

Brothers and Sisters

This message is not a teaching because I'm not a teacher, I'm not doing verse by verse or preaching on a topic so it's not a study. I did not sit with commentaries open and neither did I have a Bible open. I did search for verses online when they came to my mind and I did use Copy and Paste. What I am saying is these are literally just my thoughts on the body of Christ and God's perfect plan and hopefully inspired completely by God, said from the heart with the intention of being corrected and discussed so we all can learn and grow together. I tried to make this message flow the best that I can, but because this is not a study neither a topic, but my thoughts hashed together, if it does not flow at times please bare with me. **CHANGE SLIDE**

2 Peter 3:14-18

14 Therefore, beLoved, looking forward to these things, be diligent to be found by Him in peace, without spot and blameless;

15 and consider that the longsuffering of our Lord is salvation—as also our beLoved brother Paul, according to the wisdom given to him, has written to you, 16 as also in all his epistles, speaking in them of these things, in which are some things hard to understand, which untaught and unstable people twist to their own destruction, as they do also the rest of the Scriptures.

17 You therefore, beLoved, since you know this beforehand, beware lest you also fall from your own steadfastness, being led away with the error of the wicked;

18 but grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To Him be the glory both now and forever. Amen.

I was going to write about how these verses give credence from the great Apostle Peter to the scriptures of Paul as being totally inspired. This is Paul that made himself to be a slave of Christ and proclaimed to be least of the Apostles. Why did Peter say the scriptures are hard to understand and how can it be twisted? They are not hard to understand IF we seek a relationship with God, the scriptures are revealed to us personally by God Himself, through the Holy Spirit. It is because many in Church today turn aside so remain empty of God and seek to understand through their own wisdom. People wish to find approval for how they want to live and do so by twisting God's words, leaving themselves open to receiving distorted teachings. They are ignoring the Holy Spirit and left void of a true relationship, they are left empty. **CHANGE SLIDE**

The great Samuel warned Israel about this. **1 Samuel 12:21** *“And do not turn aside; for then you would go after empty things which cannot profit or deliver, for they are nothing.*

However I will not go deeper in this because God put it on my heart to preach to myself something else.

Notice that Peter called Paul *“Brother”*. I found myself thinking *“why God do I struggle calling anyone brother and sister, other than my siblings?”* I often want to do so but I do not. I see barriers I know would completely break down because there is power in making you a brother and sister and a relationship will form. A bond is made and I will Love you like a brother and sister. What is that powerful bond? It is Jesus! If I look at you as a brother and sister in Christ I should see Jesus in you. But as previously said, many today are left void of a true relationship with Jesus, they are left empty, without Jesus there can be no bond. **CHANGE SLIDE**

In **2 Peter 3:18**, Peter said *“Grow in grace and Knowledge”* - As God's children, we all have the Holy Spirit, we just need to ask and listen... and respond.

What did Jesus say? **Luke 8:21** *But He answered and said to them, “My mother and My brothers are these who hear the word of God and do it.”*

We might not all hear the word the same way. It will be when you read your Bible, but some might hear something in a sermon, some might hear a voice in the night, some might dream, some might have visions. It might be through the person that speaks to you next. And Jesus declared those who heard Him and responded to Him to be His Brothers and Sisters. So then you are all my brothers and Sisters because are we not supposed to imitate Christ? If you are the brother of Christ then doesn't that make you my Brother too? I should be able to look you in the eye and see Christ in you and declare that I am your brother and you are my brother then we can glorify God together, if we see God in each other and Love one another. If we abide in Christ as one body serving each other - in Spirit and Truth. **CHANGE SLIDE**

Let me ask you something? Do you ever look someone in the eye, and I am not referring to a husband or wife or child or sibling. How will you see Christ in me if you won't look me in the eye? Jesus said in **Mathew 6:22-23** *"The lamp of the body is the eye. If therefore your eye is good, your whole body will be full of Light. But if your eye is bad, your whole body will be full of darkness. If therefore the light that is in you is darkness, how great is that darkness!"*

