

A Medico-Biblical Solution to Stress: Entering God's Rest/Una Solución Medico-Bíblica al Estrés: Entrar En El Descanso De Dios

I was recently requested to give a presentation on a common medical condition and present its management not only from a medical but a biblical perspective. So, I chose, based on my personal experience, and statistics, what I believe is at the root of many medical issues of our age. The topic I chose was stress, and I would like to share it with you.

Stress Management from a Medico-Biblical Perspective

The effects of stress to our health:

Stress is the body's reaction to any change that requires an adjustment or response. The body reacts to these changes with physical, mental, and emotional responses.

Stress is a normal part of life. Many events that happen to us and around us -- and many things that we do ourselves -- put stress on your body. We can experience stress from our environment, our body, and our thoughts.

How Does Stress Affect Our Health?

The human body is designed to experience stress and react to it. Stress can be positive, keeping us alert and ready to avoid danger. However, stress becomes negative when a person faces continuous challenges without relief or relaxation between challenges. As a result, the person becomes overworked and stress-related tension builds.

Stress that continues without relief can lead to a condition called distress -- a negative stress reaction. Distress can lead to physical symptoms including headaches, upset stomach, elevated blood pressure, chest pain, and problems sleeping. Research suggests that stress also can bring on or worsen certain symptoms or diseases.

Stress also becomes harmful when people use alcohol, tobacco, or drugs to try and relieve their stress. Unfortunately, instead of relieving the stress and returning the body to a relaxed state, these substances tend to keep the body in a stressed state and cause more problems. Consider the following:

*Forty-three percent of all adults suffer adverse health effects from stress.

*Seventy-five percent to 90% of all doctor's office visits are for stress-related ailments and complaints.

*Stress can play a part in problems such as headaches, high blood pressure, heart problems, diabetes, skin conditions, asthma, arthritis, depression, and anxiety.

*The Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) declared stress a hazard of the workplace. Stress costs American industry more than \$300 billion annually.

*The lifetime prevalence of an emotional disorder is more than 50%, often due to chronic, untreated stress reactions.

Se me pidió recientemente el dar una presentación sobre una condición médica común y presentar su manejo no sólo desde un punto de vista médico, pero también desde una perspectiva bíblica. Por lo tanto, he elegido, basado en mi experiencia personal, y estadísticas, lo que creo es la raíz de muchos problemas médicos de nuestro tiempo. El tema que elegí fue el estrés y me gustaría compartirlo con ustedes.

El Manejo Del Estrés Desde Un Punto de Vista Medico-Bíblico.

Los efectos del estrés para nuestra salud:

El estrés es la reacción del cuerpo a cualquier cambio que requiere un ajuste o respuesta. El cuerpo reacciona a estos cambios con respuestas físicas, mentales y emocionales.

El estrés es una parte normal de la vida. Muchos de los eventos que nos ocurren y ocurren alrededor de nosotros -- y muchas cosas que nosotros mismos hacemos -- ponen estrés en nuestros cuerpos. Nosotros podemos experimentar el estrés de nuestro entorno, nuestros cuerpos y nuestros pensamientos.

¿Cómo afecta el estrés nuestra salud?

El cuerpo humano está diseñado para experimentar el estrés y reaccionar a él. El estrés puede ser positivo, nos mantiene alerta y listo para evitar el peligro. No obstante, el estrés se convierte en negativo cuando una persona se enfrenta a desafíos continuos sin alivio o relajación entre los desafíos. Como resultado, la persona se siente con exceso de trabajo y la tensión relacionada con el estrés se acumula.

Estrés que sigue sin alivio puede conducir a una condición llamada distress (angustia) -- una reacción de estrés negativo. Distress puede conducir a síntomas físicos como dolores de cabeza, malestar estomacal, presión arterial elevada, dolor de pecho y problemas para dormir. La investigación sugiere que el estrés también puede desencadenar o empeorar algunos síntomas o enfermedades.

El estrés también se convierte en perjudicial cuando la gente usa alcohol, tabaco o drogas para tratar de aliviar su estrés. Desafortunadamente, en lugar de aliviar el estrés y devolver el cuerpo a un estado relajado, estas sustancias tienden a mantener el cuerpo en un estado estresado y causan más problemas. Considere lo siguiente:

*Cuarenta y tres por ciento de todos los adultos sufren efectos adversos de la salud por el estrés.

*Desde el setenta y cinco por ciento hasta el 90% de las visitas al consultorio médico son debidas a dolencias y quejas relacionadas con el estrés.

*El estrés puede desempeñar un papel en problemas tales como dolores de cabeza, presión arterial alta, problemas del corazón, diabetes, enfermedades de la piel, asma, artritis, depresión y ansiedad.

*La Administración de Seguridad y Salud (OSHA) declaro que el estrés es un riesgo del lugar de trabajo. El estrés cuesta a la industria estadounidense más de \$300 mil millones anuales.

*La prevalencia de vida de un trastorno emocional es más del 50%, a menudo debido a las reacciones de estrés crónicas sin

Our bodies are hard-wired to react to stress in ways meant to protect us against threats from predators and other aggressors. Such threats are rare today, but that doesn't mean that life is free of stress.

On the contrary, we undoubtedly face multiple demands each day, such as shouldering a huge workload, making ends meet, taking care of our families, etc. Our bodies treat these so-called minor hassles as threats. As a result we may feel as if we are constantly under assault. But we can fight back. We don't have to let stress control our lives.

What is natural stress response?

When we encounter a perceived threat — a large dog barks at us during our morning walk, for instance — our hypothalamus, a tiny region at the base of our brains, sets off an alarm system in our bodies. Through a combination of nerve and hormonal signals, this system prompts our adrenal glands, located atop our kidneys, to release a surge of hormones, including adrenaline and cortisol.

Adrenaline increases our heart rate, elevates our blood pressure and boosts energy supplies. Cortisol, the primary stress hormone, increases sugars (glucose) in the bloodstream, enhances our brain's use of glucose and increases the availability of substances that repair tissues.

Cortisol also curbs functions that would be nonessential or detrimental in a fight-or-flight situation. It alters immune system responses and suppresses the digestive system, the reproductive system and growth processes. This complex natural alarm system also communicates with regions of your brain that control mood, motivation and fear.

What happens when the natural stress response goes haywire?

The body's stress-response system is usually self-limiting. Once a perceived threat has passed, hormone levels return to normal. As adrenaline and cortisol levels drop, our heart rates and blood pressures return to baseline levels, and other systems resume their regular activities.

But when stressors are always present and we constantly feel under attack, that fight-or-flight reaction stays turned on.

The long-term activation of the stress-response system — and the subsequent overexposure to cortisol and other stress hormones — can disrupt almost all our bodies' processes. This puts us at increased risk of numerous health problems, including:

- Anxiety
- Depression
- Digestive problems
- Heart disease
- Sleep problems
- Weight gain

tratar.

Nuestros cuerpos están cableados para reaccionar ante el estrés de maneras destinadas para protegerse contra las amenazas de depredadores y otros agresores. Estas amenazas son raras hoy en día, pero eso no quiere decir que la vida está libre de estrés.

Por lo contrario, nos enfrentamos, sin duda, a múltiples demandas cada día, tales como asumir una enorme carga de trabajo, tratar de cubrir nuestros gastos, cuidar de nuestras familias, etc. Nuestros cuerpos tratan a estas llamadas molestias menores como amenazas. Como resultado, nosotros podemos sentir como si estamos constantemente bajo asalto. Pero nos podemos defender. Nosotros no tenemos que dejar que el estrés controle nuestras vidas.

¿Cual es la respuesta natural del estrés?

Cuando nos encontramos ante una amenaza percibida -- un gran perro nos ladra durante nuestro paseo por la mañana, por ejemplo -- el hipotálamo, una pequeña región en la base del cerebro, pone en marcha un sistema de alarma en nuestros cuerpos. A través de una combinación de señales hormonales y nerviosas, este sistema le indica a las glándulas suprarrenales, ubicadas encima de los riñones, a liberar una oleada de hormonas, incluyendo la adrenalina y el cortisol.

La adrenalina aumenta nuestro ritmo cardíaco, eleva la presión arterial y aumenta el suministro de energía. El cortisol, la hormona del estrés primario, aumenta los azúcares (glucosa) en la sangre, mejora el uso de nuestro cerebro de la glucosa y aumenta la disponibilidad de las sustancias que reparan los tejidos.

El cortisol también frena las funciones que podrían ser no esencial o perjudicial en una situación de lucha o huida. Altera las respuestas del sistema inmunológico y suprime el sistema digestivo, el sistema reproductivo y los procesos de crecimiento. Este complejo sistema de alarma natural también se comunica con las regiones del cerebro que controlan el estado del ánimo, la motivación y el miedo.

¿Qué pasa cuando la respuesta natural del estrés se vuelve loca?

El sistema de respuesta al estrés del cuerpo es generalmente autolimitado. Una vez que una amenaza percibida ha pasado, los niveles hormonales vuelven a la normalidad. Como los niveles de adrenalina y cortisol bajan, su frecuencia cardíaca y la presión sanguínea retornan a sus niveles basales, y los otros sistemas reanudan sus actividades regulares.

Pero cuando los factores de estrés están siempre presentes y nosotros nos sentimos constantemente bajo ataque, la reacción de lucha o de vuelo se mantiene encendida.

La activación a largo plazo del sistema de respuesta al estrés - y la posterior exposición excesiva al cortisol y otras hormonas del estrés - puede afectar casi todos los procesos de nuestros cuerpos. Esto nos pone en mayor riesgo de numerosos problemas de salud , incluyendo:

- Ansiedad
- Depresión
- Los problemas digestivos
- Enfermedad del corazón
- Los problemas del sueño
- El aumento de peso

-Memory and concentration impairment
That's why it's so important to learn healthy ways to cope with the stressors in our lives.

Why we react to life stressors the way we do?

Our reaction to a potentially stressful event maybe different from person to person. How we react to stressors in our life is affected by such factors as:

*Genetics: The genes that control the stress response keep most people on a fairly even keel, only occasionally priming the body for fight or flight. Overactive or underactive stress responses may stem from slight differences in these genes.

*Life experiences: Strong stress reactions sometimes can be traced to traumatic events. People who suffered neglect or abuse as children tend to be particularly vulnerable to stress. The same is true of victims of violent crime, airplane crash survivors, military personnel, police officers and firefighters.

We may have some friends who seem laid-back about almost everything and others who react strongly at the slightest stress. Thankfully, most reactions to life stressors fall somewhere between those extremes.

Learning to react to life stressors in a healthy way:

Stressful events are a fact of life. And we may not be able to change our current situations. But we can take steps to manage the impact these events have on us.

We can learn to identify what stresses us and how to take care of ourselves physically and emotionally in the face of stressful situations.

Stress management strategies:

- *Eating a healthy diet and getting regular exercise and plenty of sleep
- *Practicing relaxation techniques or learning to meditate (prayer and reading the word of God).
- *Fostering healthy friendships
- *Having a sense of humor
- *Seeking professional counseling when needed
- *Concentrating our minds on what is good "for as he thinks in his heart, so is he..." (Proverbs 23:7).

"...whatever is true, whatever is worthy of reverence and is honorable and seemly, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely and lovable, whatever is kind and winsome and gracious, if there is any virtue and excellence, if there is anything worthy of praise, think on and weigh and take account of these things [fix your minds on them]. Practice what you have learned and received and heard and seen in me, and model your way of living on it, and the God of peace (of untroubled, undisturbed well-being) will be with you." (Philippians 4: 8-9).

The payoff for learning to manage stress is peace of mind and — perhaps — longer, healthier and more enjoyable lives, my three main goals for my life and the lives of my patients.

-Memoria y concentración deterioro
Es por eso que es tan importante aprender maneras saludables de lidiar con los factores de estrés en su vida.

¿Porqué reaccionamos al estrés de la forma que lo hacemos?

Nuestra reacción a un evento potencialmente estresante puede ser diferente de persona a persona. Cómo reaccionas a los factores de estrés en nuestras vidas puede ser afectada por factores tales como:

*Genética: Los genes que controlan la respuesta al estrés mantienen a la mayoría de la las personas en un nivel equilibrado, sólo de vez en cuando prepara al cuerpo para luchar o huir. Las respuestas de estrés excesivas o deficientes pueden provenir de pequeñas diferencias en estos genes.

*Las experiencias de vida: Reacciones de estrés fuertes a veces se remontan a eventos traumáticos. Las personas que han sufrido negligencia o abuso en la niñez tienden a ser particularmente vulnerables al estrés. Lo mismo puede decirse de las víctimas de delitos violentos, sobrevivientes de accidentes de avión, el personal militar, agentes de policía y bomberos.

Nosotros podemos tener algunos amigos que parecen relajados acerca de casi todo y otros que reaccionan fuertemente ante el menor estrés. La mayoría de las reacciones a los factores estresantes de la vida caen en algún punto entre esos dos extremos.

Aprender a reaccionar a las presiones de la vida de una manera saludable:

Los eventos estresantes son un hecho de la vida. Y nosotros no podemos ser capaces de cambiar nuestra situación actual. Pero podemos tomar medidas para controlar el impacto que estos eventos tienen en nosotros.

Nosotros podemos aprender a identificar lo que nos estresa y cómo cuidar de nosotros mismos física y emocionalmente frente a situaciones de estrés.

Estrategias de manejo del estrés:

- *Comer una dieta saludable y hacer ejercicio regular y dormir bien
- *Practicar técnicas de relajación o aprender a meditar (la oración y lectura de la palabra de Dios)
- *Fomentar amistades sanas
- *Tener un sentido del humor
- *Buscando ayuda profesional cuando sea necesario
- *Concentrar nuestra mente en todo lo que es bueno porque "pues como [el hombre] piensa dentro de sí, así es." (Proverbios 23:7).

"...piensen en todo lo verdadero, en todo lo que es digno de respeto, en todo lo recto, en todo lo puro, en todo lo agradable, en todo lo que tiene buena fama. Piensen en toda clase de virtudes, en todo lo que merece alabanza. Sigán practicando lo que les enseñé y las instrucciones que les di, lo que me oyeron decir y lo que me vieron hacer: háganlo así y el Dios de paz estará con ustedes." (Filipenses 4: 8-9).

La recompensa para aprender a manejar el estrés es la paz de la mente y --tal vez-- vidas más larga, saludables, y más llenas de gozo; mis tres metas principales para mi vida y la de mis

<p>Mario A. Jiménez, M.D., B.S.E.E. American Academy Board Certified Family Physician Sources: http://www.webmd.com/mental-health/effects-of-stress-on-your-body http://www.mayoclinic.org/stress/art-20046037</p>	<p>pacientes. Mario A. Jiménez, M.D., B.S.E.E. Certificado por La Academia Americana de Médicos Familiares Fuentes: http://www.webmd.com/mental-health/effects-of-stress-on-your-body http://www.mayoclinic.org/stress/art-20046037</p>
<p><u>If you are a Christian, do you have doubts that God can use a doctor to heal you?</u></p> <p>To start giving an answer to the Biblical solution to stress, I believe that it is important to clarify the role of the physician from a Biblical perspective, since there is a great deal of misinformation about this topic among Christians.</p> <p>Unfortunately, I have come across many Christian brothers and sisters that misunderstand the importance of a physician in their lives. Some of them have lost their lives or that of love ones by not seeking the help of a doctor at the proper time. They wrongly believe that going to a doctor counter acts their faith in the miracles of God, when this could not be any further from the truth. To understand the role of a physician in one's health, we just need to turn to the Bible, and read a book that unfortunately has been omitted in many versions of our protestant brothers, Ecclesiasticus, or Book of Sirach.</p> <p>"Hold the physician in honor, for he is essential to you, and God it was who established his profession. From God the doctor has his wisdom, and the king provides for his sustenance. His knowledge makes the doctor distinguished, and gives him access to those in authority. God makes the earth yield healing herbs which the prudent man should not neglect; was not the water sweetened by a twig that men might learn his power? He endows men with the knowledge to glory in his mighty works, through which the doctor eases pain and the druggist prepares his medicines; thus God's creative work continues without cease in its efficacy on the surface of the earth. My son, when you are ill, delay not, but pray to God, who will heal you: flee wickedness; let your hands be just, cleanse your heart of every sin; offer your sweet-smelling oblation and petition, a rich offering according to your means. Then give the doctor his place lest he leave; for you need him too. There are times that give him an advantage, and he too beseeches God that his diagnosis may be correct and his treatment brings about a cure. He who is a sinner toward his Maker will be defiant toward the doctor." (Book of Sirach [Ecclesiasticus] 38:1-15) NAB.</p> <p>Do you want PEACE? Here is the secret: fix your mind in what is good: "...whatever is true, whatever is worthy of reverence and is honorable and seemly, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely and lovable, whatever is kind and winsome and gracious, if there is any virtue and excellence, if there is anything worthy of praise, think on and weigh and take account of these things [fix your minds on them]. Practice what you have learned and received and heard and seen in me, and model your way of living on it, and the God of peace (of untroubled, undisturbed well-being) will be with you." (Philippians 4: 8-9).</p> <p>God wants to give us rest, and that is why He sent Jesus to this world. Jesus is inviting us today to enter this rest: "Then Jesus</p>	<p><u>Si usted es un Cristiano, ¿tiene dudas de que Dios puede usar a un médico para curarlo?</u></p> <p>Para empezar a dar una respuesta a la solución bíblica para el estrés, creo que es importante aclarar el papel del médico desde una perspectiva bíblica, ya que hay una gran cantidad de información errónea sobre este tema entre los cristianos.</p> <p>Por desgracia, me he encontrado con muchos hermanos y hermanas cristianos que entienden mal la importancia de un médico en su vida. Algunos de ellos han perdido la vida o la de sus seres queridos por no buscar la ayuda de un médico en el momento adecuado. Ellos creen erróneamente que ir a un médico actúa en contra de su fe en los milagros de Dios, cuando esto no podría estar más lejos de la verdad. Para entender el papel de un médico en la salud de uno, sólo tenemos que recurrir a la Biblia y leer un libro que, lamentablemente, se ha omitido en muchas versiones de nuestros hermanos protestantes, Eclesiástico, o Libro del Sirácida.</p> <p>"Respetar al médico por sus servicios, pues también a él lo instituyó Dios. El médico recibe de Dios su ciencia, y del rey recibe su sustento. Gracias a sus conocimientos, el médico goza de prestigio y puede presentarse ante los nobles. Dios hace que la tierra produzca sustancias medicinales, y el hombre inteligente no debe despreciarlas. Dios endulzó el agua con un tronco para mostrar a todos su poder. Él dio la inteligencia a los hombres, para que lo alaben por sus obras poderosas. Con esas sustancias, el médico calma los dolores y el boticario prepara sus remedios. Así no desaparecen los seres creados por Dios, ni falta a los hombres la salud. Hijo mío, cuando estés enfermo no seas impaciente; pídele a Dios, y él te dará la salud. Huye del mal y de la injusticia, y purifica tu corazón de todo pecado. Ofrece a Dios sacrificios agradables y ofrendas generosas de acuerdo con tus recursos. Pero llama también al médico; no lo rechaces, pues también a él lo necesitas. Hay momentos en que el éxito depende de él, y él también se encomienda a Dios, para poder acertar en el diagnóstico y aplicar los remedios eficaces. Así que un hombre peca contra su Creador, cuando se niega a que el médico lo trate." (Eclesiástico 38:1-15).</p> <p>¿Quieres tener PAZ? Aquí está el secreto: fija tu mente en lo que es bueno: "...piensen en todo lo verdadero, en todo lo que es digno de respeto, en todo lo recto, en todo lo puro, en todo lo agradable, en todo lo que tiene buena fama. Piensen en toda clase de virtudes, en todo lo que merece alabanza. Sigán practicando lo que les enseñé y las instrucciones que les di, lo que me oyeron decir y lo que me vieron hacer: háganlo así y el Dios de paz estará con ustedes." (Filipenses 4: 8-9).</p> <p>Dios nos quiere dar descanso, y es por eso que envió a Jesús a este mundo. Jesús nos invita hoy a entrar en este reposo:</p>

said, Come to me, all of you who are weary and carry heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you. Let me teach you, because I am humble and gentle at heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy to bear, and the burden I give you is light." (Matthew 11:28-30).

The result of entering God's rest is to live longer, healthier and more enjoyable lives, becoming living parts of the fulfillment of God's promises: "See, I will create new heavens and a new earth...Never again will there be in it an infant who lives but a few days, or an old man who does not live out his years; the one who dies at a hundred will be thought a mere child; the one who fails to reach a hundred will be considered accursed" (Isaiah 65: 17, 20).

The Biblical Solution to Stress: Entering God's Rest

(Note: I am not only a spokesperson, but also a client/patient).

I. To understand God's rest, we need to understand our triune nature: body (represented by the heart), mind, and soul.

YOU SHALL LOVE THE LORD YOUR GOD WITH ALL YOUR **HEART**, AND WITH ALL YOUR **SOUL**, AND WITH ALL YOUR **MIND** (Mat 22:37).

God made the following promises which in Christ Jesus they came to pass (2 Cor. 1:20):

"A **new heart** I will give you, and a **new spirit** I will put within you; and I will take out of your flesh the heart of stone and give you a heart of flesh. And **I will put my spirit within you**, and cause you to walk in my statutes and be careful to observe my ordinances" (Ezekiel 36: 26-27).

"For the Word that God ... is sharper than any two-edged sword, penetrating to the dividing line of the breath of life (soul) and [the immortal] Spirit,... exposing and sifting and analyzing and judging the very thoughts ((mind)) and purposes of the heart ((our body's response to these thoughts))" (Hebrews 4:12).

"Now may the God of peace Himself sanctify you entirely; and may **your Spirit and soul and BODY** be preserved complete, without blame at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ" (1 Thessalonians 5:23 NASB). To harmonize Mat 22:37 with Ezekiel 36: 26-27, 1 Thessalonians 5:23, and other passages that mention similar terms, here **Spirit and soul = New Spirit, and BODY= mind and heart** (body's main organ of response to thoughts).

Now, we are already a new creature in our New Spirit, but we need to bring this reality to our world through the renewal our minds: "Do not be conformed to this world, but **be transformed by the renewing of your minds**, so that you may discern what is the will of God—what is good and acceptable and perfect" (Romans 12:2).

"And we, who with unveiled faces all reflect the Lord's glory, are being transformed into His likeness with ever increasing glory which comes from the Lord, Who is the Spirit!" (2 Corinthians 3:18). "Love has been perfected among us in this: that we may have boldness in the day of judgment; because as He is, so are we in this world" (1 John 4:17).

"Entonces Jesus les dijo, Vengan a mí todos ustedes que están cansados de sus trabajos y cargas, y yo los haré descansar. Acepten el yugo que les pongo, y aprendan de mí, que soy paciente y de corazón humilde; así encontrarán descanso. Porque el yugo que les pongo y la carga que les doy a llevar son ligeros." (Mateo 11:28-30).

El resultado de entrar en el reposo de Dios es vivir vidas más largas, más saludables y más llenas de gozo, convirtiéndonos en partes vivientes del cumplimiento de las promesas de Dios: "Miren, yo creo cielos nuevos y una tierra nueva....Allí no habrá niños que mueran a los pocos días, ni ancianos que no completen su vida. Morir a los cien años será morir joven, y no llegar a los cien años será una maldición." (Isaías 65:17,20).

La Solución Bíblica al Estrés: Entrar En El Descanso De Dios

(Note:No soy solo un portavoz, sino tambien un cliente/paciente).

I. Para entender el reposo de Dios, tenemos que entender nuestra naturaleza trina: cuerpo (representado por el corazón), la mente y el alma.

Amaras al Señor tu Dios con todo tu CORAZON, y con toda tu ALMA, y con toda tu MENTE (Mateo 22:37).

Dios hizo las siguientes promesas que en Cristo se cumplieron: "pondré en ustedes un corazón nuevo y un espíritu nuevo. Quitaré de ustedes ese corazón duro como la piedra y les pondré un corazón dócil. **Pondré en ustedes mi espíritu**, y haré que cumplan mis leyes y decretos" (Ezequiel 36:26).

"Porque la Palabra que Dios ... es más cortante que toda espada de dos filos, que penetra hasta la línea divisoria del aliento de vida (alma) y [el inmortal] Espíritu, ... exponiendo y separando y analizando y juzgando los pensamientos ((mente)) y las intenciones del corazón ((respuesta de nuestro cuerpo de estos pensamientos))" (Hebreos 4:12).

"Y el mismo Dios de paz os santifique por completo; y **vuestro Espíritu y vuestra alma y CUERPO**, sea guardado irreprochable para la venida de nuestro Señor Jesucristo" (1 Tesalonicenses 5:23 NVI). Para armonizar Mat 22:37 con Ezequiel 36: 26-27, 1 Tesalonicenses 5:23, y otros pasajes que usan terminos similares, aquí **Espíritu y alma = Nuevo Espíritu y CUERPO= mente y corazón** (organo principal de respuesta del cuerpo a los pensamientos).

Ahora, ya somos una nueva criatura en nuestro Nuevo Espíritu, pero tenemos que traer esta realidad a nuestro mundo a través de la renovación de nuestras mentes: "Y no os adaptéis a este mundo, sino **transformaos mediante la renovación de vuestra mente**, para que verifiquéis cuál es la voluntad de Dios: lo que es bueno, aceptable y perfecto" (Romanos 12:2).

"Por tanto, nosotros todos, mirando con el rostro descubierto y reflejando como en un espejo la gloria del Señor, somos transformados de gloria en gloria en su misma imagen, por la acción del Espíritu del Señor" (2 Corintios 3:18). "De esta manera se hace realidad el amor en nosotros, para que en el día del juicio tengamos confianza; porque nosotros somos en este mundo tal

II. Now that we understand our triune nature, we can better understand how to enter God's rest:

We enter God's rest through the renewal of our minds, and through our ordeals, God teaches us to trust in his already won victory on the cross; that in Christ Jesus, all of God's promises come to pass (2 Cor. 1:20); that our children are separated for the service of God: they are Holy and Sanctified (1 Cor. 7:14); that all of our children will follow the Lord and great will be their prosperity (Isaiah 54:13); and that they will come back to our house, the house of God, as promised in Jeremiah 31:16-17. We rest in His promises, and like Joshua today we say: as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord (Joshua 24:15). I BELIEVE in God's promises and enter His rest as promised in Hebrews 4, so we come boldly to the very throne of God and stay there to receive his mercy and to find grace to help us in our times of need.

This is the position of those who are in Jesus:

"The Lord (God) says to my Lord (the Messiah), Sit at My right hand, until I make Your adversaries Your footstool. The Lord will send forth from Zion the scepter of Your strength; rule, then, in the midst of Your foes. Your people stand ready on your day of battle. "In holy grandeur, from the dawn's womb, fight! Your youthful strength is like the dew itself" (Psalm 110:1-3).

"[And He] has now entered into heaven and is at the right hand of God, with [all] angels and authorities and powers made subservient to Him" (1 Peter 3:22).

"In this [union and communion with Him] love is brought to completion and attains perfection with us, that we may have confidence for the day of judgment [with assurance and boldness to face Him], **because as He (Jesus) is, so are we in this world**" (1 John 4:17).

"For whom He foreknew, He also **predestined to be conformed to the image of His Son**, that He might be the firstborn among many brethren" (Romans 8:29).

"For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him **we might become the righteousness of God**" (2 Corinthians 5:21).

"**He is the source of your life in Christ Jesus**, who became for us **wisdom from God, and righteousness and sanctification and redemption**" (1 Corinthians 1:30).

"**On that day you will ask in my name**. I do not say to you that I will ask the Father on your behalf; for **the Father himself loves you, because you have loved me and have believed that I came from God**...I have said this to you, so that **in me you may have**

como es Jesucristo" (1 Juan 4:17).

II. Ahora que entendemos nuestra naturaleza trina, podemos comprender mejor la forma de entrar en el reposo de Dios:

Entramos en el reposo de Dios a través de la renovación de nuestras mentes, y por medio de nuestras tribulaciones, Dios nos enseña a confiar en que ya ganó la victoria en la cruz, y que en Cristo Jesús, todas las promesas de Dios se cumplen (2 cor. 1:20); que nuestros niños son separados para el servicio de Dios: son Santos y santificados (1 Corintios 7:14), que todos nuestros niños seguirán al Señor y grande será su prosperidad (Isaías 54:13), y que Dios lo hará volver a nuestra casa, la casa de Dios, como se había prometido en Jeremías 31:16-17. Descansamos en sus promesas, y al igual que Josué hoy decimos: yo y mi casa serviremos a Jehová (Josué 24:15). CREO en las promesas de Dios y entramos en su reposo, como se prometió en Hebreos 4, por lo que, confiadamente entramos al trono de Dios y permanecemos allí para recibir su misericordia y encontrar gracia que nos ayude en nuestros momentos de necesidad.

Esta es la posición de los que estamos en Cristo:

"El SEÑOR le dijo a mi Señor: «Siéntate a mi derecha, hasta que ponga a tus enemigos bajo tu poder». El SEÑOR extenderá desde Sión la autoridad de tu reino hasta que domines a tus enemigos. De buena gana tu pueblo se ofrecerá cuando juntes tu ejército. Se pondrán sus uniformes de gala, se reunirán temprano en la mañana; te rodearán y no se apartarán de ti." (Salmos 110:1-3) Palabra de Dios para Todos (PDT). //Jehová dijo a mi Señor: «Siéntate a mi diestra, hasta que ponga a tus enemigos por estrado de tus pies.» Jehová enviará desde Sión la vara de tu poder: «¡Domina en medio de tus enemigos! Tu pueblo se te ofrecerá voluntariamente en el día de tu mando, en la hermosura de la santidad. Desde el seno de la aurora tienes tú el rocío de tu juventud.» (RVR1995)

"quien habiendo subido al cielo está a la diestra de Dios; y a él están sujetos ángeles, autoridades y poderes" (1 Pedro 3:22).

"En esto se ha perfeccionado el amor en nosotros, para que tengamos confianza en el día del juicio, **pues como él (Jesús) es, así somos nosotros en este mundo**" (1 Juan 4:17).

"Porque a los que de antemano conoció, también **los predestinó a ser hechos conforme a la imagen de su Hijo**, para que El sea el primogénito entre muchos hermanos" (Romanos 8:29).

"Cristo no cometió pecado alguno; pero por causa nuestra, Dios lo hizo pecado, **para hacernos a nosotros justicia de Dios en Cristo**" (2 Corintios 5:21).

"Pero **Dios mismo los ha unido a ustedes con Cristo Jesús**, y ha hecho también que **Cristo** sea nuestra **sabiduría, nuestra justicia, nuestra santificación y nuestra liberación**" (1 Corintios 1:30-31).

En ese día pediréis en mi nombre, y no os digo que yo rogaré al Padre por vosotros, pues **el Padre mismo os ama, porque vosotros me habéis amado y habéis creído que yo salí del Padre**...Estas cosas os he hablado para que **en mí tengáis paz**. En el mundo

peace. In the world you face persecution. But take courage; I have conquered the world!" (John 16:33).

III. If we are in Christ, we have already overcome the world, and we are spiritually sitting in heavenly places with Him.

With this truth in mind, every tribulation that comes our way is just an opportunity to exercise the power we already have in Christ to replace evil with good, and bring heaven to earth. What is meant for our harm, God then uses for our good, because of His love for us, and because we allow Him to direct us to walk in His purpose for our life (Romans 8:28), which is to destroy the works of the evil one: ... "For this purpose the Son of God was manifested, that he might destroy the works of the devil" (1 John 3:8). As a matter of fact, the whole creation is waiting for the manifestation of the son's and daughters of God: "The whole creation waits breathless with anticipation for the revelation of God's sons and daughters" (Romans 8:19).

Jesus' purpose to destroy the works of the devil must be the purpose of EVERY SINGLE CHRISTIAN. I do not know about you, but I am tired of this guy lying to us, and giving us the illusion that he is winning. As far as I remember, greater is Jesus who is in us, than the devil who is in the world, and who has been already defeated with all his angels: "[God] disarmed the principalities and powers that were ranged against us and made a bold display and public example of them, in triumphing over them in Him and in it [the cross]" (Colossians 2:14-15).

Not matter how bad our circumstances can look; this is just an illusion. We can begin to experience heaven on earth, when we remain in Christ, walking according to His purpose for our lives. As one of the greatest woman of our times, Mother Theresa, once said: "we are not called to succeed but to persevere."

Satan's strategy is to cause us anxiety bringing tribulations to our lives, but Jesus' prescription is that we cast all our anxieties on Him, laying them at the feet of the cross. When we believe, like Joshua and Caleb did, that not matter how big our adversaries look, God has already given them into our hands, we can walk fearlessly and conquer the promise land (bring heaven to earth: "thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven). For we conquer him [satan] by the blood of the Lamb, the word of our testimony, for we do not cling to life even in the face of death (Revelation 12:11).

The door to the evil one is in believing the lie that God does not care for us, that he does not love us, which causes anxiety in our hearts and leaves us prone to satan's attacks. When this lie comes into our minds, we only need to put our attention to John 3:16 "For God so loved the world that he gave His one and only Son that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life."

"Humble yourselves therefore under the mighty hand of God, so that he may exalt you in due time. **Cast all your anxiety on him, because he cares for you. Discipline yourselves, keep alert. Like a roaring lion your adversary the devil prowls around, looking for someone to devour.** Resist him, steadfast in your faith, for you know that your brothers and sisters in all the world are undergoing the same kinds of suffering. And after you have

tenéis tribulación; pero confiad, yo he vencido al mundo!" (Juan 16:26-27, 33).

III. Si estamos en Cristo, ya hemos vencido al mundo, y estamos espiritualmente sentados en lugares celestiales con Él.

Con esta verdad en mente, cada tribulación que se nos presente es sólo una oportunidad para ejercer el poder que ya tenemos en Cristo para reemplazar el mal con el bien, y traer el cielo a la tierra. Lo que era para nuestro mal, Dios usa a continuación, para nuestro bien, a causa de su amor por nosotros, y porque le permitimos dirigirnos a caminar en su propósito para nuestra vida (romanos 8:28), que es el destruir las obras del maligno: ... "Para esto apareció el Hijo de Dios, para deshacer las obras del maligno" (1 Juan 3:08). De hecho, toda la creación está esperando la manifestación de los hijos e hijas de Dios: "Porque el anhelo profundo de la creación es aguardar ansiosamente la revelación de los hijos e hijas de Dios" (Romanos 8:19).

El propósito de Jesús para destruir las obras del maligno debe ser el propósito de cada uno de los cristianos. Yo no sé ustedes, pero yo estoy cansado de este tipo mintiéndonos, y dándonos la ilusión de que está ganando. Por lo que yo recuerdo, mayor es Jesús que está en nosotros, que el maligno que está en el mundo, el cual ya ha sido derrotado con todos sus ángeles: "habiendo cancelado el documento de deuda que consistía en decretos contra nosotros y que nos era adverso, lo ha quitado de en medio, clavándolo en la cruz. Y habiendo despojado a los poderes y autoridades, hizo de ellos un espectáculo público, triunfando sobre ellos por medio de El" (Colosenses 2:14-15).

No importa lo mal que nuestras circunstancias puedan parecer, esto es sólo una ilusión. Podemos comenzar a experimentar el cielo en la tierra, cuando permanecemos en Cristo, caminando conforme a su propósito para nuestras vidas. Como una de las más grandes mujeres de nuestro tiempo, Madre Teresa, una vez dijo: "nosotros no estamos llamados a tener éxito, pero ha perseverar."

La estrategia de Satanás es de hacernos ansiosos trayendo tribulaciones a nuestras vidas, pero la prescripción de Jesús es que echemos todas nuestras ansiedades sobre Él, poniéndolas a los pies de la cruz. Cuando creemos, como Josué y Caleb hicieron, que no importa lo grande que nuestros adversarios sean, Dios ya los ha entregado en nuestras manos, podemos caminar sin miedo y conquistar la tierra prometida (traer el cielo a la tierra: "vénganos tu reino, hágase tu voluntad así en la tierra como en el cielo). Porque a él [satanás] lo vencemos por la sangre del Cordero, la palabra de nuestro testimonio, y porque nosotros no nos aferramos a nuestras vidas, incluso en frente de la muerte (Apocalipsis 12:11).

La puerta del maligno está en creer la mentira de que Dios no se preocupa por nosotros, que no nos ama, lo que provoca ansiedad en nuestros corazones y nos deja propenso a los ataques del maligno. Cuando esta mentira entre en nuestras mentes, sólo tenemos que poner nuestra atención en Juan 3:16: "Porque tanto amó Dios al mundo, que ha dado a su Hijo unigénito para que todo aquel que en él cree no se pierda, mas tenga vida eterna."

"Humillaos, pues, bajo la poderosa mano de Dios, para que El os exalte a su debido tiempo, **echando toda vuestra ansiedad sobre El, porque El tiene cuidado de vosotros. Sed de espíritu sobrio, estad alerta. Vuestro adversario, el maligno, anda al acecho como león rugiente, buscando a quien devorar.** Pero resistidle firmes en la fe, sabiendo que las mismas experiencias de sufrimiento se van cumpliendo en vuestros hermanos en todo el

suffered for a little while, the God of all grace, who has called you to his eternal glory in Christ, will himself restore, support, strengthen, and establish you. To him be the power forever and ever. Amen" (1 Peter 5:6-11).

"Having cancelled and blotted out and wiped away the handwriting of the note (bond) with its legal decrees and demands which was in force and stood against us (hostile to us). This [note with its regulations, decrees, and demands] He set aside and cleared completely out of our way by nailing it to [His] cross. [God] disarmed the principalities and powers that were ranged against us and made a bold display and public example of them, in triumphing over them in Him and in it [the cross]" (Colossians 2:14-15).

Jesus carried the cross of our sins, so we could carry our crosses of purpose, the works he has prepared for us since the foundation of the world: "For we are what he has made us, **created in Christ Jesus for good works**, which **God prepared beforehand to be our way of life**" (Ephesians 2: 10).

"Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight, and sin which clings so closely, and **let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us**, looking to Jesus the pioneer and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God" (Hebrews 12:1-2).

The cross of our purpose is light and leads to life:

"If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it. For what will it profit them if they gain the whole world but forfeit their life? Or what will they give in return for their life?" (Matthew 16:24-26).

"Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. 29 Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. 30 For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light" (Matthew 11:28-30).

God consoles us in our present sufferings and afflictions, so we can console others:

"Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and the God of all consolation, who consoles us in all our affliction, so that we may be able to console those who are in any affliction with the consolation with which we ourselves are consoled by God" (2 Corinthians 1: 3-4).

God prepared a purpose for our lives, a race is set before us, and He gives us His grace to accomplish our purpose and finish our race.

"But each of us was given grace according to the measure of Christ's gift. Therefore it is said, "When he ascended on high he made captivity itself a captive; he gave gifts to his people." (Ephesians 4:7-8).

mundo. Y después de que hayáis sufrido un poco de tiempo, el Dios de toda gracia, que os llamó a su gloria eterna en Cristo, El mismo os perfeccionará, afirmará, fortalecerá y establecerá. A El sea el dominio por los siglos de los siglos. Amén." (1 Pedro 5:6-11).

"Él anuló el acta de los decretos que había contra nosotros, que nos era contraria, y la quitó de en medio clavándola en la cruz. Y despojó a los principados y a las autoridades y los exhibió públicamente, triunfando sobre ellos en la cruz" (Colosenses 2: 14-15).

Jesús cargó la cruz por nuestros pecados, para que nosotros podamos cargar nuestras cruces de proposito, las obras que ha preparado para nosotros desde la fundacion del mundo:

"Porque somos hechura suya, **creados en Cristo Jesús para hacer buenas obras, las cuales Dios preparó de antemano para que anduviéramos en ellas**" (Efesios 2:8-10).

"Por eso, nosotros, teniendo a nuestro alrededor tantas personas que han demostrado su fe, dejemos a un lado todo lo que nos estorba y el pecado que nos enreda, y **corramos con fortaleza la carrera que tenemos por delante**. Fijemos nuestra mirada en Jesús, pues de él procede nuestra fe y él es quien la perfecciona. Jesús soportó la cruz, sin hacer caso de lo vergonzoso de esa muerte, porque sabía que después del sufrimiento tendría gozo y alegría; y se sentó a la derecha del trono de Dios" (Hebreos 12:1-2).

La cruz de nuestro proposito es liviana y nos lleva a la vida:

"Si alguno quiere ser discípulo mío, olvídense de sí mismo, cargue con su cruz y sígame. Porque el que quiera salvar su vida, la perderá; pero el que pierda la vida por causa mía, la encontrará. ¿De qué le sirve al hombre ganar el mundo entero, si pierde la vida? ¿O cuánto podrá pagar el hombre por su vida?" (Mateo 16:24-26).

"Vengan a mí todos ustedes que están cansados de sus trabajos y cargas, y yo los haré descansar. Acepten el yugo que les pongo, y aprendan de mí, que soy paciente y de corazón humilde; así encontrarán descanso. Porque el yugo que les pongo y la carga que les doy a llevar son ligeros" (Mateo 11: 28-30).

Dios nos consuela en nuestros sufrimientos y aflicciones para que nosotros consulemos a otros:

"Alabado sea el Dios y Padre de nuestro Señor Jesucristo, pues él es el Padre que nos tiene compasión y el Dios que siempre nos consuela. 4 Él nos consuela en todos nuestros sufrimientos, para que nosotros podamos consolar también a los que sufren, dándoles el mismo consuelo que él nos ha dado a nosotros" (2 Corintios 1:3-4).

Dios preparó un propósito para nuestras vidas, una carrera esta delante de nosotros, y El nos da su gracia para cumplir con nuestro propósito y acabar nuestra carrera.

"Pero a cada uno de nosotros fue dada la gracia conforme a la medida del don de Cristo. Por lo cual dice: «Subiendo a lo alto, llevó cautiva la cautividad, y dio dones a los hombres.» (Efesios 4:7-8).

"The gifts he gave were that some would be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, some pastors and teachers, to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ, 13 until all of us come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to maturity, to the measure of the full stature of Christ." (11-13).

"...whenever you face trials of any kind, consider it nothing but joy, because you know that the testing of your faith produces endurance; and let endurance have its full effect, so that you may be mature and complete, lacking in nothing. If any of you is lacking in wisdom, ask God, who gives to all generously and ungrudgingly, and it will be given you. But ask in faith, never doubting, for the one who doubts is like a wave of the sea, driven and tossed by the wind; for the doubter, being double-minded and unstable in every way, must not expect to receive anything from the Lord" (James 1: 2-8).

"Therefore, since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have obtained access to this grace in which we stand; and we boast in our hope of sharing the glory of God. And not only that, but we also boast in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, and hope does not disappoint us, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us" (Romans 5: 1-5).

"even when we were dead through our trespasses, [He] made us alive together with Christ (by grace you have been saved), and raised us up with him, and made us sit with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, that in the coming ages he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus. For by grace you have been saved through faith; and this is not your own doing, it is the gift of God— not because of works, lest any man should boast" (Ephesians 2:5-9).

