

# *Satisfying The Father's Heart*

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Isaiah 53:10-11

*Yet it pleased the LORD to bruise him; he hath put him to grief:  
when thou shalt make his soul an offering for sin,  
he shall see his seed, he shall prolong his days,  
and the pleasure of the LORD shall prosper in his hand.  
**He shall see of the travail of his soul, and shall be satisfied:**  
by his knowledge shall my righteous servant justify many;  
for he shall bear their iniquities.*

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## **Introduction: WHO IS GOD?**

Who is God, and who is man that God is mindful of him? These are two of the greatest questions humankind has asked throughout history. I have repeatedly stated that there are only two main lessons God desires us to learn in life: who God is and who I am. All other questions fall under these two.

*For who is God, save the LORD? and who is a rock, save our God? (2 Samuel 22:32)*

*What is man, that thou art mindful of him? and the son of man, that thou visitest him? (Psalm 8:4)*

To answer the second question, the first question must be answered. You will never truly know who you are or what your purpose in life is until you have an *understanding and awareness of God*. Imagine how different our choices would be if our awareness of God were intensified. Consider how our lives might change if we gained a deeper understanding and greater consciousness of Him. Imagine being given the humbling experience of seeing His throne and sovereign power as Lord and King; how would that transform you? Envision seeing Him through divine revelation or being lifted into the heavenly realms to behold His majesty: how would that change us and make a difference to who we are, our demeanor, attitude, and interactions with others, not to mention our fellowship with God Himself? We must “seek” to know Him!

Who is God? God is not known through a textbook, nor can He be known through a sermon, nor is He known through discussion or debate. You can debate God from now until eternity and remain ignorant of who He is. God is not known, and He cannot be known, by human reason, carnal thought process, or man's philosophies and traditions. *God can only be known by revelation.* This should stir our spirits to seek to ascend into dimensions of the Spirit, where we are given access to see beyond the "dark class" the beauty, power, majesty, glory, and nature of God.

*All things are delivered to me of my Father: and no man knoweth who the Son is, but the Father; and who the Father is, but the Son, and he to whom the Son will reveal him. (Luke 10:22)*

Throughout God's Word, we see one example after another of those who had a "revealing encounter" with God. In every instance, the revelation of God brought about a dramatic change in the lives, circumstances, attitudes, locations, and demeanors of those to whom God revealed Himself. Abram was forever changed when the LORD revealed Himself to him eight times, beginning in Mesopotamia and culminating on Mt Moriah when he offered Isaac. (Acts 7:2-3, Genesis 22:1-12). Each encounter with God deepened Abraham's understanding of God and, in turn, deepened his walk and experience with God.

- Moses encountered the presence and glory of God in the burning bush out in the desert of Midian (Exodus 3:4). He was never the same again! Later, upon Mt Sinai, Moses asked God to show him His glory. (Exodus 33:18-23). God revealed His name to Moses that day – he was never the same again.
- Elijah encountered God in the Mt of the LORD in Horeb (the same place Moses had his first encounter with God). (1 Kings 19:11-18). Here, Elijah experienced the LORD passing by – and he heard the still, small voice. After this encounter with God, Elijah gained the strength to complete his mission and calling.
- Samuel encountered God as a young boy. At that time, the Bible says that he did not yet know the LORD. But after His encounter with God, Samuel developed into the greatest Judge and one of the greatest prophets of Israel (1 Samuel 3:10).

These are only a few examples of God revealing Himself and His purpose to mere mortals, humans whom he had called and who pursued Him. None of these characters remained the same after the revealing presence and word of God ministered unto them. They were not changed by a book, a sermon, or a place – rather, they were changed by an encounter and an experience. A book, sermon, or place can be used by God as a door into an encounter with God, for sure. However, they cannot provide the encounter. I cannot give you a revealing experience of God – only God can do that.

God reveals Himself to those who *pursue Him*. He feeds those who *hunger after Him*. He is found by those who *seek Him*. He speaks to the ones who *pay attention to Him* – the Bible calls these unique ones as "the generation of those who seek after Him" (Psalm 24:6).

*And ye shall seek me, and find me, when ye shall search for me with all your heart. (Jeremiah 29:13)*

God did not promise to be found by those who are curious or who crave knowledge. He is not found by those performing religious rituals for the sake of gaining His favor. He is found by those who *seek Him*

with all their hearts. You only seek something that is not clearly visible. Paul said, “We speak the wisdom of God in a mystery” (1 Corinthians 2:7). This wisdom is gained by search.

The apostle Paul had quite a time dealing with the church in Corinth. This was a church full of spiritual pride, vain philosophies, and strange doctrinal ideas, yet they lacked no spiritual gift.

*That in every thing ye are enriched by him, in all utterance, and in all knowledge; Even as the testimony of Christ was confirmed in you: So that ye come behind in no gift; waiting for the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. (1 Corinthians 1:5-7)*

This church was “loaded” with spiritual utterances and knowledge. They did not lack in the operation of spiritual gifts. However, utterance, knowledge, and spiritual gifts were not enough for them to know their purpose in God. Indeed, they had a problem in their midst:

*Awake to righteousness, and sin not; for some have not the knowledge of God: I speak this to your shame. (1 Corinthians 15:34)*

Some of them, undoubtedly among the more influential, lacked “*the knowledge of God.*” This remains a challenge in the modern church. There are many gifts, teachers, utterances, and an abundance of knowledge. However, in many cases, this knowledge is not rooted in *knowing God. Knowledge is important, but knowledge without experience is dead, and experience without knowledge is dangerous.* Your experience must align with the knowledge of the Word, and the Word will confirm your experience. Without this, hearts remain darkened to the knowledge and awareness of God.

Back to seeking God with all your heart: the Hebrew word for search is *daw-rash'*, which means to walk frequently or to pursue, to follow (for pursuit or search), to seek or inquire; specifically, to worship; to care for, seek diligently, and ask. Searching for God isn't done in one hour of research. It is achieved by walking often, repeatedly into His presence. It is done by inquiring after Him through prayer and worship. We seek Him by following Him with determined effort in what we already know and have experienced. Do this with all your heart, and you will find Him; not a religion, not a ministry, not fame, not knowledge – but God! The reason the modern-day church does not honor God for who He is is that we don't know Him.

- The reason our prayer and worship are shallow is that we don't know Him.
- The reason pride still rules and dominates in our hearts is that we don't know Him.
- The reason we are quick to elevate ourselves rather than abase ourselves is that we don't know Him.
- The reason we are quicker to defend ourselves and our opinions than we are to defend God and His Truth is that we do not know Him.

The God of the universe and of all eternity is He to whom all heavenly creatures bow. All creation trembles at the sound of the Name of Yahweh. When He manifests His glory as He did with Isaiah, Ezekiel, and John (three prophets who saw God's throne room), the knees buckle from under our bodies as we succumb to His weighty glory in humility and submission.