And Jesus is the Light, so if I look you in the eye I should see Jesus in you. I struggle doing this even though I know it can break down more barriers. I will see life in the person I speak with, I will connect and have compassion and Love them as a brother or sister. But what stops me? Sin, it all comes down to sin, sin separates us from God, sin will prevent us looking one another in the eye. Things we might have said, things we might have done, gossip we might have made - satan uses it to form a barrier between you and me, he does not want us to see the Son of God within each other, because it would bring us closer to the Lord and we will become a beacon of Light that glorifies God - sin will cause us to turn away from each other and from God. We are left void of a true relationship, empty. It is about the condition of the Heart.

God has sewn a good seed into our heart, and then provides it with Light. But we can allow negativity to control us by focusing on the things that we think are not right with our Brothers instead of praising God for what is good. Satan will then slither in and place a log in our eyes, because the eye should be our Lamp this log casts a shadow over God's seed; the seed will struggle to grow. The more we are negative the larger the log, until the good seed inside our heart can no longer receive Light. The seedling is left in a withered state underneath the shadow of sin. Yet God's Light is always there, the Holy Spirit is shining upon those logs in case that one day He can penetrate just enough to stir the seed into growth. Keep God rooted in your Hearts and seek His Light, praise God for what is good in each other. We can grow dull as a Christian but God died on the Cross and gave birth to the Church for us, He has given us each other, to serve each other, to Love each other and be a Light to whole world. There is power in the name of Jesus and the Lord promised us that when two or more are gathered in His name, that He will always there. **CHANGE SLIDE**

1 Samuel 3:10 *“Now the Lord came and stood and called as at other times, “Samuel! Samuel!” And Samuel answered, “Speak, for Your servant hears.”*

The Lord is always near and calling us and He waits for us to invite Him in, to commune with Him. When the Lord was calling Samuel, Samuel had to invite the Lord to speak and offered himself as a willing servant. This is the same pattern we should follow. I want to ask you a question, and I am asking myself the same question. Do you answer the Lord by saying “Lord I am your humble servant, speak to me I am listening” ... If you do not then you will miss out on a blessing. We must invite God, we must be seeking Him. God calls us and waits for us to answer to form a relationship. Samuel heard God and offered himself as a servant.

Whatever God asks of us, we can rest assured the Lord only want's what is good for us and it is good for us to follow His greatest commandment which is to Love, and everything else should come about naturally: **CHANGE SLIDE**

Mathew 23:36-40 *"You shall Love the Lord your God with all your Heart, with all your Soul, and all your Mind and You shall Love you neighbour as yourself."*

If we are the imitation of Christ then we should Love our neighbour. This includes our Brothers and Sisters. I think our Church is a loving Church. I have seen us helping each other. Each in different ways according to their skills and abilities. Financial support, physically but more importantly we help by taking things to God in prayer, interceding. I'm not good at praying in a meeting but I am praying throughout the day. But going back to seeing Christ in others, we need to be cautious who we refer to as brothers and sisters because it is the same as giving agreement to their beliefs, we can unintentionally cause them to go further astray or we can be led astray ourselves. I am not saying people can't disagree, but to become a Brother or Sister we need to have a mutual belief in who Jesus is, He is God, He is the Son of God and He is part of a triune God Head... Three persons in one and it is through Jesus we are saved.

