

The Image of Christ

Part 7

By Boyd Yahn

Hello everyone, it is March the 13th of 2025 and this is part 7 of the Image of Christ series. When we finished up part 6, we had gone through most of Matthew 6, something we will return to later in this study with the concept that Christ taught and prayed about in John 17, that mankind is destined to be perfect and one with Yehovah and His Son, it might be worth rewinding the tape.

0:00:31

Man was formed or shaped from the dust, made physical, but was given a spirit, a seat of intellect and consciousness, and was given life itself in a physical form. But the potential, realized or not, for all of mankind; were to become spirit sons of God, to inherit, in a new form, all that Yehovah had made for His firstborn Son.

0:01:00

We are given confirmation of the future fulfillment of that destiny, for an example for Abel. He, of course, is listed in Hebrews 11, and verses 1 – 7, and let's read that. Hebrews 11, verses 1 – 7.

¹ Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen.

And again, like I said, when you see “is” or “are” in the scriptures, sit up and pay attention, because it's defining something for us.

0:01:36

²For by it the elders obtained a good testimony. ³By faith we understand that the worlds were framed by the word of God, so that the things which are seen

The physical creation.

were not made of things which are visible.

They came from the spirit world, from the Father.

⁴By faith Abel offered to God a more excellent sacrifice than Cain, through which he obtained witness that he was righteous, God testifying of his gifts; and through it he being dead still speaks. ⁵By faith Enoch was taken away so that he did not see death, “and was not found, because God had taken him”; for before he was taken, he had this testimony, that he pleased God.

0:02:31

⁶But without faith it is impossible to please Him,

We have to grasp the big picture, or why would we do what we are supposed to do to have faith if that wasn't the big picture?

for he who comes to God must believe that He is,

The Image of Christ
Part 7
By Boyd Yahn

And lots of people today do not believe that there is a God.

and (furthermore) that He is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him.

0:02:59

There's purpose. Do we believe that God will keep His promises, and that He will do for mankind what He has repeatedly stated? Do we believe that?

⁷By faith Noah, being divinely warned of things not yet seen, moved with Godly fear, prepared an ark for the saving of his household, by which he condemned the world and became heir of the righteousness which is according to faith.

0:03:31

How did not only Abel, and Enoch and Noah learn what it took to fulfill man's destiny? How, and how many had access to the same knowledge and information and bought into the program up until the flood? I don't know, but all we have record here, is these three people. Were there written texts, or was there salvational knowledge passed around orally?

0:04:06

Noah, it seems, was divinely warned of what was coming. You mean Yehovah spoke to him, or did he hear it from an angel? What are we told on that? Well, let's go to Genesis 6; Genesis 6, and we'll read verses 5, right through Genesis 7:1 so we can get a bit of an idea of where this is going. Genesis 6, verse 5.

⁵Then Yehovah saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every intent of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually.

0:04:51

So, beings that were destined to become at one with God had turned into, where their thoughts instead of being righteous, were only continually evil.

⁶And Yehovah was sorry that He had made man on the earth, and He was grieved in His heart. ⁷So Yehovah said, "I will destroy man whom I have created from the face of the earth, both man and beast, creeping thing and birds of the air, for I am sorry that I have made them." ⁸But Noah found grace in the eyes of Yehovah. ⁹This is the genealogy of Noah. Noah was a just man, perfect in his generations. Noah walked with God.

0:05:29

Well, where did He get that information from?

¹⁰And Noah begot three sons: Shem, Ham, and Japheth. ¹¹The earth also was corrupt before God, and the earth was filled with violence. ¹²So God looked upon

The Image of Christ

Part 7

By Boyd Yahn

the earth, and indeed it was corrupt; for all flesh had corrupted their way on the earth. ¹³And God said to Noah, “The end of all flesh has come before Me, for the earth is filled with violence through them; and behold, I will destroy them with the earth.

0:06:00

So, Yehovah spoke directly to Noah, he was indeed divinely warned.

¹⁴Make yourself an ark of gopher wood; make rooms in the ark, and cover it inside and outside with pitch. ¹⁵And this is how you shall make it: The length of the ark shall be three hundred cubits, its width fifty cubits, and its height thirty cubits. ¹⁶You shall make a window for the ark, and you shall finish it to a cubit from above; and set the door of the ark in its side. You shall make it with lower, second, and third decks.

