

Going on to Perfection

by G.W. North

G.W. North emphasizes the importance of humility, personal experience, and the Holy Spirit's guidance in the journey toward spiritual perfection.

Duration: 1:22:49

Topics: "Perfection"

Description

In this sermon, the preacher emphasizes the importance of preaching the word of God in season and out of season. He explains that the word of God is the instantaneous and spontaneous message that comes from the Holy Spirit. The preacher also highlights the need to continue in the teachings of the holy scriptures, which are able to make one wise unto salvation. He concludes by reminding the listeners that God will judge the living and the dead at his appearing and his kingdom, and encourages them to strive for perfection in their faith.

Transcript

...of that nature, these are the kinds of words that are used. You presume to speak about things that you don't know, by real experience. And people think, perhaps because they've sort of got saved, and have had an experience called the baptism in the spirit, that that immediately qualifies them to make great big statements about all sorts of things.

But, Larry, one of the things we have to discover, is the greatest thing of all, is to walk in complete humility. I can remember the days, for instance, when I used to make great big pronouncements upon people that spoke in tongues, you see, because I had an experience of the Holy Ghost along the lines of holiness, you see. I've learned what a stupid man I was.

I was a young man, you see. And I can remember all sorts of things like that. I thought it qualified me, because I had a certain experience along a certain line, that it qualified me to speak as though I knew it all.

I wonder if you've ever suffered from that. And, of course, it's worst of all if you really think you know, because you've been taught by professors or lecturers, you're worse of all. Or if you've got a mind that can put two and two together in the Bible, you think you'll know everything then, you see.

But, oh, how God has to come and just teach you that you don't know anything and you're not qualified to speak on anything unless you have been through that precise and exact experience. You're not qualified

to do so. For instance, if you're saved, if you know you've had a tremendous conversion and the Lord Jesus Christ has changed your life, then you're qualified to say so.

It doesn't make you a great pronouncer upon the Second Coming, for instance, which you're supposed to take up within the next breath and say, well, we're all looking for Jesus to come, you see. That's the sort of slogan. Well, we are, praise God.

But it doesn't qualify you to make statements about the man of sin and the ninth chapter of Daniel or something like that, because you've been saved. You've got the idea, have you? That's right. And it's a wonderful thing, beloved, to learn of the Lord Jesus Christ and to grow up into him.

Let him be your teacher. The Holy Ghost has come to lead you into all truth. You understand that? And because he's come, you mustn't think you're immediately in it.

He's going to lead you into all truth, and I beg of you, especially you young people, or if you're an old person who's got very set and very hard and dogmatic, I beg of you to let the Holy Ghost lead you into the truth. Let him lead you. Don't read up books and then make pronouncements upon it.

That's the last thing to do, because the Holy Ghost isn't a book. He's a person, and he has come personally to involve himself in you, in your nature, in your mentality, in everything. Because he's made a great big basic change, you mustn't think that you've got through yet to all these great things in which he alone is the qualified and given leader.

He's come to lead you into all truth. This has come more particularly to my mind because today I picked up a magazine and saw an article written by a certain man, and I said to a dear brother of mine, who was really a shanty, Praise God! Dear brother, so-and-so has come to the revelation. Now, I've known this dear brother for, oh, twenty years, I suppose.

You see? And at last, you have to wait till the Lord gives you a revelation. You see? But what you have, rejoice in. What you have, glory in.

What you have, if you know that the Lord has come and altered you when you used to be a vile-tempered person and made you the sweetest person down your road or in your church, that's the thing to talk about, but don't presume to think you know all about the gifts of the Spirit, or something like that, you see. This is a great fallacy among us. I don't know why in the world I'm talking like this, but anyway, let's go on, shall we? This is a great fallacy among us.

I don't mean just us here, but as a people of God, people presume to speak on things of which they have not a clue. Let me give you an illustration of this. How many of you have Schofield Bibles in your hand? I'm not running down particular editions of Bibles, or in your lap.

Now, somebody brought me a Schofield Bible. I don't know how long ago it was, and I wouldn't be kind perhaps to think back. How long would it be? I don't know whether my wife could tell me it was before we were married.

Anyway, I won't tell you how long we've been married, but we've been married quite a while. And I remember when I got this Schofield Bible, ooh, I used to get down with the Schofield Bible, and I found that Dr. Schofield said some wonderful things on so many wonderful subjects. And you're not surprised because I could believe what he said, for instance, about redemption.

Give you the Greek word used for redemption. I can remember them now. This is how clearly they went in my mind.

I haven't read a Schofield Bible, I suppose, ooh, I suppose it must be nearly 20 years. I can remember them now, his usages of the words, and things that he said, and great comments. And he was wonderful.

But when he got to speaking about the gifts of the Spirit, he talked about the back of his neck. He didn't know anything about that, you see. But he was presuming to put footnotes in his Bible, and that has a worldwide publication on these great subjects, you see.

There is an illustration of a world-famous Bible teacher whose edition of the Bible is throughout the world, but he didn't know. He knows now, of course. But he didn't then.

If he'd have waited, he might have got let in. But you see, once you've committed yourself to make statements, it's been published, it's the hardest thing in the world to reject. I remember an old elder once, when I went to Bradford, some of you have heard me talk about him.

