

The Image of Christ
Part 6
By Boyd Yahn

Hello everyone, it is March the 6th of 2025, and this is part 6 of the Image of Christ series. In the last study in this series, we walked through a portion of Matthew 5 where Christ was laying down the way to a future born again Son of God to the locals of the day.

0:00:23

They were astonished at what they were hearing. Imagine wandering through one's life, in a sea of spiritual blindness, and then someone comes along speaking with authority on matters you personally had no clue about, that someone claiming to be God's Son, how would you process that?

0:00:51

The religious leaders of the day, at least on the public front, ah Nicodemus represented some behind the curtain who did know who Christ was and that He was sent by God, but the public display, they despised Him. They sought to kill Him, this is the religious leaders, and His teachings, if in fact true, showed them up to the masses as to who they actually were and who they worked for, and it wasn't Yehovah, and you can't have that.

0:01:27

What might have been one of the drivers for Christ saying what He did in Matthew 5, 6 and 7? We might gain some insight on this in the book of John, in John 17, verses 6 and 7. So, let's take a look at that. Christ said:

⁶"I have manifested Your name (Yehovah) to the men whom You have given Me out of the world.

0:02:04

And we would understand that God calls, He educates people and they are led to Christ. But here we see a part of the relationship of how this actually works. People are called by God and they are given to Christ by the Father. He goes on to say:

They were Yours, You gave them to Me, and they have kept Your word

0:02:30

Again, we see Christ's submission, the way He relates to the Father and it's very important, because if we are going to be made over in the image of Christ, we need to have the same perspective of how this goes down.

⁷Now they have known that all things which You have given Me are from You.

0:02:59

Well, that's interesting. And if we stop and think about it at all, everything we have, you and I, including life itself, comes from the Creator. And it is the same for all things that Yehovah brings into existence. We have life, we have certain gifts, we have certain

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talents, we have certain abilities; it all comes from the Creator. And it's amazing to stop and consider that.

0:03:41

What Christ referenced here in John 17 was a theme that was repeated over and over, so let's just look at that, because that is a driver to why He taught what He did in Matthew 5, 6 and 7. He says: (John 17, verse 11) He says:

¹¹Now I am no longer in the world, but these are in the world, and I come to You, Holy Father, keep through Your name those whom You have given Me, that they may be one as We are.

0:04:11

If we, as the ekklesia, are turned into the image of Christ, they will be at one with the Father as Christ is at one with His Father. And if you go down, you see the same thing repeated in verse 21. Again, Christ speaking:

²¹that they all may be one, as You, Father, are in Me, and I in You; that they also may be one in Us, that the world may believe that You sent Me.

0:04:44

So again, the repetition here is Christ's desire is for people to be at one with Him, and in turn of course, be at one with the Father as He was Himself. He repeats the same thing in verse 23. It's actually touched on in verse 22, let's look at that.

²²And the glory which You gave Me I have given them,

0:05:17

Well, why would Christ need to have God give Him glory? I think we now understand the reason why. But the purpose:

that they may be one just as We are one: ²³I in them, and You in Me; that they may be made perfect in one, and that the world may know that You have sent Me, and have loved them as You have loved Me.

0:05:40

He wants us to be perfect like our Father. Matthew 6, and we'll get to that later in the message, but in Matthew 6, verse 48 it plainly states to us. Oh, Matthew 5:48, I'm sorry.

⁴⁸Therefore you (speaking to people) shall be perfect, just as your Father in heaven is perfect.

So, the teaching of Christ was to facilitate that to become a reality.

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0:06:31

To be at one with Yehovah and His Son would mean we be in total agreement with Yehovah, just as Christ is, and was. We would think that same way, teach the same things, live life the same way. Intellectually we can accept the concept of being at one with our Father, but often, at least in my own case, when the rubber hits the road, maybe not so much.