The race set before us or the cross of purpose that we should carry is personal, and one of the worst things that we can do is to compared with others, for our standard is Christ alone. Let us learn from Saul's mistake, so we do not fall in the same mistake:

"As they were coming home, when David returned from killing the Philistine, the women came out of all the towns of Israel, singing and dancing, to meet King Saul, with tambourines, with songs of joy, and with musical instruments.[b] 7 And the women sang to one another as they made merry, "Saul has killed his thousands, and David his ten thousands." 8 Saul was very angry, for this saying displeased him. He said, "They have ascribed to David ten thousands, and to me they have ascribed thousands; what more can he have but the kingdom?" 9 So Saul eyed David from that day on" (1 Samuel 18:6-9).

IV. If we understand our position in Christ, we can rest in His finished work, and thus conquer stress. But if stress is still getting the best of us, we need to take a look at what could be causing this. One of the main causes of stress and unrest in our souls is condemnation or unforgiveness. Many psychosomatic (involving both the mind and the body) sicknesses are caused by condemnation or unforgiveness because the conscience is saying,

"Y él mismo constituyó a unos, apóstoles; a otros, profetas; a otros, evangelistas; a otros, pastores y maestros, a fin de perfeccionar a los santos para la obra del ministerio, para la edificación del cuerpo de Cristo, hasta que todos llegemos a la unidad de la fe y del conocimiento del Hijo de Dios, al hombre perfecto, a la medida de la estatura de la plenitud de Cristo" (11-13).

"...tened por sumo gozo cuando os halléis en diversas pruebas, sabiendo que la prueba de vuestra fe produce paciencia. Mas tenga la paciencia su obra completa, para que seáis perfectos y cabales, sin que os falte cosa alguna. Y si alguno de vosotros tiene falta de sabiduría, pídala a Dios, el cual da a todos abundantemente y sin reproche, y le será dada. Pero pida con fe, no dudando nada; porque el que duda es semejante a la onda del mar, que es arrastrada por el viento y echada de una parte a otra. No piense, pues, quien tal haga, que recibirá cosa alguna del Señor. El hombre de doble ánimo es inconstante en todos sus caminos." (Santiago 1: 2-8).

"Puesto que Dios ya nos ha hecho justos gracias a la fe, tenemos paz con Dios por medio de nuestro Señor Jesucristo. Pues por Cristo hemos podido acercarnos a Dios por medio de la fe, para gozar de su favor, y estamos firmes, y nos gloriamos con la esperanza de tener parte en la gloria de Dios. Y no sólo esto, sino que también nos gloriamos de los sufrimientos; porque sabemos que el sufrimiento nos da firmeza para soportar, y esta firmeza nos permite salir aprobados, y el salir aprobados nos llena de esperanza. Y esta esperanza no nos defrauda, porque Dios ha llenado con su amor nuestro corazón por medio del Espíritu Santo que nos ha dado" (Romanos 5:1-5).

"aun estando nosotros muertos en pecados, nos dio vida juntamente con Cristo (por gracia sois salvos). Juntamente con él nos resucitó, y así mismo nos hizo sentar en los lugares celestiales con Cristo Jesús, para mostrar en los siglos venideros las abundantes riquezas de su gracia en su bondad para con nosotros en Cristo Jesús, porque por gracia sois salvos por medio de la fe; y esto no de vosotros, pues es don de Dios. No por obras, para que nadie se gloríe," (Efesios 2:5-9).

La carrera puesta delante de nosotros o la cruz de propósito que debemos cargar es personal, y una de las peores cosas que podemos hacer es que nos comparemos con otros, porque nuestro punto de comparación es solamente Cristo. Aprendamos de los errores de Saúl, para que no caigamos en el mismo error:

"Sin embargo, cuando las tropas regresaron después que David mató al filisteo, de todas las ciudades de Israel salieron mujeres a recibir al rey Saúl cantando y bailando alegremente con panderos y platillos. 7 Y mientras cantaban y bailaban, las mujeres repetían: «Mil hombres mató Saúl, y diez mil mató David.» 8 Esto le molestó mucho a Saúl, y muy enojado dijo: —A David le atribuyen la muerte de diez mil hombres, y a mí únicamente la de mil. ¡Ya sólo falta que lo hagan rey! 9 A partir de entonces, Saúl miraba a David con recelo" (1 Samuel 18:6-9).

IV. Si entendemos nuestra posición en Cristo, podemos descansar en su obra terminada y así derrotar al estrés. Pero si el estrés todavía está obteniendo lo mejor de nosotros, tenemos que echar un vistazo a lo que podría estar causando esto. Una de las principales causas de estrés y malestar en nuestras almas es la condenación o la falta de perdón. Muchas enfermedades psicosomáticas (que implica tanto la mente como el cuerpo) son

"You/they have done wrong. You/they must be punished. How can your/their sin not be punished?" Self-condemnation and self-unforgiveness go hand in hand with our condemnation and unforgiveness of others.

Many times we hate and condemn in others what we see in ourselves. In psychology, we call this phenomenon, projection. Often, we project onto others the sins for which we feel condemned ourselves. But no matter what, in the end, any kind of condemnation or unforgiveness in our hearts causes undue stress in our bodies, and it may lead to different types of sicknesses. Nonetheless, once again, God has given us the solution to this problem in Christ:

"For if the blood of goats and bulls, with the sprinkling of the ashes of a heifer, sanctifies those who have been defiled so that their flesh is purified, **14 how much more will the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself without blemish to God, purify our conscience from dead works to worship the living God!**" (Hebrews 9:13-14).

We must never forget how great a sacrifice Christ has done for us, so we can rest in His finished work, not just for our hope of rest in Heaven (salvation), but so that we can walk in victory in this life.

"For the love of Christ urges us on, because we are convinced that one has died for all; therefore all have died. And he died for all, so that those who live might live no longer for themselves, but for him who died and was raised for them" (2 Corinthians 5:14-15).

There is a power called *dunamis* that comes through the resurrection of Jesus Christ. In Philippians 3:10, Paul said, "I want to know Him (Christ) and the power of his resurrection." The word "power" is the Greek word *dunamis*, which means "to be excellent of soul!" *Dunamis* is the power that heals our souls of every wound caused by sin. When we partake of both the blood that comes from the cross, and the power (or *dunamis*) that comes through the resurrection, we will get a complete healing in our souls of every wound that would beset us, causing us to prosper in all respects, be in good health, just as our souls prosper (3 John 1:2).

The "dunamis" power is the power that resurrects us with Christ to a new life. In Christ's resurrection, we are no longer under the curse of the law. The law says, obey and you will be blessed. But, Jesus says receive my grace, I have obeyed so you can be blessed. We have been set free from our own work, and Jesus is inviting us to rest on His finished works. But, paradoxically, by resting from our own works, we are free to produce the good works God has prepared for us from the foundation of the world (Ephesians 2:8-10).

This is the rest we have been called to. If we do any work for God or our brothers, it is not because we have to, but because we want to. We are no longer slaves of the law, but slaves of love. And not our love for God, but God's love for us, for "this is love: it is not that we loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son as the sacrifice that deals with our sins." (1 John 4:10).

causados por la condenación o la falta de perdón, porque la conciencia está diciendo: "Usted /ellos han hecho mal. Usted/ellos deben ser castigados. ¿Cómo no puede tu/su pecado ser castigado?" Auto-condenación y falta de auto-perdón van de mano en mano con la condenación y falta de perdón a los demás.

Muchas veces odiamos y condenamos en los demás lo que vemos en nosotros mismos. En psicología, llamamos a este fenómeno, proyección. A menudo, proyectamos en los demás los pecados de los que nos sentimos condenados nosotros mismos. Pero no importa que, al final, cualquier tipo de condenación o falta de perdón en nuestros corazones causa estrés innecesario en nuestros cuerpos, y esto puede conducir a diferentes tipos de enfermedades. No obstante, una vez más, Dios nos ha dado la solución a este problema en Cristo:

"Porque si la sangre de los machos cabríos y de los toros, y la ceniza de la becerra rociada sobre los que se han contaminado, santifican para la purificación de la carne, **14 ¿cuánto más la sangre de Cristo, el cual por el Espíritu eterno se ofreció a sí mismo sin mancha a Dios, purificará vuestra conciencia de obras muertas para servir al Dios vivo?**" (Hebreos 9:13-14).

Nunca debemos olvidar cuán grande es el sacrificio que Cristo ha hecho por nosotros, para que podamos descansar en su obra terminada, no sólo para nuestra esperanza de descanso en el cielo (la salvación), pero para que podamos caminar en victoria en esta vida.

"Pues el amor de Cristo nos apremia, habiendo llegado a esta conclusión: que uno murió por todos, por consiguiente, todos murieron; y por todos murió, para que los que viven, ya no vivan para sí, sino para aquel que murió y resucitó por ellos." (2 Corintios 5:14-15).

Hay un poder llamado *dunamis* que viene a través de la resurrección de Jesucristo. En Filipenses 3:10, Pablo dijo: "Yo quiero conocerle a Él (Cristo) y el poder de su resurrección." La palabra "poder" es la palabra griega *dunamis*, que significa "ser excelente del alma!" *Dunamis* es el poder que sana nuestras almas de toda herida causada por el pecado. Cuando participamos, tanto de la sangre que proviene de la cruz, y el poder (*dunamis*) que viene a través de la resurrección, obtenemos una curación completa en el alma de cada herida que tengamos, haciendo que podamos prosperar en todos los aspectos, con buena salud, de la misma manera que nuestras almas prosperan (3 Juan 1:2).

El poder "dunamis" es el poder que nos resucita con Cristo a una nueva vida. En la resurrección con Cristo, ya no estamos bajo la maldición de la ley. Pero, Jesús dice, recibe mi gracia, yo he obedecido para que tú puedas ser bendecido. Hemos sido liberados de nuestros propios trabajos, y Jesús nos invita a descansar en sus obra terminadas. Pero, paradójicamente, al descansar de nuestras propias obras, somos libres para producir las buenas obras que Dios ha preparado para nosotros desde la fundación del mundo (Efesios 2: 8-10).

Este es el descanso al que hemos sido llamados. Si hacemos algún trabajo para Dios o para nuestros hermanos, no es porque tenemos que hacerlo, sino porque queremos. No somos más esclavos de la ley pero más bien esclavos del amor. Y no nuestro amor por Dios, pero el amor de Dios por nosotros ya que "En esto consiste el amor: no en que nosotros hayamos

Because we behold such an amazing love, we want nothing more than to please our Lord, who called us to love others as He has loved us, and in this way, we can join Paul saying: ...as He (Jesus) is, so are we in this world" (1 John 4:17). This is the new command in the new covenant, in the covenant of His blood: "I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another." (John 13:34).

V. So, we enter His rest by holding on to His promises because:

"For as many as are the promises of God, they all find their Yes [answer] in Him [Christ]. For this reason we also utter the Amen (so be it) to God through Him [in His Person and by His agency] to the glory of God" (2 Corinthians 1:20).

"The Lord will keep you from all evil; he will keep your life. The Lord will keep your going out and your coming in from this time forth and for evermore" (Psalm 121:7-8).

If we are struggling for our families, we can rest assured in God's promise that they are already sanctified and holy by us accepting Jesus as our savior:

"For the unbelieving husband is sanctified by the wife, and the unbelieving wife is sanctified by the husband. Else your children would be unclean, but now they are holy" (1 Corinthians 7:14).

If you wonder what's going to happen with our children in the midst of these last days:

"All your sons shall be taught by the Lord, and great shall be the prosperity of your sons" (Isaiah 54:13).

If your children are not where you wish they were at this time. They may be apart from the Lord, in drugs, with the wrong friends, etc., remember this promise:

"Thus says the Lord: Restrain your voice from weeping and your eyes from tears, for your work shall be rewarded, says the Lord; and [your children] shall return from the enemy's land. And there is hope for your future, says the Lord; your children shall come back to their own country" (Jeremiah 31:16-17).

We must determine in our hearts to follow the Lord because He is the only way:

"And if it seems evil to you to serve the Lord, choose for yourselves this day whom you will serve, whether the gods which your fathers served on the other side of the River, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land you dwell; but as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord" (Joshua 24:15).

When we are bombarded with news of conflicts, natural disasters, new strains of drug-resistant viruses, people losing their loved ones in freak accidents, diseases in our bodies or in our loved ones, or anything else that may come against us, God says, "You shall not be afraid of the terror by night, nor of the arrow that flies by day, nor of the pestilence that walks in darkness, nor of the destruction that lays waste at noonday" (Psalm 91:5-6). Because we have made Him our dwelling place, angels are watching over

amado a Dios, sino en que El nos amó a nosotros y envió a su Hijo como propiciación por nuestros pecados." (1 Juan 4:10). Debido a que contemplamos este amor tan asombroso, queremos nada más que complacer a nuestro Señor, que nos llama a amar a los demás a como el nos amó, y de esta manera, podemos unirnos a Pablo diciendo: ... como Él (Jesús) es, así somos nosotros en este mundo" (1 Juan 4:17). Este es el nuevo mandamiento en el nuevo pacto, en el pacto de su sangre: "Os doy un mandamiento nuevo: que os améis unos a otros. Como yo os he amado, que también os améis unos a otros." (Juan 13:34).

V. Así que, entramos en su reposo al aferrarnos a sus promesas porque:

"pues en él se cumplen todas las promesas de Dios. Por esto, cuando alabamos a Dios, decimos «Amén» por medio de Cristo Jesús" (2 Corintios 1:20).

"El Señor te protege de todo peligro; él protege tu vida. El Señor te protege en todos tus caminos, ahora y siempre" (Salmos 121:7-8).

Si estamos luchando por nuestros familias, podemos estar seguros de la promesa de Dios que ellos ya están santificados y santos por nosotros haber aceptado a Jesús como nuestro salvador:

"Pues el esposo no creyente queda santificado por su unión con una mujer creyente; y la mujer no creyente queda santificada por su unión con un esposo creyente. De otra manera, los hijos de ustedes serían impuros; pero, de hecho, [sus hijos] pertenecen al pueblo santo" (1 Corintios 7:14).

Si usted se pregunta qué va a pasar con nuestros hijos en medio de estos últimos días:

"Todos tus hijos serán enseñados por el Señor, y grande será el bienestar de tus hijos" (Isaías 54:13).

Si sus hijos no están donde usted quisiera que estén en estos momentos. Quizás ellos pueden estar lejos del Señor, en las drogas, con los amigos equivocados, etc., recuerda esta promesa: "Así dice el Señor: Reprime tu voz del llanto, y tus ojos de las lágrimas; hay pago para tu trabajo—declara el Señor—, pues volverán de la tierra del enemigo. Y hay esperanza para tu porvenir—declara el Señor—, los hijos volverán a su territorio" (Jeremías 31:16-17).

Debemos determinar en nuestros corazones el seguir al Señor, porque Él es el único camino:

"Y si no os parece bien servir al Señor, escoged hoy a quién habéis de servir: si a los dioses que sirvieron vuestros padres, que estaban al otro lado del Río, o a los dioses de los amorreos en cuya tierra habitáis; pero yo y mi casa, serviremos al Señor" (Josué 24:15).

Cuando nos bombardean con noticias de los conflictos, desastres naturales, nuevas cepas de virus resistentes a medicamentos, personas que pierden sus seres queridos en accidentes extraños, enfermedades en nuestro cuerpo o en nuestros seres queridos, o cualquier otro ataque que venga en contra de nosotros, Dios dice, "No tengas miedo a los peligros nocturnos, ni a las flechas lanzadas de día, ni a las plagas que llegan con la oscuridad, ni a las que destruyen a pleno sol" (Salmo 91:5-6). Porque lo hemos

us right now (Psalm 91:9–11). Angels give heed to the voice of God's Word, so we should give voice to God's Word. This means that we should agree with and speak what God's Word says about His preserving and protecting us. Then, angels are sent to minister for us because "Are not all angels[a] spirits in the divine service, sent to serve for the sake of those who are to inherit salvation?" (Hebrews 1:14). When danger assails us, we can rest in the fact that a thousand may fall at our side and 10,000 at our right hand, but it will not come near us! (Psalm 91:7). Remember that God says that we are in this world but we are not of this world. We have His protection because we are of Him and in Him (John 17:14–23).

We have access by faith into the secret place of the Most High where no evil can touch us, for "He who dwells in the secret place of the Most High shall abide under the shadow of the Almighty. I will say of the Lord, He is my refuge and my fortress; my God, in Him I will trust." (PSALM 91:1–2). So There is no need to fear living in the end times because the Lord is our refuge and our fortress.

VI. Our only work or labor is to labor to enter God's rest (receive God's grace through faith):

"Therefore, while the promise of entering his rest is still open, let us take care that none of you should seem to have failed to reach it. For indeed the good news came to us just as to them; but **the message they heard did not benefit them, because they were not united by faith** with those who listened [Josué y Caleb]. For we who have believed enter that rest, just as God has said, "As in my anger I swore, "They shall not enter my rest,"" though his works were finished at the foundation of the world. For in one place it speaks about the seventh day as follows, "And God rested on the seventh day from all his works." And again in this place it says, "They shall not enter my rest." Since therefore it remains open for some to enter it, and those who formerly received the good news failed to enter because of disobedience, again he sets a certain day—"today"—saying through David much later, in the words already quoted, "Today, if you hear his voice, do not harden your hearts." For if Joshua had given them rest, God would not speak later about another day. So then, a Sabbath rest still remains for the people of God; **for those who enter God's rest also cease from their labors as God did** from his. **Let us therefore make every effort (let us labor** in other translations) **to enter that rest**, so that no one may fall through such disobedience as theirs" (Hebrews 4:1-11).

But how do we labor to enter God's rest? the next verse in Hebrews 4:12 explains it, by the word of God:

"For the Word that God speaks is alive and full of power [making it active, operative, energizing, and effective]; it is sharper than any two-edged sword, penetrating to the dividing line of the breath of life (soul) and [the immortal] spirit, and of joints and marrow [of the deepest parts of our nature], exposing and sifting and analyzing and judging the very thoughts and purposes of the heart" (Hebrews 4:12).

hecho a Él nuestra morada, los ángeles nos están cuidando ahora mismo (Salmo 91:9-11). Los ángeles dan atención a la voz de la Palabra de Dios, así que debemos dar voz a la Palabra de Dios. Esto significa que debemos estar de acuerdo y decir lo que la Palabra de Dios dice acerca de nuestra preservación y protección. Entonces, los ángeles son enviados para ministrarnos, "Porque todos los ángeles son espíritus al servicio de Dios, enviados en ayuda de quienes han de recibir en herencia la salvación" (Hebreos 1:14). Cuando el peligro nos asalta, podemos descansar en el hecho de que pueden caer mil muertos a nuestra izquierda y diez mil a nuestra derecha, pero a nosotros nada nos pasará (Salmo 91:7). Recuerda que Dios dice que estamos en este mundo pero que no somos de este mundo. Tenemos su protección, porque somos de Él y estamos en Él (Juan 17:14-23).

Tenemos entrada por la fe en el lugar secreto del Altísimo donde ningún mal nos puede tocar, porque "El que habita al abrigo del Altísimo morará bajo la sombra del Omnipotente. Diré yo al Señor, Él Esperanza mía, y castillo mío; mi Dios, en quien confiaré " (Salmo 91:1-2). Así que no hay necesidad de temer que vivimos en los últimos tiempos porque el Señor es nuestro refugio y nuestra fortaleza.

VI. Nuestro único trabajo o labor es trabajar para entrar en el reposo de Dios (recibir la gracia de Dios a través de la fe):

"Por eso, mientras todavía contamos con la promesa de entrar en ese reposo de Dios, debemos tener cuidado, no sea que alguno de ustedes no lo logre. Porque nosotros recibimos el anuncio de la buena noticia, lo mismo que ellos; **pero a ellos no les sirvió de nada el oírlo, porque no se unieron por la fe** con los que habían obedecido al mensaje [Josué y Caleb]. Pero nosotros, que hemos creído, entraremos en ese reposo, del cual Dios ha dicho: «Por eso juré en mi furor que no entrarían en el lugar de mi reposo.» Sin embargo, Dios había terminado su trabajo desde que creó el mundo; pues en alguna parte de las Escrituras se dice del séptimo día: «Dios reposó de todo su trabajo el séptimo día.» Y otra vez se dice en las Escrituras: «No entrarán en mi reposo.» Pero todavía falta que algunos entren en ese lugar de reposo, ya que, por haber desobedecido, no entraron los que primero recibieron el anuncio. Por eso, Dios ha vuelto a señalar un día, un nuevo «hoy», y lo ha hecho hablándonos por medio de lo que, mucho tiempo después, David dijo en la Escritura ya mencionada: «Si hoy escuchan ustedes lo que Dios dice, no endurezcan su corazón.» Porque si Josué les hubiera dado reposo a los israelitas, Dios no habría hablado de otro día. De manera que todavía queda un reposo sagrado para el pueblo de Dios; **porque el que entra en ese reposo de Dios, reposa de su trabajo, así como Dios reposó del suyo. Debemos, pues, esforzarnos (trabajar) por entrar en ese reposo**, para que nadie siga el ejemplo de aquellos que no creyeron" (Hebreos 4:1-11).

¿Pero como nos esforzamos o trabajamos para entrar en el reposo de Dios?, el próximo verso en Hebreos 4:12, nos explica que es por la palabra de Dios:

"Porque la palabra de Dios tiene vida y poder. Es más cortante que cualquier espada de dos filos, y penetra hasta lo más profundo del alma y del espíritu, hasta lo más íntimo de la persona; y somete a juicio los pensamientos y las intenciones del corazón" (Hebreos 4:12).

The Word of God prepares us for every good work He has assigned to us, so let's us meditate on it day and night:

"All scripture is inspired by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work" (2 Timothy 3:16-17).

The word of God provides us rest, but to those who have received His Spirit, God has provided a special language to speak with Him and it is called to speak in tongues:

"Nay, but by men of strange lips and with an alien tongue the Lord will speak to this people, to whom he has said, "This is rest; give rest to the weary; and this is repose"; yet they would not hear." (Isaiah 28: 11-12).

The more we pray in the Spirit, the more we allow the power of God to drive out every fear, stress, worry and anxiety from our lives. We will then see a greater measure of healing for our body, God's power in our situations and provision for our every need.

Remember the Holy Spirit in us and "...God has not given us a Spirit of fear, but of power and of love and of a sound mind" (2 Timothy 1:7). There is no place for fear where the Spirit of the Lord is.

VII. To enter God's rest does not mean that we just sit down hoping that the world will change once our Lord Jesus comes back for Christ is already here in us in the form of the Holy Spirit. Instead, to enter God's rest means that we can be confident when we face the giants of our lives, the challenges, the difficulties, the persecutions, the attacks of the evil one, and move forward **replacing the works of the evil one we encounter in this world with the good works God has already predestined us to bring to this world.** We accomplish these good works because we are confident that the victory does not depend in our own abilities but in God's finished work in Christ Jesus, because we know that the battle is the Lord's (2 Chronicles 20:15).

As a matter of fact, **God has predestined us for these good works. Not matter how old you are,** God has called and has enabled us to walk in these good works. **Moses was 80 when called to rescue Israel. Joshua was at least 60 and Caleb was approximately 85 years old when they entered the Promised Land,** the symbolic land of God's rest, so your age has nothing to do with your power to walk in God's ordained good works for your life.

Joshua and Caleb entered God's rest based on the the old covenant, but we have a much better covenant than the one they had: if they obeyed all that the Lord had commanded, they would be successful, and that is why they were not able to completely conquer the Promised Land, and why Israel could not hold to it. Thanks be to God that we have a much better covenant. Our success does not depend on our obedience, faithfulness or strength. Our success is secured not only in heavens (salvation) but in this world as well for the kingdom of God is in us- "Neither shall they say, Lo here! or, lo there! for, behold, the kingdom of God is within you" (Luke 17:21), for as Jesus is so are we on this world.

La Palabra de Dios nos prepara para toda buena obra que Él nos ha asignado, así que vamos a meditar en ella día y noche:

"Toda Escritura es inspirada por Dios y útil para enseñar, para reprender, para corregir, para instruir en justicia, a fin de que el hombre de Dios sea perfecto, equipado para toda buena obra" (2 Timoteo 3:16-17).

La palabra de Dios nos ofrece descanso, pero a aquellos que han recibido su Espíritu, Dios ha provisto un lenguaje especial para hablar con él y se llama a hablar en lenguas:

"En verdad, con tartamudez de labios y en lengua extranjera, El hablará a este pueblo, al cual había dicho: Aquí hay reposo, dad reposo al cansado; y: Aquí hay descanso. Pero no quisieron escuchar." (Isaías 28: 11-12).

Cuanto más oramos en el Espíritu, más permitimos que el poder de Dios expulse todos los miedos, el estrés, la preocupación y la ansiedad de nuestras vidas. Entonces, veremos un mayor grado de curación para nuestros cuerpos, poder de Dios en nuestras situaciones y provisión para todas nuestras necesidades.

Recuerde que el Espíritu Santo esta en nosotros y "...Dios no nos ha dado un Espíritu de temor, sino un espíritu de poder, de amor y de buen juicio" (2 Timoteo 1:7). No hay lugar para el miedo, donde está el Espíritu del Señor.

VII. El entrar en el reposo de Dios no significa que nos sentamos con la esperanza de que el mundo va a cambiar una vez que nuestro Señor Jesús regrese ya que Cristo está aquí en nosotros en la forma del Espíritu Santo. En cambio, el entrar en el reposo de Dios significa que podemos estar seguros cuando nos enfrentamos a los gigantes de nuestras vidas, los retos, las dificultades, las persecuciones, los ataques del maligno, y avanzamos **remplazando las obras del maligno en este mundo con las buenas obras Dios ya nos ha predestinado a traer a este mundo.** Logramos estas buenas obras, porque estamos seguros que la victoria no depende en nuestras propias habilidades pero en la obra terminadas de Dios en Cristo Jesús, porque sabemos que la batalla es del Señor (2 Crónicas 20:15).

De hecho, **Dios nos ha predestinado para estas buenas obras. No importa la edad que tengas,** Dios nos ha llamado y nos ha habilitado a caminar en estas buenas obras. **Moisés tenía 80 años cuando fue llamado para rescatar a Israel. Josué era por lo menos 60 y Caleb tenía aproximadamente 85 años cuando entraron en la Tierra Prometida,** la tierra simbólica del descanso de Dios, por lo que su edad no tiene nada que ver con su fuerza para caminar en las buenas obras ordenadas por Dios para su vida.

Josué y Caleb entraron el descanso de Dios basado en el viejo pacto, pero nosotros tenemos un mejor pacto que ellos: si obedecían todo lo que Jehová había mandado, serían exitosos, y es por eso que no fueron capaces de conquistar completamente la Tierra Prometida, y por qué Israel no pudo mantenerla. Gracias a Dios que tenemos un mejor pacto. Nuestro éxito no depende de nuestra obediencia, nuestra fidelidad o nuestra fuerza. Nuestro éxito está asegurado, no sólo en los cielos (la salvación), pero en este mundo, ya que el reino de Dios está entre nosotros-"ni dirán: Helo aquí, o helo allí: porque he aquí el reino de Dios está entre nosotros" (Lucas 17:21), ya que a como Jesús es así somos nosotros en este mundo.

It does not matter if we feel weak, or have fallen short from God's excellence since it is in our acknowledgment of our weaknesses that the the power of God is perfectly manifested through us:

"but he said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, ***for my power is made perfect in weakness.***" I will all the more gladly boast of my weaknesses, that the power of Christ may rest upon me. For the sake of Christ, then, I am content with weaknesses, insults, hardships, persecutions, and calamities; ***for when I am weak, then I am strong***" (2 Corinthians 12:9-11).

It is through this confidence, that we are actually enabled to walk in the good works prepared for us before we were even created:

"For by grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God— not the result of works, so that no one may boast. For we are what he has made us, ***created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand to be our way of life***" (Ephesians 2:8-10).

"Ye are the light of the world. A city that is set on a hill cannot be hid. Neither do men light a candle and put it under a bushel, but on a candlestick, and it giveth light unto all that are in the house. ***Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father who is in Heaven.***" (Matthew 5:14-16).

If today, you want to enter this rest, all you have to do is this:

"if you confess with your lips that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. 10 For one believes with the heart and so is justified, and one confesses with the mouth and so is saved. 11 The scripture says, "No one who believes in him will be put to shame." 12 For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; the same Lord is Lord of all and is generous to all who call on him. 13 For, "Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.'" (Romans 10:9-13).

VIII. This rest does not mean that you will not have difficulties or challenges in this life, but you will be able to triumph over them because Christ is your victory and you abide in Him. Do not be surprised at the attacks that may come for your commitment to Jesus. Jesus told us that this would happen but that we would be blessed because of this and our reward will be great. So, let's us in rest in His promises:

"How blessed you are when people insult you and persecute you and tell all kinds of vicious lies about you because you follow me! Rejoice, be glad, because your reward in heaven is great — they persecuted the prophets before you in the same way" (Matthew 5: 11-12).

Let's remember that our days on this earth are short, but not matter how old we are, it is never too late to begin walking in God's ordained good works. So, let us unite in prayer saying:

"So teach us to count our days that we may gain a wise heart" (Psalm 90:12).

No importa si nos sentimos débiles, o no hemos estado a la altura de la excelencia de Dios ya que al reconocer nuestra debilidades es cuando el poder de Dios se puede manifestar con perfección en nosotros:

"Y El me ha dicho: Te basta mi gracia, ***pues mi poder se perfecciona en la debilidad.*** Por tanto, muy gustosamente me gloriaré más bien en mis debilidades, para que el poder de Cristo more en mí. Por eso me complazco en las debilidades, en insultos, en privaciones, en persecuciones y en angustias por amor a Cristo; ***porque cuando soy débil, entonces soy fuerte***" (2 Corintios 12:9-11).

Es a través de esta confianza, que verdaderamente somos capacitados para caminar en las buenas obras preparadas para nosotros desde antes que fuéramos creados:

"Porque por gracia habéis sido salvados por medio de la fe, y esto no de vosotros, sino que es don de Dios; no por[*a*] obras, para que nadie se gloríe. Porque somos hechura suya, ***creados en Cristo Jesús para hacer buenas obras, las cuales Dios preparó de antemano para que anduviéramos en ellas***" (Efesios 2:8-10).

»Vosotros sois la luz del mundo; una ciudad asentada sobre un monte no se puede esconder. Ni se enciende una luz y se pone debajo de una vasija, sino sobre el candelero para que alumbre a todos los que están en casa. Así ***alumbre vuestra luz delante de los hombres, para que vean vuestras buenas obras y glorifiquen a vuestro Padre que está en los cielos.*** (Mateo 5:14-16).

Si hoy, tu quieres entrar en este descanso, todo lo que tienes que hacer es esto:

"Si confiesas con tu boca que Jesús es el Señor y crees en tu corazón que Dios lo levantó de entre los muertos, serás salvo, porque con el corazón se cree para justicia, pero con la boca se confiesa para salvación. La Escritura dice: «Todo aquel que en él cree, no será defraudado», porque no hay diferencia entre judío y griego, pues el mismo que es Señor de todos, es rico para con todos los que lo invocan; ya que todo aquel que invoque el nombre del Señor, será salvo" (Romanos 10:9-13).

VIII. Este descanso no significa que usted no tendrá dificultades o desafíos en esta vida, pero que tienes el poder para triunfar sobre ellos ya que Cristo es tu victoria, y tu habitas en El. No te sorprendas por los ataques que puedan venir por tu compromiso con Jesús. Jesús nos dijo que esto iba a pasar, pero que seríamos bendecidos por esto y nuestra recompensa sería grande. Así que, vamos a descansar en sus promesas:

"Dichosos ustedes, cuando la gente los insulte y los maltrate, y cuando por causa mía los ataquen con toda clase de mentiras. Alégrese, estén contentos, porque van a recibir un gran premio en el cielo; pues así también persiguieron a los profetas que vivieron antes que ustedes" (Mateo 5: 11-12).

Recordemos que nuestros días sobre la tierra son cortos, pero no importa la edad que tengamos, nunca es demasiado tarde para empezar a caminar en las buenas obras ordenadas por Dios para nosotros. Axial que únete a en oración diciendo:

"Enséñanos a contar de tal modo nuestros días, que traigamos al corazón sabiduría" (Salmos 90:12).

"Yet you do not even know what tomorrow will bring. What is your life? For you are a mist that appears for a little while and then vanishes" (James 4:14).

Finally, I believe that the coming years will be years of great victory over our foes. God is inviting us to sit down with Him at His right hand (since those who believe in Christ are in Him- and as Jesus is, so are we on this world, 1 John 4:17), and watch how he makes our adversaries our footstool; we will rule in the midst of our foes because Jesus is the scepter of our strength. What amazing years of victory we live!!! Today, I invite to consider God's finished work, and walk with me, like Joshua and Caleb, into the promised land, the land of His rest.

"Sin embargo, no sabéis cómo será vuestra vida mañana. Sólo sois un vapor que aparece por un poco de tiempo y luego se desvanece" (Santiago 4:14).

Finalmente, creo que los próximos años serán años de gran victoria sobre nuestros enemigos. Dios nos invita a sentarnos con Él a Su mano derecha (ya que los que creen en Cristo están en Él, y como Jesús lo es, así somos nosotros en este mundo, 1 Juan 4:17), y ver cómo Dios pone a nuestros adversarios bajo nuestros pies; gobernaremos en medio de nuestros enemigos, porque Jesús es el cetro de nuestra fuerza. Que años maravillosos de victoria vivimos! Hoy, los invito a considerar la obra consumada de Dios, y caminar conmigo, como Josué y Caleb, a la tierra prometida, la tierra de su reposo.

Since Christ already won, and we are in Christ, why is it that some of us are not living victorious lives in this world?

I believe that one of the main reasons is that we do not understand the dimension of the victory of Christ and how it applies to our lives. To understand the great victory we already have in Christ, we need to behold Jesus in our daily lives and this will transform our minds: "And we, who with unveiled faces all reflect the Lord's glory, are being transformed into His likeness with ever increasing glory which comes from the Lord, Who is the Spirit!" (2 Corinthians 3:18). "Love has been perfected among us in this: that we may have boldness in the day of judgment; because as He is, so are we in this world" (1 John 4:17).

We behold Jesus by seeing Him in the word. When we see Jesus in the word, our hearts will be warmed by His presence. We will have joy knowing Jesus is there for our every affliction. We can be assured that Jesus will never leave us nor forsake us and that we are so closed with Jesus that He sent the Holy Spirit to dwell in us. As a beloved child of God, we can look to Jesus for our every need. We can be assured He will take care of us for the bible says so. The word says we are made whole through the bodily sacrifice of Jesus (Isaiah 53:5; 1 Peter 2:23-24) and we are made righteous by the Jesus' shed blood.

"But he was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace was upon him; and with his stripes we are healed" (Isaiah 53:5).

"When he was insulted, he didn't retaliate with insults; when he suffered, he didn't threaten, but handed them over to him who judges justly. He himself bore our sins in his body on the stake, so that we might die to sins and live for righteousness - by his wounds you were healed" (1 Peter 2:23-24).

The second reason we may not be experiencing Jesus' position of victory in this world is that we have fallen into a satanic trap, into a form of witchcraft, and this is the trap of our presumption of self-righteousness which has nullified in many areas of our lives the Grace of God: "I do not nullify the grace of God; for if justification comes through the law, then Christ died for nothing" (Galatians 2:21). So we nullify the grace of God, the resurrection

Puesto que Cristo ya ha ganado, y nosotros estamos en Cristo, ¿cómo es que algunos de nosotros no estamos viviendo vidas victoriosas en este mundo?

Creo que una de las razones principales es que no entendemos la dimensión de la victoria de Cristo y cómo se aplica a nuestras vidas. Para comprender la gran victoria que ya tenemos en Cristo, tenemos que contemplar a Jesús en nuestras vidas cotidianas y esto transformara nuestras mentes: "Por tanto, nosotros todos, mirando con el rostro descubierto y reflejando como en un espejo la gloria del Señor, somos transformados de gloria en gloria en su misma imagen, por la acción del Espíritu del Señor" (2 Corintios 3:18). "De esta manera se hace realidad el amor en nosotros, para que en el día del juicio tengamos confianza; porque nosotros somos en este mundo tal como es Jesucristo" (1 Juan 4:17).

Contemplamos a Jesús al verlo en la palabra. Cuando vemos a Jesús en la palabra, nuestros corazones se calientan por medio de su presencia. Vamos a tener la alegría de saber que Jesús está allí para todas nuestras aflicciones. Podemos estar seguros de que Jesús nunca nos dejará ni nos abandonará y que estamos tan cercanos con Jesús porque Él envió al Espíritu Santo a morar en nosotros. Como un hijo amado de Dios, podemos mirar a Jesús para todas nuestras necesidades. Podemos estar seguros que Él cuidará de nosotros porque la Biblia así lo dice. La palabra nos dice que Él nos cura completamente a través del sacrificio corporal de Jesús (Isaías 53:5; 1 Pedro 2:23-24) y somos hechos justos por la sangre derramada de Jesús.

"Pero fue traspasado a causa de nuestra rebeldía, fue atormentado a causa de nuestras maldades; el castigo que sufrió nos trajo la paz, por sus heridas alcanzamos la salud" (Isaías 53:5).

"y quien cuando le ultrajaban, no respondía ultrajando; cuando padecía, no amenazaba, sino que se encomendaba a aquel que juzga con justicia; y El mismo llevó nuestros pecados en su cuerpo sobre la cruz, a fin de que muramos al pecado y vivamos a la justicia, porque por sus heridas fuisteis sanados" (1 Pedro 2:23-24).

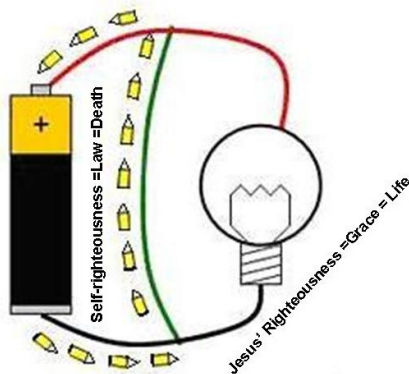
La segunda razón por la que no podríamos estar experimentando la posición de victoria de Jesús en este mundo es que hemos caído en una trampa satánica, en una forma de brujería, y esta es la trampa de la presunción de nuestra propia justicia, lo que ha anulado en muchas áreas de nuestras vidas la Gracia de Dios: "No hago nula la gracia de Dios, porque si la justicia viene por medio de la ley, entonces Cristo murió en vano" (Gálatas 2: 21). Así que

power of Christ in us, when we try to be justified by the law. Another way of putting it is that we short circuit the power of God flowing through us when we try to be justified by the law.

"and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own, based on law, but that which is through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God that depends on faith; that I may know him and the power of his resurrection, and may share his sufferings, becoming like him in his death" (Philippians 3:9-10).

The Bible continues describing this form of witchcraft as follows: "You foolish Galatians! ***Who has bewitched you?*** It was before your eyes that Jesus Christ was publicly exhibited as crucified! The only thing I want to learn from you is this: Did you receive the Spirit by doing the works of the law or by believing what you heard? Are you so foolish? Having started with the Spirit, are you now ending with the flesh? Did you experience so much for nothing?—if it really was for nothing. Well then, does God supply you with the Spirit and work miracles among you by your doing the works of the law, or by your believing what you heard?" (Galatians 3:1-5).

Short circuit



Trying to use the law (self-righteousness) produces a short circuit similar to the one in this diagram, not allowing the power of God to produce the light that He wants us to produce through us.

Another analogy to understand this spiritual short circuit is what Paul refers as spiritual adultery, or trying to be justified by the Law while saying that we are justified by Grace. Paul basically teaches that this is a form of spiritual adultery. So, a great portion us today in the church may be committing spiritual adultery by flirting and spiritually engaging with the Law (believing that we are righteous by obeying certain commands, precepts, rules, because we tithe, fast, go to church Sundays, Wednesdays, some even to daily mass, etc.) while being already betrothed to and belong to our Lord Jesus Christ.

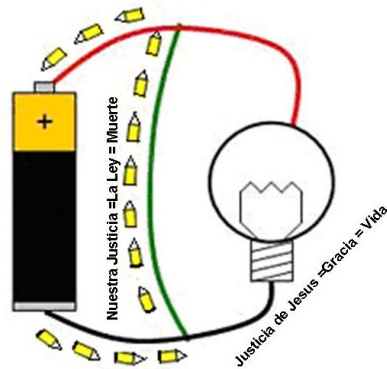
"1 Or do you not know, brothers—for I am speaking to those who know the law—that the law is binding on a person only as long as he lives? 2 For a married woman is bound by law to her husband while he lives, but if her husband dies she is released from the law of marriage. 3 Accordingly, she will be called an adulteress if

anulamos la gracia de Dios, el poder de la resurrección de Cristo en nosotros, cuando tratamos de ser justificados por la ley. Otra forma de decirlo es que causamos un cortocircuito en el poder de Dios que fluye a través de nosotros cuando tratamos de ser justificados por la ley.

"y ser hallado en El, no teniendo mi propia justicia derivada de la ley, sino la que es por la fe en Cristo, la justicia que procede de Dios sobre la base de la fe, y conocerle a El, el poder de su resurrección y la participación en sus padecimientos, llegando a ser como El en su muerte" (Filipenses 3:9-10).

La Biblia continua describiendo esta forma de brujería de la siguiente manera: "¡Gálatas, duros para entender! ***¿Quién los embrujó?*** En nuestra predicación hemos mostrado ante sus propios ojos a Jesucristo crucificado. Sólo quiero que me contesten a esta pregunta: ¿Recibieron ustedes el Espíritu de Dios por el cumplimiento de la ley o por aceptar el mensaje de la fe? ¿Son tan duros para entender, que habiendo comenzado con el Espíritu quieren ahora terminar con algo puramente humano? ¿Tantas buenas experiencias para nada?... ¡Imposible que hayan sido para nada! Cuando Dios les da su Espíritu y hace milagros entre ustedes, ¿por qué lo hace? No en virtud del cumplimiento de la ley, sino por aceptar el mensaje de la fe" (Gálatas 3:1-5).

Corto Circuito



Tratar de usar la ley (nuestra propia justicia) produce un corto circuito similar al del diagrama, el cual no permite que el poder de Dios produzca la luz que El quiere producir a través nosotros.

Otra analogía para entender este corto circuito espiritual es lo que Pablo se refiere como el adulterio espiritual, o tratando de ser justificados por la ley mientras se dice que somos justificados por la Gracia. Paul básicamente enseña que esto es una forma de adulterio espiritual. Así que una gran parte de nosotros hoy en la iglesia puede estar cometiendo adulterio espiritual por el coqueteo con y espiritualmente comprometerse con la Ley (creyendo que somos justos por la obediencia a ciertos comandos, preceptos, reglas, porque damos el diezmo, ayunamos, vamos a la iglesia los domingos, los miércoles, y algunos vamos incluso a misa todos los días, etc.) mientras que ya estamos desposados con y pertenecen a nuestro Señor Jesucristo.