People were pressing me to publish and do all sorts of things. He used to say to me, don't you be in too big a hurry to rush into print, my brother. Don't you be in too big a hurry.

Homer, the great Homer, I'm going back, perhaps a long time, for any wee verse or form. He said it took 20 years to write a book. Some of us think we can do it in 20 minutes, or at least 20 weeks somewhere, in a nice quiet caravan, or something like that, and we could do it.

Can you see it? He said it took 20 years to write a book. My word. It doesn't mean to spread over 20 years, but 20 years' experience of life.

Beloved. And oh how we do need the Lord to lead us on into all truth. Do you? Do you feel you do? Do you feel that somehow you're really only at the beginning of things? It's great to feel there.

Would it be terrible if we thought we were there and there's nothing more to go on to? We all say, oh, we got it. We've all got it. Well, we'll pronounce the benediction and go home.

What's the use of us coming together? It's no good being here together, beloved, if we all feel we've got it. Now we can all say we've got him. Can we? Got him.

He's going to lead us on and on and on, and we're going to learn of him. Not just store our heads up with it, but store our life. Take it in with a great eating of the inner man, and that's how it gets stored up.

Food gets stored up in me, but if you cut me open now, I don't suppose I've got much. I had quite a good lunch, haven't I? An hour or so ago. I don't suppose I've got a lot of food stored up in me.

How does it get stored up in me? Why? In tissue and muscle and not a lot of that now. Energy. Things like this.

This is how it all gets stored up. It gets transformed. It's changed across by the process of breaking down and burning up and absorption and all the kinds of actions that go on inside.

And this is how it is. We go on, and you're not storing anything up, beloved, if you're not growing. You may think you are, but you're not.

This is a very, very important thing for us to understand. It's stored not in cupboards or in tins or in deep freezers or anything like that. It is stored only in the present, in the moment.

It's stored now, so I can give it out in all sorts of ways. And this is what the Lord wants us to understand. Food becomes stored up, and then we talk about it as power.

Is that right? Energy. It's changed its name, you see. Once it was food, now it's power.

Isn't it? Perhaps you're beginning to see daylight in terms that are used in the Bible then. And how God can speak of eating food and then in other words speaks of power. Same thing another way.

Hallelujah. And so we go on with the Lord in these tremendous ways. Now we're here, beloved, to join with one another and minister to one another and build up one another and to go on in the great things of God.

And supposing I said to you, how many of you this afternoon have ever had a real personal revelation from God? I didn't say a vision or anything like that. Or a dream, necessarily. May come either of those ways.

But any of you have ever had a real personal revelation of God to your whole inward man? You see it? The sort of thing that makes you say, yes, I could see it. And not only just with the joy of shouting out that you could see it, that could be light, but the inward understanding of it, the impress on your whole being with the great altering power that it brings into the life. When you get a revelation, you can't be the same anymore.

A revelation changes a man. Changes him. Glory be to God.

And you're to go on in this great life and let the Lord teach you. Supposing, for instance, I said to you, how many of us here this afternoon are converted? Really, truly converted? And what would you mean? What would you understand by that? And then I said, alright, then if you're converted, how many of you know what it is to be baptised in the Holy Ghost? Something more. Then I said to you, well, how many of you know what it is to be walking in entire sanctification of the Spirit? You say, aren't they synonymous terms? No, no, no.

You couldn't have been baptised in the Holy Ghost and not be entirely sanctified today. That could have happened to you ten years ago. It was a great qualifying and initiating factor.

I don't mean to say you are now. How many of you are moving in the powers and ministries of the Spirit? How many of you are going on into all this great fullness of God in your life? And so you see, there's a long way from conversion to that. Let's have a look in our Bibles.

Let's go into 2 Timothy, for instance. In the second letter of Paul to Timothy, now many of you with whom I have had some long acquaintance, seem to have seen in these meetings or other meetings or other places, stayed in your homes or known you, you will have heard me say this many times, I'm sure, or at least at the odd time, if not many times, that the chapter and verse divisions of the Bible are not of God. That is, they were not inspired by the Holy Spirit at all.

And the best thing you could do with them is ignore them. When you are reading through a book, they are only useful for reference. That's the whole purpose of them.

It isn't to say, well, this is the place where the whole thought is divided and another chapter starts. You must never, never think that when you are reading the Bible. You might do that with somebody else's book, but not with God's book, because God didn't write it that way.

So that when you read the fourth chapter and it starts like this, I charge thee, therefore, before God and the Lord Jesus Christ, who shall judge the quick and the dead at his appearing and his kingdom, preach the word. Be instant, in season, out of season. That's right, you're always to be in season.

That's what he means. The seasonal word is the instantaneous word, the spontaneous word, the thing that's moving from the life within by the Holy Ghost. You're to be in season when everybody says it's out of season.

Hallelujah. That's great. This is what the Lord Jesus said, you will remember, to the disciples when they came back in John chapter 4. He said, say not ye there are yet four months and then cometh the harvest.

It's not the season. He said, well, I say, look up on the day you are, they're white already at the harvest, in season, out of season. That's the great truth.

They're white already. If you wait four months, you will have lost it. What the eye of the Lord sees, what the Spirit of the Lord is moving to, beloved, is the thing that really counts.

