

Freedom of Spirit - Part 4

by Norman Grubb

The sermon emphasizes understanding our identity as vessels containing Christ, highlighting the importance of aligning ourselves with His spirit rather than relying on our own nature.

Duration: 9:30

Scripture: John 14:6-15, Romans 9:22-23, 1 Corinthians 6:19-20, Colossians 3:11

Topics: "Christian Identity", "Spiritual Freedom"

Description

This sermon delves into the concept of self and the realization that as believers, we are vessels meant to contain Christ within us. It emphasizes the idea that our nature is not our own, but rather a means for God to express Himself through us. The speaker highlights the importance of understanding that we are like containers, expressing the nature of God within us, and the significance of being vessels that contain mercy rather than wrath. The message challenges listeners to recognize that their true identity lies in being vessels for Christ, allowing His nature to manifest through them.

Transcript

The world can't see that because of course the world's got people all messed up, but we can see it. So I got stickers like that. Now I had to move on.

By the way, I'm told I've had an hour. You'd better signal to the doctors at me and let me know. I can't do it when the hour comes.

Pardon? I'm half-deaf, I didn't get that. You can come and signal to me when I stop, wherever you are, I can't see you. Thank you.

Now I want to move on. From him, that self to this self, I'm a self, I must, I'm a self, you're a self, I must be a satisfied self, I must be a living self, it's in the good, a healing self, what about me as a self? So I begun to get the concept of himself as a total self. Yeah, but what about me? What, what's that relation between him and me? So he now turns my attention, his attention to me, and this is where I had to learn a new thing.

At that time, a little scripture came to him, another scripture, Colossians 3 verse 11. It says, the scripture says to the believer, now Christ is all, not has, is all, and in all. Christ is all and in all.

Well, I begun to get little bibs, Christ is all, the power of love. I suddenly said, in all, oh, I see. It doesn't mean I, Norman Grubb, become something.

It means I contain him in all. If he's in me, then all is in me. It doesn't mean I haven't become me.

It means the all is he in me, and I'm a me containing he, containing him. Oh, I said, that's different. That isn't I becoming a better kind of this self coming from me.

It's just self-contained, somebody who is the whole thing. But of course, you only live by when you know the inside you. It must be an inner reality to me, that the real person living here is not I, but Christ, and I'm just a means which he operates.

You have to know a thing inside you. That's why I taught you that you're born again. If you're born again, you know Jesus.

That's why I've not anything to say to you, really, this evening, if you're not born again. What I say will be nonsense to you. If you have stepped in by faith, received him by faith, and faith brings substance, and he's come back and you have consciousness somehow, Jesus is there, and that love of God is in your heart, then I've taught you.

Because then you can get a little bit of what I mean, he, he can give me the all in me. Christ is all in all. And now, what I had to proceed from that, I had to have a new understanding of the human self, and that's our trouble.

Your trouble isn't Christ, it's you. If you're born again, he isn't a trouble, but you're the trouble. It isn't how he fits with you, it's how you fit with him that's a trouble, or don't fit, that's a trouble.

So self's the problem. His self isn't a problem, because we have him, at least by faith, we see what he is. I'm a problem because I'm so changeable, and variable, and seem to feel so much about which is a failure, and defeat, and so on.

I'm the problem. So this is, I have to be solved myself. Don't you have anything to say to me? Find out who you are.

All you are is a container. At that time, Christ is all in all, and then the first illustration he gave me at that time from the Bible, was where three times over the New Testament, we're called vessels. Well, vessels are that old-fashioned word for a pot or a cup.

He says, all you are is the cup, you're not what it contains. A cup of coffee, or if you're a good British, you like tea, a cup of tea. But the point is, it isn't the cup is the means of containing the tea, the important thing isn't the cup, it isn't the carriage of the cup, it's the carriage of the liquid.

What liquid does it make available to you? It's a means by which the liquid's available. All you are is a means by which God's available. You're a vessel.

And I noticed this, that the Bible says you could have an alternative liquid, where it said left vessel. I saw Romans 9 says, you could be a vessel that contains wrath, I think you say wrath, but you can't get it, you don't understand what I mean, wrath, I say. Vessel that contains wrath, or a vessel that contains mercy.