In Old Testament times, a thick veil stood between God's glory-presence and the people of God. Jesus' work on the cross tore the veil asunder and opened the path leading to the Father.

*Having therefore, brethren, boldness to enter into the holiest by the blood of Jesus, By a new and living way, which he hath consecrated for us, through the veil, that is to say, his flesh. (Hebrews 10:19-20)*

His flesh is here likened to the veil. His flesh was rent, torn, and crucified, causing the veil to tear open in the temple in Jerusalem, as well as opening the way into the presence of God through the life (the blood) that Jesus shed on the cross (Hebrews 9:12, 13:12-13). However, a veil remains between God and me, and between me knowing who God is.



*But their minds were blinded: for until this day remaineth the same veil untaken away in the reading of the old testament; which veil is done away in Christ. But even unto this day, when Moses is read, the veil is upon their heart. Nevertheless when it shall turn to the Lord, the veil shall be taken away. (2 Corinthians 3:14-16)*

Paul is primarily referring to the Jewish people, God's chosen people, who have not yet caught the vision of God (or had their eyes opened), His purpose, His Son, and their place in God's plan. Why is this? Because a veil remains upon their hearts. This same principle also relates to the spiritual people of God, His called and chosen. The veil that stands between God and me is my flesh and carnal mind. I cannot see Him, know Him, hear Him, and bask in His glory unless the veil is rent. No wonder the author of Hebrews stated, "Without holiness no man shall see the Lord" (Hebrews 12:14).

When our hearts turn to the Lord, and we climb Calvary's Hill as Jesus did, and there, we lay down our flesh and carnal minds, the door is opened into the glory-presence of God in His throne room. This rents and removes the veil, revealing the glory of God! When you see Him, you see you – who you are, and what God's purpose is for you?

YOU CANNOT BEGIN TO UNDERSTAND WHO YOU ARE AND GOD'S PURPOSE FOR YOUR LIFE  
UNTIL YOU "SEE" WHO GOD IS!

*Follow peace with all men, and holiness, without which no man shall see the Lord: (Hebrews 12:14)*

God spoke with Moses like a friend, *face to face*.

*And it came to pass, as Moses entered into the tabernacle, the cloudy pillar descended, and stood at the door of the tabernacle, and the Lord talked with Moses. And all the people saw the cloudy pillar stand at the tabernacle door: and all the people rose up and worshipped, every man in his tent door. And the Lord spake unto Moses face to face, as a man speaketh unto his friend. (Exodus 33:9-11)*

These encounters took place in the Tabernacle, not on the mountain. God communicated His purpose and desire for Moses and the nation. "Face to face" means Moses had an exceptionally intimate, direct, and candid relationship with God, characterized by a two-way conversation, much like friends speak with one another. It indicates a unique, personal closeness, rather than a literal viewing of God's full, divine, and unimaginable form, which is too glorious for mortal humans to see.

The Hebrew word for "face" is *paw-neem*, which means presence. In God's presence, God and man communicated and fellowshiped. However, where we are heading in the Word, and moreover in our relationship with God, has to do with more than God's presence. It has to do with God's glory – His *kaw-bode* dwelling presence, which includes His face.

*And he said, I beseech thee, shew me thy glory. (Exodus 33:18)*

Even though Moses had spoken with God face to face, presence to presence, He requested to see God's glory. He requested this because of the preceding circumstances that had caused God's anger to rise against the people. God called His people "stiff-necked" (meaning hard-hearted, obstinate, stubborn, heavy, dense, tough, and severe – Exodus 33:5). The people had made a golden calf from the earrings taken from Egypt. God told His people they could still go and claim the land, but He also said that He would not go with them. (Exodus 33:3).

Moses took his tent (this was not the actual tabernacle built after this experience) and removed it outside the camp, calling it the Tabernacle of the Congregation (vs 7). Here, in this tent afar off from the people, God met with Moses "face to face." However, Moses pursued hard after God. He wanted more, something deeper, and more personal – He wanted to know God and His way!

*Now therefore, I pray thee, if I have found grace in thy sight, shew me now thy way, that I may know thee, that I may find grace in thy sight: and consider that this nation is thy people. (Exodus 33:13)*

THAT I MAY KNOW THEE! This was Moses' desire, to know the LORD; to know not just His presence but His person, His glory – "Shew me thy glory."

God promised to show Moses His Name. His Name contains every aspect of Himself; it contains all His power, character, nature, and purpose – it's all in His Name!

*And he said, Thou canst not see my face: for there shall no man see me, and live. And the LORD said, Behold, there is a place by me, and thou shalt stand upon a rock: And it shall come to pass, while my glory passeth by, that I will put thee in a cleft of the rock, and will cover thee with my hand while I pass by: (Exodus 33:20-22)*

Read verses 18-23.

Shortly after this experience with God, Moses ascended Mt Sinai and there God fulfilled His promise.

*And the LORD descended in the cloud, and stood with him there, and proclaimed the name of the LORD. (Exodus 34:5)*

It was here, at this moment, that Moses experienced the glory of the LORD God's personal presence. As he passed by, His Name was declared by revelation.

LORD

LORD God

Merciful (*Rakh-koom* – compassion, love, mercy)

Gracious

Longsuffering

Abundant in Goodness

Abundant in Truth

Preserver of Kindness (*Khe-shed* – favor, kindness, mercy)

Forgiver of Iniquity

Forgiver of Transgression

Forgiver of Sin

Righteous Judge

The effect of this encounter with the glory of God was, "Moses made haste and bowed his head toward the earth and worshipped" (vs. 8). Worship will always be the result of a revealing encounter with God. The reason I know that few have had such encounters is that few know the power, value, and practice of true worship.

You know when you have had such an encounter because nothing in you wants to remain standing and upright in the presence of God's glory. Multitudes of people profess to know God, and yet their upright will, pride, and rebellion reveal exactly the opposite. Breaking through the veil of your flesh as you climb the mountain where self is laid down opens this encounter with God and His glory!

I can tell when someone has seen a true vision of God, when the eyes have beheld God's glory: their countenance, demeanor, attitude, and the position of their heart change. It is unmistakable!

*And when Aaron and all the children of Israel saw Moses, behold, the skin of his face shone; and they were afraid to come nigh him. (Exodus 34:30)*

Moses veiled his face when he spoke with the people, but he unveiled his face when he spoke with God. (vs. 33-35). This is how it is with us – your encounters with God are not always for the public. However, when going in before the LORD, our hearts should be uncovered, open, and unveiled of the carnal, fleshly thoughts and feelings of the fallen man.

What I am going to share with you during this Summit will not be understood or comprehended by your human intelligence or carnal mind. The veil must be rent!

