

Living In This Present Age

We are at a certain stage of redemption in God's overall plan of salvation. We don't have the same kind of bodies that Adam and Eve had. We are not living in a perfect, uncorrupted world like they lived in. We can look to the future and know one day we will have glorified bodies and will be living in a new earth that is not corrupted by sin, sickness, poverty, or death. But right now we are living in the middle portion of God's overall redemption plan. John told us that now we are the sons of God and it does not yet appear what we shall be.

1Jn 3:2 Beloved, now are we the sons of God, and it doth not yet appear what we shall be: but we know that, when he shall appear, we shall be like him; for we shall see him as he is.

We have been reborn in our spirits but we are still wearing corrupted flesh and blood bodies. Flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God.

1Co 15:50-55 Now this I say, brethren, that flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God; neither doth corruption inherit incorruption. 51 Behold, I shew you a mystery; We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed, 52 In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trump: for the trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed. 53 For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal must put on immortality. 54 So when this corruptible shall have put on incorruption, and this mortal shall have put on immortality, then shall be brought to pass the saying that is written, Death is swallowed up in victory. 55 O death, where is thy sting? O grave, where is thy victory?

That's why Jesus had to go all the way through the glorification process. He has already received His glorified body and is able to live in the presence of God the Father. At this stage of redemption the only man who has total immortality.

1Ti 6:16 Who only hath immortality, dwelling in the light which no man can approach unto; whom no man hath seen, nor can see: to whom be honour and power everlasting. Amen.

He is the forerunner of the species of man. He has a glorified body in heaven. As a glorified man he has all authority in heaven. But to have authority on earth you have to have a body from the earth. A real flesh and blood body. Jesus has such a body through the church. The book of Ephesians tells us we are bone of His bone and flesh of His flesh.

Eph 5:30 For we are members of his body, of his flesh, and of his bones.

We are the body of Christ on earth and he has authority here because he has a flesh and blood body on earth. He is the head of the body. It is Him exercising His authority through His body. That's why we must yield to the mind of Christ completely.

Joh 15:7 If ye abide in me, and my words abide in you, ye shall ask what ye will, and it shall be done unto you.

So what does our Father expect of us as His children during this stage of redemption? He has given us the very nature of Christ. Through that nature he has written His law in our minds and our hearts. He expects us to walk free from sin because the new nature, the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus, has made us free from the law of sin and death.

Rom 8:2 For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus hath made me free from the law of sin and death.

Rom 6:18-23 Being then made free from sin, ye became the servants of righteousness. 19 I speak after the manner of men because of the infirmity of your flesh: for as ye have yielded your members servants to uncleanness and to iniquity unto iniquity; even so now yield your members servants to righteousness unto holiness. 20 For when ye were the servants of sin, ye were free from righteousness. 21 What fruit had ye then in those things whereof ye are now ashamed? for the end of those things is death. 22 But now being made free from sin, and become servants to God, ye have your fruit unto holiness, and the end everlasting life. 23 For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.

He expects us to walk free from sin. Our Lord walked in the same sinful flesh we are walking in now. He knows what it feels like to be tempted in all points that we are. He also knows that all of us are in various stages of renewing our mind. That's why we have free access to the throne of grace to find mercy and grace to help in our time of need.

Heb 4:14-16 Seeing then that we have a great high priest, that is passed into the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold fast our profession. 15 For we have not an high priest which cannot be touched with the feeling of our infirmities; but was in all points tempted like as we are, yet without sin. 16 Let us therefore come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need.

In other words he knows that we are still wearing fallen flesh and that our souls are in the renewal process. He gave us the Holy Spirit to also help us regarding our infirmities.

Rom 8:26-27 Likewise the Spirit also helpeth our infirmities: for we know not what we should pray for as we ought: but the Spirit itself maketh intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered. 27 And he that searcheth the hearts knoweth what is the mind of the Spirit, because he maketh intercession for the saints according to the will of God.

If we have strongholds in the soul that we can't seem to overcome then the Holy Spirit makes intercession for us in a God inspired language that perfectly describes the stronghold so we can see it and overcome it by the power of His spirit.

The Holy Spirit has also been sent to be our teacher, to guide us into all truth. He gave each of us the ability to pray in an unknown tongue so that the mysteries of the kingdom could be made understandable to us in such a way that we can function as His sons on planet earth.

Joh 16:12-15 I have yet many things to say unto you, but ye cannot bear them now. 13 Howbeit when he, the Spirit of truth, is come, he will guide you into all truth: for he shall not speak of himself; but whatsoever he shall hear, that shall he speak: and he will shew you things to come. 14 He shall glorify me: for he shall receive of mine, and shall shew it unto you. 15 All things that the Father hath are mine: therefore said I, that he shall take of mine, and shall shew it unto you.

The Holy Spirit has also been sent as our guide, to bring us the very mind of Christ. By this method we can receive instruction and direction from the head of the church much like the disciples received their direction from Him while he was on earth. He did not leave us as orphans with no help from our parent.

Joh 14:18 I will not leave you comfortless [Greek: orphanos]: I will come to you.