0:06:59

All of us, I think, share something in common with at apostle Paul. And let's understand, or we understand where we must go in our journey, then it becomes much easier to understand what Paul was talking about in Romans 7, versed 15 – 25. Let's read that. How often can we relate to the exact same thing. Romans 7, verse 15:

¹⁵For what I am doing, I do not understand. For what I will to do, that I do not practice; but what I hate, that I do. ¹⁶If, then, I do what I will not to do, I agree with the law that it is good. ¹⁷But now, it is no longer I who do it, but sin that dwells in me.

0:08:00

Old habits, old ways of thinking.

¹⁸For I know that in me (that is, in my flesh) nothing good dwells; for to will is present with me, but how to perform what is good I do not find.

It is not in man to direct his steps.

¹⁹For the good that I will to do, I do not do; but the evil I will not to do, that I practice. ²⁰Now if I do what I will not to do, it is no longer I who do it, but sin that dwells in me. ²¹I find then a law, that evil is present with me, the one who wills to do good.

0:08:45

We intellectually accept that we should do this or do that, but that's not what we do.

²²For I delight in the law of God according to the inward man.

So, Paul, here in this case, admired God, wanted to submit to Him, he delighted in doing God's law, but he blew up on a regular basis.

²³But I see another law in my members,

0:09:20

We need to become cognizant of that in our members.

warring against the law of my mind, and bringing me into captivity to the law of sin which is in my members. ²⁴O wretched man that I am! Who will deliver me from this

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body of death? ²⁵I thank God—through Jesus Christ our Lord! So then, with the mind I myself serve the law of God, but with the flesh the law of sin.

And boy, can we ever relate to that.

0:09:54

He spelled out the eternal battle that goes on in all of us. There is a disconnect in all of us as Paul pointed out between intellectual acceptance and the rubber hits the road part. It's likely that anyone who has ventured down this road very far, would recognize this all too well.

0:10:20

Yehovah sent His Son to teach those whom He, Yehovah, would call at this time, what a Son in training should be focusing on, in the transformation of their mind, from one of evil and sin, to one of good and righteousness. To come to know the will of their Father for them, and that is what the ekklesia need to learn, and who better to do that than one who has been a Son for a very, very long time. A true servant and companion to Yehovah.

0:11:06

So much so, it is recorded for us, the Father did exactly that through His Son. So, Christ then, was an instrument in God's hands, and the Father worked through Him; He'd seen a lot, did a lot, and we'll just read that in Hebrews 1:2.

² has in these last days spoken to us by His Son,

He sent His Son to speak to mankind to learn the way to eternal life. And it tells us:

*(God) has appointed heir of all things, through whom also He made the worlds;
(through His Son).*

0:11:55

So, Christ was used as a tool by Yehovah to speak through, and His credentials were impeccable. He, Christ, was the heir of everything God created, and the vessel through whom God chose to use to do so. With God, it is the opposite of what we see in the world. In the world we see persons uniquely unqualified to be in positions of authority and power, with the resultant gong show that goes along with it.

0:12:32

You know, there's just, that's how it works. We see people with incredible inability, in positions they should not be in. So, we would expect that God would send His Son, with as important a mission to tell people and show people the way to eternal life, having somebody there that actually knew what He was talking about.

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0:12:59

You know, I'd like to return to Matthew 5, 6 and 7 to look at this a bit more. The teachings of Christ's word, which He was given by His Father to bring future Sons of God into the family as brothers to Christ and children of Yehovah.

0:13:20

As we go, this is important to ask ourselves, would we teach that? Would our words and thoughts be in harmony, would they be at one with the Father and Christ? Since Christ cannot, and does not lie; and of course, neither does His Father, who gave Him the words to say. What weight would we put on them? Did He really mean what He was saying? Did His yes mean yes, and His no, no? I mean, how literally should we take this stuff anyway? Wouldn't it be silly to do so? What do you think?

0:14:08

Let's go to Matthew 5:20; Matthew 5:20, we've covered the first part of that in a previous message. It says:

²⁰For I say to you, that unless your righteousness exceeds the righteousness of the scribes and Pharisees, you will by no means enter the kingdom of heaven.

