

Five Truths and Eight Confessions

by Zac Poonen

Jesus invites only those who are thirsty for a higher life, and we must understand God's character and value the word of God to use our talents profitably.

Duration: 51:17

Scripture: Luke 11:13, John 17:23, Acts 17:26, Galatians 3:13-14, Hebrews 2:14, Hebrews 13:6, 1 John 1:9, 1 John 5:3

Topics: "Faith And Trust", "Spiritual Growth"

Description

This sermon emphasizes the importance of believing and confessing God's promises, such as God's love, forgiveness, empowerment through the Holy Spirit, contentment, obedience to His commands, gratitude, freedom from fear, and being a blessing to others. It encourages believers to trust in God's control over all situations, reject fear and guilt, and live in the victory of Christ's defeat over Satan. The message highlights the significance of the blood of Christ, the word of God, the Holy Spirit, taking up the daily cross, and active participation in the local body of Christ for spiritual growth and impact.

Transcript

So, this is our last session and do any of you remember what Jesus said on the last day, the great day of the feast? All you great Bible scholars, you don't remember? It says on the last day, the great day of the feast, Jesus stood up, it's one of those rare times he stood up, most of the time he sat down and cried out, what? Okay, you're going to be Bible scholars today. John chapter 7 and verse 37, look up that verse. It's a great note to conclude on, on the last day, John 7 and verse 37.

On the last day, the great day of the feast, Jesus stood and cried out. If any man is thirsty, let him come to me and drink. There are many people who say anybody can come to Jesus, I say no.

He invited only those who are thirsty. He didn't say those who are thirsty and those who are not thirsty come, no. If anyone is thirsty, let him come to me.

What about the others who are not thirsty? Stay where you are, go somewhere else, go and watch the movies. Or whatever was the equivalent in those days, go and do something else. But if you're thirsty for a light that you've heard of in these days, for a type of fellowship that you've heard of in these days, Jesus says come to me, not to me, come to Jesus and drink.

You know the other well-known verse in Matthew 11, 28, come to me those who are labor and are heavy laden. And I paraphrase that as come to me those who are sick and tired of your defeated life. Is he inviting everybody there? No.

He's only inviting those who are sick and tired of their defeated life. Those who are content with their defeated life, the Lord says go where you like. I'm not inviting you.

Now I've got to speak that very plainly. There are people sitting here who are sick and tired of their defeated life. I want to tell you Jesus is inviting you.

There are people who are thirsty for a higher life than they've experienced so far, for a better quality of fellowship than they've experienced there in their local church. The Lord says come to me. I'm not asking you to join any church.

I've been an elder for 41 years. I have never, never, never asked anybody to join my church in 41 years. That's not my business.

I invite people to come to Jesus and I say ask the Lord to tell you which fellowship you should join. Don't ask me. Because if I tell you it'll be a dead work, you'd do it probably to please me and that's worth zero.

Go to the Lord and the Lord will lead you to the right place but don't go to a place where you will not be challenged to become more like Christ. Don't go to a place where they're only after your money. Please.

To give money to those preachers who are covetous for your money is, I'm not exaggerating, is exactly that same as putting your money in the toilet bowl and flushing it down. There's no difference between putting your money in an offering bag of a covetous preacher or a covetous church and putting your money into the toilet bowl and flushing it down. You might as well do the same thing.

It's the same thing. It goes to the same place, to the garbage. Not to God.

We ought to be very careful where we give our money because money is a gift that God has given you. You can't spend it as you like. You can't give it where you like.

Then you are the Lord of your money. Then the Lord says, I don't tell you anything. Do what you like with it.

But if you say, Lord, I belong to you, then I ask the Lord, Lord, where shall I give my money? Give it where the Lord will approve of it. Ask the Lord to tell you. Where you feel it will be used the most for His glory.

If there are different degrees of it, I would give it to where it's used most for His glory. You decide that. God will show you.

And if you don't know, you say, Lord, please show me. He'll show you. And if there's anybody here who is a full-time Christian worker, I plead with you, don't go around asking people for money.

Jesus never asked anybody for money. Jesus never sent a report of His work to anyone. The Apostle Paul never asked anybody for money.

None of the Apostles did. They never sent a report of their work to anyone. I decided in my life that I will never give money to those who send reports asking for money because they're not doing what the

Apostles did.

They're not doing what Jesus did. I just want to be careful because when I stand before God, you remember the parable Jesus said to one who gave ten talents, he said, what did you do with my ten talents? And those talents represent many things. It represents the time I have, 24 hours a day.

