The Trust Of Christ

TRUST IN THE GOSPELS

VOLUME 1

DEAN CHICQUETTE



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The Trust Of Christ TRUST IN THE GOSPELS VOLUME I

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Cover by Dean Chicquette

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Preface

Some years ago our Sunday afternoon Christian fellowship studied the word faith. We even peeked at the Greek word translated faith, belief, and trust. We read several verses at least three times, substituting the words faith, belief, and trust as needed. Soon we just read faith and belief as trust. After less than 100 verses explored a young woman of 90 had such a profound ah-ha many, along with her, discovered a dimension of faith we had not seen before.

For myself, the now, as well as my hope for the future, has been transformed. By just substituting trust for every occurrence of the word faith or belief my soul has found rest in Jesus's unwavering trust shared with me. I don't need more faith or to gain some obscured knowledge. I do believe all it takes is to *trust* the Person of persons for absolutely everything and that trust is a gift. I cannot even boast about it.

"For by grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God—" (*Ephesians 2:8*)

PART ONE Trust Found In Matthew

CHAPTER 1

Chapter 1

Chapter 1

MAT 6:25-34

"But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which is *alive* today and tomorrow is thrown into the furnace, *will* He not much more clothe you? You of little faith!" (*Matthew 6:30*)

Does a flower consciously trust God? If a flower cannot trust and God can take care of them what is stopping God from taking care of us? Nothing! He cares for us.

Worry does not accomplish God's will.

Father, I declare I can trust You to do ever so much more with my life than You have in clothing the most beautiful intricate flower in the world. Your will is my life. Your living is my way. Your Person is my home. Your glory is Yours alone.

CHAPTER 2

Marvel

MAT 8:5-13; LUK 7:1-10

"Now when Jesus heard *this*, He marveled and said to those who were following, 'Truly I say to you, I have not found such great faith with anyone in Israel." (Matthew 8:10)

JESUS WAS GIVEN a task by a Roman Centurion. No different from any other soldier under his command. He came to Jesus trusting He could and would heal his servant. Jesus marveled. Jesus healed. We too can boldly share our needs with Jesus.

The greatest of all is the servant of all.

Jesus, I am Your servant, look to me. I sit until You command me to stand. When I stand, I stand ready before You. I trust Your abilities working through me.

CHAPTER 3

MAT 8:5-13; LUK 7:1-10

"And Jesus said to the centurion, 'Go; it shall be done for you as you have believed.' And the servant was healed that very moment." (Matthew 8:13)

JESUS'S BEHAVIOR is so not like the 21st Century. His trust in Father was boundless. Look at what Jesus did. He heard and performed according to the trust of this Roman Centurion. Just as the Roman Centurion trusted Christ, Jesus trusted Father. We see this trust blossom into complete trust when Jesus told the Centurion to go. Jesus trusted Father with this centurion's needs. He did not give him a "How to list" of scriptures. He just said, "Go."

It shall be done according to your trust in Christ Jesus.

Father, when I trust Your life, I am trusting Your abilities.

CHAPTER 4

Be Silent

MAT 8:18, 23-27; MAR 4:35-41; LUK 8:22-25

"He said to them, 'Why are you afraid, you men of little faith?' Then He got up and rebuked the winds and the sea, and it became perfectly calm." (Matthew 8:26)

WE ARE in the same boat as Jesus. We are going where He is going. Prayer points Him to our personal wind and waves. After that, we watch Him calm our lives. In fact, we sense His trusting heart beating in our hearts. Sometimes we mistake it as our very own heartbeat. *Our* trust meeting the void within transforms it into God's infinite possibilities.

Life is a storm ready to be silenced.

Jesus, you are the only Person I trust to calm this life. It takes but turning to You and Your abilities for fears to fall away. You calm every gust of wind and fearful wave. You bring the light into the darkest night. You are the love of God driving out all hate.

Silenced

MAT 9:1-8; MAR 2:1-12; LUK 5:17-26

"And they brought to Him a paralytic lying on a bed. Seeing their faith, Jesus said to the paralytic, 'Take courage, son; your sins are forgiven." (Matthew 9:2)

Trusting the right person is everything. In the story above, people brought their friend to Jesus, trusting He would heal him and lift their burdens. Jesus recognized their trust and the man's problem. The man was paralyzed with fear, guilt, and shame. Jesus silenced the inner voice binding up his body. The man was made whole when he listened to Jesus saying...

Self-doubt, be silenced. God frees us from all sin.

Lord, I bring to You all that would cripple my ability to accept Your forgiveness. Here is my heart.

CHAPTER 6

Addicted

MAT 9:18-26; MAR 5:21-43; LUK 8:40-56

"But Jesus turning and seeing her said, 'Daughter, take courage; your faith has made you well.' At once the woman was made well." (Matthew 9:22)

TRUST IS the gift of God. When trust is left to do its work, we rest. What makes trust work? The object of our trust makes the difference, not the amount of trust. Addictions trust. Dependency is trust. It is effortless to trust the One who can do all things He wants to do.

Be addicted to Jesus. Be dependent on Christ.

Father, the cure for me is You. Not more of You so I can do it myself but less of me so I won't interfere with what You are doing. You never doubt Yourself. Let me be addicted to Your trusting heart.

CHAPTER 7

MAT 9:27-34

"When He entered the house, the blind men came up to Him, and Jesus said to them, 'Do you believe that I am able to do this?' They said to Him, 'Yes, Lord.'" (Matthew 9:28)

TRUSTING Christ is a simple but profound choice that results in action. In this case, it was the man's lips moving much like Jesus's mother's response to Gabriel. Both said, 'Yes! I am available to Holy Spirit's ability.' We are, by the events we meet, able to trust Christ's ability to meet them with His wisdom.

Say yes!

Lord Jesus, what a wonderful revelation that every promise has been completed in, by, and through Your trust in Father's will to complete Your request expressed through me.

CHAPTER 8

Keep in Touch

MAT 9:27-34

"Then He touched their eyes, saying, 'It shall be done to you according to your faith.'" (Matthew 9:29)

THIS BLIND MAN knew what he was looking for, went to the ophthalmologist of ophthalmologists, and yielded to Jesus's touch. That act of letting a touch be enough was enough. Trust is not some inward feeling in your gut, chest, or so thought. Trust is going to Jesus with no design of seeking a second opinion.

One-stop shop.

Thank you, Lord, that I have Your contact information and You mine. Keep in touch.

See The Unseen

MAT 14:24-33; MAR 6:47-52; JOH 6:16-21

"Immediately Jesus stretched out His hand and took hold of him, and said to him, 'You of little faith, why did you doubt?" (Matthew 14:31)

JESUS, walking on water, and at Peter's request, commanded Peter to walk on the very same stormy sea Jesus was using for a sidewalk. I'm sure, at times, Peter could see Jesus riding a wave. At different times they could lose sight of each other. The only thing left was to see the waves and feel the wind. Humans can do what God is doing when they fix their gaze on Him.

See Jesus!

Jesus, I see You in the same storm as I find myself, but You are doing the impossible. At times I lose sight of You and focus on my thoughts and feelings. I sink. Thank You for Your hand reaching me. I trust that hand has mine even though I cannot always feel it.

CHAPTER 10

At Once

MAT 15:21-28 MAR 7:24-30

"Then Jesus said to her, 'O woman, your faith is great; it shall be done for you as you wish.' And her daughter was healed at once." (Matthew 15:28)

WHEN YOU TRUST in the right person your trust is as good as it gets. Jesus said that when you receive a teacher or prophet, you get what a teacher or prophet can give. This is big. The Son of Man can separate you from the sense of a *sinful self* and transform you into the *Right Self*. In short, what you are prepared to receive you can receive. When your will is joined to His will you get what you will. His will always produces life.

Choose His will, receive His life.

Father, what a gift You have given us, the ability to do Your will. Wow! I get to do Your will. Not because I have anything other than Your living will and testament living in me and very much wanting to get out of me gushing love on everyone else.

CHAPTER 11
Food Comfort

MAT 16:13-20 MAR 8:27-30 LUK 9:18-21

"But Jesus, aware of this, said, 'You men of little faith, why do you discuss among yourselves that you have no bread?'" (Matthew 16:8)

LIFE IS ALWAYS in our faces just as, most often, food for it. In return for our hunger for bread, Jesus was offering His life that needs no seconds. He is the ultimate comfort food. Jesus had learned that very lesson during the 40-day fast. At His weakest, He discovered He could trust His Father and silence the enemy of His soul. Even today, surrounded by plenty, people starve for the food that brings peace, vanquishes fear, silences doubt, and births trust, hope, and love.

Consume THE food.

Father, daily You send me the manna that satisfies. Every morning I gather and eat to my satisfaction. I consume Your gift, eating and drinking, to my fill. Jesus, You are my eternal sustenance.

CHAPTER 12

It Is Enough

MAT 17:14-21; MAR 9:14-29; LUK 9:37-43

"And He said to them, 'Because of the littleness of your faith; for truly I say to you, if you have faith the size of a mustard seed, you will say to this mountain, "Move from here to there," and it will move; nothing will be impossible to you." (*Matthew 17:20*)

YEARS AGO, while hitchhiking across the western states, I was told it took more than trust to move mountains, it was said it took human effort. I prayed that a specific mountain be moved. Over the last 54 years, it has moved. The Bingham mine is not where it was in 1968. Did it take people? Yes. Did I do it? No. I simply received the answer to the prayer.

Trust is enough!

Father, just as Jesus trusted You to raise Him from the dead, He now trusts You to raise us from the dead. I am His desired possession. I trust You possess me! I receive Life.

CHAPTER 13 Root To Fruit

MAT 21:19-22; MAR 11:19-25

"And Jesus answered and said to them, 'Truly I say to you, if you have faith and do not doubt, you will not only do what was done to the fig tree, but even if you say to this mountain, "Be taken up and cast into the sea," it will happen." (Matthew 21:21)

FOR WHATEVER REASON, the fig tree was not going to feed its creator. That is *not a good idea* (NAGI pronounced nah-gee). Your existence is not to glorify a self-willed soul but to be an obedient soul joined at its core to God's life-giving Spirit. This new nature has been created to do God's will and produce spiritual fruit in its season. What fruit—love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control. There is no law against these.

Trust the root and you will get the fruit.

Thank You, Lord, I have but one lesson, trust. Thank You that I have one duty, trust. I have but one ability, to share Your trust. When I share trust I am fruitful. I share LIFE. I love.



"And all things you ask in prayer, believing, you will receive." (Matthew 21:22)

Talking to Father God about your desires is not some magical incantation. It simply harmonizes your heart with Father's. Prayer explores His desires and discovers if they match yours. After a few prayers, you will gain the muscles to receive what is gifted. God, once and for everyone, gifted His Son, Jesus the Christ. He is the answer to every prayer in some form. He is the blessing. He is the response. His residence in your heart is more precious than anything you could gain or do.

Receive Christ in all His blessed forms.

What a wonderful life You give me, Lord. To Your Jewish family through the Law, You promised things, like peace and safety. Now, in union with You, I definitely have peace and am guaranteed that those who hate You will hate me.

CHAPTER 15 Get Real

MAT 21:23-22:14; MAR 11:27-12:12; LUK 20:1-19

"The baptism of John was from what source, from heaven or from men?' And they began reasoning among themselves, saying, "If we say, 'From heaven,' He will say to us, 'Then why did you not believe him?'" (Matthew 21:25)

JOHN CAME BAPTIZING for one reason, to proclaim Jesus as the Christ. He was told what to do and what to look for. The Jewish leaders had been told this by John. He scolded them because he knew their hearts were not willing to trust Jesus as the Christ. God's plan for Jesus was accomplished. They rejected and crucified Jesus. Without a dead Jesus, we would not have a resurrected Jesus, nor His Holy Spirit resident in us. He is the Christ the one we trust. The only way not to trust Christ is by stealing your heart from his gaze. Not one bit of fear, guilt, or shame, can keep you from humbling your will to Christ's.

