"The Righteousness Of God" Part 6

Pastor Grant Williams August 3, 2016

2 Peter 1:4 KJV

4 Whereby are given unto us exceeding great and precious promises: that by these ye might be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust.

Last week we learned about our divine nature and we finished with talking about kicking people out of your boat or you getting out. I didn't say you can't talk to anybody, I said what is your purpose to being with them. Is it so you can influence them to be more like Christ? if not, you're going to become like them and you're wasting your time. Don't hang around those (close associations) who aren't good for you.

1 Corinthians 5:11 AMPC

Il But now I write to you not to associate with anyone who bears the name of [Christian] brother if he is known to be guilty of immorality or greed, or is an idolater [whose soul is devoted to any object that usurps the place of God], or is a person with a foul tongue [railing, abusing, reviling, slandering], or is a drunkard or a swindler or a robber. [No] you must not so much as eat with such a person.

1 Peter 2:16 GNT

16 Live as free people; do not, however, use your freedom to cover up any evil, but live as God's slaves.

Don't let anyone tell you or impress upon you what you should or shouldn't do if it's contrary to the Word of God or in those grey areas (there are no grey areas...you need to ask the holy spirit what's right or wrong). Once you do, you are falling under the devils control of manipulation.

The devil will tell you "you can only go this far with your holiness and righteousness, if you go further you won't have any friends, no one will like you." That's the devils way of confusing you and putting a value on you, your value is put on you by God.

We, as a society, have devalued others and ourselves and that's why people can't help other people up, because they are down themselves. How are they going to help someone up when they are down? All they do is look for something to criticize and talk about so you stay even with them.

That's how poor people talk (remember what poor means?) – those who don't know the lord. Those who are rich in the ways of the lord are too busy doing what God told them to do to notice what you do and don't have.

People just like to sit there and evaluate, mall watching. Kellie and I used to sit there and just watch people... fascinating isn't it? Some of you are probably evaluating me right now— don't like my sport coat, my shoes or hair.

Psalms 82:1-6 KJV

- I God standeth in the congregation of the mighty; he judgeth among the gods.
- 2 How long will ye judge unjustly, and accept the persons of the wicked? Selah.
- 3 Defend the poor and fatherless: do justice to the afflicted and needy.
- 4 Deliver the poor and needy: rid them out of the hand of the wicked.
- 5 They know not, neither will they understand; they walk on in darkness: so all the foundations of the earth are out of course.
- 6 I have said, Ye are gods; and all of you are children of the most High.

Now let's look at verse 6... "I have said ye are gods" – (that's lower case g and that word pertains to rulers). We are rulers under God and we will never be God almighty but you can rule over the situation and circumstances of this earth.

This scripture is what you need to understand, because this scripture begins to tell us what our responsibilities are here on this earth. When you go out into the dark places and I'm not talking about going out at night in the darkness. I'm talking about the darkness of the world where people don't have Christ.

You and I are sent to those places where the bible calls "the principles of darkness" are at work. In those places where you are sent to go these are just some to the things that are in operation: selfishness, fear, manipulation, division, revenge, greed etc.

But, you were sent there with superior principles and you were sent there to bring love (Gods commands and kingdom culture), you were sent there to bring peace, you were sent there to bring mercy and goodness. You were also sent there to bring justice, holiness, faith, truth, integrity. The darkness or culture absent of God needs to see you doing things with integrity that will catch their attention.

This is what the "new you", the "new mind" is suppose to do but the "old you", the "old mind" says you got to play the game just like the World - sin culture or nature. That culture thinks, "How am I going to keep up or get a ahead if I don't play by their rules." But once we get the new mind we are suppose to have a superior attitude. What I'm saying is, if you have the new spirit in you, then we have to program "freedom" in our mind because Paul told us in Romans 8

Romans 8:1 KJV

1 There is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit.

In order for you and I to be able to live (act, think, speak) like God wants us to, we are going to have to be free from sin (habitual sin/iniquity) and guilt. When you have condemnation, and a feeling of inferiority, and unrighteousness and guilt and shame in your life, faith can't flow.