What did I do with that 24 hours I had a day? It represents the years of my life that God's given me, 57 years since I was born again. And that's a lot more than for many of you. The Lord's going to ask me, what did you do with those 57 years? And those talents represent the gifts God has given me.

God's given me gifts maybe He has not given some of you, so He'll demand more from me. What did you do with the gift of preaching that I gave you? Did you use it to make money for yourself? Did you use it to get honor for yourself? Did you use it to lord it over other people? Oh, I'll be ashamed if I did any of those things. Or did you use it to help and bless and lead people closer to, not to you, but to Jesus? Then I'll be happy.

So all those talents represent many things. And the Lord says, what did you do with the money I gave you? Do you know that the Lord will ask you for an account for it? That's the meaning of it. Twice that parable comes, Matthew 25 and Luke 19.

In one case it's pounds, in one case it's talents. But He didn't give the same to everybody. In one case it was 5, 2, and 1. In another case it was 1 each and some person produced 10, another person produced 5, another person produced 1. The tragedy was some people buried it in the ground.

You know, one man with one talent, he buried it in the ground. What's the meaning of that? That means taking the Lord's money and using it for this earth and its values. Not for the Kingdom of God.

That's the meaning of that guy who buried it. And you know what he said to the Master? The reason why he did that? I'll show you that verse. Matthew chapter 25.

It's very important to know why he buried that one talent in the ground. See, it says here in Matthew chapter 25 about a man who was going on a long journey. Matthew 25, verse 14.

And he entrusted his possessions to them. And he gave to each according to his ability. 5, 2, 1, 2, 1, 1. That's the difference between this parable and Luke 19.

Luke 19 he gave 1 to everybody, but here he gave according to the ability. And you see among us that God has given more to some, less to some, less to some, less to the others. 5, 2, and 1. And the man who had 5 talents went and gained 5 more.

The man who had 2 talents went and gained 2 more. But the one who had 1 talent, verse 18, he went and dug it in the ground. A long time later the Master came back.

This is the day when Christ comes back to settle accounts. Do you know that Christ when he comes back he's going to settle accounts? And he asked the one who received the 5 talents, What did you do with my 5 talents? Lord, I got 100% profit from it. I used it completely for your glory.

Great. Well done. You were faithful in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things.

The one who got 2 talents, he came and said, I brought 2 talents more. Notice this. The question is not how much he brought.

One person brought 5, another person brought 2. The point is percentage wise they were the same. 100%, 100%. So they both got the same reward or commendation.

Exactly the same. Well done. Good and faithful slave.

There's no difference between the guy who brought 2 and the guy who brought 5 because both brought 100%. So in other words, when you look at someone who's got many more talents and gifts than you have in the body of Christ, don't envy him. God does not expect you to produce as much as him.

He expects you to produce as much as he's given you. I mean, if he's given me a preaching ability that he's not given you, he's not going to ask you why you didn't preach like Brother Zach. No, he'll never ask you that.

He'll ask me that. The Bible says that those who are given more, he'll expect more. I'm absolutely convinced that God's going to expect a lot more from me than he's going to expect from any of you.

So don't ever compare yourself and don't long for something God hasn't given you. Ask God to give you whatever gifts he feels right and if he decides to give you 2, don't compare yourself with someone who's got 5. He's got to produce more in the final day. And if you produce 2 more, you'll get the same reward.

And so this person who had 1, how much did God expect him to produce when he came back for reckoning? Only 1. He didn't have to produce 2 or 5. He would have got the same commendation. Lord, you gave me 1, I produced another 1. But the tragedy is, I feel that 2 problems. This man must have compared himself.

That guy's got 2, that guy's got 5. I've only got 1. Why did God treat me like this? Do you ever complain against God because he didn't give you what he gave somebody else? You compare yourself with somebody else. I wish I had that. That's the way to ruin your life.

Be content with what you have. And there was another reason. When the master came back, believe what he says.

Master, verse 24, the man who had received 1 said, I knew you to be a hard man, reaping where you did not sow. And so I was scared of you. And I buried it under the ground.

All the lack of utilization of the gifts God has given us is because we've got a wrong concept about God. He's a very strict, austere, serious master. You have that type of idea of God, you'll never use what God has given you.

You don't know him as a loving father. That was the reason. I knew you to be a hard man.

You reap where you don't sow. You're so demanding. And so I was scared.

I was afraid. So I just buried it in the ground. We need to have a right concept of God.

Very, very important. Only then can we use our talents profitably for the glory of God. Very, very important.

