## The Tsunami Blessing: Inside and Out, Part 29

Jesus Christ is so intimately acquainted with God that He forever disposed of His very own soul, i.e., thoughts, feelings, and choices to perfectly re-present His Heavenly Father to you. The origin of Jesus' camaraderie with God started from basking in His presence. He maintained a seamless connection with the Spirit of God and the Word of God to achieve this union. His distinction rested on these two instincts: 1) Jesus only did what He saw God do. 2) Jesus only said what He heard God say. His loyal passion purposed not only to usher you to heaven but to bring heaven to you.

Let the craving of God's heart carve out heaven-born replicas through you. Holy Spirit and the Word are accessible to ensure you have a successful transition. Similar to the lifecycle of the butterfly, God's creative team helps you mirror the transformational model, the DNA of our Creator. The four stages are both instinctive and distinctive: it has an uninterrupted course that is accurately prearranged because it cannot deviate from how the Creator made it. As you ascend from one level of glory to the next, everything around you will also change for the better. Be the World Changer! Let it be said that you turned your world upside down, which in reality is right-side up to extend the Kingdom of God culture.

Hebrews 1:1-8 The Passion Translation (TPT)

Jesus, the Language of God

**1** Throughout our history God has spoken to our ancestors by his prophets in many different ways. The revelation he gave them was only a fragment at a time, *building one truth upon another*. <sup>[a]</sup> But to us living in these last days, <sup>[b]</sup> God now speaks to us openly in the language of a Son, <sup>[c]</sup> the appointed Heir of everything, for through him God created the panorama of all things and all time. <sup>[d]</sup>

<sup>3</sup> The Son is the dazzling radiance of God's splendor, <sup>[e]</sup> the exact expression of God's true nature—his mirror image! <sup>[f]</sup> He holds the universe <sup>[g]</sup> together and expands it <sup>[h]</sup> by the mighty power of his spoken word. <sup>[i]</sup> He accomplished for us the complete cleansing of sins, <sup>[j]</sup> and then took his seat on the highest throne at the right hand <sup>[k]</sup> of the majestic One. <sup>[l]</sup>

Jesus, Greater than Angels

<sup>4</sup> He is infinitely greater than angels, for he inherited a rank and a Name<sup>[m]</sup> far greater than theirs. <sup>5</sup> For God has never said to any angel what he said to Jesus:

"You are my favored Son, today I have fathered you."[n]

#### And this:

"I will be the Father to him, and he will be the Son to me."[0]

<sup>6</sup> And again, when he brought his firstborn Son into the world:

"Let all my angels bow down before him and kiss him in worship."[2]

<sup>7</sup> And about his angels he says,

"I make my angels swift winds, and my ministers<sup>[q]</sup> fiery flames."<sup>[r]</sup>

<sup>8</sup> But about his Son, he called him "God,"<sup>[S]</sup> saying,

"Your throne, O God, endures forever and ever and you will rule your kingdom with justice and righteousness, [t]

# **Endowed** – Incorruptible Strategy Genesis 1:25-28 The Voice (VOICE)

- <sup>25</sup> God made earth-creatures *in a vast variety of species*: wild animals, domesticated animals *of all sizes*, and *small* creeping creatures, each able to reproduce its own kind. God saw that His new creation was *beautiful and good*. *And God paused*.
- **God:** <sup>26</sup> Now let Us conceive *a new creation*—humanity—*made* in Our image, *fashioned* according to Our likeness. And let *Us grant* them authority over all the earth—the fish in the sea and the birds in the sky, the domesticated animals and the *small* creeping creatures on the earth.
- <sup>27</sup> So God did *just that*. He created humanity in His image, created them male and female. <sup>28</sup> Then God blessed them and gave them *this directive*: "Be fruitful and multiply. Populate the earth. *I make you trustees of My*

estate, so care for My creation and rule over the fish of the sea, the birds of the sky, and every creature that roams across the earth."

