

Walking With God - Part 4

by Phil Beach Jr.

Walking with God requires patience, and God's end in suffering is to bring us through transitional stages, disentangle us from our religion, and give us a revelation of Christ and his moral perfections.

Duration: 1:06:46

Scripture: Deuteronomy 6:5, Job 19:25, Amos 4:4-6, Matthew 3:17, Romans 5:8, 2 Corinthians 5:17, Galatians 2:20, Ephesians 1:3, James 5:11, 1 Peter 1:23

Topics: "God", "Patience in Trials", "Walking With God"

Description

Phil Beach Jr. emphasizes the importance of walking with God through patience and understanding during trials, drawing parallels with Job's suffering. He explains that God's purpose in our afflictions is to reveal His Son, Jesus Christ, and to disentangle us from our reliance on religion and self-righteousness. The sermon highlights that true Christianity is not about following rules or traditions but about a transformative relationship with Christ, who empowers us to live righteously. Beach encourages believers to seek a deeper revelation of Jesus, which leads to spiritual maturity and a renewed vision of God's glory. Ultimately, he calls for a surrender to the life of Christ as the only means to live a fulfilling Christian life.

Transcript

Our hearts before the Lord Father we thank you so much For your faithfulness We thank you so much Lord for your love and your mercy and your kindness and your grace We pray this morning Lord that you would grant to us a Good measure of the Holy Spirit that the eyes of our heart might be flooded with light Enabling us to see beyond natural sight and help us Lord to see Jesus Help us to see Lord With eyes that have been anointed with eyes sap Lord Help us to see Lord What is eternal and not temporary? What is invisible and not visible? What is Eternal in the heavens and not transitory on earth Help us. Oh God, we pray to see And as we see Lord help us Lord To be transformed into your holy image. We pray father for Jesus sake Amen, I'd like for you if you would to turn your Bibles to Daniel Chapter 4 Would you please hand me that jar Daniel chapter 4, please walking with God part 4 Walking with God part 4 now Last week we learned that When we walk with God God has a goal in view When he calls you and me to walk with him he has a goal he has an end in view We must not lose sight of that goal as we learned last week walking with God in James Chapter 5 we learned Verse number 11 You don't have to turn there, but I'm going to read it James chapter 5 Verse number 11, you know how we Call those blessed or happy Who were steadfast? Who endured now if we go to the verse before Do not complain brethren against one another that you may not be judged Look the judge is standing at the very door as An example of suffering

and ill treatment together with patience brethren take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord as his messengers And so in context it's talking about being patient in suffering being patient in deflection being patient in Difficulty the reason we are called to be patient is because God has something in view and We have to be patient verse number 7 we're Digressing instead of progressing here verse number 7 so be patient Brethren be patient Patience is very very important in walking with God because Without patience We fail to recognize the purpose and Affliction the purpose in suffering and the purpose in trouble This is just a review a brief review of last week.

So be patient brethren as You wait till the coming of the Lord See how the farmer waits expectantly for the precious harvest from the land See how he keeps up his patience Over it until it receives the early and the latter rains So you must also be patient Establish your hearts Strengthen and confirm them in the final Certainty for the coming of the Lord is very near Do not complain Now last week we learned that in the beginning of Job's life He was involved in a religion he was devoted to that religion and Once God initiated the battle remember it was the Lord who initiated the battle with Job. It wasn't Satan When their sons of God or the angels of God came before the Lord The the Bible says the devil also came Satan also came before the Lord and the Lord asked him a question What what have you where have you come from? What are you doing? And the enemy said I've come to and fro throughout all the earth and God said God said Have you considered my servant Job as we learned last week it was God who picked the fight it wasn't the devil and The reason why it's not because God is cruel. It's not because God is unjust It's not because God delights to see us suffer or see us hurt or see us weeping or see us in darkness or see us in pain but as we learned in James chapter 5 verse number 11 You know how we call those blessed who were steadfast and endured and in context He's talking about the prophets who went through horrendous suffering and Job in particular as we'll see was mentioned here Job learned patience through his suffering and It says here You have heard of the endurance or the patience of Job It's referring to the time period in Job's life in Chapter 1 when Job was engaged in his religion and then God initiated a battle with him and Job went through a series of Experiences that resulted in the ultimate blessing the double blessing of Job the patience of Job why why did Job need to be patient because God had a purpose in what he was going through whatever you're going through whatever difficulty whatever affliction whatever trial whatever pain God has a purpose beloved.