So, I want to say a few things which, in conclusion about the things that we need to be very strongly established in. Sometimes we are not very sure about certain fundamental truths in our life. So I want to say, first of all, think of your five fingers in your hand.

The first thing we need to be absolutely sure of, number one, which is like the thumb, is what the blood of Jesus Christ can do for us. We must be absolutely sure that the blood of Jesus has cleansed us completely from our past life. That not a single sin remains.

If you've confessed it, he's forgiven. You don't have to confess every sin. But you have to say, Lord, I am a sinner.

You know, when the prodigal son came back to the father, he didn't make a list of all the sins he committed. God didn't want that. He just said, Father, I've sinned.

Father said, that's enough. I've seen your attitude. But if you know of some particular sin you've committed, then the Lord says you must confess it.

If you confess our sins, he's faithful and just to forgive us. So it's very important that we are absolutely sure that God has forgiven our past life. And not only that, Hebrews 8.12 says, I will not remember your sins anymore.

Very important to know that God not only forgives you, but he doesn't hold your sins against you. And that's the way you must forgive others. I'm not saying you must forget what they did.

We cannot forget what other people did against us because we have no power over our memory. But we must forgive them, which is an act of the will. It's not feelings.

We may feel differently. It's unimportant. We may have memory reminding us of what that person did.

That doesn't matter. But as God forgave us, we forgive others. And remember, God doesn't say, I forget about your past.

He does not forget about our past. He says, I choose not to remember Hebrews 8.12. Because I'll tell you where God remembers it. You know that story where a man didn't forgive his fellow slave for a small amount? And he came back to the king and the king put all those sins back on his head.

If you don't forgive others from your heart, God won't forgive you. So God hasn't forgotten your sins, but he says he chooses not to remember. That's how we've got to forgive others.

We don't have to forget. Don't let anybody torture you saying, if you've forgiven somebody, you must forget what he did. That's impossible.

I don't have a control over my memory. But I choose not to remember. When I see you, I choose not to remember all that you did against me.

Why? Because my heavenly father doesn't remember what I did against him. So I'm so thankful that God gave me that promise in Hebrews 8.12 And he clothes me with the righteousness of Christ. That means, because even though my past sin is forgiven, I've got a filthy nature called the flesh.

And that's clothed with the righteousness of Christ. I stand before God. So we have great boldness.

This is called justification. Justified means just as if I've never sinned. So that's the first thing we need to know about the blood of Christ.

That I look back over my past life knowing that I've not sinned for 76 years. Isn't that a good feeling? To know that you've never sinned in your whole life. To come before God.

That's how God looks at you. If you have really repented. If you have not repented.

You know repentance is a 180 degree turn. It's not 90 degrees. One eye on sin, one eye on God.

No, it's a 180 degree turn. Where I turn my back to sin in the world. I haven't overcome every sin, but I've turned from every sin.

If you say that, you've repented. You may still be defeated, but you're struggling. Never mind.

Have you turned from it? Do you hate it? Can you say to God, Lord, I never want to sin again. Not I never will sin again. Nobody can say that.

But I never want to sin again. That's the mark of being born again. Lord, I've done so many wrong things in my life, but I never want to do them again.

Then you know you've really repented. You know the blood of Jesus has taken care of your past. This is very, very important.

Don't live in condemnation over your past. If you want to be an effective member of the body of Christ, that's number one. Number two.

Value the word of God. This is the only book that God has written for man. If you believed it, you'd study it more than any other book.

You'd spend time every day I spent the first seven years after I was born again studying this book. Day and night. I would get up from my bed from the time I was 21 almost to 26, about five years.

First thing I did, I was working in the Navy. First thing in the morning, get up early, kneel down beside my bed and pray. Sit down on my table and study this book.

Then I'd go to work. Finish the whole day's work, come back at night, study this book again. Kneel down, kneel down and pray and go to bed.

I'm very thankful I did that right up until the time I was 26 when I left the Navy. It protected me from all types of temptations that come to young people. A lot of young men.

Think of this verse in Psalm 119. Psalm 119, it says Psalm 119 is a great chapter about the blessings of God's Word. And one of the verses says this Verse 11 I have treasured your Word in my heart not in my mind.

You can memorize something in my mind. I've treasured your Word in my heart and the result is I don't sin against you. Isn't that great? Because I treasure God's Word in my heart that keeps me from sin.

How would you guard a treasure? If you treat God's Word like a treasure say Lord I want to value it I want to take your Word and keep it in my heart and get another Word, another Word, another Word. I want to

know every part of scripture because it's the only book this almighty God creator of this universe has written for us. I believe it.

