

What is salvation; Where did it happen?

consist of a body, soul & spirit.

Body being your 'xarks' flesh, your soul being your mind/personality, and your spirit is where the born again transformation took place.

When a person believes on the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth. The man of Galilee who bled and died and was resurrected on the third day. When you believe that this person was truly God and truly Man and that He reconciled you to the Father and that you are saved by grace through faith. Not a change in perspective, but a spiritual act of placing faith in the salvific and historic act of Christ. It is then, and only after that spiritual act of believing on the one and only name, that something profound takes place.

A spiritual union takes place between your spirit and the spirit of Christ. In your spirit you are sealed by the Holy Spirit. 'An absolute spiritual transformation. Behold the old has passed away all things have been made new.' And now you 'have been blessed' (past tense) with all blessings in heavenly places. And now through your relationship with Christ you are seated (past tense) with Christ.

How do we come before the Lord? / In the name of Christ / Christ gave us His relationship with the Father. Weet nie hoekom mense sukkel met dit nie, want as dit eenegsins gegaan het oor werke ons eie 'effort' was ons almal verdoem. Die psalmskrywer se tereg: "If you oh Lord, kept a record of our sin, who could stand?" Die profet Jesaja skryf dat ons beste selfs ons mees morele dade totaal kort skiet: "As filthy rags before me..."

PAULUS het die realiteit van genade goed vestaan. Hy skryf in Effersiers 2:8 **by grace you are saved through faith, and that not of yourselves, it is the gift of God,**

STORIE OOR MA EN "N VRIENDING; "JY GAAN HEL TOE OMDAT JY ROOK" – Johan sê dit altyd so mooi; 'an offense to the cross' – kan later praat 'faith without works are dead'

SALVATION IS NOT SANCTIFICATION – [Rev 3:19](#) As many as I love, I rebuke and chasten; therefore be zealous and repent.

[Php 2:12](#) Wherefore, my beloved, as ye have always obeyed, not as in my presence only, but now much more in my absence, **work out your own salvation** with fear and trembling.

[1Th 5:23](#) And the very God of peace sanctify you wholly; and *I pray God* your whole spirit and soul and body **be preserved blameless** unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

What was the point of salvation?

Adam in the Garden; tempted by Satan; 'sondeval' – hoekom red God die mens? Want Hy is lief vir hulle. Want Hy wil met hulle in verhouding wees.

REVELATION: God het jou geskep met een primere doel; en dit is om Hom te ken. Jou besittings, roeping, werk ens. is vir Hom minder belangrik as die persoon. Hy sal al jou 'bedinge' opoffer net om by jou uit te kom.

Three Types of Love

Three 'types/modes of love' are observed in God's interaction with His creation, or more specifically, humans. This observation is based on natural observation and studying Scripture. First we have the **relationship that exists between Creator and creation** (Psalm 19:1, Romans 1:20). We have form and exist,

because of Him. He is our source of life. This first level of love is intimate because God created you, specifically, and knew you, before you were formed in 'your mother's womb'. However, this level of love is only the beginning of our "Great Invitation". <sup>1</sup>

The Second form of Love is the **Saviour's love for His children**. This form of love is mainly need-based, as we require saving. God takes the blow that was meant for humanity. In this God is already revealing much more of His character to us (e.g. mercy, grace, forgiveness). Through the salvation God revealed his lovingkindness, mercy and grace to all of creation. Before this, the angels and sons of God have not seen the grace and forgiveness of God. God did not forgive the 'angels' that left their first estate and rebelled against God. Lucifer and the fallen angels were banned from His presence – not forgiven.<sup>2</sup>

*ISAIAH:53*

<sup>4</sup> Surely He has borne our griefs  
And carried our sorrows;  
Yet we esteemed Him stricken,  
Smitten by God, and afflicted.  
<sup>5</sup> 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.  
<sup>6</sup> All we like sheep have gone astray;  
We have turned, every one, to his own way;  
And the Lord has laid on Him the iniquity of us all.

The Third type of Love is the final and deepest form of God's love for us. This is **the love of Companionship**. This transcends the love of the Creator for His creation as Companionship is more personal and intimate. The Love of the companion is deeper than the Savior's Love for His children, as it is not need-based and more intimate. <sup>3</sup>

It is the Love of Companionship that God wants with us. He wants a bride. The great invitation to intimacy is to come into the "Inner Room". This is an invitation to connectedness with the Triune Person, not formulas and dogma. The secret place with Him, is the anchor for our souls. It is from that place of intimacy where all things flow. We have been given a finite amount of time on this earth. Not primarily to do ministry, evangelize, make money or raise children. We were made to know him. This is our high calling in Jesus Christ (Philippians 3:7-10).

*Ephesians 2:4-7*

<sup>4</sup> But God, who is rich in mercy, because of His great love with which He loved us, <sup>5</sup> even when we were dead in trespasses, made us alive together with Christ (by grace you have been saved), <sup>6</sup> and raised us up together, and made us sit together in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, <sup>7</sup> that in the ages to come He might show the exceeding riches of His grace in His kindness toward us in Christ Jesus.

### Sanctification/Transformation AND BEHOLDING HIM

How does "Sanctification" tie in with a 'personal relationship with Christ'. Because transformation of the mind, of the soul, is impossible without relationship.

2 Corinthians 3:18 <sup>1</sup>And we all, who with unveiled faces contemplate the Lord's glory, are being transformed into his image with ever-increasing glory, which comes from the Lord, who is the Spirit.