He has a purpose and His purpose is a good purpose. It's a lovely purpose and it and his purpose. Let's read this Let's read what the scripture says You have heard of the patience of Job and You have seen the Lord's end Now listen, there's two things that we have to see in walking with God number one Walking with God requires patience during times of affliction and times of testing Walking with God requires patience in times of testing and affliction and trial and disappointment and setback and heartache and dashed hopes and when God Changes our plans we're moving in this direction and all of a sudden we're moving in a direction that we didn't anticipate This will happen to each and every one of us Every one of us will experience us even you young people listen to the Holy Spirit speak How many times you have your heart set on something and mom and dad say no? mom and dad say no that you can't do that and Your will is crossed and your plans are dashed You need patience during that time because God has a reason why he's Frustrating your plans.

God has a reason why he's not letting you do what you want to do and So during these times we have to pray Oh dear Lord Help me to see Jesus Help the eyes of my heart to get over the wound to get over the pain human nature apart from grace Has a tendency when it's hurt and wounded and see if this is not true in your experience Human nature has a tendency when it's hurt and wounded. It has a tendency to Camp

on the wound and to camp on the hurt and to lose sight of everything else and that's when bitterness can begin to set in and and Anger and complaining and the book of James is full of admonitions to these believers not to complain not to speak evil not to grumble but to Come to the Lord and to pray for the patience of Christ to be developed in our life God has an end in view and we learned last week that God's glorious end God's glorious end is always one thing and one thing alone Hallelujah to God God's end is always one thing and that is to give us a greater capacity to see the glory of his Son To see the glory of his Son the lovely one the righteous one the holy one the one in whom God said I am fully Satisfied and please remember that in Matthew chapter 3 at the baptism The dove Descended upon the Sun and a voice from heaven came down Brothers and sisters this voice was never spoken to any other human being never Though men in the past pleased God and though men in the past obtained pleasure by faith in God Hebrews chapter 11 There is only one man whoever fully satisfied the heart of God and his name is Immanuel God with us and you shall call his name Jesus It's that man that God spoke from heaven and said this is my beloved Son in whom I am well pleased and so God's end in Job as Job went through this All these different stages where he was focused on his religion Job's relationship was connected to his religion more than it was his God Job's relationship was connected more to his religion than to his God and This is something that God has to continuously Guard us against He has called us to fellowship with himself and Our fellowship and our communion and our preoccupation must remain with God Knowing God knowing Christ walking with him delighting in him and mirroring his moral perfections God is a very jealous God And he is constantly seeking to keep us Disentangled from the affairs of life from the affairs of our Christian life Disentangled Disentangled we have such a tendency to be entangled But God loves us too much to let us be entangled He has a son who is entirely Disentangled from anything that distracts and that son is at his right hand That is the son in whom he is well pleased and that is the prototype That is the pattern To which we are being conformed When we talk about spiritual maturity and growing up in Christ, it must never turn into a Gaze at what we do as a test of spiritual maturity Spiritual maturity is captured in Christ himself.

It is who he is what he is in his moral perfections and so God's end in Job's trial Was to take Job Who was devoted to his religion? He forgot that his religion was intended not as a means to be righteous before God when God instituted the laws of offering lambs and sheep and pigeons and Spilling the blood of goats it was never intended listen carefully It was never intended to be the means by which a man or woman would be righteous before God Engaging in that religion was never a means to become righteous.