And I can tell you after 57 years of studying this book I'm still discovering things in it. It's like a well that never ends like a spring of water that keeps springing up and giving me exactly according to my personal need and when my need increased of having to minister to people God gives me what to minister to people as well. It's amazing.

I've never found a problem in my life in 57 years of being a believer for which the answer is not here. Every problem there's an answer here somewhere or the other. I remember when the Lord called me to leave my job in the Navy as a naval officer and resign.

I put in my resignation and I sent it to naval headquarters in India saying Jesus Christ has called me to serve him I've got to quit. And naval headquarters laughed at that and sent it back saying reject it. And my fellow believers in the brethren assembly I was in said see Zach you're just crazy you thought God called you God didn't call you you're just imagining.

And I was confused because every single person in that assembly told me not to leave my job. I said Lord was I confused was I wrong? I'm not quitting my job to make money I'm earning a lot right now my income dropped actually 85% when I quit my job. I said Lord I want to serve you there was only one man of God who encouraged me.

So I went back to the Lord and said Lord all these other believers say I made a mistake. Is there an answer? And there was an answer in scripture. The Lord said to me what did Moses do when Pharaoh said I will not let you go to serve the Lord.

He didn't get discouraged and say maybe the Lord didn't call. He went back to Pharaoh again Pharaoh said I still won't let you go. He went back again.

I got my answer. Not from people but from scripture. And I went back again with the same request and the naval headquarters said no rejected.

I did what Moses did went back again the same thing and after two years the top man in the Navy somebody else came in and he let me go immediately. I don't know. I believe it was God.

In the history of the Indian Navy in all these years they've never let anybody go except me on these drones to serve Jesus Christ. To me there's a proof to me that God had called me. Think if I had just listened to men at that time I wouldn't be here today.

I'd be wasting my life as an admiral in the Navy or something making a lot of money traveling the world and wasting my life instead of leading people I would have regretted it for all eternity. Treasure God's word in your heart. There's an answer in the Bible for every problem you can ever face in your life.

When you want to get married looking for a job God will guide you. So that's the second thing. Meditate on it.

Memorize it. Keep it in your mind. Even Jesus when he was tempted it was the word of God he used.

Number three Seek to be filled with the Holy Spirit. Baptism means immersion. That's all it means.

Baptism in water being immersed in water. Baptism in the Spirit means being immersed in the Spirit. The Spirit is like a waterfall coming from heaven.

The river of God flowing from heaven. It's the mightiest waterfall on earth. Stand under it.

Humble yourself. That's the meaning of stand under it. Stand under it.

The Spirit of God will fill you all the time. All the time. It's not just a once for all experience.

This is where I disagree with the Pentecostal, my dear Pentecostal friends. It's not a once for all experience. It's something continuous.

You need to fill the gas tank in your car not just once. Continuously. I want to be always full.

We read in the Acts of the Apostles, the Apostles Peter was at least filled three or four times with the Holy Spirit not just once. In the Acts of the Apostles and I'm sure many more times subsequently. I want to be filled with the Holy Spirit every single day.

I pray for that. Lord I want to be filled with the Holy Spirit every day. I cannot serve you.

I cannot live the Christian life. To me the Holy Spirit's power is like electricity. You remove electricity everything packs up here.

The fans, the lights, the mic and everything. But everything comes back in when the Holy, when electricity flows. And we want all that power of electricity.

The Holy Spirit's power is like that. It's a person not just a power. A person who gives me power.

First of all to overcome sin. To become a little more like Christ. To give me light on areas of my life where I'm un-Christ like.

Where I can judge myself. I'm in the quarry. The quarry is in my private life shaped and cut so that I can fit into my place in the body of Christ.

Not to be a bigger stone than God has wanted me to be. Not to be smaller than I'm supposed to be. We're all stones in the temple.

Don't try to be bigger than what God wants you to be. And at the same time don't be smaller. If you become smaller than what God wants you to be because of your inferiority complex and your laziness there'll be a gap in the wall.

If you try to be bigger than what God cuts you out to be, you'll be crowding out other people and crushing them. Both these sins are there. Those with a superiority complex and those with an inferiority complex.

The Holy Spirit will cut you to the right size if you judge yourself and you'll be a perfect fit in whichever local church you're in. Seek to be filled with the Holy Spirit everyday. When you seek to serve God anywhere, when you're even speaking to somebody in counseling or advising somebody, ask God to give you words.