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### **DIVINE EYESIGHT AND A DIVINE MIND:**

Without divine eyesight and a spiritual revelation, it is not possible to begin to comprehend what it means to satisfy the heart of the Heavenly Father. Many may argue that the scriptures above relate to Jesus, the Son of God, and therefore do not apply to us. However, if we are called to be “like Him” and to become sons of God, we too must learn what it means to satisfy the Father’s heart!

The Hebrew word for satisfy is *saw-bah'*, *saw-bay'-ah*, which means to *sate (satisfy (a desire or an appetite) to the full), fill to satisfaction (literally or figuratively), to have enough, have plenty of, be satiate, satisfied with, and suffice*. But knowing the meaning of this word cannot begin to open your understanding of what truly satisfies God with fulfilling delight and pleasure.

Before we delve into the scriptures concerning Satisfying the Father, we need to first learn what must precede this remarkable experience of delighting God.

We all possess within us a barrier and a hindrance to understanding what it means for God to be satisfied. The barrier or wall that separates us from this experience, and that blinds our vision, is called “the carnal mind.” The carnal mind always attempts to reason God’s purpose out of the picture. Peter’s carnal mind tried to reason with Jesus, attempting to sway Him from fulfilling that which would ultimately satiate the Father’s heart.

*From that time forth began Jesus to shew unto his disciples, how that he must go unto Jerusalem, and suffer many things of the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and be raised again the third day. Then Peter took him, and began to rebuke him, saying, Be it far from thee, Lord: this shall not be unto thee. (Matthew 16:21-22)*

Here we see the carnal mind at work, “Be it far from thee.” This is how the carnal mind attempts to hold us captive. “You don’t have to do that, this is not required, that is not necessary,” etc. The carnal mind will not bow to God’s purpose and will. The carnal mind cannot comprehend God’s design and blueprint; it cannot see that what God requires of us is necessary if we are to satisfy Him. Why? The carnal mind is an enemy of God.

*Because the carnal mind is enmity against God: for it is not subject to the law of God, neither indeed can be. (Romans 8:7)*

To be at *enmity against* means to be *an enemy of*. Enmity means hostility, a reason for opposition, and hatred. The carnal mind “hates,” yes, hates, the purpose of God.

- The carnal mind is never a friend of God.
- Carnal reasoning and thought processes fight God and His eternal purpose.
- The carnal mind always has a reason why it should not fulfill God’s will.
- The carnal mind is fueled by excuses and lies.
- The carnal mind cannot see the eternal and spiritual significance of God’s purpose.
- The carnal mind is haughty, arrogant, and full of pride.
- The carnal mind is a warrior against anything that would cause the heart to bow.
- The carnal mind despises true doctrine, reproof, correction, and instruction.

What we all need to realize is that every one of us has a carnal mind. How often has our carnal, humanistic reasoning drawn us away from following the plan of God breathed upon us from eternity past?

*In whom also we have obtained an inheritance, being predestinated according to the purpose of him who worketh all things after the counsel of his own will: That we should be to the praise of his glory, who first trusted in Christ. (Ephesians 1:11-12)*

*Who hath saved us, and called us with an holy calling, not according to our works, but according to his own purpose and grace, which was given us in Christ Jesus before the world began, (2 Timothy 1:9)*

What God has purposed for you, how He deals with you, and what He requires of you are not things He decided to design as you walk this journey called life. He didn’t start planning your existence after you were born. Rather, He purposed and planned your life before time began, long before you were born into this world. God’s purpose is eternal, spiritual, and everlasting. Hence, our minds, subject to sin and vanity, cannot comprehend what God wants with you or out of you. Our carnal minds will fight, oppose, resist, and even hate what God requires of us; and in the process, they will find reasons to call God’s purpose unreasonable and even impossible to accomplish.

*For they that are after the flesh do mind the things of the flesh; but they that are after the Spirit the things of the Spirit. For to be carnally minded is death; but to be spiritually minded is life and peace. (Romans 8:5-6)*

What are we supposed to do with the carnal mind?

*That ye **put off** concerning the former conversation the old man, which is corrupt according to the deceitful lusts; And be renewed in the spirit of your mind. (Ephesians 4:22-23)*

*But **put ye on** the Lord Jesus Christ, and make not provision for the flesh, to fulfil the lusts thereof. (Romans 13:14)*

The carnal mind needs to be PUT OFF, laid aside, and put down. The mind of Christ must replace the carnal mind. This is accomplished by “making no provision,” or giving no room, space, or opportunity to the carnal mind of the flesh. Christ’s mind never rejects the Truth, Christ’s mind is humble, Christ’s mind is submitted to the will of the Father, and Christ’s mind never gives in to the desires or works of the flesh.

*Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus: (Philippians 2:5)*

The Greek word for mind in this case is *phroneo*, which means to interest oneself with concern to obedience, set affection on, to exercise the mind (a disciplined mind), to entertain, and to have a sentiment or an opinion.

The mind of Christ is a disciplined mind that is exercised by continuously bowing to the Father’s purpose. Christ’s mind never exalted itself above the Father. Christ’s mind submits and sets its affections on that which is eternal and divine. There is nothing in the list of things that the mind of Christ encapsulates that the carnal mind will ever accept, quite the contrary. (see verses 6-8).

1. Christ knew who He was - equal with God
2. Made Himself of no reputation.
3. Took upon Himself the form of a servant.
4. Lived in the form and fashion of a man.
5. He humbled Himself.
6. He became obedient unto death.
7. He embraced the cross.

This encapsulates and describes the mind of Christ. How different the carnal mind is. Consider: Jesus knew who he was and where he came from (*John 13:3 - Jesus knowing that the Father had given all things into his hands, and that he was come from God, and went to God*), who he was, and where he was going; he nonetheless humbled Himself by bowing to His father’s eternal purpose. This is a problem for many people in Christian circles these days. When people begin to discover who they are, what God has called them to, and what their destiny is, instead of humbling themselves, the opposite occurs: they become arrogant and proud whilst cloaked in a “holier than thou” attitude.

*Which say, Stand by thyself, come not near to me; for I am holier than thou. These are a smoke in my nose, a fire that burneth all the day. (Isaiah 65:5)*

This is the fruit of a carnal mind. Instead of rising to the Lord God as a sweet-smelling savor, our existence before God is like the stench of smoldering smoke and a burning fire. This type of mind will never perceive or comprehend what it means to satisfy the Father!

What is God requiring from all of us? A CHANGE OF MIND!

*Forasmuch then as Christ hath suffered for us in the flesh, arm yourselves likewise with the same mind: for he that hath suffered in the flesh hath ceased from sin; That he no longer should live the rest of his time in the flesh to the lusts of men, but to the will of God. (1 Peter 4:1-2)*

Putting on the mind of Christ is like putting on a helmet, a head armor that protects the mind. When the carnal, fleshly mind is removed and laid aside, the mind of Christ will surround your thoughts with protective rays of Truth that penetrate and pierce into the dark thoughts that work to reject Christ's mind and captivate your thinking.