It was a reminder the religion that God instituted that was being practiced by Job and Actually it began all the way in the beginning when Cain and Abel remember Abel offered up The firstborn of his flock and Cain offered up the fruit of the ground and God accepted Abel and rejected Cain Why? because Cain Was less righteous and Abel was more righteous Absolutely, not Cain was not a worse sinner than Abel. That is not why God accepted Abel It's not who's a better and who's a worse sinner That's works. That's human works.

That's weighing my good works and my bad works God accepted Abel according to Hebrews chapter 11 verse 3 because Abel Reminded God by his sacrifice that his faith was in the righteousness of another Even the Son of God and he came to God on the basis and on the merits of another but Cain's sacrifice Had the smell of human effort. It had the smell of human works. It had the smell of human effort It had the smell of look how good I am I'm going to produce the best I can and offer it to God God says I can't accept you if you produce the best you can because the best you can produce is not good enough There's only one righteousness that God can accept and that is the righteousness of his Son and So all of the mystery

of this suffering that Job went through was intended by God and it was governed by purpose the Purpose of God in Job's suffering and the purpose of God in your suffering in my suffering is to bring us through these transitional stages Disentangling us from our religion and it might not be our religion.

It can be anything anything We're entangled in it can even be good and wholesome things It's not necessarily disentangling us from horrible sinful things But it's disentangling us from anything that has gotten too big in our life Anything that has gotten too important Hear O Israel, the Lord thy God is one Lord and thou shalt worship Him with all your heart, mind, strength, and soul Are you being disentangled this morning? Is God disentangling you? Don't despair When we are when we are entangled in something whether it's our Christian religion Whether it's some preoccupation with a dream a hope whatever it is our Relationship is no longer with God, but it's with the thing. We're entangled in young people God loves you too much to let you become entangled and So in his wisdom and in his love and in his divine providence He's going to work in your life to prevent you to become so entangled in things and passions and desires Which have their place, but all how we need to guard against desire How we need to guard against passion how we need to guard against aspiration and ambition God will keep us from becoming so entangled in them that we lose sight of him. This is what happened with Job During this time when God was initiating the battle Job was being disentangled from his Religion his relationship with was with the thing.

He was entangled in and Job's reality was in that that was his reality That's the world that he lived in He he became Disconnected to the reason why God called him to fellowship with him remember the highest good That can be given to a human being is not something It's not a physical blessing the highest good that God can give you is a revelation of himself There's nothing greater It is himself and Thirty years after Paul had met the man in glory in Acts chapter 9 in Philippians chapter 3 What was Paul after? things Absolutely, not a ministry. Absolutely not Paul was that I might know him Paul was continuously obsessed with this insatiable passion to know Christ to Experience Christ to become one with Christ to be disentangled from Saul of Tarsus to be disentangled with that religious man that man that had passion that man that had pride that man that had Oh so much desire to make so much of himself Paul knew his greatest enemy was himself. He knew it and therefore he understood the only remedy The only way he could be rescued from himself was by daily receiving the life of another the Lord Jesus Christ and So here we are God is doing something God's end in Job.

What's God's end? We have here a manhood Job's God's end in Job was Job Progressively getting a revelation of a new a different kind of man a different kind of humanity Brothers and sisters God's end is always that we might see the man in glory and Desire him above what? silver and gold Desire him above anything else So here Job when he was disentangled from his religion Disentangled from the relationship and the reality that he had become involved in with that religion Job began to experience a revival and the first evidences of Job Experiencing the revival is when he began to make the confession. I know that my Redeemer liveth Before that statement Job was so busy defending his integrity He was so busy defending why this and why that O God why this and why that O God? Trying to respond to the accusations and suggestions of his friend But then all of a sudden the eyes of his heart were opened and Job began to take his eyes off of Job and off His friends and he made this incredible confession I know that my Redeemer liveth God's end was beginning to be realized Job's eyes were off his religion. They were off his righteousness They were off his integrity.