The Holy Spirit speaks and you'll hear a word saying, this is the way, walk in it. The Holy Spirit will warn you about dangers. Don't go there.

He'll warn you in advance. Protect you. Preserve you.

You cannot live the Christian life without being filled with the Holy Spirit everyday. Don't wait for physical experiences. I've never had physical experiences.

I'm not interested in that. I want a spiritual experience. That's what I seek for all the time.

I've never seen angels or any such thing. I'm not interested. I want to see Jesus in my heart.

That's far more important than anything else. And to be filled with the Holy Spirit. He'll show you Jesus.

And then four, you must take up the cross everyday. There's no way to live the Christian life without denying yourself, taking up the cross everyday. Luke 9, 23.

Everyday, say Lord, I want to die to myself. I say that. Not just everyday.

2 Corinthians 4 verse 10 says, bearing the dying of Jesus always. Always means 24-7. 2 Corinthians 4 verse 10.

Always. I want to always bear in my body the dying of Jesus so that the life of Jesus will come forth. Wherever there's a death, there's a resurrection.

When Jesus was dipped into the water, he was raised up by John the Baptist. When people put Jesus to death, God raised him up. And I want to tell you this.

If you submit to dying with Jesus, the Father will raise you up. There'll always be a resurrection if you take up the cross. Many of you don't experience the resurrection power of God in your life because you don't take the cross.

So, please remember this. Number four, always everyday, Lord, in this provocative situation, I'm going to die. In a home situation that's provocative, one of the two of you must die.

Why is there a clash in a home? Because both... Why is there a noise? Because both hands are wanting to... If one hand refuses to cooperate, there's not going to be noise, you know. So, whenever there's a difference of opinion between husband and wife, one person must die. And if one person dies, there'll be peace.

See, there's no sound. If both refuse to die, clash. If one person dies, peace.

And if both die, wow! Then it's heaven. It's fellowship. That's a wonderful home where both are willing to die.

But if both are not willing to die, at least let there be peace. Either one. The way of the cross is the way of life.

It's the message which is almost not preached in 90% of churches today. The way of the cross. If you don't believe me, go to YouTube.

Go to the internet. Find out how many messages there are on dying to self. Pretty close to zero.

I'm trying to raise the average. You be one of those as well. Raising the average in Christendom.

Or preaching the message of the cross. And practice it in your life. It's a glorious way.

The Lord opened my eyes to that when I was seeking for the fullness of the Holy Spirit when I was 23 years old. The Lord showed me Jesus went into the waters of baptism accepting death to self. Came out of it and the Spirit of God came upon him.

And the Lord spoke to me and said as long as you choose the way of the cross in your life, I will give you my power and I'll support you. But the day you move away from the way of the cross, you lose my power. And I say, Lord, I never want to move away from that way.

Number five. Seek active fellowship with your local body of Christ. So the first is the blood, the word, the Holy Spirit, the cross, and the body.

That's number five. The body of Jesus Christ. That's not an optional extra.

It's essential. You know, I can hold something with two fingers. The blood and the word.

Enough. I'm born again. But people can pull it out of my hand easily.

The more fingers I have gripping this, the more difficult it is for someone, for the devil to take something out of my hand. Have all five fingers to grip the Christian life. The blood, the word, the Holy Spirit, the cross, the way of the cross, and the body.

Some of you are neglecting the body. You think you can live the Christian life on your own. That's why the devil takes things away from you.

It's so important. I tell you, in my life, the body of Christ made a tremendous difference to even coming into a life of victory. I had all these, but I needed that body as well.

Fellowship of other believers of like mind. And that's not just attending a church and listening to a message. Let me tell you this.

If you're only interested in listening to a message, you don't have to go to church on a Sunday. You can go to the internet and listen to messages that are ten times better than anything you'll hear in your church on a Sunday. And you can have a choice.

And the one big advantage of the internet is that if you get bored with the preacher, you can switch it off, which you can't do in a church. You'll insult him if you walk out. I tell people this.

Listen, I've got one thousand messages on YouTube. Tune in to all of them. They are free.

And if you're out for five minutes, you're bored with it, walk out. Choose another message. And the advantage of YouTube is you can put a subject.

You can't go to a church and decide which subject the preacher should be preaching on. That may be your need today. So if it is only to listen to a message, you don't have to go to church.

Believe me. If you want to listen to good singing, there's excellent singing on the internet, much better than the singing you have in your church and the songs you want. You can praise the Lord, you can sing at home, you can listen to message, but what is it you can never get through the internet? Fellowship.

