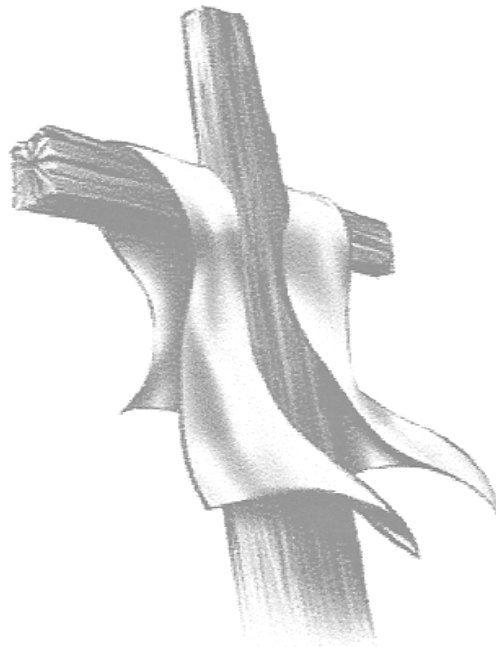

TAYLOR'S TALK ON CHRIST

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A Word From Kansas City with Andy Blake

“Be perfect, just as your Father in heaven is perfect.” (Matt. 5:48) If viewed in a worldly light, this can be an intimidating and maybe even discouraging verse. However, I have found that it is one of the most liberating things that Jesus said. The Greek word that is translated perfect is teleios. It means perfect, mature or complete. To be mature or complete is to walk in the fullness of the light you have received from the Holy Spirit. This means that once the Spirit has revealed an action or thought as sin, you immediately “declare war” on that sin. That doesn’t mean you will never stumble and commit that sin again, it just means that as soon as you do stumble, you

repent (which is a full turning from that sin) and you start over. It is the pursuit of 100% obedience, not necessarily the attainment of it. Perfection in this life is relative to the revelation that we have received but it will be absolute in the age-to-come. As you “declare war” on sin and set your heart on walking in the fullness of the light you have received, God sees the thoughts and intents of your heart. “For the Lord does not see as man sees; for man looks at the outward appearance, but the Lord looks at the heart.” (1 Sam. 16:7) God is not waiting up there in heaven to judge every sin that you commit. Nor is He continually depressed because we have failed and sinned. He is so patient, so long-suffering, so kind. His grace is made perfect in our weakness. (2 Cor. 12:9)

Jesus said, “Come to Me, all you who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest, Take My yoke upon you and learn from Me...for My yoke is easy and My burden is light.” (Matt. 11:28-30) The yoke that Jesus is talking about is pursuit of 100% obedience and abandonment to Him. By nature, a yoke is not light. When you give the Lord even 99% of your heart, the yoke is definitely not light. But, oh, the freedom and liberation of 100% surrender to His ways! That is why the pursuit of perfection is the most liberating thing in this life!

A Word From Louisiana with Josh Boudreau

Then if my people who are called by my name will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, I will hear from heaven and will forgive their sins and restore their land. My eyes will be open and my ears attentive to every prayer made in this place. 2 Chronicles 7:14-15

It is time for us to cry out to the Lord like we never have before about everything. Since this year has begun and several days toward the end of December, when I have meditated on the Lord, He has placed a deep burning in my Spirit for the desire for His people to talk to Him. He wants us to come after Him, in prayer, with ardent zeal about every area in our lives. And He wants every church who loves His son to focus the majority of their attention on crying out to Him for His hand to move and for greater amounts of His love to be produced in every heart. We now need Jesus like we never have, and we will need Jesus in an even greater measure in the days to come. But, if we do not get into the practice of “worrying about nothing and praying about everything” as stated in Philippians 4:6, we will not be as stirred to seek Him with ardent zeal when times get tougher. Honestly, many of us may not be aware of the devil’s schemes in the days to come and may be deceived and lead others with us if we do not take everything to Him in consistent prayer. Prayer requires us to humble ourselves because it means that we must admit that we cannot solve our problems and confusion with the help of our merciful Lord.

