident rivers of living water would stream forth from the Jerusalem temple (see Zech. 14:8).
- b) Grounded in the surefire word of the prophets, every Jew knew this living water from the temple would rise from the ankles to the knees to the waist, until the only option was to swim in it (see Ezek. 47:3-5). This great river would release life wherever it flowed, even producing trees whose leaves would release healing to the nations (see Ezek. 47:9-12).
- c) This in mind, consider the impact on the Jews when Jesus said, “He who believes in Me, as the Scripture said, ‘From his innermost being will flow rivers of living water.’ But this He spoke of the Spirit, whom those who believed in Him were to receive” (John 7:38-39).
- d) Many Jews were so impacted by Jesus’ words they began saying He was the Messiah (see John 7:40-43).
- e) Yes, rivers of living water will one day gush forth from the temple in the Messianic kingdom. There’s no denying it. But catch this—Jesus said rivers of living water are available, in a spiritual way, right now.
- f) Believers in this age, in whom the Spirit dwells, have a life-giving well of spiritual water in their spirits right now.
- g) Like Paul told the Corinthians, Jesus told the Jews of His day that all who believe in Him would be like the Jerusalem temple.
- h) This means you not only have shekinah glory residing within you, but you also have rivers of living water deep within your spirit. And, as you learn to tap into this well of salvation and draw from the life of Christ within, you can overflow to the desperate world around you, giving them life, healing, and hope.

Living Water in You

- a) When Jesus met a Samaritan woman at a well, he told her essentially the same truth He told the Jews: “Whoever drinks of the water that I will give him shall never thirst” (John 4:14).
- b) But this water, which the physical water symbolized, “will become in [us who believe] a well of water springing up to eternal life” (John 4:14).
- c) Notice carefully the living water Jesus gives, which is the Holy Spirit, is a well of water residing in everyone who believes. So, all who believe in Jesus have a well of living water deep within that can potentially flow out of them like a river.
- d) As a result, the satisfaction you long for, the yearning in your heart for deep fulfillment, the desire to have unfading pleasure and joy, is now accessible within you because of the indwelling Spirit.
- e) Your spirit is like a deep well, containing the soul-satisfying, heart-fulfilling, life-giving water of the Spirit.
- f) If you learn how to draw from this well of salvation and drink until your heart and soul are filled, you will never thirst again.
- g) Isaiah said, “With joy you will draw water from the wells of salvation” (Isa. 12:3 NKJV). Oh the joy you can have now as you learn the secret of drawing the life-giving water of the Spirit from your spirit.
- h) The more you experience this daily, the more you can overflow to a world searching frantically for meaning, purpose, fulfillment, and answers.

- i) Jesus gave the woman at the well—who was trying to fill the God-sized hole in her heart with forbidden love—the life-giving water of the Spirit. Similarly, as you look inside to the indwelling Spirit and learn to draw Him out of your spirit into your heart and soul, His life-giving power will overflow from you to the world around you, giving them life, healing, and hope.
- j) If you are thirsty for more of God, walk down the ancient path our forefathers traveled and learn to drink of the indwelling Spirit who resides within you. Stop trying to fill your heart and soul with the contaminated waters of the world. Don't be like the people whom Jeremiah rebuked for exchanging God, "the fountain of living waters," for "broken cisterns that can hold no water" (Jer. 2:13).
- k) Drink deeply of the Spirit who lives inside of you. Take the water of life without cost and drink until you are satisfied (see Rev. 22:17).

A Holy of Holies Relationship

- a) Because you are a temple of the Holy Spirit and Christ dwells in you as a river of life-giving water and the first fruits of glory, you can have a holy-of-holies relationship with Him.
- b) You can have deep, intimate fellowship with the Father, the Son, and the Spirit at any moment.
- c) This is vastly different from the old covenant, where only the high priest could enter the holy of holies once a year. Before he entered, he had to make blood sacrifices for himself and the people. It was sacred, dangerous, and sometimes deadly, for if anyone approached a holy God in a causal manner it could literally cost them their life.
- d) In the new covenant, your spirit has now become the holy of holies of the new temple. Because of the once-and-for-all sacrifice of Jesus Christ, there is no longer a need for any other sacrifices. The only thing necessary is for you to draw near. Like James said, "Draw near to God and He will draw near to you" (James 4:8).
- e) This means you have access to the living God any time. You can meet with Him spirit to Spirit at any moment in any place.
- f) Unlike the ancients, you don't have to travel to Jerusalem to worship the living God. Nor do you have to hop from conference to conference to meet with Him.
- g) All you have to do is turn inward and go deep into Christ, who dwells within your spirit. All you have to do is turn inward to abide in Him, fellowship with Him, and live by His indwelling life.
- h) Paul said, We "have our access in one Spirit to the Father" (Eph. 2:18).
- i) Since God resides within you by the indwelling Spirit, you have an all-access pass to the Father and the Son, who are enthroned in heaven. You can draw near to God and experience deep intimacy with Him at any moment.
- j) Because the veil of separation between the holy of holies and the holy place has been torn, you have free, open access to the living Christ right now.