Pride alone damns you.

Jesus, nothing I feel, think, say, or do makes You real.

CHAPTER 16

Walk Trusting

MAT 21:23-22:14; MAR 11:27-12:12; LUK 20:1-19

"For John came to you in the way of righteousness and you did not believe him; but the tax collectors and prostitutes did believe him; and you, seeing *this*, did not even feel remorse afterward so as to believe him." (Matthew 21:32)

TODAY, it is those who know that they want a better way of living who purposely disavow trust in their flesh. They do not trust time, money, things, education, position, friends, or power, but place their life, by trust, in Jesus's life resident within. The onlooker marvels at those who prove how to gain peace and purpose in this life. Not everyone who says, "I am a Christian" is a Christian. Those who obey Father's command not to put any confidence in the flesh are Christians. We put our confidence in Holy Spirit's living our choices by letting us receive His desires as our desires.

Stand in His will. See Jesus and trust Him.

Father, Your desire is that I sit. When addressed stand. When called to walk, I walk in Your trust.

CHAPTER 17

Receive All

MAT 23:1-39; MAR 12:38-40; LUK 20:45-47

"Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you tithe mint and dill and cummin, and have neglected the weightier provisions of the law: justice and mercy and faithfulness; but these are the things you should have done without neglecting the others." (Matthew 23:23)

IT IS NOT a good idea (NAGI) to ignore justice nor mercy, and most importantly trustworthiness. If we focus on these attributes as if they were absent or weak in our character we miss the point. Christ Jesus is everything that completes us in life by His nature. For instance, He is love. Love (He) never fails to be just or merciful. Trust is so close to the love of truth that we can worship God best by being trustworthy.

We receive the All in order to be the all we have received.

I receive You, Lord, not just as a get-out-of-hell card but as the Life of Love which can bring heaven into my everyday living, hellish or not.

CHAPTER 18
(Here not There

MAT 24:1-25:46; MAR 13:1-37; LUK 21:5-36

"Then if anyone says to you, 'Behold, here is the Christ,' or 'There *He is*,' do not believe *him.*" (Matthew 24:23)

THE CONSEQUENCE of not getting into the only life raft in sight is death. Jesus of old is that life raft. It is one thing to suffer a life without the ability to be satisfied. It is another to reject the satisfying life. Jesus said, "Like the serpent in the wilderness was lifted up for anyone who looked to it to be healed from their poisoned life, I too shall be lifted up. Anyone who looks to Me and trusts Me for life will have it." He was lifted up and you can, right now, look to Him. You will be healed of the poison of distrust.

There is only one life that satisfies.

I see You, Lord Jesus. I am perfect and complete in our union. I look to You and am healed.

CHAPTER 19
Submit

MAT 24:1-46; MAR 13:1-37; LUK 21:5-36

"So if they say to you, 'Behold, He is in the wilderness,' do not go out, *or*, 'Behold, He is in the inner rooms,' do not believe *them*." (Matthew 24:26)

LOOK NO FURTHER. Do not trust people who say there is more of Jesus to gain or that there is a new christ on the scene or that Jesus has returned and lives on 777 Main Street. Once you submit and trust the Christ of history birthed in your heart you have it all. No one has experienced it all but we have it all.

Submit to the transforming will of God.

Father, I repent of trying to make You look like I want You to look in my life or dress You up in socially acceptable words or actions. You are Love and You have judged sin and set me free from the old way of trying to fix my flesh or anyone else's. You override the desires of the flesh without my help.

CHAPTER 20

Bread of Life

MAT 24:1-46; MAR 13:1-37; LUK 21:5-36

"Who then is the faithful and sensible slave whom his master put in charge of his household to give them their food at the proper time?" (Matthew 24:45)

As TRUSTWORTHY EMPLOYEES of Holy Spirit, we do the work of love set before us. Who do we love? Everyone indiscriminately. Specifically, those Father sends us who don't like us. In Psalm 23 we are told a table is set for me before my enemies. Why? For me to feed them. This is the work of Holy Spirit. We trust His ability to meet their real *need*. The table has been set before us all. The bread and wine are before us. Share Jesus with everyone, there is more than enough.

Sit, relax, and consume.

Thank You, Father, for giving me the bread and wine of life. Thank You that I am so full I joyfully feed all whom I find hungry.

CHAPTER 21

Da Well

MAT 24:1-25:46; MAR 13:1-37; LUK 21:5-36

"His master said to him, 'Well done, good and faithful slave. You were faithful with a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master." (Matthew 25:21)

As trusting employees of Holy Spirit we learn, in little or much, that the tasks before us are form fitted to God's abilities and He is ready to perform them through willing souls. The lesson of life is to trust God's skill sets. We put no confidence in the flesh. Father wanted to remove that cumbersome burden and replace it with Holy Spirit at work through the flesh. (See Romans 6.) Our response to His love invading souls is our trust that God is doing just that. We act on trust leading to trust.

We can do no better than trust God.

Lord, I am wholly available to You, for You to be the only excuse for my being who and what I am as well as what I say and do.

CHAPTER 22

MAT 25:31-46; MAR 13:1-37; LUK 21:5-36

"His master said to him, 'Well done, good and faithful slave. You were faithful with a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master." (*Matthew 25:23*)

WE HAVE A NEW RESIDENCE. We were glued to Love by the blood of Christ separating us from every lust or act of disobedience to Father's desires. Our new home is not made of stones, gold, mortar, or silver but it is the very expression of the Life of God in Christ Jesus. Our new home is the Life of Love and that Love is everlasting. We go where He goes and do what He does. We are ever in His heart and by His side rejoicing to see the tasks and victories we accomplish through Father living His purposes.

My works prove Father is at work.

I come to You dear Life so that my deeds may be recognized as Your doing. I come to love to be enabled to love as I have been loved. I can remain in Your love. I rejoice in Your loving through me.

CHAPTER 23

Escape Doubt

MAT 27:35-44; MAR 15:24-32; LUK 23:33-43; JOH 19:18-27

"He saved others; He cannot save Himself. He is the King of Israel; let Him now come down from the cross, and we will believe in Him." (Matthew 27:42)

What keeps us from trusting Christ? He came down from the tree, was carried to a tomb, laid to rest, and left for dead. Then, in front of some disciples as well as Roman guards, an angel rolled away the stone blocking the tomb and invited people to take a peek and see that Jesus's body had already escaped both death and the tomb. Jesus was alive and walked out of the tomb by walking through the stone. Our hearts are born as stones trying to block the life of Christ. But with one peek we see He has escaped and liberated us by escaping doubt.

Escape with Christ from a heart of stone and death!

In Christ, all is finished. I need not gain life but simply live the life I have. Thank You, Lord, for Your Life.

PART TWO Trust Found In Mark

CHAPTER 24

Thave It

MAT 4:17; MAR 1:14-15; LUK 4:14-15

"and saying, 'The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand; repent and believe in the gospel." (Mark 1:15)

BOTH JOHN the Baptist's and Jesus's message were the same, "the kingdom of God is within reach. *Take hold!*" John came baptizing in water to prepare us to be baptized by Jesus in Holy Spirit and fire. John prepared people by letting them know the Kingdom of God was near. Jesus wanted us to know it had arrived and would soon be within us. Think of it this way, if something is within reach you can take hold of it. So it is with the good news. Jesus said, "Just as Father has loved me, I love you. Don't move from My love."

It is AGI (A GOOD IDEA) to change your mind and trust the good news.

Father, I change my mind and accept Your kingdom of love right here and now and now and now...

Spend It All

MAT 9:1-8; MAR 2:1-12; LUK 5:17-26

"And Jesus seeing their faith said to the paralytic, 'Son, your sins are forgiven.'" (Mark 2:5)

EVEN THOSE GREATLY ENCUMBERED CAN LOOK TO and appreciate Jesus's abilities. Jesus let this person know He was no longer bound by the *need* to sin. The real healing was deep and everlasting. This healed flesh learned it could trust God. He had been freed to be made a slave to God's will. (*Romans 6:18*) Jesus went on to instruct him saying, "Don't sin anymore." Jesus also defined Father's will for us as seeing Jesus and trusting Him. Jesus went on to say that the sin of the world was **not** trusting Him. He loved us and is ready, right now, to love through us. Who do we love? Those walking in doubt that Father God loves them. We suffer their doubt. When they, undeservedly, are loved by you, they know God's love.

We have more love than we can spend. Spend it all.

I am so happy Father that love is not a feeling, but it feels really good when loving. Most smile back when loved.

CHAPTER 26
Trust Or (Fear

MAT 8:18,23-27; MAR 4:35-41; LUK 8:22-25

"And He said to them, 'Why are you afraid? How is it that you have no faith?" (Mark 4:40)

FEAR births distrust while love births trust. In fact, they are so inseparable that trust awakens love and distrust awakens fear. When fear captures your attention your little 'i' is transformed into a self-serving self. When love is recognized as your new self, you trust the only resource needed, the Spirit of God. Love leads us to rest in what God is doing in, by, and through us.

Your choice, trust God or fear.

Father, the greatest fear is to leave this life without You owning me. Each moment of embracing self-effort is distrusting Your abilities to accomplish Your ends in this earth. Father trusted You, Jesus, by placing His will into Your hands. In Your death, the root of doubt was severed. Trust is the foundation of our union. The composite of our living as one now and forever more.

Go in Peace

MAT 9:18-26; MAR 5:21-43; LUK 8:40-56

"And He said to her, 'Daughter, your faith has made you well; go in peace and be healed of your affliction." (Mark 5:34)

YES, we have the ability to trust. It is the gift of God. Not one person can claim they are the author of their faith. We are exercisers of the trust gifted. We act with trust all the time. Like flipping a light switch or sitting in a chair and quickly forgetting your body is at its mercy. When flying, we not only trust the pilot, but also mechanics, FAA employees, and the specific company that owns and operates the plane. I know people who so distrust the airlines that they will drive clear across the country trusting a million other folk with their lives. The point of trust is that we always act on it, then once trusting the thing trusted we kick back and just be. When we rest in Jesus we trust Him with our beginning and end.

Climb up into Jesus's lap and take a nap.

Jesus, I go in peace trusting You.

CHAPTER 28

Trust, Hope, Love

MAT 9:18-26; MAR 5:21-43; LUK 8:40-56

"But Jesus, overhearing what was being spoken, said to the synagogue official, 'Do not be afraid *any longer*, only believe.'" (Mark 5:36)

JESUS CAME to set free those who through fear of death have been subject to that fear all their lives. When we trust Jesus rose from death we escape death. How? We have died with and in Him. It is a done deal. We, now in Him, live His living. We skipped the experience of death in exchange for experiencing His living. We experience His life right now living through this flesh. Those who do not trust Him cannot experience His life because they have chosen to think this life is their independent free-willed living.

Christ has erased the need to fear death.

Lord, thank You for erasing fear and replacing it with Your eternal qualities of trust, hope, and love, especially LOVE.

CHAPTER 29

Soak

MAT 13:54-58; MAR 6:1-6

"And He wondered at their unbelief. And He was going around the villages teaching." (Mark 6:6)

WE ALL WONDER at the abundance of distrust people exhibit. This did not stop Jesus from sharing the good news of Father's love. His purification process would separate everyone from having to fear or distrust God again. For much of my life, people would tell me of their love for me. Those comments rolled off me like water off a duck's back. Finally, I trusted one such declaration, Jesus's. It sunk in and over time took over. Today, I am, for the most part, able to embrace others embracing me. Some people prove false, but at least I can show enough respect to let them prove it first.

Lord, I embrace You embracing me.

Lord, You are true and trustworthy. You prove this every day. Soak me to the bone with the very love Father has for You!