They were off his innocence his supposed innocence They were off the ideas of this isn't fair God. How can you let this happen? I've been such a good Christian all Of that stuff began to fade as Job began to

place his faith and hope not in himself or in what he did But he placed it in a living Redeemer That's God's end. God's end is to emancipate us from the captivity of Ourselves so that we can see Christ and claim He is our hope and he is our righteousness and he is all my Joy and he is the reason why I'm living It's Christ.

So Joe Job's revival resulted in a renewed vision and this vision From that statement, I believe it's in Job 19 progressed all the way through until the very end Which is in Job chapter 42 Job chapter 42 Then Job answered the Lord God began to speak to Job in chapters 38 to 41 and Amazingly in chapter 41 God spends an entire chapter talking about what most theologians believe to be a crocodile or something of a of an ancient Reptile that might even be extinct at this time It was it was it was a it was a feared creature that no man Could tame that no man could kill and God was saying to Job. Oh Mankind fears this creature All mankind runs when this creature opens its mouth runs when this creature reveals its strength Not a man will speak against this creature Not a man will try and and and and wrestle with this creature and then God says in Job 41 Then why? Do you Job and others? contend with me because I am the creator of this creature and if you fear this creature and if you fear the strength of this creature and You won't dare Take on this creature. Why do you take me on? Why do you contend with me? Why do you claim innocence before me when I say you're guilty? Why do you claim your own righteousness before me when I say there's none righteous? Why do you hold on to your integrity when I say none has integrity, but my son That was the beginning of the end That Was that was the beginning of the renewed vision and and this is the discourse that God had in Job 41 Can you imagine God coming to us and saying these things? Can you imagine God coming to you and giving you visions of the crocodile or any kind of reptile? That is so fierce and so strong that no man could touch it the teeth the jaws the strength of it and say you Fear that crocodile and you wouldn't dare challenge it.

But yet here you are pointing your finger at me and I created that I'm much greater than that Talk about humbling us and giving us perspective it's in this context as God gives the final death blow to Job and his righteousness and and claiming innocence and holding on to his integrity a Death blow to a certain kind of humanity a sinful humanity that God says can never please me a Sinful humanity that God says can never ever produce enough righteousness to be accepted Have we gotten to that place yet where we've seen there's no good thing that dwells in us Now watch Job's end here. Watch this then then Job answered and said I know Intimate knowledge intimate knowledge listen, this word means intimate knowledge resulting in a submission to that knowledge I Know that you can do everything Now listen here. Most of us would say.

Oh, I already believe that I know God can do anything But what was Job really saying here? Job no longer was making general statements Job was saying here. I know now God that you could do anything including what you want to me It's easy for us to make general statements about God can do anything out there But what about when it comes knocking at our door? God let Job's children be taken from him God let Job's wealth be taken from him. God let Job's reputation be taken from him God let everything that Job had be taken from him and in turn Job God boils That hurt so bad.

He couldn't sleep at night But now Job says God I know now you can do anything Verse 5 I have heard of you by the hearing of the ear All of this hearing by the hearing of the ear Job heard of him when Job was entangled in his religion when Job's relationship was entangled in his religion when Job's reality was entangled but a transition began to happen When when Job began to experience revival by seeing his Redeemer and a renewed vision something began to happen and It he went from hearing by the ear, but now my eye sees you He went from head knowledge To heart revelation and when he went from head knowledge to heart revelation This is the response verse number six wherefore I abhor Myself and repent