We are told that in the last days fear will cause many to faint and that hearts will grow cold in those days. But, if we begin cultivating our lives in prayer now, we will be more aware and prepared to withstand the greater oppression of the enemy so that we will not faint or be easily deceived and lose our love for Jesus. Because we must remember, that the Lord rewards those who diligently seek Him if we seek Him by Faith (Hebrews 11:6). The Lord loves us but we will miss out on the deeper revelation of His love if we only cultivate an occasional life of prayer and fasting. He wants us to know Him and become consumed by Him so that He possesses every part of us, so that the enemy will not come in and build strongholds in our hearts. Yes, we must read His Word constantly, but if our time in the Word is not bathed in prayer, the Holy Spirit will not be able to illuminate what we are reading and make it truth in our hearts. It is when the Word of Truth becomes alive in our hearts that drive us to change, not just good knowledge of the mind. So, I urge you as I drive myself to cultivate a deeper and a more consistent life of prayer, so that we may be able to stand confidently and unwaveringly in God’s grace and love this year and in the troublesome times to come. May the Lord reveal more of the beautiful depths of His love and tender mercies to you in 2009.

Teaching



Once again this month, the teaching part of the newsletter will be a selection from one of the papers I wrote in class during the previous semester. The title of this paper is: “God’s Mercy versus God’s Judgment.”

God is never at odds with Himself. No attribute of God conflicts with another. The truth is that there is not and can never be anything outside of the nature of God which can move Him in the least degree. Therefore He is always righteous, always just, and always merciful: “Justice and judgment are the habitation of thy throne: mercy and truth shall go before thy face” (Psalm 89:14). It is through His great wisdom that such a plan could be devised that would show both the fullness of justice and the fullness of mercy at the same time. It is through the work of Christ at the cross that justice is not violated but satisfied, and mercy is shown at its fullest when God spares a sinner. It is highly better and more glorious for both justice and mercy to be satisfied simultaneously than if the claim of one had been granted, with the exclusion of the demand of the other.

There would have been either an unrighteous mercy, or a merciless justice; it is now a righteous mercy, and a merciful justice. “And therefore will the LORD wait, that he may be gracious unto you, and therefore will he be exalted, that he may have mercy upon you: for the LORD is a God of judgment: blessed are all they that wait for him” (Isa 30:18).

This is the final and concluding paragraph to the paper entitled: “God’s Mercy versus God’s Judgment.” You can read the paper in its entirety on my website, www.bobbyjtaylor.com.

Next month the teaching section of this newsletter will once again be whatever the Lord is teaching me throughout the previous month. I hope you have enjoyed the papers I have written, and they can all be viewed in their entirety on my website.





Future Events

March 5th – 7th

-Passion for Jesus National Conference

March 20th – 22nd

**-David Pawson – God’s Continuing Plan
for Israel Summit**

April 3rd – 4th

-Israel Mandate Summit

April 10th – 11th

**-Children’s Equipping Center
Leadership Summit**

April 30th – May 2nd

**African American Forerunner Alliance
Leadership Summit**

Looking Forward

Wow! It is hard to believe I have now been in K.C. for a year-and-a-half already! I am such a blessed man to be able to do what I do. The reason I am able to do it is God moving through all of you and your generosity. I am so very thankful for what all of you have contributed. I mentioned in last month’s newsletter several of the new leadership positions the Lord has placed me in here in K.C. One of those positions will be giving me the opportunity to lead a group of students on a ministry trip to South Korea. We will be there for a week, and the students as well as myself and a couple other leaders will be putting on a four to five day conference at one of the local churches in Seoul. The estimated cost of the trip is \$1,800 per person. The plane ticket is the majority of the cost. Housing will be provided, but we will take on all other expenses ourselves as to not be a burden upon the people of the church. All offerings will be given to the church in Israel. If you are interested in supporting me and this ministry trip, please contact me via email or phone. Thank you so much for your support and your prayers.

****PLEASE READ****

NEW SUPPORT & CONTACT INFORMATION

From now on please send all your checks to **11315 Grandview Rd #A306, Kansas City, MO 64137**. If you do want your tax deduction, please make your check out to **IHOP-KC** and no longer write my name in the memo blank. If you do not do it this way, it will prevent you from getting any deduction. I will be paying 20% in taxes on all tax deductible contributions. So if you do not want your tax deduction, please continue to make your checks out to **Bobby Taylor** and write anything you would like in the memo.

NEW WEBSITE

Reminder my new e-mail address is **bobbytaylor@ihop.org**. Feel free to e-mail any questions or thoughts at any time. I now have my very own **WEBSITE** for you to check out at **bobbyjtaylor.com**. Check it out and enjoy!! Leave any prayer requests or comments that you might have.