If I saw someone in the street giving a sandwich to a poor man I would see Christ in them - and I might praise the Lord for their loving actions, and if I saw someone helping an old man onto his feet I might think "I see Christ in him". But these people might be misguided, they might be a Jehovah Witness basing their salvation on good works and proclaiming that our Lord and Saviour is the Arc Angel Michael and the Trinity does not exist (I have an auntie that believes this). This is serious. It is the Holy Spirit that will teach us, remind us of all things, without the Holy Spirit we can not Love through the Spirit and we will not know Jesus, and if we do not know Jesus then we do not know the Father, we will not have a relationship with the Father because the only way to the Father is through Jesus. So receiving the Holy Spirit is KEY. If you Believe in God but not the Trinity, then you have not the Spirit. If you Believe in Jesus but not that He is God, then you have not the Spirit. Only by the Spirit will you get to know God and form any relationship! So if you are refusing to accept Jesus as God it is because you have refused to listen to the Holy Spirit or rejected Him. This cannot be forgiven, unless you decide to repent and accept the Holy Spirit - before it is too late. If you do not believe Jesus is God then you are not going to spend eternity in Heaven but in Hell.

My view of the trinity is this. The Father never denies the prayers of His Son because the prayers of His Son is according to the will of the Father. His Son is part of the God Head and has been given authority to rule over all things so if His Son requests that the Third Person of the Trinity be given to us; which is the Holy Spirit then the Holy Spirit is inside of us right now. It is a gift from the Father, Through the Son at the request of the Son according to the Fathers will, so therefore it is also from the Son whom made the actual request. The Holy Spirit is both from the Father and the Son and is God inside us, it is both grace and mercy but it is up to us to believe in Him, to invite Him in to grow inside of us, to become the Light within us.

In my first year of deciding to become a Christian I taught myself this way of understanding the Trinity:

If you look at Fire, it has three things. It has a flame, it has warmth and it has Light. You cannot have fire without all three things occurring. The Light that is produced from a fire cannot exist without the flame. The warmth produced from the fire also can not exist without the flame. It might not be a perfect analogy but it helped me greatly, and whilst writing this today I realised what a bigger analogy this can be. Because shouldn't we, be like the fire? fire spreads and where it goes it brings its warmth and Light and the Church should be doing this. Also God is an all consuming fire, we are all going to be tested by fire, purified and the dross thrown away. Fire is going to destroy this earth so it is fitting that God is an all consuming fire.

But going back to discussing good works. We must be cautious of praising actions of those doing good works with incorrect motives, those who attempt to work their way into Heaven by rejecting the Holy Spirit and denying Christ, because we can unknowingly encourage people by giving them false approval. I

might be void of a true relationship right now, how do you know? I might be trying to work my way into Heaven by writing this mini message? I will let you decide. But ultimately it will be God that decides.

To Love one another requires giving from the Heart, if our good deeds do not come naturally and afterwards we are thinking *“Wow wasn’t I so good, I hope everyone hears about what I have done, aww they will think I am so great”* then you did not do it with the Spirit of God but to win praises from men. Just praise God and then forget that you even did it because it is simply doing what we should do. That money you might have given, well if you have given it then it was always destined to be for that person. Praise God that you were blessed by being able to partake in a blessing, by sacrificing something that was never yours in the first place. You have simply transferred what was entrusted to you by God. It is about doing God’s will, about being an obedient and loyal servant for our God and abiding in the body of Christ. **CHANGE SLIDE**

Jesus said to us when he talked about good deeds:

Mathew 25:34-40

- 34 Then the King will say to those on His right hand, 'Come, you blessed of My Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world:
35 for I was hungry and you gave Me food; I was thirsty and you gave Me drink; I was a stranger and you took Me in;
36 I was naked and you clothed Me; I was sick and you visited Me; I was in prison and you came to Me.'
37 "Then the righteous will answer Him, saying, 'Lord, when did we see You hungry and feed You, or thirsty and give You drink?
38 When did we see You a stranger and take You in, or naked and clothe You?
39 Or when did we see You sick, or in prison, and come to You?'
40 And the King will answer and say to them, 'Assuredly, I say to you, inasmuch as you did it to one of the least of these My brethren, you did it to Me.'

The point is - those who did these things clearly did it out of pure Love, they have the Light of God in them. They did not know Jesus would say *"inasmuch as you did it to one of the least of these My brethren, you did it to Me"* so they cannot be accused of doing it for self gain, for rewards in Heaven. But notice that Jesus himself is using the word Brethren in verse 40 and He is proclaiming that by doing things for the brethren we are essentially doing it as if directly for Him and He will view it as such. This is alluding to the Body of Christ and seeing Christ in each other, because He is in each of us and we should be in Him.