The Hidden Manna

- a) Jesus told the church of Pergamos, "To him who overcomes, to him I will give some of the hidden manna" (Rev. 2:17).
- b) The hidden manna likely refers to the manna in the golden pot in the ark of the covenant, which remained perpetually in the holy of holies. Only the high priest could see the ark once a year, on the Day of Atonement.

- c) The hidden manna also refers to Jesus Himself, who is the true bread or manna from heaven (see John 6:48-51). Jesus is the One who sustains His people by His words (see Matt. 4:4).
- d) Putting these two concepts together, eating the hidden manna is likely a metaphor describing intimacy with the Godhead in the holy of holies.
- e) Jesus offers you immediate and permanent access to Himself, where you can feast upon His words in deep intimacy with Him. You are invited to enjoy rich fellowship with the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit in the holy of holies.
- f) Though this promise is ultimately looking into eternity, you can begin partaking of Christ in the holy of holies of your spirit now. You don't have to wait until you die. You can come to Him inwardly and begin partaking of this hidden manna in Christ today. Though the fullness of this promise is reserved for eternity, you can begin tasting of Him and His words now because Christ dwells within you.

Dining with Christ

- a) Just as eating brings physical satisfaction, as hunger pains are silenced and cravings are met, Jesus, as the hidden manna and the bread of life, can satisfy your heart and enrich your soul as you meet with Him in the holy of holies of your born-again spirit.
- b) Jesus also said, "Behold, I stand at the door and knock; if anyone hears My voice and opens the door, I will come in to him and will dine with him, and he with Me" (Rev. 3:20).
- c) Many have used this verse as a call to salvation. But Jesus was not speaking to unbelievers. He was speaking to His church. Jesus' knock is His voice speaking to you, inviting you into a deeper relationship with Him.
- d) In Scripture, table fellowship was a common image for deep communion and the strong bonds of affection and companionship. Like today, dining brought people together, where they shared intimate conversations, inside information, and secrets.
- e) Dining was—and still is—one of the most enjoyable experiences of life. Even in our day, dining is the place where we let down our guard and really connect with people. When we share a meal with someone, we usually become real and communicate with them at a heart-to-heart level.
- f) In the same way, Jesus yearns for deep fellowship with you, both now and for all eternity. He longs for you to enjoy Him as He enjoys you.
- g) He wants you to hear His voice and talk with Him as two friends would over dinner. The Lord wants to share His intimate secrets with you. He wants to share with you what is on His heart.
- h) Since you are the temple of the Holy Spirit, you can have a holy-of-holies relationship with Christ in the here and now, not just in the sweet by-and-by.
- i) You can have deep, inward, experiential intimacy with Him at any moment in any place. You can feast upon Him now.
- j) This holy of holies relationship is real. If you open the door of your heart to Jesus, He will come into your heart every single time without fail. If you believe, He will dwell fully and richly in your heart by faith. And if you open the door of your heart to Him, He will open the door to heavenly communion to you (see Rev. 4:1).
- k) Your spirit, connected to the Spirit of Christ, has the innate ability and capacity to "come up here" as it were and to dine with Jesus in holy-of-holies communion and intimacy (Rev. 4:1). Only believe and you will enter into this conversational intimacy. This is the dining experience Jesus promised to His church.

Application

1. Since we have already done six sessions in this class, ask yourself this question: “How much of what I have heard so far have I experienced?”
2. So far, have you been a forgetful hearer who deludes yourself? Or are you becoming an effectual doer of what you have heard? Have you begun to experience Christ’s indwelling life or have you only understood mentally?
3. If you have only heard but not experienced, then what proactive steps will you take to ensure that you remember the lessons you have heard, implement them into your life, and become an effectual doer of the Word?
4. Take an honest inventory of your spiritual life. You are rich beyond belief, but are you still living in spiritual poverty? If so, what can you do to change this?
5. How would you describe your present relationship with the Lord? Is it an outer-court relationship? A holy-place relationship? Or a holy-of-holies relationship?
6. What can you do to cultivate a holy-of-holies relationship with Jesus?
7. Jesus said your spirit is a well of life-giving water and the spring of the river of life. How can you draw more from this well of life-giving water in your spirit? And how can you release the river of life from your spirit to those who desperately need hope and healing?
8. Do you have a dining relationship with Jesus, where you feast upon Him and His words in the holy-of-holies of your spirit? If not, what do you need to do to change this?