By This Shall All Know

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Father we just want Thank You, once again this morning, we are here in Your house, Lord Your Word says that unfolding of Your Word brings light. And therefore this morning even as we hear in Your house, speak to our heart through Your Word, bring light into our lives. Lord, Your Word says, that the Church is the city on a hill, that cannot be hidden, that men may see the good works we do and be drawn unto You. I pray, Father, that even we hear Your Word I pray Lord, that You would anoint us and Lord, You would empower us, O' Lord to be that city on hill. The salt to this earth which will commend this earth to You and therefore this morning, through Your word, wash us, sanctify us, set us apart a little more through the washing by the Word, that we will be O' Lord, a set up apart Bride, sanctified and ready for the coming of the Lord. To that end, I pray, that You would bless and anoint the speaking and hearing of today's Word. We thank You, we praise You, we give You glory, for in Jesus' name. Amen, Amen.

Let's start with

Matthew 13:52

⁵² Then He said to them, "Therefore every scribe instructed concerning the kingdom of heaven is like a householder who brings out of his treasure things new and old."

Remember last time when I was sharing, I was talking about three different aspects of every believer that Jesus said to them "Every scribe who has become a disciple of the Kingdom of Heaven is like a householder or a steward who brings out of his treasure new things and old." So we have three levels of growth that we have to go through, three phases, from being a scribe to a disciple and to becoming a steward. This is a path that God has ordain everyone of us; a scribe who studies the Word, the Bible says, 'Study to show yourself approved unto God a work man that needth not be ashamed, rightly dividing Word of truth.'

This is not just for minister the Word to study the Word; it is for all of us to read the Word, and even as you read the Word the Lord will speak to you. And in the process of becoming steward, a steward of mysteries of God, the most important aspect is to become a disciple. This is where our struggle is - to be disciplined. Now we understand discipleship, we understand discipline, we know what are the areas we have to get disciplined in, but what is the end product? It is just not becoming a steward, it is some kind of character that is God is rotting through this process of becoming disciples. That will make us witness of something which is inherent in God. The very nature of God. What will be that defining characteristic of disciple of Jesus Christ? How will God know or people know that you're His disciple? This is John's Gospel chapter 13, verse34, this is what it says,

John 13:34-35

³⁴ A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another; as I have loved you, that you also love one another.³⁵ By this all will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another."

This love is very clearly defined. Just in case you give your own definition of love, He says, 'Love the way that I (i.e., Jesus) have loved you. Love one another.' We have been going through series on 'love', last Sunday we looked at 4 dimensions of God's love. Now we are talking about a disciple now, in connection of the disciple and the love that God has, for us and what He wants to wrought in us through ministry of the Word, through circumstances and situations, right?

And then He says, <u>John 13:35</u> ³⁵ By this all will know that you are <u>My disciples</u>, if you have love for one another."

"By this all will know that you are My disciples," how? "if you have that love that I have towards you, with one another." That is how we know we are disciples, so we are talking about being disciples, right? That is the quintessential characteristic of a disciple of Jesus Christ, that he has love. Because he can have all the gifts he can have all the prophesies, he is able crack the Word and understand mysteries and have all knowledge, have all faith etc, like children sang, you know, but if you do not have love then actually you are not His disciple. You are everything else but not His disciple. I think that is what LTD stands for - Love that demonstrate, love that delivers.

By this shall all know you are My disciples, Pastor Sharon taught us that song. So, by this shall all know. What is this? How do we know that we are Jesus' disciples? By the way we love one another in our church, the way that we love and show and express the love towards one another, they see that love and say, 'Boy! Whose disciples are you?' Then we will say, 'We are disciples of Jesus.' And that is what God wants to wrought in us through different processes and He puts us in a family, one from a tribe, two from a country, from different parts of the world God has brought us together. We would have never ever become one as a family if we would have been in our own spheres of careers, it is impossible. It is God who brought us together. And demonstration that we are His disciples is when we have that kind of a Love; that love which is not sentimental love; this is love which we heard last Sunday the 4 dimension of love, okay.

So this is the essentially the fulfillment of Law. You see, Anisha was praying, 'Our righteousness is as filthy rags. We cannot become righteous before God through our works, but then there is something the righteous requirement of law is.

<u>Romans 8:3-4</u>

³ For what the law could not do in that it was weak through the flesh, God did by sending His own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, on account of sin: He condemned sin in the flesh,⁴ that the righteous requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us who do not walk according to the flesh but according to the Spirit.

For what the law could not do in that it was weak through the flesh, God did by sending His own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, on account of sin ((that is our sin.) He condemned sin (our sin. Where?) in His flesh, that (or in other translation *in-order*) that the righteous requirement of the law may be (what?) fulfilled in us who do not walk according to the flesh but according to the Spirit. Then you can ask the question what is the righteous requirement of the law?

<u>Roman13:8-10</u>

⁸ Owe no one anything except to love one another, for he who loves another has fulfilled the law that is the righteous requirement of the Law. And then He says. ⁹ For the commandments, "You shall not commit adultery," "You shall not murder," "You shall not steal," "You shall not bear false witness," "You shall not covet," and if there is any other commandment, are all summed up in this saying, namely, "You shall love your neighbor as yourself."¹⁰ Love does no harm to a neighbor; therefore love is the fulfillment of the law.

Righteous requirement of Law is to love. Now but the problem is that we have so many different understanding of what love is. Therefore we need to look at what the Bible says about love? What kind of love is this? How do we get this kind of love? Is it possible to love this way? To owe no man anything except the debt of love. That's what Paul says, "I am a debtor" he says, "to the Greeks and to the barbarians. As much as possible in me I am ready to preach the Gospel to that who are in Rome also. For I am not ashamed of the Gospel." What motivated him to preach the Gospel to the place where Gospel was never preached was the love of God. Love of God, he says, constrains us and compels us.

1 corinthians13:13

¹³ And now abide faith, hope, love, these three; but the greatest of these is love.

Now that's interesting, right? I mean my point is - who has this kind of love? Does every believer have this kind of a love? Just being born-again in family of God, does it guarantee that you will have this kind of a love? The love which actually fulfills the righteous requirement of the Law - is a question. Who are those people about whom God says are loving people? I mean in the Church. If you look at the preceding verses, look at what it says in 1 Corinthians 13:11-12,

<u>1 Corinthians 13:11-12</u>

¹¹ When I was a child, I spoke as a child, I understood as a child, I thought as a child; but when I became a man, I put away childish things.¹² For now we see in a mirror, dimly, but then face to face. Now I know in part, but then I shall know just as I also am known.

Look at what it says *when I was a child, I spoke as a child.* Actually the word is 'Infant' okay the new born baby. Have you seen an infant? How do they speak? They just babble. So spiritually also if you are an infant in Christ, how does God look at you when He speaks to you? You speak back to God like what? Very cute but babbles. You understand as

a child. I mean you cannot talk to a child about spiritual things. That is essentially the indictment of Paul to the Corinthians, he says, 'you guys are children.' Natural man does not understand the things of the Spirit of God. Like Pastor was talking about, he says, 'There are three kinds of Christians, there are Christians who are at the flesh level, at the child level, they are very shallow; their understanding is very shallow, their speech is very shallow, they think like children.' **But when I became a man**, what do I do? **I put away childish things**. This kind of love is not for children, by the way, this is not for children. This song that I taught the children, I was 17 years old when I learned that song. This song you will not find it in the internet. I mean this is like way back 1997, 98's. I just got saved and the first youth camp that we had then after that we had follow up session that the way we learned this song, 'If I could talk.'

As child learns when he becomes a man, so shall we, someday, understand. When you become a man there is something that you do, you put away childish things. I mean there is something which is expected from you, when you are growing even in the house, in a home. You put away childish things and we say, why are you behaving like that?' okay when you were 2 years 3 year' old okay fine." You know when I used to ask Abigail, when she was a small baby, I used say, 'Abigail smile' and immediately she used to put her face like that, smiling. I mean that's how they understand. Now when we crack jokes she understands and she smiles, okay, because now she is understanding because her understanding has matured, in terms of her understand, right.

So look at this, *for now we see in a mirror dimly but then* what I mean you just keep that *'face to face'* in mind okay. We will just come back to that 'face to face', not that this 'face to face' has got anything this to do with the 'face to face' I am going to introduced to you in this morning, but this is what you need to keep in your mind, got it. And then he says, *'Now abide faith, hope and love, these three; but the greatest of these is love.*' And therefore that is essentially what Paul is saying to the Corinthians.

1 Corinthians 3: 1-3

¹ And I, brethren, could not speak to you as to spiritual people but as to carnal, as to babes in Christ. ² I fed you with milk and not with solid food; for until now you were not able to receive it, and even now you are still not able; ³ for you are still carnal. For where there are envy, strife, and divisions among you, are you not carnal and behaving like mere men?

Imagine this morning, if I were to give milk you will definitely be offended with me. The best milk, even if it is the best milk, "bacha hu kay mai?" (Am I a baby?) that an ordinary answer. But he says, 'I could not' why? 'I fed you with milk and not with solid food; for until now you were not able to receive it, and even now you are not able.' You don't have the capacity. Cerelac is only thing that I can give you, maximum. Alright? Think about it, you are not able to receive it. And how does he qualify this child? Is he not born-again? Of course he is born again. Are they not saints? Of course he addresses them as saints. Are they not people who are on the process of being sanctified? Yes, but boy! At a very fundamental level.

Look at what he say about them. *For you are still carnal*. Okay, now, think about this. Why are you carnal? For where there is what? Envy, strife and what? Divisions among you. Are you not carnal and actually you are behaving like what? Unregenerate man. That's what it means. See there are two kinds of men in the Bible. The Adam, everybody who is in Adam. That is the first man, and the last Adam is Jesus Christ, why is He called last Adam? One of the things exactly how He addresses Himself – 'Son of Man,' 'Son of Man,' The last Adam. He became the legal representative of the entire Adamic race, in that when He crucified on the Cross, all the evil heritage of Adam was expiated on the Cross, by the last Adam. He took all the sin and the evil influence of the sin, the consequences of sin, the iniquity of the Adam was put upon Him on the Cross and when He was buried and He arose again from dead He rose again He became second Man; He is not first man any more. Who is He? He is a Last Adam and when was risen from dead He becomes the second Man. He is the harbinger of a new race, the God-Man race. That is exactly why we love the song 'Hark! The herald angels sing, Glory to the newborn King; Peace on earth, and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled!"

