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The Scepter of Righteousness

The Garden Training Center, Inc. An Apostolic School of Ministry



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Scripture taken from the New King James Version of the Bible ©. Used by Permission, all rights reserved.

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Holy Spirit is the inspiration for the content of this book, however someone put words to it. This book was written by Brandy Helton.

This book is one of a series of books written and distributed by The Apostolic School of Ministry from The Garden Training Center, Inc. The series arises from the foundational teachings of the school of ministry, founded by Brandy Helton. Brandy wrote several sections that are included in each book such as "God's Love" and the prayers included at the end of each book.

Many thanks to the team of writers of the series for their collaboration to make the series available to the public. The writers are: Lauren Caldwell, Jessica Doggett, Danetta Ferguson, Paula Green, Elisa Griffith, Nancy Hadley, Robin Harmon, Brandy Helton, Grant Hill, and Kevin McSpadden. Each have sought Holy Spirit for the words He wants to speak through them. The result is a mixture of personalities and communication strategies that convey the total message in a beautiful, diverse way.

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Encouragement and Prayer for the Reader

Beloved of God, these teachings are written to reveal Jesus Christ and His heart of love for all who call upon His name to save them.

God has sent His only begotten Son, Jesus Christ, to save all who would believe in Him and His Word.

God desires to reveal Himself and to give us His divine nature in Christ Jesus our Lord through the power of His Holy Spirit.

God is Jealous. He wants us to encounter His presence daily and walk with Him in glory – intimate communion - today, while it is called today, and forever.

It is my prayer that this teaching would so impact the readers that all would come to know and believe JESUS, the King of Kings and Lord of Lords, our Great God and Savior, and receive the PER-FECT LOVE He has for us all as we grow up into Him and mature as true sons and daughters of God. May you grow in faith and knowledge of your God and Savior and come to know the love that He has for you. I pray for you the Apostle Paul's prayer for spiritual growth:

Ephesians 3:14-21 The Living Bible (TLB)

"14-15 When I think of the wisdom and scope of his plan, I fall down on my knees and pray to the Father of all the great family of God—some of them already in heaven and some down here on earth—16 that out of his glorious, unlimited resources he will give you the mighty inner strengthening of his Holy Spirit. 17 And I pray that Christ will be more and more at home in your hearts, living within you as you trust in him. May your roots go down deep into the soil of God's marvelous love; 18-19 and may you be able to feel and understand, as all God's children should, how long, how wide, how deep, and how high his love really is; and to experience this love for yourselves, though it is so great that you will never see the end of it or fully know or understand it. And so at last you will be filled up with God himself.

20 Now glory be to God, who by his mighty power at work within us is able to do far more than we would ever dare to ask or even dream of infinitely beyond our highest prayers, desires, thoughts, or hopes. 21 May he be given glory forever and ever through endless ages because of his master plan of salvation for the Church through Jesus Christ."

In Christ our Lord, Brandy Helton A child of God

God's Love

God's love is good news! Don't believe the lie that God is distant, unapproachable, and angry!

God is love. He is the only true, eternal God. He is perfect and holy, and He is truth. God is One. He has revealed Himself in three distinct, individual, equal persons: God the Father, God the Son – Jesus, and God the Holy Spirit.

The Bible tells the story of God's perfect love. In that love, God created the first family to live on the earth with Him. Through their deep intimate relationship with the Father, Adam and Eve were meant to fulfill all that was in God's heart on Earth just like it is in Heaven, for God's glory and purposes. Adam and Eve were chosen to walk with God, clothed in His glory presence and were perfect, as He is perfect, and they lived in His beautiful garden, the secret place called Eden. He gave them His breath, life and power to have dominion over all He created and wanted them to reproduce that LIFE replenishing the earth with it, until all the earth is filled with His glory.

Genesis 1:26-28

"26 Then God said, 'Let Us make man in Our

image, according to Our likeness; let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth.' 27 So God created man in His own image; in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them. 28 Then God blessed them, and God said to them, 'Be fruitful and multiply; fill the earth and subdue it; have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over every living thing that moves on the earth.'"

God created His children in His likeness. He made them spirit beings, with a soul – mind, will and emotions – and placed them in a physical body. He gave His children the choice to love Him and to walk with Him in obedience to His every word. He gave the first family the power to overcome any temptation offered to them through God's adversary, the devil, who had rebelled against the Most High God in Heaven's glory and was cast down to the earth. The devil, Satan, brought great darkness and chaos prior to Adam and Eve's existence.

Adam and Eve were deceived into thinking that God was not perfect in love as Satan, the adversary, tempted them to believe that God would not keep His Word to them. Through their own will, Adam and Eve disobeyed the Father by eating from a tree that had the power to open their eyes to both good and evil. Through their choice of disobedience, they willfully gave their inheritance and authority over to the devil and his kingdom. Sin entered mankind, which produced death, eternal separation from a Holy God. Adam and Eve were banished from the dwelling and intimacy of perfection in the garden and were sent into the world as a fallen creation.

Father God knew He had to come Himself and save His family, and in His wisdom, He chose to send His Son, Jesus Christ into the world to save us and restore fallen mankind back to relationship with Him. Through His Son, He destroyed all the works of the devil and the curse of death. Hebrews 9:22 says. "And according to the law almost all things are purified with blood, and without shedding of blood there is no remission." Remission means to cancel the penalty, so according to the law there must be shedding of blood to cancel the penalty for sin. The Father cancelled the penalty for the sins of His children through the shedding of the blood of His innocent, holy Son Jesus, who was the Sent One, called and chosen to die for all, so all could live.

John 3:16-21

"16 For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life. 17 For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through Him might be saved. 18 'He who believes in Him is not condemned: but he who does not believe is condemned already, because he has not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God. 19 And this is the condemnation, that the light has come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil. 20 For everyone practicing evil hates the light and does not come to the light, lest his deeds should be exposed. 21 But he who does the truth comes to the light, that his deeds may

be clearly seen, that they have been done in God.""

Jesus was conceived by God's Holy Spirit in the womb of a young virgin named Mary. He appeared as the second Adam, in the flesh, with the choice to walk in perfect love and obedience, full of God's Spirit, as a man to do the will of His Father.

Jesus grew up as any male child did in the flesh but He had divine fellowship with His Father and Holy Spirit. At the appointed time, He was revealed as being sent from God to save. Jesus went around doing good and healed all who were oppressed by the devil spiritually and physically. He revealed His Father's heart and perfect love to all who believed through His teachings, grace and miraculous power.