## LESSON 2 – O'LAWM ETERNITY WITHIN – The Cup

*He shall see of the travail of his soul, and shall be satisfied: by his knowledge shall my righteous servant justify many; for he shall bear their iniquities. (Isaiah 53:11)*

Jesus is our greatest example of how to satisfy the Father. To be satisfied means to be satiated and filled to fullness.

Within every one of us, God has set an eternal world: a world that *was, is, and is to come*. It was from eternity; it is in the present (within us) and shall be forever. This is why you cannot kill the spirit of man – it came from eternity and will return to eternity; it is eternity.

*Then shall the dust return to the earth as it was: and the spirit shall return unto God who gave it. (Ecclesiastes 12:7)*

The body, which houses the spirit, will return to the dust it was formed from; however, the spirit that came from God will return to God, or will return to God's eternal, unending world. The spirit existed with God before time began. Your spirit is eternal. Within your spirit, your heart, God placed His eternal world.

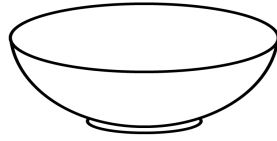
*He hath made every thing beautiful in his time: also he hath set the world (o'lawm - everlasting, perpetual, eternal, without end) in their heart, so that no man can find out the work that God maketh from the beginning to the end. (Ecclesiastes 3:11)*

Within the spirits of all of mankind, the breath of God fashioned an eternal vessel which was to contain nothing but Him!

*The burden of the word of the LORD for Israel, saith the LORD, which stretcheth forth the heavens, and layeth the foundation of the earth, and formeth the spirit of man within him. (Zechariah 12:1)*

Man's spirit was formed by God. To be formed means squeezing something into shape, molding it into a form (like a potter molds clay), fashioning it, framing it, and making it for a purpose.

God took a substance and shaped it into a form or vessel according to an eternal blueprint with an eternal purpose. He squeezed this eternal substance into a mold that carried His blueprint. The spirit within man was formed for the purpose of containing something, like a *bowl or a cup*. What is the purpose of this cup?



Before anything was, there was God, and the Word of God. Nothing else existed; therefore, God formed man's spirit from His own Spirit - (*roo-akh*, breath, wind, exhalation – Zechariah 12:1). Hence, the spirit of man within the heart or core of his being is the *o'lawm*, eternal and everlasting world of God that was, is, and is to come. The spirit within mankind is the fiery breath that God blew into man's nostrils from His own mouth – "...and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living soul" (Genesis 2:7).

The word "breathed" means to kindle a fire. From the beginning, God intended for man's spirit to be a blazing, fiery flame, maintained and kept alive on a candlestick of divine Truth.

*The spirit of man is the candle of the LORD, searching all the inward parts of the belly. (Proverbs 20:27)*

The formed spirit within mankind is a candle or lamp of the LORD that searches the inward parts, meaning the innermost chamber, private chamber, and innermost enclosure. The word "belly" refers to a hollow (like a bowl), a womb, and the bosom. Our spirits are like a bowl or cup formed by God to hold a living substance (oil – more on that later) that feeds the lamp and keeps its flame burning. As long as the fiery breath of God's Spirit remains, the spirit stays aware and alert as the blazing flame of God's breath searches the hidden inner chamber of your spirit, giving discernment and awareness of the thoughts and intents of the heart.

This cup, womb, or bosom, is the Father's House – the Kingdom of God within, the place that must be filled with Him. Jesus dwells in this place, "bosom of the Father" – (John 1:18). This, dear saint of God, is a description of your spirit – the *o'lawm* world within you: the private sanctum that God designed for Himself, for His glory, and His residing presence. There is no room for darkness in this place – it must be illuminated with the fire of "the Lamp of the LORD."

*But all things that are reprov'd are made manifest by the light: for whatsoever doth make manifest is light. Wherefore he saith, Awake thou that sleepest, and arise from the dead, and Christ shall give thee light. (Ephesians 5:13-14)*

Can you begin to see the importance of your spirit's awakening? Open your inner ears to hear the awakening midnight cry – the Bridegroom cometh – trim your lamps!!

A further description of the "candle of the LORD" is given by Zachariah.

*And said unto me, What seest thou? And I said, I have looked, and behold a candlestick all of gold, with a bowl upon the top of it, and his seven lamps thereon, and seven pipes to the seven lamps,*

*which are upon the top thereof: And two olive trees by it, one upon the right side of the bowl, and the other upon the left side thereof. (Zachariah 4:2-3)*

The word for “bowl” is *gole*, meaning a cup that contains oil. The candle itself has no light without the overflowing cup of oil. David said, MY CUP RUNNETH OVER – (Psalm 23:5). To *run over* (*raw-vaw*) means *to satisfy, to saturate*, and to be full (including intoxicated to delight). Who is satiated and satisfied? Not you or me – but He who designed you and me for His purpose! God did not create you and me for our own satisfaction or delight. We are created for His pleasure, His delight, and to satisfy His heart (Revelation 4:11). Our joy and delight are discovered in delighting the Father!

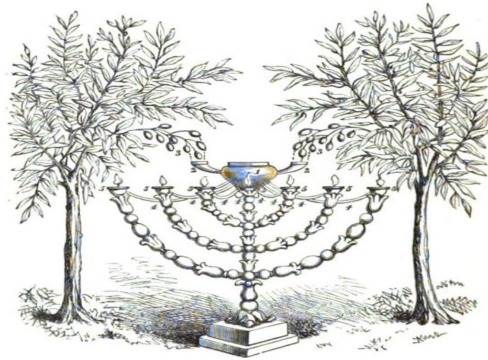
Also, an important matter to note: In Matthew 25, Jesus taught a parable about the Kingdom. The parable relates to ten “virgins” who fell asleep. We have all slept – since the fall of mankind, the “bowl/lamp” has been voided of oil. Also, during the end-times, a spirit of slumber and sleep has fallen upon the people of God during a period “while the Bridegroom tarried.” But when the midnight awakening cry sounded, they all awakened, but only five had lamps filled with oil. (vs. 1-13) These five wise virgins speak of the bride of Christ – the ones who have filled the cup with the oil that satisfies the Father.

*For thou wilt light my candle: the LORD my God will enlighten my darkness. (Psalm 18:28)*

*For thou art my lamp, O LORD: and the LORD will lighten my darkness. (2 Samuel 22:29)*

The candle is the spirit within – the lamp of the LORD. The oil is the source of fire and light, which is the breath of the LORD. In the beginning, God breathed into man the breath of life, meaning He kindled a fire within him. A lamp with fire must have oil to burn (Genesis 2:7). The fiery lamp kindled within the core of man’s being burned as long as the oil flowed. The Spirit, breath, fire, and oil of the LORD combine into the blazing lamp of the LORD within man’s being. The candlestick in the tabernacle and temple of God was called “The lamp of God” (1 Samuel 3:3).