0:06:34

This is knowledge that was revealed to him. Maybe Noah had no idea of how to build a sea faring ship.

¹⁷And behold, I Myself am bringing flood waters on the earth, to destroy from under heaven all flesh in which is the breath of life; everything that is on the earth shall die. ¹⁸But I will establish My covenant with you; and you shall go into the ark—you, your sons, your wife, and your sons’ wives with you. ¹⁹And of every living thing of all flesh you shall bring two of every sort into the ark, to keep them alive with you; they shall be male and female. ²⁰Of the birds after their kind, of animals after their kind, and of every creeping thing of the earth after its kind, two of every kind will come to you to keep them alive. ²¹And you shall take for yourself of all food that is eaten, and you shall gather it to yourself; and it shall be food for you and for them.” ²²Thus Noah did; according to all that God commanded him, so he did.

0:07:32

Quite a reaction to actually obey God in a world that didn’t want to have anything to do with obeying God. (Genesis 7:1)

¹ Then Yehovah said to Noah, “Come into the ark, you and all your household, because I have seen that you are righteous before Me in this generation.

0:07:54

Did it make a difference in how Noah conducted his life, and did God actually notice? It would appear as though that’s the case. Where, again, did Noah learn of Yehovah, that he knew enough to walk with Him? For that matter, where did the writer of Hebrews learn that Abel was righteous, and presumably will be in the first resurrection to spirit? Who told him, in such a way that it was committed to scripture?

The Image of Christ

Part 7

By Boyd Yahn

0:8:33

We are told of three people who lived in the pre-flood world who were destined, when it was time, to be given life once again, but at a far different level. We are told in II Peter 2:5 that Noah was a preacher of righteousness. Let's read that, II Peter 2:5 just to confirm that. Noah, back in his day, in a world filled with wickedness, was there as a preacher of righteousness, II Peter 2:5. We'll read verse 4.

⁴For if God did not spare the angels who sinned, but cast them down to hell and delivered them into chains of darkness, to be reserved for judgment; ⁵and did not spare the ancient world, but saved Noah, one of eight people, a preacher of righteousness, bringing in the flood on the world of the ungodly;

0:09:27

Noah was a beacon, a source that folks could go to, to learn the path to salvation, being at one with God. So, it is obvious then, that knowledge was carried over the time of the flood period, to a time in which we find ourselves living today.

0:09:57

The pre-flood world had become so corrupt that they were useless tools for creating sons of God; such that Yehovah destroyed them in the flood. When we understand God's purpose for man, and lay it out over the events that occurred, I think that we have a much greater understanding.

0:10:16

All the while, both pre-flood and post-flood, the unseen, but very real broadcast of Satan has been allowed to operate. Most would not, and actually do not believe such a thing occurs. Well, the Bible warns us about this, and it's addressed directly in the book of Ephesians. Ephesians 2, verses 1 – 10. Let's have a look at that. Speaking to the Ephesian congregation at the time:

¹ And you He made alive, who were dead in trespasses and sins,

0:11:06

And can't we all say that for perhaps the first part of our lives, that's just where we were. We were completely deceived, didn't accept the Bible, certainly didn't accept what it said, if we read it at all.

² in which you once walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit who now works in the sons of disobedience, ³ among whom also we all once conducted ourselves in the lusts of our flesh, fulfilling the desires of the flesh and of the mind, and were by nature children of wrath, just as the others.

The Image of Christ

Part 7

By Boyd Yahn

0:11:45

None of us were at one with the Father and Jesus Christ. We didn't even know the way to that, and wouldn't have believed it, largely, if we were told in the first place.

⁴But God, who is rich in mercy, because of His great love with which He loved us, ⁵even when we were dead in trespasses, made us alive together with Christ (by grace you have been saved),

0:12:12

We certainly didn't deserve it.

⁶and raised us up together, and made us sit together in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, ⁷that in the ages to come He might show the exceeding riches of His grace in His kindness toward us in Christ Jesus.