Salvation means eternal life, healing, deliverance, protection, peace, wholeness, and forgiveness. Salvation came to all men through the cross, where the Son of God, the perfect One, was slaughtered as a lamb, bearing all sin for all times from a fallen people. Jesus bore the wrath of God against the darkness that separated God's family from Him. Jesus was punished for our sin and died to cleanse us from the guilt, shame and condemnation sin produces. Sin separates. Love restores.

Jesus was crucified, dead and buried, spending three days and nights in the depths of Hades, the realm of the dead fallen race. Jesus took back the keys of death and hell from that old serpent the devil, Satan, and therefore, all authority was restored back to Jesus. Great Holy Spirit breathed LIFE into Jesus and raised Him from the dead. He appeared to His disciples, those who followed Him and obeyed His teachings. He showed them that He conquered sin, death and the grave and now, had the keys of hell and death, and would give ETERNAL LIFE to ALL who chose to believe in Him. King Jesus ascended back to the Father of glory where He ever lives to make intercession for us all, and He is coming again to the earth in power to establish His Father's Kingdom on Earth.

Jesus Christ is the head and Lord over His church, those who have made Him Lord and Savior, by believing He is the Son of the Living God and God in the flesh, who finished the work the Father gave Him to do. He not only died for our sins to save and heal us, He chose to give His authority to those He called and chose to follow Him as His disciples, His family.

Jesus has commissioned His followers to do the same works that He did while He lived on the earth.

John 14:12-14

"12 Most assuredly, I say to you, he who believes in Me, the works that I do he will do also; and greater works than these he will do, because I go to My Father. 13 And whatever you ask in My name, that I will do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son. 14 If you ask anything in My name, I will do it."

God loves us and desires that none should perish. He desires for His family to be with Him where He is. These books are written to inspire all who read them and to reveal the heart of God the Father, Jesus Christ the Son, and Holy Spirit in order that we might RECEIVE THE LOVE HE HAS FOR US and be CHANGED INTO HIS VERY LIKENESS. God desires to dwell with His family forever and ever just as He did in the beginning. How glorious it is to live in His presence and dominion, beholding His goodness, forever and ever, amen.

The book of Revelation describes the time that is coming when all things are made new according to God's heart of love:

Revelation 21:1-7

"1 Now I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away. Also, there was no more sea. 2 Then I, John, saw the holy city, New Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. 3 And I heard a loud voice from heaven saying, 'Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men, and He will dwell with them, and they shall be His people. God Himself will be with them and be their God. 4 And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes; there shall be no more death, nor sorrow, nor crying. There shall be no more pain, for the former things have passed away.' 5 Then He who sat on the throne said, 'Behold, I make all things new.' And He said to me, 'Write, for these words are true and faithful.' 6 And He said to me, 'It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End. I will give of the fountain of the water of life freely to him who thirsts. 7 He who overcomes shall inherit all things, and I will be his God and he shall be My son."

To understand what is presented in the Bible, you must start by understanding God's love. The good news is that God loves you!

The Heart of It

Jesus Christ taught His disciples to seek God, His Kingdom, and His righteousness. ""But seek first His kingdom and His righteousness, and all these things will be added to you." Matthew 6:33. All other needs in this life would be added to the child of God if they followed this Kingdom principle. There is provision for all of God's family. Through the cross of Jesus Christ and His resurrection, fallen mankind could be given eternal life, healed, delivered, prospered and made whole. Jesus made a way for sinners to become right with God through His blood and have access to the Father in heaven. Through the righteousness of Christ Jesus, believers have an inheritance in God's family. All believer's will grow in their spiritual authority and, through Holy Spirit, be given power to do the works of Jesus, even greater works. God desires for His children to be clothed in righteousness, to walk after His heart, and have the mind of Christ in the works He has entrusted to them to do. God's dominion is eternal and He leads His family in Kingdom authority as all proclaim the Good News of the Gospel. The very foundation of God's throne is righteousness and justice! All of God's works come forth from His foundation. "Righteousness and justice are the foundation of His throne." Psalm 97:2

The Scepter of Righteousness

God's dominion and Kingdom are eternal. There is only one true God, who is revealed in three persons. God the Father, God the Son (Jesus Christ), and Holy Spirit. All are One, yet, all move in Divine roles and functions according to the Will of God the Father. Jesus Christ came to the earth and became human 'flesh' to fulfill, as a man, all that God required for fallen mankind to be saved and to receive an inheritance in God the Father.

I Timothy 2:3-6

"3 For this is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Savior, 4 who desires all men to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth. 5 For there is one God and one Mediator between God and men, the Man Christ Jesus, 6 who gave Himself a ransom for all."

Philippians 2:5-11

"5 Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus, 6 who, being in the form of God, did not consider it robbery to be equal with God, 7 but made Himself of no reputation, taking the form of a bondservant, and coming in the likeness of men. 8 And being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself and became obedient to the point of death, even the death of the cross. 9 Therefore God also has highly exalted Him and given Him the name which is above every name, 10 that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of those in heaven, and of those on earth, and of those under the earth, 11 and that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father."

Scripture declares, "Your throne, O God, is forever and ever; a scepter of righteousness is the scepter of your kingdom." Psalm 45:6. This verse confirms God's eternal dominion and that from His throne, righteousness shall reign. A **scepter** according to Dictionary.com is "a rod or wand borne in the hand as an emblem of regal or imperial power. It represents royal or imperial power or authority; sovereignty." A scepter is simply God's way of ruling righteously in absolute truth and power and justice. The scepter represents God's Rule of Authority.

Psalm 125:3

"3 Those who trust in the Lord are like Mount Zion, which cannot be moved, but abides forever. As the mountains surround Jerusalem, so the Lord surrounds His people from this time forth and forever; for the scepter of wickedness shall not rest on the land allotted to **the righteous**, lest the righteous reach out their hands to iniquity."

The Scepter of Righteousness Rules the Land

Righteous is defined as: "(1) characterized by uprightness or morality (2) morally right or justifi-

able (3) acting in an upright, moral way; virtuous: a righteous and godly person." Dictionary. com. Righteousness is simply God's way of doing things! He is Holy, Honest, Moral, and Pure.

Jesus Christ is righteous! He became sin for us, in order to save lost souls. He conquered sin on the cross and made a way for all to be right with God!

I John 2:1-2

"1 My little children, these things I write to you, so that you may not sin. And if anyone sins, we have an Advocate with the Father, **Jesus Christ the righteous**. 2 And He Himself is the propitiation for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the whole world."