Well, wrath is a part of Satan, mercy is part of Jesus Christ. So either I'm a vessel that's containing a spirit, Satan's spirit, which beautifully is wrath, or I'm a vessel containing Jesus Christ's spirit, Jesus's spirit, which contains mercy. I'm a vessel which is in the vessel.

And do you know what I began to find? I began to find, if I find it all wrong, humans never had a nature of their own. Humans have never had a nature of their own. Humans are marvellously made, they're real selves, they have real capacities, we have all the quantities, like a computer, it's a mental capacity.

Nature is your quantity, what kind of person you are, that's another matter. You've got all your capacities, your emotions, your desires, your appetites, we have God made us, wonderfully made, look what comes out of the brains of man, wonderfully made. Your nature isn't your faculties, your capacities, it's your quality, what kind of person is expressed by you, that's not us.

I never knew that. See, I thought, this is where I began to get things wrong, I thought I ought to be made a more loving person. No, the quality isn't me, the quality is the God in me.

I ought to be more powerful, the power isn't me, the capacities by the power to express itself through me, but the power of the person, the power, the quality is his, the peace is his. I began to find the Bible says humans never had a nature. I got the illustrations together, I found where the Bible says I've got vessels.

Well, we all know John 15, if we're people of God, that's the vine branch chapter. I am the vine, I'm the true vine, you're the branches. I know it's the true, that means there's a false one, but the point is, a branch isn't the nature, is it? It's not the nature of the branch, the branch is the agency in which the vine expresses its nature, it gets its fruit through, it's a branch is the means by which the vine reproduces itself, and there Jesus says you can be one of two vines, you can either be a false vine and produce the wrong fruits, the Satan vine, or you can be Jesus Christ vine and produce the right fruits.

Then I found temples. In the old days when God hadn't, we didn't know our bodies were temples, he made temples like tabernacles. Now the point wasn't the quantity of the tabernacle, it wasn't, is it a magnificent, our false pride can make a magnificent church, that isn't the point, it's the quality of the deity expressed through the temple, which God held in that temple, it's a temple of Satan, it's a temple of Christ, that's what matters, it isn't the nature of the temple, it's the nature of the person who is manifested and glorified in that temple, and then today the Bible says, oh this is your temple, which is it? Are you a temple, a temple of the Holy Spirit, or which spirit are you? Are you a temple of the spirit of Christ, or a temple of the spirit of error, Satan? So one by one, I began to find a new thing to be, you're going wrong, it isn't that humans have a nature, humans don't change, humans are a container, something like a computer.

Now a computer has great capacities, but it only expresses its programmer, it doesn't, it doesn't, it's the stuff it expresses, it's programmer stuff, and it can develop it maybe, it isn't its stuff, it has to be programmed, it can only express what it's programmed. Now that's what we are today, we're like magnificent computers, we're great developers, we're persons, great developers, have a mind and a body itself, but actually we express the nature of the God in us, and then I find that's of course what we're made to be, the simplest evidence of that is there's been one perfect man who came as a man, Jesus Christ, he gave up his godhood to become a man, his son a man, he was number one man, he's our brother, he's marvellous, he's the firstborn of many brethren, the Lord Jesus Christ, so in order to go through and win the battle as us, he had to be one of us, and then take his sins as a man, take his sins upon us, bear our sins and so on. Now I find what did Jesus Christ say as a man? Tremendous self, he said I am the way, I'm the light, I'm the truth, I'm the door, look inside him, oh I don't do anything by myself, only do as he's a

father do, and I don't express any views of my own, as I hear I judge, well where is this person who's, they say, doing the father's will, and then in the supper table, when the spirit was going to come out of him back into us, he was going to die, rise and the Pentecost come back into us, he then said to the disciples, he said he's going, and they thought the father's up here somewhere, in my father's house, in many mansions, so one of them said, father, Jesus, you say you're going to the father, won't you show him to us before you go? You talk too much of your father, you're leaving us like orphans, can't you show him to us? Yes, he said, if you see me, you see the father, he wasn't the father, he's the son, common carpet they're walking about, you see,

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