in dust and ashes Brothers and sisters, please listen God's end in Job's suffering Was that he would be brought to a renewed vision that Enabled him to see his Redeemer to see his moral Perfections and to abhor himself God's end is to give us a vision of the man Jesus Christ and To see in him all that God has ever been pleased with and to see in him What we desperately need to please God It's not me trying to please God in my own effort. It's the power and transforming grace and mercy of God listen reproducing by the power of regeneration the very moral Perfections of God himself in his son in my life It is not imitation it is not me trying by my own human effort to be like Christ But it is God Reproducing by the power of his spirit the moral Perfections and beauties that are inherent in his son into me Away with Christian religion Away with it. God didn't come to start a religion called Christianity He came to reveal a son in whom he is well pleased he came to reveal a Righteousness not according to the law, but according to faith in Jesus Christ He came to reveal a life Not the Christian trying to live a good Christian life, but the life of the Son of God It is no longer I that liveth but Christ that liveth in me young people listen a Time will come in your life and older people a time will come in our lives when we will Recognize more and more and more that it is not possible to live the Christian life in the strength of human might and power There is only one man who has ever lived the Christian life Successfully and his name is Jesus Christ And it is only through union with him and by faith drawing and receiving of his life Moment by moment that we can live the Christian life.

It is Christ living in me Empowering me and strengthening me that gives me the ability to live the Christian life and that's God's end in Job That's God's end in all the suffering that all of his dear children have gone through he wants us to see That the greatest blessing we could ever receive is a revelation of his son, but not just objectively Paul said God revealed his son first to him and then how in him Galatians chapter 1 Paul was in travail For Galatians chapter 4 verse 19 That Christ might be formed where in the church Paul wanted the Galatians to come to spiritual maturity But he wasn't calling them to work more get busier get involved in more things Paul connected spiritual maturity to the fool the Greek is actually that Christ might fully be formed in you Paul connected spiritual maturity entirely to the outworking of the moral perfections of Jesus Christ in the church plus nothing and so the end in Job's life Was revealing the manhood of Christ It's when Job made the confession. I a poor myself God I give up. I want you.

I want your son That God blessed him and he received double what he had before and As we learned last week the double blessing. It's not about things The double blessing is the blessing of the firstborn The double blessing is Ephesians chapter 1 verse number 3 Blessed be God the father of our Lord Jesus Christ who hath blessed us With all spiritual blessings in The heavenlies in Christ Jesus. Oh How God wants to open up the eyes of our heart enabling us to see the blessing Not of grasping for things Not of looking for titles in this world Not in being able to boast of what we have or who we are or what we think we are But the blessing of Christ Knowing him I'm wondering how many of us go to bed at night with tears rolling down our eyes Because we're so hungry for Jesus We're so hungry for him.

We're so hungry for him There's nothing in this life There's nothing that can satisfy Lord I need you Lord. I need you Lord. There's no hope.

There's no help on earth Lord, I need you And so the end of Job was a revelation of a righteousness a holiness and a life Apart from him in his Redeemer. It was a preview of the revelation of God's righteousness in his son the Lord Jesus Christ and So my question this morning is what is? Christianity Walking with God part 4. What is Christianity is Christianity reforming the old life Is Christianity embracing moral principles? Is Christianity inheriting your parents religion Well, my mom and dad are Christian. So I'm a Christian.

Is that what Christianity is? Is Christianity becoming a member of a church and tithing and being involved in all kinds of activities This Christian is Christianity Trying to live a good life It's Christianity following the teachings of Jesus Christ To all of these questions and emphatic. No, no No, that is not the essential meaning of what Christianity is never never Let's turn our Bibles to Deuteronomy chapter 6 and we'll see a preview in the Old Testament of God's cry God's heart cry Deuteronomy chapter 5 God gives the Ten Commandments To the nation of Israel and the reason why God gave the Ten Commandments to the nation of Israel Because God was trying to show Israel What he was like and what he was not like remember God wanted to reveal a Self-revelation of himself to the nation of Israel and that's what made Israel distinct from all the other nations of the earth All the other nations of the earth served all manner of gods and God said I want Oh, I want to give a revelation of myself and so the Ten Commandments Reveal what God is like? There's no uncleanness in him. There's no darkness in him and After he gives the Ten Commandments chapter 5 verse 27 Go near and hear all that the Lord our God shall say and speak unto us all that the Lord our God shall speak unto thee and we will hear it and do it and the Lord heard The voice of your words when you spoke unto me and the Lord said unto me I have heard the voice of the words of this people which they have spoken unto thee now What's he talking about? They were saying? Oh Listen Moses.