II Corinthians 5:21

"21 For He made Him [Jesus] who knew no sin to be sin for us, that we might become the righteousness of God in Him."

According to Romans 3, there is none who are righteous!

Romans 3:10-12

"10 As it is written: "There is none righteous, no, not one; 11 There is none who understands; there is none who seeks after God. 12 They have all turned aside; They have together become unprofitable; there is none who does good, no, not one."

Mark 2:17

"17 I [Jesus] did not come to call the righteous, but sinners, to repentance." Yet, through Christ's atonement, righteousness is revealed through faith in Him.

Romans 3:22-26 NLT

"22 We are made right with God by placing our" faith in Jesus Christ. And this is true for everyone who believes, no matter who we are, 23 For everyone has sinned; we all fall short of God's glorious standard. 24 Yet God, in his grace, freely makes us right in his sight. He did this through Christ Jesus when he freed us from the penalty for our sins. 25 For God presented Jesus as the sacrifice for sin. People are made right with God when they believe that Jesus sacrificed his life, shedding his blood. This sacrifice shows that God was being fair when he held back and did not punish those who sinned in times past, 26 for he was looking ahead and including them in what he would do in this present time. God did this to demonstrate his righteousness, for he himself is fair and just, and he makes sinners right in his sight when they believe in Jesus."

The believer in Jesus Christ is justified (made right) by faith and reconciled to God.

Romans 3:28 NLT

"28 So we are made right with God through faith and not by obeying the law."

Romans 5:1-2 NLT

"1 Therefore, since we have been made right in God's sight by faith, we have peace with God because of what Jesus Christ our Lord has done for us. 2 Because of our faith, Christ has brought us into this place of undeserved privilege where we now stand, and we confidently and joyfully look forward to sharing God's glory."

This is why the Gospel of Jesus Christ is called the GOOD NEWS! What mercy and grace from our Heavenly Father to send His own Son into the world to pay the price for sin, to reconcile all to Himself, and to declare them blameless and free from punishment!

Romans 5:6-11 NLT

"6 When we were utterly helpless, Christ came at just the right time and died for us sinners. 7 Now, most people would not be willing to die for an upright person, though someone might perhaps be willing to die for a person who is especially good. 8 But God showed his great love for us by sending Christ to die for us while we were still sinners. 9 And since we have been made right in God's sight by the blood of Christ, he will certainly save us from God's condemnation. 10 For since our friendship with God was restored by the death of his Son while we were still his enemies, we will certainly be saved through the life of his Son. 11 So now we can rejoice in our wonderful new relationship with God because our Lord Jesus Christ has made us friends of God."

Death entered when the first man and woman, Adam and Eve, sinned, and disobeyed God in the Garden of Eden. LIFE was restored through the one-man, Jesus Christ. Righteousness is known as 'a gift'! This gift is given by the mercy and goodness of God, and this 'gift' must be RECEIVED, by those WHO BELIEVE.

Romans 5:17-21

"17 For if by the one man's offense death reigned through the one, much more those who receive abundance of grace and of the gift of righteousness will reign in life through the One, Jesus Christ.) 18 Therefore, as through one man's offense judgment came to all men, resulting in condemnation, even so through one Man's righteous act the free gift came to all men, resulting in justification of life. 19 For as by one man's disobedience many were made sinners, so also by one Man's obedience many will be made righteous.

20 Moreover the law entered that the offense might abound. But where sin abounded, grace abounded much more, 21 so that as sin reigned in death, even so grace might reign through righteousness to eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord."

Salvation literally comes as the sinner believes in the finished work of the cross and confesses Jesus Christ to be Lord of their lives.

Romans 10:8-13

"8 But what does it say? "The word is near you, in your mouth and in your heart" (that is, the word of faith which we preach): 9 that if you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved. 10 For with the heart one believes unto righteousness, and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation. 11 For the Scripture says, "Whoever believes on Him will not be put to shame." 12 For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek, for the same Lord over all is rich to all who call upon Him. 13 For "whoever calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved."

When we are born again in Jesus Christ, it is important not only to BELIEVE in His finished work, but to RECEIVE this work with all our heart and being! Humans are good at "knowing things" on a surface level, but as born again ones, we must truly KNOW AND BELIEVE AND RECEIVE all God has planned for us! We have 'our lifetime' for this journey of love, but how sweet it is when we receive fresh revelation daily from Him! The apostle John recorded this revelation in I John 1.

I John 4:13-16

"13 By this we know that we abide in Him, and He in us, because He has given us of His Spirit. 14 And we have seen and testify that the Father has sent the Son as Savior of the world. 15 Whoever confesses that Jesus is the Son of God, God abides in him, and he in God. 16 And we have known and believed the love that God has for us. God is love, and he who abides in love abides in God, and God in him."

Its all about LOVE! When we know we are truly loved, it is easier to receive the truth He speaks about us. Guilt, shame, and condemnation have no place and lose all ungodly hold on the individual because of this great LOVE.

Romans 8:1, 2

"1 There is therefore now no condemnation to those who are in Christ Jesus, who do not walk

according to the flesh, but according to the Spirit. 2 For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has made me free from the law of sin and death."

God calls newborn believers, sons (and daughters). They become a part of His family and are no longer orphans. Once we believe, WE BECOME HEIRS.

Romans 8:14-17

"14 For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, these are sons of God. 15 For you did not receive the spirit of bondage again to fear, but you received the Spirit of adoption by whom we cry out, "Abba, Father." 16 The Spirit Himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God, 17 and if children, then heirs—heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ, if indeed we suffer with Him, that we may also be glorified together."

Galatians 3:13-14

"13 Christ has redeemed us from the curse of the law, having become a curse for us (for it is written, "Cursed is everyone who hangs on a tree"), 14 that the blessing of Abraham might come upon the Gentiles in Christ Jesus, that we might receive the promise of the Spirit through faith."

Galatians 4:6-7

"6 And because you are sons, God has sent forth the Spirit of His Son into your hearts, crying out, "Abba, Father!" 7 Therefore you are no longer a slave but a son, and if a son, then an heir of God through Christ." The children of God have been REDEEMED! Not only have His children been rescued from the law of sin and death, but they all have been given LIFE AND LIFE MORE ABUNDANTLY!

John 10:10

"10 The thief does not come except to steal, and to kill, and to destroy. I have come that they may have life, and that they may have it more abundantly."