"Hermanos, ustedes conocen la ley, y saben que la ley solamente tiene poder sobre una persona mientras esa persona vive. 2 Por ejemplo, una mujer casada está ligada por ley a su esposo mientras éste vive; pero si el esposo muere, la mujer queda libre de la ley que la ligaba a él. 3 De modo que si ella se une a otro hombre mientras el esposo vive, comete adulterio, pero si el esposo muere,

she lives with another man while her husband is alive. But if her husband dies, she is free from that law, and if she marries another man she is not an adulteress. 4 Likewise, my brothers, you also have died to the law through the body of Christ, so that you may belong to another, to him who has been raised from the dead, in order that we may bear fruit for God." (Romans 7:1-4).

Another reason that we may not be experiencing the victory that we already have in Christ in this life is that we have placed limits to the amount of grace, or amount of anointing from God we can receive. God will fill us with as much oil, His Holy Spirit, His talents and fruit as we allow. The amount of anointing we get, depends on the number of vessels we bring to him. An example of this principle is found in Elisha and the Widow's Oil:

"Now the wife of a member of the company of prophets cried to Elisha, "Your servant my husband is dead; and you know that your servant feared the Lord, but a creditor has come to take my two children as slaves." Elisha said to her, "What shall I do for you? Tell me, what do you have in the house?" She answered, "Your servant has nothing in the house, except a jar of oil." He said, "Go outside, borrow vessels from all your neighbors, empty vessels and not just a few. Then go in, and shut the door behind you and your children, and start pouring into all these vessels; when each is full, set it aside." So she left him and shut the door behind her and her children; they kept bringing vessels to her, and she kept pouring. 6 When the vessels were full, she said to her son, "Bring me another vessel." But he said to her, "There are no more." Then the oil stopped flowing. She came and told the man of God, and he said, "Go sell the oil and pay your debts, and you and your children can live on the rest" (2 Kings 4:1-7).

The Grace (ministry of the Spirit) and The Law (ministry of death) are incompatible and in opposite ends of the spectrum

THE LAW: YOU SHALL LOVE THE LORD YOUR GOD WITH ALL YOUR HEART, AND WITH ALL YOUR SOUL, AND WITH ALL YOUR MIND... AND YOUR NEIGHBOR AS YOURSELF (Mat 22:37-39).

GRACE: THIS IS LOVE, NOT THAT WE LOVED GOD BUT THAT HE LOVED US AND SENT HIS SON AS THE SACRIFICE THAT DEALS WITH OUR SINS (1 John 4:10).

The Law and Grace are in opposite ends of the spectrum. The Law brags of our love for God, while Grace brags of God's love for us. The Law kills, for it is the ministry of death, while Grace brings life, for it is the ministry of the Spirit. The Law says you must DO, Grace says it is DONE. The Law says you must be righteous to see God, while Grace says you are righteous in Christ and are seated with Christ in heavenly places, for as Jesus is so are we in this world (1 John 4:17).

The Law, simply put, nullifies Grace. Mixing Grace with The Law is like putting a patch of unshrunk cloth on an old garment which pulls away from the garment, and a worse tear results; or putting new wine into old wineskins which burst the wineskins spilling the wine and ruining the wineskins (Matthew 9: 16-17, Mark 2: 21-22). It is like mixing hot (representing the fire of the Spirit) with cold (representing the coldness of the Law, trying to

ella queda libre de esa ley, y puede unirse a otro hombre sin cometer adulterio. 4 Así también, ustedes, hermanos míos, al incorporarse a Cristo han muerto con él a la ley, para quedar unidos a otro, es decir, a aquel que después de morir resucitó. De este modo, podremos dar una cosecha agradable a Dios" (Romanos 7:1-4).

Otra razón por la que no podríamos estar experimentando la victoria que ya tenemos en Cristo en esta vida es que nos hemos puesto límites a la cantidad de gracia, o la cantidad de unción de Dios que podemos recibir. Dios nos va a llenar la mayor cantidad de aceite, su Espíritu Santo, Sus talentos y su fruto que le permitamos. La cantidad de unción que recibimos, depende del número de vasijas que le traigamos. Un ejemplo de este principio se encuentra en Eliseo y el aceite de la viuda:

"Y una mujer de las mujeres de los hijos de los profetas clamó a Eliseo, diciendo: Tu siervo, mi marido, ha muerto, y tú sabes que tu siervo temía al Señor; y ha venido el acreedor a tomar a mis dos hijos para esclavos suyos. Y Eliseo le dijo: ¿Qué puedo hacer por ti? Dime qué tienes en casa. Y ella respondió: Tu sierva no tiene en casa más que una vasija de aceite. Entonces él le dijo: Ve, pide vasijas prestadas por todas partes de todos tus vecinos, vasijas vacías; no pidas pocas. Luego entra y cierra la puerta detrás de ti y de tus hijos y echa el aceite en todas estas vasijas, poniendo aparte las que estén llenas. Y ella se fue de su lado, y cerró la puerta tras sí y de sus hijos; y ellos traían las vasijas y ella echaba el aceite. Y sucedió que cuando las vasijas estuvieron llenas, dijo ella a un hijo suyo: Tráeme otra vasija. Y él le dijo: No hay más vasijas. Y cesó el aceite. Entonces ella fue y se lo contó al hombre de Dios. Y él le dijo: Ve, vende el aceite y paga tu deuda, y tú y tus hijos podéis vivir de lo que quede" (2 Reyes 4 4:1-7).

La Gracia (ministerio del Espíritu) y La Ley (ministerio de muerte) son incompatibles y están en extremos opuestos del espectro

LA LEY: AMARAS AL SEÑOR TU DIOS CON TODO TU CORAZÓN, Y CON TODA TU ALMA, Y CON TODA TU MENTE ... y al prójimo como a ti mismo (Mateo 22:37-39).

GRACIA: ESTE ES EL AMOR, NO QUE NOSOTROS HAYAMOS AMADO A DIOS, SINO QUE EL NOS AMO Y ENVIO A SU HIJO COMO EL SACRIFICIO QUE SE OCUPA DE NUESTROS PECADOS (1 Juan 4:10).

La ley y la gracia están en extremos opuestos del espectro. La Ley se jacta de nuestro amor por Dios, mientras que la Gracia se jacta del amor de Dios por nosotros. La ley mata, porque es el ministerio de la muerte, mientras que la gracia trae vida, porque es el ministerio del Espíritu. La ley dice debes hacer esto, La Gracia dice ya esta hecho. La ley dice que tiene que ser justo para ver a Dios, mientras que la Gracia dice ya somos justos en Cristo y estamos sentados con Cristo en lugares celestiales, ya que como Jesús es, así somos nosotros en este mundo (1 Juan 4:17).

La Ley, en pocas palabras, anula la Gracia. El mezclar la Gracia con La Ley es como poner un parche de tela nueva en un vestido viejo que se aleja de la prenda, y hace peor la rotura; o poner vino nuevo en odres viejo haciendo que se rompa el odres, derramando el vino y arruinando el odres (Mateo 9: 16-17, Marcos 2, 21-22). Es como mezclar caliente con frío, produciendo un espíritu tibio. A lo que Jesús nos advierte: "No eres frío ni caliente Ojalá fueses

be perfected by the flesh, see Galatians 3:1-5), producing a lukewarm spirit. To which Jesus warns: "You are neither cold nor hot. I wish that you were either cold or hot. So because you are lukewarm, and neither hot nor cold, I'm about to spit you out of my mouth" (Revelation 3:15-17). Mixing The Law and Grace produces a double-minded man who is unstable in all its ways (James: 1:8; James: 4:8).

Trying to add The Law to the perfect recipe of Grace is like putting wild vines in a stew prepared for the children of God causing it to be poisonous to those who eat it. A picture of this occurred with Elisha and the sons of the prophets in 2 kings 4:38-41: "When Elisha returned to Gilgal, there was a famine in the land. A group of prophets was sitting before him. He said to his servant, "Put on the big pot and cook some stew for the prophets." So one of them went out to the field to gather plants; he found a wild vine and gathered wild gourds from it, filling his garment. He came and cut them up into the pot of stew, but no one knew what they were. The stew was served to the men, but as they started to eat it, they cried out and said, "There is death in that pot, man of God!" They couldn't eat it. Elisha said, "Get some flour." He threw it into the pot and said, "Serve the people so they can eat." At that point, there was nothing bad left in the pot."

As the analogies above teach, The Law divides, while Grace unites. The Law is self-righteousness, while Grace is God's righteousness. The Law is based on fear, but Grace on love. The Law produces double-mindedness, and is poisonous to our souls, while Grace produces stability or faithfulness, and is healing to our souls.

In Christ's resurrection, we are no longer under the curse of the law. The law says, obey and you will be blessed. But, Jesus says receive my grace; I have obeyed so you can be blessed. We have been set free from our own works, and Jesus is inviting us to rest on His finished works. But, paradoxically, by resting from our own works, we are free to produce the good works God has prepared for us from the foundation of the world (Ephesians 2:8-10).

The Truth is that it is not our love for God or for others which makes us righteous (this is The Law), but His love for us, i.e. His Grace, or unmerited favor. It is based on this TRUTH that we are then free to love one another. "Those who belong to Christ Jesus are no longer under God's sentence. I am now controlled by the law of the Holy Spirit. That law gives me life because of what Christ Jesus has done. It has set me free from the law of sin that brings death" (Romans 8:1-2). "This is love [Jesus]: it is not that we loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son as the sacrifice that deals with our sins" (1 John 4:10).

While Grace produces UNITY, The Law produces DIVISION. The UNITY which leads to LIFE and the DIVISION which leads to DEATH is exemplified in the early church. On the one hand, the true Gospel, God's Grace produces UNITY, and LIFE shown by the example of Barnabas in Acts: "The apostles continued to bear powerful witness to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and an abundance of GRACE was at work among them all. There were no needy persons among them. Those who owned properties or houses would sell them, bring the proceeds from the sales, and

frío o caliente! Pero por cuanto eres tibio, y no frío ni caliente, estoy por vomitarte de mi boca." (Apocalipsis 3 : 15-17). Es como un hombre de doble ánimo que es inestable en todas sus formas (James: 1: 8; James: 4: 8).

A como la analogías anteriores enseñan, La Ley divide, mientras que la gracia une. La ley es la justicia propia, mientras que la gracia es la justicia de Dios. La Ley esta basada en miedo, mientras que la gracia en amor.

En la resurrección con Cristo, ya no estamos bajo la maldición de la ley. Pero, Jesús dice, recibe mi gracia, yo he obedecido para que tú puedas ser bendecido. Hemos sido liberados de nuestros propios trabajos, y Jesús nos invita a descansar en sus obra terminadas. Pero, paradójicamente, al descansar de nuestras propias obras, somos libres para producir las buenas obras que Dios ha preparado para nosotros desde la fundación del mundo (Efesios 2: 8-10).

place them in the care and under the authority of the apostles. Then it was distributed to anyone who was in need. Joseph, whom the apostles nicknamed Barnabas (that is, "one who encourages"), was a Levite from Cyprus. He owned a field, sold it, brought the money, and placed it in the care and under the authority of the apostles" (Acts 4: 33-37).

However, the mixture of Grace and The Law produces a false holiness that leads to DIVISION and DEATH, exemplified by Ananias and Sapphira: "However, a man named Ananias, along with his wife Sapphira, sold a piece of property. With his wife's knowledge, he withheld some of the proceeds from the sale. He brought the rest and placed it in the care and under the authority of the apostles. Peter asked, "Ananias, how is it that Satan has influenced you to lie to the Holy Spirit by withholding some of the proceeds from the sale of your land? Wasn't that property yours to keep? After you sold it, wasn't the money yours to do with whatever you wanted? What made you think of such a thing? You haven't lied to other people but to God!" When Ananias heard these words, he dropped dead. Everyone who heard this conversation was terrified. Some young men stood up, wrapped up his body, carried him out, and buried him. About three hours later, his wife entered, but she didn't know what had happened to her husband. Peter asked her, "Tell me, did you and your husband receive this price for the field?" She responded, "Yes, that's the amount." He replied, "How could you scheme with each other to challenge the Lord's Spirit? Look! The feet of those who buried your husband are at the door. They will carry you out too." At that very moment, she dropped dead at his feet. When the young men entered and found her dead, they carried her out and buried her with her husband" (Acts 5: 1-10).

So, what has been preventing the church from completely evangelizing the world? Our lack of UNITY with one another, exemplified by the parable of the good Samaritan: "A man went down from Jerusalem to Jericho. He encountered thieves, who stripped him naked, beat him up, and left him near death. Now it just so happened that a priest was also going down the same road. When he saw the injured man, he crossed over to the other side of the road and went on his way. Likewise, a Levite came by that spot, saw the injured man, and crossed over to the other side of the road and went on his way. A Samaritan, who was on a journey, came to where the man was. But when he saw him, he was moved with compassion. The Samaritan went to him and bandaged his wounds, tending them with oil and wine. Then he placed the wounded man on his own donkey, took him to an inn, and took care of him. The next day, he took two full days' worth of wages and gave them to the innkeeper. He said, 'Take care of him, and when I return, I will pay you back for any additional costs.' What do you think? Which one of these three was a neighbor to the man who encountered thieves?" Then the legal expert said, "The one who demonstrated mercy toward him." Jesus told him, "Go and do likewise." (Luke 10:30-37).

The priest represents an apostate spirit infiltrated in the church, one that is more concerned in appearances, or religious traditions, than in God's will and real substance. The Levite represents the spirit of legalism that instills prejudice into the hearts of believers. These are two of the main spirits dividing the church today, and preventing it from being unleashed onto the world.

The church of Christ is unleashed in our UNITY by demonstrating the love of God in our care and compassion for each other, being the hands and feet of Jesus by actually DOING what Jesus is calling us to DO for a hurting world who will recognize Jesus as the Messiah by our UNITY shown in a tangible way by our love for each other, acting like the good Samaritan and not like the religious and legalistic people of our days represented by the priest and the Levite (teacher of the law) in the parable of the good Samaritan.

...for the letter kills, but the Spirit gives life. 2 CORINTHIANS 3:6. To the Jews, the feast of Pentecost is a celebration of the giving of God's law. It takes place 50 days after the Passover feast. When God gave the Israelites the Ten Commandments at Mount Sinai, it was 50 days after they had celebrated their first Passover and come out of slavery in Egypt.

But what happened after God gave them the law on the first Pentecost? Three thousand people died! (Exodus 32:28) Contrast this with another Pentecost in the New Testament. In the book of Acts, it says that when Pentecost had fully come, God gave not the law but the Holy Spirit, and what happened? Three thousand people got saved (Acts 2:41), which goes to show that "the letter [the law] kills, but the Spirit gives life"!

The law, which was "written and engraved on stones", ministered death. It killed 3,000 people. That is why the apostle Paul calls it "the ministry of death" and "the ministry of condemnation" (2 Corinthians 3:7-9). On the other hand, the Spirit ministered life—3,000 people got saved. So if you want to be blessed, make sure that you are on the right mountain. You see, the law was given on Mount Sinai, but the Spirit on Mount Zion. That is why the Bible says that "you have not come to the mountain [Sinai] that may be touched and that burned with fire, and to blackness and darkness and tempest...But you have come to Mount Zion and to the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, to an innumerable company of angels" (Hebrews 12:18, 22). The Lord blesses you out of Zion (Grace, God's unmerited favor through Christ Jesus) (Psalm 128:5), and not Sinai!

And now guess what is at the root of the division of the Church? Our self-righteousness or The Law. A Christian denomination says our doctrine is the right one for we believe and do this and that, while belittling others, sometimes even calling them sects, for not being as "righteous" as we are.

The evil one's main tactic throughout history has been to cause separation, beginning with our separation from God when Adam and Eve put their desire for the knowledge of good and evil (their desire to know the law) above God's will for their lives; but in Christ, we have been reconciled "by grace through faith" (Ephesians 2:8) with God the Father, and we are no longer separated from Him. We are one with God the Father, and God the Son through the working of Holy Spirit that lives in every believer. The Holy Spirit is the glory of God and the One that enables us to be One.

So how can Christians unite and fulfill Jesus' prayer just before He gave His life for ours (John 17:20-23)? Through God's righteousness, His Grace, and not ours.

¿Adivine cual es la raíz de la división de la iglesia? Nuestra propia justicia o La Ley. Una denominación Cristiana dice nuestra doctrina es la correcta porque creemos y hacemos esto y aquello, mientras menospreciamos a otras aun algunas veces llamándolas sectas por no ser tan justas como las nuestras.

Una de las tácticas principales del maligno a lo largo de la historia ha sido la de causar la separación, a partir de nuestra separación de Dios cuando Adán y Eva pusieron su deseo del conocimiento del bien y el mal (su deseo de conocer la ley) por encima de la voluntad de Dios; No obstante, en Cristo, hemos sido reconciliados "por gracia mediante la fe" (Efesios 2:08) con Dios el Padre, y ya no estamos separado de él. Somos uno con Dios el Padre y Dios el Hijo por obra del Espíritu Santo que habita en cada creyente. El Espíritu Santo es la gloria de Dios y El es el que nos permite ser uno.

Entonces, ¿cómo los Cristianos nos podemos unir y ser repuestas de la oración de Jesús antes de dar su vida por la de nosotros? A través de la justicia de Dios, su Gracia, y no la nuestra.

Here is what the Bible says about this most important topic:

"Now if the ministry of death, chiseled in letters on stone tablets, came in glory so that the people of Israel could not gaze at Moses' face because of the glory of his face, a glory now set aside, how much more will the ministry of the Spirit come in glory?" (2 Corinthians 3:7-8).

"Those who belong to Christ Jesus are no longer under God's sentence. I am now controlled by the law of the Holy Spirit. That law gives me life because of what Christ Jesus has done. It has set me free from the law of sin that brings death" (Romans 8:1-2).

"Christ lives in you. So your body is dead because of sin. But your spirit is alive because you have been made right with God. The Spirit of the One who raised Jesus from the dead is living in you. So the God who raised Christ from the dead will also give life to your bodies, which are going to die. He will do this by the power of his Spirit, who lives in you" (10-11).

"I do not nullify the grace of God; for if justification comes through the law, then Christ died for nothing" (Galatians 2:21).

"and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own, based on law, but that which is through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God that depends on faith; that I may know him and the power of his resurrection, and may share his sufferings, becoming like him in his death" (Philippians 3:9-10).

"You foolish Galatians! Who has bewitched you? It was before your eyes that Jesus Christ was publicly exhibited as crucified! The only thing I want to learn from you is this: Did you receive the Spirit by doing the works of the law or by believing what you heard? Are you so foolish? Having started with the Spirit, are you now ending with the flesh? Did you experience so much for nothing?—if it really was for nothing. Well then, does God supply you with the Spirit and work miracles among you by your doing the works of the law, or by your believing what you heard?" (Galatians 3:1-5).

Just like in the church of Galatia, some people in today's church use the fact that the word of God is eternal, and reason that at least part of the Law is eternal as well (at least the ten commandments), but the Bible is clear that Christ is the end of the Law: "For Christ is the end of the law so that there may be righteousness for everyone who believes" (Romans 10:4).

Even from before the foundation of the earth, God had a perfect plan for our lives. Instead of writing the Law in stones, He wanted to put His Law in our minds (by the transformation of our minds) and write it in our hearts (by the presence of the Holy Spirit in us). But, this Law was based on His Love for us (New Covenant, New Law), and not our Love for Him (Old Covenant, Law of Moses). In the Old Covenant or Old Law, we claim and brag of our love for God, but in the New Covenant or New Law, we claim and brag of God's love for us.

"This is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the Lord: I will put my laws in their minds, and write them on their hearts, and I will be their God, and they shall be my people" (Hebrews 8:10).

The law of Moses is good, but if anyone tries to be justified by it,

Aquí esta lo que la Biblia dice sobre esta tan importante topico:

"Si el ministerio de muerte grabado con letras en piedras fue con gloria, tanto que los hijos de Israel no pudieron fijar la vista en el rostro de Moisés a causa del resplandor de su rostro, el cual desaparecería, ¿cómo no será más bien con gloria el ministerio del Espíritu?" (2 Corintios 3:7-8).

"Así pues, ahora ya no hay ninguna condenación para los que están unidos a Cristo Jesús, porque la ley del Espíritu que da vida en Cristo Jesús, te liberó de la ley del pecado y de la muerte" (Romanos 8: 1-2).

"Pero si Cristo vive en ustedes, el espíritu vive porque Dios los ha hecho justos, aun cuando el cuerpo esté destinado a la muerte por causa del pecado. Y si el Espíritu de aquel que resucitó a Jesús vive en ustedes, el mismo que resucitó a Cristo dará nueva vida a sus cuerpos mortales por medio del Espíritu de Dios que vive en ustedes" (10-11).

"No hago nula la gracia de Dios, porque si la justicia viene por medio de la ley, entonces Cristo murió en vano" (Gálatas 2: 21).

"y ser hallado en El, no teniendo mi propia justicia derivada de la ley, sino la que es por la fe en Cristo, la justicia que procede de Dios sobre la base de la fe, y conocerle a El, el poder de su resurrección y la participación en sus padecimientos, llegando a ser como El en su muerte" (Filipenses 3:9-10).

"¡Gálatas, duros para entender! ¿Quién los embrujó? En nuestra predicación hemos mostrado ante sus propios ojos a Jesucristo crucificado. Sólo quiero que me contesten a esta pregunta: ¿Recibieron ustedes el Espíritu de Dios por el cumplimiento de la ley o por aceptar el mensaje de la fe? ¿Son tan duros para entender, que habiendo comenzado con el Espíritu quieren ahora terminar con algo puramente humano? ¿Tantas buenas experiencias para nada?... ¡Imposible que hayan sido para nada! Cuando Dios les da su Espíritu y hace milagros entre ustedes, ¿por qué lo hace? No en virtud del cumplimiento de la ley, sino por aceptar el mensaje de la fe" (Gálatas 3:1-5).

Al igual que en la iglesia de Galacia, algunas personas en la iglesia de hoy en día utilizan el hecho de que la palabra de Dios es eterna, y razonan que al menos parte de la ley es eterna (por lo menos los diez mandamientos), pero la Biblia es clara que Cristo es el fin de la ley: "Porque Cristo es el fin de la ley para justicia a todo aquel que cree" (Romanos 10:4).

Incluso desde antes de la fundación del mundo, Dios tenía un plan perfecto para nuestras vidas. En lugar de escribir la ley en piedras, Dios quería poner su ley en nuestra mente (por la transformación de nuestras mentes) y escribirla en nuestros corazones (por la presencia del Espíritu Santo en nosotros). Pero, esta Ley era basada en su amor por nosotros (Nuevo Pacto, Nueva Ley), y no por nuestro amor por él (Antiguo Pacto, la Ley de Moisés). En el Antiguo Pacto, clamamos y presumimos de nuestro amor por Dios, pero en el Nuevo Pacto, clamamos y presumimos del amor de Dios por nosotros.

"Porque este es el pacto que yo hare con la casa de Israel después de aquellos días, dice el Señor: Pondré mis leyes en la mente de ellos, y las escribiré sobre sus corazones. Y yo seré su Dios, y ellos serán mi pueblo" (Hebreos 8:10).

La ley de Moisés es buena, pero si alguien trata de ser justificado

one will surely fail, for if one breaks even one command, one is guilty of breaking the whole law, and no one except Jesus has been able to fulfill the law. One of the problems we have in the church today is not understanding what is the law of Moses, so we tried to continue to be justified by it.

At first sight, the law of Moses looks very similar to the law of Jesus, but they are actually very different. The law of Moses is based on our love for God, while the law of Jesus is based on God's love for us. The law of Moses depends on our obedience to be made righteous before God, while the law of Jesus is based on His obedience to make us righteous before God.

Here are some passages to help us understand the law of Moses:

"He said to him, You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind. This is the greatest and first commandment. And a second is like it: 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' 40 On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets" (Matthew 22: 37-40).

"You do well if you really fulfill the royal law according to the scripture, "You shall love your neighbor as yourself" (James 2:8).

"Owe no one anything, except to love one another; for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law. The commandments, "You shall not commit adultery; You shall not murder; You shall not steal; You shall not covet"; and any other commandment, are summed up in this word, "Love your neighbor as yourself." 10 Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore, love is the fulfilling of the law" (Romans 13: 8-10).

"Above all, maintain constant love for one another, for love covers a multitude of sins" (1 Peter 4:8).

"You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your might" (Deuteronomy 6:5).

"You shall not take vengeance or bear a grudge against any of your people, but you shall love your neighbor as yourself: I am the Lord" (Leviticus 19:18).

The key to understanding the difference between the old covenant and the new covenant is that in the new covenant God redefined the meaning of love: "**This is love [Jesus]: it is not that we loved God but that he loved us** and sent his Son as the sacrifice that deals with our sins" (1 John 4:10).

"And this is his commandment, that we should believe in the name of his Son Jesus Christ and love one another, just as he has commanded us" (1 John 3:23).

So what is the command 1 John 3:23 refers to? This is the New Law, the New Command in the New Covenant, in the covenant of His blood: "I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. **Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another.**" (John 13:34).

The law of Moses was only a shadow of Christ. Those trying to be justified by it are always conscious of their sins, but those justified by Christ are always conscious of Christ's sacrifice for

por ella, uno seguramente fallará, porque si uno rompe un solo mandamiento, uno es culpable de quebrantar toda la ley, y nadie más que a Jesús ha sido capaz de cumplir con la ley. Uno de los problemas que tenemos en la iglesia de hoy es la comprensión de lo que es la ley de Moisés, por lo que tratamos de seguir siendo justificados por esta.

A primera vista, la ley de Moisés es muy similar a la ley de Jesús, pero en realidad son muy diferentes. La ley de Moisés se basa en nuestro amor por Dios, mientras que la ley de Jesús se basa en el amor de Dios por nosotros. La ley de Moisés depende de nuestra obediencia para ser hechos justos delante de Dios, mientras que la ley de Jesús se basa en su obediencia para hacernos justos delante de Dios.

He aquí algunos pasajes que nos ayudaran a entender la ley de Moisés:

"Y El le dijo: Amaras al Señor tu Dios con todo tu corazón, y con toda tu alma, y con toda tu mente. Este es el grande y el primer mandamiento. Y el segundo es semejante a éste: Amaras a tu prójimo como a ti mismo. 40 De estos dos mandamientos dependen toda la ley y los profetas" (Mateo 22:37).

"Si en verdad cumplís la ley real[a] conforme a la Escritura: Amaras a tu prójimo como a ti mismo, bien hacéis" (Santiago 2:8).

"No debáis a nadie nada, sino el amaros unos a otros; porque el que ama a su prójimo, ha cumplido la ley. Porque esto: No cometerás adulterio, no mataras, no hurtaras, no codiciaras, y cualquier otro mandamiento, en estas palabras se resume: Amaras a tu prójimo como a ti mismo. 10 El amor no hace mal al prójimo; por tanto, el amor es el cumplimiento de la ley" (Romanos 13: 8-10).

"Sobre todo, sed fervientes en vuestro amor los unos por los otros, pues el amor cubre multitud de pecados" (1 Pedro 4:8).

"Amarás al Señor tu Dios con todo tu corazón, con toda tu alma y con toda tu fuerza" (Deuteronomio 6:5).

"No te vengarás, ni guardarás rencor a los hijos de tu pueblo, sino que amarás a tu prójimo como a ti mismo; yo soy el Señor" (Levítico 19:18).

"Y este es su mandamiento: que creamos en el nombre de su Hijo Jesucristo, y que nos amemos unos a otros como El nos ha mandado" (1 Juan 3:23).

Así que ¿cuál es el mandamiento al que 1 Juan 3:23 refiere? Esta es la Nueva Ley, es el nuevo mandamiento en el Nuevo Pacto, en el pacto de Su sangre: "Os doy un mandamiento nuevo: que os améis unos a otros. **Como yo os he amado, que también os améis unos a otros.**" (Juan 13:34).

La ley de Moisés era sólo una sombra de Cristo. Los que tratan de ser justificados por ella son siempre conscientes de sus pecados, pero los que son justificados por Cristo están siempre conscientes

them and not their sins, for all their sins, past, present and future are covered by His blood.

"Since the law is only a shadow of the good things to come and not the true form of these realities, it can never, by the same sacrifices that are continually offered year after year, make perfect those who approach. Otherwise, would they not have ceased being offered, since the worshipers, cleansed once for all, would no longer have any consciousness of sin?" (Hebrews 10:1-2).

"Therefore do not let anyone condemn you in matters of food and drink or of observing festivals, new moons, or Sabbaths. These are only a shadow of what is to come, but the substance belongs to Christ" (Colossians 2: 16-17).

Therefore, do not be deceived by those who look "Holy" on the outside, the new teachers of the law and new Pharisees. They call Jesus Lord, Lord, but Jesus does not know them (Matthew 7:22). As in the days Jesus walked upon the earth, these false teachers load people down with burdens they can hardly carry, but they will not lift one finger to help them. They claim to know the way, but they really do not know it.

Jesus is the Way, the Truth and the Life. No one comes to the Father except through Jesus. He is Love, and His unmerited Love is Grace. No one comes to the Father except through Grace, which we obtain through faith. If some other spirit tries to replace Jesus' finished work for our salvation and sanctification, this is the spirit of the anti-Christ (anti does not just mean against, it also means in place of). Do not be deceived by the spirit of the anti-Christ, which teaches a false Gospel. We have been anointed with the Holy Spirit and:

"As for you, the anointing that you received from him abides in you, and so **you do not need anyone to teach you. But as his anointing teaches you about all things**, and is true and is not a lie, and just as it has taught you, abide in him" (1 John 2:27).

"But the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you everything, and remind you of all that I have said to you" (John 14:26).

"No longer will they teach their neighbor, or say to one another, 'Know the Lord,' because they will all know me, from the least of them to the greatest. For I will forgive their wickedness and will remember their sins no more." By calling this covenant "new," he has made the first one obsolete; and what is obsolete and outdated will soon disappear" (HEBREWS 8: 11-13).

"Now the Spirit expressly says that **in later times some will renounce the Faith** by paying attention to deceitful spirits and teachings of demons, through the hypocrisy of liars whose consciences are seared with a hot iron. They forbid marriage and demand abstinence from foods, which God created to be received with thanksgiving by those who believe and know the truth. For everything created by God is good, and nothing is to be rejected, provided it is received with thanksgiving" (1 Timothy 4:1-4).

del sacrificio de Cristo por ellos y no sus pecados, porque todos sus pecados, pasados, presentes y futuros están cubiertos por Su sangre.

"Pues ya que la ley sólo tiene la sombra de los bienes futuros y no la forma misma de las cosas, nunca puede, por los mismos sacrificios que ellos ofrecen continuamente año tras año, hacer perfectos a los que se acercan. 2 De otra manera, ¿no habrían cesado de ofrecerse, ya que los adoradores, una vez purificados, no tendrían ya más conciencia de pecado?" (Hebreos 10:1-2).

"Por tanto, que nadie se constituya en vuestro juez con respecto a comida o bebida, o en cuanto a día de fiesta, o luna nueva, o día de reposo; cosas que sólo son sombra de lo que ha de venir, pero el cuerpo pertenece a Cristo" (Colosenses 2: 16-17).

Por lo tanto, no se deje engañar por los que lucen "Santos" en el exterior, los nuevos maestros de la ley y los nuevos fariseos. Ellos llaman a Jesús: Señor, Señor, pero Jesús no los conoce (Mateo 7:22). Al igual que en los días en que Jesús caminó sobre la tierra, estos falsos maestros cargan a las personas con cargas que ni ellos mismos pueden llevar, pero no levantan un dedo para ayudarlos. Ellos dicen saber el camino, pero en realidad no lo conocen.

Jesús es el Camino, la Verdad y la Vida. Nadie viene al Padre si no es a través de Jesús. Él es Amor, y Su amor inmerecido es su Gracia. Nadie viene al Padre, sino por la Gracia, la cual obtenemos a través de la fe. Si algún otro espíritu intenta reemplazar la obra terminada de Jesús para nuestra salvación y santificación, éste es el espíritu del anticristo (anti no sólo significa en contra, sino que también significa en lugar de). No se deje engañar por el espíritu del anticristo, el cual enseña un falso evangelio. Se nos ha ungido con el Espíritu Santo y:

"en cuanto a vosotros, la unción que recibisteis de El permanece en vosotros, y **no tenéis necesidad de que nadie os enseñe; pero así como su unción os enseña acerca de todas las cosas**, y es verdadera y no mentira, y así como os ha enseñado, permaneceréis en El" (1 Juan 2:27).

"Pero el Consolador, el Espíritu Santo, a quien el Padre enviará en mi nombre, él os enseñará todas las cosas y os recordará todo lo que yo os he dicho" (Juan 14:26).

"Pero el Espíritu dice claramente que, **en los últimos tiempos, algunos apostatarán de la Fe**, escuchando a espíritus engañadores y a doctrinas de demonios, de hipócritas y mentirosos, cuya conciencia está cauterizada. Estos prohibirán casarse y mandarán abstenerse de alimentos que Dios creó para que con acción de gracias participaran de ellos los creyentes y los que han conocido la verdad, porque todo lo que Dios creó es bueno y nada es de desecharse, si se toma con acción de gracias, ya que por la palabra de Dios y por la oración es santificado" (1 Timoteo 4:1-4).

Some people incorrectly believe that our Faith, that is to say, the Gospel refers to our salvation in Christ (eternal life), but that our sanctification and subsequent success in this life depends on our obedience to God (and this obedience varies from denomination to denomination) but what does the Bible say about the true Gospel, which some have renounced?

"But none of these things move me; neither do I esteem my life dear to myself, if only I may finish my course with joy and the ministry which I have obtained from [which was entrusted to me by] the Lord Jesus, faithfully to attest to the good news (Gospel) of God's Grace (His unmerited favor, spiritual blessing, and mercy)" (Acts 20:24).

And what about our sanctification? Well, we already have it as well as the wisdom, the righteousness, and the redemption of Christ, but to experience them in this life, we need to stop trusting in ourselves, and put our Faith in Him alone, and any other type of faith is unbelief: "He is the source of your life in Christ Jesus, who became for us wisdom from God, and righteousness and sanctification and redemption" (1 Corinthians 1:30).

So to experience all the riches we already have in Christ, we need to cry out like the father of the demon possessed boy, saying: ... "I believe; help my unbelief!" (Mark 9:24).

The Bible warns us that evil people will come to draw disciples after themselves instead of drawing them to Jesus. The solution to this attack is also given: to hold on to the Word of His Grace, which is able to build us up and give us an eternal inheritance:

"28 Pay careful attention to yourselves and to all the flock, in which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers, to care for the church of God, which he obtained with his own blood. 29 I know that after my departure fierce wolves will come in among you, not sparing the flock; 30 and from among your own selves will arise men speaking twisted things, to draw away the disciples after them. 31 Therefore be alert, remembering that for three years I did not cease night or day to admonish every one with tears. 32 And now I commend you to God and to the Word of his Grace, which is able to build you up and to give you the inheritance among all those who are sanctified" (Acts 20:28-33).

Remember, we are saved not by our own righteousness, what we think is the right way, but His righteousness, his right hand, not ours. In other words, we are saved by Grace, God's unmerited favor, and not by our works. Many people today have it backwards, they work to deserve God's favor, but our works, or righteousness according to the Bible, are like filthy rags before God. Only through His Grace, His love, manifested on the cross is that we are made righteous before God. It is only when we recognize our weaknesses and realize that we need a savior that God can freely move and act in our lives. "Because if you acknowledge and confess with your lips that Jesus is Lord and in your heart believe (adhere to, trust in, and rely on the truth) that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved" (Romans 10:9).

Anything other than Jesus is like poison in the pot:
-2 kings 4:39-41. Stew for the sons of the prophets ...wild vine

Algunas personas creen erróneamente que nuestra Fe, es decir, el Evangelio se refiere a nuestra salvación en Cristo (la vida eterna), pero que nuestra santificación y posterior éxito en esta vida dependen de nuestra obediencia a Dios (y esta obediencia varía de denominación en denominación), pero ¿qué dice la Biblia acerca del verdadero Evangelio, a la que algunos han renunciado? "Pero en ninguna manera estimo mi vida como valiosa para mí mismo, a fin de poder terminar mi carrera y el ministerio que recibí del Señor Jesús, para dar testimonio solemnemente del Evangelio de la Gracia de Dios" (Hechos 20:24).

¿Y qué decir de nuestra santificación? Bueno, ya la tenemos, así como la sabiduría, la justicia y la redención de Cristo, pero para experimentarlas en esta vida, tenemos que dejar de confiar en nosotros mismos, y debemos de creer solamente en Él, y cualquier otro tipo de fe es incredulidad: "Pero Dios mismo los ha unido a ustedes con Cristo Jesús, y ha hecho también que Cristo sea nuestra sabiduría, nuestra justicia, nuestra santificación y nuestra liberación" (1 Corintios 1:30-31).

Así que para experimentar toda la riquezas que ya tenemos en Cristo, tenemos que clamar como el padre del muchacho endemoniado, diciendo: ... "Creo; ayúdame en mi incredulidad" (Marcos 9:24).

"28 Por lo tanto, estén atentos y cuiden de toda la congregación, en la cual el Espíritu Santo los ha puesto como pastores para que cuiden de la iglesia de Dios, que él compró con su propia sangre. 29 Sé que cuando yo me vaya vendrán otros que, como lobos feroces, querrán acabar con la iglesia. 30 Aun entre ustedes mismos se levantarán algunos que enseñarán mentiras para que los creyentes los sigan. 31 Estén alerta; acuérdense de que durante tres años, de día y de noche, no dejé de aconsejar con lágrimas a cada uno de ustedes. 32 »Ahora, hermanos, los encomiendo a Dios y al mensaje de su amor. Él tiene poder para hacerlos crecer espiritualmente y darles todo lo que ha prometido a su pueblo santo. 33 No he querido para mí mismo ni el dinero ni la ropa de nadie" (Hechos 20:28-33).

(herbs)...their is death in the pot...Elisha put flour (a symbol of Christ, the bread of life) ...no harm in the pot.

- Eph. 3:2. Stewardship of God's grace.
- Col. 1:25-26. Stewards of the mystery hidden for ages, now revealed to the saints.
- 1 Cor 15:56. The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law.
- Rom 4:15. The law brings wrath. Where there is no law there is no transgression.
- Rom 5:13. Sin was in the world before the law given but sin is not charged against anyone's account where there is no law.
- The law is the ministry of death
- The law was a Guardian: Galatians 3:24-26.
- Gal. 5:22: The fruit of the spirit
- The wild vines are worldly and/or "religious" means:
 1. Laws/bylaws/rules/guidelines disguise as a way to bring order, bring uniformity to the body of Christ. Don't eat, don't drink, don't wear, don't get tattoos, etc. All these based on the external appearance rather than the internal truths of the Spirit and our hearts.
 2. Traditions of men.
 3. The keeping of festivals and holidays.
 4. Etc...Anything but Christ represents wild vines

When we fail:
 "we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are called according to his purpose" (Romans 8:28), and "this is love: it is not that we loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son as the sacrifice that deals with our sins." (1 John 4:10).

We Have Been Set Free From The Curse Of The Law:

"10 For all who rely on works of the law are under a curse; for it is written, "Cursed be everyone who does not abide by all things written in the Book of the Law, and do them." 11 Now it is evident that no one is justified before God by the law, for "The righteous shall live by faith." 12 But the law is not of faith, rather "The one who does them shall live by them." 13 Christ redeemed us from the curse of the law by becoming a curse for us—for it is written, "Cursed is everyone who is hanged on a tree"— 14 so that in Christ Jesus the blessing of Abraham might come to the Gentiles, so that we might receive the promised Spirit through faith. " (Galatians 3:10-14).

But, many may ask what is the law? Jesus Himself summarized it in two commandments:
 "36 "Teacher, which is the great commandment in the Law?" 37 And he said to him, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. 38 This is the great and first commandment. 39 And a second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself. 40 On these two commandments depend all the Law and the Prophets." (Matthew 22: 36-40).

The curse comes upon those who do not realize and confess that we are all sinners. We believe that because we keep most of the commandments, we are better than others and are self-justified before God; but if we break the least of the commandments, we break them all, and fall under the curse of the law. And, if we say that we have no sin, we make God a liar. So, trying to be justified by the law is a no win situation:

“7 But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin. 8 If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. 9 If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. 10 If we say we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us.” (1 John 1:7-10).

This problem was happening since the beginning of the Church, and is probably happening even more in today’s Church. If not, just look around in the light of the Truth of the Gospel of Grace, and you will realize how lukewarm some parts of the Church are, and how it seems like God is spitting us from His mouth, as He told he would do.

Since the beginning of the Church, false teachers have come to pervert the Gospel of Grace, by mixing the Law with Grace, but the Law nullifies Grace. Mixing Grace with The Law is like putting a patch of unshrunk cloth on an old garment which pulls away from the garment, and a worse tear results; or putting new wine into old wineskins which burst the wineskins spilling the wine and ruining the wineskins (Matthew 9: 16-17, Mark 2: 21-22). It is like mixing hot (representing the fire of the Spirit) with cold (representing the coldness of the Law, trying to be perfected by the flesh, see Galatians 3:1-5), producing a lukewarm spirit. To which Jesus warns: “You are neither cold nor hot. I wish that you were either cold or hot. So because you are lukewarm, and neither hot nor cold, I’m about to spit you out of my mouth” (Revelation 3:15-17). Mixing The Law and Grace produces a double-minded person who is unstable in all its ways (James: 1:8; James: 4:8).

“1 O foolish Galatians! Who has bewitched you? It was before your eyes that Jesus Christ was publicly portrayed as crucified. 2 Let me ask you only this: Did you receive the Spirit by works of the law or by hearing with faith? 3 Are you so foolish? Having begun by the Spirit, are you now being perfected by the flesh? 4 Did you suffer so many things in vain—if indeed it was in vain? 5 Does he who supplies the Spirit to you and works miracles among you do so by works of the law, or by hearing with faith— 6 just as Abraham “believed God, and it was counted to him as righteousness”?” (Galatians 3: 1-6).

To stop living in the curse, we must repent (from the word Greeek *Metanoia*, to change one’s Mind [1]), and confess that we are sinners. We must stop trying to be justified by the Law, and begin abiding in Christ alone, His Grace, not only for our salvation, but for our sanctification as well. May all those who have ears, hear what the Spirit is saying. May the Grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all. Amen.

Mario A. Jimenez Jerez
A servant in the Grace Revolution

1. In biblical Greek, *metanoēō/μετανοέω* and *metanoia/μετάνοια* signify a “change of Mind, a change in the trend and action of the whole inner nature, intellectual, affectional and moral.”...”to express that mighty change in mind, heart, and life wrought by the Spirit of God.”

[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Metanoia_\(theology\)](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Metanoia_(theology)).