But I don't want at the moment to read on down to that chapter. I want to make the connection that we have in the first verse. It says in that first verse that the Lord is going to judge the quick and the dead at his appearing and his kingdom.

Now, you will know that that word quick is the old English word which means the living, those that are alive. And it could be those that are asleep at his coming. It's the same thought as you have in Thessalonians.

You know, those that are alive and remain until the coming of the Lord are those that sleep in Jesus. In fact, it is absolutely right. That's your real reference.

It isn't to do with the great white throat judgment when God is going to send those to hell that have to go and gather into his kingdom those that are going to be there. It is to do in relationship to the great kingdom, with relationship to the Lord Jesus Christ's kingdom. And when you see this thing, you must read back at the end of the preceding chapter.

It says this, verse 13, evil men and seducers shall wax worse and worse, deceiving and being deceived. But continue thou in the things which thou hast learned, and hast been assured of, knowing of whom thou hast learned them, and that from a child thou hast known the holy scriptures, which are able to make thee wise unto salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus. All scripture is given by inspiration of God and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness, that the man of God may be perfect, truly furnished unto all good works.

And then comes the charge with the reminder that God, this blessed Lord, the Lord Jesus Christ, is going to judge the living and the dead at his appearing, his kingdom. And it's in connection with this great truth that men of God should be perfect. All right? Now you see the harm that the chapter division has done if you don't read on.

I wonder how many of us realize here this afternoon. Remember what I said a little earlier about going on the truth. You have a conversion.

Oh, tragedy of tragedies. If we only want secretly in our hearts to use Jesus Christ as an escape from hell and not really go on to be what Jesus Christ wants us to be. It's like lying to him even in our conversion.

It's like trying to deceive him even whilst we're calling on him for his grace. It's like being consumed with an all selfish motive because we don't want to suffer. Trying to use his suffering and pain and death and yet not caring whether he does suffer anymore about not achieving his purposes and rights and all that he deserves in Calvary, through Calvary.

You see? The man of God, verse 17 of chapter 3, may be, praise God, may be perfect, truly furnished, absolutely equipped unto every good work. This is the way Paul brings this great Timothy as far as here before he leaves him. If you look at the opening verse, for instance, of the epistle, of the opening verses, he speaks and he says in his mind, by his spirit, going back to the time of Timothy's conversion, you see? Going back to Timothy's mother and Timothy's grandmother and all that, going back to the beginnings of things.

Paul knew them all very well. But, oh, beloved, the tragedy if having preached to this man, this young man, if having taken this young man on, if having written to him, if having shown him all things, because you remember this is the sort of thing that he says, this young man does not go on to become the perfect man in Christ that he can be and ought to be. And by God's grace, you may be.

And in the final judgments, beloved, in his kingdom, when the Lord Jesus comes back, it is on such things as this that we shall be judged. Do you realize that? Oh, I would dearly love to think that in your heart this afternoon and for the rest of your life, this knowledge had come that the Lord Jesus Christ is really coming back again. And he is going to move in his own kingdom and among a people over whom he considers he has total rights.

Now I know that in the providential care of the whole world and in the fact that he is God, he has rights with all men, whether they want to call themselves atheists or Taoists or Confucianists or Buddhists or Communists or any otherists or whatever they may be. He has right with all for he is God. But where his kingdom is concerned, beloved, so far as we are concerned, he considers that you and me, we are so entirely his, so much is that it is all beyond even words to express it.

You see, we are his by blood and love. We are his by nature. We are his by something entirely different.

And when he moves toward us, when he thinks upon us here, as we are gathered here this afternoon, he considers and if he was to become talkative in our midst in that he should silence every other voice and speak himself. These are the sorts of things that he would say. You are mine and so much mine that he cannot think of us in any other ways than that because we are his we may and ought and if love be our motive and our real union then nothing in the world will be allowed to come between us and the ambitions of Jesus in us.

Then we ought to be 100% the kind of man that Paul means when he says the man of God should be perfect, truly furnished unto all good works. Praise his wonderful name. Do you believe that? Now I'm not asking you whether you believe it's possible and that it can be that you could be thoroughly furnished unto all good works.

And there's a lot of this kind of idea going about today. You see, the needs of others are so preached and brought forward. There's the need of the heathen, there's the need of the world, there's the need of the sick, there's the need of the drug addict, there's the need of the devil possessed, there's the need of all this.

You see, there's great exhortation going on all over the place and we're being told there is equipment and this, that and the other and oh, it's all so tremendous and so real. But that's not what I'm asking you because this can, in the end, become a little heavy. This can be that I can have these gifts and I can have these powers and I can have these ministers and it's so good and it's so true that we suffer from its very truth under wrong emphasis and pushing the thing too far.

That's not exactly what I'm meaning. But what I ask, what I'm really meaning is do you believe personally that you ought to be that? And can and may be that? Or are you content to think oh if I take this lowly place you think that I'm going to oh God help me oh you see all the rest of your life and how long dare you think you're going to live. It's to see this great thing in the heart of Jesus that's the great secret of it, beloved.

To see and know this. Oh well there's no strain and struggle in the kingdom of God. There's no such thing as emulation.

There's no such thing as one getting in front of another or vying for position or getting something more than my brother or my sister has. This is all foreign to God. It has no place or part in his kingdom.