Galatians 3:26-29

"26 For you are all sons of God through faith in Christ Jesus. 27 For as many of you as were baptized into Christ have put on Christ. 28 There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is neither male nor female; for you are all one in Christ Jesus. 29 And if you are Christ's, then you are Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise."

Awake to Righteousness – "Enter into His righteousness!"

Holy Spirit reveals truth to the children of God! He always leads us into all truth, and He cannot lie. He is Truth.

John 16:13-15

"13 However, when He, the Spirit of truth, has come, He will guide you into all truth; for He will not speak on His own authority, but whatever He hears He will speak; and He will tell you things to come. 14 He will glorify Me, for He will take of what is Mine and declare it to you. 15 All things that the Father has are Mine. Therefore I said that He will take of Mine and declare it to you."

Holy Spirit brings REVELATION of God's Words to us! He spoke boldly through Paul the apostle, "34 Awake to righteousness, and do not sin;" I Corinthians 15:34

Isaiah the prophet heard a similar cry over Israel, "1 Awake, awake! Put on your strength, O Zion;" Isaiah 52:1. ""I will rejoice greatly in the Lord, my soul will exult in my God; For He has clothed me with garments of salvation [sozo], He has wrapped me with a robe of righteousness." Isaiah 61:10

Jesus made us righteous! He declares we are literally a new creation IN HIM. We can no longer see ourselves as 'sinners', but REDEEMED, BORN AGAIN SONS AND DAUGHTERS OF GOD.

II Corinthian 5:17

"17 Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new."

II Corinthians 5:21

"21 For He made Him who knew no sin to be sin for us, that we might become the righteous-ness of God in Him."

The apostle Paul instructs the believer to 'put on the armor of God,' which represents the spiritual clothing Christ has provided. Paul used the phrase, "14 and having put on the breastplate of righteousness..." in Ephesians 6:14. This breastplate must be 'put on', by faith! We should keep the armor of God on! The believer should never take the 'armor' off, but rather live in it and with it, keeping it on by faith in His Word. Believers must come to know and believe that they are clothed by God in truth and empowered by the Spirit to overcome anything the enemy may hurl at them in this life.

Romans 13:12

"12 The night is far spent, the day is at hand. Therefore, let us cast off the works of darkness, and let us put on the armor of light."

Jesus has liberated us from sin and all spirits of darkness that may have kept us bound. The Lord has come to set the captives free!

John 8:36

"36 Therefore if the Son makes you free, you shall be free indeed."

I John 3:8

"8 He who sins is of the devil, for the devil has sinned from the beginning. For this purpose the Son of God was manifested, that He might destroy the works of the devil."

He empowered His disciples to bring freedom to those in bondage!

Matthew 10:1

"1 And when He had called His twelve disciples to Him, He gave them power over unclean spirits, to cast them out, and to heal all kinds of sickness and all kinds of disease."

Once, we were 'slaves' to sin; now in Christ Jesus the apostle Paul declares by Holy Spirit, we are now slaves of righteousness!

Romans 6:16

"16 Do you not know that to whom you present yourselves slaves to obey, you are that one's slaves whom you obey, whether of sin leading to death, or of obedience leading to righteousness?"

Romans 6:18

"18 And having been set free from sin, you became slaves of righteousness."

Romans 6:22-23

"22 But now having been set free from sin, and having become slaves of God, you have your fruit to holiness, and the end, everlasting life. 23 For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord."

Jesus gave His disciples authority over the works of darkness. Through Holy Spirit, Jesus empowers the believer to repent of sin, to change bad habits, and to cast out demons that torment and afflict the soul of the individual. All His works are done through the Anointing of Holy Spirit.

Matthew 10:7-8

"7 And as you go, preach, saying, 'The kingdom of heaven is at hand.' 8 Heal the sick, cleanse the lepers, raise the dead, cast out demons. Freely you have received, freely give."

Luke 10:19

"19 Behold, I give you the authority to trample on serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy, and nothing shall by any means hurt you."

Acts 1:8

"8 But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be witnesses to Me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth."

I John 2:27

"27 But the anointing which you have received from Him abides in you, and you do not need that anyone teach you; but as the same anointing teaches you concerning all things, and is true, and is not a lie, and just as it has taught you, you will abide in Him."

By faith, we receive the righteousness of Jesus Christ, and we are called to press forward, to go onwards and upward in the call of God in our lives. The past is under the blood of Jesus, forgiven. When we receive true revelation of God's work in our lives, it is truly transforming! Once we KNOW what He has done, it just seems to launch us all the more into His Will for us.

Philippians 3:7-11 NLT

"7 I once thought these things were valuable, but now I consider them worthless because of what Christ has done. 8 Yes, everything else is worthless when compared with the infinite value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have discarded everything else, counting it all as garbage, so that I could gain Christ 9 and become one with him. I no longer count on my own righteousness through obeying the law; rather, I become righteous through faith in Christ. For God's way of making us right with himself depends on faith. 10 I want to know Christ and experience the mighty power that raised him from the dead. I want to suffer with him, sharing in his death, 11 so that one way or another I will experience the resurrection from the dead!"

We forget what lies behind, both sin and bondage, and even 'self -righteousness', and press forward to the upward call of God in Christ Jesus.

Inheritance

According to Dictionary.com, the word inheritance means:

(1)to take or receive (property, a right, a title, etc.) by succession or will, as an heir: to inherit the family business. (2) to receive as if by succession from predecessors. (3) to receive (a genetic character or trait) by the transmission of hereditary factors. (4) to succeed (a person) as heir. (5) to take or receive property or the like by virtue of being heir to it. (6) to receive qualities, powers, duties, etc., as by inheritance (followed by from). (7) portion; birthright; heritage

The Lord wants His children to understand their inheritance in Christ Jesus! The Lord Jesus has made us righteous through His blood, and because of this marvelous reality, we need REVELA-TION of our **eternal inheritance in Him!**

Colossians 1:12

"12 giving thanks to the Father who has qualified us to be partakers of the inheritance of the saints in the light."

Colossians 3:24

"24 knowing that from the Lord you will receive the reward of the inheritance; for you serve the Lord Christ."

Our inheritance in God is beyond our own human knowledge! But the Lord wants us to know and receive SPIRITUAL UNDERSTANDING of what He has made available to us.

Ephesians 1:3-6

"3 Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with <u>every</u> <u>spiritual blessing</u> in the heavenly places in Christ, 4 just as He chose us in Him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before Him in love, 5 having predestined us to adoption as sons by Jesus Christ to Himself, according to the good pleasure of His will, 6 to the praise of the glory of His grace, by which He made us accepted in the Beloved."