When I was younger and I wasn't a "good" boy but I needed to ask something of my father a favor/a request for something – it was very difficult to ask him, uncomfortable and several times I talked myself out of it. I knew that I didn't live up to his requests, his rules, I wasn't obedient so I didn't ask confidently if not at all.

But, when I did everything that he had asked me to — mow the lawn, loving to my mom and not sarcastic, clean my room, attentive to the ways of God — I knew I could ask something and unless it was something that I couldn't see as a danger or possible problem I would be allowed to do it.

That's what your walk with Christ is like, because when you are free and have no sense of guilt or condemnation or inferiority, faith can grow to miracle working power.

This is because we are now in touch with the fullness of God - God and I are back to one again. Jesus came to get that back for us. So, were are suppose to go into those environments and we are suppose to display the kingdom of God. You and I were created to recover the earth and win back to Jesus what was lost.

God never intended for the church to interact with society without changing it. But until the children of God begin to act like His representatives (royalty) on this earth – nothing will change and people and the places that they go will remain the same.

So, it's our job to be the **agent of change** but in order to do that we need to change first. We need to get our minds renewed to who God says we are. Once that mind is renewed you will begin to walk like Jesus. See, Peter got out of the boat and walked just like Jesus. But then the scripture says Peter took his eyes off of Jesus (the Word) to look at the distractions being caused by the wind and the next thing you know it – he began to sink. So he called out to Jesus – Jesus save me, and Jesus saved him.

All of us have those things that distract us in our daily lives. Kids, spouse, work, money, and then the old mind kicks in: greed, lust, old habits that have never been killed etc. Then when we finally come to our senses and we cry out to God to save us - HE WILL!

God doesn't want us to go through that. I'm telling you this because God intends for us to walk in the power that Adam was originally given. See, we are here to take over the world but we need to separate from it – meaning that you are going to be in it and not of it.

1 Peter 2:11-12 Amplified Bible

Il Beloved, I implore you as aliens and strangers and exiles [in this world] to abstain from the sensual urges (the evil desires, the passions of the flesh, your lower nature) that wage war against the soul.

12 Conduct yourselves properly (honorably, righteously) among the Gentiles, so that, although they may slander you as evildoers, [yet] they may by witnessing your good deeds [come to] glorify God in the day of inspection [when God shall look upon you wanderers as a pastor or shepherd looks over his flock].

We are here to bring something - the kingdom of God. With that comes justice and you and I are here to change and rearrange this earth. We are supposed to be in the political positions. Not run from it. There isn't anything God doesn't want us changing.

From same sex marriage, abortion, laws against Gods Word and the church, we, the church, bible believers and imitators of Christ need change it.

I believe that the death tax is unjust, do you know what that is? When someone dies and leaves an inheritance to you, you have to pay taxes on that. That's what happens – now didn't they pay taxes on it when they made it? There are some unjust laws on the books – we are supposed to do justice. Clean it up!

Remember *Proverbs 28:1 the righteous are bold as a what? lion.* When you start having God's nature take control of you – you become very bold. How bold?

Job 22:28 KJV

28 Thou shalt also decree a thing, and it shall be established unto thee: and the light shall shine upon thy ways.

You have to know who you are, you are a child of God and you represent the kingdom. You are an ambassador of God almighty and when you go to a nation or where ever you need to go as an ambassador, wherever you go the laws from the nation that sent you becomes the laws where you are at. All the laws of that embassy are now the laws of where you came from and not from the country where it's at.

That's why an ambassador has immunity when he or she is traveling. What's that called? Diplomatic immunity.

I'm telling you that you have diplomatic immunity on this earth. But if your mind isn't programmed to this new nature, you're not bold as a lion, and that's the first thing that happens when you don't renew your mind is that the boldness isn't there.