Why? because He reconciled us with God on the Cross by becoming the Last Adam and when He was risen from death He became the second Man. And you know what Paul is saying your behaving like first man, still you are carnal, you are babies. Why? because you have strife, you have competition, you do not have the willingness to yield. You know how I know a believer is maturing? When he has the willingness to yield. Otherwise you are, at best, a psychological, intellectual, reasonable Christian. That is what a natural man is. A natural man is sokecos meaning he understands only through his mind; he does not have revelation in his spirit; he has no revelation in his spirit. He

cannot be, because his level is at max a soulish man. That is the reason why it says, the wisdom that is from below is earthly; it is what soulish, sensual or sokecos, it is of psychology and at the same time it demonic. But the wisdom from above is pure, peaceable, gentle and then it says, 'willing to yield' I love that word - the grace to yield. I think Derek Prince was the one who said – 'the man's spiritual strength is directly proportional to how much of the burden that God can put upon him, of others.' Those are men. And he says, 'Babies, I can't treat you as men, as men in Christ, in other words.

Why? because divisions and one of the thing you need to understand you have to be very careful even in church of those people who cause division, because they are carnal their mind is upon their own flesh, they are selfish people look at Romans 16:16 onwards,

Romans 16:16-18

¹⁶ Greet one another with a holy kiss. The churches of Christ greet you¹⁷ Now I urge you, brethren, note those who cause divisions and offenses, contrary to the doctrine which you learned, and avoid them. ¹⁸ For those who are such do not serve our Lord Jesus Christ, but their own belly, and by smooth words and flattering speech deceive the hearts of the simple.

Greet one another with what kiss? Kya baat hai why? Holy kiss. Why does it become a holy kiss? Before the regeneration you had the poison of asps in your lips, so when you kissed people died. Because kiss is the ultimate expression of love, it is most sensitive part of the your face or even of your body. You express love through kiss. It was not holy kiss, it was serpent's bite. I think that's how Cleopetra died. So then what happens? Now you are regenerated, He touched your lips, He cleansed you from all your uncleanness, now here what has happened? Now your lips have become holy and you are able to express love through, what? holy kiss. Be very sure when you are kissing somebody that it is a holy kiss.

The churches of Christ greet you. Now I urge you, brethren, note those who cause divisions and offenses, oh boy! look at it and then he says contrary to the doctrine which you have learned that is what the word is this word, very, very, jealous for this word, 'learned' means to be discipled in and avoid them and he goes on to say For those who are such do not serve our Lord Jesus Christ, but their own what belly; they are selfish, they are carnal, they use smooth words flattering lips deceive the hearts of the simple.

So we do not want this kind of love. So the other kind of love is only for people who are growing and who are interested in spiritual man, and not just carnal babies. So when we are talking about love, this is biblical love, the natural man and those who are carnal will not be able to understand this kind of love. Understand this. So therefore why do we come to ministry of the Word?

Hebrew 10:24-25

²⁴ And let us consider one another in order to stir up love and good works, ²⁵ not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as is the manner of some, but exhorting one another, and so much the more as you see the Day approaching.

Stir up love, this love. The whole purpose of coming to ministry of the Word of God is to stir up first, what, love. Look at the order, it is not good works first, but stir up love. Once you have love you will have good works. That is what Pastor was talking about. faith has works, love has labour. Love has labour, faith has works. So you stir up love and then good works. You should be people who are zealous for good works, who are not doing good works, but who are zealous for good works. Do you understand? Now how do we get this kind of love? What kind of spiritual environment do I have to create in myself? What is the spiritual environment I have to create in myself, so that God can produce this kind of love. Because it says, love of God has been shed abroad in our hearts through Holy Spirit, means you cannot manufacture this kind of love at all in your own flesh. An unregenerate man for him it is impossible to have this kind of a love. So what is the spiritual environment I have to create in myself in-order for me to grow in this kind of a love - is the question I want to ask myself. 1 Timothy 1, let's read in two different translations to get a picture of how to grow in this love, verse 5,

<u>1 Timothy 1:5</u>

⁵ Now the purpose of the commandment is love from a pure heart, from a good conscience, and from sincere faith, ⁶ from which some, having strayed, have turned aside to idle talk, Now the purpose of the commandment I like that. Other translations will use word 'the goal of our instruction' other translation will use the word, 'the purpose of our charge.' 'I charge you!' is like a commander giving charge; it is like a command to love. Only a commander can give you command, right? Then it says - is love from a pure heart, from a good conscience ,and from sincere faith, from which some having strayed, have turned aside to idle talk. In order words, you know what? If you do not have this kind of love all that you speak is, what? Idle talk. It's all words. No stuff at all, because I know too much of talk but no substance at all. Faith without works is dead, but faith has to be expressed through love. Therefore love faith without love is dead. Do you understand?

Let us look at in NIV translation - ⁵the goal of our commandment is love (notice that) which comes from a pure heart and a good conscience and a sincere faith. ⁶Some having departed from these and turned to meaningless talk. (NIV). So every other love you express, 'Oh! I love you!" meaningless, meaningless. Sometimes, do you know? They come and say, 'I love you.' It sounds very robotic, its machine, press the button, 'I love you.' Meaningless talk! It is all manufactured, it has got no substance at all, because I look at your life, you are hardly that. That's what it says, 'through their lives they deny Him.' It says, through their lives they deny. So this love it has to be produced from three ingredients. This love comes from, what first? Pure heart. Second, it comes from a good conscience. Third, it comes a sincere faith. And by the way all related; they are not mutually exclusive. Because good conscience I will prove to you is in the heart, by the way. Sincere faith, because you believe in your heart, so a pure heart, good conscience and a sincere faith produces what? Love. This love is produced only when all these are there. So you see the foundation of this.

I told you, right. In Robotics, you know, if you want to keep a robot stable all the time, it has to have at least three legs or three wheels minimum, otherwise it will be bicycled. You know bicycle. Bicycle is not stable all the time, you have to put a stand. So if you put a stand, how many legs does it have? Three legs. The moment it has only two legs what should we do? You should balance. So you will have imbalanced life. If we have only pure heart or sincere faith and no good conscience. But it's all related by the way. It's you cannot separate from one another. So, three things, a pure heart, good conscience and sincere faith. These are the three ingredients which produce the love that God demands from each one of us. The agape love, the agape love. The love of God. So, first let us start from a pure heart. Okay this pure heart. What does it mean to have a pure heart? Okay now, *blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God*. I like that, it is very interesting - *blessed are the pure in heart for they shall see God*. Okay, so if you do not have a pure heart, you cannot see God. But if you see God with an impure heart you will die. That's the point.

Do you understand? If you see God from an impure heart. Think about it, okay seven days of consecration, for who? Nadab, Abihu, Eleazar and Ithamar and Aaron, seven days of consecration; cleaning, blood, cleaning, blood, change garments, put water, change garments, put water, cleaning, blood, cleaning, blood, seven days inside the tabernacle, don't come out. And then what happens on seventh day the consecration over, you know what happens? The glory of God comes into the tabernacle and everybody falls flat on their face and you know, they starts worshiping God. And then it says Nadab and Abihu took their sensors, and they put profane strange fire on their incense, which the Lord did not command. And they went into the most Holy place, almost, okay. The altar of incense is right there near the most holy place. Do you know what happened? They were consumed, by what? If they were consumed by fire, what happens to them? They should be burnt. But they took their bodies and went out. Are they burnt bodies?

You know sometimes I want to think this, really, really, just imagined in my mind. It was the fire of God that consumed them, it says, but their bodies did not get burnt, their clothes did not get burned. What happened? I believe when they went into the most holy place for a glimpse they saw the glory of God and they couldn't handle it, and just fell flat on their faces right there and died. You know that is the reason why in Old Covenant, you know what priest are suppose to do? They have to have their tents around the tabernacle, so that if any of the people come close, they can protect the people from coming close to the tabernacle, otherwise they will what die. That is the reason why God tells Moses, "Nobody can see My face and live. therefore I hide you," etc etc.

Now the point here is, if I have to have pure heart, the condition also is, the way I look at it is, I have to see God. Something of God I should see in order for me begin to have a pure heart. See the goal is what? To get love, and what am I doing now? Just keep this in mind, I want to create an environment in my own self so that God can produce in me that kind of love. Because it says that it is the love that comes from pure heart, from a clear conscience and from a sincere faith. First thing therefore is I have to pursue what I call as a purity of heart. How do I pursue it? Let us see, Psalm 24, three things I want to talk about in 'purity of heart' just keep it mind, three fundamental things about purity of heart.

Psalms 24:3-4

³ Who may ascend into the hill of the LORD? Or who may stand in His holy place? ⁴ He who has clean hands and a pure heart, Who has not lifted up his soul to an idol, Nor sworn deceitfully.

Who may ascend into the holy hill of the LORD? Or who may stand in His holy place? I just told you right? Nadab and Abihu went into the holy place, they did not even go to the most holy place, by the way. They just went into the holy place, okay? And then he says, what? *He who has clean hands and a pure heart*. Now He is going to qualify this person who has got clean hands and a pure heart. Anisha, was praying, 'Lord give us clean hands and a pure hearts.' So who are those people who have got clean hands and pure heart? *Who have not lifted up his soul to an idol,* first thing, *nor has sworn deceitfully,* that is interesting. What does it mean? He doesn't have craftiness. You know, you should see the craftiness of children. Children, they are very crafty. Sometimes back br. Cyril Nehemiah said, 'Viper in a diaper.' It is true. There are very crafty, they know how to manipulate. They are all Jacobs. This word, 'deceitful' by the way, you should see the first time it is used in the Bible. Do you know in whose context it is used?