Ephesians 1:11,12

"11 In Him also we have **obtained an inheritance**, being predestined according to the purpose of Him who works all things according to the counsel of His will, 12 that we who first trusted in Christ should be to the praise of His glory."

Holy Spirit is the promised SEAL of our inheritance in Jesus! God cannot lie! He has appointed to us eternal life and guarantees our inheritance forever!

Ephesians 1:13-14

"13 In Him you also trusted, after you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation; in whom also, having believed, you were sealed with the Holy Spirit of promise, 14 who is the **guarantee of our inheritance** until the redemption of the purchased possession, to the praise of His glory."

God told His priests, the Levites, in the nation of Israel, that He was their inheritance! All they needed was IN HIM! He was their portion.

Ezekiel 44:28

"28 "It shall be, in regard to their inheritance, that **I am their inheritance**. You shall give them no possession in Israel, for I am their possession."

God spoke of the Messiah, the Promised One, Jesus, that He would receive the nations as His inheritance!

Psalm 2:6-9

"6 "Yet I have set My King on My holy hill of Zion." 7 "I will declare the decree: The Lord has said to Me, 'You are My Son, today I have begotten You. 8 Ask of Me, and **I will give You the nations for Your inheritance**, and the ends of the earth for Your possession. 9 You shall break them with a rod of iron; you shall dash them to pieces like a potter's vessel.""

The reality is we belong to God and all that He has becomes ours as His children! We are His! All He has is ours in Jesus Christ! How glorious!!

I Corinthians 3:21-23

"21 So then let no one boast in men. 22 For all things belong to you, whether Paul or Apollos or Cephas or the world or life or death or things present or things to come; 23 all things belong to you, and you belong to Christ, and Christ belongs to God."

Through the righteousness of God in CHRIST JE-SUS, we BELONG!!!!!!!!

The apostle Paul prayed for the church:

"17 that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give to you the spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of Him, 18 the eyes of your understanding being enlightened; that you may know what is the hope of His calling, what are the **riches of the glory of His inheritance in the saints**,"

The Father wants us to know what He has laid up for us in heaven! He wants us to receive His goodness and inherit His Kingdom <u>today and forever</u>! What have we really inherited by making Jesus our Lord and Savior? Really FAR MORE than we could ever know. We have not just been forgiven! We have been given the RIGHT to become the children of God! We share in the power, glory, and dominion Jesus has won.

"19 and what is the exceeding greatness of His power toward us who believe, according to the working of His mighty power 20 which He worked in Christ when He raised Him from the dead and seated Him at His right hand in the heavenly places, 21 far above all principality and power and might and dominion, and every name that is named, not only in this age but also in that which is to come. 22 And He put all things under His feet, and gave Him to be head over all things to the church, 23 which is His body, the fullness of Him who fills all in all." **Ephesians 1:17-23**

John 1:12

"12 But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, to those who believe in His name:"

Colossians 1:12

"12 giving thanks to the Father who has qualified us to be **partakers of the inheritance of the saints in the light.**"

The apostle Paul testifies of his encounter with the Lord Jesus at his conversion. Even in these words you see and hear of His great inheritance! Jesus told him:

Acts 26:17-18

"17 I will deliver you from the Jewish people, as well as from the Gentiles, to whom I now send you, 18 to open their eyes, in order to turn them from darkness to light, and from the power of Satan to God, that they may receive forgiveness of sins and **an inheritance among those who are sanctified by faith in Me.**"

God can save individuals, people groups, tribes, and nations. All become His Own inheritance.

Psalm 33:12

"12 Blessed is the nation whose God is the Lord, the people He has chosen as His own inheritance."

Psalm 94:14

"14 For the Lord will not cast off His people, nor will He forsake His inheritance."

As the children of God, we have an eternal heavenly inheritance that God has prepared for us, and we should never fear or worry about our life in this age or the one to come. Peter describes this amazing revelation as he wrote in his letter to the churches.

I Peter 1:3-5

"3 Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who according to His abundant mercy has begotten us again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, 4 to **an inheritance incorruptible and undefiled and that does not fade away, reserved in heaven for you**, 5 who are kept by the power of God through faith for salvation ready to be revealed in the last time."

Proverbs 13:22

"22 A good man leaves an inheritance to his children's children, but the wealth of the sinner is stored up for the righteous."

As children of God, we need to open our hearts to understand the LOVE Jesus has for us. He is actually very passionate about us and wants us to KNOW His desire for us as His Own inheritance! Jesus, Our Righteousness, has paid for in FULL our inheritance. Years ago, I heard a minister, Ryan Wyatt, share an encounter he had with the Lord. He shared his revelation to encourage the saints.

Ryan describes what Jesus said to him, "The Lord said, 'I am desperately hungry that I would have a people who would lay hold of their full inheritance, and I am desperately hungry that I would have my inheritance in my people."

Once the people of God realize who they really are in Christ Jesus, then through the Holy Spirit's fruit in their lives, they will be the 'lights' to the world as Jesus proclaimed.

Matthew 5:14-16

"14 "You are the light of the world. A city that is set on a hill cannot be hidden. 15 Nor do they light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a lampstand, and it gives light to all who are in the house. 16 Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven."

Proverbs 11:10-11

"10 When it goes well with the righteous, the city rejoices; and when the wicked perish, there is jubilation. 11 By the blessing of the upright the city is exalted..."

I have written a 'sample prayer' of confession concerning receiving the righteousness of God in Christ Jesus below.

"I was born to rule! I chose to receive my righteousness in Christ Jesus. I decree that the garments of sin have been taken off; the old is gone, behold new things have come! I receive my full inheritance in Christ Jesus, and I lay hold of it by pressing forward to the upward call of God, and forgetting what lies behind! I receive the fullness of His heart and His calling and destiny for my life. I am righteous! I have seen the kingdom! I have entered the kingdom! I possess the kingdom! I rule in it! *"Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth, just as it is in heaven!"* Matthew 6:10. I receive the scepter of righteousness to rule in my city and land. *"When it goes well with the righteous, the city rejoices; by the blessing of the upright a city is exalted."* Proverbs 11:10-11.

The Scepter of Righteousness rules the land!

