

Devoted to Jesus Christ

Erkki Kuisma

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I strive to agree with Jesus Christ in all things, because He loved me and suffered the punishment of my sins. It is possible that I have been mistaken in some matters. However I trust that He will correct me, if I have misunderstood something. I love His reprimand and His comfort because without them I cannot remain in truth. Thus, if there is something wrong in these writings it is the fault of Erkki Kuisma. Jesus deserves the credit for everything that is right.

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Only Jesus Christ is the Teacher of believers

There is only one Teacher in the Church of God, Jesus Christ. However the position of a servant exists which is for the apostolic teaching ordered by Jesus.

One is your Teacher

"But you, do not be called 'Rabbi'; for One is your Teacher, the Christ, and you are all brethren." Mt 23:8 There is only one Teacher in the Church of God, Jesus Christ. However a teacher position exists that is a spiritual position of the servant. *"And He Himself gave... some pastors and teachers."* Eph.4:11 So there are teachers who are not Teachers. At some moment the Spirit of God anoints a believer for this task of a servant.

This position defined by Jesus is not according to man. There is a teacher who is not allowed to be called himself a teacher. In this way Jesus states that nobody is allowed to teach in the Church of God by his own authority. Nobody should exalt himself above other believers and demand subjection to himself and his teachings. Jesus expresses this by saying "you are all brothers". He who serves as a teacher is only one of the brothers. He who teaches in the Spirit of God serves brotherly and doesn't demand that others honor him as the teacher who must be obeyed.

So Jesus reserves all rights of His teachings. Nobody has a permission to declare His teachings as his own and to take His place as the Teacher. A teaching brother should remind other believers of things which Jesus has commanded us to obey.

The aim of teaching

In Matthew 28:19-20 Jesus gives the apostles three tasks:

1. "Make me disciples."
2. "Baptize them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit."
3. "Teach them to observe all things that I have commanded you."

On the day of Pentecost they put into practice these tasks. Peter preached the gospel of the crucified and risen Jesus. With the sermon of this word he made 3000 disciples for Jesus. They also

baptized these who had *"received his word."* Act.2:41 They also taught the baptized ones, because about them are said that they *"continued steadfastly in the apostles' doctrine."* Act.2:42

So we understand that teaching in the church of God aims at that those who came to faith would "observe all things that Jesus has commanded". The goal of the teaching of Jesus is to transform us into His likeness. So that we could change we must see all teachings fulfilled in Him. If we experience that a teaching is in Him and from Him, we also receive strength to live according to it. If we believe the same biblical truth because a "great" Christian teacher has said so, we don't receive power to live according to it.

Paul separated his own teaching from the teaching of Jesus. *"To the rest I, not the Lord, say..."* 1Co.7:12 *"Now concerning virgins: I have no commandment from the Lord; yet I give judgment as one whom the Lord in His mercy has made trustworthy."* 1Co.7:25 We should not mix up the judgments of the trustworthy believers with the commandments of Jesus. We should give others our own practical exercises how to follow Jesus only as our own opinions.

Words and deeds of a teacher

A teaching brother, who is offended by a commandment of Jesus, can therefore start to interpret it according to his own mind. In this way he stumbled on the stone of stumbling and will be broken.

"My brethren, let not many of you become teachers, knowing that we shall receive a stricter judgment. For we all stumble in many things." Jas.3:1-2 He means by stumbling that a believer lives against the commandments of Jesus. Therefore he stresses the importance of the daily life of a teacher. *"Who is wise and understanding among you? Let him show by good conduct that his works are done in the meekness of wisdom."* Jas.3:13

If someone teaches children of God "to observe all things that Jesus have commanded", he himself also must put them into practice. If he doesn't live according to his teachings, his preaching may become bitter and quarrelsome boasting. *"But if you have bitter envy and self-seeking in your hearts, do not boast and lie against the truth."* Jas.3:14

The teaching of this kind of a person has the legalist spirit, because he has an unclean conscience that comes from his life he has not lived according to the teachings of Jesus. Unfortunately many of them while seeking release have turned towards a wrong direction. Instead of looking Jesus and receiving power to live according to His teachings, they have interpreted His commandments to set themselves and others free from obeying them.