Genesis 27:34-35

³⁴ When Esau heard the words of his father, he cried with an exceedingly great and bitter cry, and said to his father, "Bless me—me also, O my father!"³⁵ But he said, "Your brother came with deceit and has taken away your blessing."

That is the reason why the Bible says, 'heart is the deceitful... the word is 'Jacob' - the heart is Jacob above all things and desperately wicked; it tries to get the blessings of God in a crooked way. See, let me tell you something. A righteous God will never pour out a blessing on an unrighteous and unholy man. It is impossible. The very qualification to be a person who is blessed by God is to be righteous in the sight of God. And therefore you are clothed in the righteousness of God it is impossible for God to bless you. It is impossible to bless you, okay. And then you know what he says? Esau prophesies about his brother. 'Isn't he rightly named Jacob? This is the second time he has taken advantage of me." Therefore what is the quintessential nature of the fallen man? To take advantage. Where should I do? Even in his giving also. Like Pastor was talking about it - motivations are three; for promotion, for name, for fame, for self. You see? He has taken advantage of me. He took my birthright and now he has taken my blessing.

But how did he do it? Deceitfully. But the problem is, the man who has clean hands and pure heart is the person who has not sworn deceitfully. "Are you Esau? You sound like Jacob, but smell like Esau. Are you sure? Yes, yes. "How did you get this so quickly?" The Lord given to me. Kya baat hai! So fast! Lot of people, they go for visa, they put all their documents, full fraud; What is your bank account? 45 lakh where did you get it? Exactly. And a CA will give you an appraisal of your property that you have, by the time you go to the visa office the CA will say, 'This man is crorepati (millionaire) 1.5 crore only, his entire assets.' And then you go to the visa office, 'Please pray for my visa, please pray, please pray.' And then you get visa and you say, 'The Lord gave it to me.' Kya baat hai! How did you get it? 'The Lord gave it to me.' How did he get this? The Lord gave it me. How did you get this job? Fraud resume, but 'the Lord gave it to me.'

You know, I mean, I've been there and done that. I am not just pointing fingers at anybody. We were all once upon a time that. But the problem is, if you have been predestined to be confirmed to the image of God. You know what Bible says? *Jacob I have loved*. What is there in Jacob to love? "I have loved. Period." What is there in you to love? Nothing. That is the reason why it says, 'it is not the person who wills, but on God who shows mercy.' "Oh I have loved you," the Lord says. How did He love us? "Was not Esau the first born, yet I said Jacob I have loved and Esau I have hated"? What was the qualification of Jacob? Nothing, but the problem is God is not going to keep Him Jacob forever. He should have, what? A pure heart. And look at what it says in Psalm 24, let's go back there,

Psalm 24:5-6

⁵ He shall receive blessing from the LORD, and righteousness from the God of his salvation.⁶ This is Jacob, the generation of those who seek Him, who seek Your face. Selah

He shall receive a blessing from the Lord, who shall receive blessing? Who will receive a blessing from God? Can Jacob receive a blessing from God? No, no, no, no, no. *And righteousness from the God of his salvation* but this Jacob, translation this not there. This Jacob, you know who this Jacob? The generation of those who seek Your face. That is something we need to understand. What is there for to seek God face? What does it mean to seek the face of God? What does that mean? To seek the face of God, what does it mean? Let us see. This is Genesis chapter 32, after Jacob has deceived Esau and stole his birth right, fell in love with Rachel etc, etc 20 years are passed. Deceived his

uncle, okay, going back to his house because the Lord appeared to him and said, 'Go back. Go back to Bethel.' He was scared of Esau, so he divides the entire company and Genesis chapter 32 this is what happens.

Genesis 32:22-24

²² And he arose that night and took his two wives, his two female servants, and his eleven sons, and crossed over the ford of Jabbok. ²³ He took them, sent them over the brook, and sent over what he had. ²⁴ Then Jacob was left alone; and a Man wrestled with him until the breaking of day.

And he arose that night and took his two wives his two female servants and his eleven sons and crossed over the ford of Jabbok. Okay remember this word "Jabbok" okay this word Jabbok, very important word 'Jabbok' okay beautiful word, let see that. He took them, sent them over the brook and sent over what he had and he was left alone. Okay, then a Man wrestled.

Three things have to happened in order for you to see the face of God. First of all, you have to be '*left alone*'. But before you are left alone, where should you go? Jabbok. Do you know what Jabbok means? Empty, fully empty, completely empty, and by the way and who has to wrestle? Jesus has to wrestle with you and you remember, 'Great is Your faithfulness O God,' and you do what, 'You wrestle with the sinner's heart.' You know what the word for wrestling is? It's the same word has Jabbok, it's got a same root word as Jabbok. Do you know what it means? It means to be brought to the dust, to become a worm, earthworm, you know earth worm; you literally become a worm. Okay.

So Jabbok is to empty, you should be left alone with God, and you should be made to feel that you are a worm. That is the reason why it says, "Don't be afraid My worm, Jacob," Jacob the worm. That is what God says, I am not saying that. I mean this is what modern day songs, we have changed all that, you know. Alas! and did my Saviour bleed' remember that song? 'Alas! And did my Saviour bleed, and did my Sovereign die. Would He devote His sacred head for such a worm as I? And can it be...' 'At the Cross, at the Cross where I first saw the light, where the burdens of my heart rolled away.'

So what has to happened to Jacob? He has to be *emptied*, he has to be *left alone* and *God has to wrestle with him and put him to the dust*. These three things have to keep on happening to us, everyday of our life, I mean not every day, but at regular intervals, we have to be emptied, we have to be left alone and God has to wrestle, because we all are Jacob at heart, very difficult for us. You know, it is so difficult for Christians to change. The prodigal son is a Jew but he has to become, what? Emptied, left alone and made to feel that he is dust. So what has God do?

Luke 15:13-14

¹³ And not many days after, the younger son gathered all together, journeyed to a far country, and there wasted his possessions with prodigal living. ¹⁴ But when he had spent all, there arose a severe famine in that land, and he began to be in want.

Not long after that the younger son got together all he had set off for a distant country and there he squandered his wealth in wild living, prodigal living. Eat and drink for tomorrow we die, that's his philosophy. After he had spent everything there was a severe famine. There was no severe famine before, but after everything was over, bank balance is over, now he says, 'Okay fine! I can walk and run. I can go and get a job for myself. No problem, I got a qualification from my father's university. No problem. You know what God will do? If He has predestined you, He will give you all the qualification and He will take away all your qualification too. I am not joking, this is exactly what happened to me; when I went to Canada I got a scholarship, okay. But God predestined me, (the problem is that), to be confirmed to the image of His Son. You wouldn't believe it, by the time I was in the third year the university lost all my certificates, they lost it. My parents also don't know, they lost all my certificate, gone! I become, what? Jabbok.

He has got a purpose for your life. Watchman Nee was saying, I think pastor sent that forwarded, "God will ruin your plans before your plans ruin you." This is exactly what happened. Empty! Now he has no opportunity, I got them back. Don't worry! Otherwise I would have not gone to some other university later on. What I am saying is at that point everything is gone. You are asking this question, "Lord! What am I doing over here?" God said, "Pack up your bag, pack up and go to India." God will bring you to those situations in your life, because you know what? You want the blessing of the God, but you are still, what? Jacob. And God has to deal with Jacob in this way. Empty him, completely.

You know, he wanted to appease his brother. You know what he did? Whatever his hands found... it is interested right? Whatever his hands found he took all the bunch of it and he send it before him, the best of everything; 20 female sheep and all that. I mean you must look at the list of the appeasement gift that he sends before him to meet Esau. And he began to be in need. What has happened? He was come to the, what has called as, rock bottom. Then what happens?

Luke 15:15-20

¹⁵ Then he went and joined himself to a citizen of that country, and he sent him into his fields to feed swine. ¹⁶ And he would gladly have filled his stomach with the pods that the swine ate, and no one gave him anything.¹⁷ "But when he came to himself, he said, 'How many of my father's hired servants have bread enough and to spare, and I perish with hunger! ¹⁸ I will arise and go to my father, and will say to him, "Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you, ¹⁹ and I am no longer worthy to be called your son. Make me like one of your hired servants." ²⁰ "And he arose and came to his father. But when he was still a great way off, his father saw him and had compassion, and ran and fell on his neck and kissed him.

So he went and hired himself out to a citizen of that country, where? Pig pen, who sent him to his fields, to do what? To feed pigs. The first one thing you do not want to use in the Middle East is the word 'pig'. And then it says - he longed to fill his stomach with the pods that the pigs were eating but what? No one gave him anything; he is absolutely by himself, left alone, emptied and God is wrestling with him. Empty and it goes on to say, then what happened? He came to his senses. That is when he dawned upon him. Till that point, you see, until and till the point you are left alone with God, there is no contemplation. Pastor was telling the people in the other church we were ministering. They will be a point in your life your back will be against the wall and there will be no help, at that moment cry out to Jesus. He came to his senses and you know what he says? "I am no longer worthy. Ahh!!! That means "I am nothing!" That is the realization - I am no longer worthy. Did Jacob say that? No! No! He did say that,

Genesis 32:9-10

⁹ Then Jacob said, "O God of my father Abraham and God of my father Isaac, the LORD who said to me, 'Return to your country and to your family, and I will deal well with you': ¹⁰ I am not worthy (he has come to that point now) of the least of all the mercies and of all the truth which You have shown Your servant; for I crossed over this Jordan with my staff, and now I have become two companies.