NOW we see and understand God's sovereign plan! As He redeems and saves His family, the families of God live from His righteousness and Word, and through His Spirit, righteousness can have the dominion in everything that pertains to life. Wherever the children of God dwell, the light of His Word shall shine forth as we take the Gospel of the Kingdom into all the world! We actually bring kingdom influence into every sphere God has given us.

We give what we have freely received and teach others His ways. We not only save people by leading them to Christ, but His righteousness works through us to change the world around us for God's glory and kingdom purposes. Righteousness overtakes wickedness; however, mankind has the freedom to choose to walk in either, and often, wickedness prevails due to the people's own depravity. A sobering example from the Bible is found in Genesis chapters 18-19, where wickedness had overtaken a couple of cities to such a degree that God chose to bring judgement on those cities and those who lived therein. Abraham, who was right with God, talked with God about this. Notice God's heart and words towards His friend Abraham and the covenant He had made for him and his descendants.

Abraham Intercedes for Sodom

Genesis 18:16-19

"16 Then the men rose from there and looked toward Sodom, and Abraham went with them to send them on the way. **17 And the Lord** said, "Shall I hide from Abraham what I am doing, 18 since Abraham shall surely become a great and mighty nation, and all the nations of the earth shall be blessed in him? 19 For I have known him, in order that he may command his children and his household after him, that they keep the way of the Lord, to do righteousness and justice, that the Lord may bring to Abraham what He has spoken to him."

God continues.

Genesis 18:20-21

"20 And the Lord said, "Because the outcry against Sodom and Gomorrah is great, and because their sin is very grave, 21 I will go down now and see whether they have done altogether according to the outcry against it that has come to Me; and if not, I will know." Now Abraham talks with God over this situation and actually intercedes on behalf of the peoples within the cities. He does not want God to destroy it if there are any righteous people within!

Genesis 18:22-26

"22 Then the men turned away from there and went toward Sodom, but Abraham still stood before the Lord. 23 And Abraham came near and said, "Would You also destroy the righteous with the wicked? 24 Suppose there were fifty righteous within the city; would You also destroy the place and not spare it for the fifty righteous that were in it? **25 Far be it from You to do such a thing as this, to slay the righteous with the wicked, so that the righteous should be as the wicked; far be it from You! Shall not the Judge of all the earth do right?"**

26 So the Lord said, "If I find in Sodom fifty righteous within the city, then I will spare all the place for their sakes."

Abraham continues.

Genesis 18:27-33

"27 Then Abraham answered and said, "Indeed now, I who am but dust and ashes have taken it upon myself to speak to the Lord: 28 Suppose there were <u>five less than the fifty righteous</u>; would You destroy all of the city for lack of five?" So He said, "If I find there <u>forty-five</u>, I will not destroy it."

29 And he spoke to Him yet again and said,

"Suppose there should be <u>forty</u> found there?" So He said, "I will not do it for the sake of <u>forty</u>."

30 Then he said, "Let not the Lord be angry, and I will speak: Suppose <u>thirty</u> should be found there?" So He said, "I will not do it if I find <u>thirty</u> there."

31 And he said, "Indeed now, I have taken it upon myself to speak to the Lord: Suppose <u>twenty</u> should be found there?" So He said, "I will not destroy it for the sake of <u>twenty</u>."

32 Then he said, "Let not the Lord be angry, and I will speak but once more: Suppose <u>ten</u> should be found there?" And He said, "I will not destroy it for the sake of <u>ten</u>." 33 So the Lord went His way as soon as He had finished speaking with Abraham; and Abraham returned to his place."

Wow! No wonder Abraham was known as the friend of God! This shows us the relationship between God and those with whom He chooses to walk! This is a very serious matter! We must see the depth of intercession and discussion before God on behalf of humanity from one who was made righteous through his <u>faith in God</u>.

Romans 4:3

"3 For what does the Scripture say? "Abraham believed God, and it was accounted to him for righteousness."

The supernatural story continues in Genesis 19 which includes Lot, Abraham's nephew, and his family.

Genesis 19:1-3

"1 Now the two angels came to Sodom in the evening, and Lot was sitting in the gate of Sodom. When Lot saw them, he rose to meet them, and he bowed himself with his face toward the ground. 2 And he said, "Here now, my lords, please turn in to your servant's house and spend the night, and wash your feet; then you may rise early and go on your way." And they said, "No, but we will spend the night in the open square." 3 But he insisted strongly; so they turned in to him and entered his house. Then he made them a feast, and baked unleavened bread, and they ate."

These are angels from heaven who have come down to the earth to act on behalf of God and Lot has a conversation with them. The wicked within the cities saw these angels and surrounded Lot's home.

Genesis 19:4-5

"4 Now before they lay down, the men of the city, the men of Sodom, both old and young, all the people from every quarter, surrounded the house. 5 And they called to Lot and said to him, "Where are the men who came to you tonight? Bring them out to us that we may know them carnally."

Lot mediates and tries to talk them out of this abomination!

Genesis 19:6-9

"6 So Lot went out to them through the doorway, shut the door behind him, 7 and said, "Please, my brethren, do not do so wickedly! 8 See now, I have two daughters who have not known a man; please, let me bring them out to you, and you may do to them as you wish; only do nothing to these men, since this is the reason they have come under the shadow of my roof."

9 And they said, "Stand back!" Then they said, "This one came in to stay here, and he keeps acting as a judge; now we will deal worse with you than with them." So they pressed hard against the man Lot, and came near to break down the door."

Then the angels act on behalf of Lot!

Genesis 19:10-11

"10 But the men reached out their hands and pulled Lot into the house with them, and shut the door. 11 And they struck the men who were at the doorway of the house with blindness, both small and great, so that they became weary trying to find the door."

Sodom and Gomorrah are destroyed.

Genesis 19:12-14

"12 Then the men said to Lot, "Have you anyone else here? Son-in-law, your sons, your daughters, and whomever you have in the city—take them out of this place! 13 For we will destroy this place, because the outcry against them has grown great before the face of the Lord, and the Lord has sent us to destroy it."

14 So Lot went out and spoke to his sons-inlaw, who had married his daughters, and said, "Get up, get out of this place; for the Lord will destroy this city!" But to his sons-in-law he seemed to be joking."

Here we see that God had made His righteous and just decision to bring judgment upon these cities. There was no repentance and now He had sent His heavenly representatives to deliver the righteous within the city! The angels knew they were to rescue all of Abraham's family! He would not destroy the righteous along with the wicked!