Exodus 20:3-6 The Voice (VOICE)

## From Scripting to Sculpting

Egg – sits dormant where its mother placed it near nourishment. May be placed singularly or in a bunch, depending on the type of butterfly. Monarch butterfly is known for attaching each egg singularly underneath the leaf. Its been said that someone can look inside the egg to see the caterpillar; with that in mind the caterpillar can also look out to see its caterpillar and the world it is about to embark.

1 Peter 2:2-3 Amplified Bible, Classic Edition (AMPC)

Psalm 119:97-100 The Passion Translation (TPT)

#### I Love the Word of God

- <sup>97</sup> O how I love and treasure the revelation of your word; throughout the day I fill my heart with its light!
- <sup>98</sup> By considering your commands I have an edge over my enemies, for I take seriously everything you say.
- <sup>99</sup> You have given me more understanding than those who teach me,

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> You are not to serve any other gods before Me.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> You are not to make any idol *or image of other gods*. *In fact,* you are not to make an image of anything in the heavens above, on the earth below, or in the waters beneath. <sup>5</sup> You are not to bow down and serve any image, for I, the Eternal your God, am a jealous God. As for those who are not loyal to Me, their children will endure the consequences of their sins for three or four generations. <sup>6</sup> But for those who love Me and keep My directives, their children will experience My loyal love for a thousand generations.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Like newborn babies you should crave (thirst for, earnestly desire) the pure (unadulterated) spiritual milk, that by it you may be nurtured *and* grow unto [completed] salvation,

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Since you have [already] tasted the goodness *and* kindness of the Lord.

for I've absorbed your eye-opening revelation.

100 You have graced me with more insight than the old sages because I have not failed to walk in the light of your ways.

## Psalm 25:12-15 Living Bible (TLB)

- <sup>12</sup> Where is the man who fears the Lord? God will teach him how to choose the best.
- <sup>13</sup> He shall live within God's circle of blessing, and his children shall inherit the earth.
- <sup>14</sup> Friendship with God is reserved for those who reverence him. With them alone he shares the secrets of his promises.
- <sup>15</sup> My eyes are ever looking to the Lord for help, for he alone can rescue me.

# Matthew 13:16-23 The Passion Translation (TPT)

- <sup>16</sup> "But your eyes are privileged, for they see. Delighted are your ears, for they are open to hear all these things. [a] <sup>17</sup> Many prophets and godly people in times past yearned to see these days of miracles that you've been favored to see. They would have given everything to hear the revelation you've been favored to hear. Yet they didn't get to see as much as a glimpse or hear even a whisper.
- <sup>18</sup> "Now you are ready to listen to the revelation of the parable of the sower and his seeds:
- <sup>19</sup> "[Test #1] The seed that fell on the beaten path represents the heart of the one who hears the message of the kingdom realm<sup>[b]</sup> but doesn't understand it. The Adversary then comes and snatches away what was sown into his heart [die unformed].
- <sup>20</sup> "[Test #2] The seed sown on gravel represents the person who gladly hears the kingdom message, <sup>[c]</sup> but his experience remains shallow. <sup>[d]</sup>
- <sup>21</sup> Shortly after he hears it, troubles and persecutions come because of the kingdom message he received. Then he quickly falls away,<sup>[e]</sup> for the truth didn't sink deeply into his heart [die unfulfilled].

<sup>22</sup> "[Test #3] The seed sown among weeds represents the person who receives the message, but all of life's busy distractions, his divided heart, and his ambition for wealth<sup>[f]</sup> result in suffocating the kingdom message and prevent him from bearing spiritual fruit [die unfinished].<sup>[g]</sup>

<sup>23</sup> "[Test #4] As for the seed that fell upon good, rich soil, it represents the hearts of people who hear and fully embrace the message of heaven's kingdom realm. Their lives bear good fruit—some yield a harvest of thirty, sixty, even one hundred times as much as was sown [formed, fulfilled, finished, flourished]."

## **Evidenced - Incorruptible Seed**

Isaiah 55:9-11 Complete Jewish Bible (CJB)

<sup>9</sup> "As high as the sky is above the earth are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts.