No one of the believers live perfectly according to the teachings of Jesus. However those who love their Redeemer try to live by pleasing Him. If a teaching brother lose his love to God, he doesn't want any more to live according to the teachings of Jesus. Then he first becomes an austere preacher of doctrines and after it a genial man of grace who have a mercy on evilness. He says that he changed from a legalist to a merciful one.

A twister of the teachings of Jesus is in danger to commit blasphemy against the Holy Spirit. In the past the Pharisees and scribes committed blasphemy against the Holy Spirit when they made God's law, given through Moses, no effect through their traditions. They arranged Jesus to be crucified because He revealed their deception. Nowadays many crucify Jesus again by twisting His teachings so that they would not need to obey His commandments.

How it is taught

Spiritual teaching doesn't mean only delivering knowledge. At Corinth there were believers who had started to teach in the congregation on their earthly wisdom. Obviously they were wise and well educated men. Paul says to them: *"Let no one deceive himself. If anyone among you seems to be wise in his age, let him become a fool that he may become wise. For the wisdom of this world is foolishness with God."* 1Co.3:18 When teaching the commandments of Jesus it is not allowed to use human wisdom. It is so sad how much in Christianity there is used the foolishness of human wisdom!

Paul explains his capability to teach God's children in the third chapter of the second Corinthians. He compares his task with writing a letter. The hearts of listeners are as a paper and the Holy Spirit is as ink and the word of Jesus is a pen. He compares this

event to the event when God wrote the commandments on the tablets of stone.

How did this ability work in his thoughts? *"Not that we are sufficient of ourselves to think of anything as being from ourselves, but our sufficiency is from God, who also made us sufficient as ministers of the new covenant, not of the letter but of the Spirit."*

2Co.3:5-6 He looked at the glory of Jesus in his spirit and received words from the Holy Spirit for his teaching. God's glory changed him and his deeds and was powerful to do the same in the listener whose heart was open for the Holy Spirit.

It was not a matter of wise words but of heart changing words.

"For this reason I have sent Timothy to you, who is my beloved and faithful son in the Lord, who will remind you of my WAYS in Christ, as I TEACH everywhere in every church." 1Co.4:17 Paul behaved in his daily life like Jesus. In this way God's power occurred in him and not only in teaching words. *"The kingdom of God is not in word but in power."* 1Co.4:20

Those who deny the power of godliness want to change the content of the teachings of Jesus. They nullify the commandments of Jesus by their interpretations of the Bible so that they could live according to their own mind. To learn these interpretations they study theology for many years in a university. Instead Jesus writes His teachings into the heart of His disciples in the school of the Holy Spirit.

Many who confess Christian faith have abandoned the commandments of Jesus and refused to receive the apostolic teaching. Only those who have been saved by grace of God can receive the commandments of Jesus. Others are not able to receive them.

What is taught?

So does a list of the commandments exist that Jesus has given those who belong to Him? Yes! They can be read in the Bible and received from the Holy Spirit. *"This is His COMMANDMENT: that we should believe on the name of His Son Jesus Christ and love one another, as He gave us commandment."* 1 Jo.3:23 He gave us only one commandment that includes many commandments. *"For you know*

what COMMANDMENTS we gave you through the Lord Jesus." ¹

Th.4:2

In His Sermon on the Mount Jesus gave His apostles the teaching to which He refers in His Great Commission: "Teach them to observe all things that I have commanded you." From the letters of the apostles we can pick the same teachings that can be read in the Sermon on the Mount.

Paul is speaking about fulfilling the law of Christ. *"Bear one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ."* ¹ Ga.6:2 *"To those who are without law, (I became) as without law, (though I am) not being without law toward God, but under law toward Christ..."*

¹Co.9:21 So a believer is not without the law of God, though he is not under the law. The grace of the gospel doesn't set us under the law but it sets the law inside us.

When the Holy Spirit goes into the heart of a believer He takes the law with Him to there. Therefore in the heart of a believer there is already all the knowledge of what Jesus has commanded. John refers to that: *"But the anointing which you have received from Him abides in you, and you do not need that anyone teach you; but as the same anointing teaches you concerning all things, and is true, and is not a lie, and just as it has taught you, you will abide in Him."* ¹ Jo.2:27

Thus also listeners must have the anointing and not only a teacher. John gave us a good point concerning this. *"We are of God. He who knows God hears us; he who is not of God does not hear us."* ¹ Jo.4:6 Disobedience to the apostolic teaching proves that the heart of a listener is astray and without the anointing of Christ.