The age to come, we'll learn the extent of the grace that God gave to us.

⁸For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of (the) God, (our Father) ⁹not of works, lest anyone should boast. ¹⁰For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand that we should walk in them.

0:13:00

So, we are being made over, the ekklesia are being made over in the image of Christ. We are His, God the Father's workmanship, created in Christ Jesus, for good works. There has to be a change of direction. Yehovah allows this condition to be set in place, and it is in such a world that the fledgling future sons and daughters of Yehovah's must live and choose.

0:13:33

And those of the ekklesia are given knowledge of the condition of the way it actually is in I John 5, where we will read verses 19 and 20.

¹⁹We know that we are of God, and the whole world lies under the sway of the wicked one. ²⁰And we know that the Son of God has come

It repeatedly says, "I sent My Son."

and has given us an understanding, that we may know Him who is true;

0:14:11

And we had no idea of who it was that was true, and in my own case didn't even believe that there was One that was true.

The Image of Christ

Part 7

By Boyd Yahn

and we are in Him who is true, in His Son Jesus Christ. This is the true God and eternal life.

0:14:26

So, we understand the situation; it wasn't in us to direct our steps, we had no knowledge, we were being constantly being bombarded by satanic influences that we wouldn't have believed if we were told about it. And then all of a sudden something starts to change.

0:14:44

You know, God allowed that condition, if we can somehow visualize a situation where you didn't know, couldn't know, wouldn't know in many cases, and then all of a sudden, the whole situation is revealed to you, and you have to make a choice. That is what and how God is working right now.

0:15:10

I know folks, locally here, friends of mine who simply do not believe this, regardless of being shown. They won't. The teaching of their congregation denies that there is a spirit that runs the world right now, and the teachings of that particular congregation supersede anything that is revealed in scripture. That's just how it works.

0:15:42

Their particular denomination would be vigorously defended, regardless of what the scriptures seem to plainly state, at least to some. The fruit of following that unseen broadcast is spoken of in I Peter 4, verses 3 and 4. I Peter 4, and verses 3 and 4.

³For we have spent enough of our past lifetime in doing the will of the Gentiles—

Now the will of God.

when we walked in lewdness, lusts, drunkenness, revelries, drinking parties, and abominable idolatries. ⁴In regard to these, they think it strange that you do not run with them in the same flood of dissipation, speaking evil of you.

0:16:39

Beginning to walk in righteousness isn't going to make you a lot of friends. Today, rather than having oral traditions, such as the teaching of Noah, we have the written word of God, that we know as the Holy Bible. The world, that is deceived by Satan, who above all else, would have man not become at one with Yehovah and His Son, disdains the only source of truth that they have. That is the same Bible that lights the path to the feet of the would be righteous.

0:17:26

How does the path out of darkness come, and who decides who, and when? Well, we are actually told that in John 6; John 6, verses 44 and 45, Christ Himself saying:

The Image of Christ
Part 7
By Boyd Yahn

⁴⁴No one can come to Me unless the Father who sent Me draws him; and I will raise him up at the last day. ⁴⁵It is written in the prophets, 'And they shall all be taught by (the) God (our Father).' Therefore, everyone who has heard and learned from the Father comes to Me.

0:18:15

So, anyone that is called at this time, has heard and learned from the Father. That's the process, He begins to work with our mind; God is very capable of putting thoughts in our mind, and then we are led to the scriptures, the source of truth, the only one that we have, while we were walking in complete darkness.

0:18:49

The process begins with Yehovah, and He alone determines the time and the who. Yet, if someone happens to say, God has shown them something, it is often met with fervent resistance, and in cases open ridicule.

0:19:12

Yet, passages like Matthew 11:27; Matthew 11:27 plainly speak of this very thing. Let's read that, Matthew 11:27.

²⁷All things have been delivered to Me by My Father, and no one knows the Son except the Father.

So, in a world of darkness, there is no way that one can recognize the true Christ, unless the Father shows that to them. It is revealed knowledge given by the Father, to the ekklesia.

Nor (going on) does anyone know the Father except the Son,...