He has come to the point now. In the book of Jonah, who is the problem Nineveh or Jonah? Jonah is the problem. Nineveh is not the problem. That is what Derek Prince says, you know, 'Bend the church and bow the world. Bend the church and bow the world. The church will not bend. The most difficult person to deal with in the entire episode is the Prophet, can you believe that? The irony of it all. And what was Jonah doing? He was running away from the presence of God. And it says in Jonah chapter 2, look at what it says,

<u>Jonah 2:1-3</u>

¹Then Jonah prayed to the LORD his God from the fish's belly. ² And he said: "I cried out to the LORD because of my affliction, and He answered me. "Out of the belly of Sheol I cried, and You heard my voice.³ For You cast me into the deep, into the heart of the seas, and the floods surrounded me; All Your billows and Your waves passed over me.

Then Jonah prayed to the Lord. When? On the third day. He is right there in the fish's belly for three days and on the third day look at what it says he said, *"I cried out to the Lord because of my affliction and He answered me. Out of the belly of Sheol I cried to the Lord."* He answered me. Yes of course! When? On the third day. *Out of the belly of Sheol*, of hell, *I cried You heard my voice. For You cast me into the deep, into heart of the seas, and the flood surrounded me. All Your billows and Your waves passed over me.* Isn't it interesting? Dealing with Nineveh was so easy. Send the prophet, he just preached the message "40 days and Nineveh gone!" then they all repented. But the prophet, you see, that is exactly what we are even in the Church, many of us and then he says, you know what he says? He is all by himself, left alone, he is right there in the fish's belly. How many of you like fish smell, fish market and that is the reason, in Asterix that fellow is called 'unhygienix', what is his name? Unhygienix, the fishmonger. Asterix and Obelix, Cacophonix. Why is he Cacophonix? It is because when he plays music, it is only cacophony. And what is the fishmonger? Unhygienix.

And then he says, 'My prayer went up to You into Your holy temple.' And then he says, 'O' Lord, those who regard worthless idols forsake their own mercy.' And then he prayed that, so the Lord spoke to the fish, and vomited

Jonah into dry land. Now, bhudhi ochindhi (he learnt his lesson). See then, exactly what happens to Jacob now, he's left alone, he's come to a point in his life, he's become nothing, God emptied him, he's left alone with God. And now God is wrestling with him and showing that he is dust. As for man, his days are as grass, as a flower of the field so he flourishth and the wind passeth over it and it is gone the place thereof remembers no more. It is dust. He remembers of frame that we are like dust. Now they understand, now he understands. So he starts wrestling with God. You know what he says? Lord bless me, Lord bless me, Lord bless me. It says,

Genesis 32:25-26

²⁵ Now when He saw that He did not prevail against him, He touched the socket of his hip; and the socket of Jacob's hip was out of joint as He wrestled with him. ²⁶ And He said, "Let Me go, for the day breaks."But he said, "I will not let You go unless You bless me!"

What was he doing? This is what it says in Hosea 12, about Jacob,

<u>Hosea 12:3-4</u>

³ He took his brother by the heel in the womb, and in his strength he struggled with God.⁴ Yes, he struggled with the Angel and prevailed; He wept, and sought favor from Him. He found Him in Bethel, and there He spoke to us—

He took his brother by the heel in the womb. In the womb he, as infant grabbed his brother's heel, and as a man he struggled with God. He struggled with the Angel, that is God Jesus Himself. And he overcame Him. And he, what? I like it – he wept bitterly. And he said, "Lord, unless You bless me," but the point here is this; something happens to Jacob here.

Genesis 32:28-31

²⁸ And He said, "Your name shall no longer be called Jacob, but Israel; for you have struggled with God and with men, and have prevailed." ²⁹ Then Jacob asked, saying, "Tell me Your name, I pray." And He said, "Why is it that you ask about My name?" And He blessed him there. ³⁰ So Jacob called the name of the place Peniel: "For I have seen God face to face, and my life is preserved." ³¹ Just as he crossed over Penuel the sun rose on him, and he limped on his hip.

And He said your name no longer be called Jacob... you know that conversation that he had. I am just passing by, but Israel for you have struggled with God and with men and you have prevailed. Then Jacob asked saying, "Tell me Your name, I pray," and He said, "Why is that you ask Me about My name?" And He blessed him there. Okay, you don't have to know My name. Later on I will tell Moses, okay. But right now you are not in a position to know My name."

Look at what it says, *and Jacob called the name of the place* what? *Peniel, for I have seen the face of God and I am still alive.* What has happened? What has happened? Why is your life preserved? Remember the demoniac, the demoniac is in the tombs. He has cut himself, he is bleeding all over. And how is he? He is naked. And where is he living? Near the tombs. Jesus comes, heals him, delivers him and then at the end of the chapter it says that he was clothed, in his right mind and sitting at Jesus' feet; he wants to follow Jesus and Jesus says, "Don't follow Me. But go and tell people of what compassion God had on you." How did God show compassion on him? I always think about it - how did God show compassion upon him? How did Jacob see the face of God and his life was preserved? How, how is it possible? You know why, the demoniac experience the compassion of God, you know, why? He was cut, but on the Cross Jesus was cut; he became naked, but on the Cross Jesus became naked; he was near the tombs, but Jesus went inside the tomb. And on the third day He was risen. And you know why Jacob, you can see the face of God and not die? Because My Son took your place on the Cross and I showed Him My face and He took the wrath of God and now you can live, with the Cross everywhere. That is the reason why Isaiah chapter 3 will say, powerful, *Logint F34.5*

<u>Isaiah 53:4-5</u>

⁴ Surely He has borne our griefs and carried our sorrows; Yet we esteemed Him stricken, Smitten by God, and afflicted.⁵ But He was wounded for our transgressions, He was bruised for our iniquities; The chastisement for our peace was upon Him, and by His stripes we are healed.

Because He took it all. Why are we able to see the face of God ? Because Jesus took it all. Why are you not finished Jacob? Why is you life still preserved? Because, because, in your place He died; He absorbed the wrath of God. He became the substitute for you and therefore your life is preserved. *Surely He hath borne our griefs, yet we did*

esteem Him stricken. You see? This is the reason why He was bruised for our iniquity. That is the reason why Psalm will say in *Psalm 51*, look at what he says,

<u>Psalm 51:5-10</u>

⁵ Behold, I was brought forth in iniquity, and in sin my mother conceived me.⁶ Behold, You desire truth in the inward parts, and in the hidden part You will make me to know wisdom.⁷ Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean; wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow.⁸ Make me hear joy and gladness, that the bones You have broken may rejoice.⁹ Hide Your face from my sins, and blot out all my iniquities.¹⁰ Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a steadfast spirit within me.¹¹ Do not cast me away from Your presence, and do not take Your Holy Spirit from me.

Behold I was brought forth in iniquity and in sin my mother conceived me. And where do you desire? Truth in the inward parts, in the hidden part You will make me to know wisdom. Purge me with hyssop and I shall be clean. Wash me and I shall be whiter than snow. Unless You purge me, unless You cleanse me, it is impossible. But what is that? by the blood of the Passover Lamb, purge me, cleanse me, make me to hear the joy and gladness. and then he says, verse 10 - create in me a clean heart or a pure heart. It is possible, you know why? Because of the death of Jesus Christ on the Cross, now we can see God face to face, through Jesus Christ. All our iniquities have been taken on the Cross, all our sins have been paid for on the Cross and now we can see, we can be reconciled with God and we can have peace with God.

Ezekiel 36:26

²⁶ I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit within you; I will take the heart of stone out of your flesh and give you a heart of flesh.

Why is it possible? Because of Jesus; *if any man is in Christ he is a new creation everything that is old has passed away all have become new* and 1 Peter chapter 1 will say,

<u>1 Peter 1:22-23</u>

²² Since you have purified your souls in obeying the truth through the Spirit in sincere love of the brethren, love one another fervently with a pure heart, ²³ having been born again, not of corruptible seed but incorruptible, through the word of God which lives and abides forever,

This pure heart is possible through this new birth. Why is it possible? Because of Jesus Christ on the Cross. Do you know what the Bible says? After Jacob has this encounter, the Bible says - *the sun rose on Jacob*. Remember that? The Son rises on Jacob with healing His wings; the Son of righteousness raises on him with healing in His wing. Now he can experience the love of God, the mercy of God. That is the reason why the hymn writer writes a powerful "*Hark! The herald angels sing.*" Remember? "Christ by highest the Heaven adore, Christ the everlasting One. Lo in time behold He comes, offspring's of the virgin womb. Veiled in flesh the Godhead see, Hail th' incarnate Deity! Pleased as man with man to dwell, Jesus our Emmanuel. Hark! The herald angels sing, glory to the new born King. Christ, by highest heav'n adored, Mild He lays His glory by, Born that man no more may die; Born to raise the sons of earth; Born to give them second birth. Hark the herald angels sing, glory to the new born King."

He is risen with healing in His wings. Do you know why? Now Jacob is able to have a pure heart with God. Do you know why? It is because all his sins have been paid for, now he is reconciled with God, his iniquity has been paid for, his sin has been paid for, now he doesn't have to pretend before God any more, he has seen God face to face through Jesus Christ that is the Cross. So the first, the only way that we can have a pure heart is when we have regular encounters with God near the Cross. Otherwise it is impossible. We have to be left alone. We have to be emptied and God has to wrestle with us. Okay, that is the only that we will begin to have a pure heart. That is the first step.

The second step, how will we continue to nurture this pure heart, is the question. This is *Psalm 73*, this is what it says, everybody knows this Psalm, of Asaph.

<u>Psalm 73:1-3</u>

¹ Truly God is good to Israel, to such as are <u>pure in heart.</u>² But as for me, my feet had almost stumbled; My steps had nearly slipped.³ For I was envious of the boastful, when I saw the prosperity of the wicked.

Pure in heart, because remember, the end of command is love from a what heart? From a pure heart. Now we all are trying to see how to get this pure heart, okay. To such as are pure heart. **But as for me my feet had almost stumbled, my steps had nearly slipped. For I was envious of the boastful, when I saw the prosperity of the wicked.** Asaph is very honest with God. Okay, very, very honest, he say, 'God, You are good to me, and You are good to all those people who have a (what heart?) pure heart. Okay, very, then he says, 'I saw the prosperity of the wicked. Nothing is happening to them, but everything is happening to me. You are regularly emptying me, You are regularly wrestler me, You are regularly making me feel like a worm. But those people You are just leaving them alone, they are enjoying life.'