0:14:34

Well, what do you mean; they kept the Sabbath, they kept the holy days, they observed the clean and unclean meat thing; you mean you have to be better than that, can't you just belong to the right organization and go through the motions? Apparently not, if we believe what He said.

0:14:57

Humanity in general, everything we are, including life itself as I mentioned, comes from God. It is an act of creation from the Creator. If we go to Job, let's go to Job 31. I was amazed at how many places it actually talks about this very process. We're going from a condition of one sort to a condition of another sort whereby we might be allowed to enter into the kingdom of God, a different type of existence entirely.

0:15:43

If we go to Job 31, we'll read verses 14 and 15 so we can understand or begin to understand the involvement of the Father in this whole process. Job 31, verses 14 and 15.

¹⁴what then shall I do when God rises up? When He punishes, how shall I answer Him? ¹⁵Did not He who made me in the womb make them? Did not the same One fashion us in the womb?

0:16:19

The formation of a human life in the womb is an act of creation by God. Do we believe that? Is that something we could substantiate from other passages of scripture?

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Did anybody else actually understand that, and is it recorded for us? Well, let's have a look at Isaiah 49, verses 5 – 7. And this is a prophecy, and you will figure out who that is all about.

⁵“And now Yehovah says; Who formed Me from the womb to be His Servant, to bring Jacob back to Him, so that Israel is gathered to Him. (For I shall be glorious in the eyes of Yehovah,

0:17:14

Who do you think is speaking here?

and My God

Whoever is speaking has a God.

shall be My strength, ⁶indeed He says, ‘It is too small a thing that You should be My Servant

Well, who is the Father's servant?

to raise up the tribes of Jacob, and to restore the preserved ones of Israel; I will also give You as a light to the Gentiles, that You should be My salvation to the ends of the earth.”⁷ Thus says Yehovah, The Redeemer of Israel, their Holy One, to Him whom man despises, to Him whom the nation abhors, to the Servant of rulers: “Kings shall see and arise, princes also shall worship, because of Yehovah who is faithful, the Holy One of Israel; and He has chosen You.”

0:18:06

Whoever this Being is to You, is formed in the womb by God the Father. If we go back in Isaiah to Isaiah 44, let's read verses 24 – 28 and let's see if we can see this same theme repeated.

²⁴Thus says Yehovah, your Redeemer, and He who formed you (Israel) from the womb: “I am the LORD, who makes all things, who stretches out the heavens all alone, who spreads abroad the earth by Myself;

0:18:54

Where does the power come from to accomplish all of these things? It comes from the Creator.

²⁵who frustrates the signs of the babblers, and drives diviners mad; who turns wise men backward, and makes their knowledge foolishness; ²⁶who confirms the word of His servant, and performs the counsel of His messengers; who says to Jerusalem, ‘You shall be inhabited,’ to the cities of Judah, ‘You shall be built,’ and I will raise up her waste places; ²⁷who says to the deep, ‘Be dry! And I will dry up your rivers’;

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²⁸who says of Cyrus, 'He is My shepherd, and he shall perform all My pleasure, saying to Jerusalem, "You shall be built," and to the temple, "Your foundation shall be laid."'

0:19:41

You know, God is speaking of Himself, forming Israel in the womb. You can see a similar thing in Isaiah 44, verses 1 – 2.

¹ "Yet hear now, O Jacob My servant, and Israel whom I have chosen. ²Thus says Yehovah who made you and formed you from the womb, who will help you: 'Fear not, O Jacob My servant; and you, Jeshurun, whom I have chosen.

0:20:12

So, this theme is repeated again in the scriptures, and it's worthwhile taking a look at that just so we have an underlying basis of understanding that we can process from. King David actually understood this really quite well. So, it's this Being that does all this, that told His Son what to say, and then He passes the message on to the ekklesia.

0:20:48

It's recorded in the Bible for us; do we believe it? Psalm 139, verses 13 – 16. See what David understood here.