0:20:08

So, the Father reveals the Son, and the Son reveals the Father. To whom? The ekklesia. And it is the Son who determines who is going to have the Father revealed to them, and who is not going to have the Father revealed to them. Stuff is indeed revealed to us, either by Christ or by the Father, who happens to also be not only Christ's Father, He's the Father of the ekklesia.

0:20:54

We pray that speaking be inspired, and yet if that prayer is answered in some way, and it differs from this or that church booklet, that's a very bad thing. What then of this process begun by the Father and continues on by His Son? When we don't know east from west spiritually, or north from south, how do we begin to move from complete darkness, to complete light?

The Image of Christ

Part 7

By Boyd Yahn

0:21:34

To go from rebelling against God, and not understanding Him, to being at one with Him, how does that actually work? You know, if the example of Satan himself, as being perfect, he knew the way to live, he was given that, and by extension, it is highly likely that the rest of the angels also were given the way to live, and then chose to rebel against it. But in man's case, it's different; we didn't have a clue, or at least I didn't, perhaps many of you did, had no idea of how to live.

0:22:21

So, we had to come to an understanding of the truth, which the angelic realm very likely knew; we didn't even have that, we had to start from scratch from being in darkness, and it is the Father who is the revealer of that truth.

0:22:42

Back in the day, pre-flood, they didn't have a Bible to open from what I can see. They had oral tradition, they had various preachers of righteousness, the truth was available, but not nearly as widely available as it is to us today. If we will simply go and take a look.

0:23:03

So, how does this process actually go on? How does it work, where we start out not knowing page four from page twenty-two? Where do we begin? Well, we are actually given a roadmap for that in Isaiah 28, verses 9 – 13. Where it says:

⁹"Whom will he (God) teach knowledge?"

0:23:34

If we didn't know, we had to start someplace.

And whom will he make to understand the message? Those just weaned from milk? Those just drawn from the breasts? ¹⁰For precept must be upon precept, precept upon precept, line upon line, line upon line, here a little, there a little."

0:24:05

When we were called, the first thing, that many that I've talked to over the years, come to understand the very beginning out of darkness, was there is a Sabbath day, and God wants us to keep it. And then, maybe we learned, well, there's some high Sabbaths that Christ also kept. Maybe we should learn about those too.

0:24:34

Well, how come there's no piggies in the pot luck? Well, turns out, we're supposed to keep the laws of clean and unclean meats as well. So, our journey from darkness to light doesn't start out with knowing everything right away, we start out small. And the Bible teaches us specific things in various places, and it needs to be looked at in terms

The Image of Christ

Part 7

By Boyd Yahn

of a whole, a complete understanding. It was like when Mark Mickelson began to look at the word, Yehovah, after years in the faith.

0:25:22

I thought, well, wait a minute, when I look at all seven thousand references, it paints a picture that we can see. It forms a foundation by looking at every conceivable scripture you can, and not just taking one out of context someplace, but looking at the continuous record of scripture, which he has stated, and come to a conclusion. And you know what, somebody else might do exactly the same thing, and come to a different conclusion than that, and we have to respect that and be okay with that, even though we don't believe it.

0:26:13

If somebody has taken the time to look up every conceivable scripture on a particular topic in the Bible, and has formed an opinion based upon what the Father and Christ might be revealing to them and it is different from our concept, we better stay out of the way. Just better.

0:26:38

In my own situation I had been in the faith for thirty some years, and when I read Romans 8, and all the references to the word spirit in there, I realized I didn't know anything. So that began a year and a half long study of going through the concordance and reading every single possible scripture that referenced spirit, or spirits, plural, to see how they were used, and there are thousands of them, but after you get them done, a picture becomes quite clear.

0:27:16

So, you've used the fact of all those references, and hundreds or thousands, be the case may be, to come to a conclusion. Then the understanding of spirit in my case, from based on my own study became rather predictable and certainly understandable. And it was the very anthesis of here a little, there a little, where you would look at four scriptures on spirit, instead of four-hundred or four thousand, and come to a conclusion.

0:27:57

There's a difference to those who have done that. A good friend of mine in Australia currently is walking through every single reference to spirit and Holy Spirit in the entire bible; it's taken him a year and a half. He has different conclusions than I have; I need to respect that, because for him it is not here a little, there a little. He's got his nose in the Book and he is looking really hard.