Zechariah had a vision of the “lamp of the LORD.” On top of, or over, the candlestick was a bowl full of oil. The word used to describe “*candle*” is the Hebrew word *neer*, meaning a lamp, to glisten, to burn, and give light.



When Zechariah inquired what the two olive trees were that fed the bowl with a continuous flow of oil, the LORD responded on this wise:

*Then said he, These are the two anointed ones, that stand by the Lord of the whole earth. (Zechariah 4:14)*

The “two anointed ones” that stood by the Lord, Adonai, in Zachariah’s day were Joshua (the priest), and Zerubbabel (the king or governor). These two represent the royal priesthood – the sons of God. They are a picture of the Son of God, the Royal Priest, who was also revealed as Melchizedek, the priestly king of Salem (Jerusalem).

In Hebrew, the phrase “*the two anointed ones*” means “*the two sons of oil.*” The sons of God are sons of oil. They are like olive trees whose life is a continuous crushing of olives, causing oil to flow. As soon as the oil stops flowing, the lamp's flame begins to go out. It is this bowl, our spirit, that must overflow with oil, bringing delight and satisfaction to the Father. MY CUP RUNNETH OVER!

*Now will I sing to my wellbeloved a song of my beloved touching his vineyard. My wellbeloved hath a vineyard in a very fruitful hill: (Isaiah 5:1)*

Isaiah’s prophetic song to the “well-beloved” Bridegroom is a revelation of the garden/vineyard of the heart. The garden reflects the original Garden, Eden, which was God’s first temple residence on earth among humankind.

The song speaks of the garden planted on a very “fruitful” hill. The hill is none other than Zion. The word for fruitful is taken from two Hebrew words: ben (meaning son), and sheh-men (meaning oil). The fruitful hill demonstrates to us the *sons of oil* who produce a river of oil from the press located in the middle of the garden. Through the crushing, surrender, and sacrifice of the sons of oil, through their inner cry, “Not my will but thine be done,” oil flows from the fruitful hill bringing pleasure, delight, and satisfaction to Heavenly Father.

Why are you shocked when you are crushed? Why do we run from the olive press? Why do we try to avoid the Garden of Gethsemane? Gethsemane means “the olive press,” the place where the olives grew and were crushed. Jesus became a crushed olive in Gethsemane. If we shall be sons of God, we must follow His example – we too will be crushed!

*And the LORD God formed man of the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living soul. (Genesis 2:7)*

In the beginning, God...

- ...breathed into man – *nâphach* (*naw-fakh’*) meaning to puff, (literally, to inflate, blow hard, scatter, kindle a fire), blow, and breath.
- ...the breath of life – *neshâmâh* (*nesh-aw-maw’*) meaning a puff, that is, wind, vital breath, divine inspiration, intellect, a blast, inspiration, soul, and spirit.

God placed the *o'lawm* world within the core of man's being through the blast of His breath. This is when the eternal spirit from eternity entered humankind, and he became a living soul (*neh-phesh* - a *breathing* creature, appetite, living body, breath, mind, desire, person, and pleasure).

God filled man with the fiery breath of His Spirit. He filled man with divine inspiration to accomplish and fulfill His divine purpose. Man was not in doubt as to what God's purpose was. He was spiritually alive and aware of the *o'lawm* world within him, a world squeezed into form as a temple, a habitation, and a residence of the King of Glory. However, Adam, male and female, failed to invite the King into the space that was formed for Him. The *o'lawm* world of God's Kingdom within became corrupted, defiled, and overtaken by a false king. Only by this "space" becoming occupied with the breath, fire, life, and glory of God can the Father be satisfied!

The spirit was corrupted by disobedience, but it will be filled with the glory of God by obedience, hence bringing glory and satisfaction for the Father. His "world," His temple, must be filled; only then is the Father satisfied. We cannot satisfy the Father with our carnal mindset inherited from Adam the first, but rather by submitting to the mind of Christ and following His example of obedience to His Father's will and purpose!

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### LESSON 3 – ABRAHAM SATISFIED GOD

In the previous lesson, we pointed out that it is impossible to comprehend and grasp what it means to satisfy the father without laying aside the carnal mind. Can you imagine, in eternity past, when the Father presented His plan and purpose to the Christ, the begotten Word of God, concerning becoming clothed in human flesh and dying the excruciating death of the cross? The carnal mind does not understand such a thing. What if the Son of God possessed a carnal mind? The response would no doubt have been, "Uh, no, I don't want to do that – it makes no sense." But instead, the Son of God became the living "Amen," so be it Father, I agree, yes, I will! (*And unto the angel of the church of the Laodiceans write; These things saith the Amen, the faithful and true witness, the beginning of the creation of God. Revelation 3:14*)

We see the same principle of truth applied in the life of Abraham, who was called to offer his only son on an altar of obedience. God did not give Abraham any form of reasoning to settle his carnal mind. He received no verbal reassurances, nor did God make some kind of deal with him. To the carnal mind, this request was absurd and inhuman.

*And it came to pass after these things, that God did tempt Abraham, and said unto him, Abraham: and he said, Behold, here I am. And he said, Take now thy son, thine only son Isaac, whom thou lovest, and get thee into the land of Moriah; and offer him there for a burnt offering upon one of the mountains which I will tell thee of. (Genesis 22:1-2)*

God's purpose in dealing with Abraham concerning Isaac was a test (to prove and try). However, God didn't tell Abraham it was a test. There is no mention here of any such discussion. All we see is God's command and instructions given to Abraham.

The following day, rising early, Abraham set out to obey what God had required of him. Abraham asked no question; he didn't argue with God, and he did not allow his carnal mind to interfere with his submission to God's purpose. He arose and obeyed.

*And Abraham said, My son, God will provide himself a lamb for a burnt offering: so they went both of them together. (Genesis 22:8)*

The word "provide" comes from the Hebrew word *ra'ah*, which, among other things, means approve, behold, cause to enjoy, have a joyful experience, gaze, look upon, and have respect. God's purpose was to be joyfully satisfied with Abraham, the one He had identified as His friend. (2 Chronicles 20:7, Isaiah 41:8)

*And the scripture was fulfilled which saith, Abraham believed God, and it was imputed unto him for righteousness: and he was called the Friend of God. (James 2:23)*

Abraham believed God concerning His promise of a seed and an heir. He did not stagger (to waver, doubt, and withdraw from) at God's Word but embraced His promise fully and completely with faith.