Just get all the words of the Lord and and Listen to all he wants us to do and tell us and we'll do it. We'll do it We'll do whatever God wants. Just tell us God said I heard what they said verse 28 Which they've spoken unto thee They have well said all that they have spoken in verse number 29, then God burst out Oh That there were such a heart in them That they would fear me and keep all my commandments always that it might be well with them and with their children forever oh That there were such a heart in them to do what they said they were going to do Amos Now this is the same people That of course, it's not the identical people it's their children a couple generations down These people Oh God, we've all Moses.

We've seen the Lord appear. We saw the fire We saw the mountain shake we heard his voice. Oh how we feared they said listen Moses You just tell us everything that we need to do and by golly we're going to do it We've got to get delivered from that mentality Because that mentality will set us up to fail over and over again Because the focus of that mentality is the focus of Job's beginning the beginning of his life That's not where our hope is and our health Amos Amos Chapter 4 verse number 4 Amos chapter 4 verse 4 Come to Bethel now.

This is the Prophet is speaking to the northern Kingdom of Israel and he is they were experiencing at this time The greatest prosperity that they had ever known since the days of Solomon In tense prosperity economic Political Unprecedented prosperity Hadn't been seen in the nation since the days of Israel and God raises up this shepherd called Amos to denounce Israel's Severe backsliding and severe Falling away from loving the Lord with all their heart. They were committing all manner of social injustices Now this is a people who back in Deuteronomy chapter 5 their children or their their grandparents or their great Grandparents were saying this just tell us Moses what you want us to do and we'll do it Moses had just told him the Ten Commandments Moses had just said to him God is one God. You shall not serve any other God.

You should honor your father and your mother You shall not commit any form of immorality you shall not steal you shall not covet you shall not murder You shall not lie. You shall not bear false testimony You cannot walk like the other nations walk. You've got to be like me.

I am holy You can't commit adultery because because that kind of act does not live in me you can't lie because I am a God of truth and now a Few generations down the road God is raising up a prophet called Amos and he's rebuking them because this nation had gone Crazy, they were committing all kinds of social injustices. They were robbing the poor They were taking advantage of weak and needy people so they can stuff themselves with Prosperity and walk around with haughtiness and pride They were pleasure seekers. They were constantly Constantly grasping for more and more and more so they can indulge their own sinful desires They didn't understand that when God prospered them It was not so they can hoard more to themselves, but that they can be a blessing to others They lost sight of these things Amos condemned them because they had begun to commit social injustices.

They were pleasure-seeking money mongers Self-indulgent gross idolatry they were serving the gods of the nations that God told them not to serve What about these people who said to Moses just tell us what you want us to do Moses And we'll do it Joe. Just tell us Lord. What happened? What happened? Why did they fail? Why did they fail and why do we fail so often when we say to the Lord? Just let me know what you want Lord and I'll do it and down the road We take a survey six months later a year later and the very thing we've said to the Lord we do we end up not doing We say Lord, I won't serve the gods of this world and then we end up going to bed at night with our thoughts on what? On the Lord no on the gods of this world We say Lord, I'll never cheat I'll never lie Then when we get into a pinch we start thinking about how we can get out of it And it's okay if it's a little dishonest because everyone else is doing it Everyone else is doing it We're no different But I would I would I would be derelict of my duty if in the midst of this I wouldn't say There's hope There's hope But the hope does not lie in the image you see when you look in the mirror And that's what God is after It's not it's not in it's not in your religion It's not in your relationship with that religion and it's not in your present reality You're not going to find hope in your reality, you're not going to find it no matter what you do You're not going to find hope but there's hope and So God is condemning these people because of the gross immorality God even said that the sins of the northern Israel were greater Than the nations that were surrounding them.

