

Dear Friend,

**Luke 18:27 KJV And he said, The things which are impossible with men are possible with God.**

I remember the first time I read the Sermon On The Mount (Matthew 5:1-7:29). In that passage Jesus sets a standard that is much higher than that which was set in the law given from God by Moses. For example, under the law you were only guilty of murder if you actually took somebody's life unlawfully. But in the Sermon On The Mount, you are guilty if you simply hate the person enough to want to kill them.

Another example is that under the law, you were only guilty of adultery if physically committed the sexual act, but in the Sermon On The Mount you are guilty if you simply look on a woman to lust after her.

I remember thinking at the time, "This is impossible. Nobody can live like this. If this is the standard of holiness God requires for salvation, there is no hope because none of us can live like this." And that was the point God was making. The Bible teaches that nobody could even keep the law of Moses, much less the even higher standard of the Sermon On The Mount.

The lesson God was sending to man was this: Man is fallen and cannot live holy in his own strength. Therefore ... **MAN CANNOT SAVE HIMSELF. MAN MUST HAVE A SAVIOR!** We thank the Father for His great love for fallen man, because He sent His own Son as our SAVIOR!

**John 3:16 KJV For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.**

Jesus did live His life in perfect holiness, not only fulfilling the law of Moses, but also fulfilling the requirements of the Sermon On The Mount. And the wonder of the gospel is this ... if we believe on Him who bore our sins in His own body ... we receive His righteousness as though we perfectly kept the law and the Sermon On The Mount ... ourselves.

It is the great exchange. God did for us what we could not do ourselves. God made a way for our guilt to be punished in Christ, and at the same time He provided a way for us to be accounted righteous with the perfect obedience of Christ. What was impossible for man, was possible with God! Hallelujah!

**2 Corinthians 5:21 KJV For he hath made him to be sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him.**

Thank God for His everlasting mercy and grace toward fallen mankind. What love. No wonder the apostle John said, "God is love." Pastor Dave Roberson would often say, "It isn't that God simply has love. HE IS LOVE!"

**Romans 5:8 KJV But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.**

If you have never received Jesus as your Lord and Savior, please do so today. It is not too late. You have not sinned too much. Repent and ask for His forgiveness through Jesus Christ. Call on the Name of the Lord and you will be saved.

**Romans 10:13 KJV For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved.**

But God did not want to simply forgive man and leave him the same fallen sinner that He was before He believed in Christ. God wanted man back the way He originally made him. He originally made man IN THE IMAGE OF GOD!

**Genesis 1:27 KJV So God created man in his own image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them.**

God did not originally create man with a sin nature. He originally created man in His own image, having the nature of God which is righteousness and true holiness. In your spirit, that recreation occurred instantly the moment you were born again. Your reborn human spirit was created instantly ... in righteousness and true holiness.

**Ephesians 4:24 KJV And that ye put on the new man, which after God is created in righteousness and true holiness.**

The real you, the part of you that was born again the instant you received Christ, is already created in righteousness and true holiness. Said a different way, your reborn human spirit is made in the image of Jesus Christ, God's own son. This was God's plan of restoration for man all along, that those who are born again will be changed into the very image of Christ ... the very SAME IMAGE ... not something diminished.

**2 Corinthians 3:18 KJV But we all, with open face beholding as in a glass the glory of the Lord, are changed into the same image from glory to glory, even as by the Spirit of the Lord.**

We are exhorted repeatedly in the New Testament to walk after the spirit and not after the flesh.

**Galatians 5:24-25 KJV And they that are Christ's have crucified the flesh with the affections and lusts. [25] If we live in the Spirit, let us also walk in the Spirit.**

Jesus always walked according to His righteous and holy spirit. That is how He fulfilled the law and the Sermon On The Mount. Jesus walked according to the spirit and our reborn human spirit has been created in that same righteousness and holiness. That leads us to an astounding conclusion: IF WE TRULY WALKED ACCORDING TO OUR REBORN HUMAN SPIRIT, WE COULD ALSO FULFILL THE LAW AND THE SERMON ON TH E MOUNT.

IMPOSSIBLE man says. And in our own human strength, it absolutely is impossible. But we have a supernatural spirit within us that is already made in the image of Christ. Paul exhorted us to walk according to that spirit instead of according to the desires of the flesh. God has made this possible, or else the apostle John is a liar when he wrote:

**1 John 2:6 KJV He that saith he abideth in him ought himself also so to walk, even as he walked.**

This short letter is only an introduction to the things that are possible as we progressively walk more and more as HE walked ... walking in the spirit and not after the flesh. The process is accomplished by the renewing of the mind:

**Romans 12:2 KJV And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God.**

This is why it is so essential that we spend much time in the Word of God, in worship, and in prayer and fasting. Here is a short tongues and interpretation that came recently.

*If you could see the things I see ahead, says the Lord, you would run to the prayer closet. You would run to be in My Presence. You would run to spend more time in My Word and in fellowship with Me by worship. If you could see what I can already see that is ahead, the victories, the healings, the little children receiving everything that the enemy tried to steal, if you could see what I already see, you would run to spend more time with Me, says the Lord.*

All I can say is ... AMEN!

Your fellow servant for Christ,

GARY