But oh beloved there ought to be in every one of us a deep, deep urge that matches a longing of like calibre inside us. That we should be everything that my Jesus wants us to be. That's the way you should be.

Everything Lord I only want to please thee. That is all. I want to be everything that you want me to be.

This is the great urge and longing that ought to be in every heart. And so you see this is really what's behind it all. When you read such a phrase as the first verse of the fourth chapter where it speaks of his kingdom.

The kingdom of the Lord Jesus Christ. Praise the Lord. You know beloved that there is going to be a glorious appearing of that kingdom.

It's all going to appear one day. But it's what the thing is now in its invisible sense. No less real because it's invisible.

In fact this is laid upon us by the Spirit more urgently from heaven. That it's because it's invisible we've got to live and make it the more real. Because men cannot see it.

Because at the moment it isn't in all its pattern I suppose some of you may have used the television during the week to see this investiture of the prince. One of the times I think television might have some proper use. But to see this investiture of the prince and I suppose I don't know I didn't even in that time even read the papers about it.

Leave alone anything else. I expect it was filled with pomp and pageantry and I suppose all the best commentators in England were here to describe it and all the best cameras to photograph it and all the

best I suppose it was a marvellous occasion. I suppose it was.

I don't know about that. But you see beloved that's something that people can see and enter into in dimensions that they can understand. But you know beloved in this great kingdom of the Lord Jesus Christ people cannot see this and it is not apparent to men and women.

All the more then and let God work this into the fibre of my being and make it so real in me. All the more reason then why we who are his have got to be 100% sent out for the revelation and demonstration of this great kingdom of the Lord Jesus Christ. All the more reason beloved.

I see it ever so much more clearly the older I get and this I will tell you young people and I'm not the oldest one here let them speak up and say if I'm wrong. But this you can be sure of as you get older and time is slipping away from you so fast you hardly think it when you're 20 and 30 or perhaps 40 but I won't I'd better go too much but there it is. You will begin to see this much more clearly let me assure you who in spirit at least wants to be thought young if not in body.

Let me assure you that you will see that you can't live another minute unless it be 100% for the Lord you will see that. I hear young people saying it and it thrills my heart when they say they want to be all all out for Jesus but I'll tell you this that by the time you're getting on even as old as I am you will see that there's nothing at all nothing in life at all except to fill every moment up with this to live for Jesus absolutely live for him.

Let's go back let's have a look in the gospel according to John in John chapter 18 you remember it's the great chapter that tells us of the Lord's trial and he in this 18th chapter you read a verse like this Jesus is answering Pilate in verse 36 he says my kingdom is not of this world if my kingdom were of this world then would my servants fight I don't want to over stress this but it was on that that I became a conscientious objector in the last war he said if my kingdom were this world that chap north would fight but as it wasn't I didn't that ended that hallelujah because I had other verses beside that but still that was one of the greatest things I saw in the scripture my servants would fight that I should not be delivered to the Jews but no is my kingdom not from hence there it is

art thou a king then says Pilate in the next verse he said thou sayest that I am a king hallelujah Jesus listened to Pilate's heart not to his words Pilate's heart was confessing that he was a king he'd never met anybody like Jesus he was greater than Caesar and Pilate knew it I'm listening to your heart man you're saying one thing with your mouth you're asking questions appearing to want to know but I'm listening to your heart you're saying I'm a king now my beloved if your questions and mouth talk doesn't say what your heart's saying see where you stand with Jesus you're saying I'm a king even whilst you're asking questions you've done that haven't you when you've really known you've asked questions and all the time you've known am I right or wrong right you see we generally all go this

way good job Jesus listens to our heart praise the name of the lord but what if he's been listening to your heart all day today what's he heard this is the important thing glory be to the name of the lord Jesus says my kingdom isn't of this world tis not of this world then hallelujah that's great isn't it his kingdom isn't here at all and when you think of it this way let's go on into the crinted letter let's trace through some of these great scriptures of truth in the wonderful resurrection chapter the fifteenth you'll find him saying 1 corinthians 15 he says this verse 24 then come at the end when he, that is Christ shall have delivered up the kingdom to god even the father when he shall have put down all rule and all authority and power praise god there's going to be a time when Christ

is going to deliver up the kingdom to god the father praise god and you must understand when you read these great truths, for instance I understand in a certain magazine I must confess I shall have to tell my brother when I see him face to face, I haven't read his articles there are a series of articles going on about the kingdom of god and the kingdom of heaven you'll have to understand beloved very very clearly that these are all aspects of one great thing the kingdom of god being the greatest of all greater than the kingdom of heaven and greater than the kingdom of Christ here is an exhibition they're all phases of demonstrations of manifestations on in certain time and in eternity of the one great kingdom of god and there's going to be a time beloved when the lord Jesus Christ is

going to hand up the kingdom to the father in this meanwhile the kingdom of god is under the dominion of the lord Jesus Christ it's in his hands and it's under his authority and he is working in it hallelujah when the time's alright you can read all about it in your bibles that's what you've got bibles for so that you shouldn't become lazy people who have to depend on other people you should read them yourselves keep on reading them until you understand them that's the way and when the lord is there be able to hand it right over to his father it's all going to be complete then it's going to be god that's all in all not say the father all in all or even Jesus all in all or the holy ghost all in all see it's not a person or personality or a personal thing in the end it's just god that's