Can you imagine that? How broken-hearted God was Now watch this watch this Amos chapter 4 come to Bethel Where there was a golden calf That's why he was saying come to Bethel. There's a golden calf there. There's an idolatry and Transgress at Gilgal Gilgal there were other Shrines to other gods that had been erected Multiply transgression and bring your sacrifices and Offer by the burning a sacrifice of thanksgiving of that which is leavened and proclaim and publish freewill offerings For this you like to do Oh children of Israel.

Oh my god What is God saying to Israel Israel? You know what you like to do you like to maintain an outward religion You'd like to maintain an outward religion where you go to Bethel and you go to Gilgal and you offer Offerings to me, but it's tainted with leaven God's saying that whole outward religion. I want nothing to do with it's an abomination to me verse number six And I will also give you cleanness of teeth cleanness of teeth is a metaphor and that represented famine God was saying I'm going to send a famine. Just look at the heart of God here You're not looking at a God that is necessarily angry as much as he is brokenhearted This is the people that cried out to Moses and said I'll do it.

I'll do it Moses. Whatever you say And here's what God's saying. I'll send you a famine a lack of bread in all your places What does it say? Yet you did not return to me says the Lord Number two and I will withhold the rain So we see famine and now we see what? Drought I withhold the rain.

Why is God doing this? He's trying to get him to come back He's trying to get him to remember what their grandfathers said at the Mount Oh, just tell us what to do God and Moses and we'll do it We'll please you God and here they're not doing it. Something's wrong I'll send drought for three months to the harvest And I caused it to rain upon one city and caused it not to rain upon another One piece of ground was rained upon and another was not and so the people of two or three cities wandered and staggered without water They were not satisfied and yet they did not return to the Lord God says and I will smite you with blight From the poisons of the east wind and with mildew And I laid waste the multitude of your gardens and your vineyards Your fig trees and your olive trees Yet You did not return to me says the Lord And then he says I sent pestilence among you and slew and and and slew the young man with a sword and I took you into exile your horses and made the stench of your Camp upon all your nostrils yet.

You did not return to me says the Lord and I have overthrown some among you as When God overthrew Sodom and Gomorrah and you were as a bram plucked out of the fire yet you did not return to me What was it that God cried out in Deuteronomy 6? Oh that they would have a heart That would keep my commandments And all the dealings of God Israel Did not return To the Lord their God And so brothers and sisters in closing What is the answer what is the hope what is the answer to the dilemma Jesus What is Christianity?

It is not a religion Some notes here that I can't find but that's all right Christianity is not a religion The only hope we have is to recognize That Christianity is a new birth John chapter 3 verse 3 except a man be born again He cannot enter into the kingdom of God First Peter chapter 2 being born again not of corruptible but of incorruptible not of corruptible things but of incorruptible even by the Word of God Titus chapter 3 being renewed Regenerated by the power of the Holy Spirit washed by the blood of Jesus Christ and the Word of God Christianity walking with God has to begin with an impartation of new life But not only does it begin with new life listen closely it has to be sustained and brought to completion by a continual influx of that new life now earlier today I Got a container and I put oil and vinegar in it and you'll notice that the oil and vinegar don't mix Do they even if you shake it up? there's a Temporary what would appear to be mixture, but in a little while you'll find right before your eyes There's an immediate separation Okay an immediate separation oil and vinegar do not mix Amos chapter 3 verse 3 how shall to walk together except they agree How could the nation of Israel walk together With God remember it's God who is calling us remember the beginning of this series The title of this series is called walking with God How can we walk with God if we don't agree with him?