<sup>10</sup> For just as rain and snow fall from the sky and do not return there, but water the earth, causing it to bud and produce, giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater;

<sup>11</sup> so is my word that goes out from my mouth — it will not return to me unfulfilled; but it will accomplish what I intend, and cause to succeed what I sent it to do."

# **Evidenced - Incorruptible Reproduction**

2 Corinthians 9:9-14 J.B. Phillips New Testament (PHILLIPS)

Giving does not only help the one who receives

<sup>7-9</sup> Let everyone give as his heart tells him, neither grudgingly nor under compulsion, for God loves the man who gives cheerfully. After all, God can give you everything that you need, so that you may always have sufficient both for yourselves and for giving away to other people. As the scripture says: "He has dispersed abroad, he has given to the poor; his righteousness remains forever."

10-14 He who gives the seed to the sower and turns that seed into bread to eat, will give you the seed of generosity to sow, and, for harvest, the satisfying bread of good deeds well done. The more you are enriched by God the more scope there will be for generous giving, and your gifts, administered through us, will mean that many will thank God. For your giving does not end in meeting the wants of your fellow-Christians. It also results in an overflowing tide of thanksgiving to God. Moreover, your very giving proves the reality of your faith, and that means that men thank God that you practise the Gospel that you profess to believe in, as well as for the actual gifts you make to them and to others. And yet further, men will pray for you and feel drawn to you because you have obviously received a generous measure of the grace of God.

## From Shedding to Shifting

Larva – caterpillar is striped or patched; crawls; wrinkly; hairy critter. Swaggering from front to back or swaying from side to side. Eats itself into a tight spot where it is compelled to lose its skin at least 4 or more times

Psalm 19:7-14 The Voice (VOICE)

<sup>7</sup> The Eternal's law is perfect, turning lives around.

His words are reliable and true, instilling wisdom to open minds.

<sup>8</sup> The Eternal's directions are correct, giving satisfaction to the heart.

God's commandments are clear, lending clarity to the eyes.

<sup>9</sup> The awe of the Eternal is clean, sustaining for all of eternity.

The Eternal's decisions are sound; they are right through and through.

10 They are worth more than gold even more than abundant, pure gold.

They are sweeter *to the tongue* than honey or the drippings of the honeycomb.

- 11 In addition to all that has been said,
  Your servant will find, hidden in Your commandments, both a strong warning and a great reward for keeping them.
- <sup>12</sup> Who could possibly know all that he has done wrong? Forgive my hidden *and unknown* faults.
- <sup>13</sup> As I am Your servant, protect me from *my bent toward* pride, and keep sin from ruling my life.
- If You do this, I will be without blame, innocent of the great breach.
- <sup>14</sup> May the words that come out of my mouth and the musings of my heart meet with Your gracious approval,
  - O Eternal, my Rock,
  - O Eternal, my Redeemer.

## **Enlarged - Incorruptible Reverence**

Romans 12:1-3 The Passion Translation (TPT)

The Transforming Power of the Gospel

- **12** Beloved friends, what should be our proper response to God's marvelous mercies? I encourage you to surrender yourselves to God to be his sacred, living sacrifices. And live in holiness, experiencing all that delights his heart. For this becomes your genuine expression of worship.
- <sup>2</sup> Stop imitating the ideals and opinions of the culture around you,<sup>[a]</sup> but be inwardly transformed by the Holy Spirit through a total reformation of how you think. This will empower you to discern God's will as you live a beautiful life, satisfying and perfect in his eyes.

Your Proper Role in the Body of Christ

<sup>3</sup> God has given me grace to speak a warning about pride. I would ask each of you to be emptied of self-promotion and not create a false image of your importance. Instead, honestly assess your worth by using your God-given faith as the standard of measurement, and then you will see your true value with an appropriate self-esteem.