CHAPTER 30

Involved Observer

MAT 17:14-21; MAR 9:14-29; LUK 9:37-43

"And He answered them and said, 'O unbelieving generation, how long shall I be with you? How long shall I put up with you? Bring him to Me!" (Mark 9:19)

JESUS TRUSTED HIS FATHER. If his Father said, "We are having a picnic." Jesus would say to his disciples, "We are having a picnic." The wise disciples salivated. Their circumstances did not dictate the outcome of the promise. We who trust Christ's Spirit alive in us submit to the end at the beginning. We see through the process to the end by keeping our eyes and hearts fixed on Jesus.

Father, what You propose is as good as done.

Father, I get to enjoy our process and watch firsthand Your word coming to pass. I am Your witness. I proclaim what I see You doing. I rejoice in knowing I have as little to do with the promised end as John the Baptist making Jesus be the Christ. None!

CHAPTER 31 He Can

MAT 17:14-21; MAR 9:14-29; LUK 9:37-43

"And Jesus said to him, 'If You can? All things are possible to him who believes." (Mark 9:23)

Jesus is saying that if you have been gifted with the trust of God, you know everything is possible to God. You move from having to be the author of your trust to being the recipient and expression of His trust. You get to speak and act on that gift. In 1994 we hosted an intercessory group. Two of the couples received a 'gift of faith' and trusted God for new homes in different cities. They received what they were gifted. Soon there was no group, their intercession was complete.

Yes, He can.

My gifted new eternal home is You, Lord. I move in through the door of trust and kick back in my easy chair, Your lap. I join in Your victory. I have overcome in sharing that victory. Hallelujah!

CHAPTER 32

Opater

MAT 17:14-21; MAR 9:14-29; LUK 9:37-43

"Immediately the boy's father cried out and said, 'I do believe; help my unbelief." (Mark 9:24)

ONCE I TOOK AN AMBULANCE RIDE. Apparently, I was passing a vengeful kidney stone. The EMTs did nothing but mask the pain. The Doctors did nothing but suggest I drink tons of water. Apparently, all I needed was more water and the ability to withstand pain. I sought help from these professionals but discovered they were limited. After a few water-logged days, all was good. Now, I liken life on earth to passing some giant kidney stone ripping its way through my experiences. With what I had learned from the Doctors I simply drink a huge helping of Living Water and gush life into every hurtful situation.

Okay, sometimes I scream for the pain.

Father, thank You for the Water of Life flushing out all distrust. There is no limit to its cure. I feel much better now.

One Thing

MAT 20:29-34; MAR 10:46-52; LUK 18:35-43

"And Jesus said to him, 'Go; your faith has made you well.' Immediately he regained his sight and *began* following Him on the road." (Mark 10:52)

Trust IN God makes us well on all levels. Trust in self makes us ill on all levels. Trust builds up. Distrust tears down. We are meant to tear down every act perpetrated by the flesh and build up every act performed by Holy Spirit. Wholeness comes from realizing our life in Christ Jesus is not tainted with an 'i' attached to flesh experiences, feelings, or thoughts. We, united with Christ, discover we are souls expressing God's very own life-giving Spirit. We have been released from having to get in order to be complete to give what little we may feel we have.

The one thing I trust is enough, You Lord.

I share that 'one thing'.

CHAPTER 34
Simple

MAT 21:19-22; MAR 11:12-25

"And Jesus answered saying to them, 'Have faith in God." (Mark 11:22)

CAN it get simpler than this? We either trust or distrust what Jesus just said. In an instant, we can trust His accomplished work of perfecting us and being the perfect One living out His Spirit through us. Many wrestle with the idea God loves them. Go deeper yet, the yah-hoo is that He reproduces His life by living it through you. Simple, but talk about a leap of faith.

He is alive!

Father, thank You for Your life embodied in Christ and my sharing in the same. Not some universal force but the Person of persons. Thank You that everything I face, He faces, and has already been glorified in and through it. I am free to trust and live the life You give me.

CHAPTER 35

Birth Peace

MAT 21:19-22; MAR 11:12-25

"Therefore I say to you, all things for which you pray and ask, believe that you have received them, and they will be *granted* you." (Mark 11:24)

HERE IS THE KEY, understanding what the will of God is. This is the will of God, we are to indiscriminately love everyone with His love. What we pray for are the specific expressions of that love. We can trust that before we ask we have the answer. The answer is always Jesus's loving others through us in some tangible way. We care for orphans and widows, feed the hungry, proclaim the good news, and many such things. But which one and when? That is our prayer. If, after prayer, we are anxious, demanding, or shaming we take a seat and rest until we can act out of love, acceptance, and respect.

Act out of peace and you birth peace.

Lord, You always did what Father was doing. Thank You that I am a slave to that same doing.

CHAPTER 36

MAT 21:23-22:14; MAR 11:27-12:12; LUK 20:1-19

"They began reasoning among themselves, saying, 'If we say, "From heaven," He will say, "Then why did you not believe him?"" (Mark 11:31)

WE HAVE BEEN GIFTED the ability to trust or distrust, exercise faith in a person or not, and even believe or disbelieve some declaration. Those testing Jesus's authority had already actively distrusted John the Baptist's message concerning Jesus. Now they were trying to have reason to openly distrust Jesus himself. In effect, Jesus said, "I trust I am from God. John's proclamation concerning Me is My authority for you to trust Me." Wow! Apart from the miracles themselves, John was Jesus's earthly credentials.

Jesus is the Christ. Look no further.

Thank You, Lord, I have my eye singled on You as Father's precious Gift of Grace given to me as well as to the whole world.

God Loves Me

MAT 24:1-25:46; MAR 13:1-37; LUK 21:5-36

"And then if anyone says to you, 'Behold, here is the Christ'; or, 'Behold, He is there'; do not believe him;" (Mark 13:21)

THERE IS no new Christ on the horizon. To choose another Christ is to be an anti-Christ. Receiving the Christ of history is as hard for us today as it was for the people of His day to receive Him as the One prophesied. God has promised we will all see Him. We are not to go here or there to see Him. When He returns every eye will see Him. We will all declare, at His feet, He is the Christ. Not some new person or AI.

Hug this thought instead; "God loves ME!"

Thank You, Lord, 48 years ago I cried out, with my doubts, saying, "Jesus, if You are there, You can have me. But here is the deal, if You want to change me, go for it. I quit trying to change myself." You went to work and it has worked. I have changed. You haven't.

CHAPTER 38

MAT 27:35-44; MAR 15:24-32; LUK 23:33-43; JOH 19:18-27

""Let *this* Christ, the King of Israel, now come down from the cross, so that we may see and believe!" Those who were crucified with Him were also insulting Him." (*Mark 15:32*)

NOTHING LIKE KICKING someone who is down. How about feeling tall just because you are standing on someone else's toes? That works too, NOT! Even those who had ripped Jesus's beard out beat Him and then drove nails into His hands and feet, were mocking Him. Even today people dismiss Jesus as the Christ because He proved so human and died in disgrace. But don't miss this, Christ was born to die on the cross. Thank you stubborn disbelieving Jews of His day. His blood was the solvent used to release us from distrusting God. Without Christ, we would be guessing if there were a god and if that god were safe.

Some cry out "My God, My God, why have You saved me?"

For Your good pleasure, O Lord, You have saved me. Have fun!

CHAPTER 39

The 'Us'.

MAR 16:9-11; JOH 20:11-18

"When they heard that He was alive and had been seen by her, they refused to believe it." (*Mark 16:11*)

They refused to trust the news of Christ having been resurrected. Okay, the idea of a resurrected person is incredible. Such things don't fit into our everyday life experiences. Three days dead and no one standing over Him praying, yet He gets up, walks through stone, and plays in His revitalized garden. Where Eve gave off talking to the voice of God in the Garden, Jesus, the voice of God was now talking to Mary in this new garden, the redeemed universe. Mary reported that Jesus in the flesh had been chatting with her. Today, we who trust Christ, report that we are constantly in contact with His Spirit. Many refuse to trust this report.

There is no rule that you have to distrust this report.

I accept the report that You, Lord Jesus, are not only alive but are tabernacling in me. I and You have become an 'Us'. We get to care for this new garden.

CHAPTER 40 Mot Rocket Science

MAR 16:12-13; LUK 24:13-32

"They went away and reported it to the others, but they did not believe them either." (*Mark 16:13*)

IT'S A CHOICE. You can trust the message that Christ has risen or not. Even those prepared by Jesus to receive Him after His death were unable to trust the report He was alive. First dead, three days later, and now alive! Like incredulous! But what does it cost to trust this story? Nothing. What is the benefit? His living is through your living. Doubt this and you have refused to believe it. This is not rocket science. Your distrust or trust does not alter the fact that Jesus lives. He is life itself. Have Him and you have a real living. No Him, no living.

It costs nothing to trust except doubt.

I trust Your message Lord, now I will get down to living.

CHAPTER 41
The Greatest One

MAR 16:14; LUK 24:36-43; JOH 20:19-25

"Afterward He appeared to the eleven themselves as they were reclining *at the table*; and He reproached them for their unbelief and hardness of heart, because they had not believed those who had seen Him after He had risen." (Mark 16:14)

WHAT A SHOCK! The disciple's dead best friend appears to them in His bodily form and reproaches their distrust. Picture this. They're kicking back and having dinner. Then He shows up to feed them a good dose of reality. The illusion was over. If Jesus is a teaching or a new set of rules, you will miss Him standing right in front of you loving even you in your disbelief.

Trust He is the greatest!

Keep me, Lord. You are the greatest!

PART THREE Trust Found In Luke

CHAPTER 42
Sufficient
LUK 1:5-25

"And behold, you shall be silent and unable to speak until the day when these things take place, because you did not believe my words, which will be fulfilled in their proper time." (*Luke 1:20*)

Now here is inescapable evangelism. God has sprinkled the nations with the blood of His Son. They stand dumb on account of His overcoming victory. Even those who have not been told will see and hear Jesus the Christ at his appearance. They will understand. Their hearts of stone will be transformed. His law of love in Christ Jesus will fit in their heads and their hearts will become malleable and receive the message of love. The price has been paid. They will swear allegiance to the King of Kings. (see Isaiah 45:23-24)

It is finished. Jesus' blood is sufficient.

Mike drop.



"And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfillment of what had been spoken to her by the Lord." (Luke 1:45)

THE SERPENT HAS ASKED, "Has God really said, 'Look on my Son, trust Him and you shall live?"

Reply, "Yes, I please Him by looking to Jesus and trusting Him."

The serpent continues, "It is written in the Law, it is up to you to choose Christ, exercise your will to please God, and be good enough to win His favor. In the day you do these things you will live."

The wise say, "Let me get back to you after chatting with Mr. Love."

It is time to eat of the Trusting Tree.

Lord, let my eyes see Jesus. Let me see Him seeing me. I live in Your seeing. Your eyes heal my soul. You have released my heart to praise You, and set me free to do Your will. CHAPTER 44

Thank God

MAT 9:1-8; MAR 2:1-12; LUK 5:17-26

"Seeing their faith, He said, 'Friend, your sins are forgiven you.'" (Luke 5:20)

SIN IS NOT HAVING the Father's trust in the blood of His Christ as all-sufficient. There is a difference between having trust in God and having the trust of God. The imperative, "Have the trust of God" is a decree, a declaration. We can trust we have been united in Christ's death. We can trust we have been united in His resurrection. We simply receive God's trust in His Son to accomplish His task, redeem us with His blood and bind us to His love.

Thank God for Jesus's trust working through You.

Father, thank You for Your trust in Your Son being expressed through my heart, mind, soul, and strength.

CHAPTER 45

Children of Love

LUKE 7:36-50

"And He said to the woman, 'Your faith has saved you; go in peace." (Luke 7:50)

MARY, blessed God incarnate. Jesus, at a Pharisee's table, knew the difference between being a guest compared to being accepted and treated as Lord. Mary invested her savings in some costly perfume. By washing Jesus's feet with all she had, the perfume, she was saying she wanted nothing but Christ to satisfy her life needs and right standing with God. The Pharisee, Jesus's host, gave his attention to Jesus. Mary gave Him every hope.

Trust Him with all your distrust.

Father, I am betrothed to Christ, Mr. Trust Himself. In our union, we produce love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. These, our offspring, transform the world.