¹³For You formed my inward parts; You covered me in my mother's womb. ¹⁴I will praise You, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made; marvelous are Your works, and that my soul knows very well. ¹⁵My frame was not hidden from You, when I was made in secret, and skillfully wrought in the lowest parts of the earth. ¹⁶Your eyes saw my substance, being yet unformed. And in Your book, they all were written, the days fashioned for me, when as yet there were none of them.

0:21:40

Can we see the all-encompassing involvement of the Father in creating people? And not only the prophets, everybody. You know, Jeremiah was aware of this exact same thing. Jeremiah 1, verses 4 and 5.

⁴Then the word of Yehovah came to me, saying: ⁵"Before I formed you in the womb I knew you; before you were born, I sanctified you; I ordained you a prophet to the nations."

0:22:13

Was God involved? Did He know what kind of a spirit He would give Jeremiah to fulfill the commission? Did He form him the body that he needed for his physical existence? And I think we can say, yes. We understand that. The theory of evolution was introduced to make the Bible go away, without the Bible going away. I was taught evolution as a young geologist, and I held the Bible in great disdain. And I thought, well, that's fascinating. When that calling came it was to compare what was taught in the

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learned institution with what God actually said, in saying who's lying here, what's the deal?

0:23:22

With an evolutionary background and understanding, the teaching of the Bible was irrelevant and nonsensical to me. How good a job do you think Satan has done, and how cunning is the adversary? Didn't have a clue, had no reason to question it; this is a hint of the battle the ekklesia are actually about. Did Yehovah allow all of that subterfuge, all those lies to be in place? Yes, He did.

0:24:09

And we have to go to the scriptures from God, who does not lie, to show that He is the Creator, He formed us in the womb, He gave us everything we have and everything we will be, and that the whole evolutionary thing is a bunch of nonsense, and yet, there it is, large as life.

0:24:36

How much of God's word, and neither He or Christ lie, is taken as nonsense, or simply not believed? Is this a thing that is spoken of directly? In Hebrews 3, is it not speaking to the same kind of condition? For this is the battle of the ekklesia, the things that they must face in their understanding of the growth process.

0:25:13

Let's look at Hebrews 3 and see how important it is that we believe God if we are going to become at one with God. When He tells us something, do we believe it or do we reject it, where are we at? Look at this. Hebrews 3 and verse 7.

⁷Therefore, as the Holy Spirit says:

0:25:42

The Holy Spirit is God the Father.

"Today, if you will hear His voice, ⁸do not harden your hearts as in the rebellion, in the day of trial in the wilderness, ⁹where your fathers tested Me, tried Me, and saw My works forty years. ¹⁰Therefore I was angry with that generation, and said, 'They always go astray in their heart, and they have not known My ways.'

0:26:17

They hardened their hearts; they did not want to know the things of God.

¹¹So I swore in My wrath, 'They shall not enter My rest.'"¹²Beware, brethren, lest there be in any of you an evil heart of unbelief

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0:26:33

God tells us something and we simply don't believe it or refuse to believe it, or somehow don't think it applies to us, or that's not what He meant. You know, it's a mine field of reasons not to believe God. (Verse 13)

¹³but exhort one another daily, while it is called "Today," lest any of you be hardened through the deceitfulness of sin. ¹⁴For we have become partakers of Christ if we hold the beginning of our confidence steadfast to the end, ¹⁵while it is said: "Today, if you will hear His voice,

0:27:13

And we have the Bible as the voice of God today for us.

¹⁶For who, having heard, rebelled? Indeed, was it not all who came out of Egypt, led by Moses? ¹⁷Now with whom was He angry forty years? Was it not with those who sinned, whose corpses fell in the wilderness? ¹⁸And to whom did He swear that they would not enter His rest, but to those who did not obey?

Well, I think the type is obvious.

¹⁹So we see that they could not enter in because of unbelief.

0:27:47

So, how much of what Christ taught, and said, do we reject, do we not believe? Even though the Father and Christ are incapable of lying. Where are we on this scale? What are, or how much of the recorded word of God are the ekklesia willing to actually believe? What does society, in general, think when one begins to leave the only source of truth, that we as humans, living in a sea of lies, have?