That's impossible. For that, you have to go to a local fellowship. And you go and sit in a church with thirty thousand people, you're not going to have fellowship.

You're just going to listen to a sermon and go home. Fellowship can only be with a small group of people who really love Jesus and who are seeking to be one body. You've been a Christian many years and you've not even sought that.

Maybe you've known the blood and the word and the Holy Spirit. You need to know the cross. And don't neglect the body of Christ, the local fellowship.

Don't neglect the assembly of yourselves together. It says in Hebrews 10.25, but so much the more, Hebrews 10.25 says, so much the more you should do it as you see the coming of the Lord is near. You see all the things happening around us today, the coming of the Lord is near.

Let's pursue this more. Now I want to share with you very quickly eight points based on Romans 10, where it says, what we believe in our heart, we must confess with our mouth. Faith and confession is very important.

So, here are these eight points. First four there. This is what you must believe and this is what you must confess.

And you got the reference there as well. God the Father loves me as he loved Jesus. So, I will always rejoice.

I'm not rejoicing in how much money I earn. I'm not rejoicing how healthy I am. I'm rejoicing in the fact that my Heavenly Father loves me as he loved Jesus.

John 17.23 To me that is the biggest truth in the whole Bible. There are more than 31,000 verses in the Bible, but John 17.23 is number one at the top of the list for me. God loves me as he loved Jesus.

What he did for Jesus, he'll do for me. As he cared for Jesus, he'll care for me. And I've experienced that many, many times.

But you must believe it. According to your faith, be it unto you. If your father has put a million dollars into your bank account, you'll get only as much as you draw out from it.

Otherwise, it's there. There are many promises in Scripture, but you'll get only what you claim. But you must confess.

Romans 10 says, we believe in our heart and we confess with our mouth. Romans 10.9 If you confess with your mouth and you believe in your heart, Romans 10.10, for the heart man believes, and with the mouth he confesses, resulting in salvation. Salvation from that particular problem.

So you believe in your heart, Romans 10.10 and then you confess with your mouth. To whom do you confess it? To the devil. That's the number one person I've confessed it to.

Revelation chapter 12 verse 11 says, They overcame Satan by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of their testimony. To whom? To the devil. You read Romans 12.

Sorry, Revelation 12 verse 10 and 11. Have you ever given testimony to the devil? You've given your testimony in the church. Good.

Start giving your testimony to the devil. Talk back to the devil and tell him what Jesus done for you. Tell him he was defeated on the cross.

He doesn't like to hear it. I remember once a lady was brought to our house for prayer and I always tell people except Christ to tell the devil he was defeated. So I said, now tell the devil he was defeated.

And she looked at me and said, I was not defeated on the cross. Oh, I thought there was a demon inside her. Well, if a demon speaks to me, I speak back to the demon.

So I told the demon who was inside her, I said, you're a liar. Get out of her right now in Jesus name. Five seconds.

He left. I said, sister, now tell the devil he was defeated on the cross. And she said it immediately.

Five seconds later, Satan, you were defeated on the cross. I learned something that day. The devil does not like to be reminded that he was defeated on the cross.

I didn't realize that till that time. I said, oh, I'm going to make sure. I tell him that as often as possible.

And I'm going to tell other people to tell him that as well. Satan, you were defeated on the cross. You have no power over me.

My savior defeated me. You have no power over me. Confess.

Speak to the devil. Tell him Jesus, God loves you as you love Jesus. I'll always rejoice.

Number two. God has forgiven all my sins and he will not remember it anymore. So I will never live with guilt.

Never means never. Confess it. God has forgiven all.

All means A-L-L. All my sins. So I'll never live with guilt.

The devil tries to weigh us down with guilt. Confess with your mouth and overcome Satan. Tell the devil, I'll never live with guilt because God has forgiven all my sins.

Number three. God will fill me with his Holy Spirit because he says, if you earthly fathers know how to give good things to your children, how much more will your heavenly father give good things to those who ask him or fill with the Holy Spirit those who ask. God will, that's the important word there, will fill me with his Holy Spirit so I will be strong enough for every task.

I can handle everything. God's going to give me that power. It's like when you have electricity.

I can run the lights. I can run the fans. I can run the amplifier.

I can run many things. I can run my computer. I can run everything that's connected to electricity.

There's nothing that I cannot do if God fills me with the Holy Spirit of what he wants me to do. So I'll be strong enough for every task. There's nothing God can ask of you that you cannot do.