You know that's exactly what we say, right, when we see our colleague now who are well settled in life, "Lord, they are enjoying their life, but for me. If I do one small mistake You pull me out." And he is very honest in Psalm 73, these people, these wicked people they say, '*How does God know? And is there knowledge in the Most High? Behold this are the ungodly who are always at ease. They increase in there riches* and they you know what he say? *Surely Lord, I have cleansed my heart in vain.* What's the whole purpose of living this pure life before You? How many of you felt like that? Okay, my nano did 1,15,000 kms. Now as it gets old, it has lot of issues with the engine, so in the morning I have to go and start it first, okay because unless it get heated it will not start. So my landlord will make fun of me, he has another nice car, okay and he says, 'Vijay, your car is like one space engine,' what is that? I said, 'What do you mean, Sir?' He said, 'In rocket science, you know what they will do? There is something called as ignition ready. Your nano is like that rocket it has to become ignition ready.' Sarcasm okay. I said, 'Ha! Ha! Ha! Sir!' and I walked away okay.

I am driving my nano. What is he driving? Something bigger, fantastic. And actually when you go to Gachiboli every other car is a BMW, Mercedes Benz, Endeavour and in the middle of that big flow of your traffic is your nano, 10^{-9.} One is that is Hexa 10⁸ and your Nano 10⁻⁹. So you are saying, "Lord, what is this, Lord? My whole life is to please You, to cleanse my hands, but those people? And I am praying, You are not giving me a breakthrough." How many of you felt like that? Honestly, honestly okay honest, honest, let's be honest. Then, you know, that is the reason why you have to come to church, okay. Surely I have cleansed my hands in vain and you know something happens to Asaph,

<u>Psalm 73:14</u>

¹⁴ For all day long I have been plagued, and chastened every morning.

For all day long I have been plagued and chastened every morning, you know what Job says? "Lord, You test me not every day. Every moment You test me." You are like China, that is Chaitanya, Narayana; they don't have just weekly test, they don't have just daily test, they have hourly tests. You are finished. Now, this is like Chaitanya, Narayana; every hour test, test, test, Lord. Those people, no test, but they are getting Corona batch and they are getting promotions after promotions. "What is happening to me Lord?" and that's exactly what I said. When I look at some of my classmates, when I was in university, I was toap mega pand (cat's whiskers) and that fellow now he is professor in McGill University. I said, "This boy, Lord? This fellow used to copy from me." This guy copied from me, he used to call me, you should ask my mother how many of my friends used to call me, "Is Vijay there? Is Vijay is there? Is Vijay is there? Please clear this doubt, please clear this doubt. What is he? Look at his linkedIn profile. What is this, Lord? Unbelievable! You wouldn't believe it! I had Nobel laureate children in my class, and they copied from my assignment and that is why I said, 'Nobel laureate's daughter copied from me.' And then you look at their resume and where they are now? You see?

Psalm 73:14-16

¹⁴ For all day long I have been plagued, And chastened every morning.¹⁵ If I had said, "I will speak thus," Behold, I would have been untrue to the generation of Your children.¹⁶ When I thought how to understand this, It was too painful for me.

If I would have continued to magnified the wicked I would have been untrue to the generation of Your children. *When I thought how to understand this, it was too painful for me.* He was looking at this and he said, "Lord, this is painful, painful, painful." Even Jeremiah says, "Lord, the prosperity of the wicked and You called me from my mother's womb, You sanctified me, You set me apart to be a prophet to the nations and nobody is listening to my

message. Not one convert in my message, Lord. Not even one convert. I am preaching and preaching and preaching and these fellows are becoming harder and harder and harder and they want to kill me now. Lord, how long Lord?"

Do you know what Lord says? He doesn't say, 'Jeremiah I understand what you are going through.' No! God says, "If the foot soldiers are making you like this, what will happen to you when the horsemen come?" 'Thank You Lord! That is so comforting and so reassuring.' In other words, it will become worst. Ha! testulu agava? Agavu. Are the tests not going to stop in my life? No, they won't stop. *When I thought how to understand this it was too painful for me*, painful. Now somebody gets a promotion and you deserve it, how does it feel? Sword goes through your heart but you say, "I am so happy for you brother." Ha! Ha! Avuna? Cha! and look at what it says, next one, this is like the change in the mood, okay; it is like melancholy change mood, it is like the Selah moment, and the music is going on and it say,

<u>Psalm 73:17-18</u>

¹⁷ Until I went into the sanctuary of God; Then I understood their end.¹⁸ Surely You set them in slippery places; You cast them down to destruction.

Until I went, where? *Into the sanctuary of God.* Come to God's house every Sunday if it is too painful for you to see the prosperity of the wicked, you know why? Then I understood their later end. You know Lord, what You are doing? It would have better for You if You would stop their prosperity, at least they would have sought the Lord in their misery. But You are conforming them in their rebellion by prospering them. Thank God, You have been merciful to me till today, till this year. What did You do? You surely put them in what places? Slippery places. Now think about it. Go, do this experiment when you go home. Pour oil on the floor and stand on it. Pour oil on the floor or at least soap water on the floor. Can you walk confidently on soap water? Even if you balance carefully and say, "Yeah! Nothing happened! Nothing happened! You do not know when you will fall. The very next moment, you might fall and you know what? You can fall without warning. That is exactly what God is saying.

You know what? Wicked will fall and they will perish without warning. But My (God's) children, no, not without warning. 'O surely Lord I have cleansed my heart in vain. Surely You cast them down to destruction.' You should read 'The Sinners In The Hands of An Angry God' by Jonathan Edward. Boy! I have never read anything like that. No wonder revival happened after that; people were literally holding onto the pews when they were listening to the message, either they wanted kill him or they wanted to change. That is the reason why when the Holy Spirit comes they will not be any people who walk on the wall. No 'cats on the wall' are not going to be there. You know what he is going to do? He is going to electrify the fence, all the fence-sitters will either be inside or outside. *You set them in slippery place*, Lord. Do you know why? I know where I am going, but they do not know. I know my latter end, they do not know their latter end. In fact I know their latter end, they don't even know where they are going.

Till this morning, I looked at myself and I said, 'Lord, if You had not call me, if You would have not stripped me, if You would have not made me empty, if You would have not made me alone... You know, those were the 6 months in my life I was empty. I took the Word of God and I devoured for 6 months; morning, noon, night. 24/7 my roommates were shocked. They looked at me and said, "Vijay, what is wrong with you? What's going on?" I was in the midst of all my roommates but I was alone with God wrestling. Till today, in the morning I said, "Lord, had it not been for that moment in my life, and the series of events that have happened in my life, I wouldn't have been here. I wouldn't know where I was going." See my dear brothers and sisters God in His mercy has afflicted you this morning, in His mercy.

Psalm 73:21-24

²¹ Thus my heart was grieved, and I was vexed in my mind.²² I was so foolish and ignorant; I was like a beast before You.²³ Nevertheless I am continually with You; You hold me by my right hand.²⁴ You will guide me with Your counsel, and afterward receive me to glory.

Now my heart is grieved for right reason, not because of their prosperity. *And I was vexed in my mind.* You know the word vexed is? 'I was cut in my kidneys' that's what it means. My inmost parts. I was pierced inside. You know why? It is because I wrongfully indicted You, Lord; that You are unjust and unfair. *I was so foolish and ignorant* I was like a, what before You? *I was beast before You. Nevertheless, I am continually with You,* You are dealing with me,

You are working with me. You hold me by Your right hand, You guide me with Your counsel. And after that, what will You do? You will receive me, You will justify me, You will sanctify me. And one day when I suffer with Him I also will be glorified together with Him. You will.

And then he says,

Psalm 73:25

²⁵Whom have I in heaven but You? And there is none upon earth that I desire besides You. ²⁶My flesh and my heart fail; But God is the strength of my heart and my portion forever. ²⁷For indeed, those who are far from You shall perish; You have destroyed all those who desert You for harlotry.

But it is good for me to draw near to God, I have put my trust in the Lord God, that I may declare all your works. So what is God doing with Asaph? What is God doing with Asaph over here? Do you know what God is doing? He is disciplining him and pruning him. Do you know what the Bible says? It is to the Father's glory that you bear fruit, but the person who bears fruits, what will God do? He will prune so that you bear more fruits. So that the Father is glorified more. Do you know why? Do you know why? Do you know why? I leave this people alone and do you know why I am concerned about you?

<u>Amos 3:1-2</u>

¹ Hear this word that the LORD has spoken against you, O children of Israel, against the whole family which I brought up from the land of Egypt, saying: ² "You only have I known of all the families of the earth; Therefore I will punish you for all your iniquities."

You only have I known. Oh! Oh! Lord! You know this is, in other words, "I know you only,' means, 'I know you because I made a covenant with you by sacrifice.' So what am I going to do? I am going to punish for your iniquities. I know you I am going to bless you. I am going to visit You. The word 'punish' is very pleasant. You know people don't like it, of course. "Punishment niku" ante 'Punishment for you' nobody likes it. I like the word 'visit'. Do you know where the word 'visit' occurs for the very first time? "By this time, according to time of life I will visit you and Sarah will have a son." That is the word 'visit'. Okay. Why? Because I am (God is) your Father. And what am I going to do? Visit you. For what? Your iniquities. You see, if you are born to a Math teacher, (okay my daughters are staring at me) I am going visit you for your iniquity, becuase when I look at your paper, full iniquity. Yeah, exactly.

