

Overflowing

2 Corinthians 3:18 (NKJV)

¹⁸ But we all, with unveiled face, beholding as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from glory to glory, just as by the Spirit of the Lord.

The life of a believer is not meant to be lived from pit to pit

- His desire is for us to live from glory to glory

We should be so full of God that others get blessed from the overflow in our lives

The truth is that right now you are as full of God as you want to be

Once you're born again God's presence doesn't withdraw and pull away from us

- God's not like a yo-yo
- The Lord never changes
- God is consistent
- We are the variable

Many teachings out there would tell us that if we don't sense God it's because we've done something to displease Him

Living a life that is overflowing is not about the things we can do to "please" God and earn His favor and release His power in our lives

God wants you blessed even more than you do but we must realize that He has already done everything through the death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus Christ

Romans 11:29 (NKJV)

²⁹For the gifts and the calling of God are irrevocable.

Most Christians would pray, *“Oh God, what’s wrong. Please touch my life again. Please come and do something new in my life!”*

- This attitude is wrong
- It assumes that the lack of joy, peace or whatever is because God has withdrawn

God doesn’t determine how full of love, joy and peace that you are

- It’s never the Lord that doesn’t move in your life
- It’s you that aren’t receiving from Him

God wants revival, but the way most people are seeking it isn’t even biblical

- We pray, “Oh God, Send revival!”
- It’s not God’s fault there isn’t more of an outpouring of His power and Spirit in our land
- He hasn’t stopped pouring out the Holy Spirit since the day of Pentecost
- We need to be more in tune with God

We need a better understanding of the Gospel

Romans 1:16–17 (NKJV)

¹⁶For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ, for it is the power of God to salvation for everyone who believes, for the Jew first and also for the Greek. ¹⁷For in it the righteousness of God is revealed from faith to faith; as it is written, “*The just shall live by faith.*”

- The word used for gospel is a Greek superlative that was used in Greek literature
- It means, “*Too good to be true news*”, or “*Glad tidings*”
- God isn’t judging people anymore
- He’s not angry!

Christ’s message and the way He loved people unconditionally were both too good to be true

- The Jewish people of Jesus’ time were very religious
- They had been raised under a works-oriented, performance-based legalistic, judgmental religious system
- They persecuted anyone who preached the true gospel
- Because the true gospel – salvation by grace – is just too good to be true

Religious people, even today respond to the true gospel, “*What about God’s wrath?*” “*We need to let people know they’re going to hell.*”

It’s the goodness of God, not the fear of hell that leads people to repentance

Romans 2:4 (NKJV)

⁴ Or do you despise the riches of His goodness, forbearance, and longsuffering, not knowing that the goodness of God leads you to repentance?

- Hell is a real place
- Those who go there will go because they refused to obey on the Lord Jesus Christ
- Even though this is true it is not the core message of the Gospel

The problem with the American Church is that the core message is to believe on the Lord Jesus Christ so you won't go to hell

- It's a true message, but it's not the true gospel

Good is good and He loves you

Through Christ's atonement, everything you need for an abundant life has already been provided

- All you need to do is believe and receive

2 Peter 1:3 (NKJV)

³ as His divine power has given to us all things that *pertain* to life and godliness, through the knowledge of Him who called us by glory and virtue

Matthew 6:33 (NKJV)

³³ But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you.

We don't have to preach the wrath of God because people already know in their heart that they aren't right with God

Romans 1:18–19 (NKJV)

¹⁸ For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who suppress the truth in unrighteousness, ¹⁹ because what may be known of God is manifest in them, for God has shown *it* to them.

- Some people may say they don't believe in God or His wrath
- I think they're lying
- I chose to believe the word of God
- At the end of the day, God has revealed His existence to every person that has ever lived

Romans 1:20 (NKJV)

²⁰ For since the creation of the world His invisible *attributes* are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, *even* His eternal power and Godhead, so that they are without excuse,

- No one will ever stand before God and say they never heard or knew that He existed
- Even if they have never heard a preacher they have had an inner witness and they will be accountable

I believe there is a homing devise inside of each and every person

- They may describe it differently, but it is there
- If we would take time to listen we would here God

Psalm 46:10 (NKJV)

¹⁰ Be still, and know that I *am* God;

- If we would learn to be still and reach out to God we would hear Him

Some people may feel lonely or bored, or another emotional feeling or sense that something's missing

I believe it's the homing device God has placed on the inside of us

- You shouldn't be living this way
- There must be more to life than this
- Where did I come from?
- Where am I going?
- Who created me?

People will try to drown out these feelings with busyness or keep themselves distracted through TV, Video Games, or Social Media

Everyone already has a revelation of the existence of God

You were born with it and it stays with you your entire life

There are steps we can take that will either diminish or stop this intuitive knowledge of God from drawing us home

You can actually reach the place where your heart becomes hardened to this built in drawing or leading

- This affects every area of our life

Four keys to leading a life that is overflowing

Romans 1:21 (NKJV)

²¹ because, although they knew God, they did not glorify *Him* as God, nor were thankful, but became futile in their thoughts, and their foolish hearts were darkened.