In Christ, We Are No Longer Slaves To The Fear Of Death:

In Christ, we are no longer slaves because we are free from the fear of death. If we live, and believe in Christ, we will never die! This promise is one of the most powerful in the Bible; it's the one that has enabled Christians throughout generations to triumph over evil. It is the truth that enabled our founding fathers to stand against tyranny and oppression to set this country free and be blessed among all the nations of the world.

“Now in putting everything in subjection to him, he left nothing outside his control. At present, we do not yet see everything in subjection to him. 9 But we see him who for a little while was made lower than the angels, namely Jesus, crowned with glory and honor because of the suffering of death, so that by the grace of God he might taste death for everyone. 10 For it was fitting that he, for whom and by whom all things exist, in bringing many sons to glory, should make the founder of their salvation perfect through suffering. 11 For he who sanctifies and those who are sanctified all have one source. That is why he is not ashamed to call them brothers, 12 saying, “I will tell of your name to my brothers; in the midst of the congregation I will sing your praise.” 13 And again, “I will put my trust in him.” And again, “Behold, I and the children God has given me.” 14 Since therefore the children share in flesh and blood, he himself likewise partook of the same things, that through death he might destroy the one who has the power of death, that is, the devil, 15 and deliver all those who through fear of death were subject to lifelong slavery. 16 For surely it is not angels that he helps, but he helps the offspring of Abraham. 17 Therefore he had to be made like his brothers in every respect, so that he might become a merciful and faithful high priest in the service of God, to make propitiation for the sins of the people. 18 For because he himself has suffered when tempted, he is able to help those who are being tempted.” (Hebrews 2: 8-18) .

“Todo lo has sujetado bajo sus pies.” Porque al sujetarlo todo a él, no dejó nada que no le sea sujeto. Pero ahora no vemos aún todas las cosas sujetas a él. 9 Pero vemos a Aquél que fue hecho un poco inferior a los ángeles, es decir, a Jesús, coronado de gloria y honor a causa del padecimiento de la muerte, para que por la gracia de Dios probara la muerte por todos. 10 Porque convenía que Aquél para quien son todas las cosas y por quien son todas las cosas, llevando muchos hijos a la gloria, hiciera perfecto por medio de los padecimientos al autor[a] de la salvación de ellos. 11 Porque tanto el que santifica como los que son santificados, son todos de un Padre; por lo cual El no se avergüenza de llamarlos hermanos, 12 cuando dice: “Anunciare Tu nombre a Mis hermanos, en medio de la congregacion[b] Te cantare himnos.” 13 Otra vez: “Yo en El confiaré.” Y otra vez: “Aquí estoy, Yo y los hijos que Dios Me ha dado.” 14 Así que, por cuanto los hijos participan de carne y sangre, también Jesús participó de lo mismo, para anular mediante la muerte el poder de aquél que tenía el poder de la muerte, es decir, el diablo, 15 y librar a los que por el temor a la muerte, estaban sujetos a esclavitud durante toda la vida. 16 Porque ciertamente no ayuda a los ángeles, sino que ayuda a[e] la descendencia[f] de Abraham. 17 Por tanto, tenía que ser hecho semejante a Sus hermanos en todo, a fin de que llegara a ser un sumo sacerdote misericordioso y fiel en las cosas que a Dios atañen, para hacer propiciación por los pecados del pueblo. 18 Pues por cuanto El mismo fue tentado en el sufrimiento, es poderoso para

socorrer a los que son tentados.” (Hebreos 2:8-18).

And Jesus said, “I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in me, though he die, yet shall he live, and everyone who lives and believes in me shall never die. Do you believe this?” (John 11:25-26).

Jesús le contestó: “Yo soy la resurrección y la vida; el que cree en Mí, aunque muera, vivirá, 26 y todo el que vive y cree en Mí, no morirá jamás. ¿Crees esto?” (Juan 11: 25-26).

Free From The Curse Of Poverty:

The Old testament teaches us that it is God’s will that no poor be among us (under the old covenant among Israel, under the new covenant, brothers and sisters in Christ living under the covenant of Grace). This could not be accomplished in the old testament because of our disobedience, but it is absolutely possible under the covenant of Grace because of Jesus’ obedience. The more we learn what Jesus accomplished for us on the cross, the more we behold Him and His obedience, the more we are being transformed into His image and His obedience, thus being able to accomplish what could not be accomplish through the Law. But, this requires a change of heart, beginning with pastors and leadership in the church. We tend to believe that people are poor because of the curse, but we must change this belief with the revelation of God’s unmerrited favor towards us.

“4 But there will be no poor among you; for the Lord will bless you in the land that the Lord your God is giving you for an inheritance to possess— 5 if only you will strictly obey the voice of the Lord your God, being careful to do all this commandment that I command you today. 6 For the Lord your God will bless you, as he promised you, and you shall lend to many nations, but you shall not borrow, and you shall rule over many nations, but they shall not rule over you.” (Deuteronomy 15: 4-6).

“4 De esta manera no habrá pobres entre ustedes, pues el Señor tu Dios te bendecirá en el país que él te va a dar como herencia, 5 siempre y cuando le obedezcas y pongas en práctica todos estos mandamientos que yo te he dado hoy. 6 Sí, el Señor tu Dios te bendecirá, tal como te lo ha prometido, y tendrás para prestar a muchas naciones, pero tú no tendrás que pedir prestado; dominarás a muchas naciones, pero ellas no te dominarán a ti.” (Deuteronomio 15: 4-6).

“18 So now the righteous requirements necessary for life are met for everyone through the righteous act of one person, just as judgment fell on everyone through the failure of one person. 19 Many people were made righteous through the obedience of one person, just as many people were made sinners through the disobedience of one person. 20 The Law stepped in to amplify the failure, but where sin increased, grace multiplied even more. 21 The result is that grace will rule through God’s righteousness, leading to eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord, just as sin ruled in death.” (Romans 5: 18-21).

“18 Así pues, tal como por una transgresión resultó la condenación de todos los hombres, así también por un acto de justicia resultó la justificación de vida para todos los hombres.19 Porque así como por la desobediencia de un hombre los muchos fueron constituidos pecadores, así también por la obediencia de

uno los muchos serán constituidos justos. 20 Y la ley se introdujo para que abundara la transgresión, pero donde el pecado abundó, sobreabundó la gracia, 21 para que así como el pecado reinó en la muerte, así también la gracia reine por medio de la justicia para vida eterna, mediante Jesucristo nuestro Señor.” (Romanos 18: 18-21).

The Vision Of Self-sustainable Places Of Worship

I just had the pleasure to see a vision I had in 2003 fulfilled before my very own eyes when I had the opportunity to become part of the "Temple Fitness" evangelization team with the Sosa brothers, Arthur and Alex.. At our very 1st call, 10 souls gave their life to Christ, with billions more awaiting to become alive by the Gospel of Christ. As I have been thanking God for making this vision come to pass, God gave me another vision, which I termed The Vision Of Self-Sustainable Places Of Worship. To see the importance of Dreams and Visions to advance God's kingdom, check out this link: <http://saynotopas.com/dreams-and-visions/>

One of the ways many churches fall into the financial traps of this world system is by the need to build huge churches to house their growing congregations and the financial bondage that this brings with it.

I believe that the Holy Spirit is speaking to His people to be free from this bondage by the renewal of our minds. We are finally realizing that we are the temples, as the Temple Fitness team teaches, and that what we used to call “churches” are actually places of worship. The early church knew this very well because they would meet any where they could, from homes to catacombs due to the intense persecution they suffered for proclaiming The Way. What made the church a church was not the physical building, but the people whom individually were temples of the living God, and collectively were building blocks of the church, the body of Christ.

The truth that in the New Testament the temples were no longer physical buildings but that our bodies were the temples was first introduced by Jesus himself when he said, “destroy this temple, and in three days, I will rebuild it.” This truth was reiterated over and over by Paul and the other disciples, and it revolutionized the early church, allowing to be “unleashed” from the physical constraints of this material world.

As our bother Jefferson Bethke, so well put it in his Holy Spirit inspired poem:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1IAhDGYlpqY> “I mean if religion is so great, why has it started so many wars. Why does it build huge churches, but fails to feed the poor” Somehow we have fallen into the trap that building the kingdom means building huge churches, but we have ignored or placed aside the most important command of all: “love one another as I have loved you” (John 13:34). We have forgotten the true meaning of building the Kingdom of God. Once again as our brother Jefferson Bethke reminds us: “Many churches today focus on how to acquire many, many members, which necessitates large buildings and might be viewed as a symbol of their success. However, taking care of and serving the poor within their communities may not be a pressing issue on their agendas, but it is important to Jesus. As said in Mark 10:21: Jesus looked at him

and loved him. “One thing you lack,” he said. “Go, sell everything you have and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven. Then come, follow me.” Fortunately, there are some parts of the body of Christ who carry on this mission, “Two-thirds of all the hospitals in third world countries are Catholic hospitals. The second largest provider of social services in the state of Massachusetts is the Catholic Church.”

Not matter what, however, it is a practical matter of fact, that as a church grows, the building where we meet needs to grow with us as well. So what can we do? The solution may be simpler than we think: Self-Sustainable Places Of Worship!

Imagine for a moment, a building or “place of worship” with huge LCD/LED screens playing Hillsong, Matthew West, Newsboys, Switchfoot and many other praise music songs while people are working out, taking care of their physical temples, while renewing their minds, feeding their souls, and praising God at the same time. The youth, adults, and older adults inviting their peers to work out, but introducing them to Christ at the same time. A Christian library on one side, a nutritional club on the other; an area for children to play and learn. Instead of buying a gym membership, these members use their funds to build the church, and evangelize the world, for with our unity and love for each other Jesus says that we will truly evangelize the world (John 17:20-23). Come Wednesday night, Friday youth night, and Sundays, the easily movable exercise equipment gets replaced by movable, comfortable chairs, getting ready to worship God as the Body of Christ. This creates an environment where God is truly worshiped in Spirit and in truths, were each person understands that we were made in the image of God, a triune nature composed of body, mind and soul, which in Christ has been completely restored and harmonized with God the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

Imagine, once again the church in America and the world, leading the way, being the element of change that has revolutionized the world, not only being at the forefront of spiritual health, but also of body and mind restoration. As the Dean of our Jackson Memorial Memorial/UM Family Medicine program, Dr. Schwartz, taught us and medical evidence shows, about 80% of all hospital admissions are preventable, and as the CDC reminds us, the top chronic diseases, heart disease, stroke, cancer, diabetes, obesity, and arthritis—are the leading causes of death and disability in the United States, and are all related to poor nutrition and lack of exercise.

Now imagine being free to fulfill God’s calling for our churches, being able to evangelize not only with words, but deed; being able to use the tithes and offerings to go out and give food and drink to the poor, welcome the strangers and homeless, cloth the naked, cure the sick, and visit those in prison for in doing these, we do them to Jesus himself, for he abides in us who believe and have received him. I believe that this is how the church of Christ will be unleashed to evangelize the world, and thus herald the second coming of Jesus Christ to this world.

I believe that we are about to experience the greatest move of the Holy Spirit the world has ever seen. To accomplish this move, the Holy Spirit is teaching us the truth, so we can worship God in Spirit and truth. The Spirit is One and abides in those who have

believed and have received Christ as their savior. The Spirit is the One that makes us One with God the Father and the Son, and the One that unites us, and makes us One, the One that allows us to see the importance of each human being, the One that prompts us to feed the poor, receive the homeless, help the unemployed, the sick, the suffering, the naked. The Holy Spirit is the glory that John 17:20-23 speaks about, and the only One that can unite the Body of Christ. Before Christ, He rested on people and places; after Christ, He abides in us, the temples of the living God.

The Truth is that it is not our love for God or for others which makes us righteous (this is the Law), but His love for us, i.e. His Grace, or unmerited favor. It is based on this TRUTH that we are then free to love one another. "Those who belong to Christ Jesus are no longer under God's sentence. I am now controlled by the law of the Holy Spirit. That law gives me life because of what Christ Jesus has done. It has set me free from the law of sin that brings death" (Romans 8:1-2). "This is love [Jesus]: it is not that we loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son as the sacrifice that deals with our sins" (1 John 4:10).

Once we understand God's love for us, we no longer put physical limitations to where we gather to worship God. For this reason, I believe that from the get go, any church that wants to reach its full potential in Christ, should look into the concept of Self-Sustainable Places Of Worship. I feel that it is my duty to pass this idea to the church, so it can test it, if it truly comes from God.

Finally, I would like to end with a quote from one of my heroes, Albert Einstein, who said: "Insanity: doing the same thing over and over again and expecting different results." We can not expect to just continue to build physical buildings that sit there most of the time just idly occupying space, like most "churches" do, and expect a different result, which is to have the financial freedom to expand the Kingdom of God to all corners of Miami, and the rest of world. The spiritual battle is intensifying and it will be fought city by city; each one of us must declare its city for Christ, and must DO our part to shine Christ's light to our cities, and our world. See our calling here:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=b_RjndG0IX8&index=7&list=PLBB60A5D2A0391819

You can read the letter of the lyric Jefferson Bethke's poem here: <http://lit.genius.com/Jefferson-bethke-why-i-hate-religion-but-love-jesus-annotated#note-539420>

If you have not done so, please sign a petition I prepare to protect the Religious freedom of Floridians here:

www.SayNoToPAS.com, or www.NewJudge.com. It is through this trial, that God has strengthened my character, and what has given me the boldness to write to you today. As Jesus put it:

"How blessed you are when people insult you and persecute you and tell all kinds of vicious lies about you because you follow me! Rejoice, be glad, because your reward in heaven is great — they persecuted the prophets before you in the same way" (Matthew 5: 11-12).

Mario A. Jimenez Jerez, M.D.

My Identity in Christ: A Child of The One True King

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZuJWQzjfU3o&list=PLBB6>

Dreams and Visions:

“My people are destroyed from lack of knowledge. Because you have rejected knowledge, I also reject you as my priests; because you have ignored the law of your God, I also will ignore your children.” Hosea 4:6.

Every parent is a priest to his/her children, so this applies to all parents. So, If you want to know what is going on in the world right now, why so many wars, why so much chaos, why bad things happen to “good” people, why your family is suffering, why, why, why?... watch this amazing series, perhaps one of the best spiritual series of all times.

If you want justice for what happened to your children, your family or yourself, start by watching this:
<http://dreamsandmysteries.com/videos/the-mystery-of-gods-justice/>

And continue with the rest of the videos:
<http://dreamsandmysteries.com/videos/>

Teaching notes for all the videos:
<http://dreamsandmysteries.com/teaching-notes/season-one/>
<http://dreamsandmysteries.com/teaching-notes/season-two/>

Christian Family Unity: Jesus' Prayer for His Disciples and The Key to The Evangelization of the World

“I pray not only for these followers but also for those who will believe in me because of their teaching. Father, I pray **that all who believe in me can be one**. You are in me and I am in you. I pray **that they can also be one in us**. *Then the world will believe that you sent me*. I have given them the glory that you gave me. **I gave them this glory so that they can be one**, just as you and I are one. I will be in them, and you will be in me. So **they will be completely one**. *Then the world will know that you sent me and that you loved them just as you loved me*” (John 17:20-23).

But what is unity? And, this is unity: One for All, and All for One. It is time to stop talking, and start acting in unity instead. For the sacrifice of the One, Jesus Christ, All who accept Him have been saved and have become part of a Spiritual Family, and in a family, when One suffers, All suffer as well, but most importantly All unite to help the One who is suffering. The pain of One of these least of my brothers becomes the pain of All, and what we do for them, we do to Christ as well (Matthew 25:40). Not only that, but unity in love for one another is the key to advancing the Kingdom of God, evangelizing the world, and defeating the evil one. Christian unity is the sign of true Christians.

Christ (the One), died for the sins of All, so that All can be freed to love One another. Those who have accepted Christ as their Lord and savior are being transformed from glory to glory into the image of Christ (the One) by the renewal of our minds, so that we All become One in Christ.

The evil one's main tactic throughout history has been to cause

La Unidad Familiar Cristiana: La Oración de Jesús por Sus Discípulos y la Clave Para la Evangelización del Mundo

"Mas no ruego sólo por éstos, sino también por **los que han de creer en mí** por la palabra de ellos, para **que todos sean uno**. Como tú, oh Padre, estás en mí y yo en ti, **que también ellos estén en nosotros, para que el mundo crea que tú me enviaste**. **La gloria que me diste les he dado, para que sean uno**, así como nosotros somos uno: yo en ellos, y tú en mí, para **que sean perfeccionados en unidad, para que el mundo sepa que tú me enviaste, y que los amaste tal como me has amado a mí**" (Juan 17:20-23).

Pero ¿que es unidad? Uno para Todos y Todos para Uno. Es hora de dejar de hablar y empezar a actuar en unidad en su lugar. Por el sacrificio de uno solo, Jesucristo, todos los que lo aceptamos hemos sido salvos y nos hemos convertido en parte de una familia espiritual, y en una familia, cuando uno sufre, todos sufren también, pero lo más importante es unirnos todos para ayudar a aquel que esta sufriendo. Jesús nos enseno que Dios desea nuestra compasión y no nuestros sacrificios (Mateo 9:13). El dolor de uno de nuestros hermanos aun el de los mas pequeños se convierte en el dolor de todos y lo que hacemos por ellos se lo hacemos a Cristo mismo (Mateo 25:40). No solo esto, pero la unidad en el amor mutuo es la clave para avanzar el Reino de Dios, la evangelización del mundo, y derrotar al maligno. Unidad de los cristianos es el signo de los verdaderos Cristianos.

Cristo (el Uno), murió por los pecados de Todos, para que Todos podamos ser libres de amarnos Unos a los otros. Los que han aceptado a Cristo como su Señor y Salvador están siendo transformadas de gloria en gloria en la imagen de Cristo (el Uno) por la renovación de nuestras mentes, para que todos nos convirtamos en uno solo en Cristo.

Una de las tácticas principales del maligno a lo largo de la

separation, beginning with our separation from God when Adam and Eve put their desire for the knowledge of good and evil (their desire to know the law) above God's will for their lives; but in Christ, we have been reconciled "by grace through faith" (Ephesians 2:8) with God the Father, and we are no longer separated from Him. We are one with God the Father, and God the Son through the working of Holy Spirit that lives in every believer. The Holy Spirit is the glory of God and the One that enables us to be One.

Every time we follow the lead of the Holy Spirit for unity in our families and the church, we are answering Jesus' prayer to God the Father. When the church unites in love through the Holy Spirit, we become a living testimony of God's love to the world, and as Jesus himself noted, this is how the world will believe and know that God sent him and that He loves them: "...**Then the world will believe that you sent me... Then the world will know that you sent me and that you loved them just as you loved me**" (John 17:20-23). So, if the world has not yet fully known the love of God for them, it is because of our lack of unity, and therefore, the unity of the church becomes the key to the evangelization of the world, and the evangelization of the world is one of the main missions of the church and pre-requisite of Christ's second coming. No wonder the evil one has worked so hard to divide Christ's church.

And, one of the main tools the evil one uses to separate Christ's church is false doctrine, any doctrine that does not confess Christ as our Savior (The Gospel). Many times we let these false doctrines in the form of our "knowledge or doctrines" separate the Body of Christ. We must never forget that what we believe and what we understand now is imperfect because it is incomplete, and that we can not let these imperfections separate us. In the end only Jesus, who is LOVE incarnate, remains and with Him those who remain in Him. Jesus (who is Love incarnate) never fails!!! Praised be His name!!! The same choice Adam and Eve had of not trying to depend on attaining their own knowledge (their own righteousness) but to believe in God's word is before us today:

"The Lord God took the human and settled him in the garden of Eden to farm it and to take care of it. The Lord God commanded the human, "Eat your fill from all of the garden's trees; but **don't eat from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, because on the day you eat from it, you will die!**" (Genesis 2:15-17)...The snake was the most intelligent of all the wild animals that the Lord God had made. He said to the woman, "Did God really say that you shouldn't eat from any tree in the garden?" The woman said to the snake, "We may eat the fruit of the garden's trees but not the fruit of the tree in the middle of the garden. God said, 'Don't eat from it, **and don't touch it**, or you will die.'" The snake said to the woman, "**You won't die! God knows that on the day you eat from it, you will see clearly and you will be like God, knowing good and evil!**" (Genesis 3:1-5).

We must decide between holding to what we believe is **good and evil (original sin, the origin of the law) or love**. Have you ever asked yourself how many times we let our "knowledge" of what is right and wrong separate the body of Christ? And, if we really

historia ha sido la de causar la separación, a partir de nuestra separación de Dios cuando Adán y Eva pusieron su deseo del conocimiento del bien y el mal (su deseo de conocer la ley) por encima de la voluntad de Dios; No obstante, en Cristo, hemos sido reconciliados "por gracia mediante la fe" (Efesios 2:08) con Dios el Padre, y ya no estamos separado de él. Somos uno con Dios el Padre y Dios el Hijo por obra del Espíritu Santo que habita en cada creyente. El Espíritu Santo es la gloria de Dios y El es el que nos permite ser uno.

Cada vez que seguimos la guía del Espíritu Santo por la unidad en nuestras familias y la iglesia, estamos respondiendo a la oración de Jesús a Dios Padre. Cuando la iglesia se une en el amor a través del Espíritu Santo, nos convertimos en un testimonio viviente del amor de Dios para el mundo, y como señaló el propio Jesús, así es como el mundo va a creer y saber que Dios lo envió, y que Él los ama: "...**Entonces el mundo crea que tú me enviaste...para que el mundo conozca que tú me enviaste, y que los amaste tal como me has amado**" (Juan 17:20-23). Así que, si el mundo no ha conocido aún plenamente el amor de Dios para ellos, es debido a nuestra falta de unidad, y por lo tanto, la unidad de la iglesia se convierte en la clave para la evangelización del mundo, y la evangelización del mundo es una de las principales misiones de la iglesia y el requisito previo de la segunda venida de Cristo. No es extraño que el maligno haya trabajado tan duro para dividir a la iglesia de Cristo.

Muchas veces dejamos que nuestros "conocimientos o doctrinas" separen el Cuerpo de Cristo. No debemos olvidar nunca que lo que creemos y lo que entendemos ahora es imperfecto porque es incompleto, y no podemos dejar que estas imperfecciones nos separen. Al final sólo Jesús, que es amor encarnado, permanece y con Jesús a los que permanecemos en él. Jesús (que es el Amor encarnado) nunca falla! Alabado sea su nombre! La misma elección que Adán y Eva de no tratar de depender de su propio conocimiento (su propia justicia), sino de creer en la palabra de Dios, esta en frente de nosotros en este día:

"Entonces el Señor Dios tomó al hombre y lo puso en el huerto del Edén, para que lo cultivara y lo cuidara. Y ordenó el Señor Dios al hombre, diciendo: De todo árbol del huerto podrás comer, pero **del árbol del conocimiento del bien y del mal no comerás, porque el día que de él comas, ciertamente morirás**" (Génesis 2:15-17)...Y la serpiente era más astuta que cualquiera de los animales del campo que el Señor Dios había hecho. Y dijo a la mujer: ¿Conque Dios os ha dicho: "No comeréis de ningún árbol del huerto"? Y la mujer respondió a la serpiente: Del fruto de los árboles del huerto podemos comer; pero del fruto del árbol que está en medio del huerto, ha dicho Dios: "No comeréis de él, **ni lo tocaréis**, para que no muráis." Y la serpiente dijo a la mujer: **Ciertamente no moriréis. Pues Dios sabe que el día que de él comáis, serán abiertos vuestros ojos y seréis como Dios, conociendo el bien y el mal!**" (Génesis 3:1-5).

Tenemos que decidir entre aferrarnos a nuestro **conocimiento del bien y el mal (pecado orinal, el origen de la ley) o el amor**. ¿Alguna vez te has preguntado cuántas veces dejamos que nuestro "conocimiento" de lo que es correcto o incorrecto separe

want to serve Christ, why are not we actively working to make His wish for unity of His body our wish as well?

Not only should we deeply praying for the unity of the church, but we should also ask ourselves, what is Christ calling me to do to achieve unity with our brothers in the faith? What are we doing today to be the answer to the prayer of our Lord for the unity of his Church?

"Love never ends. But as for prophecies, they will come to an end; as for tongues, they will cease; as for knowledge, it will come to an end. **For we know only in part and we prophesy only in part; but when the complete comes, the partial will come to an end.** When I was a child, I spoke like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child; when I became an adult, I put an end to childish ways. For now we see in a mirror, dimly, but then we will see face to face. Now I know only in part; then I will know fully, even as I have been fully known. And now faith, hope, and love abide, these three; and **the greatest of these is love.**" (1 Corinthians 13: 8-13).

"This is love [Jesus]: it is not that we loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son as the sacrifice that deals with our sins" (1 John 4:10).

Division, a fruit of the Evil One. Union, a fruit of the Holy Spirit

"Now I appeal to you, brothers and sisters, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you be in agreement and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be united in the same mind and the same purpose. 11 For it has been reported to me by Chloe's people that there are quarrels among you, my brothers and sisters. 12 What I mean is that each of you says, "I belong to Paul," or "I belong to Apollos," or "I belong to Cephas," or "I belong to Christ." 13 Has Christ been divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Or were you baptized in the name of Paul?" (1 Corinthians 1: 10-13).

"And so, brothers and sisters, I could not speak to you as spiritual people, but rather as people of the flesh, as infants in Christ. 2 I fed you with milk, not solid food, for you were not ready for solid food. Even now you are still not ready, 3 for you are still of the flesh. For as long as there is jealousy and quarreling among you, are you not of the flesh, and behaving according to human inclinations? 4 For when one says, "I belong to Paul," and another, "I belong to Apollos," are you not merely human? 5 What then is Apollos? What is Paul? Servants through whom you came to believe, as the Lord assigned to each. 6 I planted, Apollos watered, but God gave the growth. 7 So neither the one who plants nor the one who waters is anything, but only God who gives the growth" (1 Corinthians 3: 1-7).

Now, if we have accepted Christ as our savior, we are a son or a daughter of God. This makes all Christians part of the same family. **In Christ Jesus**, we have become a new creation and a son of God or a daughter of God. 2 Corinthians 5:17, "If anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come." Galatians 3:26, **"In Christ Jesus you**

al cuerpo de Cristo? Y, si realmente queremos servir a Cristo, ¿por qué no estamos trabajando activamente para hacer su deseo por la unidad de Su cuerpo nuestro deseo también?

No solamente deberíamos esta orando profundamente por la unidad de la iglesia, pero también deberíamos de preguntarnos, ¿Qué me esta llamando Cristo a hacer para lograr la unidad con nuestros hermanos en la fe? ¿Qué estamos haciendo hoy para ser la respuesta a la oración de nuestro señor para la unidad de su Iglesia?

"El amor jamás dejará de existir. Un día el don de profecía terminará, y ya no se hablará en lenguas, ni serán necesarios los conocimientos. **Porque los conocimientos** y la profecía **son cosas imperfectas, que llegarán a su fin cuando venga lo que es perfecto.** Cuando yo era niño, hablaba, pensaba y razonaba como un niño; pero al hacerme hombre, dejé atrás lo que era propio de un niño. Ahora vemos de manera indirecta, como en un espejo, y borrosamente; pero un día veremos cara a cara. Mi conocimiento es ahora imperfecto, pero un día conoceré a Dios como él me ha conocido siempre a mí. Tres cosas hay que son permanentes: la fe, la esperanza y el amor; pero **la más importante de las tres es el amor**" (1 Corintios 13:8-13).

"El amor consiste en esto: no en que nosotros hayamos amado a Dios, sino en que él nos amó a nosotros y envió a su Hijo, para que, ofreciéndose en sacrificio, nuestros pecados quedaran perdonados" (1 Juan 4:10).

División, un fruto del Maligno. Unión, un fruto del Espíritu Santo

"Os ruego, hermanos, por el nombre de nuestro Señor Jesucristo, que todos os pongáis de acuerdo, y que no haya divisiones entre vosotros, sino que estéis enteramente unidos en un mismo sentir y en un mismo parecer. 11 Porque he sido informado acerca de vosotros, hermanos míos, por los de Cloé, que hay contiendas entre vosotros. 12 Me refiero a que cada uno de vosotros dice: Yo soy de Pablo, yo de Apolos, yo de Cefas, yo de Cristo. 13 ¿Está dividido Cristo? ¿Acaso fue Pablo crucificado por vosotros? ¿O fuisteis bautizados en el nombre de Pablo?" (1 Corintios 1: 10-13).

"Así que yo, hermanos, no pude hablaros como a espirituales, sino como a carnales, como a niños en Cristo. 2 Os di a beber leche, no alimento sólido, porque todavía no podáis recibirlo. En verdad, ni aun ahora podéis, 3 porque todavía sois carnales. Pues habiendo celos y contiendas entre vosotros, ¿no sois carnales y andáis como hombres? 4 Porque cuando uno dice: Yo soy de Pablo, y otro: Yo soy de Apolos, ¿no sois simplemente hombres? 5 ¿Qué es, pues, Apolos? Y ¿qué es Pablo? Servidores mediante los cuales vosotros habéis creído, según el Señor dio oportunidad a cada uno. 6 Yo planté, Apolos regó, pero Dios ha dado el crecimiento. 7 Así que ni el que planta ni el que riega es algo, sino Dios, que da el crecimiento" (1 Corintios 3: 1-7).

Ahora bien, si hemos aceptado a Cristo como nuestro Salvador, somos un hijo o una hija de Dios. Esto nos hace a todos cristianos parte de la misma familia. **En Cristo Jesús**, nos hemos convertido en una nueva creación, en un hijo o una hija de Dios. 2 Corintios 5:17: "De modo que si alguno está en Cristo, nueva criatura es: las cosas viejas pasaron; todas son hechas nuevas.

are all sons of God, through faith.”

We have faith in Christ when we hear His voice and follow Him, and Jesus leads all Christians to be one in Him, so that through Jesus, we become one with the Father. So, if we truly understand our spiritual position in Christ, we would understand that we are One with God the Father through Christ, and this is the reason why the world hates us. We are in the same position Jesus was when the Jews were going to stone Him, with the difference that at times those who want to stone us could be “religious” people passing as Christian, who are the same who are causing the division in the Body of Christ. But, just like in the last days which we are living, the Jews (our brothers) will accept in their hearts the true gospel of Christ, the Grace of God, and this will usher in the peace that they and the whole world have so desperately searched, what the law could never do.

"Jesus answered, "I have told you, and you do not believe. The works that I do in my Father's name testify to me; but you do not believe, because you do not belong to my sheep. **My sheep hear my voice. I know them, and they follow me.** I give them eternal life, and they will never perish. No one will snatch them out of my hand. What my Father has given me is greater than all else, and no one can snatch it out of the Father's hand. **The Father and I are one.**" The Jews took up stones again to stone him. Jesus replied, "I have shown you many good works from the Father. For which of these are you going to stone me?" The Jews answered, "**It is not for a good work that we are going to stone you, but for blasphemy, because you, though only a human being, are making yourself God.**" Jesus answered, "Is it not written in your law, 'I said, you are gods'? If those to whom the word of God came were called 'gods'—and the scripture cannot be annulled—can you say that the one whom the Father has sanctified and sent into the world is blaspheming because I said, '**I am God's Son**'? If I am not doing the works of my Father, then do not believe me. But if I do them, even though you do not believe me, believe the works, so that you may know and understand that the Father is in me and I am in the Father." Then they tried to arrest him again, but he escaped from their hands." (John 10: 25-39).

"I say, "You are gods, children of the Most High, all of you;" (Psalm 82:6).

"You should know that you yourselves are God's temple. God's Spirit lives in you. If you destroy God's temple, God will destroy you, because God's temple is holy. You yourselves are God's temple" (1 Corinthians 3: 16-17).

Now, the unity in our families and in the Body of Christ are accomplished the moment that like Paul, we recognize our weaknesses, for it is in our weaknesses that the power of God is perfected:

"But he said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness." I will all the more gladly boast of my weaknesses, that the power of Christ may rest upon me. For the sake of Christ, then, I am content with weaknesses, insults, hardships, persecutions, and calamities; for when I am weak, then

Gálatas 3:26 "porque todos sois hijos de Dios por la fe en Cristo Jesús."

Tenemos fe en Cristo cuando escuchamos Su voz y le seguimos, y Jesús lleva a los cristianos a ser uno en Él, para que a través de Jesús, nos convirtiéramos en uno con el Padre. Así que, si realmente comprendemos nuestra posición espiritual en Cristo, entenderíamos que somos uno con Dios Padre por medio de Cristo, y esta es la razón por la que el mundo nos odia. Estamos en la misma posición que Jesús estaba cuando los Judíos iban a apedrearlo, con la diferencia de que a veces los que quieren apedearnos pueden ser personas "religiosas" que se hacen pasar como cristianos, quines son los mismos que están causando la división en el cuerpo de Cristo. Pero, al igual que en los últimos días que estamos viviendo, los Judíos (nuestros hermanos) aceptarán en sus corazones el verdadero evangelio de Cristo, la gracia de Dios, y esto marcará el comienzo de la paz que ellos y todo el mundo ha buscado tan desesperadamente, lo que la ley no podía hacer.

"Jesús les respondió: Os lo he dicho, y no creéis. Las obras que yo hago en nombre de mi Padre, ellas dan testimonio de mí; pero vosotros no creéis, porque no sois de mis ovejas, como os he dicho. **Mis ovejas oyen mi voz y yo las conozco, y me siguen; yo les doy vida eterna y no perecerán jamás,** ni nadie las arrebatará de mi mano. Mi Padre, que me las dio, mayor que todos es, y nadie las puede arrebatar de la mano de mi Padre. **El Padre y yo uno somos.** Entonces los judíos volvieron a tomar piedras para apedrearlo. Jesús les respondió: —Muchas buenas obras os he mostrado de mi Padre; ¿por cuál de ellas me apedreáis? Le respondieron los judíos, diciendo: —**Por buena obra no te apedreamos, sino por la blasfemia, porque tú, siendo hombre, te haces Dios.** Jesús les respondió: —¿No está escrito en vuestra Ley: "Yo dije, dioses sois"? Si llamó dioses a aquellos a quienes vino la palabra de Dios (y la Escritura no puede ser quebrantada), ¿al que el Padre santificó y envió al mundo, vosotros decís: "Tú blasfemas", porque dije: "**Hijo de Dios soy**"? Si no hago las obras de mi Padre, no me creáis. Pero si las hago, aunque no me creáis a mí, creed a las obras, para que conozcáis y creáis que el Padre está en mí y yo en el Padre. Intentaron otra vez prenderlo, pero él se escapó de sus manos" (Juan 10:25-39).

"Yo dije: «Vosotros sois dioses y todos vosotros hijos del Altísimo;" (Salmos 82:6).

"¿Acaso no sabéis que sois templo de Dios y que el Espíritu de Dios está en vosotros? Si alguno destruye el templo de Dios, Dios lo destruirá a él, porque el templo de Dios, el cual sois vosotros, santo es" (1 Corintios 3:16-17).

Ahora, la unidad en nuestras familias y en el Cuerpo de Cristo se logran en el momento en que al igual que Pablo, reconozcamos nuestras debilidades porque es en nuestras debilidades es que el poder de Dios se perfeccionado:

"Y El me ha dicho: Te basta mi gracia, pues mi poder se perfecciona en la debilidad. Por tanto, muy gustosamente me gloriaré más bien en mis debilidades, para que el poder de Cristo more en mí. 10 Por eso me complazco en las debilidades, en insultos, en privaciones, en persecuciones y en angustias por

I am strong" (2 Corinthians 12:9-11).

We must never forget that the unity of the body of Christ is God's purpose for the true church of Christ, and even if this seems humanly impossible, do not forget that "...nothing is impossible for God" (Luke 1:37). We may face all kinds of hardships along the way, but remember that "we know that in everything God works for good, with those who love him, who are called according to his purpose" (Romans 8:28), and "this is love: it is not that we loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son as the sacrifice that deals with our sins" (1 John 4:10). In other words, our love for God comes from our acknowledgment of His love for us, and not the other way around.

The Example Of Unity Of The Early Church:

"The believers devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching, to the community, to their shared meals, and to their prayers. A sense of awe came over everyone. God performed many wonders and signs through the apostles. All the believers were united and shared everything. They would sell pieces of property and possessions and distribute the proceeds to everyone who needed them. Every day, they met together in the temple and ate in their homes. They shared food with gladness and simplicity. They praised God and demonstrated God's goodness to everyone. The Lord added daily to the community those who were being saved." (Acts 2:42-47).

"Now I appeal to you, brothers and sisters, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you be in agreement and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be united in the same mind and the same purpose. For it has been reported to me by Chloe's people that there are quarrels among you, my brothers and sisters. What I mean is that each of you says, "I belong to Paul," or "I belong to Apollos," or "I belong to Cephas," or "I belong to Christ." Has Christ been divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Or were you baptized in the name of Paul?" (1 Corinthians 1: 10-13).

Finally, do not be discouraged if your efforts to unite with other Christians meets you with all kinds of challenges and disappointments. Our disappointments could very well be divine appointments!!! I am a living testimony of this truth. AMEN.

Family Unity Worldwide: Our mission is to promote and advance the unity of families, the foundation of societies, in the United States and around the world, based on the Christian principles of love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control.

The Lord Uniting His Body Before His Second Coming:

"I pray not only for these followers but also for those who will believe in me because of their teaching. Father, I pray that all who believe in me can be one. You are in me and I am in you. I pray that they can also be one in us. Then the world will believe that you sent me. I have given them the glory that you gave me. I gave them this glory so that they can be one, just as you and I are one. I will be in them, and you will be in me. So they will be completely one. Then the world will know that you sent me and that you loved them just as you loved me" (John 17:20-23).

But what is unity? And, this is unity: One for All, and All for

amor a Cristo; porque cuando soy débil, entonces soy fuerte" (2 Corintios 12:9-10).

No debemos olvidar nunca que la unidad del cuerpo de Cristo es el propósito de Dios para la verdadera iglesia de Cristo, y aunque esto parezca humanamente imposible, no olvidemos que "... nada es imposible para Dios" (Lucas 1:37). Podemos hacer frente a todo tipo de dificultades en el camino, pero recuerda que "sabemos que en todas las cosas interviene Dios para bien, a los que lo aman, los que son llamados conforme a su propósito" (Romanos 8:28), y "esto es amor: no es que nosotros hayamos amado a Dios, sino en que él nos amó y envió a su Hijo como el sacrificio que se ocupa de nuestros pecados" (1 Juan 4:10). En otras palabras, nuestro amor por Dios viene de nuestro reconocimiento de su amor por nosotros, y no al revés.

El Ejemplo De Unión De La Primera Iglesia:

"Se mantenían firmes en la enseñanza de los apóstoles, en la comunión, en el partimiento del pan y en la oración. Todos estaban asombrados por los muchos prodigios y señales que realizaban los apóstoles. Todos los creyentes estaban juntos y tenían todo en común: vendían sus propiedades y posesiones, y compartían sus bienes entre sí según la necesidad de cada uno. No dejaban de reunirse en el templo ni un solo día. De casa en casa partían el pan y compartían la comida con alegría y generosidad, alabando a Dios y disfrutando de la estimación general del pueblo. Y cada día el Señor añadía al grupo los que iban siendo salvos." (Acts 2: 42-47).

"Os ruego, hermanos, por el nombre de nuestro Señor Jesucristo, que todos os pongáis de acuerdo, y que no haya divisiones entre vosotros, sino que estéis enteramente unidos en un mismo sentir y en un mismo parecer. Porque he sido informado acerca de vosotros, hermanos míos, por los de Cloé, que hay contiendas entre vosotros. Me refiero a que cada uno de vosotros dice: Yo soy de Pablo, yo de Apolos, yo de Cefas, yo de Cristo. ¿Está dividido Cristo? ¿Acaso fue Pablo crucificado por vosotros? ¿O fuisteis bautizados en el nombre de Pablo?" (1 Corintios 1: 10-13).

Por último, no se desanime si sus esfuerzos para unirse con otros cristianos se encuentra con todo tipo de retos y decepciones. Nuestras decepciones podrían muy bien ser encargos divinos!!! Yo soy un testimonio vivo de esta verdad. AMEN.

Unida Familiar Mundial: Nuestra misión es promover y avanzar la unidad de las familias, la fundación de las sociedades, en los Estados Unidos y en todo el mundo, en base a los principios cristianos de amor, gozo, paz, paciencia, amabilidad, generosidad, fidelidad, humildad y auto-control.

El Señor nos restaura:

"¿Se le puede quitar el botón a los guerreros? ¿Puede el cautivo ser rescatado del tirano? Pero así dice el Señor: Sí, al guerrero se le arrebatará el cautivo, y del tirano se rescatará el botón; contendereé con los que contienda contigo, y yo mismo salvaré a tus hijos. Haré que tus opresores se coman su propia carne y se embriaguen con su propia sangre, como si fuera vino. Toda la *humanidad sabrá entonces que yo, el Señor, soy tu Salvador; que yo, el Poderoso de Jacob, soy tu Redentor" (Isaías 49:24-26).

One. It is time to stop talking, and start acting in unity instead. For the sacrifice of the One, Jesus Christ, All who accept Him have been saved and have become part of a Spiritual Family, and in a family, when One suffers, All suffer as well, but most importantly All unite to help the One who is suffering. The pain of One of these least of my brothers becomes the pain of All, and what we do for them, we do to Christ as well (Matthew 25:40). Not only that, but unity in love for one another is the key to advancing the Kingdom of God, evangelizing the world, and defeating the evil one. Christian unity is the sign of true Christians, and Satan's worst nightmare. Christ (the One), died for the sins of All, so that All can be freed to love One another. Those who have accepted Christ as their Lord and savior are being transformed from glory to glory into the image of Christ (the One) by the renewal of our minds, so that we All become One in Christ. We are not longer under bondage to sin, for we have realized that we are all sinners and and fallen short of God's perfect mark, but in Christ we have been reconciled to God and have become his children. We are no longer bound to external rituals or traditions, to denomination, to pretense, to trying to look holy, to trying to reach God by our fasting and prayers, our righteousness, but His righteousness alone, and become One in His Glory, the Holy Spirit, whom abides in each One of God's children.

Not Fasting, But Justice Says the Lord:

As God pointed out in the Old testament, and keeps up reminding us today, Not Fasting, But Justice Says the Lord: **"Is not this the fast that I choose: to loose the bonds of wickedness, to undo the straps of the yoke, to let the oppressed go free, and to break every yoke?"** Isaiah 58:6.

As in the Old Testament, God is calling all Christians to break the bonds of wickedness and every yoke. God is not satisfied in our sacrifices but in our hearts, in our desire and actions to care for each other. As a child of God, when God allows us to see and experience any evil, it is not because He is mad at us (because He already took His anger in the body of Christ, the Lamb of God), but because He knows that He can count on us to fight this evil.

