

Your Identity Brings Freedom in Christ

Revelations 22:16

16 I Jesus have sent mine angel to testify unto you these things in the churches. **I am the root and the offspring of David, and the bright and morning star.**

17 **And the Spirit and the bride say, Come.** And let him that heareth say, Come. And let him that is athirst come. And whosoever will, let him take the water of life freely.

Jesus was completely certain of Who He Was.

"I Am the Root and the Offspring of David..."

And the Bride is in accord with the Spirit of Jesus Christ.

"And the Spirit and the bride say, Come."

It's an issue of Identity in Christ.

If you see yourself correctly in Christ, you are positioned in the place WITH Christ - calling those who thirst to COME. This is an effective, Spirit filled, ministry that the Bride is supposed to have (*who IS the living body & church of Christ*).

She is:

- Full of liberty, not trapped in bondage.
- Full of Savor & Salt, not distasteful or ineffective.
- Full of Light, not darkness.
- Full of Fruits, not barren.
- Full of Love, not fear.
- Full of forgiveness, not bitterness.
- Full of Life, not death.
- Full of truth, not deception.

Pertaining to the "Elect of God".

Colossians 3

12 **Put on therefore, as the elect of God, holy and beloved, bowels of mercies, kindness, humbleness of mind, meekness, longsuffering;**

13 Forbearing one another, and forgiving one another, if any man have a quarrel against any: even as Christ forgave you, so also do ye.

14 And above all these things put on charity, which is the bond of perfectness.

15 And let the peace of God rule in your hearts, to the which also ye are called in one body; and be ye thankful.

16 **Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom; teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord.**

What Separates Us from the Love of God? Nothing!

Romans 8:37

37 Nay, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him that loved us.

38 For I am persuaded, that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come,

39 Nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

But in our present state; we can FEEL separated and far from God.

- from our life experiences,
- in our perceptions,
- in our understanding,
- through our complexes

So what separates us?

Do we understand the Love of God?

Satan's Goals:

1. *Seeks to Destroy & Devour - 1 Peter 5:8*
2. *Seeks to Deceive - 1 Corinthians 11:13-15*
3. *Seeks to Trap - 2 Timothy 2:26*
4. *Seeks to take Advantage of Us (2 Corinthians 2:11)*

Satan takes of advantage of :

1. **Idleness**
2. **Love of materialism**
3. **Sins of Parents**

He will try to bring us to his control through:

- **Bondage to sin** (*pride, immorality, bitterness, giving place to the devil [Ephesians 4:27]*)
- **Corruption of our minds** (*2 Corinthians 11:3*)
- **Lack of faith** (*1 Timothy 1:19*)
- **Lack of a clear conscience** (*1 Timothy 1:19*)
- **the weaknesses and sins of our parents** (*Exodus 20:4-5*)

1. Spiritual Amnesia

Lost Identity from the Fall

55-0113 THE.FUNDAMENTAL.FOUNDATION.FOR.FAITH

« E-11 † Now, the thing of it is, since He has restored man back to this place, **man in the fall has lost his conscious of what Father put him here on earth to do.** In other words, all of the plumbing, as it was, in our brain, and the outlets, the faith, has been clogged up with business affair, with home life, domestic things. It's all become so clogged--clogged up with that until God can't operate through those channels that He made a man for.

God has a Perfect Design & Thought About You

Now, when God made the human body, every little part had it's place to play: the teeth, the tongue, the eyes, the nose. **God does everything in there to make it perfect in operation to make the man to live.** And if God so patterned the man, the body of a man, how much more has He patterned and set in order the Body of Christ, the Church?

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Satan Works According to Weakness from the Fall

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Now, Satan **by the laws of sin and death** makes everything that sin and death bought operate to Satan sends a cancer. **The man recognized it, receives it. Satan sends heartaches. We recognize it and receive it.**

And if Satan by his power can make his laws work in man, how much more ought God with His power make His laws work in man? If Satan can make his laws, be sure and us recognize it, how much more ought God to His children to make His laws be recognized among His people of Divine healing, revelation, power, gifts, manifestations of the Spirit.

The law of sin and death works in the people, and the law of liberty of Christ has come unto us to set us free from those things.

