

**"THE WORDS OF THE LORD ARE PURE WORDS, LIKE SILVER TRIED IN
A FURNACE OF EARTH, PURIFIED SEVEN TIMES.
YOU SHALL KEEP THEM, O LORD, YOU SHALL PRESERVE THEM FROM
THIS GENERATION FOREVER." (PSALM 12: 6 & 7)**

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Jesus Christ The Fountain Head

**“Whoever drinks of the water that I shall give him will never thirst. But the water that I shall give him will become in him a fountain of water springing up into everlasting life.”
(John 4:14)**

**“Assuredly, I say to you, unless you are converted and become as little children, you will by no means enter the kingdom of heaven.”
(Matthew 18:3)**

“Lord, my heart is not haughty, nor my eyes lofty. Neither do I concern myself with great matters, Nor with things too profound for me. Surely I have calmed and quieted my soul, like a weaned child with his mother; like a weaned child is my soul within me. O Israel, hope in the Lord from this time forth and forever.” (Psalm 131)

Dear saints let it be known that the higher we go (the more spiritually mature we become), the less we know. The less we know, the freer we become. The freer we become, the more child-like we are – the more child-like we are -- the closer we are to God!

In relation to the fullness of God, we, His children, know virtually nothing. He is higher than high – wider than wide, and deeper than deep. There is no human language among men that can fully describe God. He is beyond our ability to comprehend in His fullness. Many men have spent a lifetime attempting to comprehend the fullness of God. They have built Bible Colleges and Seminaries by the hundreds – staffing them with men and women that have accumulated degrees that were bestowed upon them by others who claim to have gained an understanding of God and His ways. From the halls of academia we have mass produced an upper class of Christian royalty that is warmly embraced by the mass of Christendom, but rejected by God.

“Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you travel land and sea to win one proselyte (a new convert), and when he is won, you make him twice as much a son of hell as yourselves.” (Matthew 23:15, also see Matthew 23:8-12)

“For My thoughts are not your thoughts, nor are your ways My ways”, says the Lord.

“For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are My ways higher than your ways, and My thoughts than your thoughts.” (Isaiah 55:8 & 9)

For any man, regardless of his or her education or level of perceived spirituality to entertain the thought that he “knows God” and is quite confident that he understands God’s thoughts and ways, is to open the door and invite the demonic spirit of religious pride to enter into the mind and heart. As foolish and as dangerous as this is, it is exactly what many of us have done to one degree or another. If no one else has fallen into this religious trap, I have!

Spiritual pride is the “elixir” of Lucifer that he serves up to the religious ones who claim to follow Jesus Christ. Webster defines “elixir” as “a substance held capable of prolonging life indefinitely”. Lucifer’s “elixir” of religious pride will bring about just the opposite effect. Rather than bringing about eternal Life in the presence of God, it will result in eternal damnation. I believe God received His fill of pride in heaven when Lucifer began to think that he was on an equal level with God. We all know what Father’s word says about Lucifer and his fall (Isaiah 14:12-15). Dear reader, never forget the spiritual principal that only a “little” leaven of pride, given enough time, will leaven your entire being. You cannot say that we have not been warned.

“A little leaven leavens the whole lump.” (Galatians 5:9)

**“Your glorying is not good. Do you not know that a little leaven leavens the whole lump?”
(1Corinthians 5:6)**

Spiritual pride acts much like one small microscopic cancer cell. It enters in undetected – unnoticed. In most cases it will lie quietly in the dark resources of the soul (or body in the case of cancer) where it begins to reproduce. If left alone, undetected, and given enough time, death will be the final result – either physical or spiritual. Leaven, whether that of cancer or pride, left unchecked will leaven the whole of man. It is a spiritual principal which is mirrored in the physical realm and is as certain and absolute as God is!

Spiritual pride enters in disguised as light and righteousness (1Corinthians 11:14 & 15). It takes many religious forms including: wisdom, discernment, knowledge, leadership, authority and even love. This demonic spirit is so difficult to detect that for a season it is impossible to do so, except by the gift of “Discerning of Spirits. In other words, only the Spirit of God is capable of warning us, and I believe He does so only for those who have a love for the truth. All others will fall prey to the deception (see 2 Thessalonians 2: 9 – 12). Just the thought that this could not apply to you or me, is a certain sign that spiritual pride has already entered in. If this applies to you, I beg you to repent. Ask Father to deliver you from the trap of deception, and set you free from the spirit of religious pride, to follow Jesus alone.

Today, spiritual pride has spread throughout the modern day church like gangrene. It is eating away at the church with such success that it is now considered the norm, and those who rise up to expose this hellish beast risk being labeled heretics and enemies of Christ. It is now, just as Christ declared that it would be.

