## We are delivered by the Truth

When I came to the place of asking Jesus into my life, I left the church that day "2 feet off the ground". I was excited, free, unloaded, awaken to a new existence, a new "world".

I wanted to know more, and I am sure that I am not alone to say that all the positive scriptures that we all know were the first to stand out.

"I can do all things thru Christ who strengthens me.."

"I am more than a conqueror..."

"My God shall supply all my needs according to His...."

"These signs shall follow those who believe..."

Although these scriptures are true, learning only the "positive" scriptures causes an imbalance and a wrong perception of how God and His Word operate.

Heard the saying "beware of half truths, you may have the wrong half"? ...just joking.

But it was a smack in the face when after floating around on my salvation experience, I stumble on Heb 11.

A gallery of Faith Heroes even unbelievers have heard of, yet at the end of the chapter:

"They were stoned, they were sawn asunder, were tempted, were slain with the sword:

they wandered about in sheepskins and goatskins; being destitute, afflicted, tormented;

(Of whom the world was not worthy:) they wandered in deserts, and in mountains, and in dens and caves of the earth.

And these all, having obtained a good report through faith, received not the promise:"

We <u>need</u> to voice and act upon our faith (trust) in God and His Word.

But while green in our walk, you can easily be led to believe that after Salvation we are automatically %Sons of God, and that we can go out enthusiastically and do what Jesus did and get the same results.

"...and greater things shall you do in my name".

It would be like giving the keys of the car to your 5 year old.

But at the time, in ignorance and in zeal, I went around laying hands on everyone who even coughed, commanding demons out of everybody.

Confusion doubt and even unbelief can come in after things don't work out that way, damaging our trust in the Word, and questioning our value in the Kingdom. We can become "spooky", explaining all ungodly things in life as demonic or attacks of the enemy. We can believe that deliverance is a matter of "binding" and "loosing" and casting out evil spirits. (there is a place for this) So spiritually minded we become no earthly good.

So when the Word wasn't happening in my life the way I expected, I started to dig into the scriptures to see if they really meant how it was written.

For quite some time, I felt I had missed it, that I was unspiritual.

But as you study the Word you find scriptures that contradict the way you think.

Eg Gal 4:1 "as long as the heir is a child, he is no different from a slave, although he owns the whole estate, although he be lord of all. He is subject to guardians and trustees until the time set by the Father"

Even a King needs to be educated, otherwise what use would he be?

Jesus served in obscurity until he was prepared and had reached the age of Ministry, although he was still *about His Father's business*. He also did only what He saw the Father doing and only spoke what He heard the Father say.

A scripture that had always bothered me was 2 Cor 5:17.

"Therefore, if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature, old things have passed away, behold, all things have become new" or NIV "the old has gone, the new has come".

I couldn't see how this could be true.

It was obvious to me that when we receive Jesus into our life, that we are still, in the natural, the same, and so all things have <u>not</u> become new.

In Exodus 12 from v13, I believe we see an example of salvation, when the Angel of Death came to take the first-born. Those households where the doors were covered by the blood of the lamb were delivered from death. The blood over the doors didn't make those inside any different, just saved thru faith and obedience in the instruction from God thru Moses.

We can see reading on, that the Lord delivered the Israelites, or rescued them, and set them free from Pharaoh and Egypt, or "the world" and its head.

But they did not receive the fullness of God's promises. Their deliverance from Egypt <u>did not guarantee</u> them a share of the Promised Land (the Kingdom). Joshua and Caleb were the only ones from Egypt to enter the Land, and why? Because they were the only ones who saw it as God did. They were men of Faith who lived that confession.

The others who were delivered out of the hands of Pharaoh, saw it from the flesh and thru the eyes of fear. They did not change their attitudes and beliefs from revering Pharaoh to revering God. They did not behave as "children of God".

Back to 2 Cor 5:17.

So one night I had this scripture on my mind and as I went to bed I asked the Lord to give me understanding. The next morning I awoke and found myself listening, I believe, to an illustration of how this scripture works.

## Luigi

It involves a man named Luigi.

Luigi and his family were poor rural people who lived in Italy.

After the war, he could see no future where he was, no hope.

He heard from friends and relatives who had found a new land, a good land, a 'lucky' country, a prosperous land, a place of opportunity, freedom, a future. They were happy there.