How can we walk with God if there is that which is in him that is Incompatible with what is in us? How could Israel obey the voice of God and do all the commandments that Moses gave them when their hearts? Were incompatible with God How can you or I walk with God if our hearts have not been? Regenerated by the power of the Spirit of God listen every young person here your mom and dad's religion is good And your mom and dad's Christianity is real But you can't live on the basis of what your mom and dad have you can't live on the basis of being a good Christian you have got to pray Oh God give me life in Jesus Christ You need to be born again You need the Spirit of God in your life you need the Spirit of God in your life Brothers and sisters this oil and vinegar is a is a silly illustration to show that we are Incompatible with God in our natural nature You can try as hard as you want to please God you can try you can groom your teeth And you can you can hold your fist down and you can try to be holy and you can try and do what's right You're gonna fail.

You're gonna fail Victory comes not through man trying but man surrendering man surrendering To a Savior who has life in himself that he wants to impart to us And it's that life It's that life of Jesus Christ the

saving life of Jesus Christ not only justifies us as sinners Romans chapter 5 not only enables us to be forgiven But that life of Jesus Christ 2nd Corinthians chapter 5 verse number 17 comes into us and makes us a new creation and As a new creation we have as a new creation We have been given a new life a new righteousness is the righteousness of Christ himself by the power of the Holy Ghost and the only basis of living the Christian life is from faith to faith in receiving moment by moment the saving life of Jesus Christ as I receive it moment by moment I am delivered What I am by nature and Empowered in union with that life to be pleasing to God It's through Jesus Christ through his life Israel's failure the world's failure all religions failure and even our failure as Christians Comes down to one basic fundamental truth We fail to see by faith The saving life of Jesus Christ that is available to us moment by moment and When we fail to see that saving life we turn inward and grasp for the life That is in our own nature to help us and it always fails It always fails us it might it might look good for a while But inevitably the true colors of your life are going to be exposed and it's a horrible revelation But there's hope Because when Job saw the truth about himself He abhorred himself he hated himself, but in that moment he saw his Redeemer and Received his life and so today Walking with God requires a new different life and Once we receive that life It requires a continual living faith So that moment by moment we may continuously receive more and more and more of the saving life of Jesus Christ the Galatian error They started out believing in new life and Then they thought they were going to become perfected by human effort.

That's the Galatian error They started out Seeing the life of Jesus as their hope and then they got entangled in their religion entangled in their works Entangled with pride and arrogance they forgot that God set aside their own fleshly earthly life It could never approach God and try and live the Christian life And they were trying to be perfected by self-effort human effort and Paul Vehemently opposed it and rebuked them and warned them Who has cast a spell upon you and God is saying this to the whole Christian world today Who has cast a spell upon us?

We've got to throw out of our lives and throw out of our midst all of those works that are Originating out of human effort bury him and throw him in the septic tank There's no value or place for him in the work of God There's only one kind of life that God accepts and that's the lovely life of his son And the Holy Spirit is devoted to one thing Reproducing that life in our lives by faith in Jesus Christ Let's bow our hearts Before the Lord and let's ask the Lord to meet our need Whatever it is right now with a Revelation of the saving life of Jesus Christ that is available right now by faith to any heart That acknowledges its sin Its fault its error like Job He turns to God and his son Jesus Christ For help.

What's the struggle you're going through? What are you entangled in right now and you know, you're entangled and you feel it, you know, it's taken the life right out of you and You've even tried in your own strength to disentangle yourself and you failed The answer this morning is to acknowledge your state before God and cry out to Jesus Christ The Disentangled one himself.

He's the only one that can fix us. He's the only one that commend us He's the only one that can get us out of the mess We're in and we can get ourself into some pretty big messes. Can't we? He's here as a loving Savior And he'll disentangle us if we'll just ask Father we commit This revelation from your word into your hands And pray the power of the Holy Spirit would impart this revelation of the saving life of Jesus Christ the answer To our lost condition the answer to whatever we're going through the answer Your end in what we're in now Is that we might see this saving life of Jesus and receive it right now In the mighty name of Jesus Spend a few minutes before the Lord

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