*He staggered not at the promise of God through unbelief; but was strong in faith, giving glory to God; And being fully persuaded that, what he had promised, he was able also to perform. (Romans 4:20-21).*

For most of us, in our carnal way of thinking, we would consider that this level of testimony was sufficient in joyfully satisfying the heart of the Eternal Father. But it was not. God's promise concerning Isaac was Him giving something to Abraham. God's command to offer Isaac was for Abraham to give something to God, and not just something, but the most precious thing he possessed – the fulfillment of God's promise. The carnal mind does not comprehend this!

Once again, when Abraham was tested, he did not stagger because of unbelief. He did not withdraw himself from God, nor did he waver as to whether this was a crazy idea or indeed God's purpose. He arose and obeyed! He knew that if he obeyed, God would make a way for a finite human to joyfully satisfy God. He said, "God will provide."

Do you know that one of the main reasons we hold back from doing what our innermost being knows is God's will is that we don't believe God will provide? We think as humans, locked in the prison house of the carnal mind.

*And Abraham stretched forth his hand, and took the knife to slay his son. And the angel of the LORD called unto him out of heaven, and said, Abraham, Abraham: and he said, Here am I. And he said, Lay not thine hand upon the lad, neither do thou any thing unto him: for now I know that thou fearest God, seeing thou hast not withheld thy son, thine only son from me. (Genesis 22:10-12)*

Abraham, you have believed me, you have obeyed me, and you have withheld nothing from me; now I am satisfied! God knows all things, but it's not the knowledge that satisfies His heart – it is the experience. The LORD needed to experience what He knew by theory. Once he saw that Abraham withheld nothing from Him, he said, "For now I know."

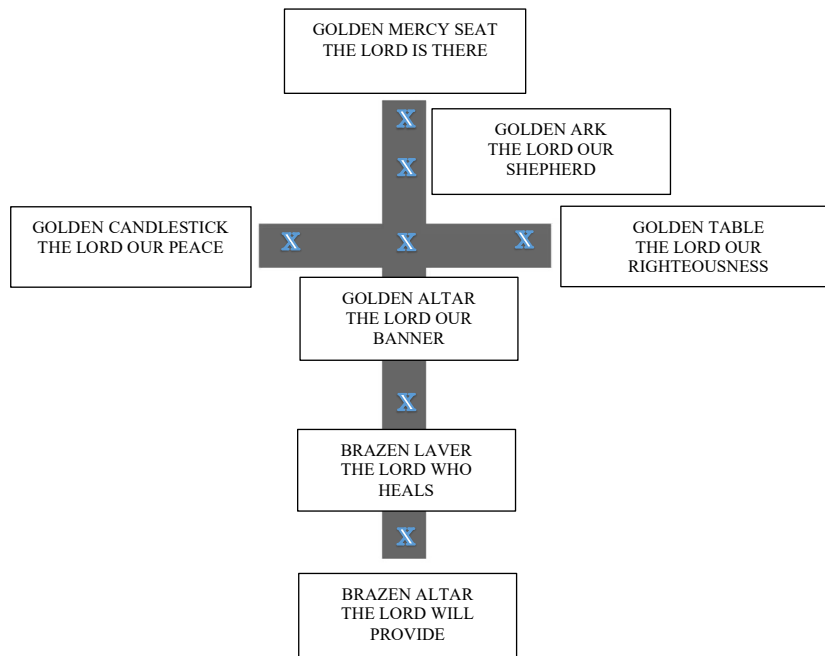
*And Abraham lifted up his eyes, and looked, and behold behind him a ram caught in a thicket by his horns: and Abraham went and took the ram, and offered him up for a burnt offering in the stead of his son. And Abraham called the name of that place Jehovah-jireh: as it is said to this day, In the mount of the LORD it shall be seen. (Genesis 22:13-14)*

Abraham obeyed, knowing God's provision was a foundational experience for living a life that joyfully satisfies the heart of God, from the Father revealing Himself as Jehovah Jireh (The LORD will Provide) to Jehovah Shammah (the LORD is there). The ultimate purpose of satisfying the Father is that His dwelling/habitation is prepared, and He dwells within us. Throughout the millennium, the name of Jerusalem/Zion is "The LORD is there!"

- JEHOVAH JIREH: "The LORD Will Provide" (Genesis 22:14).
- JEHOVAH RAPHA: "The LORD Who Heals" (Exodus 15:26).
- JEHOVAH NISSI: "The LORD Our Banner" or Victory (Exodus 17:15).
- JEHOVAH SHALOM: "The LORD Our Peace" (Judges 6:24).
- JEHOVAH TSIDKENU: "The LORD Our Righteousness" (Jeremiah 23:6).
- JEHOVAH RAAH: "The LORD Our Shepherd" (Psalm 23:1).
- JEHOVAH SHAMMAH: "The LORD Who Is Present" or There (Ezekiel 48:35).

See the diagram on the following page:

## THE RELATIONSHIP WITH THE FATHER



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### LESSON 4 – FILLING THE CUP OF GOD’S PURPOSE

One Hebrew word for “satisfy” is *maw-lay*, meaning to fill, be full, replenish, come to an end, be satisfied, end, complete, confirm, and consecrate. This word is used in various ways in the Bible. However, two of the main ways in which we find *maw-lay* used are as “fulfill” and “consecrate.”

#### a. Fulfilling

Satisfying the Father is all about filling, or “fulfilling”, His divine, eternal will, purpose, and desire. Nothing satisfies God more than a heart that fulfills His will. Fulfilling God’s will is like pouring water into a vessel until it overflows. The word “fulfill” means to *satisfy* and to *make full*.

*So Solomon thrust out Abiathar from being priest unto the LORD; that he might **fulfil (maw-lay)** the word of the LORD, which he spake concerning the house of Eli in Shiloh. (1 Kings 2:27)*

Abiathar was a High Priest. He served under King David and was a direct descendant of Eli. After escaping King Saul's massacre of priests at Nob, he fled to David with the ephod, becoming a loyal counselor and co-priest with Zadok. However, he was later banished by Solomon for supporting Adonijah's rebellion. Abiathar conspired with Adonijah (King David’s other son) to usurp the throne, acting against Solomon's divinely appointed kingship (1 Kings 1:7; 2:26-27). This action fulfilled the prophecy regarding the removal of Eli’s house from the priesthood.

This is one example of how God was satisfied, fulfilled, and satiated. There is a war going on in the o'lawm world within us – it is a war to place a false king on the throne. It is an attempt to kill the “son of promise,” Solomon, whom God has chosen to rule the kingdom. God called Solomon his son and referred to Himself as Solomon’s Father.

*And he said unto me, Solomon thy son, he shall build my house and my courts: for I have chosen him to be my son, and I will be his father. (1 Chronicles 28:6)*

Solomon was the only one in Old Testament history to whom God referred to Himself as his Father. Solomon represents the sons of God, born of love (David). It satisfies the heart of the Heavenly Father when His children take a stand against demonic powers within and without that would attempt to occupy the throne of dominion and kingdom authority.

b. Filleth All Things.