Luigi liked the sound of this place. He made the decision that he, his wife, children and his Mama would leave their homeland, the land they knew, and start a new life in Australia.

They arrived in Australia and immediately were welcomed and accommodated by relatives and friends.

Luigi worked with them, and worked hard to establish his own family.

His extended family and friends helped him to build a house.

He loved Australia. He never wanted to go back "home".

He wanted to be an Australian, so eventually he and his family were "naturalised" and received <u>citizenship</u> <u>papers.</u> He was so proud and happy. He was <u>legally</u> an Australian.

But Luigi, (to coin a phrase that they, themselves, used back in the 50s 60s) was a "real wog" no offence intended, just the lingo of the time to describe the situation.

There was nothing about him that you would call Aussie. He associated with other "wogs", dressed like them, ate what they ate, talked their lingo etc, you get the picture.

The only thing Australian about him was that he was living in Australia and had the citizenship papers.

But, Luigi had something else. A desire to be an Australian.

Luigi felt something was missing. He wanted to get to know and mix with Australians. To be one of them. To live like them.

He left the job with his fellow expatriates and took a job in a warehouse for an Australian.

his entire wardrobe with more acceptable clothing. He even changed his name to Lou.

He was so excited to ask his fellow workmates back to his home for a bbq, together with his family and friends. But the Australians didn't stay long as they felt out of place.

Luigi was upset. He wanted to be like and accepted by, Australians, so he cut most of those of his Italian life from his social life. He chose Australian company.

He was invited to company dinners and saw how they dined and took this home to replace his rural beginnings. He asked the boss if he could work at the front counter and deal with the public, but his employer pointed out that his English was lacking and his dress was a bit "woggy". So Luigi went to night school and he replaced

As he changed, he also ensured his household did too.

Lou had a desire in his heart to be like an Australian. But at first, he did not know or understand how to be one. But step by step, as we was made aware of those areas of his life, where he was still like an Italian, he quickly changed to Australian, until one day, he was not only an Australian legally, but in attitude, appearance

and action. He talked like an Australian, looked like an Australian and he acted like an Australian. He was Australian.

In a similar way, when the Allies landed in Normandy (born again), both sides knew the Allies had won the war, but it wasn't for nearly a year later that this became evident.

Landing at Normandy wasn't enough, the Allies pushed forward thru Europe liberating towns villages railways bridges hills and every stronghold of the enemy (step by step deliverance), until all were driven out or taken captive.

If the Allies had not gone forward then their victory would never have been seen and the enemy would have taken back ground.

Picture your heart as Europe, and Normandy as your salvation. Parts of Europe (your heart) were free of the enemy and sided with the Allies (God) while the remainder needed to be taken back into the control of the Allies (God's ways) one step at a time strategically (thru the Holy Spirit) by force (deliberately renewing your mind and by revelation) until in Allies hands. The ENTIRE war won.

I did a word study on this scripture to see what I received lined up (see the appendix).

It is a fun exercise to dig into God's Word. Even if you do a study only once, you should invest in a Strongs or Youngs concordance.

I found that the tense was in consequence to a process of manufacture.

Before I go on, please don't get me wrong here, we are a new creation, we have been changed. Paul in this scripture is telling us to see each other as God sees us. He sees us complete in Jesus Christ. Finished. Spiritually it is done, but we must work out our salvation. Phil 2:12.

Having studied the original language, this is how I see the re-wording of 2Cor 5:17.

"Therefore, as Jesus Christ is formed in us, we, by this process, are being changed and assembled to become a new creature, as opposed to our former self, taking on a freshness, a new form and quality with a different nature and as a consequence we are moving away from our our earlier nature until our old manner of life has perished and ceased to be and we are totally renewed.".

1 Cor 13:12 "For now we see in a mirror dimly but then face to face. Now I know in part, but then I shall know just as also I am known" see also Eph 4:22-24 Romans 12:1-2 2 Cor 3:18.

How do we do this changing?

Eph 4:22 "you were taught, with regard to your former way of life, to put off your old self, which is being corrupted by its deceitful desires, to be made new in the attitude of your minds, and to put on the new self created to be like God in true Righteousness and Holiness"

Rom 12:1 "...offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God- which is your Spiritual worship.