father and son and holy ghost father left it all to Jesus knowing that all things were in his hands you got that you remember that john chapter 13 he's going to hand it all back to the father it's all going to be so wonderfully complete he's not going to let it out of his hands until everything is finished according to the cry that he shouted on the cross finished and john later in the revelation looking on through time hears it in the 21st chapter it is done that's right it's all done glory and everything in time beloved is going to be brought into line with this tremendous thing Jesus is going to hand it all over to the father but before that this that we read of in timothy will have taken place according to the standard of perfect manhood and complete ability and equipment to tackle

every good work that god wants done this is the standard of judgment according to of course for those of us who have been born again long enough to have got to this place if you've only been born again last night and the lord's coming tonight that's all right it's according to the measure of light revelation grace power and ministry that you've received amen that's always the standard blessed be his name he's very very fair as well as very very loving and very very glorious let's go on again let's understand this Ephesians we'll look in here in the fifth chapter of Ephesians and the first verse for instance gives you a clue it says be a follower of god if you are a dear child are you a dear child eh you're really a dear child are you that is if I could really see you in your spiritual

life and size and shape and looks I would want to cover you and say you're a dear child glory yeah I know you don't come and kick me don't you see are you a dear child now according to the price that was paid for you you're very dear most expensive according to the agony that was suffered to bring you forth to life in the spirit you're a dear dear child for who can measure in these realms and who can keep the account of God's expenses and expenditure along this line who can praise him that he writes and calls me a dear child hallelujah of course what we like to do assuming that everybody likes to do the same things that we do we like to take a verse like that and just start preaching about it as dear children you see but if you go back you'll see what he calls a dear child you look in

verse 17 of chapter 3 Christ dwelling in your hearts by faith you absolutely rooted and grounded in love able to comprehend with all the saints what the length and breadth and depth and height talk about a dear

child that's the one to cuddle to my bosom oh this one that understands rooted and grounded in love with Christ dear there rooted and grounded in the inward Christ the man of love the manifestation of utter perfection grounded in not grounded in the things out there not rooted in the world not got its roots back in some awful thing of past heredity and nasty tempers and old ways of going on and selfishness rooted and grounded in him who's come to be the inward life and absolutely moving on in this one way what a dear child glory be to God and you're going to follow him you see and

you get let's go on then in the fifth chapter in the fifth verse you know this that no whoremonger nor unclean person nor covetous man who is an idolater hath any inheritance in the kingdom of Christ and of God now let no man deceive you words can be very vain my beloved there can be a lot of empty pratings about this but you must not be deceived nobody that lives like this nobody who has all this basic inward nature unchanged within them that loves to run after an idol and make an idol of this or of that or of the other I met a lady the other day a dear lady I'd never seen her before and I don't know whether I shall ever see her since she was in terrible distress yes she told me she'd been a former baptist and and how God had met her and she'd been baptised in the spirit under the

ministry of a precious brother with whom I was talking to her at that moment and things were going on and she was the sweetest soul you could ever imagine and I'm not at all being funny this is absolutely right she was the sweetest soul she was gentle in everything when I got down to the room of her she had a complete breakdown she'd got an idol I'll tell you what her idol was she wasn't mine she'll hear this tape sometime probably somebody had said you're getting old my dear you ought to save up for your old age a little bit that was her idol she'd come off Jesus she'd come off him she got her foot right she let it go and glory she was transformed on her own setting but she was having lip reams you see you wouldn't have thought saving up for your old age was covetousness would you that's

prudence surely especially if you're a Scot that's being canny what's old age what is old age have I got any I'm getting on for 60 I'm a few years off yet but still never mind I mean when does old age start what now when you're 100 when does it start old age some people would think it had started middle 50s wouldn't they ought to get ready for it I mean it's this myth you see alright never mind what I'm trying to say is this what God wants us to understand my beloved and this is the tragedy if you have been deeply in love with Jesus if you have been baptised and integrated and brought into this wonderful life with him if you shift off if you're one of these wonderful sweet close lovers and you shift off on the nth degree you'll be in trouble and all these 50 years of loving Jesus and

following him doesn't that count it isn't a matter of counting beloved it's the hungry heart of Jesus disappointed you see this is it and any depression or revulsion will come into somewhat of a measure and what an infinitesimally small measure it is of the disappointment in the heart of Jesus you, he wants you beloved to be the fulfillment of his dearest hopes that's what he wants that doesn't puff you up does it it humbles you I should think glory what a wonder good nobody like this has any inheritance in the kingdom of Christ and of God these of course have never been in it isn't that they've been in and lost the highest rewards but they just aren't there the kingdom of Christ beloved is such a wonderful kingdom are you in it let's take it a step further shall we let's go into the