# Romans 12:1-3 New Testament for Everyone (NTE)

## The Living Sacrifice

**12** So, my dear family, this is my appeal to you by the mercies of God: offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God. Worship like this brings your mind into line with God's. <sup>2</sup> What's more, don't let yourselves be squeezed into the shape dictated by the present age. Instead, be transformed by the renewing of your minds, so that you can work out what God's will is, what is good, acceptable and complete.

<sup>3</sup> Through the grace which was given to me, I have this to say to each one of you: don't think of yourselves more highly than you ought to think. Rather, think soberly, in line with faith, the true standard which God has marked out for each of you.

## **Enlarged – Incorruptible Brilliance**

- 2 Corinthians 3:10-18 The Passion Translation (TPT)
- <sup>10</sup> What once was glorious no longer holds any glory because of the increasingly<sup>[a]</sup> greater glory that has replaced it. <sup>11</sup> The fading ministry came with a portion of glory, but now we embrace the unfading ministry of a permanent impartation of glory. <sup>12</sup> So then, with this amazing hope living in us, we step out in freedom and boldness to speak the truth.
- Israelites from staring at him as it faded away. <sup>[b]</sup> <sup>14</sup> Their minds were closed and hardened, for even to this day that same veil comes over their minds when they hear the words of the former covenant. The veil has not yet been lifted from them, for it is only eliminated when one is joined to the Messiah. <sup>15</sup> So until now, whenever the Old Testament is being read, the same blinding comes over their hearts. <sup>16</sup> But the moment one turns to the Lord with an open heart, the veil is lifted and they see. <sup>[e]</sup> <sup>17</sup> Now, the "Lord" *I'm referring to* is the Holy Spirit, <sup>[f]</sup> and wherever he is Lord, there is freedom.
- <sup>18</sup> We can all draw close to him with the veil removed from our faces. And with no veil we all become like mirrors who brightly reflect the glory of the Lord *Jesus*. <sup>[g]</sup> We are being transfigured <sup>[h]</sup> into his very image as we move

from one brighter level of glory to another. [i] And this glorious transfiguration comes from the Lord, who is the Spirit. [i]

## From Struggling to the Smashing Sword

Pupa – Spins a cocoon as a source of protection. It must be still so it can't be detected by predators. At first it is resting but it is hanging upside down while it is breaking down the tissue in its old so the new body can surface. When it is ready to spread its wings, it must break out like it is escaping.

1 Peter 1:6-9 J.B. Phillips New Testament (PHILLIPS)

for this means tremendous joy to you, I know, even though you are temporarily harassed by all kinds of trials and temptations. This is no accident—it happens to prove your faith, which is infinitely more valuable than gold, and gold, as you know, even though it is ultimately perishable, must be purified by fire. This proving of your faith is planned to bring you praise and honour and glory in the day when Jesus Christ reveals himself. And though you have never seen him, yet I know that you love him. At present you trust him without being able to see him, and even now he brings you a joy that words cannot express and which has in it a hint of the glories of Heaven; and all the time you are receiving the result of your faith in him—the salvation of your own souls.

Psalm 1 Amplified Bible, Classic Edition (AMPC)<sup>a</sup>

- <sup>1</sup> Blessed (happy, fortunate, prosperous, and enviable) is the man who walks *and* lives not in the counsel of the ungodly [following their advice, their plans and purposes], nor stands [submissive and inactive] in the path where sinners walk, nor sits down [to relax and rest] where the scornful [and the mockers] gather.
- <sup>2</sup> But his delight *and* desire are in the law of the Lord, and on His law (the precepts, the instructions, the teachings of God) he habitually meditates (ponders and studies) by day and by night.
- <sup>3</sup> And he shall be like a tree firmly planted [and tended] by the streams of water, ready to bring forth its fruit in its season; its leaf also shall not fade *or* wither; and everything he does shall prosper [and come to maturity].

- <sup>4</sup> Not so the wicked [those disobedient and living without God are not so]. But they are like the chaff [worthless, dead, without substance] which the wind drives away.
- <sup>5</sup> Therefore the wicked [those disobedient and living without God] shall not stand [justified] in the judgment, nor <sup>[b]</sup> sinners in the congregation of the righteous [those who are upright and in right standing with God].
- <sup>6</sup> For the Lord knows *and* is fully acquainted with the way of the righteous, but the way of the ungodly [those living outside God's will] shall perish (end in ruin and come to nought).

