

.Matthew 6:10 (NKJV)

¹⁰ Your kingdom come. Your will be done on earth as *it is* in heaven.

I believe the Body of Christ is on the edge of the greatest revival ever

If we are going to be a part of this revival, we must have a desire for "more" and an understanding of the culture that will usher it in and maintain it.

More miracles, healings, deliverance, glory, power, more ministries and churches planted, more of the presence of God

Mark 16:16–18 (NKJV)

¹⁶ He who believes and is baptized will be saved; but he who does not believe will be condemned. ¹⁷ And these signs will follow those who believe: In My name they will cast out demons; they will speak with new tongues; ¹⁸ they will take up serpents; and if they drink anything deadly, it will by no means hurt them; they will lay hands on the sick, and they will recover.”

- Jesus never meant for miracles to be an end in themselves
- He meant for them to be an invitation into The Kingdom of Heaven

In our churches we find people that can identify with one or both of the brothers in the story of the Prodigal

Sent Ones:

John 17:18, 20 (NKJV)

¹⁸ As You **sent** Me into the world, I also have **sent** them into the world.

²⁰ “I do not pray for these alone, but also for those who will believe in Me through their word;

When Jesus promoted His disciples from learners to leaders, He didn't call them patriarchs or priests, He called them **apostles** (*sent*)

- We do not all hold the office of Apostle, but we are all sent – *Ephesians 4:11, 12 (some, for the equipping of the saints, for the work of the ministry)*
- We are all sent ones!

The generals, (apostles) were to transform the legal, financial, educational and all other systems so that the new land would be like Rome, even to the emperor himself, should he decide to visit

It is important to realize that along with apostolic mantles and strategic missions, it will also take **unreasonable courage** to break away from the crowd of powerless religion and into the realm of seeing a global awakening!

- Movements never define people
- People define movements

“Without a vision the people perish, but without courage dreams die.” – Rosa Parks (Civil Rights Activist)

Many of us try to tell God why we cannot carry out our divine mission

- I'm too old...too young...too dumb...too ugly...
too uneducated...too weird...too weak
- I was born in the wrong family
- I was a prostitute...a thief...a murderer...and adulteress
- I've been divorced
- I've had an abortion
- The list goes on and on

It takes courage and faith to see past our false identity and allow God to work His plan in our lives

We respond to our environment according to the way we see ourselves

- Words spoken over us become names that we carry in our hearts

The devil is the accuser, and often he uses other people to propagate his false identities over us

- Maybe someone called you “stupid” or “dumb”
- Or maybe someone you loved called you a “whore”
- Once you believed it, you started identifying with that name
 - Now you struggle academically or with immorality

Words spoken to us become the names we carry in our hearts

- The way we see ourselves becomes the lens through which we view our world

Just as bad names can hold you in bondage and lead to destruction, great names can release power into our lives and be the catalyst that brings us into our God-given destinies

- The devil gives us names that disempower us
- God speaks names over us that empower us
- We must break free of all aliases that we have been given by the world

Many people in the Bible were insignificant until their names were changed

- Simon wasn't an apostle until Jesus named him, Peter
- Saul wasn't an apostle until Jesus named him, Paul

In **Genesis 32** we find Jacob at the river, "Jabbok"

- Jabbok: "*empty and alone*"
- His brother hates him
- His wives are arguing with each other
- His father-in-law is mad at him

Like many of us, he probably knew he was part of the problem, but felt powerless to change himself

- All his life he felt compelled to deceive
- After all, his name meant "trickster"

Every time someone called him by his name, he was reminded of his shortcomings

Kris Vallotton – The Supernatural Ways of Royalty
“*We will always act out of who we believe we are*”

- Jacob deceived because his name was deceiver
- His behavior created a culture of deception around him
- His wives eventually became liars and deceivers

At the lowest point of Jacob’s life, he has an encounter with an angel

- He wrestles with him all night long
- The angel mangles him
- Yet, Jacob refuses to let go until he blesses him
- The angel says he is going to leave but Jacob remains persistent

Genesis 32:26–28 (NKJV)

²⁶ And He said, “Let Me go, for the day breaks.” But he said, “I will not let You go unless You bless me!” ²⁷ So He said to him, “What *is* your name?” He said, “Jacob.” ²⁸ And He said, “Your name shall no longer be called Jacob, but Israel; for you have struggled with God and with men and have prevailed.”

- Jacob was desperate with God
- He was tired of living by a false identity
- He wants a new name
- The angel names him, Israel: “*a prince of god*”
- This name released him into his prophetic destiny

A prophetic declaration is more than mere words because it releases grace to accomplish what it says

Names in the Bible were given to people as a prophetic declaration of their true identity, and released the characteristics they needed to fulfill their calling

- Grace, as well as disgrace is released through name calling
- Grace is the “operational power of God”
- Grace is the God-given ability to become what you couldn’t before you received the declaration
- Disgrace has the power to release curses from the kingdom of darkness

We will always act out of our “self-understood” identity

- Abram had to have a name change to fulfill his call
- God prophesied over Abram and said he would be the father of many nations
- His name was changed from “*exalted father*” to “*the father of a multitude*”

1 Peter 2:9 (NKJV)

⁹ But you *are* a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, His own special people, that you may proclaim the praises of Him who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light;

- We are now a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation
- Called to proclaim the goodness of God