But what about seeing Christ in those who are not Brothers? That is where the greater challenge is, because many who are not saved will subscribe to a way of life that we simply cannot participate in. In my workplace they will say things and use bad language whilst I pray for them. Occasionally I can see Christ in them but I need to remember rather than examining them and judging them I should be examining myself because I should be a Light to them so my colleagues can see that Jesus is the only way - but it is easy to be occupied with other things and especially in these days, I am covering several jobs and I am tired and at times grumpy. It ought not be that way and the answer is to rest in Christ, Logs and Planks can be removed if we abide in the body of Christ and have Love for one another.

On one particular bad day at work I messaged the Church when I nearly lost my patience. Satan wanted me to behave with retaliation and Christianity in my workplace would have been dealt a big blow. I am the only Christian. I went to the canteen and satan followed in disguise, because whilst getting a coffee a guy I have spoken to previously, about God, saw my tattoos on my arms. He was shocked, in disbelief, he could not fathom I have tattoos. Not because he is against tattoos but it simply did not fit who he perceived me to be. Seeing those tattoos to him is like looking at someone else and so he remarked *"I can never ever look at you the same way again, you are a dark horse"*. This remark bothered me because I want to reflect Jesus, I want to be a Light, I do not want to be described as Dark. Satan made me feel like a terrible sinner. Yes I have been a terrible sinner. But then with the prayers of the Church interceding for me, God made me see Good in what this guy said. Chris is his name meaning "Bearer of Christ" and although he is not saved what he said was good for me. You see, it is evidence that my old life is dead and I am someone else - Born again. We are all being born again **and this is something I will elaborate my thoughts on deeper in another message Lord willing**. If I am born again then I should become the Banner of Christ. These tattoos he saw were before I knew God and no one before him ever had an issue with me having tattoos! I have been born again and I only realised that thanks to the prayers of brothers and sisters interceding for me, Brothers and Sisters in the body of Christ. The lesson is God can use non believers to speak to us, by turning what satan intends for bad into a blessing. Hopefully one day this guy will realise that my bodily flesh is the old me and the me that he has known me to be is actually him seeing Christ in me. Hopefully God has used me as a Light to show him that he too can radically change. **CHANGE SLIDE**

Now if you were listening, just now you will have heard me say we should become the Banner of Christ. Somehow God gave me this term when reading **Psalm 20**. God showed me that we should be the Banner of Christ. At work the evidence is obvious because everyone knows I am a Christian yet I only told my Manager. It was not long before I received comments that I never swear, some avoid swearing when I am near and some apologise but continue to swear anyway. Clearly some are convicted. Yet I have never pulled anyone up for bad language. So on another tough day I decided I need a break and went to the canteen. I leave a Bible there sitting amongst a collection of books. I took the Bible and I prayed. I really wanted God to take control. So I opened the Bible and I landed on Psalm 20 and God truly spoke to me.

Psalm 20:5 *“We will rejoice in thy salvation, and in the name of our God we will set up our **banners**: the Lord fulfil all thy petitions.”*

My meditation started when I read the word ‘Banners’ and I paused and had to go back and read the verse again and then again. I was drawn to setting up our banners in the name of our God. I thought - Banners of Christ - we should raise up our banners in the name of Jesus! And of course the Lord will answer all of our petitions - if we ask according to His will. But listen for a minute.

Remember when Israel was in the wilderness and they camped around the tabernacle on all sides? The banners on each side were “A Lion, A Man, An Ox and an Eagle”. These banners point to God’s throne and this is how: An Angel presides over the throne of God, it is a Cherubim - the Cherubim has four faces... “A Lion, A Man, An Ox and an Eagle”. Cherubim are created to be angels of Light. Just as we should be a Light.