## **Escaped - Incorruptible Sword**

Hebrews 4:10-13 Worldwide English (New Testament) (WE)

- <sup>10</sup> The person who goes into God's resting place will rest after doing his work, just as God rested after doing his work.
- <sup>11</sup> So let us do our best to go into that resting place. Those people died in the wilderness because they did not believe. So let us take care that the same thing does not happen to one of us.
- <sup>12</sup> God's word is living and full of power. It is more sharp than any sword that cuts on both sides. What God says cuts through and divides the mind and spirit. It cuts through and divides the place where the bones are joined, and the part inside the bone. What God says is able to judge the things people think and plan in their hearts.
- <sup>13</sup> God is the one we must meet. Nothing can be hidden from him. Everything is open and he can see it.

# **Escaped - Incorruptible Conquest**

Ephesians 6:10-20 The Passion Translation (TPT)

Spiritual Warfare

<sup>10</sup> Now my beloved ones, I have saved these most important truths for last: Be supernaturally infused with strength through your life-union with the Lord Jesus. Stand victorious with the force<sup>[a]</sup> of his explosive power flowing in and through you.

- Put on God's complete set of armor<sup>[b]</sup> provided for us, so that you will be protected as you fight against the evil strategies of the accuser!<sup>[c]12</sup> Your hand-to-hand combat is not with human beings, but with the highest principalities and authorities operating in rebellion under the heavenly realms.<sup>[d]</sup> For they are a powerful class of demon-gods<sup>[e]</sup> and evil spirits that hold<sup>[f]</sup> this dark world in bondage. <sup>13</sup> Because of this, you must wear all the armor that God provides so you're protected as you confront the slanderer,<sup>[g]</sup> for you are destined for all things<sup>[h]</sup> and will rise victorious.
- <sup>14</sup> Put on truth as a belt to strengthen you to stand in triumph. Put on holiness as the protective armor that covers your heart. <sup>15</sup> Stand on your feet alert, then you'll always be ready to share the blessings of peace.
- <sup>16</sup> In every battle, take faith as your wrap-around shield, for it is able to extinguish the blazing arrows coming at you from the Evil One!<sup>[i]</sup> <sup>17-</sup>
  <sup>18</sup> Embrace the power of salvation's full deliverance, like a helmet *to protect* your thoughts from lies. And take the mighty razor-sharp Spirit-sword<sup>[j]</sup> of the spoken Word of God.

Pray passionately<sup>[k]</sup> in the Spirit, as you constantly intercede with every form of prayer at all times. Pray the blessings of God upon all his believers. <sup>19</sup> And pray also that God's revelation would be released through me every time I preach the wonderful mystery of the hope-filled gospel. <sup>20</sup> Yes, pray that I may preach the wonderful news of God's kingdom with bold freedom at every opportunity. Even though I am chained as a prisoner, I am his ambassador.

# From Soaring to Sowing Seed

Butterfly – Its mission is to mate and reproduce itself within a short period of time.

- 1 Thessalonians 5:22-24 King James Version (KJV)
- <sup>22</sup> Abstain from all appearance of evil.

- <sup>23</sup> 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.
- <sup>24</sup> Faithful is he that calleth you, who also will do it

## Psalm 17:15 Amplified Bible, Classic Edition (AMPC)

<sup>15</sup> As for me, I will continue beholding Your face in righteousness (rightness, justice, and right standing with You); I shall be fully satisfied, when I awake [to find myself] beholding Your form [and having sweet communion with You].