*And hath put all things under his feet, and gave him to be the head over all things to the church, Which is his body, the fulness of him that filleth all in all. (Ephesians 1:22-23)*

In the Aramaic New Testament, the word “filleth” is *maw-lay*, completion. Completion is accomplished, and the Father is satisfied when His Son fills *all in all* within His church. This is the goal of God’s purpose accomplished.

In Greek, the word “filleth” is *play-ro’-o*, meaning *to make replete, to cram full, level up (filling a hollow), to satisfy, finish (a period or task), accomplish, be complete, end, fill up, fulfil, be full, and to perfect*. God’s purpose is filled to completion and fulfillment when His Son fills all in all. It is within the heart, the o’lawm world, that is filled with the likeness of Christ Jesus that the Father, the eternal King, comes to reside.

c. To Perfect.

*Be watchful, and strengthen the things which remain, that are ready to die: for I have not found thy works **perfect** before God. (Revelation 3:2)*

The word “perfect” is the same word as in Ephesians 1:23, “filleth” – to satisfy, complete, and fill up. This message was given to the Sardis Church. This is the church that the Lord admonished to “remember how they had received and heard, to hold fast, and repent. If therefore thou shalt not watch, I will come on thee as a thief, and thou shalt not know what hour I will come upon thee.” (Revelation 3:3)

To be prepared for the rapture (the time when the Lord will come as a thief in the night), God is searching for those who have filled or fulfilled their portion, those who have satisfied God’s purpose. It is not enough to be half-baked bread.

*Ephraim, he hath mixed himself among the people; Ephraim is a cake not turned. (Hosea 7:8)*

This verse describes Israel (Ephraim) as a half-baked, a ruined pancake or loaf of bread—burnt on one side and raw on the other. It signifies their spiritual inconsistency, compromising with pagan nations, and failing to fully commit to God, resulting in a superficial, useless faith. This is typical of the church world today. God admonished the Sardis Church not to be “half-baked” but to fulfill their purpose! This satisfies the Father!

d. Replenish.

*And God blessed them, and God said unto them, Be fruitful, and multiply, and **replenish (maw-lay)** the earth, and subdue it: and have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over every living thing that moveth upon the earth. (Genesis 1:28)*

*And God blessed Noah and his sons, and said unto them, Be fruitful, and multiply, and **replenish (maw-lay)** the earth. (Genesis 9:1)*

Twice, God gave the command to “replenish” (*maw-lay*) the earth. The first time was when He placed humankind on the recreated earth, an earth that was “void” of life, substance, and the fulfillment of God’s purpose.

*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. (Genesis 1:2)*

This scene gives us a prophetic picture and a demonstration of the deformed, empty space within the “world” within us that dwells in darkness. God’s purpose was, and still is, for the earth to be replenished and filled with His glory. His purpose will be accomplished in the millennium when the earth will be covered, flooded, overcome, and satiated with the glory of God.

*For the earth shall be filled with the knowledge of the glory of the LORD, as the waters cover the sea. (Habukkuk 2:14)*

God called, blessed, and purposed for Adam, male and female, to replenish the earth with the same likeness of God that they were endowed with.

The second time God gave the command to replenish the earth was after God had cleansed the earth with a flood, destroyed all life, and spared Noah and his family. Through them, God gave the command to fill the earth once again.

The moral of the story is that God’s purpose has not changed, whether in the natural world or the spiritual world. Through our relationship with the Bridegroom, the Second Adam, the bride of Christ is called to bear fruit unto the Bridegroom and “replenish” the restored world within with His likeness.

e. Consecrate.

Another meaning of the word *maw-lay* is consecrate. Consecration of the human spirit and soul brings satisfaction to the heart of the Father. When the Father sees your consecration, it brings a satiation, satisfaction to His will and purpose.

*And thou shalt put them upon Aaron thy brother, and his sons with him; and shalt anoint them, and consecrate them, and sanctify them, that they may minister unto me in the priest's office. (Exodus 28:41)*

Aaron and his sons were not permitted to serve in the office of High Priest and priestly ministries without consecration and sanctification. The trend in the church world today is, “live as you please, do as you want, and serve God when you feel like and as you see fit.” This does not please God nor bring satisfaction to His heart.

*For the law maketh men high priests which have infirmity; but the word of the oath, which was since the law, maketh the Son, who is consecrated for evermore. (Hebrews 7:28)*

This verse is jam-packed with truth and eternal mystery concerning the Son of God. However, let’s focus on the word consecrate which means to complete, be perfect, accomplish, finish, and fulfill. Jesus is the eternal accomplishment and fulfillment of the Father’s purpose. In the next lesson, we will learn how the Son satisfied the Father. He is, forevermore, consecrated!

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## LESSON 5 – HOW JESUS SATISFIED THE FATHER

*Yet it pleased the LORD to bruise him; he hath put him to grief: when thou shalt make his soul an offering for sin, he shall see his seed, he shall prolong his days, and the pleasure of the LORD shall prosper in his hand. He shall see of the travail of his soul, and shall be satisfied: by his knowledge shall my righteous servant justify many; for he shall bear their iniquities. (Isaiah 53:10-11 KJV)*

Before we look at these verses in more detail, we must remember that the carnal mind does not, and cannot, comprehend or perceive the will and purpose of God – impossible! Hence, to comprehend and grasp the vision of the Father’s intent and desire for His Son, we must lay aside our carnal, earthly way of thinking and peer into the throne room of God with the eyes of the Spirit.

1. It PLEASED the LORD to bruise Him.

The Hebrew word for “pleased” is *kaw-fates’*, meaning desire, favor, take delight in, and will. The Hebrew word for “bruise” is *daw-kaw’*, meaning to break in pieces, crush, smite, and afflict.

The fact that it “pleased” the Father to bruise His Son does not mean that the Father is sadistic, mean, or diabolical. The carnal mind looks at this and frowns on God. However, in Hebrew, these words mean that it was the Father’s will to afflict His Son and make Him an offering for sin; He took delight in knowing that the crushing of His Son would accomplish His purpose in bringing mankind back to Himself.

## 2. The Son was Put to Grief.

The Son was “put to grief.” This means that anguish and travail were placed upon Him like a woman who is giving birth to a child. It also means being wounded and placed in a position of intense prayer.

## 3. His Soul was Made an Offering for Sin.

The soul, *nephesh*, of Jesus was made an offering for sin. It was not just His body that suffered upon the cross; it was His eternal soul and spirit that became an offering before the Father. Continuing, it states, *“He shall see the travail of His soul, and shall be satisfied.”*

## 4. The Travail of His Soul.

The travail of His soul has to do with yielding to the will and purpose of God. It was in the Garden of Gethsemane that Jesus experienced the travail of His soul.