Even if he sends you to some remote jungle to preach the gospel, he will equip you if you're filled with the Holy Spirit. Whatever task, maybe you've got a difficult job managing difficult children as a mother. Say, Lord, you fill me with the Holy Spirit.

I'll be equipped for every task. God will fill me with the Holy Spirit. I'll be strong enough for every task.

Number four, God has determined all my boundaries. It says in that in Acts 17, 26 that God has decided our boundaries so that within those boundaries, I can seek him and find him. I don't have to go outside the boundary.

I showed you, mentioned that earlier. If you break the wall, your serpent will bite you. Stay inside the wall.

The boundary of your income, stay within that. The boundary of your spiritual gift, stay within that. Stay within the boundaries God has drawn around you and always be content.

Don't compare yourself with another person's bigger circle. Some people have a bigger circle. Some people have a smaller circle.

Some person's got ten talents. You've got only five or one. Be content with the boundaries God has drawn around you and say, it is God who decided these boundaries.

So I will always be content. Hebrews 13, 5 says, the Lord be content with what you have. For the Lord has said, I'll never leave you, nor forsake you.

Okay, we go to number five. Isn't there? Yeah. God's commands are all for my good.

1 John 5, 3 says, his commands are not a burden. Deuteronomy 10, 13 tells us that it's out of love that God gave us his laws. God's commands are all for my good.

So I will obey all my commands. But you know how little children don't realize that vegetables are good for them? So when we are little babies we don't realize that some commands of God are for our good. That shows that we are little children.

So God's commands are all for my good. You've got to be foolish not to accept what is for your good. Like they say, don't eat junk food.

It's not good for you. Do exercise. It's good for you.

We obey those things of human laws. God's commands are all for my good. So I will obey all of God's commands.

All. I will study the scriptures. Not to preach sermons.

I'll study the scriptures to find out God's commands because they're all for my good. You've missed out a lot of God's commands and I've missed out a lot of the good God could do for you. Number six.

God controls all. A-L-L. All people and all events that affect you.

God controls it. And so I will always give thanks because there's nothing. If I love God and I'm called according to his purpose, Romans 8, 28 says every single thing will work for my good.

So I will always give thanks. What situation will you not give thanks? When some circumstance comes into your life and you don't give thanks, you're there by saying, oh sorry, in this particular circumstance, the devil got control of the universe. God is not in control of this universe at this particular moment.

The devil sort of got controlled. That's what you're testifying when you grumble or complain or murmur. You know that? Every Christian who murmurs or grumbles and complains at some circumstance is saying, at this particular moment the devil is in control of the universe.

And God wasn't in control of the universe till yesterday, but today the devil took over. Are you going to say that? Or are you going to say I don't care what happens. Tell me, what was the worst thing that ever happened in this world? The crucifixion of Jesus Christ.

There was nothing more evil than ever took place on this earth. Okay, now tell me, what is the best thing that happened on this earth? The crucifixion of Jesus Christ. What do we learn from that? That the worst thing the devil did, God turned into the best thing that could ever happen for the human race.

That is the message of the cross. Not just that Jesus died for my sins. There are many things we learn from the cross, and one of those things is the worst that the devil can do, the worst that man can do, God turns into the very best for us.

So, God controls all people and all events that affect me, so I will always give thanks. Number seven, Jesus defeated Satan and freed me from his power, so I will never be afraid. Hebrews 2.14 says he defeated the one who had the power of death.

Through death he destroyed him who had the power of death. He took away his power. Satan is not dead, but his power is gone.

He has no power over me. He's like a terrorist who's lost all his weapons and all his suicide vest and everything is gone. He's just helpless now.

He's alive, but all his weapons have been taken away. There are two verses, Colossians and chapter 2, verse 14 and 15 and Hebrews 2.14 which says the devil has been disarmed and so we are not afraid. The Lord is my helper, Hebrews 13.6 I will not be afraid what man or anyone can do to me.

Very, very important. We're not to live on this earth with fear. Satan was defeated.

God has freed me from his power. So I will never N-E-V-E-R be afraid. And finally, this is great.

The Lord told Abraham, I'll bless you and you will be a blessing. I want to tell you, my brothers, all these things that we said so far, point one to seven, is the way God blesses you. Finally, God wants to make you a blessing to others.

However weak you may be, even if you've got one talent, confess it with your mouth, God wants to make me a blessing, so I will, capital W-I-L-L be a blessing to others. There is no curse upon you. Jesus became a curse on the cross, Galatians 3.13 and 14.