Colossian letter in the first chapter it says this 13 who hath delivered us this is the father hath delivered us from the power of darkness and hath translated us into the kingdom of the son of his love of his dear son praise ever so many people are waiting for the translation I've been translated this is the thing he has translated us glory glory glory has that happened to you a translation an absolutely wonderful miracle has

taken place inside that's happened to you has it now this is what father says you see this is what the father has done and see if we go a little higher it says in verse 12 we're to be giving thanks unto the father which hath made us meet to be partakers of the inheritance of the saints in light who I should think so too being translated into the kingdom of the son

of his love that's where the inheritance of the saints is now we're coming onto this kingdom of Christ you see which way we're coming we'll be there in a moment we're moving through to an understanding of what this kingdom of Christ is beloved in its manifest form the world can't see it's just like Jesus said when he said I'm going to pray the father he's going to give you another comforter whom the world cannot receive because it doesn't see him you see the world doesn't see the Holy Ghost and the world doesn't see this kingdom so out of the great desire in the hearts of men comes forth a man named Hans Anderson and the brothers Grimm and they start to tell the fairy stories and they start to spin up this wonderful imaginative and imaginary thing but you know all that fiction is

bounded somewhere on perverted fact on fallen man it's come out of the perversion and twist and fall there's something in each one of us yet that sin has not been entirely able to erase but has inverted it perverted it turned it upside down the image of God has not been erased it's been perverted and twisted that's the thing you've got to understand this and it's out of this that all the fantasies grow sin trying to get into the kingdom of perfection and purity this is right this is where all the unrelated fantasies come from the psychiatrists like to move around all comes from this all a lot of it given the wrong emphasis pushed along the wrong line mostly among young people the sexual line where Freud comes in but glory be to the name of the Lord our Lord Jesus Christ has come and in

him there's a kingdom and the kingdom of Christ is going to have a glorious outward reality but at this moment it is the inward state of perfection and glory of the manhood of the King the glory of his unfallen nature the glory of his wonderful life that's his kingdom that the world can't see and for that state God is going to create a great outward kingdom it's all going to be seen one day but at the moment beloved it's all inward and you and I must know this beloved this is the inheritance of the saints in light.

Light isn't a place where light is light is a person I am the light here it is says Jesus see this is what was behind all he said you can have no part dark at all nothing dark poor devil he hasn't got a chance has he?

I mean pity you see no part dark is a marvellous thing you see Father of course you see we always like to say it's Jesus that has done it but this scripture is very clear it says it's God the Father God the Father has delivered us from the power of darkness and have translated us into the kingdom of the son of his love and you know when Jesus walked on this earth beloved he walked as a king in his kingdom so I said when he stood before Pilate he said you're saying I'm a king he said thou sayest that I'm a king praise God he understands what hearts say when people say this man doesn't go down does he? this man doesn't get defeated does he? this man isn't always under oppressions the enemy this man isn't always falling and having to get up again is he? they're saying you're a king this man

isn't being gotten down by circumstance is he? this man's not useless and laid aside and feels he's no good no they're saying you're a king that's what they're saying no they don't say that anyway kings are very unpopular today even the monarchy is only an institution men prefer dictators it means ruthlessness rottenness expression of the evil principle the hard harsh thing inside it gives better expression to it we'll do away with kings don't you see this is the evolution of sin within that will destroy monarchy that's why we're all being taught evolution because people are following out the sin line at least we're not all being

taught evolution are we? not all of us hallelujah we won't be taught it praise God we know what God is doing God opens eyes to see and understand we may move in

the royal tradition in the way of kings amen and the Lord wants us to see this he's made us meet to be partakers of the inheritance of the saints in life and the inheritance beloved oh I know I know what it is it's him all his inward state all the promised man of God it's my inheritance all the way he thought and felt and acted and reacted and responded all the way of light in his soul all the bearing and forbearing and tenderesses and compassion and understandings and sympathies and overcomings and goings through and accomplishing the will of the Father it's mine that's the inheritance of the saints this is what saints are made of and from and grow up into the rest are shams wouldbes hallelujah there's a blessed verse that the man of God may be perfect not if he keeps trying hard enough

maybe you know or maybe no no not that maybe maybe maybe hallelujah this is the inheritance praise him now isn't this a wonderful thing glory glory to his wonderful name look at the Hebrews lesson now let's just have a marvellous glimpse into this chapter it is a marvellous glimpse and it's a marvellous chapter Hebrews chapter 1 now I want you to notice we've said this so many times let's remind ourselves God wrote this epistle put his name at the beginning and takes full responsibility God alright we go down and you see there's the Father in verse 5 got this you do some reading stop me doing it you got it verse 5 ok we'll go on and under the sun God the Father says under the sun in verse 8 thy throne O God is forever and ever a scepter of righteousness is the scepter of thy kingdom thou

hast loved righteousness and hated iniquity therefore God even thy God I love this let me say this again I find myself saying this a bit lately I love it you understand what it's all about don't you this is the Father calling Jesus his God the Father worships the Son and then in the next verse it's the Son calling the Father his God and the Son worships the Father now you understand about the Godhead who does God worship the Father worships the Son the Son worships the Father isn't it wonderful that's why you've got to live a life of worship see marvellous isn't it alright now let's go on he says thy throne O God and I want to assure you it is O Theos it's not a God that the Jehovah's Witnesses want to come on it's really the God the only one true God and to make sure that it's right

you'll find in the next verse he calls him Lord that is curiously equivalent of the Old Testament Jehovah so the Father's calling Jesus Jehovah that's the name of God I am Jehovah that is my name and my glory I will not give to another I am Jehovah thy Elohim alright do you remember these great quotations from Isaiah I'm quoting okay here you have it this knocks the stuffing all out of the modernists doesn't it they don't have to believe they can't they don't believe you see all their theories are like calendars once they start believing the truth and here beloved we have the glory of this revelation he says to Jesus he says to him Jesus you've loved righteousness now this will tell you whether you're in the kingdom do you love righteousness do you really love righteousness yes you say I

love righteousness you know when Mrs.

