

# All Things Belong to You

by Bryan Anthony

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*A fresh revelation of Jesus Christ is the cure for self-consciousness, the sense of inferiority, and the subtle jealousies that bind us, bringing us liberty to bless and desire good for others.*

**Scripture:** Isaiah 43:10, Romans 12:10, 1 Corinthians 3:3, 1 Corinthians 3:21, Ephesians 4:2

**Topics:** "Supremacy Of Christ", "Spiritual Freedom"

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## Description

Bryan Anthony preaches on the dangers of jealousy and strife among believers, as seen in the Corinthian church, where divisions and comparisons based on human leaders were causing chaos. He emphasizes the need for a deeper revelation of the supremacy of Christ, reminding us that all things belong to us as believers and we belong to Christ, who belongs to God. Anthony highlights how subtle inward jealousy and inferiority can hinder our experience of God's love, leading to bitterness and self-consciousness, but a fresh revelation of Jesus Christ can break these chains and bring freedom and a desire for others' spiritual prosperity.

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## Transcript

"... you are still fleshly. For since there is jealousy and strife among you, are you not fleshly, and are you not walking like mere men?" -1 Cor. 3.3

Paul received word from a messenger that there were all kinds of divisions and unhealthy comparisons seething in the church at Corinth. The schisms were rampant, and men were identifying with different apostles as their source, thinking themselves more spiritual because of that supposed identification. Some were even naive enough to make themselves superior to all the others because they were "of Jesus" Himself, hoping perhaps that this would put them in a more spiritual category than all!

All of this jealousy and comparison stems from an inadequate revelation of the supremacy of Christ, and the fact that in Him we have all been justified and "accepted in the Beloved." We need oft to be reminded that His kingdom is not of this world. Paul went on to address this foolishness by declaring:

"So then let no one boast in men. For all things belong to you, whether Paul or Apollos or Cephas or the world or life or death or things present or things to come; all things belong to you, and you belong to Christ; and Christ belongs to God." (vv. 21-23)

The jealousy and strife that most believers deal with is not the overt kind we see in the Corinthian church, though even that is all too common today. The jealousy most saints are gripped and paralyzed by is more subtle and inward. We see someone in a more esteemed position than ourselves and we are gripped with a sense of inferiority. We hear of men who do great exploits, exploits of the kind that we've never come close to experiencing, and immediately we are seized with insecurity and depressions.

This is a pitiful state to live in, yet because of its subtlety most believers are fixed in a place where the inner-man is walled in on every side, kept from the experience of the love of God, and set into a mode of dullness. Insecurity and the sense of inferiority give way to poisonous lies, and before we know it, we are harboring secret bitternesses toward others, though they have done nothing to offend or injure us. The only cure for self-consciousness, the sense of inferiority, and the subtle jealousies that bind is a fresh revelation of Jesus Christ, who is the Head of the Church, which is His Body.

When at once we realize that "all things" and all believers belong to us, that they are gifts to us, our eyes are removed from our own plight and brought into an awareness of the marvelous generosity of God. When we realize that He is coming with recompense and reward, and that His glory and light will permeate the entire cosmos, what is a little petty comparison? When we see His glory and majesty, these jealousies are exposed as demonic and anti-christ. When we are washed thoroughly in mind and heart by the revelation of Christ, all things are made new. We have liberty to bless all men, even if we differ with them, and to have an authentic desire for their spirits to prosper. After all, we "belong to Christ; and Christ belongs to God." Is there any greater identification than that?

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