Most of us have no idea who we are or what we are supposed to do with our lives

- We think the more we learn and the more educated we get will somehow lead us to our identity
- Identity doesn't come from education it comes from impartation
- You can't educate yourself into your identity
- Proper identity comes from the impartation of our heavenly Father

We are living in a new Kingdom with a new identity

Colossians 1:13 (NKJV)

¹³ He has delivered us from the power of darkness and conveyed us into the kingdom of the Son of His love,

- Before we received Christ, we were called “sinners”
- We were prone to sin
- When we received Christ, we became “saints”
- See Romans 1:7; 1 Corinthians 1:2; Ephesians 1:1
- The word saint means, “holy believer”
- You can't be a sinner and a saint at the same time
- How can you be prone to sin and still be a holy believer?
- The word “sinner” implies that we are prone to do wrong
- What we believe about ourselves is what we act out of

Proverbs 23:7 – *“as a man thinks in his heart, so is he.”*

If we believe we are still sinners we will not be able to access the grace we need to live as a saint

- We will still try to perform good works in order to merit forgiveness
- As saints, our nature has changed

1 John 3:7–9 (NKJV)

⁷ Little children, let no one deceive you. He who practices righteousness is righteous, just as He is righteous. 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. ⁹ Whoever has been born of God does not sin, for His seed remains in him; and he cannot sin, because he has been born of God.

- As Christians, it is not in our nature to do wrong
- Our very nature has been changed
- Righteousness is part of our new nature
- It is now natural for us to glorify God
- Our old man was buried
- We are a new creation
- It's below our nature to practice lawlessness
- We are now princes and princesses of the King!

The power of the cross not only dealt with our sin, it changed our very nature

WE HAVE BEEN GIVEN A NEW HEART AND A NEW MIND

1 Corinthians 2:16 (NKJV)

¹⁶For “*who has known the mind of the LORD* that he may instruct Him?” But we have the mind of Christ.

Ezekiel 36:26 (NKJV)

²⁶I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit within you; I will take the heart of stone out of your flesh and give you a heart of flesh.

- We are new creatures— **2 Corinthians 5:17**
- We are partakers of His divine nature – **2 Peter 1:4**
- We have had a heart and brain transplant
- We actually think like God
- We still have free will, and can still choose to sin
- As saints, it doesn’t come easily anymore
- You have to try to sin

There is a river of God that runs through our souls and carries us towards the throne of God

- We are prone to righteousness
- We have been crucified with Christ – **Galatians 2:20**

Colossians 3:3 (NLT)

³For you died to this life, and your real life is hidden with Christ in God.

Romans 6:4–11 (NLT)

⁴ For we died and were buried with Christ by baptism. And just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glorious power of the Father, now we also may live new lives. ⁵ Since we have been united with him in his death, we will also be raised to life as he was. ⁶ We know that our old sinful selves were crucified with Christ so that sin might lose its power in our lives. We are no longer slaves to sin. ⁷ For when we died with Christ we were set free from the power of sin. ⁸ And since we died with Christ, we know we will also live with him. ⁹ We are sure of this because Christ was raised from the dead, and he will never die again. Death no longer has any power over him. ¹⁰ When he died, he died once to break the power of sin. But now that he lives, he lives for the glory of God. ¹¹ So you also should consider yourselves to be **dead to the power of sin and alive to God** through Christ Jesus.

- Consider – “*that is, think about it this way*”
- Dead to sin, alive to Christ
- Sinning is incompatible with our new nature

Romans 7:1–4 (NKJV)

Or do you not know, brethren (for I speak to those who know the law), that the law has dominion over a man as long as he lives? ² For the woman who has a husband is bound by the law to *her* husband as long as he lives. But if the husband dies, she is released from the law of *her* husband.

³ So then if, while *her* husband lives, she marries another man, she will be called an adulteress; but if her husband dies, she is free from that law, so that she is no adulteress, though she has married another man. ⁴ Therefore, my brethren, you also have become dead to the law through the body of Christ, that you may be married to another—to Him who was raised from the dead, that we should bear fruit to God.

- This is a description of our lives before and after Jesus
- We were married to the law
- The law told us about all the things that we were doing wrong yet had no power to change us
- When Christ died, the law was fulfilled, freeing us to marry another husband
- We are engaged to Jesus Himself

Paul goes on to describe the battle that is going on when we were married to the law and struggled to do what is right

- He then declares the victory over this kind of roller coaster living

Romans 7:24–25 (NKJV)

²⁴ O wretched man that I am! Who will deliver me from this body of death? ²⁵ I thank God—through Jesus Christ our Lord! So then, with the mind I myself serve the law of God, but with the flesh the law of sin.

Romans 8:1–2 (NKJV)

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.

- The righteousness of God comes into our lives by faith
- The entire spirit world operates by faith, not just God's world
- Fear is the manifestation we have faith in the wrong kingdom
- When we believe something is going to go wrong, we have given our faith to the enemy
- We empower the very one that Christ disarmed at the cross
- When we believe in God, we empower the Holy Spirit and the angels to bring about the will of God

If we believe that we are still sinners after receiving Christ, we will struggle with trying to do the right thing because we have put faith in our ability to fail instead of His work on the cross

- We can spend our whole life living under the curse of our old name – “sinner”
- Or we can receive our new name that has the power to alter our destiny – “saint”
- When the Father looks at us, he sees the very image of Christ – **Romans 8:29**
– conformed: *“similar in form or type”*