CHAPTER 46 Resident Within

MAT 13:3-23; MAR 4:3-25; LUK 8:5-18

"Those beside the road are those who have heard; then the devil comes and takes away the word from their heart, so that they will not believe and be saved. Those on the rocky soil are those who, when they hear, receive the word with joy; and these have no *firm* root; they believe for a while, and in time of temptation fall away." (Luke 8:12–13)

TRUST IS SO simple yet challenged by every waking moment. The seed, Christ, has been planted by God in our hearts. But life has another agenda saying;

"Believe in yourself."

Well, if that self is your body, choices, thoughts, thoughts about your thoughts, wants, time, and things, trust in Christ is an extra item on your to-do list and easily ignored. Your heart may receive the Seed but not be grounded and rooted in love.

Love has been perfected by Christ taking residence in us.

Father, I receive Your Seed, don't let my fears abort You.

CHAPTER 47 He Has Chosen Us

MAT 9:18-26; MAR 5:21-43; LUK 8:40-56

"And He said to her, 'Daughter, your faith has made you well; go in peace." (Luke 8:48)

JUST LIKE THIS WOMAN, we don't have to acquire more trust in order to believe someone. Trust is so intrinsically one with us that we just do it. The ability to trust is the ability to choose a thing and not move from the choice. Once we settle on taking the consequences of our choice we won't waver. Many choose to trust Christ for eternal life but distrust him concerning things of this life.

God has chosen us in His Son.

Father, thank You for giving me everything for living this life. I also receive, moment by moment, Your love ready to meet everyone else's needs. Thank You for gifting me Jesus so that I might join You in gifting Jesus to others.

chapter 48 You Rule

MAT 9:18-26; MAR 5:21-43; LUK 8:40-56

"But when Jesus heard this, He answered him, 'Do not be afraid any longer; only believe, and she will be made well." (*Luke 8:50*)

Jesus was saying to this man to replace his fear with trust in Jesus's declaring his daughter was going to be made well. This sets up a dynamic many want to ignore. Jesus did not and does not heal every person suffering some physical illness. God does not let everyone escape the hands of evil people. Yes, by His stripes we are healed of being slaves to sin and we trust we have become slaves of righteousness. Christ's ability to reconcile the whole world to Himself is working through us no matter our physical limitations.

Receive what He has given you, Himself.

Father, when You specifically say I am healed I am healed. I know You have said I have been transformed and live under Your rule. I submit to your rule.



"But if God so clothes the grass in the field, which is *alive* today and tomorrow is thrown into the furnace, how much more *will* He *clothe* you? You men of little faith!" (*Luke 12:28*)

I MUST ADMIT that I cringe when I hear people speak as if they need more faith than they already have to get what God wants in their life experience. Jesus just said, "What little you have is enough." Faith is not some commodity that produces more of the same commodity. Jesus produces anything we desire within Father's will. Jesus said it and I trust Father's declaration. Father's will is good enough for me.

We get to do God's will.

Jesus, in Gethsemane, You wrestled with receiving Father's will; death on a Roman cross. Yet You could not escape Your life's purpose. Father, I thank You for not letting me escape my life's purpose.

CHAPTER 50

How Much Is

Enough?

LUK 17:1-10

LOK 17.1-10

"The apostles said to the Lord, 'Increase our faith!' And the Lord said, 'If you had faith like a mustard seed, you would say to this mulberry tree, "Be uprooted and be planted in the sea"; and it would obey you." (Luke 17:5-6)

At least five times Jesus declared to His disciples that they had little faith. In these verses, He says the little they have is enough. They wanted more. Why? They wanted power to do the things Jesus did. Their trust was not in Jesus. What they really wanted was *enough faith* not to depend on Jesus. They wanted to do God's things without God doing them. Our Lord turned it back on them and said you have enough.

Jesus said, "Trust Me! That is enough."

Can you imagine me bossing You around Father? Oops. Unfortunately, I can. NAGI, I repent.



"I tell you that He will bring about justice for them quickly. However, when the Son of Man comes, will He find faith on the earth?" (Luke 18:8)

Was this a rhetorical question? The answer is yes and no. He was asking if He would find people trusting Him when He came. He had come. He was standing right in front of them. Many trusted Him for things for a season and greatly benefited from it. But humanity in general rejected the need to trust Him for life itself. Even today the majority of believers in Christ think He is a way for them to get what they want. They don't want Christ ruling them but want what He can offer.

If Christ isn't ruling your life, who is?

Father, with one glance toward You and I am whole, complete, even perfect. I am trusting Your will to rule over my will. I serve Your will.

CHAPTER 52

Trust Never Fails

LUK 22:31-33

"but I have prayed for you, that your faith may not fail; and you, when once you have turned again, strengthen your brothers." (Luke 22:32)

IN REALITY, Jesus is saying the trust Peter had in Christ would not, in the long run, fail Him. It did fail for a time, as seen in Peter denying Jesus three times. It was restored once again when the object of trust, Jesus, asked him three times if he loved Him and then said, 'Feed my sheep.' Jesus gave three chances for Peter to publicly declare his trust in Him. Jesus trusted Peter.

Christ's trust in you will never fail.

Father, thank You for the embodiment of trust in You.

Christ is the end of trusting for those who trust Him.

Thank You for a life of trust. Thank You that trust is the very substance of the thing I hope for.

CHAPTER 53

King of Israel

MAT 27:1; MAR 15:1; LUK 22:66-71

"'If You are the Christ, tell us.' But He said to them, 'If I tell you, you will not believe;'" (Luke 22:67)

MANY, throughout the years, have asked me, "Who am I and what am I here for?" I give them the answer only to realize they really did not want to know the answer. Why? Because to know the answer means you could not justify looking and failing to find it. Same with those asking Jesus for a direct answer. Their hearts were set on looking for Christ but had no intentions of submitting to Christ when found.

Distrusting Christ takes a lot of work.

Father, I'm exhausted trying to fashion my own Christ. I receive Your Christ.

CHAPTER 54

New Creature

LUK 24:9-12; JOH 20:2-10

"But these words appeared to them as nonsense, and they would not believe them." (*Luke 24:11*)

EVEN TODAY JESUS'S words seem nonsense. Yet functionally all He did was supply a solvent that was able to separate humanity from the need to distrust God's perfect love for each and every one. His blood enabled our hearts to house His Person who always trusts Father God. That same blood that unglued us from distrust is the glue that binds us to Love Himself. Sin is not trusting Jesus as The Christ. The redeemed trust He is The Christ.

Stop looking. Start living!

Jesus, thank You for sharing Your heart with mine. It is amazing that the ability to create out of nothing is a Person and that Person lives in His new creature, me.

CHAPTER 55 Ma Escape

MAR 16:12-13; LUK 24:13-32

"And He said to them, 'O foolish men and slow of heart to believe in all that the prophets have spoken!" (Luke 24:25)

IT Is foolish to trust a distrusting heart. Jesus was chiding people for not trusting Him. Now that was a foolish thing to do. Why? Because everything the human heart desires is in our union with Christ Jesus. He has been gifted and we can receive the Gift of Grace. Like a magnet drawn close to another magnet, they correct themselves and attach themselves to each other. Jesus said no one had the ability to disengage them from that union.

I am caught with no escape.

You, Lord, inspire my heart to collapse at Your feet. With but a touch of the hem of Your blood-stained garment I find the Prince of Peace united to my soul.

PART FOUR Trust In John

The Light

JOH 1:1-18

"He came as a witness, to testify about the Light, so that all might believe through him." (John 1:7)

JOHN's whole reason for living was to declare the light that lights every human soul ever conceived. That light was the Person of persons the Son of God, Jesus the Christ. Without His story, we have nothing in which to trust except our puny efforts to stave off fear, guilt, and shame. Why do we suffer these things? Because, we were made for better things such as trust, hope, and love. With these qualities of God in Christ in us, we begin to burn with a fire that is never quenched and never destroys us.

We are the light of the world.

Jesus, shine, burn, radiate out through me bringing purity, light, and love to all.



"But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, *even* to those who believe in His name," (*John 1:12*)

HAVE you received Jesus as your Lord, God, and savior? Then you have the authority to proclaim your membership in the family of God. How can you receive the Gift of God? By trusting in His name. What is so special about the name Jesus? Jesus is really a statement, a life-giving statement. "Je" stands for the name Jehovah, and "sus" stands for saves. Je-sus means, "Jehovah saves." This excludes your ability to save anyone, especially yourself.

Jesus, to trust in Your name is to trust You save.

Thank You, Jesus, for saving me.



"Jesus answered and said to him, 'Because I said to you that I saw you under the fig tree, do you believe? You will see greater things than these." (John 1:50)

What was Nathaniel doing under the fig tree? Years ago I surmised Nathaniel was praying to see the Christ. No sooner had he prayed and he was introduced to the one who heard his prayer under the fig tree. For me, nothing else explained why Nathaniel instantly declared Jesus was the long-awaited Christ. Yet, as fantastic as that was, Jesus found the prospect of angels ascending and descending on the Son of Man far more amazing. Why? Because He knew He would have had to die and be resurrected for this to happen.

Love transports our hearts into His resurrection.

Letting me trust Your ability to keep me outshines Your having saved me.



"This beginning of *His* signs Jesus did in Cana of Galilee, and manifested His glory, and His disciples believed in Him." (*John* 2:11)

THINK OF IT! Turning tap water into wine. The best wine. The most abundant and familiar thing transformed into a specific and unique experience. The only thing in common is that each could be drunk. So it is with us and the Christ. We are common but when God's angels gather us up to the King we are transformed into Sons of God in every way. We have begun our eternal submission to Father's will. We may miss a beat now and again in this life, but in the one to come, we will never be but obedient to His will.

Exchange your will with God's will.

Let Your desires detach me from any thought or desire to serve anyone but You, Father. Have Your will. Have Your way.

CHAPTER 60

Charal

Joh 2:23-3:21

"Now when He was in Jerusalem at the Passover, during the feast, many believed in His name, observing His signs which He was doing." (John 2:23)

THE NAME JESUS MEANS, "JEHOVAH SAVES." To trust the name of Jesus is to trust He is able to do what His name implies. In the verse above we learn that the people were matching up Jesus's words and behavior. Because of this, they put their trust in His very person.

Christ has set you free from distrusting God.

Father, I watch, listen, chat with You, plead for many things, and then rest in Your abilities to accomplish Your ends. I always praise You for the answer ahead of time. Your answers seem so natural.

CHAPTER 61

JOH 2:23-3:21

"If I told you earthly things and you do not believe, how will you believe if I tell you heavenly things?" (John 3:12)

JESUS COULD PRESENT the truth to the people of His day. Humanity was bereft of the ability to receive the truth. That is as true today as in Jesus' day. What is this truth? God has saved humanity, or Jesus is the Truth. Jehovah has saved us in Christ Jesus. That is the truth! This truth most people ignore or reject. Why? Because they think they have to do things in order to get saved or stay saved. Your ability to trust Jesus's work is enough.

Jesus is the Truth.
Jesus has saved you.
This Truth has set you free.

Father, this is Your will, that I trust the One You have sent, Jesus the Christ of history. I am free to receive Him.

CHAPTER 62 Have What You Want

JOH 2:23-3:21

"so that whoever believes will in Him have eternal life." (John 3:15)

IN HIM, we can trust there is eternal life. His empty tomb proves this. By trusting Jesus we are joined to the One who is already trusting Father. We are joined to Trust. Receiving the only begotten Son of the Father is likewise receiving his sons. Father loved us way before we existed or sinned one sin. If we trust that we HAVE the life of God in us, we have eternal life. We have His Son having "Us".

Let Holy Spirit take control of your living.

Jesus, all I can do is match my will to Yours. You want me. I want you. We have what we want.