Isaiah 58 tells us that God is not pleased in our fasting (in other translations in fasting and prayers) but in our desire to get rid of injustice and evil from this world. In my case, I had the privilege to experience a very prevalent evil that is destroying children and families in our cities, and I believe that God wants you and me to work to replace this evil with good, to be His hands and feet to help bring His Kingdom and will to this world in this area of life. I invite you to join me in this fight. Prayers and fasting in this area are appreciated, but according to God, are not enough. So, if God is asking you to help me, and I believe He is, ask Him how He wants you to work in this area.

The evil I am facing is with the existing corruption/incompetence in the Miami-Dade Family Court system, the same one that in great part is responsible for the suffering and death of many children in the State of Florida, including a child named Nubia Barahona (whose innocent blood is still crying out to God, and who was not even officially counted as one of the 500 innocent children who have recently died under Florida's Family Court

system care), and who died at the hands of her foster parents in great part as a consequence of a corrupt/incompetent system. In my case, the same psychologist, who said Jorge Barahona, the man who killed Nubia and tortured her brother, was fit to be a foster parent and whom ignored clear evidence to the contrary, was the same incompetent psychologist, that hid and manipulated evidence in my case, and questioned my parental abilities due to my Christian values for having prayed the Armor of God of Ephesians 6:11-18 with my children, while 3 corrupt/incompetent judges in the 11th Circuit Family Court selectively enforced the Law, ignored the facts of this case, and made decisions in favor of their attorney friends.

"Put on God's armor so that you can make a stand against the tricks of the devil. 12 We aren't fighting against human enemies but against rulers, authorities, forces of cosmic darkness, and spiritual powers of evil in the heavens. 13 Therefore, pick up the full armor of God so that you can stand your ground on the evil day and after you have done everything possible to still stand. 14 So stand with the belt of truth around your waist, justice as your breastplate, 15 and put shoes on your feet so that you are ready to spread the good news of peace. 16 Above all, carry the shield of faith so that you can extinguish the flaming arrows of the evil one. 17 Take the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit, which is God's word. 18 Offer prayers and petitions in the Spirit all the time. Stay alert by hanging in there and praying for all believers." (Ephesians 6:11-18).

"Moses told the people, Fear not; stand still (firm, confident, undismayed) and see the salvation of the Lord which He will work for you today. For the Egyptians you have seen today you shall never see again. The Lord will fight for you, and you shall hold your peace and remain at rest. The Lord said to Moses, Why do you cry to Me? Tell the people of Israel to go forward! Lift up your rod and stretch out your hand over the sea and divide it, and the Israelites shall go on dry ground through the midst of the sea" (Exodus 14:13-16).

"Shall the prey be taken from the mighty, or the lawful captives of the just be delivered? For thus says the Lord: Even the captives of the mighty will be taken away, and the prey of the terrible will be delivered; for I will contend with him who contends with you, and I will give safety to your children and ease them. And I will make those who oppress you consume themselves [in mutually destructive wars], thus eating their own flesh; and they will be drunk with their own blood, as with sweet wine; and all flesh will know [with a knowledge grounded in personal experience] that I, the Lord, am your Savior and your Redeemer, the Mighty One of Jacob" (Isaiah 49: 24-26). "How blessed you are when people insult you and persecute you and tell all kinds of vicious lies about you because you follow me! Rejoice, be glad, because your reward in heaven is great — they persecuted the prophets before you in the same way" (Matthew 5: 11-12).

Please visit www.SayNoToPAS.com and www.NewJudge.com for more details on how to unite the Body of Christ through the Glory he has given us, the Holy Spirit.

Do Not Be Afraid or Concerned When You Hear About Unity

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Do not be afraid or concerned when you hear about Unity. The spirit of the antichrist is in the church today as it is shown in 1 John 2:18–23, and the clearest manifestation of it today is portrayed in the division of the Christian church. The evil one's main tactic since the beginning of human kind has been his desire to separate us from God and from each other, thus the division we see today in the Body of Christ.

As brother Greg's message exemplifies (listen to minutes 7:40 to 11:35 of <http://www.harvest.org/radio/listen/2014-06-05.html>, The Four Horsemen of the Apocalypse — II), the evil one is trying to create fears/concerns in our hearts whenever we hear the words Unity. We need not to fear Unity, but to understand that in the end times, there will be a false and a true Unity, an antichrist, and a true Christ, a One World Religion, and a true Christian Unity, and these last two terms are diametrically opposed to each other.

One World Religion is a false doctrine that comes right out of the pit of Hell. Christian Unity is Jesus' heart and the key to the evangelization of the world, and it is based on sound doctrine, The Word of God fully manifested in Christ, which is the Gospel of Christ: the saving act of God due to the work of Jesus on the cross and resurrection from the dead which brings reconciliation ("atonement") between people and God; The One Way (John 14:6) by which people from all nations may be restored to a relationship with God, if we choose to stop living our own way and turn to Jesus in repentance and faith. Many of us today need to repent (from Greek metanoiein, to change one's mind), and put Christ's mind, so that our hearts may stop fearing Christian Unity, but embrace it because it is Christ's will for His Body, its true Church.

Mario A. Jiménez Jerez, M.D.

<http://saynotopas.com/christian-family-unity-jesus-prayer-for-his-disciples-and-the-key-to-the-evangelization-of-the-world/>

<http://saynotopas.com/division-a-fruit-of-the-evil-one-union-a-fruit-of-the-holy-spirit/>

<http://saynotopas.com/a-call-to-christian-unity/>

"Little children, it is the last hour; and as you have heard that the Antichrist is coming, even now many antichrists have come, by which we know that it is the last hour. They went out from us, but they were not of us; for if they had been of us, they would have continued with us; but they went out that they might be made manifest, that none of them were of us. But you have an anointing from the Holy One, and you know all things. I have not written to you because you do not know the truth, but because you know it, and that no lie is of the truth. Who is a liar but he who denies that Jesus is the Christ? He is antichrist who denies the Father and the Son. Whoever denies the Son does not have the Father either; he who acknowledges the Son has the Father also" (1 John 2:18–23).

EVANGELIZATION BACKWARDS

Have you ever wondered why the early church was so successful evangelizing the world?

What happened to some parts of the Christian Church where our

numbers have been progressively declining while other faiths, such as the Muslim faith, have been greatly increasing over the last decades?

I believe that the answers to these questions may surprise some of you. The early church was so successful evangelizing the world because they understood and obeyed Jesus' heart, which is for His followers to UNITE in the love for one another as a result of receiving God's love in our hearts, His Grace, which is the true Gospel of Christ.

As Acts shows: "All the believers were UNITED and shared everything. They would sell pieces of property and possessions and distribute the proceeds to everyone who needed them. Every day, they met together in the temple and ate in their homes. They shared food with gladness and simplicity. They praised God and demonstrated God's goodness to everyone. The Lord added daily to the community those who were being saved." (Acts 2: 44-47).

Jesus provided the road map to effective evangelization, and it is called UNITY, and UNITY comes as a result of the GLORY which we have received, the Holy Spirit: "I gave them this GLORY so that they can be ONE... they will be completely ONE. Then, the world will know that you sent me and that you loved them just as you loved me." God's Grace, which is the true Gospel of Christ, produces UNITY in His followers, and this in return evangelizes the world by showing them how much God loves them:

"I pray not only for these followers but also for those who will believe in me because of their teaching. Father, I pray that all who believe in me can be ONE. You are in me and I am in you. I pray that they can also be ONE in us. Then, the world will believe that you sent me. I have given them the glory that you gave me. I gave them this glory so that they can be ONE, just as you and I are ONE. I will be in them, and you will be in me. So they will be completely ONE. Then, the world will know that you sent me and that you loved them just as you loved me" (John 17:20-23).

I believe that one of the main reasons we have not been able to evangelize the world is that we have learned EVANGELIZATION BACKWARDS. We have tried to obey the great commission, without first being UNITED as a fruit of the Holy Spirit moving in our lives by the preaching of the true Gospel of Christ, God's unmerited favor, God's Grace. This happened because we have tried to evangelize by proclaiming a false "gospel," one mixed with the law, basically putting new wine into old wine skins, and the wine skin has burst causing all kinds of division in the church.

The UNITY which leads to LIFE and the DIVISION which leads to DEATH is exemplified in the early church. On the one hand, the true Gospel, God's Grace produces UNITY, and LIFE shown by the example of Barnabas in Acts: "The apostles continued to bear powerful witness to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and an abundance of GRACE was at work among them all. There were no needy persons among them. Those who owned properties or houses would sell them, bring the proceeds from the sales, and place them in the care and under the authority of the apostles. Then it was distributed to anyone who was in need. Joseph,

whom the apostles nicknamed Barnabas (that is, “one who encourages”), was a Levite from Cyprus. He owned a field, sold it, brought the money, and placed it in the care and under the authority of the apostles" (Acts 4: 33-37).

On the other hand, the mixture of “grace” and the law produces a false holiness that leads to DIVISION and DEATH, exemplified by Ananias and Sapphira: "However, a man named Ananias, along with his wife Sapphira, sold a piece of property. With his wife’s knowledge, he withheld some of the proceeds from the sale. He brought the rest and placed it in the care and under the authority of the apostles. Peter asked, “Ananias, how is it that Satan has influenced you to lie to the Holy Spirit by withholding some of the proceeds from the sale of your land? Wasn’t that property yours to keep? After you sold it, wasn’t the money yours to do with whatever you wanted? What made you think of such a thing? You haven’t lied to other people but to God!” When Ananias heard these words, he dropped dead. Everyone who heard this conversation was terrified. Some young men stood up, wrapped up his body, carried him out, and buried him. About three hours later, his wife entered, but she didn’t know what had happened to her husband. Peter asked her, “Tell me, did you and your husband receive this price for the field?” She responded, “Yes, that’s the amount.” He replied, “How could you scheme with each other to challenge the Lord’s Spirit? Look! The feet of those who buried your husband are at the door. They will carry you out too.” At that very moment, she dropped dead at his feet. When the young men entered and found her dead, they carried her out and buried her with her husband" (Acts 5: 1-10).

As the passages above show, evangelization can only happen when the true Gospel is preached; this true Gospel produces UNITY, and UNITY in the Body of Christ shows the world the love of God for them. This is how the early church evangelized the world, and how the church of the end times will evangelize the whole world, and answer Christ’s petition to the Father. The greatest revival the world has seen is coming and it will happen once the true Gospel is preached producing the fruit of the Spirit in us, which is LOVE for one another; in other words, LOVE is UNITY, and UNITY is what will lead to the evangelization of the world.

One way to show UNITY is by supporting our persecuted brothers and sisters. Our support for them shows our love for Christ and for one another, and is the key to the evangelization of the world.

Take for example Meriam Yahia Ibrahim, ARRESTED FEBRUARY 2014 IN SUDAN. “On May 15, 2014, a Khartoum court sentenced 27-year-old Sudanese Christian Dr. Meriam Yahia Ibrahim to death. She was found guilty of both apostasy and adultery. Initially, Meriam was charged with adultery because of her marriage to a Christian man, and the apostasy charge was added upon Meriam’s insistence that she was a Christian.” See more details here: http://www.prisoneralert.com/pprofiles/vp_prisoner_240_profile.html

“Remember them that are in bonds, as bound with them; and them which suffer adversity, as being yourselves also in the body” (Hebrews 13:3).

So, what has been preventing the church from completely evangelizing the world? Our lack of UNITY with one another, exemplified by the parable of the good samaritan:

"A man went down from Jerusalem to Jericho. He encountered thieves, who stripped him naked, beat him up, and left him near death. Now it just so happened that a priest was also going down the same road. When he saw the injured man, he crossed over to the other side of the road and went on his way. Likewise, a Levite came by that spot, saw the injured man, and crossed over to the other side of the road and went on his way. A Samaritan, who was on a journey, came to where the man was. But when he saw him, he was moved with compassion. The Samaritan went to him and bandaged his wounds, tending them with oil and wine. Then he placed the wounded man on his own donkey, took him to an inn, and took care of him. The next day, he took two full days' worth of wages and gave them to the innkeeper. He said, 'Take care of him, and when I return, I will pay you back for any additional costs.' What do you think? Which one of these three was a neighbor to the man who encountered thieves?" Then the legal expert said, "The one who demonstrated mercy toward him." Jesus told him, "Go and do likewise." (Luke 10:30-37).

The priest represents an apostate spirit infiltrated in the church, one that is more concerned in appearances, or religious traditions, than in God's will and real substance. The Levite represents the spirit of legalism that instills prejudice into the hearts of believers. These are two of the main spirits dividing the church today, and preventing it from being unleashed onto the world.

The church of Christ is unleashed in our UNITY by demonstrating the love of God in our care and compassion for each other, being the hands and feet of Jesus to a hurting world who will recognize Jesus as the Messiah by our UNITY shown in a tangible way by our love for each other, acting like the good Samaritan and not like the religious and legalistic people of our days represented by the priest and the Levite (teacher of the law) in the parable of the good Samaritan.

Lord, I pray that those who read this message receive a fresh revelation of the Holy Spirit, of how important the LOVE for one another is, and how this LOVE is fully manifested in the UNITY of your Body; that we may understand that we are your Body, your arms reaching, your hands healing, your words teaching, your feet going, your LOVE showing that JESUS IS THE WAY.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RZW7eTbT1Mk>

"Jesus paid much too high a price for us to pick and choose who should come. We are the Body of Christ. If we are the Body, why aren't His arms reaching? Why aren't His hands healing? Why aren't His words teaching? If we are the Body, why aren't His feet going? Why is His love not showing them there is a way, there is a way " - Casting Crowns.

Mario A. Jimenez Jerez, M.D.

A Servant of God Almighty, Saved by Grace and not by works.

www.SayNoToPAS.com

www.NewJudge.com

Sources and Statistics:

<http://www.patheos.com/blogs/christiancrier/2013/10/26/why-we-are-losing-so-many-churches-in-the-united-states/>

<https://www.barna.org/barna-update/culture/661-americans-divided-on-the-importance-of-church#.U6RbZpRdVIE>

Interesting Statistics about Americans, Church and God.

- 1- In America, 3500 — 4000 churches close their doors each year. (from the Barna Study -- www.barna.org)
- 2- Churches lose an estimated 2,765,000 people each year to nominalism and secularism. (from the Barna Study -- www.barna.org)
- 3- Usual Sunday church attendance has dropped from 1,606,00 in 1968 to 881,000 in 2005. (www.churchsociety.org)
- 4- Only 21% of Americans attend religious services every week. (www.religioustolerance.org)
- 5- The proportion of the population that can be classified as Christian declined from 86% in 1990 to 77% in 2001. (American Religion Identification Survey)

UNITY IN LOVE (THE FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT)

Many times we let our “knowledge or doctrines” separate the Body of Christ, but we must never forget that what we believe and what we understand now is imperfect because it is incomplete, and we can not let these imperfections separate us. In the end only Jesus, who is LOVE incarnate, remains and with Him those who remain in Him. Jesus (who is Love incarnate) never fails!!! Praised be His name!!!

“Love never ends. But as for prophecies, they will come to an end; as for tongues, they will cease; as for knowledge, it will come to an end. For we know only in part, and we prophesy only in part; but when the complete comes, the partial will come to an end. When I was a child, I spoke like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child; when I became an adult, I put an end to childish ways. For now we see in a mirror, dimly, but then we will see face to face. Now I know only in part; then I will know fully, even as I have been fully known. And now faith, hope, and love abide, these three; and the greatest of these is love.” (1 Corinthians 13: 8-13).

The same choice Adam and Eve had of not trying to depend on attaining their own knowledge (their own righteousness) but to believe in God’s word is before us today: “The Lord God took the human and settled him in the garden of Eden to farm it and to take care of it. The Lord God commanded the human, “Eat your fill from all of the garden’s trees; but don’t eat from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, because on the day you eat from it, you will die!” (Genesis 2:15-17)...The snake was the most intelligent of all the wild animals that the Lord God had made. He said to the woman, “Did God really say that you shouldn’t eat from any tree in the garden?” The woman said to the snake, “We may eat the fruit of the garden’s trees but not the fruit of the tree in the middle of the garden. God said, ‘Don’t eat from it, and don’t touch it, or you will die.’” The snake said to the woman, “You won’t die! God knows that on the day you eat from it, you will see clearly and you will be like God, knowing good and evil”” (Genesis 3:1-5).

We must decide between holding to what we believe is good and evil (original sin, the origin of the law) or to believe in God’s

love for us which is expressed in Joy, Peace, Patience, Kindness, Generosity, Faithfulness, Gentleness and Self-control so that the Body of Christ becomes One in His LOVE: "This is love [Jesus]: it is not that we loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son as the sacrifice that deals with our sins" (1 John 4:10).

Have you ever asked yourself how many times we let our "knowledge" of what is right and wrong separate the body of Christ? And, if we really want to serve Christ, why we are not actively working to make His wish for unity of His body our wish as well? Here is the heart of Christ, His last public prayer to our Father, His Last Will should be Our Will: "I pray not only for these followers but also for those who will believe in me because of their teaching. Father, I pray that all who believe in me can be one. You are in me and I am in you. I pray that they can also be one in us. Then the world will believe that you sent me. I have given them the glory that you gave me. I gave them this glory so that they can be one, just as you and I are one. I will be in them, and you will be in me. So they will be completely one. Then the world will know that you sent me and that you loved them just as you loved me" (John 17:20-23).

I challenge you in your time of prayer to meditate on this (not only should we deeply pray for the unity of the church, but we should also ask ourselves):

1. What is Christ calling me to do to achieve unity with our brothers in the faith? (focusing on our doctrines/customs/traditions will not bring unity, but focusing on the Gospel of Christ will).
2. What are we doing today to be the answer to the prayer of our Lord for the unity of his Church?

May the Grace of God always abound in your life. Check out my personal testimony and call to Christian Unity, One for All, and All for One; This is Christ's will for His followers: <http://saynotopas.com/a-call-to-christian-unity/> "And they have conquered him by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of their testimony, for they loved not their lives even unto death." (Revelation 12:11).

IN THE LAST DAYS:

Should Christians seek "peace" and "LOVE" at all cost? Are Christians sinning if they get angry and upset at this world system? Should not Christians be like Jesus, and walk humbly to the cross to be crucified?

As the Lord has allowed me the privilege to suffer for his name (see www.SayNoToPAS.com), I have been meditating on how God wants me and others Christians to respond in these last days in the face of the crimes and injustices we are seeing, and which the Bible prophesies will get even worst. I have come to the conclusion, that in the name of being humble and meek, some Christians have erroneously found an excuse to hide their fears, and not raise their voices against the atrocities and injustices being committed in these last days. They do not understand that "Whoever tries to keep their life will lose it, and whoever loses their life will preserve it" (Luke 17:33), and that "they have conquered him by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of their testimony, for they loved not their lives [did not let fear conquer them] even unto death" (Revelation 12:11).

Many people believe that Christians should not get upset or angry at any cost because we are supposed to be meek, humble, peacemakers, etc. (Mat 5: 2-11). After all, are not Christians supposed to “love,” be like Christ and turn the other cheek, carry our cross, and silently deal with the injustices in this world? They reason, that if God is in control, we should let Him fix these things. We should meet in our churches, sing our nice songs, listen to our inspired sermons until we are either caught up in the rapture or until all this evil and injustice is magically gone. Unfortunately, some well-meaning Christians have bought into these lies.

The Bible tells us that we are supposed to imitate Christ, that we are being transformed from glory to glory into his image by the renewal of our minds. I pray that after we read and meditate on His word on this topic, these lies will disappear, and we will become more like Him, Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior.

“And Jesus went into the temple and drove out all who bought and sold in the sacred place, and He turned over the four-footed tables of the money changers and the chairs of those who sold doves. He said to them, The Scripture says, My house shall be called a house of prayer; but you have made it a den of robbers” (Matthew 21: 12-13).

"And they came to Jerusalem. And he entered the temple and began to drive out those who sold and those who bought in the temple, and he overturned the tables of the money-changers and the seats of those who sold pigeons. And he would not allow anyone to carry anything through the temple. And he was teaching them and saying to them, “Is it not written, ‘My house shall be called a house of prayer for all the nations’? But you have made it a den of robbers.” And the chief priests and the scribes heard it and were seeking a way to destroy him, for they feared him, because all the crowd was astonished at his teaching" (Mark 11: 15–18).

"The Passover of the Jews was at hand, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem. In the temple he found those who were selling oxen and sheep and pigeons, and the money-changers sitting there. And making a whip of cords, he drove them all out of the temple, with the sheep and oxen. And he poured out the coins of the money-changers and overturned their tables. And he told those who sold the pigeons, “Take these things away; do not make my Father's house a house of trade.” His disciples remembered that it was written, “Zeal for your house will consume me.” So the Jews said to him, “What sign do you show us for doing these things?” Jesus answered them, “Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up.” The Jews then said, “It has taken forty-six years to build this temple, and will you raise it up in three days?” But he was speaking about the temple of his body. When therefore he was raised from the dead, his disciples remembered that he had said this, and they believed the Scripture and the word that Jesus had spoken" (John 2: 13-22).

The Bible is clear that Christ got so angry to the point that he made a whip of cords, drove the money changers out of the temple. As the passages above show, this infuriated the chief priests and the scribes and caused them to want to kill Jesus for they feared Him. What did they feared? His teachings, for Jesus had a zeal for the house of God, for the temple, and this was

symbolic of his greatest zeal, his people, who are now his temple.

These same passages also teach us that Jesus equates the physical temple with the spiritual temple: "Jesus answered them, "Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up...But he was speaking about the temple of his body." So in the new covenant, Christians become temples of the living God, see for instance 1 Corinthians 6: 19-20, and 1 Corinthians 3: 16-17. So, if Jesus was physically walking on this earth today (and Jesus is because we are in Him, we are His hands, His feet), he would have the same zeal for his people, his new temple. He would not tolerate to see the injustices and atrocities being committed against his people, against his Holy Temple. So, if we are to imitate Christ, should not Christians be doing the same?

I believe that many Christians through history have intuitively understood this parallel and have fought against injustice, wherever it has shown his head. As Martin Luther King wrote, "Anger at injustice is the political expression of love." In other words, having faith and love is only part of the equation of being a Christian. The other part is putting that faith and love into action, by fighting for justice.

In the Bible, there is a constant call to seek justice. Jesus got upset at the Pharisees because they neglected the weightier matters of the law, which He defined as justice and the love of God. In Isaiah 58, God complains about the fact that while the people of God are praying and fasting, they are not doing anything about injustice:

"Is not this the fast that I choose: to loose the bonds of wickedness, to undo the straps of the yoke, to let the oppressed go free, and to break every yoke? 7 Is it not to share your bread with the hungry and bring the homeless poor into your house; when you see the naked, to cover him, and not to hide yourself from your own flesh? 8 Then shall your light break forth like the dawn, and your healing shall spring up speedily; your righteousness shall go before you; the glory of the Lord shall be your rear guard. 9 Then you shall call, and the Lord will answer; you shall cry, and he will say, 'Here I am.' If you take away the yoke from your midst, the pointing of the finger, and speaking wickedness, 10 if you pour yourself out for the hungry and satisfy the desire of the afflicted, then shall your light rise in the darkness and your gloom be as the noonday. 11 And the Lord will guide you continually and satisfy your desire in scorched places and make your bones strong; and you shall be like a watered garden, like a spring of water, whose waters do not fail. 12 And your ancient ruins shall be rebuilt; you shall raise up the foundations of many generations; you shall be called the repairer of the breach, the restorer of streets to dwell in" (Isaiah 58: 6 - 12).

So, should Christians just pray for justice (which is one of the keys to letting His will be done on earth as it is in Heaven, in other words, to advance the Kingdom of God here on earth), and leave the rest to God? I don't think so. Instead, in Hebrews 11: 33-34 among other things, we are reminded that we are God's hands for dispensing justice, and God uses us to "administer justice." I believe that like the heroes of the Bible in the Old and New testament, in these last days, Christians through faith are also called to conquer kingdoms, enforced justice, obtain promises, stop the mouths of lions, quench the power of fire, escape the edge of the sword, be made strong out of weakness,

become mighty in war, and put foreign armies to flight.

In other words, we have to “walk our talk” and put our prayers into action, for “Faith Without Works Is Dead”:

“14 What does it profit, my brethren, if someone says he has faith but does not have works? Can faith save him? 15 If a brother or sister is naked and destitute of daily food, 16 and one of you says to them, “Depart in peace, be warmed and filled,” but you do not give them the things which are needed for the body, what does it profit? 17 Thus also faith by itself, if it does not have works, is dead” (James 2:14-17).

Lord Jesus, I pray that all who read this meditation may understand that you have called us to advance your Kingdom here on earth as it is in heaven, that we all have divine purposes, good works for our lives which you have prepared for us since the foundation of this world (Ephesians 2: 10). May the grace of the Lord Jesus be with all, so we may walk with confidence knowing that it is through Jesus’ sacrifice on the cross that we have been set free to accomplish our missions in this life, and to enjoy His company for ever and ever. Amen.

NOT FASTING, BUT JUSTICE SAYS THE LORD

"Is not this the fast that I choose: to loose the bonds of wickedness, to undo the straps of the yoke, to let the oppressed go free, and to break every yoke?" Isaiah 58:6

As in the Old Testament, God is calling all Christians to break the bonds of wickedness and every yoke. God is not satisfied in our sacrifices but in our hearts, in our desire and actions to care for each other. As a child of God, when God allows us to see and experience any evil, it is not because He is mad at us (because He already took His anger in the body of Christ, the Lamb of God), but because He knows that He can count on us to fight this evil. Isaiah 58 tells us that God is not pleased in our fasting (in other translations in fasting and prayers) but in our desire to get rid of injustice and evil from this world.

In my case, I had the privilege to experience a very prevalent evil that is destroying children and families in our city, and wants us to work to replace this evil with good, to be His hands and feet to help bring His Kingdom and will to this world in this area of life. I invite you to join me in this fight. Prayers and fasting in this area are appreciated, but according to God, are not enough. So, if God is asking you to help me, and I believe He is, ask Him how He wants you to work in this area.

The evil I am facing is with the existing corruption in the Miami-Dade Family Court system, the same one that in great part is responsible for the suffering and death of many children, including a child named Nubia Barahona, who died at the hands of her foster parent in great part as a consequence of a corrupt system. Now this criminal is desperately asking to have his case moved to the Miami Dade County court system. I know first hand why this guy is asking to have his case moved here. It is time we start voting for better judges or we will continue to see these crimes increased, and these criminals go unpunished.

In my case, the same psychologist who said Jorge Barahona was a great parent for Nubia and Victor Barahona, is the same incompetent psychologist,

<http://centerforchildwelfare2.fmhi.usf.edu/kb/bppub/NubiasStory>.

[pdf](#), that hid and manipulated evidence in my case, and questioned my parental abilities due to my Christian values, while 3 corrupt judges in 11th circuit Family Court ignored the truth. But they did not count on one thing, that as children of God, we have the perseverance of Job, the courage of David, and in the end we will be victorious like Joseph. It's only a matter of time before victory is manifested in this world for greater is he who is in us than he who is in the world. See details here: www.SayNoToPAS.com.

As one of my heroes, Mother Teresa, once said: "[We are] not called to be successful, [we are] called to be faithful."

http://articles.sun-sentinel.com/2014-04-28/news/fl-jorge-barahona-palm-beach-case-20140428_1_murder-trial-carmen-barahona-victor

The Least Common Denominator is THE VOID:

This memorial day, I happened to stumble over very sad news in yahoo. It was about a young man, 22 y/o, whom over the weekend had gone on a shooting spree killing 6 and finally killing himself. I have also noticed what seems to be an increasing number of these senseless events, and this prompted me to seek for a minimum common denominator (a.k.a Least Common Denominator or LCD) among them. In other words, what is it that all of these senseless murders all share in common?

What I noticed is that in all of these individuals there was a VOID or EMPTINESS in their lives that they tried to fill with what the world had to offer them: money, possessions, drugs, alcohol, sex, video games, popularity, spirituality, and the list goes on and on. However, despite all their efforts, nothing could fill this VOID, for this VOID can only be filled with a personal and intimate relationship with a loving God through Jesus Christ.

I believe that these events should be a wake up to all true Christians of the importance of sharing the Gospel, God's Grace or unmerited favor, the only thing that can truly fill our inner most beings. May the Holy Spirit embolden us to share the God News with a suffering and dying world. AMEN.

<http://www.latimes.com/local/lanow/la-me-ln-sla-me-ln-guns-recovered-at-shooting-20140524-story.html>

<http://www.nytimes.com/interactive/2014/05/25/us/shooting-document.html? r=0>

“GETTING FILLED WITH ALL THE FULLNESS OF GOD

to know the love of Christ which passes knowledge; that you may be filled with all the fullness of God. EPHESIANS 3:19

We would all like to experience more health, abundance and success in our lives. God, being God, has all of these things, won't you agree? So to be full of God is to be full of health, abundance and success. But how does one become full of God?

In the past, I was told that to be “filled with all the fullness of God”, I had to fast a certain number of days, pray a certain number of hours and speak in tongues incessantly! I am not belittling fasting, praying or speaking in tongues, but to be filled

with all the fullness of God is not about what you do. It is not even about your love for Christ. It is actually about knowing the love of Christ! No one ever told me that if I knew how much God loves me and focused on His love for me, I would be full of Him.

When God made you, He designed you to run at optimal level when you are filled with His love, like a car that runs at its best when it is filled with the right kind of petrol or gasoline. When you realize how much God loves you and you feed on His love for you, you will be supernaturally filled with the fullness of God.

And to be full of God is to be full of everything God is to you and has for you. To be full of God is to come to a place of life, health, peace, abundance—total wellness.

Also, when you are conscious of how much God loves you and you become filled with the fullness of God, what follows is the next verse—God doing exceedingly abundantly above all that you can ask or think, according to the power that works in you. (Ephesians 3:20) You will experience the tremendous blessings of God exploding in your life! You will become a blessing magnet!

So as God's beloved, continue to be nourished by His love for you, and experience more health, abundance and success in your life!"

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Prayer for Kidz ministry:

"Our Father who are in heaven, praised and Holy is your name. Your Kingdom come, your will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, forgive us our sins as we forgive those who have sinned against us, and do not let us fall into temptation, but deliver us from evil" (Matthew 6: 9-13).

So children, who is our Father? (God), so that make us? (brothers and sisters); So we are a family where God is the Father, the church is the mother, and we are the children of God, the very own Sons and Daughters of Almighty God. AMEN.

One day, Jesus was asked who was his family, and he answered: "whoever does the will of my Father in heaven is my brother, sister, and mother" (Matthew 12: 48-50).

What is the Father's will or command? Jesus explained: "a new command I give you: love one another, as I have loved you, so you must love one another. By this all men will know that you are my followers, if you love one another" (John 13: 34-35).

Jesus declared, "I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never go hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty. John 6:35

Jesus answered, "It is written: 'Man shall not live on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.'" Matthew 4:4

"Dear Lord Jesus, I open my heart, and invite you inside to be my friend, to be my God, to be my savior. Forgive me of my sins,

wash me clean. From this day forward, I want to follow you all the days of my life. I believe and put my faith and trust in you. Thank you for dying on the cross for me. In Jesus' name I pray, AMEN."

GOD REMEMBERS WHAT YOU SAY IN FAITH

As I was meditating on the word of God today, the thought of my oldest son being recently diagnosed with PTSD and major depression after his forced separation from our family, and the recent development of him starting to show involuntary movements of his neck and shoulders bombarded my mind. Through the Satan's devices, my children were taken away unjustly for no other reason than for being a Christian, (see www.SayNoToPAS.com), to try to derail me from my purpose in life, but only God has sustained me in His Grace, and his word.

Through this ordeal, I have realized that like Abraham, I must trust in God's promises for in Christ Jesus, all of God's promises come to pass (2 Cor. 1:20), and that the key to spiritual victory is in God's word. When thoughts of despair attack me, I hold on and start to proclaim these promises:

1. that our children are separated for the service of God: they are Holy and Sanctified (1 Cor. 7:14);
2. that all of our children will follow the Lord and great will be their prosperity (Isaiah 54:13);
3. that our children will come back to our house, the house of God, as promised in Jeremiah 31:16-17.

What was different this afternoon is that right after I had proclaimed His promises over Satan's attacks in my family, I opened my e-mail to today's Grace Inspiration from Joseph Prince and it exactly coincided with what the Holy Spirit had put in my heart just minutes before. I believe that this testimony is not only for my good, but some others in the body of Christ. God bless. May the Grace of our Lord Jesus be always with you.

"GOD REMEMBERS WHAT YOU SAY IN FAITH

So shall My word be that goes forth from My mouth; it shall not return to Me void, but it shall accomplish what I please, and it shall prosper in the thing for which I sent it. ISAIAH 55:11

Some years back, I had a skin condition which refused to heal. I told God about it and began to take the Holy Communion believing and confessing that by Jesus' stripes I was healed. Nothing happened, or so it seemed.

But the Lord did not forget about my skin condition. One day, He prompted me to check my body to see if it was still there. I did so and realized that it had disappeared! God had not forgotten the Word which I had confessed in faith.

A couple in the United States who has been hearing me preach on God's grace began to catch a revelation of God's love for them. They started confessing their righteousness in Christ, and meditating on provision scriptures and declaring that they were debt-free through Jesus' finished work.

Not long after, the wife phoned their mortgage company to make two mortgage payments on their home. They had a total of about US\$80,000 left to pay. To her utter surprise and delight, she was told that both accounts were at a zero balance. The company had forgiven both mortgage loans! Indeed, God did not forget the Word that this couple had spoken in faith.

Maybe you shared God's Word with a troubled friend a few years ago. You bump into him one day and he tells you, "Remember that day? You said something which transformed my life!" Your mind draws a blank because you have forgotten what you said. But God did not forget. He remembered what you said that day in faith.

You see, if the words you confess in faith for yourself or over your loved ones are God's own words, He says, "So shall My word be that goes forth from My mouth; it shall not return to Me void, but it shall accomplish what I please, and it shall prosper in the thing for which I sent it." Because what is promised to you is God's Word, you will see the manifestation of His promise. He will certainly watch over His Word to perform it! (Numbers 23:19)"

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CONTINUE IN GOD'S GRACE

...for the letter kills, but the Spirit gives life. 2 CORINTHIANS 3:6

To the Jews, the feast of Pentecost is a celebration of the giving of God's law. It takes place 50 days after the Passover feast. When God gave the Israelites the Ten Commandments at Mount Sinai, it was 50 days after they had celebrated their first Passover and come out of slavery in Egypt.

But what happened after God gave them the law on the first Pentecost? Three thousand people died! (Exodus 32:28) Contrast this with another Pentecost in the New Testament. In the book of Acts, it says that when Pentecost had fully come, God gave not the law but the Holy Spirit, and what happened? Three thousand people got saved (Acts 2:41), which goes to show that "the letter [the law] kills, but the Spirit gives life"!

The law, which was "written and engraved on stones", ministered death. It killed 3,000 people. That is why the apostle Paul calls it "the ministry of death" and "the ministry of condemnation". (2 Corinthians 3:7-9) On the other hand, the Spirit ministered life—3,000 people got saved.

My friend, when you come under the law by trying to keep God's commandments in order to be blessed, it will lead to death. There will be deadness in your marriage, ministry, health, career...in your life. But when you depend on the Spirit of grace, it will lead to life. You will see breakthroughs and miracles (Galatians 3:5), and manifest the fruit of the Spirit.

So if you want to be blessed, make sure that you are on the right mountain. You see, the law was given on Mount Sinai, but the Spirit on Mount Zion. That is why the Bible says that "you have

not come to the mountain [Sinai] that may be touched and that burned with fire, and to blackness and darkness and tempest...But you have come to Mount Zion and to the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, to an innumerable company of angels". (Hebrews 12:18, 22) The Lord blesses you out of Zion (Psalm 128:5), and not Sinai!

Beloved, by grace you have been saved through faith. (Ephesians 2:8) Now, continue in the Spirit of grace. Remain on the right mountain and He will continue to supply miracles in your life!

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The Vision of Grace

This document was prepared after a dream/vision I had several years ago. This changed my life forever, and I hope that it will do the same for you. In my dream, there was a long road, and people were forming two long lines; one to the right and the other to the left of the road. It was judgment day, and I had initially started to walk on the left side of the road, but then I thought to myself: "I should be at the right, for those at the right side on judgment day will be saved." Realizing that I was walking on the left side, and thus the wrong side of the road, I started to cry and pray for forgiveness. Then, in a moment of complete and utter desperation, I darted out of the line and shoved my way to the right side of the road, to the line of people who were walking on the right side; for they, I thought, were heading for salvation. All of a sudden, two white winged Angels, grabbed me by my shoulders, and pulled me out of the line. I struggled to free myself from the Angels' grab, but they were way too strong. I really did not care if they were Angels; I was even ready to fight Angels if it meant my salvation, so I fought to free myself with all my strength, with every drop of energy that was in me, for I was fighting for my life; not this life, but eternal life itself. I was not going to give it up that easily. However, all my effort and struggles were in vain. The Angels pushed me to the left side of the road, and I knew I was going to die.

The struggle had left me completely exhausted, and there I was on my knees with my forehead touching the floor. I could not stop crying and begging for forgiveness, but it was too late. I thought, my God, I know that I was a sinner, but I had asked for forgiveness, and Jesus had washed my sins away. Why am I here now? As I was catching my breath and regaining strength, I stood up. I looked around me, and there were many people around wearing white robes. I did not know where I was. There were so many people around me, but none of them would talk to me; they were all looking straight ahead of them at the same direction. All of a sudden, I heard the sound of a trumpet, and I and everyone around me felt on their knees, even the Angels. While kneeling down, I managed to raise my head in an effort to see what was happening. At that moment, I was able to catch a sight of a man sitting on a throne and wearing a white shining robe. As He sat there, I realized that it was Jesus; his throne was right at the end of the road I had just walked moments before. I watched in horror for judgment day had come, and for reasons that I still could not completely understand, I had been caught on

La Vision de la Gracia

Quisiera compartir con ustedes un sueño/visión que fue el que un día me inspiró a continuar mis estudios médicos. Este sueño cambió mi vida para siempre. En mi sueño, había un largo camino, y personas formaban dos largas líneas; una a la derecha y la otra a la izquierda del camino. Era el día de juicio final, e inicialmente había comenzado a caminar en el lado del camino izquierdo, pero entonces pensé: "Debería estar a la derecha porque los que estén a la derecha en el día del juicio final se salvarán." Al darme cuenta que caminaba al lado izquierdo, el lado equivocado del camino, comencé a llorar y orar pidiendo perdón. Luego, en un momento de desesperación completa y absoluta, salí rápidamente de la línea y a empujones me cruce al lado derecho de la carretera, en la línea de las personas que caminaban al lado derecho, el lado correcto; porque ellos, yo pensé, serían salvos. De repente, dos ángeles con alas blancas, me agarraron de mis hombros, y me sacaron de la línea. Luché para librarme de los ángeles, pero eran mucho más fuertes que yo. Realmente no me importó si eran ángeles; estaba dispuesto a luchar contra los mismos ángeles porque estaba luchando por mi salvación. Así que peleé para librarme con todas mis fuerzas, con la última gota de energía que había en mí, pues estaba peleando por mi vida; No esta vida, sino la vida eterna misma. No iba a darme por vencido tan fácilmente. Sin embargo, todo mi esfuerzo y mi lucha fue en vano. Los ángeles me empujaron para el lado del camino izquierdo, y supe que iba a morir.

La lucha me había dejado completamente exhausto, y allí yo estaba de rodillas, con mi frente tocando el piso. No podía dejar de llorar y rogar por perdón, pero era demasiado tarde. Pensé, Dios mío, sé que fui un pecador, pero había pedido perdón, y Jesús me había liberado de mis pecados. ¿Porque estoy ahora aquí, me pregunte? Cuando ya había recobrado mi respiración y mis fuerzas, me puse de pie. Miré alrededor de mí, y habían muchas personas alrededor vestidas completamente de blanco. No sabía dónde estaba. Habían tantas personas alrededor, pero ninguna de ellas me dirigía la palabra; ellos miraban hacia el frente, en la misma dirección. De repente, oí el sonido de una trompeta, y todo el mundo alrededor de mí y yo caímos de rodillas, aun los ángeles mismos. Mientras estaba de rodillas, logré levantar la cabeza en un esfuerzo de ver qué ocurría. En ese momento, pude ver un hombre sentado sobre un trono, vestido completamente de blanco resplandeciente. Mientras Él estaba sentado, me di cuenta que era Jesús; Su trono estaba exactamente al final del camino que yo había caminado momentos antes. Observaba en horror pues el día del juicio final había llegado, y

the wrong side of the road.

Inconsolably awaiting for my eternal damnation, I saw Him raising His right arm, and as though pointing it directly to me, He said "Come, you who are blessed by my Father; take your inheritance, the kingdom prepared for you since the creation of the world. For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in, I needed clothes and you clothed me, I was sick and you looked after me, I was in prison and you came to visit me" (Matthew 25:35-36). Then, I saw everyone around me dancing, singing, and praising His name in exhilarating joy. I could not believe it, as if a veil had fallen from my eyes, I could see and understand that I had been on the right side of the road all along. At that very moment, everyone around me disappeared, and I felt someone hugging me, and He whispered to my ears with a very loving voice: "my child, do not worry for you are with me; not matter how hard you tried, I would not let you go for you are of my flock, and none of my sheep was lost. I know that back there in the road, you tried to go in the wrong way, but my Angels stopped you. You were trying to attain salvation by following what you thought was the right way, by following a set of rules, regulations and laws, but my ways are not your ways.

Salvation is attained by grace, and not by the law. I died to set you and your brothers free from the law, so that you and your brothers may live forever. From this truth, you shall be overjoyed, and you should share this joy with those who do not know me. That is why I commanded my apostles to go and share the good news with all nations. But, do not be confused by the teachers of the law and new Pharisees; they call me Lord, Lord, but I do not know them. As in the days I walked upon the earth, these false teachers load people down with burdens they can hardly carry but will not lift one finger to help them. They claim to know the way, but they really do not know it. I am the Way and the Truth and the Life. No one comes to the Father except through me. I am Love. No one comes to the Father except through Love."

After the dream, I felt compelled to come up with this drawing which shows the connection between Body, Mind, and Soul, for a picture is worth a thousand words. Because I am not very good at drawing, I used Leonardo da Vinci's Vitruvian Man as an initial template, and I built upon it. The Vitruvian Man represents humanity, i.e. each one of us, males or females. As the Bible teaches us, we were made in the image of God, and as Christians, we believe that God is three distinct Persons, but One True God. Since we were made in His image, we must also follow a similar pattern. In our case, as Mathew hinted us in Mat 22:37, our hearts, souls, and minds form a complete human being, our whole being. Mathew basically tells us that we must love God with our whole being, i.e. our heart, our soul, and our mind. Our heart represents our flesh, or Body, and it is equivalent to Jesus since He became flesh and made His dwelling among us (John 1:14). Our Soul is the spiritual part of our being, and is equivalent to the Holy Spirit. Our Mind is the driving energy or force behind everything we do, and it is equivalent to the Father. Just like the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit are One, and are in perfect harmony, we must also be one and be in perfect harmony. We were initially in this perfect harmony, but sin destroyed it.

por razones que aun no completamente entendía, estaba en el lado equivocado del camino.