0:28:27

And that's what we have to do, and my guess is that by the time he has completed his study on spirit and Holy Spirit, that he will have a much better understanding built on the entire record of scripture and not on one verse or the other. So, there is a difference,

The Image of Christ

Part 7

By Boyd Yahn

most of the world does do here a little, there a little. They read a scripture that they like, they pull that into place, they read a scripture they don't like, they reject it.

0:29:05

And the outcome of that is given to us a little bit further along the road here in Isaiah 28. (Verse 11)

¹¹For with stammering lips and another tongue He will speak to this people, ¹²to whom He said, "This is the rest with which you may cause the weary to rest," and, "This is the refreshing"; yet they would not hear.

0:29:26

So, there's people who read the word of God, and they simply will not hear it. Oh, I like this one, no, I don't like that one. And if we are in a situation where we like this, and we don't like that, that's a problem.

¹³But the word of Yehovah was to them, "Precept upon precept, precept upon precept, line upon line, line upon line, here a little, there a little," that they might go and fall backward, and be broken and snared and caught.

0:30:05

So, without looking at the continuity of the entire record of scripture, everything that might point to a particular topic you're looking at, you're only going to pick and choose the ones you like, and the ones you don't, that's going to lead to a very bad place.

0:30:25

Well, is there some place that would warn us of that, and to not do that? Well, it turns out it certainly is given to us if we look into II Timothy; II Timothy 3:16 is pretty clear on that. It says that:

¹⁶All Scripture

0:30:52

It doesn't matter where it is, or who said it.

is given by inspiration of God,

It's truth revealed from the Father to the ekklesia, to those people who wish to become at one with Him and Jesus Christ. The scripture is given by the inspiration of God for what purpose?

and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness,

The Image of Christ

Part 7

By Boyd Yahn

0:31:25

Why? So that we might become one with God the Father and His Son Jesus Christ. It's not to say that scriptures haven't been messed with in places, they have. And that's why it's so important to look at the whole enchilada, so you can see where you are at. Going on, verse 17.

¹⁷that the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work.

0:31:55

So, when we read things, do we believe it, or do we not believe it? Because the Bible, which claims to be truth, is all we have, and to reject it would take us to a very bad place. And nobody can tell anyone what they will, or they will not believe. It just can't happen.

0:32:31

If we look, you know, for a restatement of the will of our Father, and it goes right to the one with Him and Jesus Christ theme that is just everywhere John 12, let's read that. Christ came and He passed on the message from the Father, and Christ said: (Verse 49)

⁴⁹For I have not spoken on My own authority;

He's God's Son, and Yehovah is God's Son's God, and He spoke what His Father told Him to do.

⁴⁹For I have not spoken on My own authority; but the Father who sent Me gave Me a command, what I should say and what I should speak. ⁵⁰And I know that His command is (What?) everlasting life. Therefore, whatever I speak, just as the Father has told Me, so I speak."

0:33:34

So, there you have it. Christ came to teach, as a Son of God, what the future Sons of God need to know to become at one with God the Father, and with His firstborn Son. It is the Father's will that this be so. It's the desk of the universe, where the buck stops.

0:34:06

With this as a background to see where Christ was going with His revelation, let's return to Matthew 6:30; Matthew 6:30. And we finished off the last message, I think it was verse 29 of Matthew 6. So, let's just pick it up here, and with some of this background intention in mind about what is actually going on, and what the ekklesia are part of, I think it becomes quite instructional.

0:34:43

Verse 30:

The Image of Christ
Part 7
By Boyd Yahn

³⁰Now if God so clothes the grass of the field, which today is, and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will He not much more clothe you, O you of little faith?

God knows what He wants to have happen with us. Can He orchestrate things to move us along in that direction?

³¹“Therefore, do not worry, saying, ‘What shall we eat?’ or ‘What shall we drink?’ or ‘What shall we wear?’

0:35:19

Yes, those things have to be looked after.

³²For after all these things the Gentiles seek.

Those who do not know the word of God; do not want to be at one with Him. Those are different focuses.