Genesis 19:15-22

"15 When the morning dawned, the angels urged Lot to hurry, saying, "Arise, take your wife and your two daughters who are here, lest you be consumed in the punishment of the city." 16 And while he lingered, the men took hold of his hand, his wife's hand, and the hands of his two daughters, the Lord being merciful to him, and they brought him out and set him outside the city. 17 So it came to pass, when they had brought them outside, that he said, "Escape for your life! Do not look behind you nor stay anywhere in the plain. Escape to the mountains, lest you be destroyed."

18 Then Lot said to them, "Please, no, my lords! 19 Indeed now, your servant has found favor in your sight, and you have increased your mercy which you have shown me by saving my life; but I cannot escape to the mountains, lest some evil overtake me and I die. 20 See now, this city is near enough to flee to, and it is a little one; please let me escape there (is it not a little one?) and my soul shall live." 21 And he said to him, "See, I have favored you concerning this thing also, in that I will not overthrow this city for which you have spoken. 22 Hurry, escape there. For I cannot do anything until you arrive there."

Lot asked the angels if he could escape to another city, and *"Therefore the name of the city was called Zoar."* Genesis 19:22

Genesis 19:23-26

"23 The sun had risen upon the earth when Lot entered Zoar. 24 Then the Lord rained brimstone and fire on Sodom and Gomorrah, from the Lord out of the heavens. 25 So He overthrew those cities, all the plain, all the inhabitants of the cities, and what grew on the ground.

26 But his wife looked back behind him, and she became a pillar of salt."

Why did Lot's wife look back? Was her heart still in the city? Did she doubt God? Was she afraid? Was she in complete disobedience to the instructions of the servants of the Lord? Most answers may be pure speculation, but it was recorded in scripture as an example for us. Jesus mentioned her in His teaching of the coming Kingdom.

Luke 17:28-33

"28 Likewise as it was also in the days of Lot: They ate, they drank, they bought, they sold, they planted, they built; 29 but on the day that Lot went out of Sodom it rained fire and brimstone from heaven and destroyed them all. 30 Even so will it be in the day when the Son of Man is revealed. 31 "In that day, he who is on the housetop, and his goods are in the house, let him not come down to take them away. And likewise the one who is in the field, let him not turn back. 32 **Remember Lot's wife**. 33 Whoever seeks to save his life will lose it, and whoever loses his life will preserve it."

We conclude this story with Abraham who goes to see the effects of God's judgment.

Genesis 19:27-29

"27 And Abraham went early in the morning to the place where he had stood before the Lord. 28 Then he looked toward Sodom and Gomorrah, and toward all the land of the plain; and he saw, and behold, the smoke of the land which went up like the smoke of a furnace. 29 And it came to pass, when God destroyed the cities of the plain, that God remembered Abraham, and sent Lot out of the midst of the overthrow, when He overthrew the cities in which Lot had dwelt."

God has made a way of escape through His Word and His Ways.

God has provided all we need in our covenant in Jesus Christ. He knows those who are His. We see His original plan and mandate He gave to Adam and Eve in the garden of Eden.

Genesis 1:28 ESV

"28 And God blessed them. And God said to them, "Be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth and subdue it, and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over every living thing that moves on the earth." An expanded version could be read as, "And God blessed them and said, "Be fruitful (always producing) and multiplying (always increasing), fill the earth and subdue it (always in control of your environment)."

The Lord Jesus commissioned His disciples to take the Good News into all the world.

Matthew 28:18-20 AMPC

"18 Jesus approached and, breaking the silence, said to them, All authority (all power of rule) in heaven and on earth has been given to Me. 19 Go then and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them into the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, 20 Teaching them to observe everything that I have commanded you, and behold, I am with you all the days (perpetually, uniformly, and on every occasion), to the [very] close and consummation of the age. Amen (so let it be)."

Oh, the hope is that mankind would believe God, and 'escape the wrath to come!'

I Thessalonians 1:9-10

"9 For they themselves declare concerning us what manner of entry we had to you, and how you turned to God from idols to serve the living and true God, 10 and to wait for His Son from heaven, whom He raised from the dead, even Jesus who delivers us from the wrath to come."

Providence

"Providence is the foreseeing care and guidance of

God or nature over the creatures of the earth. God is omnisciently directing the universe and the affairs of humankind with His wise benevolence." Providence is "a manifestation of divine care or direction." Dictionary.com

God's providence for our lives is revealed in this journey of love, as we receive our true identities in Christ Jesus. We are conformed into His image, as we receive, walk in and rule from our full inheritance in His Spirit. He is my Providence!

Psalm 145:13-17

"13 Your kingdom is an everlasting kingdom, and Your dominion endures throughout all generations. 14 The Lord upholds all who fall, and raises up all who are bowed down. 15 The eyes of all look expectantly to You, and You give them their food in due season. 16 You open Your hand and satisfy the desire of every living thing. 17 The Lord is righteous in all His ways, gracious in all His works."

Matthew 5:45

"45 that you may be sons of your Father in heaven; for He makes His sun rise on the evil and on the good, and sends rain on the just and on the unjust."

Romans 11:33-36

"33 Oh, the depth of the riches both of the wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable are His judgments and His ways past finding out! 34 "For who has known the mind of the Lord? Or who has become His counselor?" 35 "Or who has first given to Him and it shall be repaid to him?" 36 For of Him and through Him and to Him are all things, to whom be glory forever. Amen."

Proverbs 21:1-3

"1 The king's heart is in the hand of the Lord, like the rivers of water; He turns it wherever He wishes. 2 Every way of a man is right in his own eyes, but the Lord weighs the hearts. 3 To do righteousness and justice ss more acceptable to the Lord than sacrifice."

Below is a 'sample prayer' over God's Providence and Righteousness within our city.

"I receive God's providence for myself. I receive God's providence for my city! I decree that our city has been justified by the righteous who rule in it! I release this city to receive the righteousness of Christ Jesus and to forget what lies behind. If it stays in the past, it cannot go forward. I decree that the former sins of this city have been forgiven through the righteous who dwell in it; I declare my city is holy unto the Lord. I receive my full inheritance in Christ Jesus and present my city unto the Lord Jesus as His inheritance!

Isaiah 64:1-5

"1 Oh, won't you rend the heavens Oh, Lord, and come down, that the mountains might quake at Thy presence- 2 as fire kindles the brushwood, as fire causes water to boil-to make Thy name known to Thine adversaries, that the nations may tremble at Thy presence! 3 When Thou did awesome things which we did not expect, Thou did come down; the mountains quaked at Thy presence. 4 For from of old they have not heard nor perceived by ear, neither has the eye seen a God besides Thee, who acts in behalf of the one who waits for Him. 5 Thou dost meet him who rejoices in doing righteousness, and who remembers Thee in Thy ways!"