Inconsolablemente esperando mi condenación eterna, observe a Jesús levantar Su brazo derecho, y como si apuntara directamente hacia mí, dijo: "vengan, ustedes que han sido bendecidos por mi Padre; tomen su herencia, el reino preparado para ustedes desde la creación del mundo. Pues tuve hambre y me dieron de comer, tuve sed y me dieron de beber, era un extraño y me dieron posada, necesité ropa y me vistieron, estuve enfermo y me cuidaron, estuve preso y me llegaron a visitar." Luego, vi a todo el mundo alrededor de mí bailando, cantando, y alabando Su nombre con una alegría exorbitante. No podía creerlo, como si un velo caía de mis ojos, entonces podía ver y entender que había estado en el lado correcto desde un comienzo. En ese mismo momento, todo el mundo alrededor de mí desapareció, y sentí alguien abrazándome, y murmurando a mis oídos con una voz muy cariñosa: "Mi niño, no te preocupes pues estas conmigo; No importa que tan duro trataras, yo no te deje ir pues ninguna de mis ovejas se perdió. Sé que allá en el camino, trataras de irte por la vía equivocada, pero mis ángeles te detuvieron. Tu trataras de lograr la salvación siguiendo lo que tu creías era correcto, el camino derecho, siguiendo un conjunto de reglas, regulaciones y leyes, pero mis caminos no son tus caminos.

La Salvación se obtiene por la Gracia, y no por la Ley. Yo di mi vida para librarlos de la Ley, a fin de que tu y tus hermanos puedan vivir eternamente. Por esta verdad, ustedes deben regocijarse, y deben compartir esta alegría con aquellos que no me conocen. Por esto les ordené a mis apóstoles que fueran y compartieran las buenas nuevas con todas las naciones. Pero no te dejes confundir por los maestros de la ley y los nuevos fariseos; Me llaman Señor, Señor, pero no los conozco. Como en los días que camine sobre la tierra, estos falsos maestros ponen grandes cargas sobre las personas que ellos apenas pueden cargar, pero no levantan un dedo para ayudarles. Creen saber el camino, pero realmente no lo conocen. Yo soy la verdad y la vida. Nadie viene al Padre excepto a través de mí. Yo soy Amor. Nadie viene al Padre excepto a través del Amor.

However, it is through Jesus, who is Love incarnate, that this original perfect harmony can be restored. Remember, Jesus is Love; Jesus is the Way; thus, Love is the Way ($A=B$; $A=C$; thus $B=C$). It is through Love (Jesus) that harmony within ourselves is restored and we become whole once again. It is only through Love (Jesus) that humanity has been restored to its original pristine state. When this original harmony is restored in us, our Minds, Bodies, and Souls become whole once again. This is represented by the three small circles inside the bigger circle originally drawn by Leonardo. Notice that in perfect harmony, the intersection of these three circles form an area where God is at the center. This means that God must be at the center of our lives for this perfect harmony to occur.

In perfect harmony, our minds and our bodies yield the maximum amount of good fruits (Joy, Peace, Patience, Kindness, Goodness, Faithfulness, Gentleness, and Self-control), and this is represented by the intersection of the Mind and Body circles. Similarly, in perfect harmony, our minds are constantly learning God's will for our lives; this is represented by the intersection of the Mind and Soul circles. Also in perfect harmony, our Bodies become perfect temples of God, and this is represented by the intersection of the Body and Soul circles. Outside the intersection area of these three circles, but still inside of at least one of the circles, there are things that help us build our Minds, Bodies, and Souls (this list is not complete, however). To the right of the Vitruvian Man (who represents every one of us, humanity), just like in my dream, are warnings that we must pay attention to, to avoid losing the Way. Just because we might preach the word of God, prophesy, drive out demons, or even perform many miracles in His name, it does not mean that He will know us, or that these acts will make us worthy to enter the kingdom of heaven; only Love makes us worthy to enter the kingdom of heaven. Also, to the right are hints to help us identify false prophets. Do not be deceived by them for by their fruit you shall know them. Now, to the left of the Vitruvian Man is the key to salvation. Here we learn that God must be at the center of our lives, that it is by His grace (free gift of God to humankind) that we are saved, and that as a response to His grace, Love should emanate from within our hearts to our neighbors (all human beings). Finally, John 3:16 sums it all up: "For God so loved the world that he gave His one and only Son that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life." A final warning: this drawing and all that it contains shall not be considered perfect doctrine for "Now we see but a poor reflection as in a mirror; then we shall see face to face. Now I know in part; then I shall know fully, even as I am fully known. And now these three remain: faith, hope and Love. But the greatest of these is Love" (1 Cor. 13: 12-13).

1. Thus, by their **fruit** you will recognize them. "Not everyone who says to me, 'Lord, Lord,' will enter the kingdom of heaven, but only he who does the **will of my Father** who is in heaven. Many will say to me on that day, 'Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in your name, and in your name drive out demons and perform many miracles?' Then I will tell them plainly, 'I never knew you. Away from me, you evildoers!' (Mat 7: 20-23).

2. But the **fruit** of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law (Gal 5: 22-23).

3. The **will of my Father**: "A new command I give you: **Love one another**. **As I have loved you**, so you must love one another. By this all men will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another" (John 13: 34-35).

4. The Law brags of our love for God

THE LAW: YOU SHALL LOVE THE LORD YOUR GOD WITH ALL YOUR **HEART**, AND WITH ALL YOUR **SOUL**, AND WITH ALL YOUR **MIND**... AND YOUR NEIGHBOR AS YOURSELF (Mat 22:37-39). *The Law and Grace are in opposite ends of the spectrum.*

GRACE: THIS IS LOVE, NOT THAT WE LOVED GOD BUT THAT HE LOVED US AND SENT HIS SON AS THE SACRIFICE THAT DEALS WITH OUR SINS (1 John 4:10).

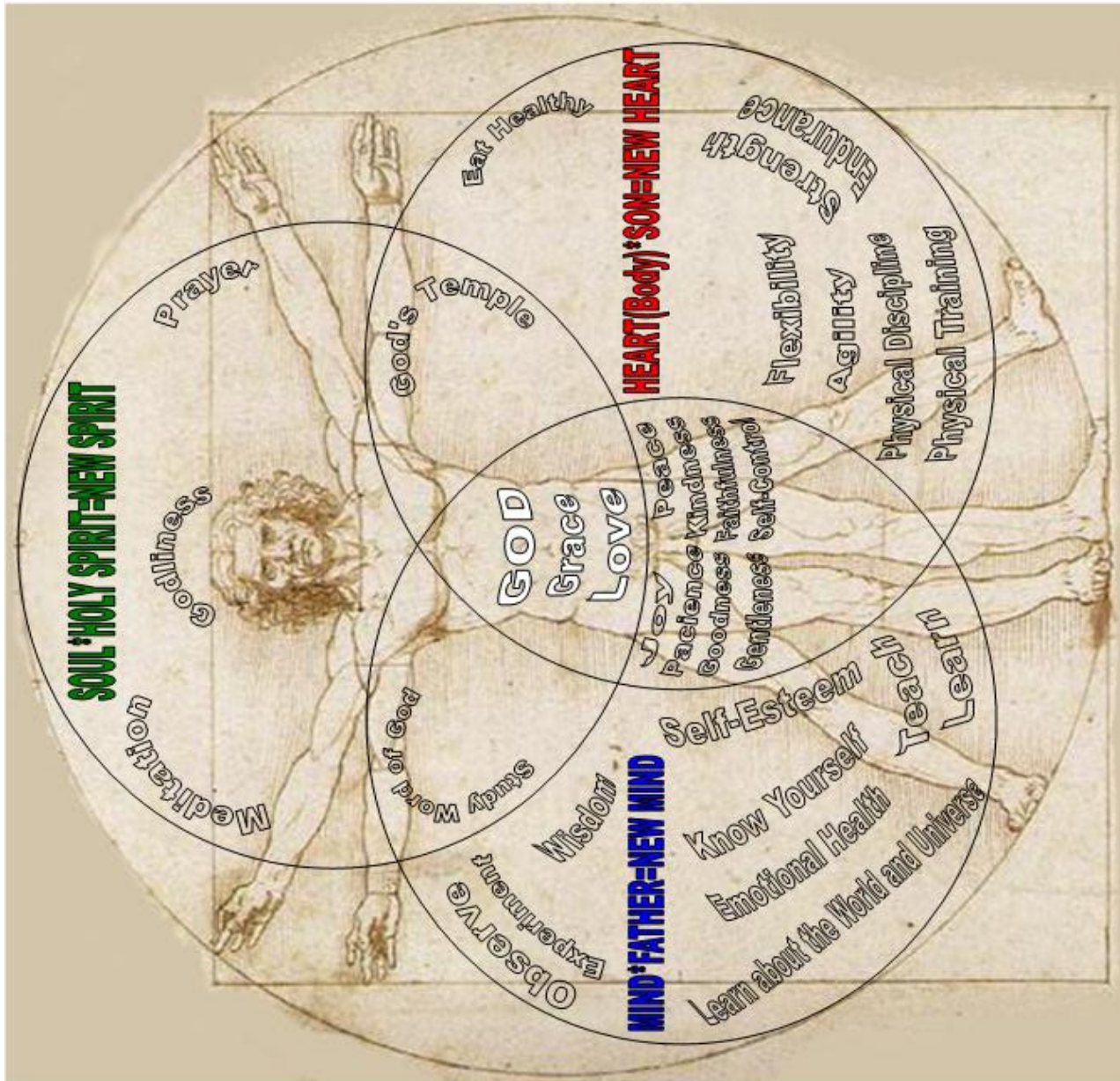
1. **GOD** must be at the center of one's life. When He is at the center, we give Him permission to arrange everything in its right place.

2. For by **GRACE** you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves, it is the gift of God; not as a result of works, that no one should boast (Eph 2:8-9).

3. **LOVE** should be our response to **GOD's GRACE**. To **LOVE** our neighbors as **JESUS** loves us is our call. To **LOVE** our neighbors (be compassionate to our neighbors) is to **LOVE JESUS** himself, for whatever we do for a neighbor in need we do for **JESUS** himself. "I tell you the truth, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers of mine, you did for me" (Mat 25:40).

4. In His **LOVE** and **GRACE**, **GOD** sent his only begotten son, **JESUS** who is the **CHRIST**, "that whoever believes in Him should not perish, but have eternal life." (John 3:16).

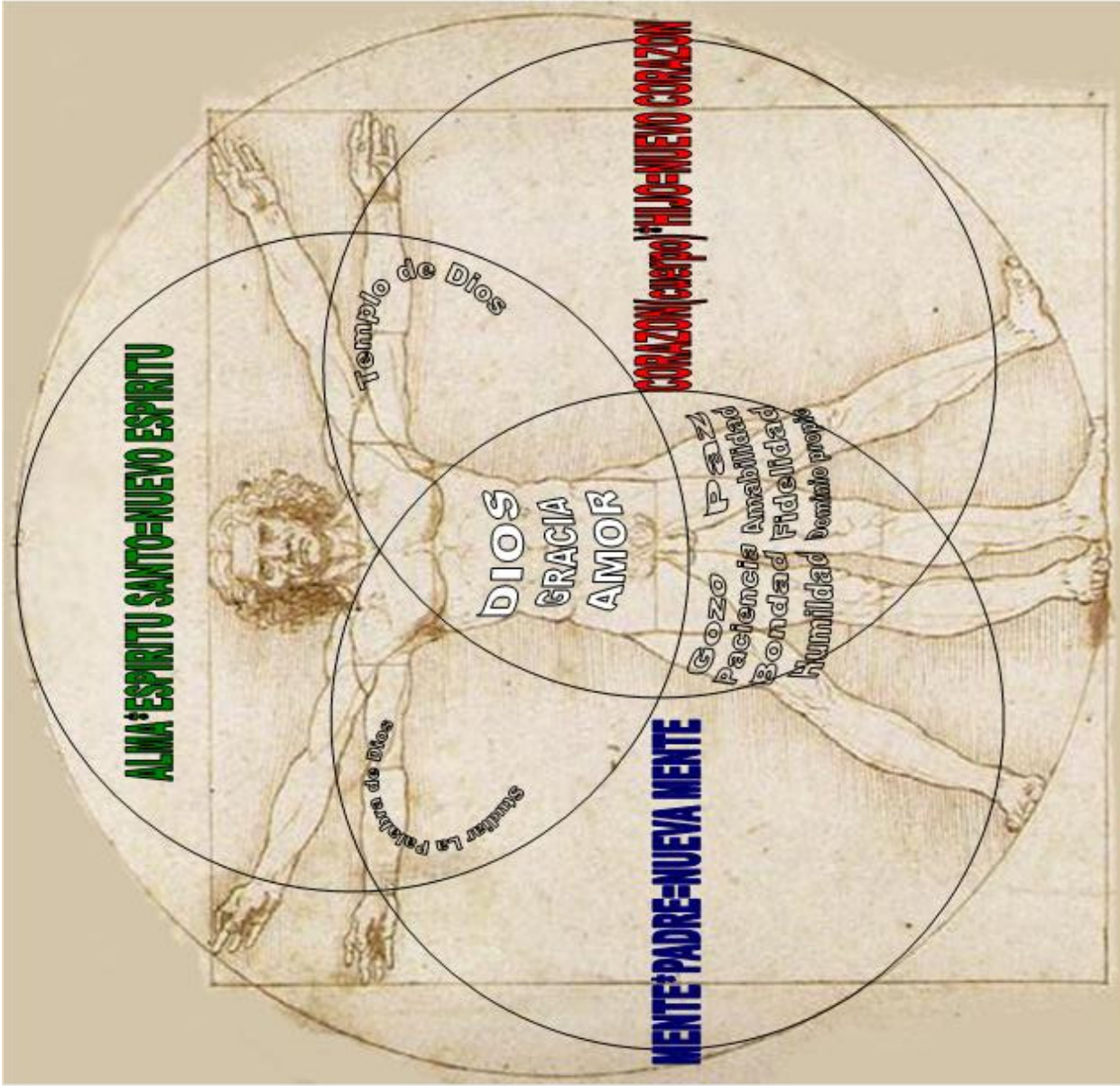
5. Grace brags of God's love for us.



1. Así que por sus **fruto** los conoceréis. No todo el que me dice 'Señor, Señor', entrará en el reino de los cielos, sino el que hace **la voluntad de mi Padre** que está en los cielos. Muchos me dirán en aquel día: 'Señor, Señor, ¿no profetizamos en tu nombre, y en tu nombre expulsamos demonios e hicimos muchos milagros?' Entonces yo les declararé: 'Nunca os conocí. Alejense de mí, hacedores de maldad' (Mateo 7: 20-23).

2. Mas el **fruto** del Espíritu es amor, gozo, paz, paciencia, amabilidad, bondad, fidelidad, humildad y dominio propio. Contra tales cosas no hay ley (Gal 5, 22-23).

3. La **voluntad del Padre**: "Un mandamiento nuevo os doy. Amaos los unos a los otros como yo os he amado, que también os améis unos a otros de este modo todos sabrán que son mis discípulos, si se aman los unos a los otros" (Juan 13: 34-35).



AMARAS AL SEÑOR TU DIOS CON TODO TU CORAZON, Y CON TODA TU ALMA, Y CON TODA TU MENTE (Mat 22:37).

1. **DIOS** debe estar en el centro de la vida de uno. Cuando Él está en el centro, le damos permiso para organizar todo en su lugar correcto.

2. Porque por **GRACIA** sois salvos por medio de la fe, no como resultado de las obras, para que nadie se glorie (Efesios 2:8-9), y esto no de vosotros, pues es don de Dios.

3. El **AMOR** debe ser nuestra respuesta a la **GRACIA de DIOS**. Amar a nuestro prójimo como Jesús nos ama, es nuestro llamado. **Amar a nuestro prójimo (ser compasivo con nuestros vecinos) es amar a Jesús a sí mismo**, por lo que hacemos por un vecino en necesidad lo hacemos por el mismo Jesús: "Os aseguro que cuanto hicisteis a uno de los más pequeños de estos hermanos míos, a mí lo hicisteis" (Mateo 25:40).

4. En su **AMOR** y **GRACIA, DIOS** envió a su Hijo unigénito, **Jesús**, que es el **Cristo**, "para que todo aquel que en él cree no se pierda, mas tenga vida eterna." (Juan 3:16).

Thoughts About God's and Man's Perfect Harmony

After the vision of grace, I felt compelled to come up with this drawing, for a picture is worth a thousand words. Because I am not very good at drawing, I used Leonardo da Vinci's Vitruvian Man as an initial template, and I built upon it.

The law is based on this command: "YOU SHALL LOVE THE LORD YOUR GOD WITH ALL YOUR **HEART**, AND WITH ALL YOUR **SOUL**, AND WITH ALL YOUR **MIND**" (Mat 22:37), but Grace is based on God's love for us.

The key to understanding the difference between the old covenant and the new covenant is that in the new covenant God redefined the meaning of love: "***This is love [Jesus]: it is not that we loved God but that he loved us*** and sent his Son as the sacrifice that deals with our sins" (1 John 4:10).

"And this is his commandment, that we should believe in the name of his Son Jesus Christ and love one another, just as he has commanded us" (1 John 3:23).

So what is the command 1 John 3:23 refers to? this is the New Law, the New Command in the New Covenant, in the covenant of His blood: "I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. ***Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another.***" (John 13:34).

The law of Moses was only a shadow of Christ. Those trying to be justified by it are always conscious of their sins, but those justified by Christ are always conscious of Christ's sacrifice for them and not their sins, for all their sins, past, present and future are covered by His blood.

"A new heart I will give you, and a new spirit I will put within you; and I will take out of your flesh the heart of stone and give you a heart of flesh. 27 And I will put my spirit within you, and cause you to walk in my statutes and be careful to observe my ordinances" (Ezekiel 36: 26-27).

"Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your minds, so that you may discern what is the will of God—what is good and acceptable and perfect" (Romans 12:2).

"Now may the God of peace Himself sanctify you entirely; and may your Spirit and soul and body be preserved complete, without blame at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ" (1 Thessalonians 5:23 NASB).
To harmonize Mat 22:37 with Ezekiel 36: 26-27, 1 Thessalonians 5:23, and other passages that mention similar terms, here Spirit and soul = New Spirit, and BODY= mind and heart (body's main organ of response to thoughts).

"For the Word that God ... is sharper than any two-edged sword, penetrating to the dividing line of the breath of life (soul) and [the immortal] Spirit,... exposing and sifting and analyzing and

Pensamiento Hacerca de la Harmonia Perfecta de Dios y el Hombre

Despues de la vision de la gracia, senti que debia de hacer un dibujo, ya que un dibujo vale mil palabras. Porque no soy muy buen dibujante, use el dibujo de Leonardo da Vinci como un bosquejo inicial, y construi basado en el.

La ley esta basada en este mandamiento: "Amaras al Señor tu Dios con todo tu **CORAZON**, y con toda tu **ALMA**, y con toda tu **MENTE**" (Mateo 22:37), mas la Gracia esta basada en el amor de Dios por nosotros.

La clave para entender la diferencia entre el antiguo pacto y el nuevo pacto es que en el nuevo pacto Dios redefinió el significado del amor: "Este es el amor [Jesús]: no es que nosotros hayamos amado a Dios, sino en que él nos amó y envió a su Hijo como el sacrificio que se ocupa de nuestros pecados" (1 Juan 4:10).

"Y este es su mandamiento: que creamos en el nombre de su Hijo Jesucristo, y que nos amemos unos a otros como El nos ha mandado" (1 Juan 3:23).

Asi que ¿cuál es el mandamiento al que 1 Juan 3:23 refiere? Esta es la Nueva Ley, es el nuevo mandamiento en el Nuevo Pacto, en el pacto de Su sangre: "Os doy un mandamiento nuevo: que os améis unos a otros. ***Como yo os he amado, que también os améis unos a otros.***" (Juan 13:34).

La ley de Moisés era sólo una sombra de Cristo. Los que tratan de ser justificados por ella son siempre conscientes de sus pecados, pero los que son justificados por Cristo estan siempre conscientes del sacrificio de Cristo por ellos y no sus pecados, porque todos sus pecados, pasados, presentes y futuros están cubiertos por Su sangre.

"pondré en ustedes un corazón nuevo y un espíritu nuevo. Quitaré de ustedes ese corazón duro como la piedra y les pondré un corazón dócil. 27 Pondré en ustedes mi espíritu, y haré que cumplan mis leyes y decretos" (Ezequiel 36:26).

"Y no os adaptéis a este mundo, sino transformaos mediante la renovación de vuestra mente, para que verifiquéis cuál es la voluntad de Dios: lo que es bueno, aceptable y perfecto" (Romanos 12:2).

"Y el mismo Dios de paz os santifique por completo; y vuestro espíritu y vuestra alma y cuerpo, sea guardado irreprochable para la venida de nuestro Señor Jesucristo" (1 Tesalonicenses 5:23 NVI).

Para armonizar Mat 22:37 con Ezequiel 36: 26-27, 1 Tesalonicenses 5:23, y otros pasajes que usan terminos similares, aquí Espíritu y alma = Nuevo Espíritu y CUERPO= mente y corazón (organo principal de respuesta del cuerpo a los pensamientos).

"Porque la palabra de Dios... Es más cortante que cualquier espada de dos filos, y penetra hasta lo más profundo del alma y del espíritu...y somete a juicio los pensamientos ((mente)) y las

judging the very thoughts ((mind)) and purposes of the heart ((our body's response to these thoughts))" (Hebrews 4:12).

1) The Vitruvian Man represents humanity, i.e. each one of us, males or females. As the Bible teaches us, we were made in the image of God, and as Christians we believe that God is three distinct Persons, but One True God. Since we were made in His image, we must also follow a similar pattern. In our case, as Mathew hinted us in Mat 22:37, our hearts, souls, and minds form a complete human being, our whole being. Mathew basically tells us that we must love God with our whole being, i.e. our heart, our soul, and our mind. Our heart represents our flesh, or material body, and it is equivalent to Jesus since He became flesh and made His dwelling among us (John 1:14). Our soul is the spiritual part of our being, and is equivalent to the Holy Spirit. Our mind is the organ that processes our thoughts, and directs all the other organs of our bodies; since mass and energy are interchangeable, we can say that the mind is also the driving energy or force behind everything we do, and it is analogous to the Father.

2) Just like the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit are One, and are in perfect harmony, we must also be one and be in perfect harmony. We were initially in this perfect harmony, but sin destroyed it. However, it is through Jesus, who is Love incarnate, that this original perfect harmony can be restored. Remember, Jesus is Love; Jesus is the Way; thus, Love is the Way (A=B; A=C; thus B=C). It is through Love (Jesus) that harmony within us is restored and we become whole once again. It is only through Love (Jesus) that humanity has been restored to its original pristine state. When this original harmony is restored in us, our minds, bodies, and souls become whole once again. This is represented by the three small circles inside the bigger circle originally drawn by Leonardo da Vinci. Notice that in perfect harmony, the intersection of these three circles form an area where God is at the center. This means that God must be at the center of our lives for this perfect harmony to occur.

3) Next, pay attention to the colors used for **MIND*FATHER=NEW MIND**, **SOUL*HOLY SPIRIT=NEW SPIRIT**, and **HEART(Body)*SON=NEW HEART**. Our eyes only have three types of color sensors, called cones. Each cone is designed to see only one of these three colors: Blue, Green, and Red. Blue has the highest level of energy, followed by the green and the red color respectively. In a perfectly equal combination of these colors, that is to say in perfect harmony, what we see is pure white light; which is analogous to what happens when the **MIND*FATHER=NEW MIND**, the **SOUL*HOLY SPIRIT=NEW SPIRIT**, and the **HEART(Body)*SON=NEW HEART** are in perfect harmony within ourselves, and the pure light of God shines in us and through us, and the love of God, who is Jesus, is perfectly manifested in us and through us for the salvation of the world.

intenciones del corazón ((las respuestas del cuerpo a los pensamientos))" (Hebreos 4:12).

1) El Hombre de Vitruvio representa a la humanidad, es decir, cada uno de nosotros, hombres o mujeres. Como la Biblia nos enseña, nos hicieron a imagen de Dios, y como cristianos creemos que Dios es tres personas distintas, pero un único y verdadero Dios. Dado que fuimos hechos a su imagen, nosotros debemos seguir un patrón similar. En nuestro caso, como Mateo nos dio a entender en Mateo 22:37, nuestros corazones, almas y mentes forman un ser humano completo, todo nuestro ser. Mateo básicamente nos dice que debemos amar a Dios con todo nuestro ser, es decir, nuestro corazón, nuestra alma y nuestra mente. Nuestro corazón representa nuestra carne o cuerpo material, y es equivalente a Jesús ya que Él se hizo carne y habitó entre nosotros (Juan 1:14). Nuestra alma es la parte espiritual de nuestro ser, y es equivalente al Espíritu Santo. Nuestra mente es el organo que procesa nuestros pensamientos, y dirige todos los otros organos del cuerpo; debido a que la materia y la energía son intercambiables, se puede decir que la mente es la energía o fuerza motriz detrás de todo lo que hacemos, y es análogo a Dios Padre.

2) Al igual que el Padre, el Hijo y el Espíritu Santo son uno, y se encuentran en perfecta armonía, también nosotros debemos de ser uno y estar en perfecta armonía. Al principio estábamos en esta perfecta armonía, pero el pecado la destruyó. Sin embargo, es a través de Jesús, que es el Amor encarnado, que esta perfecta armonía original se puede restaurar. Recuerde, Jesús es el Amor; Jesús es el camino, por lo que Amor es el Camino (A=B; A=C, por lo que B=C). Es a través del amor (Jesús) que la armonía dentro de nosotros mismos es restaurada y volvemos a ser un solo conjunto una vez más. Es sólo a través del amor (Jesús) que la humanidad ha sido restaurada a su estado prístino original. Cuando esta armonía original se restaura en nosotros, nuestras mentes, cuerpos y almas se convierten una otra vez más. Esto está representado por los tres pequeños círculos dentro del círculo grande originalmente dibujado por Leonardo da Vinci. Observe que en perfecta armonía, la intersección de estos tres círculos forman una zona en la que Dios está en el centro. Esto significa que Dios debe ser el centro de nuestras vidas para esta perfecta armonía que se produzca.

3) A continuación, preste atención a los colores utilizados **MENTE*PADRE=NUEVA MENTE**, **ALMA*ESPÍRITU SANTO=NUEVO ESPÍRITU**, y **CORAZÓN(Cuerpo)*SON=NUEVO CORAZÓN**. Nuestros ojos sólo tienen tres tipos de sensores de color, llamados conos. Cada cono está diseñado para ver sólo uno de estos tres colores: azul, verde y rojo. Azul tiene el más alto nivel de energía, seguido por el verde y el color rojo, respectivamente. En una combinación perfectamente igual de estos colores, es decir, en perfecta armonía, lo que vemos es la luz blanca pura, que es análogo a lo que sucede cuando la **MENTE*PADRE=NUEVA MENTE**, **ALMA*ESPÍRITU SANTO=NUEVO ESPÍRITU**, y **CORAZÓN(Cuerpo)*SON=NUEVO CORAZÓN** están en perfecta armonía dentro de nosotros mismos, y la luz pura de Dios brilla en nosotros y a través de nosotros, y el amor de Dios, que es Jesús, está perfectamente manifestado en nosotros y a través de nosotros para la salvación del mundo.

4) In perfect harmony, our minds and our bodies yield the maximum amount of fruit of the Spirit which is love, and this love is expressed in joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control, and this is represented by the intersection of the **NEW MIND** and **NEW HEART** circles. Similarly, in perfect harmony, our minds are constantly learning God's will for our lives; this is represented by the intersection of the **NEW MIND** and **NEW SPIRIT** circles. Also in perfect harmony, our bodies become perfect temples of God, and this is represented by the intersection of the **NEW HEART** and **NEW SPIRIT** circles.

5) Outside the intersection area of these three circles, but still inside of at least one of the circles, there are things that help us build our minds, bodies, and souls (this list is not complete, however).

6) To the right of the Vitruvian Man (whom represents every one of us, humanity), are warnings that we must pay attention to, to avoid losing the Way. Just because we might preach the word of God, prophesy, drive out demons, or even perform many miracles in His name, it does not mean that He will know us, or that these acts will make us worthy to enter the kingdom of heaven; only Love makes us worthy to enter the kingdom of heaven, and "This is love: it is not that we loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son as the sacrifice that deals with our sins" (1 John 4:10).

Also, to the right are hints to help us identify false prophets. Do not be deceived by them for by their fruit (love) you will recognize them. "Not everyone who says to me, 'Lord, Lord,' will enter the kingdom of heaven, but only he who does the will of my Father who is in heaven. Many will say to me on that day, 'Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in your name, and in your name drive out demons and perform many miracles?' Then I will tell them plainly, 'I never knew you. Away from me, you evildoers!'" (Mat 7: 20-23). To what fruit is the passage referring? "But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law" (Gal 5: 22-23). And, what is The will of my Father? "A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. By this all men will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another" (John 13: 34-35).

7) Now, to the left of the Vitruvian Man are the keys to salvation. Here we learn that God must be at the center of our lives; that it is by His grace (free gift of God to humankind) that we are saved, and that as a response to His grace, Love should emanate from within our hearts to our neighbors (all human beings). Finally, John 3:16 sums it all up: "For God so loved the world that he gave His one and only Son that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life." A final warning: this drawing and all that it contains shall not be considered a doctrine or a new philosophy. It is just a human attempt to try to understand what cannot be completely understood while we are alive on this earth. It is imperfect because "Now we see but a poor reflection as in a mirror; then we shall see face to face. Now

4) En perfecta armonía, nuestras mentes y nuestros cuerpos producen el fruto del Espíritu que es el amor y el amor es expresado en la forma de gozo, paz, paciencia, amabilidad, bondad, fidelidad, mansedumbre y dominio de sí mismo, y esto está representado por la intersección de los círculos de la **NUEVA MENTE** y **NUEVO CORAZÓN**. Del mismo modo, en perfecta armonía, nuestras mentes están aprendiendo constantemente la voluntad de Dios para nuestras vidas, lo que está representado por la intersección de los círculos de la **NUEVA MENTE** y del **NUEVO ESPÍRITU**. También en perfecta armonía, nuestros cuerpos se convierten en templos perfectos de Dios, y esto es representado por la intersección de los círculos del **NUEVO CORAZÓN** y la **NUEVA MENTE**.

5) Fuera de la zona de intersección de estos tres círculos, pero aún dentro al menos de uno de los círculos, hay cosas que nos ayudan a construir nuestras mentes, cuerpos y almas (esta lista no es completa, sin embargo).

6) A la derecha del Hombre de Vitruvio (quien representa a cada uno de nosotros, la humanidad), son advertencias que debemos prestar atención, para no perder el camino. El hecho de que podamos predicar la palabra de Dios, profetizemos, expulsemos a los demonios, o incluso realizemos muchos milagros en su nombre, esto no significa que Él nos conocera, o que estos actos nos harán dignos de entrar en el reino de los cielos; sólo el amor nos hace dignos de entrar en el reino de los cielos y "En esto consiste el amor: no en que nosotros hayamos amado a Dios, sino en que El nos amó a nosotros y envió a su Hijo como propiciación por nuestros pecados" (1 Juan 4:10).

También, a la derecha hay consejos para ayudarnos a identificar a los falsos profetas. No se deje engañar por ellos porque por su fruto (amor) los conoceréis. "No todo el que me dice 'Señor, Señor', entrará en el reino de los cielos, sino el que hace la voluntad de mi Padre que está en los cielos. Muchos me dirán en aquel día: 'Señor, Señor, ¿no profetizamos en tu nombre, y en tu nombre expulsamos demonios e hicimos muchos milagros?' Entonces yo les declararé: 'Nunca os conocí. Aléjense de mí, hacedores de maldad'" (Mateo 7: 20-23). ¿Ha qué fruta se refiere el pasaje? "Mas el fruto del Espíritu es amor, gozo, paz, paciencia, amabilidad, bondad, fidelidad, mansedumbre y dominio propio contra tales cosas no hay ley" (Gal 5: 22-23). Y, ¿cuál es la voluntad de mi Padre? "Un mandamiento nuevo os doy: Amaos los unos a los otros. Como yo os he amado, que también os améis unos a otros. De este modo todos sabrán que son mis discípulos, si se aman los unos a los otros" (Juan 13:34-35).

7) Ahora, a la izquierda del Hombre de Vitruvio están las claves para la salvación. Aquí aprendemos que Dios debe ser el centro de nuestras vidas, que es por su gracia (regalo de Dios a la humanidad) que somos salvos, y que, como respuesta a su gracia, el amor debe emanar de dentro de nuestros corazones, para nuestros vecinos (todos los seres humanos). Por último, Juan 3:16 lo resume todo: "Porque tanto amó Dios al mundo, que ha dado a su Hijo unigénito para que todo aquel que en él cree no se pierda, mas tenga vida eterna." Una advertencia final: este dibujo y todo lo que contiene no se debe considerar una doctrina o una filosofía nueva. Es sólo un intento humano para tratar de entender lo que no se puede entender completamente mientras estemos vivos en esta tierra. Esto es imperfecto porque "Ahora vemos solamente

<p>I know in part; then I shall know fully, even as I am fully known. And now these three remain: faith, hope and Love. But the greatest of these is Love" (1 Cor 13: 12-13). Only Jesus has achieved this perfection, and it is only through Him that we can achieve it as well.</p>	<p>una reflexión pobre, como en un espejo; entonces veremos cara a cara. Ahora conozco en parte, pero entonces conoceré como soy conocido. Y ahora estos tres permanecen: fe, esperanza y amor. Pero el mayor de ellos es el amor" (1 Cor 13:12-13). Sólo Jesús ha logrado la perfección, y es sólo a través de Él que podemos lograrlo también.</p>
<p>Teachings On Marriage: "So God created man in His own image, in the image and likeness of God He created him; male and female He created them. And God blessed them and said to them, Be fruitful, multiply, and fill the earth, and subdue it [using all its vast resources in the service of God and man]; and have dominion over the fish of the sea, the birds of the air, and over every living creature that moves upon the earth" (Genesis 1:27-28).</p> <p>"And did not God make [you and your wife] one [flesh]? Did not One make you and preserve your spirit alive? And why [did God make you two] one? Because He sought a godly offspring [from your union]. Therefore take heed to yourselves, and let no one deal treacherously and be faithless to the wife of his youth" (Malachi 2:15).</p>	<p>Enseñanzas del Matrimonio: "Creó, pues, Dios al hombre a imagen suya, a imagen de Dios lo creó; varón y hembra los creó. Y los bendijo Dios y les dijo: Sed fecundos y multiplicaos, y llenad la tierra(C) y sojuzgadla; ejerced dominio sobre los peces del mar, sobre las aves del cielo y sobre todo ser viviente que se mueve sobre la tierra" (Génesis 1:27-28).</p> <p>"Pero ninguno que tenga un remanente del Espíritu lo ha hecho así. ¿Y qué hizo éste mientras buscaba una descendencia de parte de Dios? Prestad atención, pues, a vuestro espíritu; no seas desleal con la mujer de tu juventud" (Malaquías 2:15).</p>
<p><u>The Body of Christ needs a Spiritual "stem cell" transplant</u></p> <p>Christ's last public prayer to the Father was the unity of the church, which is his body. As explained previously, this unity is the key to the evangelization of the world, and the subsequent second coming of Christ. That's why Satan has worked so hard to divide Christ's church, for he knows that without the unity of the church, there can not be a true evangelization of the world, and thus he can still remain on this earth.</p> <p>Satan is the cause of the division of the church. He has caused a "spiritual" auto-immune disorder to the body of Christ, causing damage to the many tissues of the body of Christ. The Holy Spirit is like a stem cell in the body of Christ. He is the Healer of Christ's body. The body of Christ, His church here on earth, needs the Holy Spirit's healing power, just like a sick body may need a stem cell transplant to heal itself. The bible puts it this way: "He saved us not by works of righteousness which we had done, but according to His mercy, by the washing of regeneration, and by the renewing of the Holy Ghost" (Titus 3:5).</p>	<p><u>El Cuerpo de Cristo necesita un trasplante Espiritual de "célula madre"</u></p> <p>La última oración pública de Cristo al Padre fue la unidad de la Iglesia, que es su cuerpo. Como se ha explicado anteriormente, esta unidad es la clave para la evangelización del mundo, y la posterior segunda venida de Cristo. Es por eso que Satanás ha trabajado tan duro para dividir a la iglesia de Cristo, porque él sabe que sin la unidad de la iglesia, no puede haber una verdadera evangelización del mundo, y por lo tanto todavía puede permanecer en esta tierra.</p> <p>Satanás es la causa de la división de la iglesia. Ha causado un trastorno "espiritual" auto-inmune en el cuerpo de Cristo, causando daños a los muchos tejidos del cuerpo de Cristo. El Espíritu Santo es como una célula madre en el cuerpo de Cristo. Él es el Sanador del cuerpo de Cristo. El cuerpo de Cristo, Su iglesia aquí en la tierra, necesita el poder sanador del Espíritu Santo, al igual que un cuerpo enfermo puede necesitar un trasplante de células madre para curarse a sí mismo. La biblia lo pone de esta manera: "nos salvó, no por obras de justicia que nosotros hubiéramos hecho, sino por su misericordia, por el lavamiento de la regeneración y por la renovación en el Espíritu Santo" (Tito 3:5).</p>
<p><u>The Baptism of the Holy Spirit</u></p> <p>The Parable of the Sewer Explained: 18 "Hear then the parable of the sower. 19 <u>When anyone hears the word of the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what is sown in the heart; this is what was sown on the path.</u> 20 As for what was sown on rocky ground, this is the one who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy; 21 yet such a person has no root, but endures only for a while, and when trouble or persecution arises on account of the word, that person immediately falls away. 22 As for what was sown among thorns, this is the one who hears the word, but the cares of the world and the lure of wealth choke the word, and it yields nothing. 23 But as for what was sown on good soil, this is the one who hears the word and understands it, who indeed bears fruit and yields, in one case a hundredfold, in</p>	<p><u>El Bautismo del Espíritu Santo</u></p> <p>Explicación de la parábola del sembrador: 18 Vosotros, pues, escuchad la parábola del sembrador. 19 <u>A todo el que oye la palabra del reino y no la entiende, el maligno viene y arrebató lo que fue sembrado en su corazón. Este es aquel en quien se sembró la semilla junto al camino.</u> 20 Y aquel en quien se sembró la semilla en pedregales, éste es el que oye la palabra y enseguida la recibe con gozo; 21 pero no tiene raíz profunda en sí mismo, sino que sólo es temporal, y cuando por causa de la palabra viene la aflicción o la persecución, enseguida tropieza y cae. 22 Y aquel en quien se sembró la semilla entre espinos, éste es el que oye la palabra, mas las preocupaciones del mundo y el engaño de las riquezas ahogan la palabra, y se queda sin fruto. 23 Pero aquel en quien se sembró la semilla en tierra buena, éste es el que oye la palabra y la entiende,</p>

another sixty, and in another thirty.” (Matthew 13:18-23).

Jesus did not do any miracles until he received the Holy Spirit:

“21 Now when all the people were baptized, and when Jesus also had been baptized and was praying, the heaven was opened, 22 and the Holy Spirit descended upon him in bodily form like a dove. And a voice came from heaven, “You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased.” (Luke 3:21-22).

Neither did the apostles start their ministry until they received the Holy Spirit. This happened in two separate events.

First, where the Holy Spirit is given to the Apostles:

“21 Jesus said to them again, “Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you.” 22 When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, Receive the Holy Spirit.” (John 20:21-22).

Second, where the Power of the Holy Spirit is manifested in and through the Apostles, where the apostles were baptized with the Holy Spirit:

"4 While staying with them, he ordered them not to leave Jerusalem, but to wait there for the promise of the Father. “This,” he said, “is what you have heard from me; 5 for **John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now.**”...8 But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.” (Acts 1:4-5,8).

The Coming of the Holy Spirit

2 When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place. 2 And suddenly from heaven there came a sound like the rush of a violent wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. 3 Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them. 4 All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability.

5 Now there were devout Jews from every nation under heaven living in Jerusalem. 6 And at this sound the crowd gathered and was bewildered, because each one heard them speaking in the native language of each. 7 Amazed and astonished, they asked, “Are not all these who are speaking Galileans? 8 And how is it that we hear, each of us, in our own native language? 9 Parthians, Medes, Elamites, and residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, 10 Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya belonging to Cyrene, and visitors from Rome, both Jews and proselytes, 11 Cretans and Arabs—in our own languages we hear them speaking about God’s deeds of power.” 12 All were amazed and perplexed, saying to one another, “What does this mean?” 13 But others sneered and said, “They are filled with new wine.”

Peter Addresses the Crowd

14 But Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed them, “Men of Judea and all who live in Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and listen to what I say. 15 Indeed, these are not drunk, as you suppose, for it is only nine o’clock in the morning. 16 No, this is what was spoken through the prophet Joel:

éste sí da fruto y produce, uno a ciento, otro a sesenta y otro a treinta.” (Mateo 13:18-23).

Jesús no hizo ningún milagro hasta que recibió el Espíritu Santo:

“21 Y aconteció que cuando todo el pueblo era bautizado, Jesús también fue bautizado: y mientras El oraba, el cielo se abrió, 22 y el Espíritu Santo descendió sobre El en forma corporal, como una paloma, y vino una voz del cielo, que decía: Tú eres mi Hijo amado, en ti me he complacido.” (Luke 3:21-22).

Tampoco los apóstoles comenzaron su ministerio hasta que recibieron al Espíritu Santo. Esto paso en dos eventos separados. Primero, donde el Espíritu Santo es dado a los apóstoles:

“21 Jesús entonces les dijo otra vez: Paz a vosotros; como el Padre me ha enviado, así también yo os envío. 22 Después de decir esto, sopló sobre ellos y les dijo: Recibid el Espíritu Santo.” (Juan 20:21-22).

Segundo, donde el poder del Espíritu Santo se manifiesta en y a través de los apóstoles, donde los apóstoles fueron bautizados con el Espíritu Santo:

"4 Y reuniéndolos, les mandó que no salieran de Jerusalén, sino que esperaran la promesa del Padre: La cual, les dijo, oísteis de mí; 5 pues **Juan bautizó con agua, pero vosotros seréis bautizados con el Espíritu Santo dentro de pocos días.**”...8 pero recibiréis poder cuando el Espíritu Santo venga sobre vosotros; y me seréis testigos en Jerusalén, en toda Judea y Samaria, y hasta los confines de la tierra." (Hechos 1:4-5, 8).

La venida del Espíritu Santo

2 Cuando llegó el día de Pentecostés, estaban todos juntos en un mismo lugar. 2 De repente vino del cielo un ruido como el de una ráfaga de viento impetuoso que llenó toda la casa donde estaban sentados, 3 y se les aparecieron lenguas como de fuego que, repartiéndose, se posaron sobre cada uno de ellos. 4 Todos fueron llenos del Espíritu Santo y comenzaron a hablar en otras lenguas, según el Espíritu les daba habilidad para expresarse.