And the only thing that hindered the human race today from being superior and controlling like they did in the beginning **is because that the power lines of the outlet of God made in the human being has been clogged up.**

2. The Clogs of Life

63-0728 CHRIST.IS.THE.MYSTERY.OF.GOD.REVEALED

504 Why do you hunger, Church, why do you thirst? It's the Father trying to reveal this hidden secret to you. But you let so many things get it out of you. **You let your job, you let your wife, you let your husband, you let your children, you let the cares of the world, you let some pastor, you let somebody else get that out of you, when you know that way down in your heart you're thirsting, hungry.** It's God trying to reveal it to you, see, the revelation.

Spirit is Clogged

60-0716 FROM.THAT.TIME

« E-120 † And we watch His life. **Now, the Spirit of God is in us, but what it is: We just can't open those little clogged up channels to let the Spirit flow through.**

- **Your work / career / job**
- **Your spouse**
- **Your children**
- **Cares of the world**
- **Spiritual authorities / pastor**
- **Other people** (*friends, family, co-workers, teachers, entertainments, celebrities, etc*)
- **Your Mom & Dad**

Sin naturally works within us by our fallen nature. Satan will use people & circumstances to destroy us.

How do these take it out of you?

- 1. Abuses of Life***
- 2. Develop Emotional Complexes***
- 3. Which manifest in behaviors & spiritual issues (sinful)***

Abuses of Life:

These come from people. People who are somehow in a position to affect and influence our upbringing. *It could be anyone in our circle of influence, such as :*

Parent(s), sibling, spouse, family member, friend, acquaintance, teacher, employer, pastor/ preacher, spiritual leadership, etc.

Pressures

Pressure to perform
Control & Domination
Expressive / Emotional Pressure
Selfishness & Self-Focus
Anger
Critically Judged
Ignored / Neglected / Not Talked to

Abuse

Physical Abuse
Sexual Abuse
Spiritual Abuse
Verbal Abuse

Pressures & abuses come from people, and are often unintentional. They are simply hurting people who have been abused in their own way. These people simply do not know how to cope with their own complexes, wounds in heart, abuses.

Emotional Complexes

These are the natural effects of applied abuse. We do not choose these; they just happen to us as a result of unhealthy pressures and abuses. We might end up experiencing deep feelings of being:

Abandoned

Neglected

Ignored

Insensitive to my Needs

Humiliated

Disowned

Betrayed

Despised

Disrespected

Emotionally Detached

Rejected

Emotionally Drained / Bankrupted

Behavioral / Spiritual Issues

The combination and pattern of pressure, abuse and consequential emotional pain result in a **deep seeded response**. These are formed in us as a way of coping with the hurt. Unfortunately, these are negative behaviours that are essentially scripturally sinful. They create a barrier between us and God, and also build walls and barriers to protect us from being 'hurt' by other people in our lives.

- **Bitterness** (*no forgiveness, anger, hardened heart, etc*)
- **Rebellion / Defiance** (*against authority, no submission, active disobedience, etc*)
- **Pride** (*religious posturing, arrogance, refusal to be wrong, no humility, critical*)
- **Immorality / Moral Failures** (*sexual sins, pornography, adultery, fornication, etc*)
- **Temporal Values** (*careers, money, education, positions, materialism, etc*)
- **Occult activities** (*false religion, swayed by winds of doctrines, false promises, spiritualism, ungodly spiritual ties, drug & substance abuse*)
- **Hypocrisy** (*outward obedience with a defiant heart, dishonest, masks, acting*)
- **Negative Thoughts** (*depression, low self-esteem, no confidence, self-focused, self-destructive, never good enough, no one wants me, "they're trying to get me"*)

The results of all these will bring a hardened and locked heart.

A person will build up defences, protections, and complexes to prevent being harmed.

Even Brother Branham had what he called “complexes”.

- a. He was always trying to please and win the approval of other people.
- b. He was frustrated that no one was believing his message.
- c. He said he got a complex because the Spirit told him not to defile his body when he was a boy; and he always felt like an oddball.

61-0411 But It Wasn't So From the Beginning

Now, we find out, and these well-trained ministers... And you know of a night when I stand in front of men like this who are really trained and smart men to the ministry, and to the Gospel, and to the Bible, and me stand here knowing with a grammar school education, it... if... I have a complex truly.