*Then saith he unto them, My soul is exceeding sorrowful, even unto death: tarry ye here, and watch with me. (Matthew 26:38)*

The Father’s eyes beheld, watching the soul, listening to the sounds of the soul, and feeling the heartbeat of Jesus. Was there resistance? No! Was there doubt? No! Was there regret? No! Was there fear? No! But there was anguish and travail in bringing to birth the purpose of God placed in Him from before time began. The Garden experience led Him to Pilates Hall, to stand before Herod, to be flogged and beaten, to be mocked and reviled, to be led up to Calvary’s Hill, and to be crucified naked on a tree of shame and pain. Mission accomplished.

It was not simply the fact that Jesus gave His physical body and blood on the cross. You can do that and accomplish nothing. You can give away everything you own and give your body to be burned, and yet not accomplish the Father’s purpose that leads to satisfying His heart.

The Father is satisfied when He sees the travail of your soul – when your soul and spirit align with His eternal world, His everlasting purpose, and His divine Kingship and authority. It was the travail of His soul that satisfied the Father; it was the surrender within His being. He didn’t go to the cross with rebellion in His spirit and soul. There was no resistance at all!

The father looks beyond all the external things we may do and searches the hearts.

*Search me, O God, and know my heart: try me, and know my thoughts: And see if there be any wicked way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting. (Psalm 139:23-24)*

**Search** me = penetrate, examine, and seek out.

**Know** my **heart** = know my innermost self by seeing, observing, and becoming acquainted with it.

**Try** me = the same word used when God “tempted” Abraham, meaning to test and prove.  
Know my **thoughts** = know my sentiments, opinions, and cogitation.  
Any **wicked way** in me = idol, grief, sorrow, pain, and labor. (Check me out for idols of grief).  
Lead me the way **everlasting** = Everlasting is *o’lawm* – lead me to the eternal purpose – the way you designed for me from eternity for eternity.

The Father searches within; in the core of our being, within the *o’lawm* world, within your heart and soul. It is not possible to satisfy the Father without the eternal Kingdom becoming occupied and filled with Him and His glory-presence. Ultimately, this is why we are made – for His glory!

*Even every one that is called by my name: for I have created him for my glory, I have formed him; yea, I have made him. (Isaiah 43:7)*

What a calling! Created and formed to be hosts for the glory fulness of God! Accomplishing this purpose satisfies the Father!

#### **ACCEPTED AND PLEASING:**

You and I are accepted by my Heavenly Father in and through God’s beloved Son, Jesus.

*To the praise of the glory of his grace, wherein he hath made us accepted in the beloved. In whom we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of his grace. (Ephesians 1:6-7)*

There is absolutely nothing I can possibly do to make myself more acceptable to God than what has already been done by the redemptive work of Jesus. He made a way for me through His death and resurrection. His finished work caused my Heavenly Father to look at me through the blood of His Son, Jesus, and accept me, a sinner. I am accepted - you are accepted in the Beloved!

The Grace of God has worked, and continues to work, for me what I could never do myself. I am saved by God’s Grace, and I am accepted by Grace, not by any merit of my own. I cannot buy anything from God. I cannot purchase His love, His favor, or His acceptance. This has all been given to me through Jesus Christ and through the hefty price He paid. But what I have freely received was not free. It costs something. It cost the Father His *Only Begotten Son*, and it cost the Son His *absolute surrender and obedience* to His Father. Through all of this, I am accepted and have access to my Heavenly Father.

However, being *accepted by the Lord* and being *pleasing to Him* are two different things. It costs me nothing but faith to be accepted. But to be well-pleasing to the Father costs me the same kind of obedience and surrender that the Son of God displayed throughout His life on earth.

Most Christians live their lives in an awareness of *being accepted*. Few live their lives with the *awareness of pleasing God* by obeying His Word, Will, and commands. The great testimony that Enoch had before he was translated was not that he was accepted, but rather that he pleased God.

*By faith Enoch was translated that he should not see death; and was not found, because God had translated him: for before his translation he had this testimony, that he pleased God. (Hebrews 11:5)*

I have been made acceptable in the beloved, in Jesus, not for the purpose of gratifying myself but for the purpose of gratifying the One who has accepted me. I do not have to “do” anything to be accepted apart from believing in the work that has been done. But if I am going to please Him who has accepted me, there indeed needs to be a “doing”. Enoch pleased God because He walked with God in obedience to His Will.

The Apostle Paul was Timothy’s mentor. Timothy was a young evangelist who desired to serve God. In teaching Timothy, Paul instructed him on how to please His master.

*Thou therefore endure hardness, as a good soldier of Jesus Christ. No man that warreth entangleth himself with the affairs of this life; that he may please him who hath chosen him to be a soldier. (2 Timothy 2:3-4)*

Paul made it clear to Timothy that striving for mastery and pleasing the Lord meant he should not entangle himself in the affairs of this life. We are accepted whether we be tangled or untangled. But we are pleasing to Him only when we get untangled from this world and separate ourselves to live unto Him who has chosen us for Himself!

It is simply NOT POSSIBLE to be pleasing to God whilst entangled in the affairs of this life, in the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life. (1 John 2:16) These things are of the world and are hence at enmity with God.

*Ye adulterers and adulteresses, know ye not that the friendship of the world is enmity with God? whosoever therefore will be a friend of the world is the enemy of God. (James 4:4)*

Please remember now, we are not talking about being accepted. Rather we are talking about being pleasing. How can you be pleasing while being an enemy? Not possible!

Today, I see a church world that’s more interested in pleasing itself than in pleasing God. People focus on satisfying their own lusts, pleasures, and pride. We accept the priceless, unmatched gift offered by Jesus, and we end it there. But very few are willing to give everything and pay the highest price to please Him who gave His all to save them.

*Furthermore then we beseech you, brethren, and exhort you by the Lord Jesus, that as ye have received of us how ye ought to walk and to please God, so ye would abound more and more. For ye know what commandments we gave you by the Lord Jesus. For this is the will of God, even your sanctification, that ye should abstain from fornication: That every one of you should know how to possess his vessel in sanctification and honour. (1 Thessalonians 4:1-4)*

Yes, I am accepted today in the beloved! (Ephesians 1:6). And yes, I am loved by my Heavenly Father in a way that cannot be described by human words. But the question remains: am I living my life in a way that pleases God? Do my actions please Him? Does what I do with my time please Him? Does how I live my life please Him? Do I even take the time to ask Him if I am pleasing Him or what I should do to please Him? Does how I dress please Him? Do the people I associate with please Him? Do the words that come out of my mouth please Him? Do I consider God's will when making choices and decisions that affect my life? Do I possess my entire being as a vessel of sanctification and honor unto God? Is my vessel filled with the oil that lightens my being and delights my Father? Do I satiate Him with the overflow of fulfilling His purpose? Am I pleasing the Lord? Set your heart on pleasing the LORD today!