5 Y había judíos que moraban en Jerusalén, hombres piadosos, procedentes de todas las naciones bajo el cielo. 6 Y al ocurrir este estruendo, la multitud se juntó; y estaban desconcertados porque cada uno los oía hablar en su propia lengua. 7 Y estaban asombrados y se maravillaban, diciendo: Mirad, ¿no son galileos todos estos que están hablando? 8 ¿Cómo es que cada uno de nosotros los oímos hablar en nuestra lengua en la que hemos nacido? 9 Partos, medos y elamitas, habitantes de Mesopotamia, de Judea y de Capadocia, del Ponto y de Asia, 10 de Frigia y de Panfilia, de Egipto y de las regiones de Libia alrededor de Cirene, viajeros de Roma, tanto judíos como prosélitos, 11 cretenses y árabes, les oímos hablar en nuestros idiomas de las maravillas de Dios. 12 Todos estaban asombrados y perplejos, diciéndose unos a otros: ¿Qué quiere decir esto? 13 Pero otros se burlaban y decían: Están borrachos.

Primer sermón de Pedro

14 Entonces Pedro, poniéndose en pie con los once, alzó la voz y les declaró: Varones judíos y todos los que vivís en Jerusalén, sea esto de vuestro conocimiento y prestad atención a mis palabras, 15 porque éstos no están borrachos como vosotros suponéis, pues apenas es la hora tercera del día; 16 sino que esto es lo que fue dicho por medio del profeta Joel:

17 **In the last days it will be, God declares, that I will pour out my Spirit upon all flesh, and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams.**

18 Even upon my slaves, both men and women, in those days I will pour out my Spirit; and they shall prophesy.

19 And I will show portents in the heaven above and signs on the earth below, blood, and fire, and smoky mist.

20 The sun shall be turned to darkness and the moon to blood, before the coming of the Lord's great and glorious day.

21 Then everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.'

22 "You that are Israelites, listen to what I have to say: Jesus of Nazareth, a man attested to you by God with deeds of power, wonders, and signs that God did through him among you, as you yourselves know— 23 this man, handed over to you according to the definite plan and foreknowledge of God, you crucified and killed by the hands of those outside the law. 24 But God raised him up, having freed him from death, because it was impossible for him to be held in its power. 25 For David says concerning him,

'I saw the Lord always before me, for he is at my right hand so that I will not be shaken;

26 therefore my heart was glad, and my tongue rejoiced; moreover my flesh will live in hope.

27 For you will not abandon my soul to Hades, or let your Holy One experience corruption.

28 You have made known to me the ways of life; you will make me full of gladness with your presence.'

29 "Fellow Israelites, I may say to you confidently of our ancestor David that he both died and was buried, and his tomb is with us to this day. 30 Since he was a prophet, he knew that God had sworn with an oath to him that he would put one of his descendants on his throne. 31 Foreseeing this, David spoke of the resurrection of the Messiah, saying, 'He was not abandoned to Hades, nor did his flesh experience corruption.'

32 This Jesus God raised up, and of that all of us are witnesses.

33 Being therefore exalted at the right hand of God, and having received from the Father the promise of the Holy Spirit, he has poured out this that you both see and hear. 34 For David did not ascend into the heavens, but he himself says,

'The Lord said to my Lord,

"Sit at my right hand,

35 until I make your enemies your footstool.'"

36 Therefore let the entire house of Israel know with certainty that God has made him both Lord and Messiah, this Jesus whom you crucified."

After hearing the Gospel of Christ, you may have accepted Jesus as your Saviour, and be baptized in water, but you may have not received the Holy Spirit:

"14 Now when the apostles at Jerusalem heard that Samaria had accepted the word of God, they sent Peter and John to them. 15 The two went down and prayed for them that they might receive the Holy Spirit 16 (for as yet the Spirit had not come upon any of them; they had only been baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus).

17 Then **Peter and John laid their hands on them, and they received the Holy Spirit.**" (Acts 8:14-17).

"While Apollos was in Corinth, Paul passed through the interior

17 **Y sucedera en los ultimos dias —dice Dios—que derramare de mi Espiritu sobre toda carne; y vuestros hijos y vuestras hijas profetizaran, vuestros jovenes veran visiones, y vuestros ancianos soñaran sueños;**

18 y aun sobre mis siervos y sobre mis siervas derramare de mi Espiritu en esos dias, y profetizarán.

19 Y mostrare prodigios arriba en el cielo y señales abajo en la tierra: sangre, fuego y columna de humo.

20 El sol se convertira en tinieblas y la luna en sangre, antes que venga el dia grande y glorioso del Señor.

21 Y sucedera que todo aquel que invoque el nombre del Señor sera salvo.

22 Varones israelitas, escuchad estas palabras: Jesús el Nazareno, varón confirmado por Dios entre vosotros con milagros, prodigios y señales que Dios hizo en medio vuestro a través de El, tal como vosotros mismos sabéis, 23 a éste, entregado por el plan predeterminado y el previo conocimiento de Dios, clavasteis en una cruz por manos de impíos y le matasteis, 24 a quien Dios resucitó, poniendo fin a la agonía de la muerte, puesto que no era posible que El quedara bajo el dominio de ella. 25 Porque David dice de El:

Veia siempre al Señor en mi presencia; pues esta a mi diestra para que yo no sea conmovido.

26 Por lo cual mi corazon se alegro y mi lengua se regocijo; y aun hasta mi carne descansara en esperanza;

27 pues tu no abandonarás mi alma en el Hades, ni permitirás que tu Santo vea corrupcion.

28 Me has hecho conocer los caminos de la vida; me llenaras de gozo con tu presencia.

29 Hermanos, del patriarca David os puedo decir con fiadamente que murió y fue sepultado, y su sepulcro está entre nosotros hasta el día de hoy. 30 Pero siendo profeta, y sabiendo que Dios le habia jurado sentar a uno de sus descendientes en su trono, 31 miró hacia el futuro y habló de la resurrección de Cristo, que no fue abandonado en el Hades, ni su carne sufrió corrupcion.

32 A este Jesús resucitó Dios, de lo cual todos nosotros somos testigos. 33 Así que, exaltado a la diestra de Dios, y habiendo recibido del Padre la promesa del Espíritu Santo, ha derramado esto que vosotros veis y oís. 34 Porque David no ascendió a los cielos, pero él mismo dice:

Dijo el Señor a mi Señor:

"Sientate a mi diestra,

35 hasta que ponga a tus enemigos por estrado de tus pies."

36 Sepa, pues, con certeza toda la casa de Israel, que a este Jesús a quien vosotros crucificasteis, Dios le ha hecho Señor y Cristo.

Después de escuchar el Evangelio de Cristo, puedes haber acepto a Jesús como tu salvador y haber sido bautizado en agua, pero es posible que no hayas recibido al Espíritu Santo:

"14 Cuando los apóstoles que estaban en Jerusalén oyeron que Samaria había recibido la palabra de Dios, les enviaron a Pedro y a Juan, 15 quienes descendieron y oraron por ellos para que recibieran el Espíritu Santo, 16 pues todavía no había descendido sobre ninguno de ellos; sólo habían sido bautizados en el nombre del Señor Jesús. 17 **Entonces les imponían las manos, y recibían el Espíritu Santo.**" (Hechos 8:14-17).

"Y aconteció que mientras Apolos estaba en Corinto, Pablo,

regions and came to Ephesus, where he found some disciples. 2 He said to them, "Did you receive the Holy Spirit when you became believers?" They replied, "No, we have not even heard that there is a Holy Spirit." 3 Then he said, "Into what then were you baptized?" They answered, "Into John's baptism." 4 Paul said, "John baptized with the baptism of repentance, telling the people to believe in the one who was to come after him, that is, in Jesus." 5 On hearing this, they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. 6 **When Paul had laid his hands on them, the Holy Spirit came upon them, and they spoke in tongues and prophesied.**" (Acts 19:1-6).

To receive the Holy Spirit one first needs to have accepted Christ as his saviour because the world can not receive the Holy Spirit:

"16 And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate, to be with you forever. 17 This is **the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive**, because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him, because he **abides with you, and he will be in you.**" (John 14:16-17)...26 But the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you everything, and remind you of all that I have said to you.

"26 "When the Advocate comes, whom I will send to you from the Father, the Spirit of truth who comes from the Father, he will testify on my behalf. 27 You also are to testify because you have been with me from the beginning." (John 15:26-27).

"7 Nevertheless I tell you the truth: it is to your advantage that I go away, for if I do not go away, the Advocate[a] will not come to you; but if I go, I will send him to you." (John 16:7).

"10 For everyone who asks receives, and everyone who searches finds, and for everyone who knocks, the door will be opened. 11 Is there anyone among you who, if your child asks for a fish, will give a snake instead of a fish? 12 Or if the child asks for an egg, will give a scorpion? 13 If you then, who are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will the heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!" (Luke 11:10-13).

The coming of the Holy Spirit to the gentiles was proof that God had given us repentance that leads to life:

Now the apostles and the believers who were in Judea heard that the Gentiles had also accepted the word of God. 2 So when Peter went up to Jerusalem, the circumcised believers criticized him, 3 saying, "Why did you go to uncircumcised men and eat with them?" 4 Then Peter began to explain it to them, step by step, saying, 5 "I was in the city of Joppa praying, and in a trance I saw a vision. There was something like a large sheet coming down from heaven, being lowered by its four corners; and it came close to me. 6 As I looked at it closely I saw four-footed animals, beasts of prey, reptiles, and birds of the air. 7 I also heard a voice saying to me, 'Get up, Peter; kill and eat.' 8 But I replied, 'By no means, Lord; for nothing profane or unclean has ever entered my mouth.' 9 But a second time the voice answered from heaven, 'What God has made clean, you must not call profane.' 10 This happened three times; then everything was pulled up again to

habiendo recorrido las regiones superiores, llegó a Efeso y encontró a algunos discípulos, 2 y les dijo: ¿Recibisteis el Espíritu Santo cuando creísteis? Y ellos le respondieron: No, ni siquiera hemos oído si hay un Espíritu Santo[a]. 3 Entonces él dijo: ¿En qué bautismo, pues, fuisteis bautizados? Ellos contestaron: En el bautismo de Juan. 4 Y Pablo dijo: Juan bautizó con el bautismo de arrepentimiento, diciendo al pueblo que creyeran en aquel que vendría después de él, es decir, en Jesús. 5 Cuando oyeron esto, fueron bautizados en el nombre del Señor Jesús. 6 Y **cuando Pablo les impuso las manos, vino sobre ellos el Espíritu Santo, y hablaban en lenguas y profetizaban.**" (Hechos 19:1-6).

Para recibir al Espíritu Santo uno necesita primero haber aceptado a Cristo como su salvador ya que el mundo no puede recibir al Espíritu Santo:

"16 Y yo rogaré al Padre, y El os dará otro Consolador para que esté con vosotros para siempre; 17 es decir, **el Espíritu de verdad**, a quien **el mundo no puede recibir**, porque ni le ve ni le conoce, pero vosotros sí le conocéis porque **mora con vosotros y estará en vosotros.**" (Juan 14:16-17)... 26 Pero el Consolador, el Espíritu Santo, a quien el Padre enviará en mi nombre, El os enseñará todas las cosas, y os recordará todo lo que os he dicho.

"26 Cuando venga el Consolador, a quien yo enviaré del Padre, es decir, el Espíritu de verdad que procede del Padre, El dará testimonio de mí, 27 y vosotros daréis testimonio también, porque habéis estado conmigo desde el principio." (Juan 15:26-27).

"7 Pero yo os digo la verdad: os conviene que yo me vaya; porque si no me voy, el Consolador no vendrá a vosotros; pero si me voy, os lo enviaré." (Juan 16:7).

"10 Porque todo el que pide, recibe; y el que busca, halla; y al que llama, se le abrirá. 11 O suponed que a uno de vosotros que es padre, su hijo le pide pan; ¿acaso le dará una piedra? O si le pide un pescado; ¿acaso le dará una serpiente en lugar del pescado? 12 O si le pide un huevo; ¿acaso le dará un escorpión? 13 Pues si vosotros siendo malos, sabéis dar buenas dádivas a vuestros hijos, ¿cuánto más vuestro Padre celestial dará el Espíritu Santo a los que se lo pidan?" (Lucas 11:10-13).

La venida de Espíritu Santo a los gentiles es prueba de que Dios nos ha condescendido el arrepentimiento que conduce a la vida:

Los apóstoles y los hermanos que estaban por toda Judea oyeron que también los gentiles habían recibido la palabra de Dios. 2 Y cuando Pedro subió a Jerusalén, los que eran de la circuncisión le reprocharon, 3 diciendo: Tú entraste en casa de incircuncisos y comiste con ellos. 4 Entonces Pedro comenzó a explicarles en orden lo sucedido, diciendo: 5 Estaba yo en la ciudad de Jope orando, y vi en éxtasis una visión: un objeto semejante a un gran lienzo que descendía, bajado del cielo por las cuatro puntas, y vino hasta mí. 6 Cuando fijé mis ojos en él y lo observaba, vi cuadrúpedos terrestres, fieras, reptiles y aves del cielo. 7 También oí una voz que me decía: "Levántate Pedro, mata y come." 8 Pero yo dije: "De ninguna manera, Señor, porque nada impuro o inmundo ha entrado jamás en mi boca." 9 Pero una voz del cielo respondió por segunda vez: "Lo que Dios ha limpiado, no lo llames tú impuro." 10 Esto sucedió tres veces, y todo volvió a ser

heaven. 11 At that very moment three men, sent to me from Caesarea, arrived at the house where we were. 12 The Spirit told me to go with them and not to make a distinction between them and us. These six brothers also accompanied me, and we entered the man's house. 13 He told us how he had seen the angel standing in his house and saying, 'Send to Joppa and bring Simon, who is called Peter; 14 he will give you a message by which you and your entire household will be saved.' 15 And as I began to speak, the Holy Spirit fell upon them just as it had upon us at the beginning. 16 And I remembered the word of the Lord, how he had said, 'John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit.' 17 If then God gave them the same gift that he gave us when we believed in the Lord Jesus Christ, who was I that I could hinder God?" 18 When they heard this, they were silenced. And they praised God, saying, "Then God has given even to the Gentiles the repentance that leads to life." (Acts 11:11-18).

"He that speaketh in an unknown tongue edifieth himself, but he that prophesieth edifieth the church." (1 Corinthians 14:4).

"Therefore, brethren, covet to prophesy, and forbid not to speak in tongues." (1 Corinthians 14:39).

"11 For with stammering lips and another tongue will He speak to this people, 12 to whom He said, "This is the rest wherewith ye may cause the weary to rest," and, "This is the refreshing" — yet they would not hear." (Isaiah 28:11-12).

THERE IS A TIME TO PRAY (CRY OUT TO THE LORD) AND A TIME TO MOVE FORWARD

As the time of the 2nd coming of our Lord quickly approaches, the Bible teaches that the persecution of Christians will increase, but "Do not be afraid of what you are about to suffer. I tell you, the devil will put some of you in prison to test you, and you will suffer persecution for ten days. Be faithful, even to the point of death, and I will give you life as your victor's crown" Revelations 2:10.

This is no longer something happening in some far away country in the Middle East, Africa, or China, it is now happening in our very own backyard. I am a living example of this persecution in the USA.

Just as in the persecution suffered in the 1st centuries, the true disciples of Christ will be known by one main characteristic, their love for each other. As Mathew 12: 48-50 puts it, only those who do the will of our Father will be considered part of Christ's family and will enter the Promised Land: the new Heavens and New Earth (see Isaiah 65 among many others), and will receive their victor's crown. And this is God's will for His children: "A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. By this all men will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another" (John 13: 34-35).

In the middle of this persecution, we should rejoice because God is in control, and He is preparing His children for great things. He is appointing His children for great works: "And not only that, but we also boast in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, and endurance produces character, and character

llevado arriba al cielo. 11 Y he aquí, en aquel momento se aparecieron tres hombres delante de la casa donde estábamos, los cuales habían sido enviados a mí desde Cesarea. 12 Y el Espíritu me dijo que fuera con ellos sin dudar. Estos seis hermanos fueron también conmigo y entramos en la casa de aquel hombre, 13 y él nos contó cómo había visto al ángel de pie en su casa, el cual le dijo: "Envía a Jope y haz traer a Simón, que también se llama Pedro, 14 quien te dirá palabras por las cuales serás salvo, tú y toda tu casa." 15 Cuando comencé a hablar, el Espíritu Santo descendió sobre ellos, tal como lo hizo sobre nosotros al principio. 16 Entonces me acordé de las palabras del Señor, cuando dijo: "Juan bautizó con agua, pero vosotros seréis bautizados con el Espíritu Santo." 17 Por tanto, si Dios les dio a ellos el mismo don que también nos dio a nosotros después de creer en el Señor Jesucristo, ¿quién era yo para poder estorbar a Dios? 18 Y al oír esto se calmaron, y glorificaron a Dios, diciendo: Así que también a los gentiles ha concedido Dios el arrepentimiento que conduce a la vida. (Hechos 11:1-18).

"4 El que habla en lenguas, a sí mismo se edifica, pero el que profetiza edifica a la iglesia." (1 Corintios 14:4).

"39 Por tanto, hermanos míos, anhelad el profetizar, y no prohibáis hablar en lenguas." (1 Corintios 14:39).

"11 En verdad, con tartamudez de labios y en lengua extranjera, El hablará a este pueblo, 12 al cual había dicho: Aquí hay reposo, dad reposo al cansado; y: Aquí hay descanso. Pero no quisieron escuchar." (Isaías 28:11-12).

produces hope, and hope does not disappoint us [double negative, i.e. hope appoints], because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us" (Romans 5:3-5).

As Moses and Israel were surrounded by the Egyptian army, they prayed to the Lord, and Moses spoke to the people reassuring them that the Lord would fight for them, and that they should remain at rest. Soon after, Moses continued to cry out to the Lord for help, and I believe that God got a bit upset with Moses because He told Moses: "**Why do you cry to Me? Tell the people of Israel to go forward!**"

What the Lord said to Moses that day is what He is saying to many Christians today. Many of us have been crying out to the Lord for specific situations in our lives; we feel surrounded by our enemies. We have heard the voice of God: "The Lord will fight for you, and you shall hold your peace and remain at rest," but have confused remaining at rest with lack of action, so we do not move forward because we see the Red Seas (difficulties) in our lives blocking our path.

To remain at rest means not let the negative circumstances in our lives trouble our hearts. It means to defeat the power of fear that paralyzes many of us when confronted with what seem insurmountable circumstances. It means to know that God is the one that has already given us victory over our enemies, that our success is independent of our own strength, but fully dependent on His strength (the rod of our salvation, Jesus Christ).

After we have prayed and have heard from God, **it is time to move forward** and expand God's Kingdom here on earth so that His will be done on earth as it is in heaven. We must realize that "**everything is possible for one who believes**" but not moving forward is a sign of unbelief in our hearts. So, to see the miracles that God wants to manifest in our lives (see the Red Sea opened before our very own lives), **we must move forward**, and say as the father of the demon possessed child said, "**I do believe; help me overcome my unbelief**" (Mark 9:19-24).

Based on this truth, **I invite you to move forward with me**, to lift up the rod of our Salvation, Jesus Christ, and cross the Red Seas of our lives, and conquer the Promised Land that awaits for us on the other side.

God wants to restore our nation in the same way that He wants to restore our lives. And, in the same way that the restoration of our lives begins with the restoration of our souls (by the presence of the Holy Spirit in us), the restoration of our democratic nation will begin by the restoration of its soul. Please, join me in this restoration by visiting: www.NewJudge.com and www.SayNoToPAS.com. May God bless you and your family, and may God continue to bless the United States of America. AMEN.

"Moses told the people, Fear not; stand still (firm, confident, undismayed) and see the salvation of the Lord which He will work for you today. For the Egyptians you have seen today you shall never see again. The Lord will fight for you, and you shall hold your peace and remain at rest. **The Lord said to Moses, Why do you cry to Me? Tell the people of Israel to go**

forward! Lift up your rod and stretch out your hand over the sea and divide it, and the Israelites shall go on dry ground through the midst of the sea" (Exodus 14:13-16).

"19 He answered him and said, "O faithless generation, how long shall I be with you? How long shall I bear with you? Bring him to Me." 20 Then they brought him to Him. And when he saw Him, immediately the spirit convulsed him, and he fell on the ground and wallowed, foaming at the mouth. 21 So He asked his father, "How long has this been happening to him?" And he said, "From childhood. 22 And often he has thrown him both into the fire and into the water to destroy him. But if You can do anything, have compassion on us and help us." 23 Jesus said to him, "If you can believe, **all things are possible to him who believes.**" 24 Immediately the father of the child cried out and said with tears, "**Lord, I believe; help my unbelief!**" (Exodus 14:13-16).

A short personal testimony for those going through a storm.
God is faithful.

As a personal testimony of God's power and faithfulness, I am posting an e-mail I received congratulating me for obtaining the highest grade of all residents in my medical class. What very few people know is that the same day that I was taking this national test, the evilone was attacking me with my two older kids, Mario and Nicole. Every time I tried to answer a question, I would think of the anger I was feeling for the injustice a judge, my ex's attorneys, and a purported child psychologist had committed. It was like I was in the middle of a storm of emotions and I was drowning in despair. In the middle of the test, I asked God for His grace, I closed my eyes, and in the eyes of my mind, I could see Jesus coming to me walking on the water, I fixed my eyes on him, and I immediately felt energy running in my body, and I could see myself being lifted from the water and being able to walk on it.

I would answer a few questions, and then the drowning feeling would come back, and I would fix my mind's eyes on Jesus again, and I was able to walk on water again. This went on for almost the entire test, 240 questions. In the end, however, God reward me with the highest grade of all doctors in my class. As a matter of fact, I scored 250 points over my first test, which I believe could be a national improvement record. My specialty board actually provides examples of two doctors who in the past had improved by 150 points, and they go ahead and explain what they had to do to improve by this much. Anyways, there is no real way to know if I broke the national improvement record, what is important is that I give the glory and honor to God for His son Jesus Christ, our Savior; to Him be the honor, the power and the glory, AMEN.

"And they have conquered him by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of their testimony, for they loved not their lives even unto death." (Revelation 12:11).

Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven. (Matthew 5:16).

The Bible tells us that we were created in Christ Jesus for good works (Ephesians 2: 8-10), and as the passage above explains, that we should let the our light shine before men so they see these good works and glorify our Father in Heaven, and not for our

"Nuestros hermanos lo han vencido con la sangre derramada del Cordero y con el mensaje que ellos proclamaron; no tuvieron miedo de perder la vida, sino que estuvieron dispuestos a morir." (Apocalipsis 12:11).

own glory. For this reason, I want my good works glorify our Father in heaven.

Perhaps one of my happiest moments in my life since it brought glory to God, was when the graduating class of 2013 named me the “Team Player” of the group for my efforts to help all residents improve academically. In my first year of residency, I created a study tool and gave it to all residents in the program. Since the introduction of this study tool, the passing rate of our National Board Exam went from 66.6% (16/24) from 2007 to 2010 to 100% (20/20) from 2011 to 2013, and for the first time in a long time all residents in a graduating class passed in their first attempt all at the same time, as pointed by one of our professors in the graduation video below. I highly recommend to see the video since it has good music and it is a lot of fun to watch.

<http://youtu.be/cIQNyR3lpvY>

Here are also some comments that brought glory to God at University of Miami/Jackson Memorial Hospital Family Medicine Graduation of 2013, for the glory of our Father in heaven. To Him be the Power, the Honor and the Glory. We can do all things in Christ who is our strength!!!

THE ARMOR OF GOD

EPHESIANS 6:10-18

"... Be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power. Put on the full armor of God so that you can take your stand against the devil's schemes." v. 10, 11

The Shield of Faith (Eph. 6:16)

Faith is being sure that God will keep His promises. Faith in God protects you when you are tempted to doubt.



Feet Prepared with the Gospel of Peace (Eph. 6:15)

The Gospel of Peace is being right with God and being contented in troubled times. Jesus said peacemakers were blessed.

The Helmet of Salvation (Eph. 6:17)

Put on the Helmet of Salvation by believing that Jesus Christ died for your sins and rose again.

The Breastplate of Righteousness (Eph. 6:14)

Righteousness is being honest, good, humble, and fair to others. It means standing up for weaker people.

The Belt of Truth (Eph. 6:14)

Truth keeps us from giving in to the world's beliefs. Compare your beliefs and actions to the truth of the Word of God.

The Sword of the Spirit (Eph. 6:17)

which is the Word of God. God's Word is our offensive weapon. When we tell others what the Bible says, the Holy Spirit helps people see their bad thoughts and actions, and makes them want to be forgiven.

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The Spiritual Battle

“For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms. Therefore put on the full armor of God, so that when the day of evil comes, you may be able to stand your ground, and after you have done everything, to stand.

Stand firm then, with the belt of truth buckled around your waist, with the breastplate of righteousness in place, and with your feet fitted with the readiness that comes from the gospel of peace. In addition to all this, take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one. Take the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God” (Ephesians 6:12-17).

“In the same way, you who are younger, submit yourselves to your elders. All of you, clothe yourselves with humility toward one another, because, “God opposes the proud but shows favor to the humble.” Humble yourselves, therefore, under God’s mighty hand, that he may lift you up in due time. Cast all your anxiety on him because he cares for you. Be alert and of sober mind. Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour. Resist him, standing firm in the faith, because you know that the family of believers throughout the world is undergoing the same kind of sufferings” (1 Peter 5:5-9).

“When Jesus had called the Twelve together, he gave them power and authority to drive out all demons and to cure diseases, and he sent them out to proclaim the kingdom of God and to heal the sick” (Luke 9:1-2).

“Just like Jesus was tempted, we are also tempted. Most temptations fall in one of three major categories: Pleasure, Power, and Popularity” (Mathew 4:1-11).

Pleasure: The evil one will tempt us with our needs and wants, making us question if God is even aware or cares about them, and will tells us to take care of them ourselves, take matters into our own hands.

Pleasure: Mathew 4: After fasting forty days and forty nights, he was hungry. The tempter came to him and said, “If you are the Son of God, tell these stones to become bread.” Jesus answered, “It is written: ‘Man shall not live on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.’”

Power: The evil one will tempt us by challenging us to use whatever powers (talents, gifts, money, etc.) God has given us for our own glory.

Power: Then the devil took him to the holy city and had him stand on the highest point of the temple. “If you are the Son of God,” he said, “throw yourself down. For it is written: “‘He will command his angels concerning you, and they will lift you up in their hands, so that you will not strike your foot against a stone.’” Jesus answered him, “It is also written: ‘Do not put the Lord your God to the test.’”

Popularity: Finally, the evil one will tempt us by offering the popularity of the world, its splendor, trying to rob God His Glory,

La Batalla Espiritual

“Porque no estamos luchando contra poderes humanos, sino contra malignas fuerzas espirituales del cielo, las cuales tienen mando, autoridad y dominio sobre el mundo de tinieblas que nos rodea. Por eso, tomen toda la armadura que Dios les ha dado, para que puedan resistir en el día malo y, después de haberse preparado bien, mantenerse firmes.

Así que manténganse firmes, revestidos de la verdad y protegidos por la rectitud. Estén siempre listos para salir a anunciar el mensaje de la paz. Sobre todo, que su fe sea el escudo que los libre de las flechas encendidas del maligno. Que la salvación sea el casco que proteja su cabeza, y que la palabra de Dios sea la espada que les da el Espíritu Santo” (Efesios 6:12-17).

“De la misma manera, ustedes los jóvenes sométanse a la autoridad de los ancianos. Todos deben someterse unos a otros con humildad, porque: "Dios se opone a los orgullosos, pero ayuda con su bondad a los humildes." Humíllense, pues, bajo la poderosa mano de Dios, para que él los enaltezca a su debido tiempo. Dejen todas sus preocupaciones a Dios, porque él se interesa por ustedes. Sean prudentes y manténganse despiertos, porque su enemigo el maligno, como un león rugiente, anda buscando a quien devorar. Resístanle, firmes en la fe, sabiendo que en todas partes del mundo los hermanos de ustedes están sufriendo las mismas cosas” (1 Pedro 5:5-9).

“Jesús reunió a sus doce discípulos, y les dio poder y autoridad para expulsar toda clase de demonios y para curar enfermedades. Los envió a anunciar el reino de Dios y a sanar a los enfermos” (Lucas 9:1-2).

“Así como Jesús fue tentado, nosotros también somos tentados. Todas las tentaciones caen en una de tres categorías: Placer, Poder y Popularidad” (Mateo 4:1-11).

Placer: El maligno nos tenta con nuestras necesidades y lo que queremos, haciéndonos cuestionar si Dios está al tanto o si quiera se interesa en esto, y nos dice que resolvamos las cosas nosotros mismo, con nuestras propias manos.

Placer: Estuvo cuarenta días y cuarenta noches sin comer, y después sintió hambre. El maligno se acercó entonces a Jesús para ponerlo a prueba, y le dijo: Si de veras eres Hijo de Dios, ordena que estas piedras se conviertan en panes. Pero Jesús le contestó: La Escritura dice: 'No solo de pan vivirá el hombre, sino también de toda palabra que salga de los labios de Dios.'

Poder: El maligno también nos tenta retándonos a que usemos los poderes (talentos, regalos, dinero, etc.) que Dios nos ha dado para nuestra propia gloria.

Poder: Luego el maligno lo llevó a la santa ciudad de Jerusalén, lo subió a la parte más alta del templo y le dijo: Si de veras eres Hijo de Dios, tírate abajo; porque la Escritura dice: 'Dios mandará que sus ángeles te cuiden. Te levantarán con sus manos, para que no tropieces con piedra alguna.' Jesús le contestó: También dice la Escritura: 'No pongas a prueba al Señor tu Dios.'

Popularidad: Finalmente, el maligno también nos tenta ofreciéndonos la popularidad del mundo, su esplendor, tratando

and instead making seek our own glory. But, Jesus defeated all temptations by using the word of God, and we should do the same.

Popularity: Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their splendor. "All this I will give you," he said, "if you will bow down and worship me." Jesus said to him, "Away from me, Satan! For it is written: 'Worship the Lord your God, and serve him only.'" Then the devil left him, and angels came and attended him.

Adapted from:

<http://godslastgeneration.wordpress.com/2011/04/16/waging-a-spiritual-battle/>

de robarle a Dios Su Gloria, y haciéndonos buscar nuestra propia gloria.

Popularidad: Finalmente el maligno lo llevó a un cerro muy alto, y mostrándole todos los países del mundo y la grandeza de ellos, le dijo: Yo te daré todo esto, si te arrodillas y me adoras. Jesús le contestó: Vete, Satanás, porque la Escritura dice: 'Adora al Señor tu Dios, y sírvele solo a él.'

Adaptado de:

<http://godslastgeneration.wordpress.com/2011/04/16/waging-a-spiritual-battle/>

Our good deeds have long lasting effects.

The word of God says that He is faithful to His covenant, and that He keeps his lovingkindness to a thousandth generation with those who love Him. So every act of love we do has long lasting effects.

It is for this reason that I honored my ancestor, Maximo Jerez, by naming my son with his name. Maximo Jerez took under his wings an adopted little child, and became his Godfather. Maximo had nothing to gain but the blessings promised by God in the Bible. He cared and nurtured this child, and his deathbed, he was honored with some of the greatest poems of his Godson, Ruben Dario, the Prince of Castilian letters, undisputed father of the modernismo literary movement, one of the greatest Nicaraguans of all times. Who would had thought that the child he showed love to would make him one of the immortals? That's just one of the reason we must never cease to do good to our neighbors and honor our parents (our ancestors) for it is the first commandment with a promise. We will not only be blessed while on earth, but our good deeds will have eternal value:

He (Jerez) who at one time destiny (Él, quien un tiempo el destino)

held him by his hand; (lo llevaba de su mano;)

Republican soul, (alma de republicano,)

girondino heart, (corazón de girondino,)

his divine thought (su pensamiento divino)

consoled him in his quest. (le consolaba en su afán.)

Crazy, they are calling him (Loco diciéndole están)

strange souls to his idea. (almas a su idea extrañas.)

¡Tell Cabañas crazy (¡Decidle loco a Cabañas)

and Morazan and insane! (y demente a Morazán!)...

And you, Jerez, sleep now (Y tú, Jerez, duerme en tanto)

in the grave that contains you (en la tumba que os contiene,)

until the tender resonate (hasta que tierno resuene)

of the Union in a sweet song (de la Unión el dulce canto;)

until we cover the mantle (hasta que nos cubra el manto)

the dawn of the morning, (de la aurora del mañana,)

then our soul will boasts, (que entonces nuestra alma ufana,)

while the bronze rumbles, (mientras el bronce retumba,)

[your soul] will sing there in your tomb, (cantará allí, en vuestra tumba,)

the Central American Union (la Unión Centroamericana.)

Is it true? ...I do not know! (¿Será verdad?... ¡Yo no sé!)

My humble harp cries and groans, (Mi arpa humilde llora y gime,)

Oh sublime disciple (¡oh discípulo sublime)
Of Augusto Comte y Litré! (de Augusto Comte y Litré!)
And should I sing to you...For what? (Y te he de cantar... Más ¿qué?)
Even if I embrace the desire, (si aunque me abrace el deseo,)
Oh genius! ... I clearly see: (¡oh genio!..., yo claro veo:)
Impossible is to sing to you; (imposible es que te cante;)
That in the tomb of a giant (que en la tumba de un gigante)
A pygmy should not sing. (no ha de cantar un pigmeo.)

Let's honor our forefathers for in this we receive God's blessings.
I would love to learn about my other blood lines, the Jimenez, the Blen, the Carazo (with Evaristo Carazo)...if you would like to honor them, so we can learn from them, please do so. God bless.

"Know therefore that the LORD your God, He is God, the faithful God, who keeps His covenant and His lovingkindness to a thousandth generation with those who love Him and keep His commandments" (Deuteronomy 7:9).

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http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Rubén_Darío

<http://www.latribuna.hn/2012/12/09/ruben-dario-y-la-poesia-para-ninos/>

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In Christ, we have already overcome the world

Beginning of 2014, I posted a message in a Bible website that went like this:

I believe that if we are in Christ, we have already overcome the world, and we are spiritually sitting in heavenly places with Him. With this truth in mind, every tribulation that comes our way is just an opportunity to exercise the power we already have in Christ to replace evil with good, and bring heaven to earth. What is meant for our harm, God then uses for our good, because of His love for us, and because we allow Him to direct us to walk in His purpose for our life (Romans 8:28), which is to destroy the works of the evil one: ...“For this purpose the Son of God was manifested, that he might destroy the works of the devil” (1 John 3:8). As a matter of fact, the whole creation is waiting for the manifestation of the son's and daughters of God: “The whole creation waits breathless with anticipation for the revelation of God's sons and daughters” (Romans 8:19).

Jesus' purpose to destroy the works of the devil must be the purpose of EVERY SINGLE CHRISTIAN. I do not know about you, but I am tired of this guy lying to us, and giving us the illusion that he is winning. As far as I remember, greater is Jesus who is in us, than the devil who is in the world, and who has been already defeated with all his angels. “[God] disarmed the principalities and powers that were ranged against us and made a bold display and public example of them, in triumphing over them in Him and in it [the cross]” (Colossians 2:14-15). Not matter how bad our circumstances can look; this is just a demonic illusion. We can begin to experience heaven on earth, when we remain in Christ, walking according to His purpose for our lives. As one of the greatest women of our times, Mother Theresa, once said: “we are not called to succeed but to persevere.”

Satan's strategy is to cause us anxiety bringing tribulations to our lives, but Jesus' prescription is that we cast all our anxieties on Him, laying them at the feet of the cross. When we believe, like Joshua and Caleb did, that no matter how big our adversaries look, God has already given them into our hands, we can walk fearlessly and conquer the promise land (bring heaven to earth: "thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven). For we conquer him [Satan] by the blood of the Lamb, the word of our testimony, for we do not cling to life even in the face of death (Revelation 12:11).

"Humble yourselves therefore under the mighty hand of God, so that he may exalt you in due time. Cast all your anxiety on him, because he cares for you. Discipline yourselves, keep alert. Like a roaring lion your adversary the devil prowls around, looking for someone to devour. Resist him, steadfast in your faith, for you know that your brothers and sisters in all the world are undergoing the same kinds of suffering. And after you have suffered for a little while, the God of all grace, who has called you to his eternal glory in Christ, will himself restore, support, strengthen, and establish you. To him be the power forever and ever. Amen" (1 Peter 5:6-11).

A sister in Christ wrote a few days later after I posted the previous message: "Mario, I say this in love .. I agree with you that Jesus is greater than any demon, however, if we walk with confidence in Christ and are walking in the Spirit, we are able to draw strength from Him in trials and tribulations. Not everything is necessarily demonic, but we should also not be ignorant to spiritual warfare either. One last thing, Jesus's purpose is not to destroy the devil because He has already conquered the world .. the purpose of every Christian according to the Scriptures is the Great Commission .. He came that they might understand why .. Our superior commandment is to love everyone, which is perhaps the greatest challenge above all .. hope this helps."

To which I replied:

Dear Sister, I say this also in love to you and the body of Christ, His Church. All good things come from God, but all bad things from evil (our flesh, the world, Satan). God never wishes or designs anything bad for his children, but bad things happen to Christians who wholeheartedly follow the Lord (if not, just look at Paul or the other disciples in the bible; or probably your own life or my life). Those who follow the Lord will be persecuted, and this persecution is at its roots of a demonic design. Jesus is in every single Christian who has given his/her life to Him, and we are in the process of being transformed into His image by the renewal of our minds when we study the word of God with the inspiration of the Holy Spirit. Christians, spiritually, are just like Jesus, so the Bible teaches us that we are seated with Him in heavenly places, that we are more than conquerors, etc. The problem is that to bring the spiritual to the natural our minds need to be transformed by the spiritual reality we already have, and then by faith, we take this truth and start walking in the works God has already prepared for us since before we were even born.

A personal example perhaps could help here. In my teens, a long time ago :), God had placed in my heart His desire for me to serve Him as a doctor, after seeing my dad suffer several heart

attacks in his mid-forties from preventable diseases—high blood pressure, bad cholesterol, unmanaged stress. In the natural it looked impossible for I was an illegal alien, “a wet bag” some might call it, who had just crossed the Mexican border from my native country, Nicaragua. But I knew in my heart that this desire to serve was coming from God. About ten years ago, I had a revelation of God’s grace in my life, which renewed my mind, and allowed me to move in faith to what God had already prepared for me from the beginning. Now, I just finished my specialization and I am serving the Lord where he wanted me to serve from the beginning. God is a gentleman. He calls us but does not force us. He puts His desires in our hearts, but it is us that make the decision to study His word, so that our minds can be renewed, and our faith can be increased, for it’s by hearing His voice that we grow in faith.

In other words, we must do our parts. God has already done His by sending His only begotten Son that whomsoever believes in Him be saved, and this salvation begins here on earth when we receive Him in our hearts; that is why Jesus said that His Kingdom was within us. Jesus was once asked when the kingdom of God would come. The kingdom of God, Jesus replied, is not something people will be able to see and point to. Then came these striking words: “Neither shall they say, Lo here! or, lo there! for, behold, the kingdom of God is within you” (Luke 17:21).

Dear brothers and sister, what I am going to say next is probably one of the most important truths in the Bible. I ask that the Holy Spirit would reveal this truth in our hearts. The “purpose of every Christian according to the Scriptures is the Great Commission,” but according to the Bible, this Great Commission will only be accomplished when Jesus’ followers unite, when we let our pitiful differences aside and unite not in our love for God (the law, or our traditions, or our way of “worshiping”, or etc.), but his love for us (grace). When the world looks at the division of the body of Christ, they laugh at our hypocrisy, for if Christian really wanted to obey Jesus, we would be tirelessly working to make His wishes come true: “Father, I pray **that all who believe in me can be one.**”

Perhaps even worst than our witnessing to the world is the fact that Satan knows that his time will not come until the body of Christ unites. That’s why he has worked so hard to create divisions among us. He knows the Bible fairly well, and remembers Jesus’ last public prayer to the Father: “I pray not only for these followers but also for those who will believe in me because of their teaching. Father, I pray **that all who believe in me can be one.** You are in me and I am in you. I pray **that they can also be one in us. Then the world will believe that you sent me.** I have given them the glory that you gave me. **I gave them this glory so that they can be one,** just as you and I are one. I will be in them, and you will be in me. So **they will be completely one. Then the world will know that you sent me and that you loved them just as you loved me**” (John 17:20-23).

The evil one’s main tactic throughout history has been to cause separation, beginning with our separation from God when Adam and Eve put their desire for the knowledge of good and evil (their desire to know the law) above God’s will for their lives; but in Christ, we have been reconciled “by grace through faith”

(Ephesians 2:8) with God the Father, and we are no longer separated from Him. We are one with God the Father, and God the Son through the working of Holy Spirit that lives in every believer. The Holy Spirit is the glory of God and the One that enables us to be One.

Every time we follow the lead of the Holy Spirit for unity in our families and the church, we are answering Jesus' prayer to God the Father. When the church unites in love through the Holy Spirit, we become a living testimony of God's love to the world, and as Jesus himself noted, this is how the world will believe and know that God sent him and that He loves them: "...**Then the world will believe that you sent me... Then the world will know that you sent me and that you loved them just as you loved me**" (John 17:20-23). So, if the world has not yet fully known the love of God for them, it is because of our lack of unity, and therefore, the unity of the church becomes the key to the evangelization of the world, and the evangelization of the world is one of the main missions of the church and pre-requisite of Christ's second coming. No wonder the evil one has worked so hard to divide Christ's church.

Now, I am not only preaching this, but by the grace of God, I am doing all in my power to bring the body of Christ to the knowledge of this truth. For this work, I have been persecuted and ridiculed by men, and even my own family, but I am not here to serve men, but God. I have come to understand that we are called to serve and not to be served. For most of my Christian life, I used to go to church to receive from God, and the place where I received the most from Him, I called "my church." About ten years ago when I received the revelation of the grace of God, I realized that it is not about what I receive, but what I give. This freed me from my own selfish views, from calling "my church" the place where I could receive the most from, and opened the doors to the realization that it is not about "my church" but His Church. That I and every single Christian is called to serve His Church, and that **His Church is constituted by all those who have accepted Jesus as their Lord and Savior**, and this includes Catholics, Orthodox, Lutherans, Anglicans, Baptists, Christian Fundamentalists, Evangelicals, Pentecostals, Methodists, Adventists, Jehovah's Witnesses, Mormons, and the list goes on up to 41,000 according to Center for the Study of Global Christianity (CSGC).