For your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things.

He knows what we need as physical beings to live our lives.

³³But seek first the kingdom of (the) God

0:35:59

Well, what is God's kingdom? Well, it's everything.

and (seek) His righteousness,

To be at one with Him to fulfill your destiny as a human being. Do that first!

and all these things shall be added to you. ³⁴Therefore do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about its own things. Sufficient for the day is its own trouble.

0:36:31

Yes, there are going to be issues, that's just how it works. But the background thought of how can I become more at one with my Father and Jesus Christ should pervade our thinking at all times. Going on is some of the instructions in that direction. (Matthew 7:1)

¹ “Judge not, that you be not judged. ²For with what judgment you judge, you will be judged; and with the measure you use, it will be measured back to you.

0:37:06

When we understand that this is a race, and some people don't even know that there is a race, we might be less quick to speak up.

The Image of Christ
Part 7
By Boyd Yahn

³And why do you look at the speck in your brother's eye, but do not consider the plank in your own eye?

Oh, it's all too easy to see the faults in others, but sometimes it's pretty hard to see the ones in ourselves.

0:37:33

⁴Or how can you say to your brother, 'Let me remove the speck from your eye'; and look, a plank is in your own eye? ⁵Hypocrite!

And we looked at that. You know, if you need a refresher, or any of us need a refresher of what a hypocrite actually is, go to Thesaurus.com and read about it. You might be surprised.

First remove the plank from your own eye, and then you will see clearly to remove the speck from your brother's eye. ⁶"Do not give what is holy to the dogs; nor cast your pearls before swine, lest they trample them under their feet, and turn and tear you in pieces.

0:38:18

Would you get up in front of a convention full of drunks and start talking about the things of God?

⁷"Ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you. ⁸For everyone who asks receives, and he who seeks finds, and to him who knocks it will be opened.

So, if we ask our heavenly Father, or we ask our brother for something, and it will be given to us, it will be revealed to us; it says so. Do we actually believe that, or would we dare to even do that?

0:39:18

If Christ is our head, why wouldn't we do that?

⁹Or what man is there among you who, if his son asks for bread, will give him a stone? ¹⁰Or if he asks for a fish, will he give him a serpent? ¹¹If you then, being evil,

You know, we all started out in the wrong place.

know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father who is in heaven give good things to those who ask Him!

The Image of Christ
Part 7
By Boyd Yahn

0:39:52

Are we constantly asking God to provide us with additional revelation so that we might understand further and fulfill the purpose of being at one with Him? Do we do that? Do we think that Christ actually meant this? What do we do with that? And if somebody did get an answer and it changed his life in such a way, and dared to say that God revealed something to them, how would we handle that?

0:40:31

¹²*Therefore,*

Going on, verse 12.

whatever you want men to do to you, do also to them, for this is the Law and the Prophets.

Again, instructing. You know, would I like somebody to do to me what I just did to somebody else? It's showing the way of loving your neighbor, and it's part of the path of becoming at one with God. Because there are two great commandments.

0:41:03

¹³*“Enter by the narrow gate; for wide is the gate and broad is the way that leads to destruction, and there are many who go in by it. ¹⁴Because narrow is the gate and difficult is the way which leads to life, and there are few who find it.*

How many actually seek the righteousness of God? How many would even know what the righteousness of God is, and where would we go to find out what the righteousness of God actually is according to God, and not according to ourselves? Where would we go, when if we found it in the scriptures, would we believe it?

0:41:49

Now He gets into the warning.

¹⁵*“Beware of false prophets, who come to you in sheep’s clothing, but inwardly they are ravenous wolves.*

So, He's warning the ekklesia that there will, in fact, be false prophets and we went through that in a series, and they are not going to be what you think they are. And He's giving information here because, you've got to remember, this is Satan's world and those who live in it, live in darkness and he does have his own representatives and their specific purpose is to drive you and I, or anybody who seeks to be a Son of God, into rebellion against God in some way, whether they understand it or they don't. We really have to pick up our game.

0:42:53

¹⁶*You will know them*

The Image of Christ
Part 7
By Boyd Yahn

So, it's a warning from Christ to anyone who would listen

¹⁶You will know them by their fruits.