Brown my neighbour did so and so and so that was absolutely wrong you know and I I know you're getting wild with your neighbour that's not loving righteousness that's being spiteful that's coming back trying to get your own back trying to justify yourself Jesus never tried to justify himself he came to justify you you've got the wrong principle on which all righteousness works anyway righteousness can only work on the basis of absolutely loving the person that's done you wrong loving them do anything for them I'd come and bleed for you Mrs.

Jones now that's righteousness now you see whether you're in the kingdom you see everything now you've got to understand everything in the kingdom of God works by one thing and one thing only know what it is come on don't be afraid love see faith works by love righteousness works by love everything works by love you've got to understand this if you're out of this you haven't even got a clue you haven't seen it it's only spitefulness you going back to your old nature so you can have a go at your neighbour you see that's all it is and justify yourself in it you wicked sinner get your heart right and stop your nonsense about righteous indignation so many people talk to me about righteous indignation you think everybody got righteous indignation everywhere you go why didn't Jesus get some

righteous indignation and say you've no right to do this to me I'll call for 12 legion of angels one more woman good job you weren't Jesus none of us would have been saved none of us now stop your nonsense stop trying to malign the name of God and be a proper Jesus on the earth how in the world do you think people are going to get saved they can't see this kingdom this is what I'm coming up to they can't see it they haven't got a chance you're expecting them to keep preaching at them and hurling bible texts at them they ought to get saved I'm praying for them now my beloved brothers and sisters try loving them try living like a saint in light try that that's wonderful that's harder than standing on a street corner giving out cracks I can assure you I've tried both done both I trust too

this is the thing oh hallelujah you see and because he loved righteousness and only because he loved righteousness he now has a kingdom of righteousness and the very scepter of that kingdom is righteousness the very scepter of it hallelujah isn't this wonderful oh glory so so glorious isn't it this wonderful scepter of righteousness it only works by love now listen I'll guarantee this when you get to heaven it doesn't matter how unrighteous you've been and how much you deserved everything and on the basis of righteousness it could be proved so and so and so and so I'll guarantee you never you'll never find that Jesus has said one wrong word to the father about you never blamed you see never that's the thing you'll find that's the thing that'll break your heart say well I'm going to be

glorified it'll break your heart first you can't get into glory before your heart's broken and then Jesus will come and wipe your tears away afterwards when he's really got you right so am I going to be put right there my word I should think we are you've got to be put right there now if you won't get put right down here that's the thing you've got to see oh as long as I am going to be put right that's all I won't be lost will I no you you're no beloved you're awful really taking that line awful see it's just self you don't know the terrors I've been through and fears you needn't you can come out of them today if you'll be honest with God you needn't you can get right you can get absolutely inwardly adjusted praise God a marvellous thing what God could do when we'll believe him you

mustn't think that Jesus Christ likes dragging things on in a long drawn out process of about 20 years just for the sadistic pleasure of seeing you gradually come out of utter darkness into just slightly more little bit more ease from this and a little bit more don't bring them out too quick let them struggle through no no that's absolutely foreign to the heart of God and you'll have to repent of that attitude even if you've never thought it and I've put it into words for you then you've got to repent of it and move out of it God's not like that at all it's a kingdom of light and it hasn't got a border of twilight for about a million light years before you get into it light glory see the kingdom the scepter is a scepter of righteousness praise God and he rules there and it's all so

wonderful and God is going to do this great and glorious thing perhaps we'll have to finish very quickly shall we let's move on then in 2 Peter what time's tea brother what time's tea next meeting is 6 o'clock next

meeting is 6 o'clock alright we're alright then aren't we let's go on shall we 2 Peter and in the first chapter this is what it says brethren verse 10 give diligence to make your calling and election sure for if if you do these things you shall never stumble that's your word for so as you do as and if you do these things an entrance shall be ministered unto you abundantly into the everlasting kingdom of our lord and saviour Jesus Christ hallelujah everlasting kingdom you and I are going to be brought into that aren't we it's all going to be ministered into it our calling our

election is all here if you turn over your chapter you'll get say to the last chapter if you turn over your pages the last chapter of 2 Peter and it says this the day of the lord verse 10 will come as a thief in the night in the which the heavens shall pass away with a great noise and the elements shall melt with fervent heat the earth also and the works that are therein shall be burned up seeing then that all these things shall be dissolved that's right put your hand on your Bible it's going to be dissolved if it is in your grip now just dissolve imagine it it's all going to be dissolved think of it alright what manner of persons ought you to be in all holy conversation and godliness looking for and hasting unto the coming of the day of God wherein the heavens being on fire shall be

dissolved and the elements shall melt with fervent heat nevertheless we according to his promise look for new heavens and a newer wherein dwelleth righteousness my beloved make your calling and election sure that's where you've got to live when God is moving in these days as he is toward this great completion new heavens new earth where everything is righteousness there do you long for everything to be righteousness do you you look all around it and you see what's happening corruption the terribleness the works of satan let loose blasphemy upon blasphemy indecency and immorality no fair dealing anywhere I was with a man the other day and you realize I'm out of touch with business things very much these days I seem to be moving I don't know whether this is my own little world but I don't