So, as you can see, the division is great; Satan's work has been relentless for he knows his time is approaching fairly fast, and he has taken a last stand, and as long as he can divide us, he will continue to rule in this world. I do not know about you brothers and sisters, but I am fed up with him and his lies. I have taken my stand, and it is in Christ, covered by the blood of Jesus, and I know that many of you have done the same for I can tell by your testimony, which is a product of the fruit of the Spirit, which is LOVE. We conquer him [Satan] by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of our testimony, for we do not cling to life even in the face of death (Revelation 12:11). God bless you always. AMEN.

Even The Theory Of Relativity Predicts The Existence of God As The Bible Describes Him.

Before I became a family physician, I did my undergraduate studies in Electrical Engineering at FIU, graduating Cum Laude

by the grace and glory of God despite extreme circumstances which included the lost 3 years of high school from escaping a civil war, and having to “illegally” cross the USA-Mexican border to avoid having to fight for a communist government that was forcing me to war against my own family. I practiced as a digital communications engineer for about 12 years, while saving to complete my medical studies. I have always loved science and math, and the more I learn, the more I see God’s hand in His creation. So, science and God are not in opposition. God is the creator of science. If they seem to be in opposition to our faith, it is because we still do not have a complete knowledge of God’s truths, “**for our knowledge is fragmentary (incomplete and imperfect)**” (1 Corinthians 13). Not only that, we need the Holy Spirit to properly understand the knowledge that we already have, so for a non-believer to speak about these things is mere foolishness.

So, as I was recently reading about one of the man I admire the most in this life, Albert Einstein, the Holy Spirit guided me to a clearer understanding of God’s word, and how, science is just barely finding out what the Bible has described all along,

According to the Bible, God is light (1 John 1:5), and is best known as I AM (Exodus 3:14); He is the God of the NOW, the present and that is why God is the same yesterday, today and tomorrow (Hebrews 13:8).

"And God said to Moses, I AM WHO I AM and WHAT I AM, and I WILL BE WHAT I WILL BE; and He said, You shall say this to the Israelites: I AM has sent me to you!" (Exodus 3:14).

Now, according to Albert Einstein’s theory of relativity, if anyone travels in space at the speed of light, time stands still. So, since God is light itself, He travels at the speed of light, and for Him time stands still. He is always in the NOW. He is the God of the NOW. Praise be to God because he reveals His truths to all those who humbly seek Him, to those who understand that all knowledge and wisdom come from Him. Please, see this video to better understand this truth:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?annotation_id=annotation_276544&feature=iv&src_vid=G-R8LGy-OVs&v=xvZfx7iwq94

Share this with your kids to foster and cultivate in them a love for God and science. Science does not deny God, but helps to understand Him. God bless you brothers and sisters in Christ.

Einstein's Theory Of Relativity Made Easy. Excellent videos explaining our universe, The beauty of God's creation shown in the theory or relativity:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=30KfPtHec4s>

Time Dilation | Einstein's Relativity

https://www.youtube.com/watch?annotation_id=annotation_607616&feature=iv&src_vid=30KfPtHec4s&v=G-R8LGy-OVs

Space-Time And The Speed Of Light | Einstein's Relativity

https://www.youtube.com/watch?annotation_id=annotation_276544&feature=iv&src_vid=G-R8LGy-OVs&v=xvZfx7iwq94

E = mc² | Einstein's Relativity

https://www.youtube.com/watch?annotation_id=annotation_6560

Just like Joseph was a type of Jesus, John was a type of Benjamin

I was just reading a book name “the Benjamin Generation” when I could not help but noticed the parallels between John and Benjamin, the brother of the same mother as Joseph. Just like Joseph was a type of Jesus

(<http://dtjsoft.com/joseph-a-type-of-christ/>,

<http://biblecharts.org/oldtestament/josephatypeofchrist.pdf>), John

was a type of Benjamin. Here, I present some of the parallels between them. Why is this important you might ask? The law is represented by the bondwoman, Hagar, while Grace is represented by the freewoman, Sarah (Galatians 4:21–31).

Because all of us who have received the revelation of the unmerited favor of God are children of the same Spiritual mother, Grace, which in the Bible is not only represented by Sarah, but by two other women: Rachael, and Mary (Sarah- "lady" or "princess." Rachael was a type of Sarah, and her name means "sheep; one with purity." Mary was a type of Sarah too, and her name means “beloved” and she was full of grace, Luke 1: 28: “And the angel being come in, said unto her: Hail, **full of grace**, the Lord is with thee: blessed art thou among women).

1. John was the youngest of the 12 apostles, while Benjamin was the youngest of the 12 sons of Jacob (Israel).

2. John sat at the right hand of Jesus

(http://www.lambliion.com/enewsletter1/new_enewsletter_template_121212.html), while Benjamin was the “son of my right hand” (Genesis 35:18). Remember that now all who have received His grace through faith are seated with Christ (Psalm 110:1-3; 1 John 4:17) for God "...raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus" (Ephesians 2:6).

3. John was the disciple whom Jesus loved (John 20:2, John 13:23; note however that Jesus loved all the disciples, but the one that acknowledged this love was John for in the only instances that this is mentioned is in John’s book), while Benjamin was the brother whom Joseph and his father loved.

4. John had the same mother as Jesus (John 19:26-27, have you ever questioned why Jesus just before dying said these words? I believe that this has a prophetic meaning for the Grace generation), while Benjamin had the same mother as Joseph).

Notice also, how John is the only one of Jesus’ disciples that stays with Jesus until the end, while all the other disciples ran away. John bragged of Jesus’ love for Him (Grace), while Peter (“the rock”, represents the Law) bragged of his love for Jesus but denied him. In the same way, those us who are righteous by Jesus’ sacrifice on the cross, stay close to Him until the end, but those who chose to remain under the Law will always end up denying the Lord.

Jacob had a total of twelve sons born to him, in a definite order.

That order would later be significant in God's design for the **breastplate of judgment** for the **high priests** of Israel.

Name	Born	Mother	Name means	Authority
Reuben	2246 AM (1759 BC)	Leah	see a son	Genesis 29:32
Simeon	2247 AM (1757 BC)	Leah	God has heard	Genesis 29:33
Levi	2248 AM (1756 BC)	Leah	joining	Genesis 29:34
Judah	2249 AM (1755 BC)	Leah	to praise	Genesis 29:35
Dan	2249 AM (1755 BC)	Bilhah	judged	Genesis 30:5-6
Naphtali	2250 AM (1754 BC)	Bilhah	my struggle	Genesis 30:7-8
Gad	2251 AM (1753 BC)	Zilpah	troop, company	Genesis 30:10-11
Asher	2252 AM (1752 BC)	Zilpah	happy	Genesis 30:12-13
Issachar	2252 AM (1752 BC)	Leah	reward, recompense	Genesis 30:17-18
Zebulun	2253 AM (1751 BC)	Leah	gifts, honor	Genesis 30:19-20
Joseph	2259 AM (1745 BC)	Rachel	God shall add	Genesis 30:23-24
Benjamin	2266 AM (1739 BC)	Rachel	son of my right hand	Genesis 35:16-18

In addition to these, Jacob had a daughter, [Dinah](#), by his wife [Leah](#). Her birth occurred about 2254 AM (1750 BC). [Genesis 30:21](#)

The sons went on to found the [Twelve Tribes of Israel](#) except that Levi was not included in that list and in place of Joseph were his two sons, [Manasseh](#) and [Ephraim](#), thereby keeping a full twelve.

The Allegory of Hagar and Sarah:

21 Tell me, you who desire to be subject to the law, will you not listen to the law? 22 For it is written that Abraham had two sons, one by a slave woman and the other by a free woman. 23 One, the child of the slave, was born according to the flesh; the other, the child of the free woman, was born through the promise. 24 Now this is an allegory: these women are two covenants. One woman, in fact, is Hagar, from Mount Sinai, bearing children for slavery. 25 Now Hagar is Mount Sinai in Arabia[a] and corresponds to the present Jerusalem, for she is in slavery with her children. 26 But the other woman corresponds to the Jerusalem above; she is free, and she is our mother. 27 For it is written, “Rejoice, you childless one, you who bear no children,

burst into song and shout, you who endure no birth pangs; for the children of the desolate woman are more numerous than the children of the one who is married.”
28 Now you,^[b] my friends,^[c] are children of the promise, like Isaac. 29 But just as at that time the child who was born according to the flesh persecuted the child who was born according to the Spirit, so it is now also. 30 But what does the scripture say? “Drive out the slave and her child; for the child of the slave will not share the inheritance with the child of the free woman.” 31 So then, friends,^[d] we are children, not of the slave but of the free woman. (Galatians 4:21-31).

From the Benjamin Generation book:

“Here, Paul said that these two women symbolize two mountains, which represent the two covenants. Hagar represents the old covenant, which is the law or the Ten Commandments. And Sarah represents the new covenant, which is grace. Now, the law is from Mount Sinai. And what does Paul say that the law or the Ten Commandments produces? Freedom? No, he says that the law produces bondage! On the other hand, grace is from the heavenly Jerusalem and grace brings freedom.

It was not Abraham but Sarah who could not produce children. And both of them tried to help God keep His promise to them that they would bear a son. When Sarah gave her bondmaid Hagar to Abraham, Ishmael was born. Hagar, who represents the law, produced Ishmael who “was born according to the flesh”. (Galatians 4:23)

If you want to inherit the promises of God, don’t trust in your human performance. Instead, look to His promises. Can you see from this passage what the flesh represents? The flesh represents self-effort or human strength. Ishmael was born according to the flesh. In other words, he was born out of human effort. Now, note what Paul said about human effort — “... those who are in the flesh cannot please God.” (Romans 8:8)

What Paul means is that God is not pleased when we trust in our human strength. Sarah, on the other hand, gave birth to Isaac, not through the flesh, not through human effort, but through the Spirit. By that time, Abraham was very old and his body was as good as dead. And Sarah, who was barren, had become doubly barren. No amount of human effort could have produced a child for Abraham and Sarah. It was in that moment when no amount of self-effort or human strength could achieve results that Isaac was born. He was born through the Spirit, through God’s promise. It pleases God when we trust in His promises.

If you want to inherit the promises of God, don’t play around with the law, don’t trust in your human performance. Instead, look to His promises. Under grace, the barren can rejoice for the desolate will have many more children than she who has a husband. (Galatians 4:27)

That’s why Paul concluded in Galatians 4:30 that we are to cast out the bondwoman. What does he mean? He is telling us to remove the law. Don’t play around with the law. Don’t listen to people who preach the law. The law brings death. When the law was first given, 3,000 people died. (Exodus 32:28) But the Spirit gives life. When God poured out His Spirit on Pentecost, 3,000 people were born again! (Acts 2:41)

By showing us how Sarah and Hagar represent the two covenants, Paul set a precedent for the use of types and symbols. In the same way, God is painting a picture of Benjamin as a symbol or type of the endtime church. And I believe He did it because He wants us to know that before Jesus comes again, He will raise up a generation of grace, a generation who knows His unmerited favor And all that is possible because Jesus became the Son of sorrow so that we can be sons of God's right hand, sons of His favor"

"THE GOSPEL OF THE GRACE OF GOD"

INTRODUCTION

1. In Ac 20:24, Paul speaks of the ministry he had received from the Lord Jesus...

"to testify to the gospel of the grace of God."

2. The word "gospel" means "good news", and "grace" means "unmerited favor"; so Paul was given the ministry to proclaim the good news...

- a. That GOD has provided a way of salvation for sinners
- b. And that HE had done this without requiring merit on the part of sinners!

3. In this lesson we shall summarize the "The Gospel Of The Grace Of God" under these three headings:

- a. The "need" for grace
- b. The "provision" of grace
- c. The "reception" of grace

[Before we can begin to appreciate why the grace of God is good news, we must understand...]

I. THE "NEED" FOR GRACE

A. THE BIBLE DESCRIBES MAN'S TRUE CONDITION...

1. "All have sinned and fall short of the glory of God" - Ro 3:23
2. "For whoever shall keep the whole law, and yet stumble in one point, he is guilty of all." - Jm 2:10
3. "For the wages of sin is death..." - Ro 6:23
4. "But your iniquities have separated you from your God; and your sins have hidden His face from you, so that He will not hear." - Isa 59:2
5. "But we are all like an unclean thing, and all our righteousnesses are like filthy rags;" - Isa 64:6

B. WHAT THESE PASSAGES REALLY MEAN TO US...

1. FIRST: We must all plead guilty!
 - a. Every accountable person has sinned
 - b. We can never demand entrance into heaven because we are somehow good enough
 - c. Even the very best of us is without merit in God's sight!
2. SECOND: Our sins have alienated us from God!
 - a. By our transgressions, we lose that precious relationship with God
 - b. We experience "spiritual" death, or separation from God; which if left unchecked, will result in eternal separation from God (i.e., hell)
 - c. While in this state of "spiritual" death, we are dead to

God; our prayers are not heard - cf. 1Pe 3:12

3. **THIRD:** As sinners, we cannot accomplish the removal of our guilt on our own!

- a. We cannot run away from this guilt
- b. We cannot work our way out of this guilt

[So don't be self-deceived by notions of our own goodness. We are sinners in need of salvation!

It is fair to say, then, that the **FIRST** requirement of salvation is recognition of our true guilt. Once we acknowledge our sinfulness, we are in a position to appreciate...]

II. THE "PROVISION" OF GRACE

A. OUT OF "LOVE", GOD HAS PROVIDED HIS SON...

1. Because God loved us, He sent His Son to die that we might have eternal life - Jn 3:16; 1Jn 4:9
2. Because God loved us, He made His Son a "propitiation" for our sins - 1Jn 4:10
 - a. A "propitiation" is a sacrifice designed to appease
 - b. Therefore God has offered His Son as a sacrifice designed to appease Himself, which leads to a related point...

B. OUT OF "JUSTICE", GOD HAS PROVIDED HIS SON...

1. To satisfy His justice, God provided redemption through the blood of His Son - Ro 3:24-26
2. God's grace therefore functions in this way:
 - a. God's justice requires an appropriate sacrifice for sin
 - b. Because He loves us, He provided His Son as a sacrifice for sin
 - c. God recognizes the death of Jesus on the cross as a suitable ransom for our sins, paid in full!

[So to satisfy both His justice and His love, God has graciously provided salvation through His Son, Jesus Christ. What we cannot earn, God has provided!

But the provision of grace is not unconditional (otherwise all would be saved). Therefore we need to consider...]

III. THE "RECEPTION" OF GRACE

A. RECEIVING GOD'S SAVING GRACE REQUIRES OBEDIENCE...

1. For Jesus is "the author (or source) of eternal salvation to all who obey Him," - He 5:9
2. Freedom from sin comes when one is willing to obey from the heart - Ro 6:17-18
3. Such obedience involves:
 - a. Trusting in Jesus as the Son of God who died for your sins
- Jn 3:16
 - b. Confessing your faith before men - Ro 10:9-10
 - c. Repenting of your sins - Ac 17:30
 - d. Culminating with being buried with Christ in baptism for the remission of your sins - Mk 16:15-16; Ac 2:38; 22:16

B. HOWEVER, SUCH OBEDIENCE HAS NOTHING TO DO WITH EARNING OR MERITING SALVATION!

1. Salvation is by grace, and "not by works of righteousness

which we have done" - Tit 3:4-5a

2. But by God's mercy, He saves us "through the washing of regeneration and renewing of the Holy Spirit" - Tit 3:5b

a. When a penitent sinner, who trusts in Jesus, is baptized into Christ...

1) He or she is united with Christ by baptism into His death, and therefore rises to walk in newness of life - cf. Ro 6:3-8

2) He or she is "clothed" with Christ, able to enjoy all the blessings made possible by Jesus' death and resurrected life! - cf. Ga 3:26-27; He 7:24-25

b. Through such a "washing of regeneration and renewing of the Holy Spirit", one is truly "born again of the water and the Spirit!" - cf. Tit 3:5; Jn 3:5

CONCLUSION

1. God has ordained...

a. ...that through faith and repentance

b. ...culminating with baptism into Christ...we might receive the wonderful grace of God!

2. Why don't more people respond to God's saving grace?

a. It may be some do not understand the "need" for grace

1) They consider themselves good, moral people

2) Yet, in nearly every example of salvation in the book of Acts, those being saved were deeply religious and very moral already!

3) But as Isaiah said, "all our righteousnesses are like filthy rags"!

b. It may be some are not aware of the "provision" of grace

1) They may think that they are too sinful to receive God's grace

2) Yet God desires all to be saved, and has provided Jesus "a ransom for all" - cf. 1Ti 2:3-6

c. It may be that some have not been taught the proper "reception"

of grace

1) Many are told to "Say the sinner's prayer", but are not told what Jesus and His apostles commanded people to do to receive God's saving grace

2) People need to listen to Christ and His apostles, not modern preachers! - cf. Mk 16:15-16; Ac 2:36-38; 22:16

3. We saw at the beginning of our study that Paul's ministry was..."to testify to the gospel of the grace of God." (Ac 20:24)

4. So we have sought to do in this study; and in closing we add the words of Peter...

"testifying that this is the true grace of God in which you stand." (1Pe 5:12)

Dear friends, what is your relationship to the grace of God? Have you received the gospel of the grace of God? Are you standing in the true grace of God?

NOTE: This outline has borrowed heavily from a small tract entitled "The Gospel Of The Grace Of God" by Leslie Diestelkamp. The tract can be ordered from Florida College Bookstore (800-922-2390).

"Do not be carried away by all kinds of strange teachings; for it is well for the heart to be strengthened by grace..." (Hebrews 13:9).

God does not want our hearts full of worries and fears, tossed and turned by every challenge that comes our way. He wants our heart at rest and established by His grace. When you think that the victories to our challenges depend on our ability to obey God, then our hearts are not at rest. They will be full of worries and anxieties. Why? Because we can never obey God perfectly.

But when we depend on God's grace, that is, His undeserved, unmerited favor, the opposite happens, our hearts become established. When you know that the only thing that qualifies you to receive God's blessings is faith in the finished work of Christ, our hearts becomes established. Then, we will walk without the fear of our troubles swallowing us up. We will walk with full assurance that His blessings will be manifested in our life.

Under the old covenant, we receive God's blessings only if we keep all His laws. (Deuteronomy 28:1-2) If we sin and fail to keep even one law, we will be disqualified from receiving His blessings. But today, under the new covenant, our sins no longer disqualify us because God Himself has said, "For I will be merciful to their unrighteousness, and their sins and their lawless deeds I will remember no more." (Hebrews 8:12)

So let our hearts be established by God's grace. Because of His grace, we have full access to His blessings. We no longer have to worry about whether we are good enough. We can stand firm on the promises made in His Word and enjoy His blessings today because Jesus has paid the price. Our part is only to believe and receive!

Adapted from Joseph Price

The Holy Spirit

Much of modern-day Christianity sees the born-again experience as all there is to salvation. Many Christians oppose the belief that there is a separate experience of being filled with the Holy Spirit, and they especially oppose the validity of the gifts of the Holy Spirit for today's believers.

That type of belief puts them in conflict with the book of Acts and the very teaching of Jesus. Those who experience the power of the Holy Spirit today are labeled as fanatics or heretics. But what does the Bible have to say? What did Jesus say about this?

On the night before Jesus' crucifixion, He made one of the most astounding statements of His whole ministry. John 16:7 records these words:

"Nevertheless I tell you the truth; It is expedient for you that I go away: for if I go not away, the Comforter will not come unto you; but if I depart, I will send him unto you."

Grasp what Jesus is saying!

Jesus said it is more beneficial for us to have the ministry of the Holy Spirit than it was to have Jesus present with us in

His physical body!

Most Christians are totally shocked by this. They would give anything to have Jesus present in His physical body. How could anything be better than to physically see, hear, and touch Him?

Jesus knew His disciples would be shocked by His statement, so

He prefaced it with the words, "I tell you the truth." As hard as it may be to understand, the ministry of the Holy Spirit in the life of the believer is better than the earthly ministry of Jesus.

This is not to take anything away from His ministry on this earth. Without Jesus coming to the earth and accomplishing what He did, there could be no ministry of the Holy Spirit. The whole plan of God hinges on the redemptive work of Christ.

But, once His work was done, it was actually to our advantage to have Jesus return to His Father and send the Holy Spirit to take His place. Therefore, we shouldn't lessen the preeminence of Jesus, but we should increase the importance of the Holy Spirit's ministry.

Most Christians don't realize how involved the Holy Spirit is in everything that the Lord does. They do not ascribe nearly enough importance to the Holy Spirit and what He is doing in the earth today. In Genesis 1:1-2, the Bible says,

"In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth. And the earth was without form, and void; and darkness was upon the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God moved upon the face of the waters."

In the beginning, God created all the elements needed for His creation. Then, everything else was formed from what had already been created. All the essential ingredients were in place. But nothing happened without the Spirit of God.

Notice specifically that the Spirit of God (the Holy Spirit) moved upon the face of the waters. The English word *moved* was translated from the Hebrew word "rachaph." It literally means "to brood." This is describing the manner of a hen sitting on her eggs to hatch them.

The Holy Spirit was brooding over the creation of God just waiting to bring forth whatever God the Father said. When the Lord said "Let there be light" (Gen. 1:3), then the power of the Holy Spirit brought that light into being. Likewise, with everything the Lord created and made, it was the power of the Holy Spirit that brought it all into existence.

God the Father conceived it. Jesus spoke it. And the Holy Spirit was the power that performed it. Everything God did in His creation was accomplished through the power of the Holy Spirit. When God the Father was ready to bring Jesus into the earth, He took the spoken Word (Jesus), the Holy Spirit brooded over Mary (a virgin), and she conceived Jesus' physical body.

This perfectly illustrates the Trinity: God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit. They are one. In fact, they are so much one that they can't operate independent of each other. They are a team. Jesus didn't do any miracles or start His public ministry until after He had been anointed with the Holy Spirit.

If Jesus couldn't, or wouldn't, operate independently of the Holy Spirit, neither should we. No one can have an effective life or ministry without the power of God's Holy Spirit working in him or her. This fact can't be argued by anyone who truly believes the Bible is God's Word. The Scriptures are replete with proof that it is "not by might, nor by power, but by my Spirit, saith the LORD of hosts" (Zech. 4:6).

So, why is there so much debate over this issue? **The sad truth is that denial of the ministry and power of the Holy Spirit is a convenient theology.** Believing that miracles and gifts of the Holy Spirit don't operate today excuses powerless living. If it's true that the Holy Spirit is still willing to move as in biblical times (and it is true), then there is no excuse for living lives so far removed from the victory portrayed in God's Word.

The number one reason people resist the ministry of the Holy Spirit is because it exposes the lack of power in their lives. And once exposed, it demands a change.

In an attempt to avoid responsibility for change, they change the Scriptures instead of themselves. Of course, it's not that blatant, but there is a predisposition against the ministry of the Holy Spirit, so the Scripture is twisted to support their views.

It's now politically correct to say that alcoholics are not responsible for their actions, depression is a chemical imbalance, and homosexuality is genetic. We've even had lawsuits where overweight people sue fast-food chains for their obesity. No one wants to admit that their lives are the result of their choices and actions. It's appealing to think that someone else is at fault for their messed up lives. Sadly, the lack of personal responsibility in our society has crept into the attitudes of the church.

But, the ultimate attempt to avoid responsibility is when we place the blame on God. This goes all the way back to Adam when he said, "It's that woman that YOU gave me" (Gen. 3). He passed the "buck" to the woman and then ultimately blamed God. But God's judgment shows that He held Adam responsible for his own actions.

Another group of Christians willingly accept a limited ministry of the Holy Spirit as their comforter and consoler, but they still deny His miraculous power. That's convenient, the benefits without the responsibility. These are usually the ones who also believe there isn't a second experience with the Holy Spirit beyond being born again. They may be sincere in their beliefs, but they are sincerely wrong.

There are many clear examples in Scripture where a miraculous encounter with the Holy Spirit enabled believers to live supernatural lives. Jesus taught about two separate experiences in the believer's life.

In John 20:28, Thomas confessed Jesus as his Lord and God. That made him “saved” according to Romans 10:9-10. Yet, the Lord told Thomas and all the disciples to tarry in Jerusalem until they received the power of the Holy Spirit (Acts 1:4). The reason Jesus told them to wait on the baptism of the Holy Spirit was because they didn’t have it yet. Look what happened to the disciples once they received that power. They were changed men.

Jesus said it this way in Acts 1:8,

“But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth.”

After the Day of Pentecost, when the Holy Spirit came upon Jesus’ disciples, they were powerful. They faced persecution and death fearlessly. What made the difference? By Jesus’ own words, it was the baptism of the Holy Spirit.

In Acts 8, Philip preached to the Samaritans, and the whole city believed on Jesus and was baptized in water. They were saved. But Acts 8:15-16 says,

“Who, when they [the apostles] were come down, prayed for them [the Samaritans], that they might receive the Holy Ghost: (For as yet he was fallen upon none of them: only they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus)” (brackets mine).

This is a very clear example of people being born again but still needing to receive the Holy Spirit. This can also be witnessed in Acts 19. Paul found disciples who were not baptized in the Holy Spirit. He prayed for them, and they spoke with tongues.

Spirit filled, but no tongues!

There are other believers who acknowledge a second experience with the Holy Spirit which releases power, but they refuse the part of speaking in tongues, or at least say it’s not for everyone. But the baptism of the Holy Spirit is like a pair of tennis shoes: It always comes with tongues.

I guess it’s possible to have the baptism of the Holy Spirit and not speak in tongues, but why wouldn’t you want to? **If you’re afraid, don’t be! There’s no reason to fear; you’re in full control.** I’m not speaking in tongues as I write this, because it’s up to me to decide when I speak in tongues. It’s the same for you. You’ll control when you speak in tongues.

Maybe there’s something else that is holding you back. I know from experience that a person whose understanding of this gift isn’t right can stifle it. I did. In my case, a denomination had instilled such fear in me that I was afraid I would get something from the devil. It wasn’t until later that I learned the Lord wouldn’t let that happen (Luke 11:13).

Whether you’re not sure or just having a problem receiving, my teaching entitled *The Holy Spirit* will answer your questions and

set you free to receive this powerful gift. My life was completely changed when I received the Holy Spirit. If it were not for that, you would never have heard of Andrew Wommack.

Here is a little of my personal story; it may help you. In 1957 I was born again at the age of eight. I loved God and served Him to a degree, but was basically powerless. I prayed six months for my Dad to be healed, but he died when I was only twelve years old. As a young man, I was introverted, timid, and so shy I couldn't look people in the face when talking to them.

There wasn't any difference between me and an unbeliever in terms of visible results. If I would have been arrested for being a Christian, there wouldn't have been enough evidence to convict me.

Then, on March 23, 1968, I received the baptism of the Holy Spirit. My life was transformed instantly. Before the baptism of the Holy Spirit, I was in fear; afterward, I was as bold as a lion (Prov. 28:1). My love for the Lord went through the roof. It wasn't me living anymore, but Christ was living through me.

My life wasn't perfect then and still isn't now. But receiving the baptism of the Holy Spirit opened up a whole new, dynamic relationship with the Lord. You would never have heard of me if I hadn't received the second work of the Holy Spirit, which the Bible calls the baptism of the Holy Spirit. It's my desire to see you experience that same power of the Holy Spirit and the gifts that come with it.

By Andrew Wommack

What Is The Baptism Of The Holy Spirit?

http://downloads.awmi.net/teaching/awm_1078a_baptism.mp3

Speaking In Tongues

http://downloads.awmi.net/teaching/awm_1078b_tongues.mp3

What Is A Christian?

http://downloads.awmi.net/teaching/awm_1078c_christian.mp3

What's Next?

http://downloads.awmi.net/teaching/awm_1078d_next.mp3

"I want all of you to speak in tongues.." Paul, in 1Corinthians 14:5

If we believe Paul's words, then we must admit that there is such an experience as being moved by God's holy Spirit to speak in a language that we have not learned. The Scriptures bear witness to the presence of this experience among both Jewish and Gentile believers.

A few years after the initial outpouring of the Spirit baptism on the Jews at Pentecost, God began admitting Gentiles into His kingdom through the baptism with the holy Spirit. This grace is recorded in Acts 10:45-46: "All the believing Jews who came with Peter were astonished because the gift of the holy Ghost was poured out on the Gentiles also, for they heard them speaking in tongues and praising God." Later, another group of disciples began speaking in tongues when they received the Spirit: "And when Paul had laid his hands upon them, the holy Ghost came on them, and they spoke in tongues and prophesied" (Acts 19:6). These were not isolated events; on the contrary, the context of

Acts 19 suggests that Paul was surprised that these believers had not already received the Holy Spirit baptism. Further, in all his letters which speak of the subject, Paul speaks of this blessing as if it were a normal part of life in Christ.

In reality, there is no life without the language of the Spirit, for receiving the holy Spirit and speaking in tongues are indissolubly united as two parts of one experience in Christ. The moment one receives the holy Spirit baptism, he is moved by the Spirit to make “groanings which cannot be uttered” by man. This is true in every case, as Jesus explained to Nicodemus (Jn. 3:8). When all the evidence is rightly divided, it becomes clear that every person who receives the holy Spirit baptism speaks in tongues (or has “stammering lips”) when he receives it and that if one has not done so, then he has no basis on which to claim that he has received the Spirit of God.

Jesus said, “When the Comforter is come, whom I will send to you from the Father, even the Spirit of truth, which proceeds from the Father, HE will testify of me” (Jn. 15:26). Paul would later write, “The Spirit ITSELF bears witness with our spirit that we are the children of God” (Rom. 8:16). The Comforter’s “testimony” mentioned by Jesus and the Spirit’s “witness” mentioned by Paul both refer to speaking in tongues. So, a prime purpose of speaking in tongues is to distinguish those who have truly believed and repented from those who have not.

Speaking in Unknown Tongues: “Let him who speaks in an unknown tongue pray that he may interpret. For if I pray in an unknown tongue, my spirit prays, but my understanding is unfruitful. What is it then? I will pray with the spirit, and I will pray with the understanding also. I will sing with the spirit, and I will sing with the understanding also.” 1Cor. 14:13-15

Those who received the holy Ghost when it was first poured out spoke in tongues languages that were unknown to them, but were well known to the Jews who had traveled from great distances to Jerusalem to observe the Feast of Pentecost. The visiting Jews marveled that the disciples spoke fluently in foreign tongues or languages. They asked, “Are not all these who are speaking Galileans? Then how is it that each of us hears our own native language?”

Speaking in Tongues Foretold: Long before Jesus suffered and died to make the holy Ghost available to men, God had chosen tongues as the sign of this New Covenant; and He announced His choice through the prophets. Through Zephaniah (3:9) God promised, “For then will I turn to the people a pure language, that they may all call upon the name of the Lord, to serve Him with one consent.” Through Isaiah (28:11-12), He said, “For with stammering lips and another tongue will He speak to this people, to whom He said, ‘This is the Rest wherewith you may cause the weary to rest’, and ‘This is the Refreshing’, yet they would not hear.” When a sinner hears someone speaking in tongues, the call of the Spirit is to his heart, not to his head; it is to his feelings, not to his understanding.

“There appeared to them cloven tongues like fire, and it rested upon each one of them. And they were all filled with the holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit gave them utterance.” Acts 2:3-4

Speaking in Tongues - God's Purpose

Referring to Isaiah's words, Paul wrote, "In the law it is written, 'With men of other tongues and other lips will I speak unto this people, and yet for all that they will not hear Me, saith the Lord.' Wherefore", Paul concludes, "tongues are for a sign . . . to them that believe not" (1Cor. 14:21-22). Notice Paul's words, "tongues are for a sign", and then ask yourself, "A sign of what?" Clearly, tongues are God's designated sign of the way of eternal life. A singular beauty of the New Testament is that God Himself, through the Spirit, speaks when He enters our hearts. In this covenant, we are not dependent upon men to tell us when we are born again.

Long ago, my father dreamed he was carrying the crucified Lord to a cemetery to bury him. As he was lowering Jesus into the grave, Jesus opened his eyes and raised his hands, and both of them were holding money. Then Jesus spoke. "Take this," he said. "This cannot be buried with me." Obeying the Lord, my father took the money from his hands and saw that in one hand was twenty-eight dollars and eleven cents, while in the other hand was eleven dollars and twenty-eight cents. As he stared at the money, the twenty-eight dollars and eleven cents changed into the word "Isaiah", and the eleven dollars and twenty-eight cents changed into the word "Matthew". When he awoke, he knew the Lord had shown him something of remarkable value from those two books. He took his Bible and turned with great anticipation to Isaiah 28:11 and to Matthew 11:28, wondering what this revelation should mean.

In Matthew 11:28-29, he found Jesus pleading with his people, "Come unto me all you that labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you REST. Take of my yoke and learn of me, for I am meek and lowly in heart, and you will find REST for your souls." Then he read from Isaiah 28:11-12, "For with stammering lips and another tongue will He speak unto this people. To whom He said, 'THIS IS THE REST wherewith you may cause the weary to REST, and this is the Refreshing,' yet they would not hear."

Speaking in tongues is a misunderstood blessing, but it is part of the reason Jesus suffered and died. How can it not be of God? Is it not clear that only those who have repented and have received the holy Spirit baptism with the evidence of speaking in tongues have found this REST which God promised to His people? Speaking in tongues enables God's children to pray more effectively. Paul wrote, "Likewise the Spirit helps our infirmities. For we know not what we should pray for as we ought, but the Spirit itself makes intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered" (Rom. 8:26).

Speaking in Diverse Tongues - A Gift of the Spirit

In his list of a few gifts of the Spirit (1Cor. 12), Paul mentions the gift of "diverse tongues." This is not the same thing as speaking in tongues when one receives the holy Ghost. It is an added measure, a deeper walk in the Spirit for those who already speak in tongues, just as the "gift of faith" is for those who already have faith. It should be noted that Paul never says that "speaking in tongues is a gift." He knew better. The gift is "diverse tongues". Multitudes have received the holy Ghost baptism and speak in tongues, but only a few in our time have received the gift of "diverse tongues".

Many a person has excused his lack of the Spirit by teaching that speaking in tongues is a thing of the past, or is merely a gift that only a few saints receive. Don't swallow that poison, my friend. It is the gift of "diverse tongues" that is given only to some, but as for speaking in tongues, every member of the body of Christ has that blessing.

Speaking in tongues (or "stammering lips") is God's sign of the new birth as every born again person speaks in tongues beginning the moment the Spirit enters. If you have not received this experience, please do not take this message as a belittling of your faith in Jesus. It is not. There were sincere followers of Christ in the days of the apostles who did not receive the holy Ghost until someone came along and "taught them the way of God more perfectly." The baptism of the Holy Spirit is for you, and so are we. Source: <http://www.goingtojesus.com/site/php/speaking-in-tongues.html>

The leaven of the Pharisees is the doctrine of legalism...The leaven of the Sadducees is the doctrine of humanism. By Joseph Prince: NO LEAVEN (FALSE DOCTRINES) BUT THE TRUTH

'No grain offering which you bring to the Lord shall be made with leaven, for you shall burn no leaven nor any honey in any offering to the Lord made by fire. LEVITICUS 2:11

When I was a young Christian, I heard of an illustration for Psalm 23 about shepherds who sometimes break the legs of sheep which habitually stray, so as to teach them not to stray. That erroneous teaching—"The Lord is my Shepherd, He breaketh my legs"—stuck with me for years, causing me needless fear of God's punishment when I felt that I had strayed from Him. Such erroneous teachings are what God's Word refers to as "leaven". That is why Jesus cautioned His disciples, "Take heed and beware of the leaven of the Pharisees and the Sadducees." (Matthew 16:6) The leaven of the Pharisees was their doctrine of legalism, which judges and condemns people who fail to keep God's laws. The leaven of the Sadducees was their doctrine of humanism, which discounts the supernatural and teaches that everything can be explained away using reasoning or science.

When God told His people in Leviticus 2:11, "No grain offering which you bring to the Lord shall be made with leaven," we are reminded that how we appreciate Jesus, our grain offering, must not be mixed with wrong teachings. For example, when we talk about "suffering with Christ" (Romans 8:17), we must know that it is not about suffering sicknesses or lack, things which Jesus has redeemed us from, but suffering persecution, scorn and rejection for His name's sake, which we are likely to face as good Christians.

My friend, what you believe about Jesus is important because the Holy Spirit bears witness only to the truth. (John 16:13) So ask Him to unveil the beauty of Christ and the perfection of His finished work to you when you read God's Word. Find out from the Word how Christ has redeemed you from every curse and paid for you to enjoy all of God's blessings with His sacrifice at the cross. Beloved, get rid of any leaven in your believing. Believe and declare that you are healed, not sick; abundantly supplied, not in lack; and forever righteous in Christ. And when you start believing and confessing God's truths, the anointing of the Holy Spirit will be released for the breakthrough you need!

<p>Source: http://us4.campaign-archive2.com/?u=ad2dbc23165bb3ce5798e92d7&id=fc49649e2e&e=30d0e2a0cf</p>	
<p>Andrew Murray (9 May 1828 – 18 January 1917) was a South African writer, teacher, and Christian pastor. Murray considered missions to be "the chief end of the church." Andrew Murray wrote to interpret the Scriptures in such a way that Christians were free to believe and experience the grace of God. He believed that God had done everything necessary for people to live rich, productive, meaningful lives that participated in the life of God. The obstacles to such lives included half-hearted surrender to God, a lack of confidence in the anointing of the Spirit, and a deep-rooted skepticism about the power of prayer.</p> <p>One of his most popular books, <i>With Christ in the School of Prayer</i>, takes New Testament teachings about prayer and illumines them in 31 "lessons" designed to help the reader move past shallow, ineffectual prayer into a fuller understanding of the work God has called them to do. According to Murray, the church does not realize that "God rules the world by the prayers of his saints, that prayer is the power by which Satan is conquered, that by prayer the church on earth has disposal of the powers of the heavenly world."</p>	<p>Andrew Murray (9 mayo 1828 hasta 18 enero 1917) fue un escritor sudafricano , maestro y pastor cristiano . Murray considera misiones para ser " el fin principal de la iglesia. " Andrew Murray escribió a interpretar las Escrituras de tal manera que los cristianos eran libres de creer y experimentar la gracia de Dios. Él creía que Dios había hecho todo lo necesario para que la gente viva vidas ricas y productivas y significativas que participaron en la vida de Dios . Los obstáculos para una vida tan incluyeron la rendición a medias a Dios, una falta de confianza en la unción del Espíritu, y un profundo escepticismo sobre el poder de la oración.</p> <p>Uno de sus libros más populares , con <i>Cristo en la Escuela de Oración</i> , toma las enseñanzas del Nuevo Testamento acerca de la oración y los ilumina en 31 "lecciones" , diseñado para ayudar al lector a dejar atrás poco profunda , la oración ineficaz en una comprensión más completa de la obra de Dios ha llamado que hagan. Según Murray , la iglesia no se da cuenta de que "Dios gobierna el mundo por las oraciones de sus santos , que la oración es el poder por el cual Satanás es vencido , que por la oración de la iglesia en la tierra tiene la eliminación de los poderes del mundo celestial. "</p>
<p>The balance of Grace and Faith:</p> <p>(Romans 3:27). Save by Faith, a gift of God, Grace. (James 2:24-26). Faith without works is dead. It may lead to trying to earn God's favor.</p> <p>(Ephesians 2:5, 8-9). By grace we are saved. Saved by grace through faith, not works. Grace is a free gift, but we accept it by faith; The whole world has been given Grace, but not the whole world has accepted it; some have not even heard of this free gift of salvation, or what they have heard is not the true gospel, which is the gospel of grace.</p> <p>"even when we were dead through our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ (by grace you have been saved), and raised us up with him, and made us sit with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, that in the coming ages he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus. For by grace you have been saved through faith; and this is not your own doing, it is the gift of God— not because of works, lest any man should boast" (Ephesians 2:5-9). Faith comes by hearing and hearing the word of God, so faith does not come from us also, but from God.</p>	<p>El balance de la Gracia y la Fe:</p> <p>(Romanos 3:27). Guarde por la fe, don de Dios, la Gracia. (Santiago 2:24-26). La fe sin obras es muerta. Todo ello puede conducir a tratar de ganar el favor de Dios.</p> <p>(Efesios 2:5, 8-9). Por gracia somos salvos. Salvados por gracia mediante la fe, no por obras. La gracia es un don gratuito, pero lo aceptamos por la fe; El mundo entero se ha dado la gracia, pero no todo el mundo lo ha aceptado, algunos ni siquiera han oído hablar de este regalo de la salvación, o lo que han oído, no es el verdadero evangelio, que es el evangelio de la gracia.</p> <p>"aun estando nosotros muertos en pecados, nos dio vida juntamente con Cristo (por gracia sois salvos). Juntamente con él nos resucitó, y asimismo nos hizo sentar en los lugares celestiales con Cristo Jesús, para mostrar en los siglos venideros las abundantes riquezas de su gracia en su bondad para con nosotros en Cristo Jesús, porque por gracia sois salvos por medio de la fe; y esto no de vosotros, pues es don de Dios. No por obras, para que nadie se gloríe," (Efesios 2:5-9). La fe viene por el oír y el oír la palabra de Dios, así también la fe no viene de nosotros también, sino de Dios.</p>
<p>The Bible is clear that our success is not dependent on our obedience (if we were able to obey God in all He required, we would not need Jesus; if we disobey in one thing, we disobey the whole law). It is by His obedience that we are made righteous before God, and it's in the understanding of God's unconditional love that we respond by obeying God, and not the other way around.</p> <p>To think that our success depends on our obedience opens the door for Satan's condemnation, and just what happened to Israel. We are supposed to learn from their mistakes, and one of their greater mistakes was to think that their success depended on their obedience. For instance, they saw Jesus heal and do many mighty miracles on the Sabbath and they wanted to kill him. They put their own righteousness above God's love for His children. They could not understand that God's love for us is greater than the law. The law was meant to serve us and not the other way around.</p> <p>Our disobedience affects our fellowship (which is restored when we confess our trespasses) but not our success, because if we are in Christ, we are already victorious and reign in this life.</p> <p>These are greatly powerful teachings on God's grace. You will be greatly blessed by revelation of God's infinite love in our lives: http://www.awmi.net/extra/conference_videos/sfbc13/monday http://www.awmi.net/extra/conference_videos/sfbc13/tuesday http://www.awmi.net/extra/conference_videos/sfbc13/wednesday http://www.awmi.net/extra/conference_videos/sfbc13/thursday http://www.awmi.net/extra/conference_videos/sfbc13/friday</p> <p>The result of trying to be successful in this life depending on our obedience is chronic stress, and the Biblical Solution to this Stress is to enter God's Rest.</p>	
<p>God Wants You Well (<i>By Andrew Wommack</i>)</p> <p>Jesus used miracles ... to prove He could forgive sin (Mark 2:10-12). God used them to authenticate Jesus and His message (Heb. 2:3-4). Jesus told His followers</p>	<p>Dios Quiere Que Usted Este Sano (Por Andrew Wommack)</p> <p>Jesús usó los milagros ... para probar que Él podía perdonar los pecados (Marcos 2:10-12) . Dios los utiliza para autenticar a Jesús y su mensaje (Hebreos 2:3-4) .</p>