CHAPTER 63 Pride Revisited

IOH 2:23-3:21

"For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish, but have eternal life. For God did not send the Son into the world to judge the world, but that the world might be saved through Him." (John 3:16-17)

WE HAVE HEARD it said many times that we have eternal life in God's Son. So then, what stops us from trusting that simple message? Pride! It works in so many creative ways. Thinking they are being really humble, some can conclude that they are not yet worthy of God's Life. Others are so proud of not having to think about this issue, they don't. Some exercise anger toward God for not saving them by their methods.

They stumble over pride.

Father, I am humbled. You don't need my pride. Okay then, here it is. I am proud that you are loving me.

CHAPTER 64

Christ or Flesh

JOH 2:23-3:21

"He who believes in Him is not judged; he who does not believe has been judged already, because he has not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God." (John 3:18)

IN CHRIST, our flesh self has been judged. Likewise, Jesus's life after death gives everyone eternal living. If we remain attached to the flesh we remain dead. Jesus has become the life-giving Spirit of God. If we trust He has saved us, we share His life-giving Spirit. For we are told that we who trust Him become one spirit with Him. We cannot escape being either joined to His death or His living. In His living, there is no judgment.

Choose this day: Life or death, Christ or flesh.

With a wink of the eye, I remember it is Your life I enjoy. Like You, I enjoy giving life to those I meet. You Have Me

"He who believes in the Son has eternal life; but he who does not obey the Son will not see life, but the wrath of God abides on him." (John 3:36)

WE ARE TOLD to trust Jesus, forever. If someone chooses not to trust him they are declaring they literally cannot see Him as eternal life. Down deep, they think God is out to get them. They cannot shake the feeling something has gone really wrong and it is up to them to fix it. Instead of believing God has fixed it, they go about trying to get what they don't think they have. But they have it. That is Jesus's very life. Yet they throw it away by worshiping their ability to choose something other than what God has chosen for them.

Trust the Son as your eternal living.

Okay, I'll believe this is true. I have You because You have me. I choose to live on the I have it side of Life.

CHAPTER 66

New Address

JOH 4:5-42

"Jesus said to her, 'Woman, believe Me, an hour is coming when neither in this mountain nor in Jerusalem will you worship the Father." (John 4:21)

Jesus is saying to us that the worship center has moved. It has no permanent mailing address on earth. Worshiping God has been relocated from a building with rules to worshiping Father who dwells in the human heart. The directive has changed from 613 rules to one—love. In God's Person of Love, we are bound to love. He has accomplished loving everyone including us. We reflect what He is doing. He is loving each soul into union with Himself. That's big.

Love is the inescapable You.

I am bound to love. I cannot break that bond. Knowing and declaring this truth does not make it true. I simply humble my heart to receive the Truth.

CHAPTER 67
Silence
JOH 4:5-42

"From that city many of the Samaritans believed in Him because of the word of the woman who testified, 'He told me all the things that I *have* done." (John 4:39)

THE SAME IS TRUE TODAY. Many trust Jesus through the testimony of others. Some get to know Him personally and then trust Him. Either way works. Jesus was thrilled that Thomas wanted to see for himself the proof that this person before him was the Jesus he knew crucified. Jesus also explained many would not see Him or His scars but find Him resident in their hearts. I am one of those that have not seen the scars and know His heart.

Why not trust Him?

I have called on Your name and my heart has changed. I trust Your name. The flesh is as loud as ever but has become a church mouse compared to Your whispers.



"and they were saying to the woman, 'It is no longer because of what you said that we believe, for we have heard for ourselves and know that this One is indeed the Savior of the world." (*John* 4:42)

WHAT COULD these people have heard that could convince them that this person, Jesus, was out to save them as much as the Jews? We really don't know. But, somehow Father, used Jesus' words to touch individuals. By doing so God embraces many nations. Each one who trusts Jesus as the Christ receives the promised seed that would bless every nation.

Be an Abraham or a Mary, and receive the seed of God.

I have received, I receive, and I will receive Your promised Son. Thank you, Father, for making it so simple.

CHAPTER 69

Jonah

JOH 4:46-54

"So Jesus said to him, 'Unless you *people* see signs and wonders, you *simply* will not believe." (John 4:48)

Jesus basically just said to us all, "You should not have needed signs and wonders to trust Him." In another place, Jesus said they were, "an evil and adulterous generation craving for a sign; but no sign would be given to it but the sign of Jonah the prophet". Those who have been born of the Spirit through the trust of Christ have the sign of Jonah in their hearts. Christ was dead to us but now lives to do God's will. Yes, even like Jonah, some do God's will begrudgingly.

Love Your enemies, Lord, through me!

Father, life is filled with enemies against my soul, then You ask me to tell them that they can change their minds and trust You? Okay, I, like them, can rest in Your acceptance.

CHAPTER 70 Gad—Da

JOH 4:46-54

"Jesus said to him, 'Go; your son lives.' The man believed the word that Jesus spoke to him and started off." (John 4:50)

As Andy, in the movie, *Shawshank Redemption* would say, "Get busy living or get busy dying!" I would say, "Get busy trusting or get busy dying!" Either way, "get busy". Jesus said the same thing a little differently, "I wish that you were cold or hot." In short, we are to be passionate. This means that we can own a thing to the point that we can contend for it.

We are passionate to gain and keep Christ.

I have no passion but Yours, Lord. Your desire is mine. I embrace the vigor of Your program and process. I embrace You embracing me. I nurture those You have purchased and keep for Your glory. You do all these things.



"So the father knew that *it was* at that hour in which Jesus said to him, 'Your son lives'; and he himself believed and his whole household." (John 4:53)

I AM of the age where more of my friends are in the spirit than in the flesh. I don't mind the thought of dying. I just don't want to be there when it happens. I expect if for some reason all those friends showed up in their flesh I'd have to trust people can spontaneously regenerate from dust and ashes, OR some *force* greater than chance exists. As the nobleman's son came back, so now God's Son has come back and lives in our hearts as Trust Himself. Our hearts have been raised up in His having been raised up.

Try it. Prove it. Join the resurrection and live.

It is true, the trust of Christ changed my life. In fact, You are Life itself. Father, thank You for Life!

CHAPTER 72 Shine JOH 5:1-47

["for an angel of the Lord went down at certain seasons into the pool and stirred up the water; whoever then first, after the stirring up of the water, stepped in was made well from whatever disease with which he was afflicted."] (John 5:4)

GOD SAID His light will shine out of darkness. That light is the One who is shining in our hearts the Light of our knowledge of the glory of God as seen in the face of Christ. What do we see when we look into the face of Christ? Acceptance. He is the proof we find room in the arms of Father God. Holy Spirit carries our spirit safely to His arms of love and encourages us to bring our family and friends as well. It is effortless to remain in His presence, which is a never-ending awareness of His love.

You already have the Person of Christ. Enjoy!

Father, I do not reduce You to a feeling or a right thought. I simply reduce myself to Your will.

CHAPTER 73

JOH 5:1-47

"Truly, truly, I say to you, he who hears My word, and believes Him who sent Me, has eternal life, and does not come into judgment, but has passed out of death into life." (John 5:24)

SEE JESUS. Trust Jesus. Live His life living you. Why? Why not? Those who have put their trust in Christ Jesus proclaim they know they have passed from death to life. Their proof? They fear no judgment. Their living never ends. Their schoolroom is in the heart of God. Their occupation is the trust of Christ in God. I have gained Christ. I am found in Christ. I am Father's righteousness in Christ's trust in Father. This righteousness comes out from God riding on the wings of faith and belief guided by trust.

Ride the wings of the trust of Jesus Christ.

I, like some Avatar, can explore the heights and depths of life on the wings of another. I might have a few lessons but I fly riding on the wings of Trust.

CHAPTER 74

Conspiracy

JOH 5:30-47

"You do not have His word abiding in you, for you do not believe Him whom He sent." (John 5:38)

IT TAKES hard work to distrust God. I met a man who declared he once trusted Christ. Now, for him to continue to do so is foolishness. He has all sorts of reasons why he cannot trust there is a god. Yet his life is swimming in conspiracies. He traded in God's love for a few dozen conspiracies. Down deep he knows someone else is in control. He just cannot figure out exactly who.

God's conspiracy is that He has joined you to His heart of Love.

Lord, I am, by Your gifting Christ, already joined to Your heart of love. It is Your Light, the light with which I shine on all I meet.

CHAPTER 75
Listen
JOH 5:30-47

"For if you believed Moses, you would believe Me, for he wrote about Me. But if you do not believe his writings, how will you believe My words?" (*John 5:46-47*)

THE JEWS of Jesus's day said they trusted Moses's words. Jesus reminds them that Moses told them of the coming Christ and that they should listen to Him. On the Mt. of Transfiguration Peter thought they should build three temples. One for the Law people, one for the children of prophecy, and one for Jesus. Just then there had to be an intervention. While he was still speaking, a bright cloud overshadowed them, and a voice out of the cloud said, "This is My beloved Son, with whom I am well-pleased; listen to Him!"

There is only one voice to which to listen.

Give me ears, Lord, that hear Your voice and feet to follow in Your steps.



"Jesus answered and said to them, 'This is the work of God, that you believe in Him whom He has sent." (John 6:29)

MEN ASK what they could do that looked like God was doing it. Jesus answered their question. He declared God was at work in them to trust in the One He had sent. It is Father's good pleasure to raise up to Himself many sons. Father had sent many judges, kings, and prophets. He also sent His One and only Son to raise up to Father many of whom would trust Him to accomplish His promises.

Every moment is a moment to lean on Jesus.

Father, thank You for Jesus in whose lap I may rest. There I abide in His love, care, joy, and good pleasure. There is no other God. He is the righteous One. There is none except Him.

CHAPTER 77 In The Mame

JOH 6:22-59

"So they said to Him, 'What then do You do for a sign, so that we may see, and believe You? What work do You perform?" (John 6:30)

SEVERAL TIMES JESUS declared He could do nothing but what He saw Father doing. Twice He said He could not initiate one thing. Yet the people wanted Him to initiate and do according to their desire. He would be their King if He did their bidding. The people wanted to graduate from servants of a king to a democracy electing a servant king. God forgives your trespasses once you get off His turf and stop using His property for your gain.

Using God for your ends is trespassing.

How then am I to live when Your Spirit excites me to do what only You can do? I have concluded I can pray, praise You, Father, wait, rest, receive, and give thanks to Your Name "Jehovah Saves."



JOH 6:22-59

"Jesus said to them, 'I am the bread of life; he who comes to Me

(John 6:35)

Jesus as good as said, "I am the whole menu. There is no more. If you sense need, you are consuming something other than Me." We can so easily get distracted by the flesh's desires raining on us 24/7 that we put God on some back burner looking to other things to satisfy. Today, many believers ask God to "open the Heavens" and expand their menu. Jesus is the full meal deal. Trust He is the menu, front to back.

will not hunger, and he who believes in Me will never thirst."

Jesus is the ultimate comfort food.

Dean: May I see the dessert menu? I would like joy topped with peace. Lord, can I start with some chocolate ice cream?

God: NO!



"But I said to you that you have seen Me, and yet do not believe." (John 6:36)

What the regular folk wanted was not being offered by Jesus. Everyone believed they had to obey God, rally around a leader, and fight Caesar. With words like these, Jesus seemed so heavenly-minded that He was no earthly good. The Jews wanted an economic system honoring the Law of Moses with God blessing their efforts. This upstart was saying, "Look to Me and trust Me. I have it all under control." That sounded possible until He declared what His first strike and victory blow would look like over the Romans. He was letting them crucify Him.

They asked, "Is there another Messiah out there?"

Lord, Your victory continues in hearts ready to trust Your plans, ways, timing, and outcomes for them individually. I bow to You and submit to Your will.

CHAPTER 80

Obediance

JOH 6:22-59

"For this is the will of My Father, that everyone who beholds the Son and believes in Him will have eternal life, and I Myself will raise him up on the last day." (John 6:40)

THE WILL of Jesus's Father is a right now event with two aspects that Jesus offers.

See Him AND Trust Him!