I mean the other day, one of my daughter, I don't want to mention name because they will get hurt now a days. She did a division problem, she got a remainder; when divisor was 74 she got remainder of 120. I said, you all are laughing. I asked, 'Which text book are you following?' This is accelerated Christian education 120 is your remainder? She is absolutely nonchalant - remainder is equal to so and so, there is 120 answer. Over! Take your question! I said, "I am going to visit you for your iniquity. And then I took her to my office and I drilled her, you know I become china for few days. From morning till evening, okay, so all my daughters are different; they are very, very, different. Everybody has to be told in different ways. I can't use one characteristic method for everybody. No. They have to be taught in different, different, ways because how come you got 120 as remainder? Arey baba! This is because I love you, okay. You know I will tell you something. At least when you are a math teacher, the most difficult arithmetic operation to master is division and I saw big, big, people in software companies who make mistakes. 'Do the division.' They will not be able to do it, because they are very intuitive, very, very, intuitive. Okay, you should teach division in different ways to the children. So that is where you will find maximum iniquity. Okay, so what am I going to do? I am your father, I love you, so I am going to sit with you. I am going to labour with you in love. You mother laboured only for 9 months, of course Emmanuel is 18 hours labour. For me they are like once I see the mistakes, I don't know I can smell an error. I look at that number from far away and I am like, "What is that number over there? How did he get it?" I mean it sounds so odd. I mean they are all nonchalant, they give their answers just like that and say, 'It is over, sir,' What is over? You are over. If you continue like this, I am telling you. You see, which exam is it where you will get more tension? In a personal interview? or a written test? Personal interview. That is a reason in our University, do you know what the professor used to say? 'We have no final exam.' Oh! Yeah! Only assignment? 'No, I have viva, because I am going to interview you,' Do you know what interview means? I am going to see your inside; is there truth in your inward parts? Because I want to make you a pure robotist. Similarly,

<u>Psalms 89:30-34</u>

³⁰ "If his sons forsake My law and do not walk in My judgments, ³¹ If they break My statutes and do not keep My commandments, ³² Then I will punish their transgression with the rod, and their iniquity with stripes.³³ Nevertheless

*My lovingkindness I will not utterly take from him, Nor allow My faithfulness to fail.*³⁴ *My covenant I will not break, nor alter the word that has gone out of My lips.*

Now this is different and then goes on to say, *Nevertheless My lovingkindness I will not utterly take from him, Nor allow My faithfulness to fail. My covenant I will not break, nor alter the word that has gone out of My lips.* Do you know why? It is because you're My son, I am going to visit you for your iniquity. I have to straighten you because I want to bless you, because God will never be able to bless Jacob. I love Jacob, but I will not allow him to become Jacob, he has to become Israel. Therefore *Proverb 20:30* will say, easy to remember, there is a vision 2030 for the world. God also has 2030reset. What is 2030 reset?

Proverbs 20:30

³⁰ Blows that hurt cleanse away evil, as do stripes the inner depths of the heart.

Blows and wounds that is 2030. What do they do? They scrub away evil. Have you ever been scruber? basanlu tomara miru? When you wash your utensils what do you do? Steel scruber, all the oil layer and everything has to go, right?

Proverbs 20:30 NIV

³⁰ Blows and wounds scrub away evil, and beatings purge the inmost being.

Let us look at it in different renderings so that we get a complete picture, okay.

<u>Proverbs 20:30</u> NKJV 30 Blows that hurt cleanse away evil,

'Blows that hurt' I like that. Blows have to hurt. If you just tap them lightly, he will laugh at you. "I know my mother she will say, 'oh beta don't do it,' and she will slightly pat me." I was listening to Derek Prince the other day, I think one of the mother's daughter, when her child or son, used some word which came out of the mouth which is out of order, do you know what she did? She put soap and she said, "I want to cleanse your mouth," and she used soap and nicely brushed his teeth. Next time onwards he was careful. That is what we call "blows the hurt" Oh! You should not hurt their feelings. What is that? What will you do? What will you do? Okay, you want o make it little more clear?

Proverbs 20:30 NKJV

30 Blows that hurt cleanse away evil, as do stripes the inner depths of the heart.

Look at what it says in the New Living Translation, it's a beautiful translation.

Proverbs 20:30 NLT

30 Physical punishment cleanses away evil; such discipline purifies the heart.

Physical punishment, I like that. Physical punishment cleanse away evil such a discipline purifies the heart. It purifies the heart. Why? Love from a pure heart. Unless and until the Lord disciplines you, you actually have not known His love. Unless and until your Pastor cannot speak tough words with you, you cannot experience the love of the Father through your Pastor. It is very easy to call 'paapu' but very difficult to allow him to be paapu. Look at what it says in Psalm 141, not my words; let Vijay be lair, let God be true.

Psalms 141:3-4

³ Set a guard, O LORD, over my mouth; Keep watch over the door of my lips.⁴ Do not incline my heart to any evil thing, to practice wicked works with men who work iniquity; And do not let me eat of their delicacies. Let the righteous strike me; It shall be a kindness. And let him rebuke me; It shall be as excellent oil; Let my head not refuse it. For still my prayer is against the deeds of the wicked.

That is the reason why it says - abstain from every appearance of evil, run away from youthful lust, pursue righteousness and faith and love from those who call upon God from pure heart, from a pure heart. **To practice** wicked works with men who work iniquity and do not let me ear of their delicacies, and then it goes on to say, let the righteous kiss me? No, strike me and it shall be what? Kindness. Yes. It is not my words. And let him rebuke me it shall be excellent oil. You know why there is no anointing in the Church? Because you do not allow the righteous

to strike. Not 'kiss me' but strike me. Do you know why? Because God is building and rotting a character through the disciplining that He is taking you through. He is cleansing you of all your motives, He is cleansing you of all you intentions, He is cleansing you of all wrong thoughts, from all wrong ideologies, He is showing you what works and what does not work. That is the reason why Jeremiah chapter 6, verse 16 will say,

Jeremiah 6:16

¹⁶ Thus says the LORD: "Stand in the ways and see, and ask for the old paths, where the good way is, and walk in it; Then you will find rest for your souls. But they said, 'We will not walk in it.'

Go and stand and look for the ancient paths, inquire among all the paths and look for the holy ancient paths. Then it will be excellent. Then it goes on to say in *Romans chapter 5*,

<u>Romans 5:3-5</u>

³ And not only that, but we also glory in tribulations, knowing that tribulation produces perseverance; ⁴ and perseverance, character; and character, hope. ⁵ Now hope does not disappoint, because the love of God has been poured out in our hearts by the Holy Spirit who was given to us.

And not only this, but we also celebrate in, what? Not Christmas, but in tribulation. Why? Knowing that tribulation brings about, what? Perseverance.

<u>Romans 5:4</u>

⁴and perseverance proven character; and proven character, hope ⁵ and hope does not disappoint, because the love of God has been poured out within our hearts through the Holy Spirit who was given to us.

This is NASB (New American Standard Bible) and perseverance, what character? Proven character and proven character brings hope and that hope does not disappoint but because the love of God has been shall brought in our hearts but where, where, where? And it's here, it's here - proven character. The point is that we want character which is not proven. So, first, God has to give you a clean heart, that is when you come to the Cross, acknowledge your sin, you meet God and when He confronts you, when you repent of your sins, you have what we called as a 'clean heart and pure heart.' He gives you that, a clean heart and a pure heart. And then through the process of pruning and corrections and disciplining He continues to prune your heart, He continues to cleans it from all wrong motives because, you know what, out of your heat are, what of life? Issues of life. Because there is an old nature and there is a new nature and the new nature has to be constantly nourished and cherished and brought forth. So all thoughts and everything has to be cleansed and God will cleans you and God will take you through situations that is the reason why He takes them, first He gives them incredible victory near the Red sea and He takes them the three days journey and brings them to Mara, and He say, there He proved them. And do you know what it says? What happened? The bitter waters turned sweet. It is not the Cross for you, now it is the Cross in you. There's a lot of difference. It is not the Cross for you. Yes, but the Cross in you, understand that. So first is encounter with God, second is pruning with God, and the third kind of cleansing,

<u>Hosea 10:1-2</u>

¹ Israel empties his vine; He brings forth fruit for himself. According to the multitude of his fruit He has increased the altars; According to the bounty of his land they have embellished his sacred pillars.² Their heart is divided; Now they are held guilty. He will break down their altars; He will ruin their sacred pillars.

Their heart is divided. Now they are all guilty. First, He give you a new heart, second He cleanses you of all wrong motives, the third thing, what does He do? He brings unity in your heart. Look at what it says in Ezekiel chapter 34 verse 26, everybody knows this,

Ezekiel 36:26

²⁶ I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit within you; I will take the heart of stone out of your flesh and give you a heart of flesh.

I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit within you. Everybody knows this and same in the verse - I will take away the heart of stone out of your flesh and give you a heart of flesh, meaning a heart which is teachable, which is malleable which is easy to yield, which I can instruct etc, etc, etc... but look at how it say in Ezekiel chapter 11 verse 19 just put these two verses in your mind. Look at what it say in Ezekiel 11 verse 19,

Ezekiel 11:19

¹⁹ Then I will give them one heart, and I will put a new spirit within them, and take the stony heart out of their flesh, and give them a heart of flesh,

And I will give them, what? Not a new heart now, but *a one heart*. One heart, and put a what? *New spirit within them, and I will remove the heart of stone from their flesh and give them a heart of flesh*, same words but here what is He saying? Not 'a new heart' but that new heart is a 'one heart'. Other translations look at what it says in the NIV,

Ezekiel 11:19

¹⁹I will give them an <u>undivided heart</u> and put a new spirit in them; I will remove from them their heart of stone and give them a heart of flesh.

