

FirstFruits Gathering At Harvest Christian Church

Christ Is Reality March 14, 2017 Suzi Armstrong

Colossians 2.27b NIV

...the reality, however, is found in Christ.

- What is real, what is eternal is in Christ.
- Christ sustains all things by the power of His word. (Heb. 1.3)
- What is reality?
 - Jesus Christ the Living Word.
 - He is the substance.
 - He is the governing power behind all things.
- We release to Detroit, to our nation and to the earth the reality that is found in Christ. His kingdom come and His will be done. His rule and reign.
- The earth, and Detroit, are the Lord's and everything in it.

Reality defined by the dictionary – the world or the state of things as they actually exist, as opposed to an idealistic or notional idea of them.

Political groups, social groups and the media want to shape and define the reality of the earth. We must have the mind of Christ and discernment to understand and know what is what, how to align and how to speak to our city, our family and our neighborhood. Christ is the reality.



Romans 12.1-2

¹Therefore I urge you, brethren, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies a living and holy sacrifice, acceptable to God, *which is* your spiritual service of worship. ²And **do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind**, so that you may **prove what the will of God is, that which is good and acceptable and perfect.**

- Our minds must be renewed so that we are not echoing a sound that is not even real, a sound that has no substance of life.
- We must hear and respond to the voice of truth.
- Out of the voice of truth we can know and speak the good and perfect will of God.
- A renewed mind is essential. The quality or impact of our actions is determined by the quality of our mind.
- Wrong thoughts will bring forth wrong actions. Wrong concepts will bring forth wrong living.

Proverbs 23.7a

For **as he thinks within himself, so he is...**

- We are what we think.
- What we think shapes and determines the core of our being. It is our belief system. We operate out of our belief system.
- Our belief system creates mindsets.
- A mindset is a fixed mental attitude or disposition that predetermines a person's responses to and interpretations of situations.

1 Corinthians 2.7-13

⁷ but **we speak God's wisdom** in a mystery, the hidden *wisdom* which God predestined before the ages to our glory; ⁸ *the wisdom* which none of the rulers of this age has understood; for if they had understood it they would not have crucified the Lord of glory; ⁹ but just as it is written,

"THINGS WHICH EYE HAS NOT SEEN AND EAR HAS NOT HEARD,

AND which HAVE NOT ENTERED THE HEART OF MAN,

ALL THAT GOD HAS PREPARED FOR THOSE WHO LOVE HIM."

¹⁰ For **to us God revealed them through the Spirit; for the Spirit searches all things, even the depths of God.** ¹¹ For who among men knows the *thoughts* of a man except the spirit of the man which is in him?

Even so **the thoughts of God no one knows except the Spirit of God.** ¹² Now we have received,

not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit who is from God, so that we may know the things freely given to us by God, ¹³ which things **we also speak, not in words taught by human wisdom, but in those taught by the Spirit, combining spiritual thoughts with spiritual words.**

- The eye gate and the ear gate are the entrance to the heart.
- We need Holy Spirit to reveal to us those things that are in God's heart. They cannot be seen and taken hold of otherwise.
- The Holy Spirit knows the thoughts of God.
- The Holy Spirit can communicate the mind of Christ to our spirit. (1 Cor. 2.16)

1 Corinthians 2.2

For **I determined to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ, and Him crucified.**

- Paul was saying that he was not looking at the Corinthians through the mindset of history or current circumstances and situations or pop culture.
- Paul had set his mind to process everything through the reality of Christ. The death, burial, resurrection and ascension of Christ changes everything.



Let me explain the power of intercession from this perspective. In intercession we are standing in the gap to bring the reality of heaven into a place. God's kingdom come and His will be done on earth as it is in heaven. We are seeing, apprehending and releasing what is not seen in the natural realm but is God's provision. This is all done through the communication of Holy Spirit. Holy Spirit searches God's heart, even the depths of His heart. Then Holy Spirit communicates to our hearts what God's will is. A renewed mind is essential to hear accurately what Holy Spirit is speaking. Then we speak what Holy Spirit puts in our hearts (this always lines up accurately with the Word of God). As we speak the will of God, pathways are made in the invisible realm of the heavens. The words we are given by Holy Spirit have a prophetic dimension to them because they have not become reality yet. The word of the Lord is filled with the supernatural substance to accomplish what the word was sent to accomplish. The prophetic edge of the words we are speaking causes breakthrough and the forming of the new. The new starts to form and come into the natural realm. Then the word or the will of God starts to be established in the earth. What was invisible begins to be established and become visible. What is of heaven prevails and God's will becomes what is done. God's kingdom has come. What is in heaven has been brought down into the earth.

The enemy's attack consists basically in placing UNTRUE THOUGHTS into our mind and calling them TRUE; so that we will live according to his purposes and desire. The power that the devil exercises over us is through the POWER OF SUGGESTION.

That is why we need to DISCERN ALL THOUGHTS that come into our mind so that our actions, attitudes and emotions will be guarded and brought into subjection to the knowledge of Christ.
Developing A Healthy Mind by Jonathan David

Matthew 16.15-16

¹⁵ He said to them, **"But who do you say that I am?"** ¹⁶ Simon Peter answered, "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God."

- Who do we say Jesus is?
- Do we say that He is reality? And then hold onto that reality bringing God's kingdom into the earth?
- We are that voice to Detroit and to our nation.

Philippians 2.12-13

¹² So then, my beloved, just as you have always obeyed, not as in my presence only, but now much more in my absence, work out your salvation with fear and trembling; ¹³ for **it is God who is at work in you, both to will and to work for His good pleasure.**

Paul declared that God is at work within us both TO WILL and TO WORK OUT His good pleasure. The FREEDOM OF THE HUMAN WILL is restored to the redeemed vessel. Now he can both will and also have the power to work out the will of God that is working within him.

It is in this freedom that we are to stand firm in and not subject ourselves again to the yoke of slavery (Gal. 5.1). We are to use this freedom to choose to walk by the Spirit of God (Gal. 5.13-16).
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Paul positioned himself to know nothing but the reality of Jesus Christ and Him crucified. Paul was saying that he was choosing to keep his mind renewed so that he could hear and see what was in heaven. Paul was steadfast in his positioning. He believed God. Without faith it is not possible to please God.



What does knowing Jesus Christ and Him crucified make real? It makes what is in heaven real to us; we can go boldly into the throne room of grace in time of need. And by God's provision see what is unseen and know what is in His heart and then bring it into the earth as real! Superimposing the reality of heaven into the earth, into our family situations, into our city, into our civil government, into our schools, into the earth.