Just as these four Banners point to God on His throne - the Church is to be the Banner of Christ. How? Well we are the bride of Christ, that means we are to be in Christ and Christ in us, we are one with Christ and so we are to reign with Christ. God said he will write His ‘New Covenant’ on the tables of our hearts and that is how we become His Banners, by receiving the Holy Spirit who reminds us of all things. We need to put up our Banners and point to our Lord Jesus. And if you are thinking *“Hmm but this is the old testament a Psalm meant for Kings.”* Just remember Jesus is the King of kings and sits on the throne. Not only do the Banners point to God’s throne but the Israelites were camped in the shape of a Cross. The Cross formation was formed by a body of men in fleshly bodies, just as God took the form of a man in the flesh - to be brutally nailed to the Cross. I can see a picture here, a body of men in their sinful flesh forming the shape of a cross, can be representative of those that Jesus came to save? I think it can represent the body of Christ, the Church that Jesus gave birth to when His blood was poured out after being speared in the side. **CHANGE SLIDE**

Revelation 1:4-6

Being Christians washed in the precious blood of Jesus qualifies us for crowns. And so we are made to be like kings ruling with and for this great King of kings. We give the crowns back to our Lord, placing them at His feet. Why? Because Jesus crushed the Head of the serpent and I believe in doing so we are acknowledging Him to be the King of kings and that all the works we might have done was all His work, not our work but He is the one who declared “It is finished”. Whatever we accomplish on Earth in His name is by His grace. That does not change the fact these crowns are given to us and we are to reign with Him as little kings. We will reign higher than the Angels and judge them. We might even judge the Cherubim. CHANGE SLIDE

OK GUYS WE ARE OVER HALF WAY! Because... I want to read a section of something I wrote a year and a half ago touching on good works and rewards. If you take anything home from this message today I want it to be what I am about to read now. I titled it Foolishness.

1 Cor 1:18 *“For the message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.”*

How true; I have come to view this verse. When I look back on my life, on all of my past (which most know little about) I see now nothing else but foolishness. I was not a believer and all I did and thought and cared about was foolishness. But I did not see it to be foolish. I believed much of what I thought and did was sensible, was wise. Even when I knew it was wrong I could reason that it was right to do wrong and even wise! I viewed Christianity as foolishness, without a fair hearing at all. I actually did not know anything about God - which made my judgement totally foolish. I was happy to be a law to myself being my own God. When I am at work, I can see and also fully understand how others view my faith. Because I was once one of the unsaved. They look at me like I am foolish and they view themselves as wise in comparison. But I am looking at them thinking *“how sad, you are all totally foolish, and blind like I once was.”* I do not mean that judgmentally – however I did judge Christianity for probably 35 years. I am now being judged as foolish for the same thing I judged others. There is absolutely nothing foolish about God’s Word, and I have difficulty in accepting that I did not believe – when I look at my life before I was a Christian I am looking at a different life. It is the power of God. Now I am a Christian and saved by grace and I call our Lord, Lord. **CHANGE SLIDE**

Luke 6:46 *“But why do you call Me ‘Lord, Lord,’ and not do the things which I say?”*

What is it God is asking us to do? Because no matter how much I do I feel I am not doing anywhere near enough. I really do not do enough. What I do for the Lord is like a filthy rag. But I also feel no matter how much I do, it will always be a filthy rag. Good works should be left to occur naturally out of faith. Only Jesus is truly Righteous, and can fulfil the commandments, no man can enter Heaven without Him. We are already saved clothed in His righteousness if we believe and seek the Lord with all our Heart and all our Soul and have Faith. I know I am saved, but I still feel I do not do enough... Why I wonder. **CHANGE SLIDE**

Then I read this:

2 Cor 5:9 *“Therefore we make it our aim, whether present or absent, to be well pleasing to Him. For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, that each one may receive the things done in the body, according to what he has done, whether good or bad.”*