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<sup>1</sup> Bennett, 2015

<sup>2</sup> Bennett, 2015

<sup>3</sup> Bennett, 2015

You are nothing without the vine. You are but a branch. You are transformed in the spirit, because you are part of the vine. If you get plucked from the vine then there is no life giving transformation. You are not transformed in yourself, but through your unity with Christ. And as you draw closer, the reality of that unity will manifest in you soul (sanctification).

You are transformed, in your soul, when you behold the Lord Jesus Christ in the Scriptures, through worship, through praying, through praying in tongues, through meditating on the Scriptures. That you are transformed. Sanctification/transformation by grace. All you do is to look at Him; to behold Him.

Transformation/Sanctification is not a doctrine. Ek kan alles weet van naaste liefde, die tekste aanhaal en poog om so te leef, dit is egter eers wanneer ek 'n persoonlike 'rhema' openbaring beleef, dat die vernuwingsproses in my siel plaasving.

**Dit was nooit God se idee dat die mens enigiets van Hom moes weet, sonder om Hom te ken nie.** Hoe openbaar Hy Homself aan Adam? Deur verhouding. Adam wandel saam met die Here in die tuin. 'n Verhouding met Vader is waarvoor ons gemaak is; en dit is deur hierdie verhouding; daaglikse 'beholding' dat ons transformeer word.

## BUILDING THE ALTAR WILL TAKE TIME

### 1) Start Building the Altar

- a) draw close to God and He will draw close to you (SCRIPTURAL PROMISE)
- b) get a specific time & place with God; creatures of habit
- c) God will start 'ruining you' for other things; you develop an appetite for Him

The pandemic of our day is 'busyness'. People are always late for an appointment, masters at multi-tasking and have day planners bursting at its seams. If we are to have any success in building an altar before the Lord in the 'secret place' we will have to prioritize our time with Him, and learn how to say: "No!" "No", to all the things that perpetually rob us of our time. Let there be no misunderstanding. You will have to prepare yourself for battle. The enemy will try and resisit you at every chance, to keep you from communing with God.

*[Our lives become so cluttered with so many things that little by little the presence of God in our lives becomes displaced through sheer clutter. We need to unclutter our lives; remove a lot of the things that don't matter; that occupy our time, our attention, our hearts, and make room for the presence of God - pitch a tent for it. The presence of God needs protection against the encroachment of people and things that would disturb it.*

*In all we do, let's be sure we make room for the presence of God in our lives, moving aside the clutter, the things that don't matter, that there might be room for the presence. And having the presence, spreading a tent over it, protecting the presence of God against the encroachment of things which would dissipate and cause it to be lost. I trust the Lord will be able to say to you as well as to me, "My presence shall go with thee, and I will give thee rest."]*

### 2) Pray-Reading the Scripture

A practical tool that we can use to break a wrong perception (prayer is not just petitions) of prayer is "pray-reading". This will transform our understanding of prayer as only being petitionary, and will change it into something much more enriching and satisfying. In Ephesians 6:18 Paul tells the believers of Ephesus to always pray in the Spirit on all occasions and in 1 Thessalonians Paul tells us to pray without ceasing. Praying in the Spirit is not only praying in tongues. Praying in accordance to the will of God and Scripture is praying in the spirit. In other words praying prayers that are in alignment with the will of God and God breathed.

Therefore always be assured that praying Scripture is in accordance with the will of God and it is God breathed. It will help us if we start with specific passages – the Psalms are a great place to start. These are prayers given to be prayed. The Psalms really come to life when applied to oneself and when pray-read. Other great passages are Paul's prayers in Colossians and Ephesians. By doing this on a regular basis the Holy Spirit will start filling us with the Word and start transforming us by the renewing of our minds.

Futhermore, the book of Psalms is an amazing resource when doing spiritual battle. Many Christians are ignorant on matters such as spiritual warfare. Many of David's Psalms are ready to be used in battle. In the natural David wrote the 'battle Psalms' as petitions to guard against his physical enemies. However, David was not ignorant of the powers and principalities behind the kings and leaders who opposed him. Therefore we can use this book of prayer and personalize it in our war against the enemy.

### 3) Practicing the Presence of God

I've heard of others who have mastered this art to the extent that practising the presence of God leads to a continual communion between you and God throughout your day. All can attest to the fact that, at first this might seem a difficult thing to practice the presence of God, but after a little time of training and focusing it becomes second nature. Paul writes in Philippians 4 that we rejoice ourselves in the Lord, and that if we do, the Lord's peace that transcends all human understanding will guard our hearts and our minds. I'm of the opinion that the truth in Philippians 4 is the same which Brother Lawrence discovered. Our peace and joy is not based on circumstance but in communion with Him.

I should caution you that there is a simple danger when teaching on the subject of practicing the presence of God. This is such a simple concept, that one might miss the profoundness thereof. The key to this art, is to train oneself to continually converse with God in all circumstances. To let all thoughts start and end with God. This might seem at first as a total impossibility, but I assure you from own experience and testimonies of many others that this truly is attainable, and that God wants you to include Him in your-day-to-day routine. The simple yet profound reality is this – that God can be included in all things. Whether we are busy in the garden or working on the engine of a car, we can include God in these processes.

- **SUMMARY: A CALL TO COMPANIONSHIP; WHAT YOU WERE MADE FOR**