# 2 Corinthians 5:17-20 Amplified Bible, Classic Edition (AMPC)

- <sup>17</sup> Therefore if any person is [ingrafted] in Christ (the Messiah) he is a new creation (a new creature altogether); the old [previous moral and spiritual condition] has passed away. Behold, the fresh *and* new has come!
- <sup>18</sup> But all things are from God, Who through *Jesus* Christ reconciled us to Himself [received us into favor, brought us into harmony with Himself] and gave to us the ministry of reconciliation [that by word and deed we might aim to bring others into harmony with Him].
- <sup>19</sup> It was God [personally present] in Christ, reconciling *and* restoring the world to favor with Himself, not counting up *and* holding against [men] their trespasses [but cancelling them], and committing to us the message of reconciliation (of the restoration to favor).
- <sup>20</sup> So we are Christ's ambassadors, God making His appeal as it were through us. We [as Christ's personal representatives] beg you for His sake to lay hold of the divine favor [now offered you] *and* be reconciled to God.

## **Extended - Incorruptible Savior**

Romans 6 The Passion Translation (TPT)

The Triumph of Grace over Sin

- **6** So what do we do, then? Do we persist in sin so that God's kindness and grace will increase? <sup>2</sup> What a terrible thought! We have died to sin once and for all, as a dead man passes away from this life. So how could we live under sin's rule a moment longer? <sup>3</sup> Or have you forgotten that all of us who were immersed into union with Jesus, the Anointed One, were immersed into union with his death?
- <sup>4</sup> Sharing in his death by our baptism means that we were co-buried and entombed with him, so that when the Father's glory raised Christ from the dead, we were also raised with him. We have been co-resurrected with him so that we could be empowered to walk in the freshness of new life. <sup>5</sup> For since we are permanently grafted into him [a] to experience a death like his, then we are permanently grafted into him to experience a resurrection like his and the new life that it imparts.
- <sup>6</sup> Could it be any clearer<sup>[b]</sup> that our former identity<sup>[c]</sup> is now and forever deprived of its power? For we were co-crucified with him to dismantle the stronghold of sin within us,<sup>[d]</sup> so that we would not continue to live one moment longer submitted to sin's power.<sup>[e]</sup>
- <sup>7</sup> Obviously, a dead person is incapable of sinning. <sup>8</sup> And if we were cocrucified with the Anointed One, we know that we will also share in the fullness of his life. <sup>9</sup> And we know that since the Anointed One has been raised from the dead to die no more, his resurrection life has vanquished death and its power over him is finished. <sup>10</sup> For by his sacrifice he died to sin's power once and for all, <sup>[f]</sup> but he now lives continuously for the Father's pleasure. <sup>11</sup> So let it be the same way with you! Since you are now joined with him, you must continually view yourselves as dead and unresponsive to sin's appeal while living daily for God's pleasure in union with Jesus, the Anointed One.

## Sin's Reign Is Over

<sup>12</sup> Sin is a dethroned monarch; so you must no longer give it an opportunity to rule over your life, controlling how you live and compelling you to obey its desires and cravings. <sup>13</sup> So then, refuse to answer its call to surrender your body as a tool for wickedness. Instead, passionately answer God's call to keep yielding your body to him as one who has now experienced resurrection life! You live now for his pleasure, ready to be used for his noble purpose. <sup>[a]</sup> <sup>14</sup> Remember this: sin will not conquer you, for God already has! You are not governed by law but governed by the reign of the grace of God.

#### Grace Frees Us to Serve God

- <sup>15</sup> What are we to do, then? Should we sin to our hearts' content since there's no law to condemn us anymore? What a terrible thought! <sup>16</sup> Don't you realize that grace frees you to choose your own master? But choose carefully, for you surrender yourself to become a servant—bound to the one you choose to obey. If you choose to love sin, it will become your master, and it will own you and reward you with death. But if you choose to love and obey God, he will lead you into perfect righteousness.
- <sup>17</sup> And God is pleased with you, <sup>[h]</sup> for in the past you were servants of sin, but now your obedience is heart deep, and your life is being molded by truth through the teaching you are devoted to. <sup>[i]</sup> <sup>18</sup> And now you celebrate your freedom from your former master—sin. You've left its bondage, and now God's perfect righteousness holds power over you as his loving servants.
- <sup>19</sup> I've used the familiar terms of a "servant" and a "master" to compensate for your weakness to understand. For just as you surrendered your bodies and souls to impurity and lawlessness, which only brought more lawlessness into your lives, so now surrender yourselves as servants of righteousness, which brings you deeper into true holiness. <sup>20</sup> For when you were bound as servants to sin, you lived your lives free from any obligation to righteousness.
- <sup>21</sup> So tell me, what benefit ensued from doing those things that you're now ashamed of? It left you with nothing but a legacy of shame and death. <sup>22</sup> But now, as God's loving servants, you live in joyous freedom from the power of sin. So consider the benefits you now enjoy—you are brought deeper into