Christ in us is what makes us pleasing to the Lord. However we will all be judged by the things done in the body whether good or bad and receive our rewards in Heaven. This is not related to salvation but depending on the verdict of what we have done for the Lord - how we lived in the flesh, will determine our position in Heaven. But then I got thinking. *“I don’t want to do good works with the wrong motivation of trying to win some kind of special rank in heaven, that does not feel right and it would be filthy rags anyway! – but if I am already saved, then seeking to do good works to move up a rank would be exactly what I am trying to do.”* Good works can also become self-righteous and self-glorifying and people can praise you instead of praising God for the so called good deeds. So again why do I feel I am not doing enough? **CHANGE SLIDE**

Then I read this “The parable of the talents” (only a snippet shown)

Math 25:20 *“So he who had received five talents came and brought five other talents, saying, ‘Lord, you delivered to me five talents; look, I have gained five more talents besides them.’ 21 His lord said to him, ‘Well done, good and faithful servant; you were faithful over a few things, I will make you ruler over many things. Enter into the joy of your lord.’”*

The Lord entrusts us with what is His, (*and actually all things are His including us*) and the Lord is pleased when we use wisely what is His. In this parable the ones who were fruitful by growing what the Lord entrusted to them were then rewarded accordingly with a position matching their ability. All of the servants in this parable were entrusted with the same thing. So I got thinking, *“what things is it the Lord has entrusted us with?”* What could be the most important thing we can do for the Lord, for each other without it being to seek good works, not self-serving? Then I realised, **the Bible**. God’s Word, the very thing we are discussing right now. The Gospel! Some say it is the *“Lamb’s Book of Life”* but even if it is not that book, it is still a book of life as it is God’s word and promises life, Jesus is God, Jesus is the Word and He is Life. Spreading the Gospel is not self-serving but done out of faith; be ready for persecution!

God has entrusted all of us with His word and given us His Spirit for the task of giving His Gospel to the unbelieving world. This is the most valuable thing I can - and we can do. The feeling I have is obviously not to do good works, although that is recommended. But doing more in serving the Lord by spreading His Gospel and letting God spread His truth through us, to be His vessel. Spreading God’s Gospel is God at work, not us at work, therefore it is not a filthy rag. God’s word plants seeds and saves lives. Even if we lay the foundation and God sends another to do the watering and another grows the seed then that is good.

I know we all have different gifts. But I think we are all entrusted and called to give out God’s Gospel using these gifts, and according to our ability. *God knows our limitations. In fact God created our limitations because if we didn't have limitations we would not seek God to rest in Him.* Each person in the parable of talents was given a different amount depending on their ability to grow it according to their own God given individual skills. One of those people buried theirs and did nothing - so he became nothing. He did not use the gifts God has given him. But the fact God gave him a single talent, even if just one talent, means it was within his ability to be able to grow it. Let us not be like this one foolish person, God has blessed us by giving us faith, do not hide your faith! It is God’s life saving Gospel and He means for us to share it with others, To hide the Gospel we have been given is not living by faith. It is like burying it and thinking I’m OK, I’m safe.

So I know I am not doing enough. But will I do more? Maybe my ability will grow. Paul who wrote something like *‘I will to do, I do not do; but the evil I will not to do, that I practice’*. And this is me.

Let’s pray and praise God. Both are something we should do more and seek His power and guidance and Holy Spirit in doing what we should do – let us read His word and share His word and Love one another.

God Bless **END** **CHANGE SLIDE**

Let us consider again the eye - When Jesus walked this earth, if we had met Him, would He have looked us in the eye? I believe so! I think **Revelation 1:14 and 19:12** confirms Jesus looked us in the eye and they might be the only detailed descriptions of someone's eyes and it's those of our Lord. John was writing what he saw, He could not describe the eyes of our Lord unless he looked straight into the eyes of Jesus.

