

Introduction:

- We have been studying the Life of God. Zoé.
- To get it you have to have faith. Faith is not the Zoé. It is the connector to the life.
- The Zoé. Is what moves mountains. Faith release the Life of God to do His will.
- I.E. Feeding 5k.
 - Jesus asks where can we buy bread for the people? Testing Phillip's faith.
 - Philip's first instinct is to think of the need in financial terms. He said, "Jesus, 200 pennyworth (the equivalent of eight months wages) is not enough to buy food to feed this crowd."
 - Andrew, on the other hand, saw the problem from a different perspective. He said, "There is a lad here, which hath five barley loaves and two small fishes: but what are they among so many?" Like Philip, Andrew still failed to see the power and anointing that Jesus had. Both Philip and Andrew interpreted the situation through their natural senses.
- But Christ, which means the Anointed One, was already aware that supernatural ability was required in order to bring the answer to the need of the people. This chapter: Life/Light Zoé!

I. Life Reigns Over Death

- A. *"For the sin of this one man, Adam, caused death to rule over many. But even greater is God's wonderful grace and his gift of righteousness, for all who receive it will live in triumph over sin and death through this one man, Jesus Christ. Yes, Adam's one sin brings condemnation for everyone, but Christ's one act of righteousness brings a right relationship with God and **new life** for everyone. Because one person disobeyed God, many became sinners. But because one other person obeyed God, many will be made righteous."* (Romans 5:17-19, NLT) New life...Zoé!
1. This scripture tells the story of Satan's seizure of man's dominion—and Jesus' crushing, conquering, victory over Satan. One man gave it up. One man got it back!
 2. It was in the Garden of Eden that Satan brought three profound changes to man:
 - a) changed man's spiritual nature - from life to death, from light to darkness.
 - b) brought mortality to his body - man could not die with God's nature at work in him.
 - c) and made that body (his senses) master of his spirit. His spirit no longer ruled over him.
 3. The Sin of one man caused death to rule over many.
 4. God's creation that was filled with love, moved in love, served in love now became a prisoner of hate, sower of hate, and lover of hate.
 5. Ps 8:3-6 reveals what we originally were. *"When I look at your heavens, the work of your fingers, the moon and the stars, which you have set in place, what is man that you are mindful of him, and the son of man that you care for him? Yet you have made him a little lower than the heavenly beings and crowned him with glory and honor. You have given him dominion over the works of your hands; you have put all things under his feet,"* (Psalm 8:3-6, ESV)
 - a) This vast amount of authority, honor and life was given into satan's hands.
 - b) And a look through history shows us what the reign of spiritual death will do.

- c) A look at the typical American family shows you what death can do.
- B. Something greater now reigns through God's grace and the gift of righteousness.
1. Jesus came into our world bringing LIFE! In the midst of all the hate, evil, pain, sorrow and tears comes the Son of God. The very picture of love in action! Love broke into darkness! Darkness could not hold it back. Darkness could not stop this amazing love. Love returned to take dominion over the darkness by bringing man back to his God given place.
 2. Jesus took our sin to the cross. He became sin and when He did mortality came upon Him and He experienced death. He could not have died physically unless he died spiritually. He did not sin...He became sin and when He did death overcame Him. *"No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have authority to lay it down, and I have authority to take it up again. This charge I have received from my Father."* (John 10:18, ESV)
 - a) He did not lay down His zoé. He laid down His psuche (physical life.)
 - b) Acts 13:33 *You are My Son, Today I have begotten You.'* (ESV)
 3. He identified with us...became sin, carried our diseases, was punished and died.
 4. So that we could identify with Him, as Paul says: we were crucified with Christ, we died with Christ, we were buried with Christ, we suffered with Christ, we were made alive with Christ, we were justified with Christ, raised with Christ, seated with Christ so that we could reign with Christ. Most people will not take the time to know their identity after they get their 'fire insurance.
 5. So the Spirit can say through Paul, that we reign/triumph over sin as Kings in the realm of LIFE through Christ Jesus.
 6. We must learn to see our selves as God the Father sees us in Christ.
- C. Two Natures: Death and Life
1. Nature of Sin, death/darkness - three aspects of the nature of sin. How to walk in darkness.
 - a) Unbelief:
 - (1) Satan calls into question God's Word and God's goodness. (You won't die...you will be like God.) A faith response of confessing God's Word would have brought a different outcome. "NO! God did not say that—and I am standing on His Word!"
 - (2) To believe in God and do His will is the only way of Life. To do anything else is to move away from God and the inevitable consequence is death. Faith receives every blessing that man can know from God and rests in Him; from unbelief flows all that is not of God.
 - b) Pride:
 - (1) The background for this temptation to pride is the failure to trust God and His word...unbelief.
 - (2) *"Pride goes before destruction, and haughtiness before a fall."* (Proverbs 16:18, NLT) This is what happened in the garden. Pride is selfish desire. It strongly

desires what does not belong to it. This is idolatry for it no longer wants what God wants; but what we passionately desire, therefore it is an idol.