63-0707 The Indictment

388 Here recently I was going to just quit preaching. The people wouldn't hear me. They just kept on doing the same thing, and I--I got discouraged. I built a complex. O God!

We all have Complexes

63-0623E THE.FLASHING.RED.LIGHT.OF.THE.SIGN.OF.HIS.COMING_

« 25 † So I--I say that in honor of Jesus Christ, who it is the same God, that when... This morning I had preached at length, way over my time, and tired and worn. And there could be two things. He either got tired, or when I spoke of having a complex, not just to--to mess my brother up, as we'd say it, because I had... I was making my confession of having complex. **And I guess if I'd ask tonight, in this audience of people, "How many in here knows you have complex?" practically every hand would go up.**

61-0723E GOD.BEING.MISUNDERSTOOD

« 46 † 137. Brother Branham, I am saved and have been baptized in the Name of Jesus Christ, but how do I get away from a stubborn spirit that I can't seem to break away from? Well, my Christian brother or sister, whoever it may be, now, most times when you find people that's got stubborn spirits, **it's usually a complex that causes this**, either they have **inherited it from a mother, father, uncle, aunt, or grandmother, grandfather, somebody like that**. And if you'll chase back down through your life, you'll find... Now, I've taken it by experience under discernment, because I have met cases on the platform, thousands of those that had that spirit. **And the first thing you know, I'd chase that spirit right back by discernment and find that there was a granddaddy, there was a grandmother, there was somebody else back down there, and you inherit that by nature.**

Getting Married with Complexes

- Imagine you were abused, broken, hurt, and you are full of emotional complexes.
-and then you get married to someone who was abused, hurt, and is full of emotional complexes.

The solutions to Complexes:

1. Being Renewed in Christ

- Finding your identity in Christ;
- Developing a RIGHT image of who Jesus Christ is (especially as 'Father')
- Using scripture, understanding, spiritual application to change your heart & mind

2. Love (for Christ, for yourself, for each other)

- a. Being able to receive the Love of God in all your weaknesses
- b. Expressing the nature of Christ, in love and fruits

Bro. Branham talked about doing the very opposite things to what we are caught in a complex about.

The Process of Renewal

1. **A Right Spirit** (Psalm 51:10) - *which is a willing spirit*
2. **Our Strength** (Isaiah 40:31, 41:1) - *which restores the joy of our salvation*
3. **The Spirit of Our Mind** (Ephesians 4:23, Romans 12:2) - *which gives us a change in mind - so we become Christ-minded.*
4. **Renew in knowledge after the image of Christ** (Colossians 3:10) - *which by God's instruction in Christ, we learn what it means to be like Christ in word and deed.*
5. **Renew the Inner Man** (2 Corinthians 4:16) - *a new man in Christ.*

Renew the Inner Man

(2 Corinthians 4:13-16)

13 We having the same spirit of faith, according as it is written, I believed, and therefore have I spoken; we also believe, and therefore speak;

14 Knowing that he which raised up the Lord Jesus shall raise up us also by Jesus, and shall present us with you.

5 For all things are for your sakes, that the abundant grace might through the thanksgiving of many redound to the glory of God.

16 For which cause we faint not; but though our outward man perish, **yet the inward man is renewed day by day.**

It's a process, of renewal - of abiding in His strength.

63-0714E HUMBLE.THYSELF_ JEFFERSONVILLE.IN V-21 N-1 SUNDAY_

« 94 † Now, surely, after all these years on the field and around the world, and seeing different people, I ought to know a little bit about the gate to enter in at. And if you want to get somewhere with God, never let an arrogant spirit ever come around you. Don't let no malice come in. No matter what anybody does, if they are wrong, don't you never build up a complex against that person. See? You be sweet and kind. Remember, God loved you when you were in sin. And if the Spirit of God is in you, you love the other person when he's in wrong. See, just pray for them, and love one another.

60-0611B Fellowship

You don't get no complex by the Blood of Jesus Christ; you get love. That's where... that's... You get love, not a complex, that, "I'm a little bigger than somebody else, little better than somebody else, and know a little more than somebody else." You just got your arms around everybody, and it's a basis of love through the Blood. The Blood cleanses.