The heavens are opened when I receive my righteousness and my full inheritance in the saints! The floodgates are opened! The heavens pour through the gates, the righteous, and heaven releases the inheritance to the earth!

Psalm 24:7, 8

"7 Lift up your heads, O gates, and be lifted up, O ancient doors, that the King of Glory may come in! 8 Who is this King of glory? The Lord strong and mighty, the Lord mighty in battle."

Conclusion

The Lord Jesus will reveal the Father's heart to all who call upon His name. How wonderful a salvation He has given to those who choose Him. Holy Spirit will continue to reveal truth to our hearts of our Great God and His Righteousness and Justice. We have inherited a great salvation and as believers; we should be so full of hope and life because we know in Whom we believe! May all be encouraged in His Word and be blessed to freely give to others what you have received. May His BLESSING overflow in our lives. May others encounter the true transformation of His life within us daily. He is our PROVIDENCE. He is our IN-HERITANCE. He is our very RIGHTEOUSNESS! He is! All glory be to God! Amen.

Prayer for Salvation

If you have not made Jesus Christ your personal Lord and Savior, and you desire this with all your heart, then please, join me in prayer:

"Heavenly Father, I choose to believe with all my heart, Your love for me. I believe that Jesus Christ is Your Son, the Son of God, and that He is God in the flesh. I believe that You sent Him to this earth to save me. Thank You. I believe He died on the cross for my sins and He was dead and buried three days, and then rose again from the dead and that He ascended to Heaven and is now seated at Your right hand and is returning again.

Father, please forgive me for all my sin and iniquity and I choose to forgive others who have sinned against me. I give You all my heart and choose to live with You forever. I believe I have been born again according to Your Word and that I have been transferred out of the kingdom of darkness and into the kingdom of light. I declare I am forgiven and healed! Now, I ask for Holy Spirit to fill me. Jesus, baptize me in Holy Spirit and fullness in order that I may know You intimately and serve You all my days. Thank You, Lord, for loving me. Amen."

Scriptures:

John 14:6

"6 Jesus said to him, 'I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me.""

Romans 10:8-13

"8 But what does it say? 'The word is near you, in your mouth and in your heart' (that is, the word of faith which we preach): 9 that if you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved. 10 For with the heart one believes unto righteousness, and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation. 11 For the Scripture says, 'Whoever believes on Him will not be put to shame.' 12 For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek, for the same Lord over all is rich to all who call upon Him. 13 For 'whoever calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.'"

John 3:3-8, 16-18

"3 Jesus answered and said to him, 'Most assuredly, I say to you, unless one is born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God.' 4 Nicodemus said to Him, 'How can a man be born when he is old? Can he enter a second time into his mother's womb and be born?' 5 Jesus answered, 'Most assuredly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God. 6 That which is born of the flesh is flesh, and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit. 7 Do not marvel that I said to you, "You must be born again." 8 The wind blows where it wishes, and you hear the sound of it, but cannot tell where it comes from and where it goes. So is everyone who is born of the Spirit."

"16 For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life. 17 For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through Him might be saved. 18 'He who believes in Him is not condemned; but he who does not believe is condemned already, because he has not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God."

II Corinthians 5:17

"17 Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new."

I Corinthians 15:3-5

"3 For I delivered to you first of all that which I also received: that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, 4 and that He was buried, and that He rose again the third day according to the Scriptures, 5 and that He was seen by Cephas, then by the twelve."

II Corinthians 5:21

"21 For He made Him who knew no sin to be sin for us, that we might become the righteous-ness of God in Him."

Colossians 1:13-14

"13 He has delivered us from the power of dark-

ness and conveyed us into the kingdom of the Son of His love, 14 in whom we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins."

Luke 11:9-13

"9 So I say to you, ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you. 10 For everyone who asks receives, and he who seeks finds, and to him who knocks it will be opened. 11 If a son asks for bread from any father among you, will he give him a stone? Or if he asks for a fish, will he give him a serpent instead of a fish? 12 Or if he asks for an egg, will he offer him a scorpion? 13 If you then, being evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask Him!"

Acts 1:8

"8 But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be witnesses to Me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth."

I Timothy 3:16

"16 And without controversy great is the mystery of godliness:

God was manifested in the flesh, Justified in the Spirit, Seen by angels, Preached among the Gentiles, Believed on in the world, Received up in glory."

Fresh Infilling of Holy Spirit

Acts 1:8

"8 But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be witnesses to Me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth."

If you have been born again and filled with Holy Spirit and you desire MORE and want to encounter the Lord's presence afresh and anew, please join me in prayer:

"Father, in the name of Jesus, I thank You for loving me and I ask according to Ephesians 1:17-19, that You would give me the spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of Him, Jesus, and the eyes of my understanding would be enlightened; that I may know what is the hope of His calling and what are the riches of the glory of His inheritance in the saints, and what is the exceeding greatness of His power toward us who believe, according to the working of His mighty power towards us who believe, according to the working of His mighty power which He worked in Christ when He raised Him from the dead and seated Him at His right hand in the heavenly places. Amen. Father, according to Colossians 3:9-12, I ask in Jesus name, that I would be filled with the knowledge of His will in all wisdom and spiritual understanding; that I would walk worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing Him, being fruitful in every good work and increasing in the knowledge of God; strengthened with all might, according to His glorious power. Amen.

I surrender and yield my life to the fullness of Holy Spirit; His power and anointing; the spirit of wisdom and revelation; counsel and might; the spirit of the fear of the Lord and knowledge according to Isaiah 11:2, in Jesus' name. Amen."

The Garden Training Center, Inc. The Apostolic School of Ministry

The Garden Apostolic Training Center is a place that fosters spiritual growth. The center provides training to equip believers in Jesus Christ for the work of the ministry and to be victorious and free in all areas of their lives through the supernatural empowerment of the Holy Spirit. For more information check out **thegardenstc.org**.

The Garden Gathering Church

The purpose of The Garden Gathering Church is to encourage believers in Jesus Christ: to fully embrace the love of God; to walk in freedom; to carry His presence and glory; and to be equipped and trained for the work of the ministry through worship, teachings, and impartation.

"It's all about Love. When you see His eyes of Love for you, nothing else matters. That's it. That's all you need to know."

-Brandy Helton