Well, that means you actually have to think, and analyze.

Do men gather grapes from thorn bushes or figs from thistles?

0:43:18

Wake up and pay attention; look at the source, look at this stuff, turn your brains on, start to think.

¹⁷Even so, every good tree bears good fruit, but a bad tree bears bad fruit.

0:43:39

So, He's giving us the tools to begin to analyze where stuff comes from.

¹⁸A good tree cannot bear bad fruit, nor can a bad tree bear good fruit. ¹⁹Every tree that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.

So, there's a commission there from Christ, to the ekklesia, to bear good fruit, because if we don't and we end up bearing bad fruit, we will be thrown into the fire.

²⁰Therefore by their fruits you will know them.

0:44:12

But I don't want to look for fruits. Really?

²¹"Not everyone who says to Me, 'Lord, Lord' shall enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of My Father in heaven.

Again, entirely consistent with being at one with Christ and the Father. And it's a warning here to the ekklesia, there's going to be lots of imposters out there, and better stay awake, turn your brain on and start to think.

0:44:55

God allows such a situation and such a condition so that His ekklesia might exercise discernment in what is going on. And the more one can become at one with the Father and Christ, the more the false will appear.

²²Many will say to Me in that day, 'Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in Your name, cast out demons in Your name, and done many wonders in Your name?'

The Image of Christ
Part 7
By Boyd Yahn

0:45:30

So, He's then giving a list of things that the false ones can and will do, specifically to deceive the ekklesia.

²³And then I will declare to them,

So, He's talking about what will actually happen to them.

'I never knew you; depart from Me, you who practice lawlessness!'

0:45:52

So, we are being shown by Christ that lawlessness is a key identifier of the false ones; the ones who will not submit to the will of God.

²⁴"Therefore, whoever hears these sayings of Mine, and does them, I will liken him to a wise man who built his house on the rock: ²⁵and the rain descended, the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house; and it did not fall, for it was founded on the rock. ²⁶"But everyone who hears these sayings of Mine, and does not do them,

0:46:36

And again, how many times do we read these teachings of Christ and do we not do them, or do we not believe them, or do we explain them away, how often does that actually happen?

²⁶"But everyone who hears these sayings of Mine, and does not do them, will be like a foolish man who built his house on the sand: ²⁷and the rain descended, the floods came,

The tests and the trials will come.

and the winds blew and beat on that house; and it fell. And great was its fall."

0:47:14

Christ is telling us here our foundation must be anchored in the word of God, or when the turbulence come from team dark, we will fall, we will fail.

²⁸And so it was, when Jesus had ended these sayings, that the people were astonished at His teaching,

0:47:42

Christ was laying down for them the path and the principles of becoming one with Him and the Father, so that they may fulfill their destiny as Spirit born Sons of God. Going on:

The Image of Christ

Part 7

By Boyd Yahn

²⁹for He taught them as one having authority,

The Son of God had been the Son of God for a very long time and He knew exactly what He was talking about, and if that wasn't enough, He said, "My Father told me what to say."

0:48:22

So, there is a chain of integrity and a chain of command that flows from Yehovah, through and to His Son to the ekklesia, all with the purpose of making them at one.

²⁹for He taught them as one having authority, and not as the scribes.

So, we really do need to get into the Book and take the time, if it's important to you and I, to look stuff up. As an example, some time ago I wondered what's the difference between heart and spirit, or are they the same thing? I wanted to know. And you can open up the concordance and there are pages, pages of where the term heart is used.

0:49:27

Look up every single one, and me, naturally being a bit slow, after the first 600 or so it started to become quite predictable and quite consistent, and although the references were here a little, and there a little, because it doesn't talk about heart everywhere and every place. All of a sudden, a picture emerges, and that level of understanding, that I didn't have, even after forty years in the faith, suddenly became quite clear.

0:50:08

And another piece of the puzzle was put into place. Here a little, there a little. You can come to understand heart, you can come to understand Yehovah, you can come to understand Christ, but it takes a look at the entire section or selections of scripture that deal with a particular topic. So, it is a rather fascinating study when we begin to see what is involved in being made over in the image of Christ. Bye for now.