c) Disobedience:

- (1) Disobedience is the product of unbelief and pride.
 - (2) *"Unbelief begins in the mind, the pride pervades the heart and finally disobedience impels the will. Man disobeys by failing to take God at His word and thereby pridefully seeks to assume His place. When this has happened, disobedience is quick to follow."* J Rodman Williams, Renewal Theology.
2. Nature of God, Life/Light - Three aspects of the nature of God. How to walk in the Life.

a) Faith -

- (1) The nature of God is faith. The God-kind of faith. *"Jesus replied, "Let the faith of God be in you!"* (Mark 11:22, TPT)
- (2) The nature of God is faith. Jesus is our example of that.

b) Humility -

- (1) Phil 2:5-ff. *"Think of yourselves the way Christ Jesus thought of himself. He had equal status with God but didn't think so much of himself that he had to cling to the advantages of that status no matter what. Not at all. When the time came, he set aside the privileges of deity and took on the status of a slave, became human! Having become human, he stayed human. It was an incredibly humbling process. He didn't claim special privileges. Instead, he lived a selfless, obedient life and then died a selfless, obedient death—and the worst kind of death at that—a crucifixion."* (Philippians 2:5-8, The Message)
- (2) The background of walking in humility is the success of trusting God and His Word.
- (3) Jesus, because He trusted the Father, did not think anything about humility. It came easily.
- (4) If pride goes before destruction then it is safe to assume that humility goes before being raised up, establish, grounded.

c) Obedience -

- (1) Obedience is the product of faith and humility.
- (2) To believe God and in His word with a humble heart naturally leads to obedience.

D. Receive the gift and receive life. Then you will triumph over sin and death through Jesus!

1. This one act that Jesus did brings a right relationship and LIFE for all who believe.
2. When the one man sinned all became sinners. But because of Jesus, many are made righteous and masters over sin and death.
3. John 1:4 In Him was LIFE and that Life was the light of men.

II. Walking In Dominion Is Walking in Life

A. The man who lives in the realm of the senses (five senses) is unable to understand the things of the Spirit. *"But people who aren't spiritual can't receive these truths from God's Spirit. It all sounds foolish to them and they can't understand it, for only those who are spiritual can understand what the Spirit means."* (1 Corinthians 2:14, NLT)

- B. The person who has been born again or received the nature and LIFE of God, they are the ones who can understand the things of the spirit. This is why it is critical to have the mind renewed with the Word.
1. The renewed mind or the mind renewed with the Word gains the high ground and rules over his senses.
 2. When this happens God can 'think' through you.
 3. When this happens God can 'speak' through you.
 4. When these are happening God's Word becomes a LIVING thing in us and brings LIGHT to others.
- C. Overcoming double mindedness
1. The first mind is the sense mind/natural mind. It is ruled by the senses.
 2. The second mind is the spiritual mind. You will not have a spiritual mind, filled with Life with out the Word. The spiritual mind is the mind of the recreated spirit. But for it to have dominion we have to renew our natural mind with the Word.
 - a) Pauls prayer. *"that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you the Spirit of wisdom and of revelation in the knowledge of him, having the eyes of your hearts enlightened, that you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance in the saints,"* (Ephesians 1:17-18, ESV)
 - b) Paul is praying that we may have revelation to understand what we have in Christ.
 - c) When we have that revelation all things become possible!
 - d) The power of the light. *"For once you were full of darkness, but now you have light from the Lord. So live as people of light! For this light within you produces only what is good and right and true."* (Ephesians 5:8-9, NLT)

III. Believing You Are What God Says You Are

- A. Ro 10:17 Faith comes by hearing the message.
- B. The Holy Spirit shines the Light/LIFE on the Word, thus giving us the opportunity to believe.
- C. When we believe we receive and manifest the very thing spoken about us.
 1. Eph 2:10 says we are His workmanship....not satan's.
 2. 1 Jn 5:13 says that I have eternal life/I have God's nature...sin does not rule in me.
 3. 2 Cor 3:6 says that though the New Covenant the Spirit gives me life.
 4. Phil 4:13 Says I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.
 5. 1 Jn 4:4 says I am an overcomer and greater is He that is in me than He that is in the world.
 6. God is my ability (grace); my wisdom, my righteousness, my strength, my courage etc.
 7. *"And I got it, thank God! In the Messiah, in Christ, God leads us from place to place in one perpetual victory parade. Through us, he brings knowledge of Christ. Everywhere we go, people breathe in the exquisite fragrance."* (2 Corinthians 2:14, The Message)

Conclusion:

- To be filled with the Life of God, (Zoé) puts us in the spotlight where ever we go.
- And the Light always drives out darkness.