0:28:37

Is there any resistance, is there any kick back when people actually start believing God? Because, you know, king David said something, he understood it. Psalm 119 and verse 160 is quite informative. David understood:

¹⁶⁰The entirety of your word is truth,

So, if we are living in a sea of lies, there is only one real option.

and every one of your righteous rules endures forever.

0:29:14

David understood that. He had God's Holy Spirit; the spirit of Christ was also in David, the spirit of truth, and he made that very simple statement, he understood that. And Christ actually confirmed that in John 17:17. Let's take a look there. John 17:17. Where talking about the ekklesia, Christ said:

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¹⁷Sanctify them by Your truth. Your word is truth.

0:29:55

So, the ekklesia are sanctified by the truth; they believe the truth when it's being spoken or read in the scriptures. How else can one become one with the Father and Christ? Christ here identified the source of truth, and David, as we read, understood this. What would the world, in general, think of such things?

0:30:34

Well, the world in general, thinks it's nonsense, that it's foolishness, as we read in I Corinthians 2, but it goes back a lot further than that, if we go even in God's own people, His very son, what was Israel's reaction to God and the things that He said? We'll read Hosea 8, verses 11 – 12.

¹¹"Because Ephraim has made many altars for sin,

They did not want to retain God in their knowledge.

they have become for him altars for sinning. ¹²I have written for him the great things of My law, but they were considered a strange thing.

0:31:30

So, when we read the Bible, and we look at what is actually being said, and we have the benchmark that it is in fact the truth, what do we do with that? Do we think that it's a strange thing, or do we embrace it and try to understand what it says? Do we have a love of the truth; God's word is truth; do we have a love of it?

0:32:07

So, you can see where society is against it; even internally we are against it, this becoming at one with God and Jesus Christ is easy to grasp intellectually and maybe not so easy to deal with on another level when that rubber actually hits the road. You know, so we have to fight through all of that.

0:32:37

On top of all that there is the teaching of this organization or that organization, that for reasons of their own, rejects some, or perhaps large portions of the scripture. And as I said, it really is a mine field for the ekklesia, because there are so many things against us buying in to the reality of what God actually is showing us. There is pushback and blowback from every conceivable direction, including from within ourselves.

0:33:19

And you know something, this has to be by design, because it is allowed by Yehovah. It is a test to see the degree of the love of the truth, and God is the truth, that the ekklesia actually have. Given the ultimate prize, would any of that come as a surprise?

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0:33:52

Let's go on again in Matthew and we will pick it up in verse 21. Matthew 5, and verse 21. This is what Christ taught when He began to lay out this process that folks are required to undergo to begin their journey from physical life to immortal incorruptible spirit life. Matthew 5, verse 21.

²¹"You have heard that it was said to those of old, 'You shall not murder, and whoever murders will be in danger of the judgment.' ²²But I say to you that whoever is angry with his brother

0:34:45

You know, the bar gets a little higher.

without a cause shall be in danger of the judgment. And whoever says to his brother, 'Raca!' shall be in danger of the council. But whoever says, 'You fool!' shall be in danger of hell fire.

Did He actually mean those things?

0:35:07

Going on:

²³Therefore if you bring your gift to the altar and there remember that your brother has something against you, ²⁴leave your gift there before the altar and go your way. First be reconciled to your brother, and then come and offer your gift.

Did He really mean that? Is that actually practiced, maybe even in the Church of God community? Why not, did He mean that? Did He not mean that?

0:35:57

You know, Christ cannot lie, was told by the Father what to say, so His words carry the weight and authority of God Almighty behind Him; what do we do with that kind of a passage? It's a very individual thing. What do we do with that? We all must decide.

0:36:24

You know, if we go to I John 3; I John 3 and verse 15, let's take a look at that and just see if we have a tie-in there.

¹⁵Whoever hates his brother is a murderer, and you know that no murderer has eternal life abiding in him.

Is there hatred in the Church of God? Have you seen it? Have you seen these things always religiously practiced within the Church of God community? If not, is it because these words carry no weight, it's not important, I'm in the right church so what does it matter; what's the deal?