The scripture declares every eye will see Him. This must also mean that every heart has the ability to trust Him. Has your heart submitted and obeyed this one injunction? How do you see Jesus? It could not be easier. Trust Him! Once?

No, every moment.

Lord Jesus, I obey by knowing You know me.

CHAPTER 81

Come to Life

JOH 6:22-59

"Truly, truly, I say to you, he who believes has eternal life." (John 6:47)

THE PROOF of eternal life is in trust. Many times I have seen the trust of Christ transform a soul. After watching me for two weeks, Linda decided she wanted what I had received when receiving Christ as my life. She, looking at me, declared she wanted to have what I had. Midway through her request, she turned to look to my side, as if seeing Jesus standing there. Before she had finished her request I watched her person and personality change. She had something that would last past this life and it looked like nothing could stop it. I call this the birthing room of Christ. In an instant, what was dead was alive.

Come to life...see Jesus and live!

Father, be gracious and give me eyes to see Your gift, Your Grace, and a heart to receive Jesus as my very life.



"But there are some of you who do not believe.' For Jesus knew from the beginning who they were who did not believe, and who it was that would betray Him." (John 6:64)

I BELIEVE that Judas had all but given up on Jesus as the Messiah. His deal to hand Jesus over was in his mind the last-ditch effort to get Jesus to step up to the plate and hit a home run. Well, Jesus did, but not in the way anyone was expecting. It is the same today. We all, until converted, expect Him to look and do differently. If He were really God He'd...the list is endless. At least those who trust Him would look really different. We all, like Judas, deny Christ until our hearts are born of the Spirit.

In Christ, we a totally different being but totally human.

My desire Lord is simple. Let me rest in being what You are doing in and through me. Flat tires and all.

CHAPTER 83

Floly

IOH 6:60-71

"We have believed and have come to know that You are the Holy One of God." (John 6:69)

What does holy mean? Essentially, something or someone is set aside for Father God's use. You fit in His hand for His purposes and no other hand has a right to hold you much less use you. Jesus was God's instrument to separate us from sin and death. Not death because of sin but the death that sin is. What then is sin? Jesus claimed it was not trusting Him. Trusting Him for what? Everything. He is the total of Holy. His submissions to Father's will placed His hands in the hands of Roman soldiers nailing them to a cross.

We are set aside for Your glory Lord.

At best, I start out hardened clay. Soak me in Your divine water of life, kneed me into a smooth consistent texture, and turn me on Your wheel of love. Fire! Fire! Fire!

CHAPTER 84

Repentance

JOH 7:2-9

"For not even His brothers were believing in Him." (John 7:5)

IF JESUS HAD COME to transmit a set of teachings that enabled people to function with immunity toward God we would have to conclude He failed. It takes words to illuminate the mind as to what the heart can act upon; the goal is a changed heart. At this point in Jesus's story, His brothers did not trust He was the Christ or savior of the world. Later, James would be known as an apostle though he did not follow or proclaim Jesus as the Christ during Jesus's pre-resurrected life. After, he proclaims Jesus as the Christ and lets us in on what we can assume were many of Jesus's dinner table teachings.

Trust without the energy to act on that trust is nonsense.

Jesus, when I found You ruling my heart, I let the heart rule. Thank You for liberating me from the heart of stone to Your heart of flesh.

CHAPTER 85

Cll or Nothing

JOH 7:32-36

"But many of the crowd believed in Him; and they were saying, 'When the Christ comes, He will not perform more signs than those which this man has, will He?" (John 7:31)

WHAT DOES it take to trust that Jesus can accomplish what He is doing? Nothing. But when you trust Him you will realize He is worth everything you have and you will gain more than you can imagine.

I knew a man who stumbled upon a rich black marble deposit. That discovery cost him nothing. He calculated its worth in the billions, went home, sold everything, and made a down payment on the property. He claimed the mineral rights and mined the stone. You got it. He is worth billions but it cost him everything to gain it all.

To find Jesus is free. To own Jesus costs everything.

Lord, now that I own You as You own me, let me mine all Your riches and present them freely to the world.

CHAPTER 86

Cll In Cll

JOH 7:37-39

"He who believes in Me, as the Scripture said, 'From his innermost being will flow rivers of living water.'" (John 7:38)

CHRIST IS DECLARING that our thirst for Him will produce life. What will come out will come from the center of the centers. The riches of God are ready to gush out. Like the rock in the wilderness turning our desert into life, quenching all thirst for life and godliness. Our part is to trust each moment to Christ. It is Jesus' ability to take that trust and transform it into life-giving life, moment by moment. Standing in the sea of trust, we watch the world fall to its knees proclaiming Jesus is the Christ and submitting to Him as the King of kings and Lord of lords.

Watch what happens!

When all things are subjected to You, Lord Jesus, then You will also be subjected to the One who has subjected all things to You, that God may be all in all. (See 1 Cor 15:25-28)

CHAPTER 87

Fire of Love

JOH 7:37-39

"But this He spoke of the Spirit, whom those who believed in Him were to receive; for the Spirit was not yet *given*, because Jesus was not yet *glorified*." (*John 7:39*)

IT TAKES the death and resurrection of Christ to gain His right, authority, and ability to flood the world with His Spirit of love. Like in Noah's day, everyone outside the ark of Jesus will unwillingly drown in His love. Those in the ark are those who have already, by choice, drowned in Jesus' love. The ability to bring life out of death comes by way of Holy Spirit. What Holy Spirit has done *to* Christ He is doing to the world.

Like it or not!

Your Spirit is baptizing me with the fire of Your love removing all distrust in You.

CHAPTER 88

True Freedom

JOH 7:40-52

"No one of the rulers or Pharisees has believed in Him, has he?" (John 7:48)

IF WE WAIT for the rulers to trust Jesus before we trust Him...well, we are in for a long wait. Rulers trust in armies, lies, secrets, subterfuge, chaos, and platitudes not to mention taxes. Money solves every problem the last solution caused. More money always brings about the promise that the last promise failed to bring. Since a child, I have been told higher teacher salaries equate to better learning. Really? I have also been told that more money for policing prevents crime. Really? Prevents crime? Trust in self or in some organized bunch of people and their resources will never deliver one heart from the fear of death.

Trusting Christ is better than raising taxes.

Father, my heart knew at six years of age You made everything good. Now at 75, I know You are the Good everything is being made into.



"Therefore I said to you that you will die in your sins; for unless you believe that I am *He*, you will die in your sins." (*John 8:24*)

This is not rocket science.

You will die in distrust unless you trust.

What comes of that trust is up to the one you trust. Jesus said we can trust Him just as we trust the Father who sent Him. Now that talk is scary. We should trust a report of someone we do not see. What do we get if we jump that hurdle and trust Jesus is Life itself? Nothing new, because you already have Him. But, we can receive and rest in this truth. He is Life and trusting Him makes for a bountiful life.

In Christ are all the riches. No! Rather, Christ is the riches.

I receive our dwelling, Lord, as a one-room hut with one door and window. It contains eternity itself.



"As He spoke these things, many came to believe in Him." (John 8:30)

No magic is needed. At the moment we trust, we are alive in Christ for eternity. He is *working* out what He has worked in. Life is living from trust to trust. Our ability to let Him do what He is doing is from rest to rest. Our desire to become is extinguished by His having done. His ability to command us to perform is incomparable to His ability to perform through us what He has commanded. He has commanded us to love Father with all we are and to love ourselves as joined to His Spirit of Love, and then love everyone else as we love ourselves.

Can it get easier than this?

Lord, Your Love has no end to up nor down, right or left, front nor back, nor any other dimension. When we get this we have all there is to have, ALL of You!



JOH 8:31-38

"So Jesus was saying to those Jews who had believed Him, 'If you continue in My word, *then* you are truly disciples of Mine;'" (*John 8:31*)

WHAT IS A DISCIPLE? Yes, a student but not in some sit-down-in-front-of-a-teacher-type student. It is a get close enough to hear, as we walk over hill and dale with the teacher. It is getting ahead, walking backward, reading his body and lips. Hanging on every word. Pondering every thought. Going back with questions to clarify expectations. Perform the teacher's tasks. Relate the results. Humble your will to the teacher's will. In essence, Jesus said, "Trust me! Go no further. For now, this is all you need to do. We, together, are undoing Adam and Eve's disobedience. They wanted more while having it all.

We can rest in the ALL we have.

I see through the process to the end. I see You, Lord, as the beginning and the end. Seeing the goal is the end!

CHAPTER 92

Look To God

JOH 8:39-47

"But because I speak the truth, you do not believe Me." (John 8:45)

WHY Is it so hard to trust Jesus? Because we want to do our flesh's desires. Listening to them is as good as listening to the devil. He was a murderer from the beginning and does not trust Christ to save. Why? because there is no place for trust in the evil one. When we lie, we speak out of our flesh's sense of lack and fear. That distrusting flesh easily listens to the father of lies. Proof? You readily accept Father's love and forgiveness for you and then, for fear, arm yourself against your neighbor ready to salve your fear with their death.

I have spoken the truth. Trust Me. The Lord fights your battles.

Thank You Father that I'll live until You no longer need this temple.



"Jesus heard that they had put him out, and finding him, He said, 'Do you believe in the Son of Man?" (John 9:35)

Jesus had already healed the blind man before He asked him if he trusted Him. So it is with us. Jesus has already healed our stony hearts, dissolved sin's hold on our souls, joined us to His Spirit of Love and Truth, infused us with His trust in Father God, united us one with the other, and enjoined us to specific tasks that He can do through our fleshly bodies. He has placed us in Himself to always be where He is, doing what He is doing, and that for eternity. After He has accomplished all this, He faces off with you and asks, "Do you trust Me?"

We are slaves to the one we trust, death or Life.

Father, You have given me Your life to live as You live it with the added extra that I can think it is my doing.



"He answered, "Who is He, Lord, that I may believe in Him?" (John 9:36)

Now that is a good question. Who is He? Who is the One who has healed me? There was a time in my life I was left with my abilities gained from reading, experience, and advice. I did the best I could with what I had. I was basically a non-reader and had what is now called dyslexia. Even today, without computers with grammar and spell checkers, you would not have this book to enjoy. It takes the ability of electronics for me to join you. I found that with Jesus as the master of my life, I have been joined to God's will. His will is the adventure I am on. I have been joined to His body of trust.

My mind has been transformed and I do what I can not do.

Your will, Father, is that I not be conformed to this world, but transformed by my mind submitting to Your desire that I gaze upon Jesus and trust Him.

CHAPTER 95

Bow

JOH 9:1-41

"And he said, 'Lord, I believe.' And he worshiped Him." (John 9:38)

TODAY, society bows to itself. Arrogance is expected while humility is considered a character flaw. This attitude is led into the Churches as if it were some King. Equality has become everyone's right to subject others to their will. This is idolatry. Worship is submitting to another's will. To worship Christ is to bow your knee to the name of Jesus. To put aside your will and submit to His will, which is eternal life. That Life has an address. Jesus Christ, not with Him but IN Him.

Trust Christ. Bow to His will.

Father, thank You for the visible object of Your will that my inner eye sees and heart embraces. To submit to Jesus's will is pure worship. His will is my will manifested.

CHAPTER 96

Much More

IOH 10:22-39

"Jesus answered them, 'I told you, and you do not believe; the works that I do in My Father's name, these testify of Me." *John* 10:25)

JESUS DECLARED He was the Messiah, but that did not help the people trust Him. The trust Jesus was demanding of them was that they not only give Him power over their lives but living. He had demonstrated healing and deliverance, even raising people from the dead. But that was not enough. Why? They wanted to author the works of God. They wanted the ability to do their will. They did not want God to work them but *with* them. Jesus defined the work of God as Father causing hearts to trust His Messiah (Christ). It is God's ability to gift the trust of His Son to our hearts.

Rest in Christ's abilities.

What can You do Father? Everything I thought I could do and I expect much much more.