Do not be conformed any longer to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind

We can control our flesh (behaviour) by will-power.

This treats the symptom not the cause.

We need to be controlled and led by the Spirit.

This means our Soul must be in agreement.

If we agree with God we give Him power over that area of our life, and if we agree with the enemy, we give the enemy power over that area of our life.

The enemy is a liar and a deceiver. Do we want the enemy "possessing" any part of our life?

Of course, No! So what is missing? The Truth! When you have the truth, a lie is seen as just that.

Light puts out the darkness but not the other way round.

Not only the truth but understanding (revelation).

How do we get it? By reading the Word over and over (aloud). *Faith comes from hearing and hearing by the Word of God*". The Holy Spirit shall lead you into all truth. He knows what hill bridge or town to take next.

Revelation comes from spending time with the Father. The extra oil of the 10 virgins Matt25.

God is Spirit and speaks with our Spirit which is whole. For our flesh to follow means our Soul must agree first. John 8:31-32

Jesus said "If you abide (live) in my Word, you are truly my disciples, and you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free".

It is NOT the truth that will set you free, it is the Truth that you KNOW that will set you free.

Our Soul is the battleground for both sides to get your agreement.

Thru thoughts, imaginations, reasonings, confusion and ignorance. We choose which realm we focus on. Jesus came to set our Souls free. (deliver renew restore redeem and empower us)

Psalm 23 still says: "He restoreth my Soul"

As Jesus is the bridge between our natural existence and God our Spiritual life, our Soul is the bridge between our spirit man and our natural selves.

We need Christ Jesus to be formed in our hearts, our souls, to connect us with the Spirit to allow the great abundance of God's power grace and blessings that we already have in the Supernatural to flow thru to us in the natural.

Imagine a room with no doors or windows representing within it, everything we are and have in Christ. The exterior wall representing our soul, our mind and where we stand outside the wall is the natural. We can liken growing in the Word or being transformed to His likeness, to drilling a hole in the wall and another and another and so on. At first we can only see a little and as the holes join and a larger hole is created, we might be able to get our hand thru and withdraw some small thing, but as we continue and the hole gets bigger and bigger we retrieve larger things until one day there is no wall and we are able to walk in and take whatever we need.

When we receive Jesus we are sealed for redemption, we are delivered from where this world is going. The blood of the Lamb is placed over our Spirit and Soul to save us from spiritual death (Normandy naturalisation). Our spirits destiny is Life eternal but our heart/mind, our Soul, what makes you You, the cradle of our attitudes and beliefs, hurts wounds, is still the same.

We are transformed by the renewing of this mind, with a heart response to willingly learn and change.

Step by step, line by line, precept upon precept, we are delivered by the Living Word, Christ Jesus.

% We are all children of God.

**We are not all Sons of God**. (Girls don't look at your earthly responsibility 'clothes', you are included) All creation is waiting for the "Sons of God" to be revealed.

In Matt 25 parable of the 10 virgins (Christians) 5 dont' get to go to the wedding (HALF)

**Relatives and friends you would choose to be relatives go to weddings.** So only relatives.

What was missing with the 5 foolish Christians?

Relationship with the Father.

## Appendix.

Words from 2 Cor 5:17

New (kainos) freshness-not related to age, not new in time or recent. Of that which is unaccustomed or unused, as to form or quality, different nature from what is contrasted as old. The believer being a new creation is to behave himself consistently with this in contrast to his former manner of life.

Creature (ktisis) Original formation, thru the idea of proprietorship of the manufacturer- to fabricate, found, make, create. The act of creating. The creative act in progress- what the believer is in Christ, in consequence of the creative act, he has become a new creature.

Passed away (par/erchomai) To come near or aside, to approach or arrive, to go by (or away) perish or neglect. Come (forth), go, pass (away,over). Past, transgress – to pass away or perish

Become (ginomai) to cause to be (generate), come into being, arise, be assembled, be brought to pass, continue, be fulfilled, change of condition, state or place (entrance of a new state) to come to pass (effect), to take place.

Old (aechaios, arche, archomai) of things that are old in relation to the new

commencement, original, a beginning, earlier things in relation to present things All (pas) all, any, every, the whole, all manner of, signifies the highest degree.

"There is no limit to the good a person can do if they don't care who gets the credit."