God will unite your heart, man will break your heart. Everybody know it, you all are very, very, romantic, "Don't break my heart. My achey breaky heart." Kay bath hai! You give it to man he will break it. Do you know that is exactly what happened to the Samaritan woman? Five men broke her heart, sixth man continuous to break her heart and the seventh Man comes, and do you know what He says? "I want to heal your heart." That is the reason why Jesus says, "The Lord has anointed to Me to preach the Gospel to poor, to bind the broken hearted. To give them singleness, that's what it say in New Living Translation. Look at what it says in the New Living Translation. I will give them, what? Singleness of heart. Singleness of heart. A pure heart is a single heart. It is not a divided heart, it does not have a divided loyalties. It is loyal to God. It says in Isaiah chapter 50, you know what it says? "Morning by morning You woke Me up, I gave My ear as a disciple, You gave me a tongue of a disciple. And do You know what I did? I did not hide My face from those who smote Me, but on the contrary I fixed My face like a flint," singleness of heart. That is the reason why the Psalmist, you know what he says? Psalm 86:11-12

Psalm 86:11-12

¹¹ Teach me Your way, O LORD; I will walk in Your truth; <u>Unite my heart</u> to fear Your name.¹² I will praise You, O Lord my God, <u>with all my heart</u>, And I will glorify Your name forevermore.

Teach me Your way, O LORD; I will walk in Your truth and look at this unite my heart to do what? **To fear Your name.** How do you know that you have a singleness of heart? When you have a reverence and fear of God in your heart for God, that is when I know that you have singleness of heart, because you are conscious in everything that you do whether it is bringing glory to God or not glorifying to God; you are conscious about God all the time. *I will praise You, O Lord my God,* with what? *all my heart because* you know why? Because You have united my heart, You have made it one; it is not divided. That is the reason why a church that does not preach separation is robbing the Church of the blessing that God has reserved for them. You know what he says? *be saved from this untoward generation.* That what it says. He says, *with many words He extorted them and He said, "Be saved from this untoward generation," and all those who gladly receive the word were baptized and they continued steadfastly in the apostle's doctrine* etc, etc, etc..

So yield, my dear brothers, do you know why? It is because in the last days lawlessness will abound and love of may will grow cold. Why? Because of lawlessness. And you know what the Bible says? Yield your members. Once upon a time you yielded your members as an instrument of lawlessness. Now yield your members as instruments of righteousness. Do you know what you should focus on? On yielding, my dear brothers. Yielding to what? To that form of doctrine, that was delivered to you; obey with your whole heart.

<u>James 4:4-8</u>

⁴ Adulterers and adulteresses! Do you not know that friendship with the world is enmity with God? Whoever therefore wants to be a friend of the world makes himself an enemy of God. ⁵ Or do you think that the Scripture says in vain, "The Spirit who dwells in us yearns jealously"? ⁶ But He gives more grace. Therefore He says: "God resists the proud, But gives grace to the humble." ⁷ Therefore submit to God. Resist the devil and he will flee from you. ⁸ Draw near to God and He will draw near to you. Cleanse your hands, you sinners; and purify your hearts, you double-minded.

Adulterers and adulteresses, see God is gender perfect. No gender confusion over here, all you adulteress, no because women have different kind of adultery, men have different kind of adultery. **Do you not know** *that friendship with the world is enmity with God? Whoever therefore wants to be a friend of the world makes*

himself an enemy of God. Boy! There is no two ways about it. That is the reason why *don't be conformed to the patterns of this world, but be transformed.* Why? Or *do you think that the Scripture says in vain, "The Spirit dwells in us yearns jealously*? In other words, it has got this kind of love; a jealous love for you. I am not going to share that love you have for Me with anybody else. Please, sorry, sorry, sorry, sorry. Think about it know, think about it, think about it. I mean husband and wife, this should be normal in husband and wife relationship, 'Why are you talking to that girl like that?' It should happened. 'Why are you watching that person? It should happened. 'Why were you laughing like that when that person made a comment like that?' It should happened. 'Why is your face blushing?' You know why? because a wife should be jealous for love of her husband, and husband has to be jealous of the love of his wife. Just like Christ is jealous for the affections of His Church, that is what we call as zeal, my dear bothers.

That is the reason why we celebrated Phinehas. Do you know why? He was zealous with the zeal of God. The zeal for God's house has consumed him, it says in John's Gospel chapter 2. "I am not going to share your heart with anybody else. Sorry. You are Mine because I bought you. I bought I paid the price for you."

And that is the reason why we have to teach our children loyalty, right from childhood so that one day when they grow up they become loyal to their spouses and they don't break covenants like they break in the last days - *the love may has grown cold*. Think about it! You know in a husband and wife relationship, are you jealous for the husband relationship? It should be normal, it should be. "Why are you dressing like that? For me or for somebody else?" Why? Those questions have to be asked. Because we are living in a world where covenant breakers are dime a dozen these days. You know what it says? You read some Christian websites 'Divorce for 120 dollars', 'Divorce made easy', so easy.

The Spirit yarns intensely, jealously for you. It is good, it is good to have jealously among husband and wife Do you know why? The Bible says, 'Jealously is the husband's fury and even if you try to give him many gifts he will not be appeased.' Can a man take a fire in his bosom and his cloths not be burnt? Answer? No. It's a rhetorical question. Therefore he says, "Whoever visit an harlot he will have irreparable damage to his soul. Irreparable! The scars will be left for rest of his life. There is a difference between wound and burns, burns stay for rest of your life. There is a burn here (on my chest) for me. It's a huge mark. I playing in those days with Diwali cracked, and I burnt my chest. Gone! One big burn here and it will stay here for rest of my life. Same thing, therefore God says, you know what, He is jealous for us, He says, "I do not want to share My loyalty and your loyalty with anybody else. Sorry!"

Look what it says,

<u>James 4:6-8</u>

⁶But He gives more grace. Therefore He says, "God resists the proud, but gives grace to the humble." ⁷Therefore submit to God. Resist the devil and he will flee from you. ⁸Draw near to God and He will draw near to you. Cleanse your hands, you sinners; and purify your hearts, you double-minded.

You divided people, you have divided loyalties. Come on! Purify your hearts! Otherwise you will have no pure love; it is all sentimental love without any genuine relationship. You know my wife was telling me, 'If your company knows you are having a dual job, do you know what they will do? They will fire you, that's it, it is over, 'Sorry sir, I am not able to make my ends meet. I am doing the part time work.' Sorry, leave! You can't have divided loyalties.

<u>James 4:9</u>

9 Lament and mourn and weep!

Lament and mourn therefore and weep. O' you weep! Do you know something? You should read the book of Jeremiah; the book of Jeremiah is all about different kinds of disciplines. Discipline your heart, discipline your tongue, have a disciplined cry also. You know what it says? Call the mourners, call the mourners and teach them how to mourn. Boy! What a statement that is! What a statement! And do you know who wrote the book of Lamentations? Jeremiah. In other words lament systematically. Because every lamentation chapter has 22 verses, 22 verses is an acrostic. It is not acoustic; it is an acrostic, exactly according to the Hebrew alphabet; Alef to Tav. So if you want to cry, I will show you how to cry. "I want to cry more." No problem, Lamentation chapter 3, you have 66 verses, you can cry more but systematically. Can you morn like that? You howl and wail, for what? What are you morning for? One of the things that I told my daughters, I said, "You know what? When you cry, weep when you sin against God. That is when you have to shed you tears." Then your tears will be put in God's bottle. Divided loyalties, no. God is not going to accept it.

Luke 16:13

¹³ "No servant can serve two masters; for either he will hate the one and love the other, or else he will be loyal to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and mammon."

No one can servant two masters. You will do, what? Hate and love. You will be devoted or despise. Hate, love, devoted, despise. God will not accept divided loyalties. He says that you will take that into every spear of your life. You know today we have what we call as feedback forms. Do you know those days when we went to school whether you like the teacher or not you endure the class. There was nothing like, 'How did you like the lecturer?' Feedback form - was he good? Was he funny? was he explaining things properly? etc, etc, etc... Nowadays what do we have? Feedback forms. Do you like your teacher? Sorry, majority people will say, 'We don't like the teacher.' So what will they do? They will fire the teacher.

Now let us go the next level - do you like your father? Your mother? Feedback form. "My father, no I don't like my father, I don't like my mother." CPS will come and take you. Now next level - do you like your husband? Feedback form. "No I don't like my husband." Change your husband, change your wife. This is exactly how it is. In those days whether you like it or not, you sit in the class. Whether you like the teacher or not, but now feedback. I am not saying that there are not negatives with that, there are negatives. But I am talking about the mind set. You see? We change. You know, one of the things that is very difficult for me - Once I have made up my mind about something, I stayed there for rest of my life, finished! Over! Only God has to move me. Once I locked into one girl, that's it over. No feedback. "For better or for worst, richer or poorer, in sickness or in health." Finished! That is what we called as covenant, covenant. My loyalty is undivided.

Same thing we will go to God. Do you like this God? Feedback form, that's what Aaron did – "we do not know what happened to the Moses?" "Okay, what kind of god do you want? Give me feedback form." This is the god he made "These are your gods." You have changed God to 'gods' now; you have multiple gods, you can choose now. These are the gods who bought you out of Israel.

Oh my dear brothers, what kind of world are we living in? Think about it. Feedback, feedback, feedback, feedback and then same thing will come to Church also feedback. Constructive feedback should be there. Okay, I am not taking about that. I am talking about, you know what, "I don't like this," "this is too tough," finished. So in lot of places they ask you, 'How do you like the service? What shall we do to better so that you will come back next time?' Divided loyalties, do you know something? Stick to one place until God moves you. I am not saying that people should not move; they should move in God's appointed time, in God's appointed way, get the blessing of the church, get the blessing of the leadership and go in peace and it will go well with you. It is for everybody. If God has to move me out of this place, if that day ever has to come, I will say, "Lord, I want to move in Your time, in Your way, when You ask me to move. And I have got conformation from everybody, I have got blessing of the church, and then I am going to move.

Luke 10:41-42

⁴¹ And Jesus answered and said to her, "Martha, Martha, you are worried and troubled about many things. ⁴² But one thing is needed, and Mary has chosen that good part, which will not be taken away from her."