"But you do not believe because you are not of My sheep." (John 10:26)

Jesus was down to earth. He knew a shepherd's voice would be heard by His sheep. Those not hearing Jesus's call were not His sheep. It did not mean they could not hear His voice, but that they had chosen not to obey His voice. Like a seed falling on hard ground and consumed by birds, His voice fell on deaf ears. The people were listening for one message, while Jesus's message was being ignored. They wanted victory over their enemies. Jesus came saying they were to love their enemies.

Jesus defined our greatest enemy.

Father, it is easy to love the unlovable until they are in my face. That takes a miracle. It takes You doing me.



"If I do not do the works of My Father, do not believe Me;" (John 10:37)

IN JESUS'S DAY, the works were evident and easily measured. Today the works of the Holy Spirit in the name of Jesus Christ are birthed in the heart and confessed with the mouth. The message is that the cross not only forgives sins but removes the need to sin. It does not put you on a road toward union with God. It accomplishes that union in one stroke. The only measurement is our ability to buy into the declarations of Christ before we have experienced the outward evidence. The man Jesus did not KNOW He would be raised, yet He was.

Now, that is trust.

Hope has 'Christmas' written all over it. Before me is a gift, with wrapping, a bow, weighty with odd sounds when shaken, and a mystery to the senses.



"but if I do them, though you do not believe Me, believe the works, so that you may know and understand that the Father is in Me, and I in the Father." (John 10:38)

IF YOU DO NOT TRUST the historical Jesus, trust the work of the Father in your heart. Love, joy, peace, easygoing, mercy, submissiveness, tolerance, and hopeful confidence. These are not natural to humanity. These are natural to Holy Spirit. The flesh is eager to get, while the Spirit is eager to give. The one giving is God. Give and be like God. You cannot even initiate the need, time, place, or reason to give.

Yield to the Best and give the Best.

Father, I submit to Your will for me to trust You as Your Son continues to trust You through me. We trust You.

CHAPTER 100

Right Here,

Right Mouv

"Many believed in Him there." (John 10:42)

RIGHT THERE AND then they chose to trust Jesus as the Christ. Many today declare their faith in Christ. Many say they experience His power. Many declare His name and yet continue to see themselves as sinners trying to get more. To live a Christlike life takes more than knowing He is the Christ of history or the One with the power to raise the dead. It takes trust exercised each moment of each day and an attitude, a spirit, a bent toward Christ's trust in Father. We who trust are captured by the Trusting One. We live free from trying to become to give what we have. We rest in the land full of supply and meet every challenge as the victor.

Trust is letting Christ live you.

Your ways are experienced not foreknown by my puny brain. As I live I know Your will for me. Live me, Lord.



"and I am glad for your sakes that I was not there, so that you may believe; but let us go to him." (John 11:15)

HAD Jesus been with Lazarus in his sickness, Lazarus would not have died. Christ's love for His friend was great. For us to discover exactly Who Jesus was took a soul needing resurrecting. Lazarus was that soul. Jesus was glad for us who would learn that He is the resurrection. By this act, it may look like He has the power to resurrect, but it was He Himself Who IS the resurrection. Jesus' calling to Lazarus to exit the tomb after four days should prove to us that Jesus is the resurrection. Jesus was so glad-sad that He wept. Sad for a dead world. Glad for its coming resurrection.

Remember, Jesus is your resurrection.

You, Lord, are what I seek in the resurrection. Nothing else will do. I am what You are doing.

CHAPTER 102

Even of

JOH 11:1-44

"Jesus said to her, 'I am the resurrection and the life; he who believes in Me will live even if he dies,'" (John 11:25)

THE FEAR of death no longer has sway over our lives. Walking with Jesus can be somewhat obscured by the trials of life, yet our union is an overwhelming comfort right in the middle of the fears, confusion, dread, and pain. That means that though we experience the slings and arrows of life we do not have to be subject to them. We simply deliver them over to Christ and let Him prove His mastery in, through, and over them. I have overcome the fear of death though I might fear the event itself. Like I have said a thousand times...

I don't mind death, I just don't want to be there when it happens.

I can live because I can die. Your external living was the product of Your dying. Lord, I have already joined You in your living.



"and everyone who lives and believes in Me will never die. Do you believe this?" (John 11:26)

You have to have a life to give it. Once you have the Total, Christ having you, you're new you cannot die. The One Who is Life itself is living Himself by sharing that selfness with you. The real death is the life you don't have to live right now. You don't have to mind the flesh. What is that? You're being carnally minded. What is that? Simple—you think your thinking or body or emotions or feelings are you.

NAGI!

Thinking you are the flesh clouds His Life.

Jesus, You were eager to go through death to gain 'Us'. Now I am eager to go through life to express 'Us'. The commotion of life can so easily distract me from the 'Us'.

CHAPTER 104

Having All

JOH 11:1-44

"She said to Him, 'Yes, Lord; I have believed that You are the Christ, the Son of God, *even* He who comes into the world." (*John 11:27*)

Mary's confession is huge. She trusted Jesus the man standing before her to be the Messiah. She proclaimed His equality with God by calling Him the Son of God. Up to that time in Jewish history, only Adam had had the right to such a title. She also knew the very heart of this man was generated from another dimension, unlike the rest of us. Her beliefs were right on. It was her lack of trust Jesus was working on. We too can see Jesus clearly, experience Him with joy, and even walk with Him as our deepest friend, but...

who is in control?

Lord Jesus, You are my home, country, citizenship, reward, crown, and joy. You are all I desire and I experience all of You having all of me.



"Jesus said to her, 'Did I not say to you that if you believe, you will see the glory of God?" (John 11:40)

HAVE you ever wondered what the glory of God was? Jesus defines it as seeing God's ability to triumph over death. Adam and Eve's DNA was altered and corrupted by decay. Jesus's blood literally removed the death and decay. We joined to Love, are bound to live without decay. From before the moment Adam and Eve died, Father had a cure set aside. His Son would do the job. He, as the second Adam, created a new gene pool of eternal incorruptible people bound to His will through love and respect for His Son.

We have died in Christ to be bound to Christ's living.

I am in union with You Lord. Thank You that I am already sanctified, set apart, for Your use. My qualifications are simple, I trust You.

CHAPTER 106

Yes And Amen

JOH 11:1-44

"I knew that You always hear Me; but because of the people standing around I said it, so that they may believe that You sent Me." (John 11:42)

JESUS DID NOT SAY to His Father, "I know You always hear me" but "I know...". This difference can make us think He had already been chatting with Father quietly and was concerned with having to request out loud what Father had already promised. Jesus wanted the crowd to know it was the Father Who had sent the Son to raise the dead, so He, out loud, repeated the promise Father had made. Today we are commanded to announce what has been promised by our Father God. We may have specific requests and petitions. But for His promises, we simply receive them with praise and thanksgiving.

Everything Father has promised is yes and amen.

Yes, Jesus, You are the resurrection. Amen.

CHAPTER 107

He Can

JOH 11:45-54

"Therefore many of the Jews who came to Mary, and saw what He had done, believed in Him." (John 11:45)

YEARS ago I witnessed a resurrection of sorts. I shared it with a friend. He denied what I had seen. He as good as called me a liar. He exhibited anger over my insisting on what I had seen. He had been born in the Middle East. I thought his trust in me as a friend would have been sufficient to credential the story. Apparently, there was something he could not accept. I later learned that for him to trust what I had said would make someone more powerful than his god. He reported, as a Muslim, Allah did not have the power to raise the dead. Interestingly enough, for them, Isha (Jesus) does have the power to do miracles.

Every soul trusting Jesus has been raised from the dead.

Thank You, Lord, that You have power over my death and living.

CHAPTER 108 Live Trusting

JOH 11:45-54

"If we let Him *go on* like this, all men will believe in Him, and the Romans will come and take away both our place and our nation." (John 11:48)

RIGHT AFTER JESUS had called Lazarus from his grave, the Pharisees decided both had to die. Why? Because, without hindering Jesus's living, He would in time, gain the trust of everyone. The Jewish world would have come to their Messiah and followed their God-appointed King. People like these Pharisees even today slander Jesus to keep the Jewish Nation from bowing to their King. Well, they did kill Jesus. We all have been blessed beyond measure for their fearful acts. Thank you for shedding the blood that cleanses us all. We all bow to His will.

Nothing can undo God's work through the trust of His Son.

Father, I accept all You have sent as the Life worth trusting.

CHAPTER 109

Trust the Light

JOH 12:20-50

"'While you have the Light, believe in the Light, so that you may become sons of Light.' These things Jesus spoke, and He went away and hid Himself from them." (John 12:36)

WE ALL TRUST EARTHLY LIGHT. In the instant the light goes on, we relate to things differently. So it is with people who turn to Christ Jesus and trust Him. Trust the Light. Go to the Light! The light of the Father shines through Him doing His works through you. He gave you an opportunity to embrace the Light, Himself. It is well to define light again, LOVE.

Trust the Light.
Trust Love.
Let Love live you.

I have the authority to become a son of Light by trusting the Light. I trust I am a son of Light. I am a son of Love.

CHAPTER 110
Submit

JOH 12:20-50

"But though He had performed so many signs before them, yet they were not believing in Him." (John 12:37)

What does it take for you to trust? Nothing. If some stranger found you today and declared they were returning next Tuesday with a new car for you, with taxes paid, licensed, insured, maintenance, and gas for 10 years, then turned and walked away, what would your response be? How about saying, "See you then." That is trusting in his person according to his word. Come next Tuesday it would be settled. Many people claim Jesus is a liar without having trusted Him. For instance, the word to us claims that "All who call upon the Lord will be saved." Have you trusted that word? When will you know if that word is trustworthy? When you call upon the Lord Jesus.

Submit to the message.

I die to my wants and submit to Your wants. You want all of humanity to call upon You and be saved.

CHAPTER 111

Get Stuck!

JOH 12:20-50

"This was to fulfill the word of Isaiah the prophet which he spoke: Lord, who has believed our report? And to whom has the arm of the Lord been revealed?" (John 12:38)

WHEN WE SEE JESUS' arms stretched out, His rod and scepter become the spikes holding Him on the cross. Without them, He would be free to do His will. With them, He was stuck to Father's will. We are told to take up our cross every day. We are glued to Father's will and cannot escape. No effort can get us on our cross nor loose us from the bonds binding us to Father's will. Father getting His way is the direct outcome of your having called upon the Lord.

Get stuck!

Father, here I am, take me, glue me to Your living will. No matter what I see or feel I trust it is done. CHAPTER 112

Keep The Promise

JOH 12:20-50

"Nevertheless many even of the rulers believed in Him, but because of the Pharisees they were not confessing *Him*, for fear that they would be put out of the synagogue;" (John 12:42)

LETTING public opinion sway our decision to receive the trust found in Christ will always nullify the benefits of that trust. I remember a Muslim youth who stayed with us one Christmas and had become very interested in embracing Jesus as the Christ. He stated that if he did so it meant he would lose everything. He would have to return home, lose his education and potential position, be rejected by his family, and possibly suffer death. That simple yes to a yet unseen promise would cost him everything. He decided to keep what he had.

Keeping what you have is rejecting the LIFE.

Let me keep the Promise no matter the cost.

CHAPTER 113 Be Reconciled! JOH 12:20-50

"And Jesus cried out and said, 'He who believes in Me, does not believe in Me but in Him who sent Me." (John 12:44)

JESUS DECLARES He is but an agent authorized to pass on headquarters' promises. Or like an Ambassador, what they say is what the Government they represent is saying. The same is true for us declaring God's love for every soul ever conceived. We are God's Ambassadors. When you are accepted, Christ is accepted. When Christ is accepted, Father is accepted. Hear this! God loves you so much that He has done everything needed to reconcile you to Himself. God is Love.

Be reconciled to Love!

I am reconciled. Thank You, Father, for doing Your will through me.