You're not sure if you're going to get in trouble or get hurt or if you're going to die. We need to get over death – to be absent from the body is to be present with God. You need to stand up and declare the Word of God and stop being afraid of losing a friend, losing your job, dying, getting into trouble for standing up for what is right. Being worried about those things, money, our needs and death is for people who don't know God and you know God.

Let me tell you something, the devil is a bully and the people he sends are bullies but God will put the fear of you on them – it's in His Word - His Promises. If you act bold then God can act bold. HE can put the fear of you on them.

Ecclesiastes 8:4 KJV

4 Where the word of a king is, there is Power.

See you don't have to walk around looking for trouble and people running away from you saying those Christians are just looking for a fight. No, no, no, I'm not going around looking for trouble but if there's something wrong I'm going to go into my phone booth and come out a whole different man.

As we have been studying 2 Peter 1 and righteousness the last several weeks, this was designed to empower you through the knowledge of Him and who you are in Christ, to take you up a notch and not be afraid. The devil is trying to take people out and change the way things are done because we aren't saying anything or doing anything.

But, we are **going to start** saying and doing something about it amen? The bible says in James 5

James 5:16 Amplified Bible

16 ... The earnest (heartfelt, continued) prayer of a righteous man makes tremendous power available [dynamic in its working].

1 Samuel 30:8 Amplified Bible

8 And David inquired of the Lord, saying, Shall I pursue this troop? Shall I overtake them? The Lord answered him, Pursue, for you shall surely overtake them and without fail recover all.

Hebrews 11:30 GNT

30 It was faith that made the walls of Jericho fall down after the Israelites had marched around them for seven days.

You coming here tonight was not a coincidence, there are not coincidences with God. God knows the future He doesn't need coincidences HE has plans.

Jeremiah 29:11 Amplified Bible

11 For I know the thoughts and plans that I have for you, says the Lord, thoughts and plans for welfare and peace and not for evil, to give you hope in your final outcome.

You won't know His plan until you come to the one with the plan. There are things that we have been doing in our lives that are very unfulfilling – we are just trying to make a little money – I know, I was there. "Hey how's your job?" – "they paying you well?" – Oh yeah I'm making a living. That's not God's plan – that's very limiting. That is small thinking...

The richest places on this earth aren't the oil fields of Kuwait or the diamond minds of Africa. The richest place is a graveyard – it's where dreams have been buried - because people didn't fulfill them. Why? They never came back to God; They never knew what their purpose was on this earth.

That's a tragedy. But you and I don't have to end up that way. God knows the potential that you have even before the foundations of this earth were formed. God will help you maximize your potential, stop toiling for a living, stop spinning your wheels trying something other than what God wants you to do.

When you are in God's plan for your life, you will be blessed and not only you, but those around you. When you turn your life over to Christ you are free, free from guilt and shame – a right standing with God and your countenance will change, how you act will change, how you see things will change –you will see them for what they really are, as God sees them. It takes time and effort to grow just like anything else, but God desires for us to be close to HIM.

Pray for boldness, a boldness to do what is right in all situations even when it might hurt you in the short term, make you feel uncomfortable. But you can stand before God without guilt or shame or condemnation and come boldly before the throne of grace, why – because you belong there.

Hebrews 11:24-30 King James Version

- 24 By faith Moses, when he was come to years, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter;
- 25 Choosing rather to suffer affliction with the people of God, than to enjoy the pleasures of sin for a season;
- 26 Esteeming the reproach of Christ greater riches than the treasures in Egypt: for he had respect unto the recompence of the reward.

- 27 By faith he forsook Egypt, not fearing the wrath of the king: for he endured, as seeing him who is invisible.
- 28 Through faith he kept the passover, and the sprinkling of blood, lest he that destroyed the firstborn should touch them.
- 29 By faith they passed through the Red sea as by dry land: which the Egyptians assaying to do were drowned.
- 30 By faith the walls of Jericho fell down, after they were compassed about seven days.

Righteous is the platform for faith to stand on. That comes through the knowledge of Him by the reading of HIS WORD.

Ecclesiastes 8:4 KJV

4 Where the word of a king is, there is Power.