One thing is needful - undivided loyalty and Mary has chosen that path. I like this, God is making us one, right? one one, 1 kings 11 okay look at what it says verse 1,

1 Kings 11:1-4

¹ But King Solomon loved many foreign women, as well as the daughter of Pharaoh: women of the Moabites, Ammonites, Edomites, Sidonians, and Hittites—² from the nations of whom the LORD had said to the children of Israel, "You shall not intermarry with them, nor they with you. Surely they will turn away your hearts after their gods." Solomon clung to these in love.³ And he had seven hundred wives, princesses, and three hundred concubines; and his wives turned away his heart. ⁴ For it was so, when Solomon was old, that his wives turned his heart after other gods; and his heart was not loyal to the LORD his God, as was the heart of his father David.

But King Solomon loved many foreign women. Kay baat hai! You cannot, it is impossible, and what happens? Surely they will turn away your hearts. And what happens, Solomon clung to these in love and he had seven hundred princesses and three hundred concubines, and his wives ultimately turned his heart away. For it was so when Solomon was old that his wives turned his heart away after other God and was not loyal to the Lord his God as was his father David. Purity of heart, and the third thing is having undivided loyalty toward God and God is doing that in

all of us. He puts before us, 'Choose today whom will you serve? If Baal is god worship him, if Yahweh is God worship Him. And you make a choice today." Amen. So we have love from a pure heart, from a clear conscience and sincere faith, we looked at a pure heart and I want to look at a good conscience in the time that we have. It is very simple, very, very, simple.

<u>Romans 2:15</u>

¹⁵ who show the work of the law written in their hearts, their conscience also bearing witness, and between themselves their thoughts accusing or else excusing them.

¹⁵ who show the work of the law written in their hearts, that's the reason why your heart is important first, their conscience also bearing witness, so where is the conscience? In your heart. So what should the conscience do? It is the warning sign, if you are doing wrong it will accuse you, if you are doing right it will excuse you. And then it says in 1 Samuel chapter 24, look at what it says,

<u> 1 Samuel 24:5-7</u>

⁵ Now it happened afterward that David's heart troubled him because he had cut Saul's robe. ⁶ And he said to his men, "The LORD forbid that I should do this thing to my master, the LORD's anointed, to stretch out my hand against him, seeing he is the anointed of the LORD." ⁷ So David restrained his servants with these words, and did not allow them to rise against Saul. And Saul got up from the cave and went on his way.

Afterward David was conscience stricken for having cut off the corner of his robe. That is the man after God's own heart. David was what stricken? Conscience stricken. Look at another translation

1 Samuel 24:5 KJV

⁵ And it came to pass afterward, that David's heart smote him, because he had cut off Saul's skirt.

So where is the conscience? In your heart. That is where you train it now, because you been have trained by the Word of God in your heart. You believe in your heart and you know the right convictions are there inside of your heart and there is a warning sign whenever you go wrong. Does your heart smite you? Does your heart smite you? Think about it. He cut off the edge of Saul's robe, and after that sleepless nights, "Oh Lord, what did I do!" Does it bother you? When you do something which is wrong and you know it is wrong and you have to put it right and it's conscience is bothering you and bothering you and bothering you and bothering, but you know what? You harden and harden and harden, you do not listen to the voice of your conscience. Does your heart smite you? This is what happens to David, in 2 Samuel Chapter 11 it is danger,

<u>2 Samuel 11:10-11</u>

¹⁰ So when they told David, saying, "Uriah did not go down to his house," David said to Uriah, "Did you not come from a journey? Why did you not go down to your house?"¹¹ And Uriah said to David, "The ark and Israel and Judah are dwelling in tents, and my lord Joab and the servants of my lord are encamped in the open fields. Shall I then go to my house to eat and drink, and to lie with my wife? As you live, and as your soul lives, I will not do this thing."

Look at this. Uriah said, "How can I do this and sleep in my home with a clear conscience, when all my buddies are fighting in the war? How can I do it? How can I sleep?" Does your conscience bother you?

<u>John 8:7-9</u>

⁷ So when they continued asking Him, He raised Himself up and said to them, "He who is without sin among you, let him throw a stone at her first." ⁸ And again He stooped down and wrote on the ground. ⁹ Then those who heard it, being convicted by their conscience, went out one by one, beginning with the oldest even to the last. And Jesus was left alone, and the woman standing in the midst.

It says - *and when they heard it*... they have been convicted by their own conscience. Does your conscience convict you? That is the reason why a pure heart is important, otherwise you will not have love. It will be all sentiment. So love from a pure heart, good conscience and a sincere faith. So you know what a pure heart is and you know what a good conscience is, right? Now we need to have sincere faith. A good conscience, by the way that is the reason why Paul says, *"I endure to keep my conscience clear with God and with man.* Otherwise I not have this pure love.

2 Timothy 1:3-5

³ I thank God, whom I serve with a pure conscience, as my forefathers did, as without ceasing I remember you in my prayers night and day, ⁴ greatly desiring to see you, being mindful of your tears, that I may be filled with joy, ⁵ when I call to remembrance the [a]genuine faith that is in you, which dwelt first in your grandmother Lois and your mother Eunice, and I am persuaded is in you also.

I thank God whom I serve, as my ancestors did with a clear conscience. Kay baat hai! with a clear conscience. I love that. *As night and day I constantly remember you in my prayers.* Now look at this - *recalling your tears I long to see you so that I may be filled with you I am reminded of your <u>sincere faith.</u> How did it come? <i>which was first in your grandmother and in your mother.* Now it is also found in you. How did this guy, Timothy, get this sincere faith? Faith comes from hearing and from hearing the Word of God. Faith towards whom? Towards a Person, faithfulness toward a Person. Look at what it says in 2 Timothy chapter 3. This is what 2 Timothy chapter 3 says, as to how you can get this sincere faith.

<u>2 Timothy 3:15-17</u>

¹⁵ and that from childhood you have known the Holy Scriptures, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus.¹⁶ All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness, ¹⁷ that the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work.

And that from childhood you have known the holy Scriptures, who taught you? Your grandmother and your mother who had this sincere faith, they transmitted this sincere faith by the preaching of, what? Of the holy Scriptures, which is able to make you wise for salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus. This is that faith, this sincere faith which comes through Holy scriptures. Why? All scripture is given by the inspiration of God, is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete thoroughly equipped for every good work. What does it mean? God has to give us the whole counsel, the whole counsel, all Scripture, the good part of the Scripture, the bad part of the Scripture, the ugly part of the Scripture. All Scripture. So that you get what is right, you know what is wrong, you get corrected, and you continue in this way of righteousness. *For My righteous shall live by faith.* From what kind of faith? Sincere faith, and only then when you have this three pillars, your love is genuine. Otherwise it is some sentimental, sloppy love that the Bible never talks about.

Three pillars of love this morning - Pure heart; a good conscience and a sincere faith.

And that is how God wroughts this love in your heart through this process of purging your heart, granting you a good conscience where your convictions strong. And then even as you surrender yourself and submit yourself to the teaching of the Word of God you get what we call as 'sincere faith' and from there you get this love; stable, unchanging, constant love towards God; a disciplined love, not a childish love; a love of a man who is truly genuinely, spiritual.

By this shall all know you are My disciples. How? The love that you have and how do you get this love? From a pure heart, good conscience and from a sincere faith. Make these three strong, every day do your life. When your conscience convicts you, straighten it up; straighten yourself, not the conscience, because ultimately you can warp your conscience also. That is what we called as a seared conscience and it says, some people having a seared conscience made a shipwreck of their faith. You want a sincere faith or a shipwreck faith? It all depends upon this conscience. And how do you have a clear conscience? because law of God is written in your heart, through the New Covenant convictions have been formed and then when you go to Potiphar's house you will say, "I want to keep my conscience clear before God. How can I do this great sin against God?" "Oh please! Master of the eunuchs, I do not want to defile myself. Please can you give me vegetable? I do not want to defile myself. I don't want to sin against my God. I want to keep myself pure, good conscience. You know what happens? With that you will get boldness because your conscience is your first witness and when you speak your conscience will say, "Yes Vijay! That is true, speak on because your conscience has been trained by the Word of God from a pure heart, to the good conscience, to sincere faith.

So this morning can we all stand up?

Series on love, we are people of the New Covenant. I do not know, maybe you are going through a process of pruning in your own life, don't fight God; yield, whatever the situation be, yield and say, "Lord, I hang on to You. I cling on to You. I am made a covenant. I want to be like Ruth, Lord. I have a sincere, undivided love for You. 'Where you go I go, your God my God, your people my people, where you die I die.' and when Naomi saw that her mind was made up she quit arguing with Ruth. And this morning, say,

Closing prayer:

"Lord make my heart undivided Lord. Lord, make me one, make me one in my heart otherwise it's divided, it is impure, and I will not have that sincere love. The love that You want us to have, unless it is from a pure heart, and therefore wrought me Lord, that pure heart O Lord and let me fight Your disciplining. Let me not fight Your pruning, let me yield so that I have that love that You desire for me to have. Not sentimental, not sloppy but sincere. Love without dissimulation, love that is pure, love that covers but it is not afraid to confront at the same time, because it is only through confronting that we cover. Grant us that kind of love, a sincere love for one another, a pure love.

This morning O' Lord touch each and every one of us. Beginning with me O Lord, Lord so many times we silenced the voice of our conscience which was screaming at us, but we silenced it, it was bothering us, but we justified it. But Lord, this morning enable us Lord to develop that sincere, tender, good conscience and it convicts us that we would make corrections, like David O Lord, his heart smote him when he did a small mistake but he was sensitive to Your Spirit and therefore he remain teachable all the days of his life and he was a man who could truly, truly love You. He could say, **"Lord I love You, You are my Rock, Your are my fortress,"** and that became Scripture because that was genuine true love, love without dissimulation. Teach us Your ways, show us Your paths, write Your laws in the deep most parts of our inner man and cause us to walk in Your ways. To that end I pray that You would bless us even as we go about this week, touch us and bless us. I thank You Father for this time, I praise You, I worship You, I give You glory. For in Jesus' might name we pray. Amen. May the grace of our Jesus Christ, the love of the Father and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit rest and abide with each one of us. Amen. Amen.

God bless you. Have sincere loving fellowship with one another.

God bless you.