What then is the meaning of teaching if the believers without it know what Jesus expects from them? This word fits to this: *"The spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak."* ¹ Mt.26:41 The Holy Spirit speaks to the spirit of man but a teacher speaks the same in human terms. *"I speak in human terms because of the weakness of your flesh."* ¹ Ro.6:19 Jesus wants to write His teachings on the tablet of our heart with His Spirit who already is ready in our heart. The Holy Spirit speaks to our spirit words of Jesus. When the same message

comes to us also through man, it makes a stronger imprint in the tablet of our heart.

The place of the revelation of the commandment

Paul reveals us the place where God writes His commandments on the tablet of our heart. *"But we all, with unveiled face, beholding as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from glory to glory, just as by the Spirit of the Lord."*

2Co.3:18 Seeing the glory of Jesus changes us to His likeness. The glory of His face is the perfect law into which we should look. *"But he who looks into the perfect law of liberty and continues in it, and is not a forgetful hearer but a doer of the work, this one will be blessed in what he does."* Jas.1:25

The teachings of Jesus don't become clear to us only from the suffering face of the Savior on Golgotha but from His face of the Winner on the throne. I pray to God that He would enlighten the eyes of your understanding to see Jesus as exalted *"far above all principality and power and might and dominion, and every name that is named."* Eph.1:21

If God's love in His sacrifice has overcome you, you have received grace to live according to the commandments of Jesus. Everyone who remains in the faith of the gospel will be overcome by the love of God. It is fruit of your salvation when you live according to the commandments of Jesus. Let God gather a great harvest from you!

The Bible version used in references is NKJV

Form of doctrine

Doctrines are not cause but effect. In which spirit you live that's doctrines you carry out. Every doctrine has originated from some spirit. The form of a doctrine is the mark that a spirit left on it.

Adopting a doctrine

Many Christians claim their doctrines are based only on the Bible. However they disagree on many things. This proves that these people live in a different spirit - at least partly. In actual fact nobody's doctrine is based only on the Bible but also on the influence of spirits. Only those, who live in the same Spirit as the writers of the Bible, are able to understand its message correctly.

Everyone reads the Bible in that spirit where he lives and therefore understands it according to his own range of thoughts. Those who live in a same spirit can receive a same doctrine. The battle of spirits appears from different kinds of doctrines. Those who read the Bible in the spirit of the world, also teach doctrines that are full of the spirit of this world.

Our mind can change, which means changing of our attitudes and thoughts. A change of mind causes us to live in a different spirit. This means that we can receive a different kind of doctrine and teaching than before the change. Jesus didn't preach as follows: "Read the Bible and believe in it." Instead He said: *"The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand. Repent, and believe in the gospel."* Mr.1:15

"To repent" means to change your mind or to think in a new way or to replace your bad thoughts with good ones. We cannot believe the gospel of God if our thoughts are full of lies. The Spirit of God rebukes us for our untruthful thoughts and encourages us to think truthfully in everything. The Spirit of truth gives us repentance and causes us to believe in the gospel.

Also the gospel is a doctrine or a teaching that can be heard and believed in different ways. No everyone, who is speaking about Jesus of the Bible, has the same teaching of the gospel, although

they read the same Bible. If we have covered our evilness with lies even from ourselves, we cannot properly hear the gospel about the Son of God who died for us.

Our evilness causes us to hear the gospel wrongly. Therefore only one who repents can hear it rightly. The Spirit of God is everywhere in the world proving their evilness to all people. The one, who accepts His testimony, receives the change of mind and regrets one's evilness.

Many think like this: "Although I sometimes do wrong, basically I am good. Although God has sometimes done to me also good things, basically he is the cause of all bad in the world, because he has created it." While on the contrary the one, who has repented, thinks like this: "Although I sometimes do right, the motives of my deeds are wrong. Although the deeds of God sometimes seem to be wrong, always His motive is love to us."