“If they persecuted Me, they will also persecute you. If they kept My word, they will keep yours also. But all these things they will do to you for My name’s sake, because they do not know Him who sent Me!” (John 15: 20 & 21)

“THEY DO NOT KNOW HIM WHO SENT ME!”

Dear saints let those words sink down into the depths of your soul. “They do not know Him who sent Me!” Spiritual pride **cannot – cannot** – survive in the heart of the one who truly knows God. It is one thing to know about God and quite another to “Know Him”. Webster defines the word “Know” as follows: “have understanding or direct cognition of – to be acquainted or familiar with – to be aware of the truth”.

To truly know God, to the degree that He allows Himself to be known by man, is to reflect His likeness and His image. To truly know God is to crucify one’s flesh, starting with his religious flesh. To truly know God is to allow Jesus Christ to increase in one’s thought life, and in his or her words and deeds. As He increases, we are increasingly brutal with “self”. To truly know God is to recognize ones spiritual poverty. (Matthew 5:3).

As we grow in our knowledge of God and as He grants us a greater revelation of Himself, several things happen. First we begin to receive a greater revelation of His holiness, and as we do, we receive a greater revelation of our vileness.

Secondly, we loose all confidence in ourselves – in our knowledge, our wisdom, our faith, our power, our authority, and we are reduced to spiritual paupers. In His manifested presence, all of our religious words that flowed so freely from hearts that were so confident of their good standing before Him, are reduced to these few – if one can speak at all – “O God! Have mercy on me, I am a sinner!” All of our hand clapping, foot stomping and tambourine rattling is silenced. All of our boasting about being the King’s kids and bragging about what all we are going to do to Satan as we take back what he stole from us -- is silenced. All of our confidence in what we were going to do for God and His kingdom, fades away like a morning mist before the rising sun.

As we seek God with all of our heart (Deuteronomy 4:29) He will be faithful to His word, and bless us with an ever expanding revelation of Himself. As He begins to reveal more and more of Himself to us, all of our confidence in organized religion evaporates. Our confidence in pastors, priests, Bible study leaders, so called “faith healers” and all of our religious heroes, fades away before the light of His holiness. As God reveals Himself, warm fuzzies are replaced by fear and trembling. As God reveals Himself, all of our orchestrated worship accompanied by the finest electronics and talent of the flesh -- along with honey dripping words encased in cheap grace, falling from the lips of the effeminate male who calls himself a voice for God -- all of our programs from singing Christmas trees to puppet shows -- all of these things, and much more, become nothing but smoke as the fire of His holiness consumes the wood, hay and stubble (1 Corinthians 3:10 – 15). May God have mercy on His people in this season where the “falling away” from the faith confirms the voice of prophecy as recorded in 2 Thessalonians 2:3, 1 Timothy 4:1, and Luke 18:8b.

Dear saints, the leaven of spiritual pride is deadly indeed, but there is also an equally deadly spirit at work within and without the ranks of institutional religion. That spirit is called spiritual idolatry. The leaven of idolatry also enters in undetected. Soon it takes its host captive where, given adequate time, the

result is spiritual deformity or spiritual death. Please know that I am not speaking here of cults, and other foreign religions. No! I am speaking of modern day Christianity.

Spiritual idolatry, like spiritual pride receives an open invitation into our being as soon as we take our eyes off the Head – Jesus Christ!

Remember, He declared:

**“I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me.”
(John 14:6)**

Remember, He declared:

“He who loves father or mother more than Me is not worthy of Me. And he who loves son or daughter more than Me is not worthy of Me. And he who does not take his cross and follow after Me is not worthy of Me. He who finds his life will lose it, and he who loses his life for My sake will find it.” (Matthew 10:37-39)

Remember, He declared:

“If you abide in My word, you are My disciples indeed. And you shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.” (John 8:31-32)

Remember, He declared:

“Everyone who is of the truth hears My voice.” (John 18:37b)

Remember, He declared:

**“Enter by the narrow gate; for wide is the gate and broad is the way that leads to destruction, and there are many who go in by it. Because narrow is the gate and difficult is the way which leads to life, and there are few who find it.” (Matthew 7:13-14)
Emphasis Added**

Remember, It is written:

“By Him all things were created that are in heaven and that are on earth, visible, and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or principalities or powers. All things were created through Him and for Him. And He is before all things, and in Him all things consist.”

And He is the head of the body, the church, who is the beginning, the first born from the dead, that in all things He may have the pre-eminence.”

**For it pleased the Father that in Him all the fullness should dwell, and by Him to reconcile all things to Himself, by Him, whether things on earth, or things in heaven, having made peace through the blood of His cross.” (Colossians 1:16 20)
Emphasis Added**

Dear reader, God's written record could not be any clearer. Jesus Christ, **alone**, is to be the center of a true believer's attention. Jesus Christ, **alone**, is to be the center of the true believer's affections. Jesus Christ, **alone** is to receive the allegiance of the true believer. Never forget that His name is "Jealous" (see Exodus 34:14, Exodus 20:5 and Deuteronomy 4:24), and He, by His nature, will not share your heart with another person or entity. He demands that He be first in our hearts ... or not at all!