the experience of true holiness that ends with eternal life! <sup>23</sup> For sin's meager wages is death, <sup>[i]</sup> but God's lavish gift is life eternal, found in your union with our Lord Jesus, the Anointed One.

Colossians 1 The Passion Translation (TPT)

#### Introduction

- **1** Dear friends in Colossae,
- <sup>1–2</sup> My name is Paul and I have been chosen by Jesus Christ to be his apostle, by the calling and destined purpose of God. My colleague, Timothy, and I send this letter to all the holy believers who have been united to Jesus as beloved followers of the Messiah. May God, our true Father, release upon your lives the riches of his kind favor and heavenly peace through the Lord Jesus, the Anointed One.

## Paul Prays for the Colossians

- <sup>3</sup> Every time we pray for you our hearts overflow with thanksgiving to Father God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. <sup>4</sup> For we have heard of your devoted lives of faith in Christ Jesus and your tender love toward all his holy believers. <sup>5</sup> Your faith and love rise within you as you access all the treasures of your inheritance<sup>[a]</sup> stored up in the heavenly realm. For the revelation of the true gospel is as real today as the day you first heard of our glorious hope, now that you have believed in the truth of the gospel.
- <sup>6</sup> This is the wonderful message that is being spread everywhere, powerfully changing hearts throughout the earth, just like it has changed you! Every believer of this good news bears the fruit of eternal life as they experience the reality of God's grace.
- <sup>7</sup> Our beloved coworker, Epaphras, <sup>[b]</sup> was there from the beginning to thoroughly teach you the astonishing revelation of the gospel, and he serves you faithfully as Christ's representative. <sup>8</sup> He's informed us of the many wonderful ways love is being demonstrated through your lives by the empowerment of the Holy Spirit.

- <sup>9</sup> Since we first heard about you, we've kept you always in our prayers that you would receive the perfect knowledge of God's pleasure<sup>[c]</sup> over your lives, making you reservoirs of every kind of wisdom and spiritual understanding. <sup>10</sup> We pray that you would walk in the ways of true righteousness, pleasing God in every good thing you do. Then you'll become fruit-bearing branches, yielding to his life, and maturing in the rich experience of knowing God in his fullness! <sup>11</sup> And we pray that you would be energized with all his explosive power from the realm of his magnificent glory, filling you with great hope.<sup>[d]</sup>
- <sup>12</sup> Your hearts can soar with joyful gratitude when you think of how God made you worthy to receive the glorious inheritance freely given to us by living in the light. <sup>[e]</sup> <sup>13</sup> He has rescued us completely from the tyrannical rule <sup>[f]</sup> of darkness and has translated us into the kingdom realm of his beloved Son. <sup>14</sup> For in the Son all our sins are canceled and we have the release of redemption *through his very blood*.