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0:37:14

Let's go on. (Matthew 5:25)

²⁵Agree with your adversary quickly, while you are on the way with him, lest your adversary deliver you to the judge, the judge hand you over to the officer, and you be thrown into prison. ²⁶Assuredly, I say to you, you will by no means get out of there till you have paid the last penny.

0:37:41

There is a personal accountability that Christ taught; did He mean those words?

²⁷"You have heard that it was said to those of old, 'You shall not commit adultery.' ²⁸But I say to you that whoever looks at a woman to lust for her has already committed adultery with her in his heart.

Do we always guard our thoughts so that does not occur? Do we always reject those thoughts when they come into our mind? And they do.

0:38:18

Did Christ, surely, He didn't mean that. Isn't there a Jesus that came along and said, "I got this for you, I got it all, you don't have to do it? Is there one of those around? He goes on:

²⁹If your right eye causes you to sin, pluck it out and cast it from you; for it is more profitable for you that one of your members perish, than for your whole body to be cast into hell. ³⁰And if your right hand causes you to sin, cut it off and cast it from you; for it is more profitable for you that one of your members perish, than for your whole body to be cast into hell.

Into the lake of fire.

0:38:58

Should the ekklesia resist sin in the manner that is so described? Like, is it a serious thing, should we be actively purging these things from us, or are we happy that we are just simply in the right organization?

³¹"Furthermore, it has been said, 'Whoever divorces his wife, let him give her a certificate of divorce.' ³²But I say to you that whoever divorces his wife for any reason except sexual immorality causes her to commit adultery; and whoever marries a woman who is divorced commits adultery.

0:39:50

Surely, He didn't mean that. Can we see how He thinks? And these words were given to Him by His Father; do we believe them? When it says, "Bring every thought into the captivity of Christ", do we really get that?

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0:40:15

³³“Again, you have heard that it was said to those of old, ‘You shall not swear falsely, but shall perform your oaths to the LORD.’ ³⁴But I say to you, do not swear at all: neither by heaven, for it is God’s throne; ³⁵nor by the earth, for it is His footstool; nor by Jerusalem, for it is the city of the great King.

Well, do you mean Jerusalem, city of God?

0:40:50

Surely, it can’t be, it’s a mess today. What do you think?

³⁶Nor shall you swear by your head, because you cannot make one hair white or black. ³⁷But let your ‘Yes’ be ‘Yes,’ and your ‘No,’ ‘No.’ For whatever is more than these is from the evil one.

0:41:13

So, Christ is laying this down; is there any doubt about the efficacy of what He’s saying? There was no Satan in Christ, His ‘yes’ was ‘yes’ and his ‘no’, was ‘no’. Is our ‘yes’, ‘yes’ and our ‘no’, ‘no’? Where do we fit in on that scale? Have you ever come across somebody, supposedly in the body of Christ, who is a pathological liar? Have you seen that?

0:41:52

Why would they not believe this?

³⁸“You have heard that it was said, ‘An eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth.’ ³⁹But I tell you not to resist an evil person. But whoever slaps you on your right cheek, turn the other to him also. ⁴⁰If anyone wants to sue you and take away your tunic, let him have your cloak also. ⁴¹And whoever compels you to go one mile, go with him two. ⁴²Give to him who asks you, and from him who wants to borrow from you do not turn away.

0:42:35

⁴³“You have heard that it was said, ‘You shall love your neighbor and hate your enemy.’ ⁴⁴But I say to you, love your enemies, bless those who curse you, do good to those who hate you, and pray for those who spitefully use you and persecute you,

Why?

⁴⁵that you may be sons of your Father in heaven; for He makes His sun rise on the evil and on the good, and sends rain on the just and on the unjust. ⁴⁶For if you love those who love you, what reward have you? Do not even the tax collectors do the same? ⁴⁷And if you greet your brethren only, what do you do more than others? Do

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not even the tax collectors do so? ⁴⁸Therefore you shall be perfect, just as your Father in heaven is perfect.