John wrote:

Revelation 1:14 *"His head and hair were white like wool, as white as snow, and His eyes like a flame of fire"*

Revelation 2:8 *'These things says the Son of God, who has eyes like a flame of fire, and His feet like fine brass:*

Revelation 19:12 *"His eyes were as a flame of fire, and on his head were many crowns; and he had a name written, that no man knew, but he himself."*

Interestingly in **1 Samuel 16:12**

King David's eyes are also described but not in so much detail - simply referring to them as having a *"beautiful countenance"*. But this means that David had goodly eyes and were at that time without planks, so the Light was shining brightly within Him. The interesting part is King David is an ancestor of Jesus and a type of Christ. People would have been drawn to the eyes of King David. God was calling David, whilst Samuel was examining one of his brothers thinking *"surely this man is the one"* - David's heart is rich for the Lord, God is his treasure and the evidence is throughout the Psalms. God is not deceived by physical appearances but checks the condition of the heart.

King David represents man and human weakness (David), but is about as good as a Man is going to get. Jesus represents Divine completeness (Jesus). David has a heart for God but was not without blemish. Jesus is God and is totally without blemish. **CHANGE SLIDE**

Anyway to continue on - this is what God said: **1 Samuel 16:7** - *But the Lord said unto Samuel, Look not on his countenance, or on the height of his stature; because I have refused him: for the Lord seeth not as man seeth; for man looketh on the outward appearance, but the Lord looketh on the heart.*

When we face the Lord we might not want to look into His glorious eyes, that might appear to us as fire. We might want to shrink and hide away (in shame) - However the Love of God will not look away and we will be compelled powerfully before His Majesty to willingly look at Him - all things will be revealed and all the dross cast away because Jesus eyes will melt their way into our hearts and reveal what is really there, and it will either be a heart filled with Love, Holy filled with Light - or an empty heart void of Love, containing nothing, a nothingness, just the darkness of sin - an abomination to God. Which one will it be?

Paul said in **1 Cor 13:2** *“And though I have the gift of prophecy, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and though I have all faith, so that I could remove mountains, but have not Love, I am nothing.”*

Satan is nothing and he wants us to be nothing. He wants to hinder our faith and disrupt the functioning of the body of Christ and halt the Love. But additionally today it is the world's response to Covid. We cannot touch each other, we cannot stand near each other, we cannot sing together. Soon we won't be allowed to look at each other in case our eyes infect each other with the Love of God and we suddenly embrace with a hug. Even if things get that bad, despite all these cannots we can rest knowing that God reigns forever and no weapon formed against us shall prosper against those in Christ Jesus. Whom shall I fear?

Satan knows the Love of God and how powerful it is, by Love Jesus bled on the cross and declared *“it is finished.”* the veil was torn so separation from God does not have to be - Love defeated sin - satans power is diminished but sin is satans only weapon and he will try to use sin to cause separation in the Church. So just be aware... do not give in to temptation, the world is becoming very anti social and the way we live as Christians will be challenging, and people may challenge us if we do not follow their ways. We must not allow sin to creep in or else we might become the *“I am nothing”* mentioned in 1 Cor 13:2. **CHANGE**

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Final Message

Because of the precious blood of Jesus we will not be destroyed and we can be the mighty ones of God if we do not turn aside. We have all heard the same truth and responded to Christ. We share in the same salvation. We are brothers and sisters with the same father as Jesus and Jesus Loves us. Jesus bleeds for us, He died for us and washed us in His own blood for eternity.

As Brothers and Sisters we have made our choice and we are saved. But what about those going to Hell, the unsaved? May each of us find God's wisdom and identify our gifts and use our gifts and grow each others gifts whilst functioning together as the body of Christ. To be a Light reaching the unsaved.

A couple of weeks ago I said something and I want to say it again:

"To seek riches on this earth is foolish but we should focus on the riches of Heaven which is God. By focusing on Him with all our mind, all our soul and all our heart. Us in Him and Him in us."

And what does God want?" **To save all of us. He wants a relationship with us.**

"Who shall separate us from the Love of Christ? To Him be the glory both now and forever. Amen." **CHANGE SLIDE**