He became a curse so that you might be a blessing to others. It's a wonderful gospel. The gospel is far better than we ever imagined.

All this rubbish that people talk about generational curse. You've heard a lot of that among crazy charismatics who don't know the Bible. Not all charismatics are crazy, some of them are.

People ask me that question. I say yes, there was a curse upon me once upon a time when I was in a tree called Adam. Before I was born again, I belonged to a tree called Adam.

All my ancestors, all the way down to Adam, there was a curse. You read the curse in Genesis 3. The earth is cursed. And maybe, I don't know what all my ancestors did.

There was a thing called generation curse. But you know what happened one day when I was born again? The Holy Spirit cut me off from that tree and grafted me into another tree called Jesus Christ. What generation curse is there on me now? Zero.

It's full of blessing. So when people try to scare you by saying you have problems because you have a generation curse, if it is true, I'd say you're not born again. You're still in that old tree.

Are you born again? There's no generation curse on you. I've heard of people saying that there are demons in believers. I've cast out many demons in my life.

Never once from a born again believer. Never once. Then they say, what about these cases of some people who say they cast out demons from believers.

They were not really born again. Sure, there are many people in the world who claim to be born again, who are not born again. Sure, there may be a hundred demons in them.

But a really born again believer, there cannot be one demon because, can you imagine a demon coexisting with Christ in your heart? The demon and Jesus living comfortably with each other in the same house. You've got to be crazy to believe that. I don't know how anybody believes that a Christian can have a demon.

It is impossible. Then people use the word called demonized. Call it what you like.

I'm not demonized and I'm not going to have a demon because Christ lives in me. What about you say, I knew the guy was really saved. Well, maybe he lost his salvation.

I believe a person can be saved and lose his salvation. He may have been saved last year and today he's lost his salvation. Oh, then he's open to the demons.

Sure. You remember Jesus said how a man had a demon cast out of him and he kept his heart empty. He did not seek to be filled with the Holy Spirit.

He kept his heart empty, means he didn't forgive others and he did all types of wrong things. Kept his heart empty. Seven other demons came in.

He became worse. He was saved and he lost his salvation. Then the demons can come in.

But a true Christian, if you're born again, you're walking in the light, your conscience is clear. Don't let anybody fool you with generational curse or demons. It is impossible.

Just keep your conscience clear. Ask God to forgive you. Forgive everybody else and you'll be clear before God.

So let me repeat that. One to four. Can you say it with me? I want you all to confess it.

God, the Father, loves me as He loved Jesus. So I will always rejoice. Good.

God has forgiven all my sins so I will never live with guilt. God will fill me with His Holy Spirit so I will be strong enough for every task. God has determined all my boundaries so I will always be content.

Number five. God's commands are all for my good so I want to obey all God's commands. God controls all people and events that affect me so I will always give thanks.

Jesus defeated Satan and freed me from His power so I will never be afraid. God wants to make me a blessing so I will be a blessing to others. Brothers and sisters, go in peace.

It will go well with you and with your children. And may you never forget what you heard this weekend. I pray that it will be a life transforming weekend for you that you'll never forget for the rest of your life and God turned your life around completely and the whole direction of your life changed.

Remember what I said at the beginning, the five the blood of Christ, the word of God, the Holy Spirit, the daily cross, the way of the cross, and the body of Christ, the local body of Christ. Let us pray. Heavenly Father, You have done for us far more than we deserve.

You have blessed us more than we deserve beyond our asking and thinking. And I pray that the birds of the air will not take away what has been sown in many hearts but also that the worries of this world and the deceitfulness of wealth will not crush the things that You have sown in people's hearts today, Lord. I pray there will be lasting fruit in every life.

I dare to ask You for that. Lord, let no one go away from here feeling inferior, insecure, unimportant. They are important to You.

Let everyone go away, Lord, feeling confident their sins have been forgiven and they want to live for You and be filled with the Holy Spirit. We pray for our little children in our families that they'll grow up with the same faith You have given us that they'll grow up to live for You. We don't want just individuals, we want families.

And we pray there will be many local expressions of the body of Jesus Christ. Not huge crowds of people just listening to a sermon, but people who come together to build fellowship and do our local expressions like a burning light and a lamp stand in many places in this country. And I pray You'll use these dear brothers and sisters to give them faith to believe that what begins with one or two can gradually increase to become a local church.

Yes, Lord. Forgive us our past failures and you don't remember the mistakes, blunders we made in the past but now as we turn around to You, we believe You'll do great things in everyone's life. We trust You.

In Jesus' name, Amen.

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