- Here we see four steps we can take to either draw closer to God or walk away
- This is true for salvation as well as every area of provision in our life available through the gospel

If you experienced God in some area and no longer sense His presence it's because you took steps that led you away from hearing His voice

- *They didn't Glorify Him as God*
- *They were unthankful*
- *They became worthless in their thoughts and imaginations*
- *Their foolish hearts became darkened*

Before you lose the benefit of anything the Lord has done in your life you must pass through these four steps

- Perhaps you're not experiencing God's joy the way you once did
- Maybe you don't sense His love
- Perhaps you've experienced healing but seem to have lost it
- If so, it's because you have done at least one of these four things

It's not too late to reverse your steps – repent

Start to...

- Glorify God
- Be thankful
- Recognize the power of your imagination – (*dreams and visions are the language of heaven*)
- Have a good heart

Depending on how you walk out these steps in your everyday life, you decide whether or not you stay full of God

1 – Glorify God

Mark 4:15 (NKJV)

¹⁵ And these are the ones by the wayside where the word is sown. When they hear, Satan comes immediately and takes away the word that was sown in their hearts.

- The enemy doesn't want you to keep whatever the Lord has given you
- He does this by trying to get you to stop glorifying God as God, and what He's done in your life
- You will then lose the manifestation of that blessing, healing, etc.
- Glorify (**Romans 1:21**) – “to render (or esteem) glorious”
- Esteem – “to value, to prize, or to reverence”

What do you place value and importance on?

When God does something in your life you place value on it, but then Satan comes against that value and competes for it

The devil comes to attack the value you place on what God has done and is doing in your life

- The value you continue to place on something is up to you

The enemy is trying to steal this teaching from you right now

- “*it’s just Pastor Tony’s opinion*”
 - The choice is yours

1 Thessalonians 2:13 (NKJV)

¹³ For this reason we also thank God without ceasing, because when you received the word of God which you heard from us, you welcomed *it* not *as* the word of men, but as it is in truth, the word of God, which also effectively works in you who believe.

- You need to hold on to the revelation you get from God’s word
- Don’t let the enemy or other people *de-value* God’s word to you
- Don’t allow something else to occupy the position of God’s word in your life
- No one else can dictate the value you place on something in your life
- Don’t let your friends, your boss, your spouse, your children allow you to question God’s word to you

Luke 14:26 (NKJV)

²⁶ “If anyone comes to Me and does not hate his father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters, yes, and his own life also, he cannot be My disciple.

Do you glorify the things of God more than the things of this world?

Some people place so much value on their marriage, family, career, and other people's acceptance that it competes for the worth they place on the word of God

- Don't let anything tempt you to decrease the value of what God's done in your life

Hebrews 12:1–2 (NKJV)

12 Therefore we also, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which so easily ensnares *us*, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, ² looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of *our* faith, who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.

- Jesus placed greater value on the mission than the shame associated with it
- He was not concerned with the way things looked in the natural
- The mission was paramount
 - “*despising the shame*” – “*to disesteem*” – *the exact opposite of glorifying, magnifying, valuing, and prizing*
- Jesus disesteemed the shame associated with what He had to go through

Philippians 3:7–8 (NKJV)

⁷ But what things were gain to me, these I have counted loss for Christ. ⁸ Yet indeed I also count all things loss for the excellence of the knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord, for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and count them as rubbish, that I may gain Christ

- You cannot truly glorify God and everything else at the same time
- It will cause your life to seesaw back and forth and vacillate between God's word and the things of this life
- You must esteem one and disesteem everything else
- Before Jesus faced the crucifixion, He had already disesteemed His own life and viewed everything else worthless compared to the will of God

Philippians 2:5–8 (NKJV)

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.

Jesus was willing to take on no reputation to gain all that God had for Him

Because He placed value on God He has been exalted to the highest place of honor and been given a name which is above all names

Philippians 1:21, 23-24 (NKJV)

²¹ For to me, to live *is* Christ, and to die *is* gain.

²³ For I am hard-pressed between the two, having a desire to depart and be with Christ, *which is* far better. ²⁴ Nevertheless to remain in the flesh *is* more needful for you.

- Paul penned this letter while chained in a Philippian dungeon
- Yet he used the words “joy”, “rejoice”, and “rejoicing” a total of seventeen times in four chapters
- Your life is important but compared to God it’s worth nothing
- As long as you’re at the center of your universe you will be upset when things don’t go your way
- When you’re wrapped up in yourself you make a very small package

The reason you begin to lose revelation, blessing and benefit of what God has done in your life is that you’ve begin to place value on so many other things instead of God

It’s because you’ve allowed other things to occupy the place of importance in your life that was meant for God alone

A life that is overflowing is filled with the power of the resurrection if I willing to place greater value on God than the sufferings of this life

Philippians 3:10 (NKJV)

¹⁰ that I may know Him and the power of His resurrection, and the fellowship of His sufferings, being conformed to His death,