sort of get into that world so much and he said we passed a firm together he was driving me in his car and he said I knew the manager of that place it's the largest firm of this nature in Europe he might have said in the whole wide world as well he said I knew the manager grand man he said great chap I said all right he said it would be nice to sort of take me around have a look I said well couldn't we then I'm very interested it was something that interested me I said I would like to have a look he said oh you can't now he's left I said why he said the rat race he said he preferred to get out the rat race he would have been at the top he was one of the most brilliant men I suppose along his line in the country I suppose that means in the world but he got out corruption the rat race it's

all corruption it's all corruption it's right it's all wrong now I'm going to ask you this question do you long to see righteousness in your own heart eh dear is everything that you do righteous see if you're going to be thoroughly equipped under every good work I want to tell you beloved that there's nothing good except it's righteous nothing there is none righteous there is none that doeth good because they don't do righteous that's why they can't do good you see all the good works that this world does it's all corrupt Oxfam, Biafran relief hospitals everything it's all corrupt it's all organized and springing from a basis of corruption there's nothing in this world my beloved but that it is corrupt and has come from a corrupt source nothing at all don't get too enthusiastic and lose

yourself in it then will you the principle we're moving to is a great new heaven and a new earth where it's righteous and righteousness in the end shall be seen to be only that quality that flows by the blood of the lamb from the nature of God that's what righteousness is the world did not know righteousness till Jesus came there was a law for righteousness but it was a transcription of the nature of God and at best upon

cold hard stone legal and barren of the true working factor of righteousness and that is love now you and I have got to live here we've got to live here beloved glory are you there in your inward personality are you in this great kingdom of the Lord Jesus Christ he was the king of kings and he moved in this great kingdom of time in relationship to his father but when he

was on the earth he ruled over nothing completely but himself he didn't rule over his disciples the first man I've heard say that don't you go too far he didn't rule over his disciples of course he didn't listen, he said just take John 4 we've already referred to it just take John chapter 4 the woman comes to the Lord Jesus Christ and he deals with her and he goes on, you reap yourself and he turns around to his disciples after he said I sent you to reap but they'd gone in the village to buy bread, they hadn't gone to reap it's there I sent you to reap that whereon you bestowed no labour all they came back was some loaves and ruined his reaping nearly she cleared off as soon as they came he wouldn't ruin her not as he means let me give you another illustration let's go again oh I'd better

stop on too many illustrations but we've got to see it and got to understand it clearly you've got to know what this is all about my beloved do you remember that time when the Lord Jesus fed the five thousand do you remember that and remember he goes up into the mountain after he's dismissed the crowd and he said to his disciples now you go to the other side of the lake and they start to row and he was up there alone in the night he comes out and they were in the midst of the sea toiling and rowing for the wind was contrary to them you see and he starts walking along now listen to the next bit I read this the other day and I thought well really Lord and he was going to pass by them where was he going to pass them by why was he going to pass them by now listen he was moving as it were in

the spiritual body it's a spirit it's a spirit isn't it that is the body that passed through the tomb the body that came into the upper room without the doors being open he was in his body now walking along in that sense why was he going to pass them by what in the world was the matter you know all that happened about it well I'll tell you why just across there there were a crowd of people he'd been across this lake once before in a storm he healed a maniac of gatherers cast devils out of him the maniac had said let me come with you let me come he said no you go home tell your friends and neighbours what good things the Lord has done for you and how he has made me healthy that's what he did he went home and over there they were waiting for him they told him to clear off first time now

they're waiting for him and he was going away and he had to go back and deal with his disciples again you know beloved it's almost a terrible thing when disciples are a drag on you and you and I have got to come through to this place where God has us entirely like he is himself I must confess to you that this is a constant desire of my heart when I lie on a bed or when I sit in a chair or when I kneel on my knees or as I absorb the kingdom beloved is ultimately going to be handed up to the Father and you and I have got to be like the Lord Jesus Christ now we've got to be kings on this earth we've got to be fully equipped, we've got to come to ultimate manhood praise God so that we're not now saying talking so much about Lord thank you for forgiving me in this sense it's Lord Jesus I just

want to be like you don't ever think you've got to get to the place where you say wouldn't it be wonderful if I could say Lord thank you for using me thank you for using me no beloved it's on beyond that it's on beyond that that shows too much preoccupation with yourself thank you for using me using me, you see it's on away living great right out there in the inheritance of the saints in life did Jesus ever say thank you Father for using me thank you for using me thank you for using me Father that's all he'd say all day long it's a life that is this it's a life that's incomplete complete self forgetfulness doesn't come up anymore the

trouble is we're used so seldom so many of us that it's a great big red letter day and we mark it up so it's God no beloved the kingdom of Christ and of God

glory come upon us Lord now that we might move in blissful self forgetfulness and the power of the Holy Ghost gaining momentum by thy Calvary may come upon me and just destroy all self elements and self interests out of me that I can live as God wants me to live for I tell you that wherever you're occupied or preoccupied with yourself that is a flagrant advertisement and a great invitation for the devil to come and get at you so shall the Lord move us all into him all swallowed up in our God Amen now let's pray shall we

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