0:43:28

Did He mean those words, and are we there yet? And you notice Christ's reference here is constant, it's not pointing to Himself; He is pointing people to His Father and His God.

0:43:56

Notice chapter 6.

¹ "Take heed that you do not do your charitable deeds before men, to be seen by them. Otherwise, you have no reward from your Father in heaven.

Well, surely, surely, He didn't mean that. That can't possibly be literal, can it? Notice again, He's pointing constantly to the relationship with the Father.

²Therefore, when you do a charitable deed, do not sound a trumpet before you as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and in the streets, that they may have glory from men. Assuredly, I say to you, they have their reward. ³But when you do a charitable deed, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing,

0:44:47

It's a very personal thing. Surely, He didn't mean that.

⁴that your charitable deed may be in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will Himself reward you openly.

Is the Father actively involved in our lives, and what do we need to do to establish that contact and begin the process of becoming at one with Him and His ways?

0:45:17

What do you think?

⁵"And when you pray, you shall not be like the hypocrites. For they love to pray standing in the synagogues and on the corners of the streets, that they may be seen by men. Assuredly, I say to you, they have their reward. ⁶But you, when you pray, go into your room, and when you have shut your door, pray to (me)

Notice, it doesn't say that

pray to your Father who is in the secret place; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you openly.

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⁷And when you pray, do not use vain repetitions as the heathen do. For they think that they will be heard for their many words. ⁸“Therefore, do not be like them. For your Father knows the things you have need of before you ask Him.

0:46:14

You notice that the true Christ here is always pointing people to His Father. If the ekklesia are to become priests and kings, as it states, will they not also point people to their God and their Father?

0:46:41

Notice:

⁹In this manner, therefore, pray: Our Father in heaven, hallowed be Your name.

¹⁰Your kingdom come. Your will be done on earth as it is in heaven.

Where is Christ in this? He's telling people who to focus their attention on.

¹¹Give us this day our daily bread. ¹²And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. ¹³And do not lead us into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one.

0:47:22

There it is, the evil one.

For Yours (The Father's) is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

¹⁴“For if you forgive men their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you. ¹⁵But if you do not forgive men their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses.

0:47:53

Where's the focus? Was Christ focusing on Himself? Or was He teaching people to focus on the Father and directing them to Him?

¹⁶“Moreover, when you fast, do not be like the hypocrites, with a sad countenance. For they disfigure their faces that they may appear to men to be fasting. Assuredly, I say to you, they have their reward. ¹⁷But you, when you fast, anoint your head and wash your face, ¹⁸so that you do not appear to men to be fasting, but to your Father who is in the secret place; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you openly.

0:48:37

Would the ekklesia teach any different than what Christ is teaching here, in their future role as kings or priests, for that matter, right now? Would we be at one with His teaching?

The Image of Christ

Part 6

By Boyd Yahn

¹⁹“Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal; ²⁰but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal.²¹For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

0:49:24

Where is our treasure? Did Christ actually mean this?

²²“The lamp of the body is the eye. If therefore your eye is good, your whole body will be full of light. ²³But if your eye is bad, your whole body will be full of darkness. If therefore the light that is in you is darkness, how great is that darkness! ²⁴“No one can serve two masters; for either he will hate the one and love the other, or else he will be loyal to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and mammon.

0:50:01

And how many people think that they can? Did Christ mean what He said?

²⁵“Therefore, I say to you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink; nor about your body, what you will put on. Is not life more than food and the body more than clothing? ²⁶Look at the birds of the air, for they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns; yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they? ²⁷Which of you by worrying can add one cubit to his stature? ²⁸“So why do you worry about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow: they neither toil nor spin; ²⁹and yet I say to you that even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these.

0:50:53

Is that your and my perspective? Are we at one with Christ and His thinking? And I see that I'm just about running out of time here, so I think we'll just shut this study down right now, and we'll continue on in part 7. But when you are reading your Bible, how much of what Christ said, do we actually stop and think about, and do we believe it, or do we not? Are we at one with Him, or are we not? For surely we know where we must go.