"I have come as Light into the world, so that everyone who believes in Me will not remain in darkness." (John 12:46)

IN I JOHN HOLY SPIRIT defines darkness as hate. Hate defined by Jesus was as simple as pushing someone away. In contrast, light is equated with love. Light is seen as God and experienced as His loving us. Darkness is seen as killing. Make no mistake. The one with the smoking gun walks in darkness. Right now you can repent and let love so embrace you that you turn your guns into plows producing food for life.

Be transformed from fear and hate to love.

Father, You have loved me, do love me, and will love me. I trust this. To abide in Your love, I submit to Your love loving all as my brother.

CHAPTER 115

Individual Forms

JOH 13:1-20

"From now on I am telling you before *it* comes to pass, so that when it does occur, you may believe that I am *He.*" (*John 13:19*)

Who is this He in whom you may trust? Let's get His exact address. It is Jesus the Christ, the Son of God of 2000 years ago who was, died, rose, ascended, and returned as Holy Spirit residing in and living through those who trust Jesus as the Christ. He will return with every eye seeing Him. There's no other Christ nor the office of little Christ. We are all subservient to the Spirit of Christ in us. Though forms of Christ's body are individual, we are never separate from Him. We are never equal to Him or in any way replacing Him. Some have and will come claiming to be Christ Himself. Don't check it out!

We claim our individual forms of His life uniquely living us.

I am nothing without You, Lord, and nothing except Your will in action as I live from Spirit ignoring the flesh trying to define me. Your Spirit defines me.

CHAPTER 116 Free Hearts JOH 14:1-31

"Do not let your heart be troubled; believe in God, believe also in Me." (John 14:1)

You don't have to tolerate a troubled heart. I had a friend whose testimony included a fellow inmate in a Federal Prison handing him a tiny Bible. He said, "You can live here in fear, bondage, and misery or have peace." My friend read the Bible and found peace. He even began praying for the judge who had sentenced him to 25 years without parole. Shortly afterward, the judge freed him. Years later, I was sad to discover, this man was again suffering from a troubled heart but now in a prison without walls. He was forgetting to trust Christ for everything. He had forgotten his freedom.

The heart does not need to be troubled.

Hallelujah! In the throws of life, I can rejoice with a free and happy heart.

CHAPTER 117 *Initiated*JOH 14:1-31

"Do you not believe that I am in the Father, and the Father is in Me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on My own initiative, but the Father abiding in Me does His works." (John 14:10)

ABOVE, Jesus made a shocking statement. If this message is true it is profound and a deal breaker. Let me explain. Jesus, the perfect one and only Son of God, could NOT initiate anything. Both His words and works were a slave to His Father's will being worked out from within. He was an instrument in God's hands. That position is called sanctified. We too, in Christ, cannot initiate any God thing, but we can submit to Father's every desire.

Be original. Let God be King.

Father, I am nothing without Your authoring and finishing my trust in Your abilities.

CHAPTER 118

Share

JOH 14:1-31

"Believe Me that I am in the Father and the Father is in Me; otherwise believe because of the works themselves." (John 14:11)

THE VERY HEART of Christ and how he worked the works of God is revealed in this verse. The one little word 'in' says it all. A fish in the sea can live in the sea. A fish out of the sea stinks. When we trust we are in Christ who is in Father God we have fulfilled the will of God at work in our hearts. Our desire to get has been transformed into a heart that gives.

Share what you have and you share Christ gifting others.

Compared to many lives, I give little, but what I give is huge. I share You, Lord.

CHAPTER 119

Greater

JOH 14:1-31

"Truly, truly, I say to you, he who believes in Me, the works that I do, he will do also; and greater *works* than these he will do; because I go to the Father." (*John 14:12*)

DON'T GET CONFUSED. Jesus just said He would work through you the works that you think you do. The very works He is doing you will do as you trust this is true. Jesus went to the Father and can now, through you, do greater works.

He can do greater now through you than what He did then.

Father, I will not speculate what You are doing that is considered greater but lay myself before You to do the greater You do through me.

CHAPTER 120
The Plan

JOH 14:1-31

"Now I have told you before it happens, so that when it happens, you may believe." (John 14:29)

Believe What? Believe that Christ had to suffer and die. This was the plan. With His blood, He could carry Sin to its new home, leave it there, and pick up the souls that had been slaves to Sin. Every soul ever conceived had been, through genetics, attached to Sin (trusting self over God). Now, every soul has been freed from Sin by being bound to Christ's heart and Person of Love, Jesus the Christ. Once everyone is reconciled to Christ as Lord, He will hand everything over to Father for a specific reason...

that God may be all and in all.

Father, You are my home in Christ. As He abides with you, I too abide in His abiding. As He humbles Himself to Your will so am I humbled.



"concerning sin, because they do not believe in Me;" (John 16:9)

JESUS REDEFINED SIN. It had been breaking the Law of Mosses. Now it was simply not trusting Jesus. Every time a person looks to flesh or its mechanisms to complete them it is the sin of idolatry. Only Christ is the redeemer of each event we encounter. It is not I with a little help from Jesus, nor a whole lot of Jesus with a little help from me. It is seeing Jesus as the Total and trusting in the Total He is.

Doubt is distrusting Jesus.

Self-improvement is a useless exercise. Christ has come to destroy the self that needs to improve. My soul attached to His Spirit is the Spirit of Christ Himself. He needs no improvement.

CHAPTER 122

Friendship

JOH 16:25-33

"for the Father Himself loves you, because you have loved Me and have believed that I came forth from the Father." (John 16:27)

JESUS IS SAYING that the Father's desire is to be your friend because you have befriended Jesus and trusted He was sent by the Father. Much of Jesus's teaching was around equating one thing to another. We see this in His renaming people to their tasks or positions. So it is the Father's will to trust His Son. He equates trusting His Son with being His friend. Go ahead, be His friend.

Wow! When that hits home cry for a few days.

As Your friend, Lord, I come willing to do all Your desires for me to be and do. I Surender all I think I am for all I am in You.

CHAPTER 123
Preferences

JOH 16:25-33

"Now we know that You know all things, and have no need for anyone to question You; by this we believe that You came from God." (John 16:30)

LIFE BOILS down to a *leap of faith*. Either we trust Christ or don't. Not trusting Christ is natural. Trusting Him is supernatural. It takes Christ trusting Father living in you to express that trust. The very faculty of trust is so free it feels innate. Since childhood, we have trusted light switches, chairs, and some of the food we eat. We know our preferences and act on those preferences. We choose one thing over another. Instead of giving praise to God for that *innate* ability, we often take ownership of it by trying to improve it.

We even try to control the preferences of others.

I enjoy Your ability to be with me, Lord, in choosing Your best for me.



"Jesus answered them, 'Do you now believe?'" (John 16:31)

Only you can answer this question. Do you trust Jesus to live His life through you? Either you remain a self, trying to be a better self, or one with His Self trusting the Father. In every moment our flesh loves to bait us into trying to be like God. It sees needs but grumbles for not seeing the supply. We who trust see the supply. It has and always will be so bright and vast that the disbeliever will see it as some great void. We, on the other hand, see it as the Total living in us.

The Total One is It. We have It.

Okay! It is time to say, "Yes. I trust You, Lord Jesus, right now, and now, and now, and now, and now..."

CHAPTER 125

Catch

JOH 17:1-26

"for the words which You gave Me I have given to them; and they received *them* and truly understood that I came forth from You, and they believed that You sent Me." (John 17:8)

No one has to be a Christian any more than a door has to be opened. But if you choose to open the door to God, the door to open is Jesus Christ. No one has to trust Him. But if you do you will find life better for it. You may doubt in the hereafter, yet living as a Christian is more beneficial than living any insanity based on self or self-improvement, failing, and trying harder. Of course, no one can learn to swim if they do not jump into the pool and risk drowning.

We who submit to Jesus Christ will drown.

Jesus, here I am, I'm jumping. Hello?

CHAPTER 126
Everyone, live!

JOH 17:1-26

"I do not ask on behalf of these alone, but for those also who believe in Me through their word;" (John 17:20)

JESUS AS GOOD AS SAID, "He who trusts in Me trusts in the One who sent Me. I have come into the world so that everyone who trusts Me will escape the darkness of hate. If anyone hears My saying, 'I did not come to judge the world, but to save the world'. He is the one who accepts me."

He who rejects Jesus and does not receive His sayings has one who judges him; the very word Jesus spoke, 'Live!' It is this word that will judge him on the last day.

He told His disciples to repeat these sayings.

I repeat Your message, Jesus. Live people, live!

CHAPTER 127

Love Is One
10H 17:1-26

"that they may all be one; even as You, Father, *are* in Me and I in You, that they also may be in Us, so that the world may believe that You sent Me." (John 17:21)

How can the average person trust an unseen person? Well, it is easy. It is like sitting in a chair. Sit! If it does not support you it was not worthy of your trust. I once sat in what looked like a perfectly good chair. It lied. Ouch! But I would not have known the value of that chair without taking a *leap of faith* and resting in it. So it is with Christ. Give Him your life and see what happens. I did not say to give Him a chance to complete your desires but trust His desires to be completed in and through you.

His desire is to so love you that you love others.

I rest in Your love. Whether I feel love or not I accept Your heart is loving the unlovable through me.

CHAPTER 128 Escaped The Tomb LUK 24:9-12; JOH 20:2-10

"So the other disciple who had first come to the tomb then also entered, and he saw and believed." (John 20:8)

THIS WAS the defining moment for the Apostle John. John chose to trust Jesus had risen from the dead. Another report says that after the Sabbath, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary came to look at the grave. Right then an earthquake occurred because an angel of the Lord descended from heaven and came and rolled away the stone and sat upon it. The guards saw this and shook for fear of the angel and became like dead men. The angel said to the women, "Do not be afraid; ...He is not here, for He has risen. Come, see the place where He was lying."

Before the stone was moved Jesus had escaped the tomb.

I like John have looked for Your body. I can see those who trust You wearing it. We are your body.

CHAPTER 129

Proof

MAR 16:14; LUK 24:36-43; JOH 20:19-25

"So the other disciples were saying to him, 'We have seen the Lord!' But he said to them, 'Unless I see in His hands the imprint of the nails, and put my finger into the place of the nails, and put my hand into His side, I will not believe." (John 20:25)

YOU HAVE TO LOVE THOMAS. Without his stubborn doubt, we would not have an eye witness to the wounds still visible in Jesus's body. This was the Jesus that had been dead but now lives and even walks through stone and wood. What a privilege for those who have not seen Him and yet trust Him. Why? Because their head isn't getting in the way.

What makes God tangible? A trusting heart.

Father, I lived without trust in You until I called and You showed up. I had cried out to be better many times. It was when I asked You to take control of my life that You showed up and remained.

CHAPTER 130

Believing Ones

JOH 20:24-29

"Then He said to Thomas, "Reach here with your finger, and see My hands; and reach here your hand and put it into My side; and do not be unbelieving, but believing." (John 20:27)

DIG, poke, and prod for the truth, you doubters. In the end, you must doubt yourself. Then you can reach out and touch the unseen and be touched by the Real. Transform to a truster. Move into trust and remain. It is your new home. Satan and many angels left their assigned quarters. Adam and Eve left their assigned limits. Jesus left heaven to gather up trusting souls. We can disown lack, fear, shame, guilt, incrimination, and the belief we must sin. We are freed from having to doubt God.

Move on to your new digs.

My new home is in You, Lord Jesus. You are the room prepared for me. There I come. There I remain.

CHAPTER 131

Real Life

JOH 20:30-31

"but these have been written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God; and that believing you may have life in His name." (*John 20:31*)

LET US RECAP:

THE NAME JESUS IS A DECLARATION: *Jehovah saves*! We can't save anyone, especially ourselves. We trust Jesus, the Person, and author of salvation. We trust His work is finished. We believe that trusting Him is enough. That very trust is the promised eternal life declared by His name. That life is Jesus trusting Father for us and through us.

Trust is Life! Live Trust.

Yes, Father, You have gifted me Eternal Life evidenced in my trust in Your Son which is being birthed in my heart each moment. Your way is ever so simple yet challenged by doubt. Trusting is eternal living.

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