I am fully persuaded that we are now living in an age where spiritual idolatry has reached a pandemic level within what we call the church. Webster defines the English words "idol and idolatry" as: "an object of passionate devotion or excessive devotion." Our trap was sprung when we lost our fear of God, and that fatal loss began with the leadership. Once we lost our fear of God the religious spirits from the ranks of Lucifer's minions had an easy time of spreading spiritual pride followed by widespread spiritual idolatry. To make matters worse, spiritual deception anesthetized the vast majority of the believer's hearts and they lost all ability to discern between spiritual light and darkness. The lie became truth and few knew the difference. The heaven was now doing its hellish work at will.

"For false christs and false prophets will rise and show great signs and wonders to deceive, if possible, even the elect." (Matthew 24:24)

Today spiritual idolatry expresses its self in many, many ways. Most of which passes unnoticed by the vast majority. As I now discuss some of our spiritual idols, please know that I am well acquainted with most of them as I have been under their influence at one time or another. I also make no claim of being totally free from all spiritual pride and idolatry as of this writing. However, I do thank God that He has opened my eyes and allowed me to see the enemy. I pray continually that Father will protect me from all forms of spiritual deception, and set me free from any bondage that would hinder my coming into full maturity in my Lord – Jesus Christ. I pray that this is also your heart's desire.

Today spiritual idolatry (passionate devotion for an object, entity or person) is expressed by our heart attitude toward an object such as an image of the virgin Mary, a crucifix, prayer beads, a wooden cross, a book, a building, a piece of ground, etc. Spiritual idolatry also expresses itself through passionate devotion to one's church, a religious denomination, a ministry, good works, a nation (including Israel), a religious doctrine, a school, etc. Finally, spiritual idolatry expresses itself through our passion and devotion for a person. That person could be a pastor, a priest, the Pope, a prophet, an Elder, a teacher (dead or alive), a political leader, or anyone in spiritual authority (past or present, including the original Apostles).

Whenever our devotion and spiritual passion for these objects, entities and persons exceeds that for Jesus Christ, we have become idolaters and are guilty of spiritual infidelity. We may not like to hear that. We may not believe that. We may believe it, but because of our unwillingness to flee from the comforts of spiritual Babylon and follow Him, we choose to believe that it's no big deal. After all, we believe in Jesus, and what we are doing, we are doing in His name. We love Him and He loves us.

"He who does not love Me does not keep My words." (John 14:24)

"He who says I know Him, and does not keep His commandments, is a liar, and the truth is not in him." (1 John 2:4)

Let it be known, that the church cannot save us from hell. Neither the church, a denomination, a material object, our favorite doctrine, nor any man, dead or alive can save us, deliver us, heal us, lead us into all truth or bring us any true, lasting peace and joy. No gift of the Spirit can substitute for the King of Kings and Lord of Lords. Without Jesus Christ as our supreme Authority and the object of our total devotion, we are helpless, hopeless, and totally undone. We may clean up, dress up, show up, sing our songs, shout our hallelujahs and amen's, and cover the alter with our tears of sorrow – but – without Jesus Christ, it is just so much religious vanity.

“I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End.” (Revelation 1:8)

“All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth.” Matthew 28:18)

“For without Me you can do nothing.” (John 15:5)

Yes, dear saints, Jesus Christ is the Fountainhead. The source of every good and perfect gift that we could possibly desire or hope for. He is everything -- all else is rubbish. Everything and every person that would attempt to insert themselves between you and the Lord of lords is His enemy and He will destroy them in due time (see Matthew 7:22 & 23). He gave you, and He gave me, **everything**, and we owe Him everything in return. All of our passion --- all of our devotion --- and all of our love! I beg you --- I plead with you --- do not turn a deaf ear to this message. Please listen to the Spirit of God as He now restores to Jesus Christ the glory that is due to Him alone.

“Whoever drinks of the water that I shall give him will never thirst. But the water that I shall give him will become in him a fountain of water springing up into everlasting life.” (John 4:14)

From whose fountain are you drinking? From whose cup do you sup? Your answer needs to be directed to the One to whom you will give an account.

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God Bless,

Brother Tom

P.S.

Please visit our website: oakhillministries.org.

"EVERY WORD OF GOD IS PURE; HE IS A SHIELD TO THOSE WHO PUT THEIR TRUST IN HIM. DO NOT ADD TO HIS WORDS, LEST HE REBUKE YOU, AND YOU BE FOUND A LIAR." (PROVERBS 30:5 & 6)