## The Supremacy of Christ

- <sup>15</sup> He is the divine portrait, the true likeness of the invisible God, and the first-born heir of all creation. <sup>16</sup> For through the Son everything was created, both in the heavenly realm and on the earth, all that is seen and all that is unseen. Every seat of power, realm of government, principality, and authority—it was all created through him and for his purpose! <sup>17</sup> He existed before anything was made, and now everything finds completion in him.
- <sup>18</sup> He is the Head of his body, which is the church. And since he is the beginning and the firstborn heir in resurrection,<sup>[g]</sup> he is the most exalted One, holding first place<sup>[h]</sup> in everything. <sup>19</sup> For God is satisfied to have all his fullness<sup>[i]</sup> dwelling in Christ. <sup>20</sup> And by the blood of his cross, everything in heaven and earth is brought back to himself—*back to its original intent, restored to innocence again*!<sup>[i]</sup>

## Made Holy through Christ

<sup>21–22</sup> Even though you were once distant from him, living in the shadows of your evil thoughts and actions, he reconnected you back to himself. *He released his supernatural peace to you* through the sacrifice of his own body as the sin-payment on your behalf so that you would dwell in his presence.

And now there is nothing between you and Father God, for he sees you as holy, flawless, and restored, [k] 23 if indeed you continue to advance in faith, assured of a firm foundation to grow upon. Never be shaken from the hope of the gospel you have believed in. And this is the glorious news I preach all over the world.

## The Divine Mystery

- <sup>24</sup> I can even celebrate the sorrows I have experienced on your behalf; for as I join with you in your difficulties, it helps you to discover what lacks *in your understanding*<sup>[]]</sup> of the sufferings Jesus Christ experienced for his body, the church. <sup>25</sup> This is the very reason I've been made a minister by the authority of God and a servant to his body, so that in his detailed plan I would fully equip you with the Word of God.
- <sup>26</sup> There is a divine mystery—a secret surprise that has been concealed from the world for generations, but now it's being revealed, unfolded and manifested for every holy believer to experience. <sup>27</sup> Living within you is the Christ who floods you with the expectation of glory! This mystery of Christ, embedded within us, becomes a heavenly treasure chest of hope filled with the riches of glory for his people, and God wants everyone to know it!
- <sup>28–29</sup> Christ is our message! We preach to awaken hearts and bring every person into the full understanding of truth. It has become my inspiration and passion in ministry to labor with a tireless intensity, with his power flowing through me, to present to every believer the revelation of being his perfect one in Jesus Christ.

# **Established - Incorruptible Sphere of Influence - World Changer** John 1:1-5 The Passion Translation (TPT)

The Living Expression

**1** In the very beginning [a] the Living Expression [b] was already there.

And the Living Expression was with God, yet fully God. [c]

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> They were together—face-to-face, [d] in the very beginning. [e]

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> And through his creative inspiration this Living Expression made all things, [f]

for nothing has existence apart from him!

- <sup>4</sup> Life came into being<sup>[g]</sup> because of him, for his life is light for all humanity.<sup>[h]</sup>
- <sup>5</sup> And this Living Expression is the Light that bursts through gloom<sup>[i]</sup>—
  the Light that darkness could not diminish!<sup>[i]</sup>

## John 3:33-36 J.B. Phillips New Testament (PHILLIPS)

The one who comes from above is naturally above everybody. The one who arises from the earth belongs to the earth and speaks from the earth. The one who comes from Heaven is above all others and he bears witness to what he has seen and heard—yet no one is accepting his testimony. Yet if a man does accept it, he is acknowledging the fact that God is true. For the one whom God sent speaks the authentic words of God—and there can be no measuring of the Spirit given to him! The Father loves the Son and has put everything into his hand. The man who believes in the Son has eternal life. The man who refuses to believe in the Son will not see life; he lives under the anger of God."

## John 14:29-31 Amplified Bible, Classic Edition (AMPC)

- <sup>29</sup> And now I have told you [this] before it occurs, so that when it does take place you may believe *and* have faith in *and* rely on Me.
- <sup>30</sup>I will not talk with you much more, for the prince (evil genius, ruler) of the world is coming. And he has no claim on Me. [He has nothing in common with Me; there is nothing in Me that belongs to him, and he has no power over Me.]
- <sup>31</sup>But [<sup>33</sup>satan is coming and] I do as the Father has commanded Me, so that the world may know (be convinced) that I love the Father and that I do only what the Father has instructed Me to do. [I act in full agreement with His orders.] Rise, let us go away from here.