

## **TIME WITH GOD**

Let me start by reading a scripture. It's Psalm 91.1 from the amplified Bible.

He who dwells in the shelter of the Most High will remain secure *and* rest in the shadow of the Almighty [whose power no enemy can withstand].

We read this scripture, and say a hearty amen to it not realizing that God is offering us an invitation to not just visit once a week but to live in His presence continually.

It seems that today many Christians are so busy we don't take time to dwell in the presence of the Almighty.

We don't seem to realize the importance of our dwelling in His presence.

Oh, it's nice if you do it a little bit, but if you don't, it's no big deal. Just volunteer alot and stay involved in everything going on.

Looking around the modern church today, dwelling in God's presence, has become pretty much optional, and can be easily replaced with lots of activity.

Let's look at some scriptures.

Exodus 32 recounts Moses going up the mountain for the ten commandments. While he was gone the Israelites built a golden calf and were reveling around it and offering sacrifices to it.

So it seems that when there was someone present to enforce the law they did okay. But when that external conscience was gone, they fell off the rails and totally ran amock because they didn't have a personal relationship with God Himself. They we're living under the old covenant, which was based on their performance of the law.

But even under that old covenant , there were some who cultivated a relationship with God Almighty.

In Exodus 33.7 it records;

Now Moses used to take the tent and pitch it outside the camp, a good distance from the camp, and he called it the tent of meeting.

Whenever Moses entered the tent, the pillar of cloud would descend and stand at the entrance of the tent; and the LORD would speak with Moses.

So the LORD used to speak to Moses face to face, just as a man speaks to his friend.

And everyone who sought the LORD would go out to the tent of meeting which was outside the camp. The problem was that only Moses and Joshua went out there to spend time in fellowship with the Father.

Moses had a very personal relationship with God. Abraham was called a friend of God. Paul spoke of rejecting everything in his natural life to know God and the power of His resurrection.

We often read the scriptures as ancient history about men who lived a 1000 years ago who had these very close and deep supernatural relationships with God.

And many people today have come to believe that no one could have a relationship with God like that.

Many Christians believe that in this modern world, constant oneness and fellowship with God appears to be an impossible and unattainable situation reserved for only a special few long ago.

I've said many times that Christianity is not a religion. It's a blood covenant between the God of the universe and His adopted children.

John 1.12 explains that

But to as many as did receive *and* welcome Him, He gave the right [the authority, the privilege] to become children of God, *that is*, to those who believe in (adhere to, trust in, and rely on) His name— who were born, not of blood [natural conception], nor of the will of the flesh [physical impulse], nor of the will of man [that of a natural father], but of God [that is, a divine and supernatural birth—they are born of God—spiritually transformed, renewed, sanctified].

Galatians 4 reads;

But when [in God's plan] the proper time had fully come, God sent His Son, born of a woman, born under the [regulations of the] Law, so that He might redeem *and* liberate those who were under the Law, that we [who believe] might be adopted as sons [as God's children with all rights as fully grown members of a family]. And because you [really] are [His] sons, God has sent the Spirit of His Son into our hearts, crying out, "Abba! Father!"

Everything that we receive as God's children is by inheritance.

We did nothing to acquire this oneness. We were born into it by God's doing.

Here is God's blood covenant commitment to us.

Hebrews 8.10

"For this is the covenant which I will make with the house of Israel, after those days, declares the Lord; I will put my laws into their minds, and write them on their hearts, and I will be their God, and they will be My people. And they will not teach, each one his fellow citizen, and each one his brother, saying, "know the Lord", for they will all know Me from the least to the greatest of them.

The blessings under the old covenant were based on their performance of the law.

The operative words in the new covenant are I will, I will, and I will and are based on Christ's perfect fulfilment of the law.

Here are a few scriptures that show how this new covenant transforms us.

2 Corinthians 3.17

Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, *there* is freedom. But we all, with unveiled faces, looking as in a mirror at the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from glory to glory, just as from the Lord, the Spirit.

## 1 Corinthians 6.17

The one who is united *and* joined to the Lord is one Spirit *with Him*.

## 1 John 4

13. By this we know that we remain in Him and He in us, because He has given to us His Spirit

16. We have come to know and have believed the love which God has for us. God is love, and the one who remains in love remains in God, and God remains in him. By this, love is perfected with us, so that we may have confidence in the day of judgment; because as He is, we also are in this world.

It's our fellowship and oneness with God by His Holy Spirit that brings the transformation to our lives.

God's intention from the very beginning is that all of His creations would be one with Him and infused with His supernatural nature, not just a few.

In Paul's prayer in Ephesians 3.16 he prayed for the Ephesian believers and included all of God's children in his prayer.

May He grant you out of the riches of His glory, to be strengthened *and* spiritually energized with power through His Spirit in your inner self, [indwelling your innermost being and personality], so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through your faith. And may you, having been [deeply] rooted and [securely] grounded in love, be fully capable of comprehending with all the saints (God's people) the width and length and height and depth of His love [fully experiencing that amazing, endless love]; and [that you may come] to know [practically, through personal experience] the love of Christ which far surpasses [mere] knowledge [without experience], that you may be filled up [throughout your being] to all the fullness of God [so that you may have the richest experience of God's presence in your lives, completely filled and flooded with God Himself].

God's children knowing Him is God's idea and He is the only one who can do it and He has already done everything necessary for us to experience this.

The people asked Jesus, what must we do to do the works of God?

He said believe and trust in the one whom He has sent.

It only requires a child like faith to enter boldly into His presence, as a member of His family, knowing that He has adopted us and we now belong there.

God bless you

Jim Fuller

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