Earlier you thought that you are good and God is bad. After you repented you think that God is good and you are bad. - Is it so black and white! Yes, it is light against darkness! The cross of Christ is strong truth against great lie. God's truth is so a radical thing that godless people consider it foolishness and religious people consider it a terrible heresy. About those, who by the gospel are His, have been said: *"You were once darkness, but now you are light in the Lord."* Eph.5:8

If you think there is even a little bad in God, you don't believe the gospel. If you think there is even a little good in you, you don't believe the gospel. Either you turned to right or to left from the gospel you lost the power it could give you. There is not light in a believer itself but he is "light in the Lord".

The basis of a doctrine

We can notice doctrines to have certain essential features that give us a clue about the spirit, from which they have originated. Every doctrinal structure is like a tree that has its root. Doctrines are like branches. They can be only like their root. We must recognize the root, from which doctrines have originated.

Jesus expressed the matter as follows: *"Either make the tree good and its fruit good, or else make the tree bad and its fruit bad; for a tree is known by its fruit."* Mt.12:33 The doctrines, which have originated from God, produce good and godly life in us. The doctrines, which have originated from the spirit of the world, produce wickedness and iniquity in us.

From which spirit have your doctrines sprung up? To what kind of form of teaching have you surrendered? Your opinions tell about your mind and your doctrines tell about the spirit, in which you live.

Paul says about the form of doctrine of those who are captivated by Jesus: *"God be thanked that though you were slaves of sin, yet you obeyed from the heart that form of doctrine to which you were delivered."* Ro.6:17

If the right form of teaching is allowed to lead us, we adopt the right biblical doctrines like by itself. Good fruit pushes its way through us because we are fasten upon the good tree. All the biblical teachings have the form of the gospel.

The gospel of God is the revelation of His love. There is no truth and no right doctrine without God's love. His love has caused love in us, which is the basis of our right doctrines.

The doctrine of the gospel

God became man in Jesus Christ and so proved to us what kind of a human being is according to His mind. Jesus died for us on the cross and suffered the punishment that God's righteousness has sentenced to us. The gospel reveals the form of the biblical teaching: God is good and all the people are bad and will receive God's righteousness as a gift by His grace that He gave us in His sacrifice of Golgotha.

What ever we have teaching in Jesus Christ all that have the form of His death and His resurrection. If someone remains in the faith of the gospel he is obedient to the teaching having that form.

Not all have obeyed the gospel of God, though they confess to believe in Jesus of the Bible. They live as enemies of the cross of Christ and their teaching is according to it. Therefore we have to

test every teaching and recognize if it has the form of the gospel of God.

These three things included in the gospel can be found in every doctrine that is originated from God: The effect of the death of Jesus, the force of His resurrection and the power of His Lordship.

God's gospel is the message about Jesus Christ. He is more real than anyone of us. He is so great that He cannot be described well with any doctrine! Knowing Him is more than only the knowledge telling who He is. By meeting Him we receive life, which gives us the right doctrine. A doctrine doesn't give life, but Life gives the doctrine. He is Life.

The one who belongs to Jesus has shared in His death, in His resurrection and lives under His Lordship. If Jesus is not dear to you because He died for you, you don't share in the right gospel. If you don't resort to Jesus in your trouble, you don't believe He has risen from the dead. If you don't seek the will of God so that you could do it, you don't live under the Lordship of Jesus.

I have received the forgiveness of my sins, because He died for me. My share in His death has set me free from the slavery to sin, into which I had fallen as the result of my own evil choices. I alone am responsible for my becoming a slave of sin.

In the light of the gospel I know that God alone is good and nothing good lives in me myself. However through the death of Jesus I can die to my evilness and by His resurrection I can do good things.

The share in the resurrection of Jesus gives me supernatural hope the power of which I overcome temptations and am able to think, speak and do right. Jesus strengthens me in all situations so that I am able to be satisfied with my lot.

Whatever Jesus asks me to do, it is not too difficult for me because He is with me. I have submitted myself to the Lordship of Jesus because He is worthy of receiving all my admiration and worship. In this matter I agree with God the Father, because He gave Jesus all authority in heaven and on earth.

Doctrines of men

Many people, who confess to be believers, defend themselves and their country with guns. This doctrine is against the love of God. In the light of the gospel we can easily see that their doctrine is not from God.

Jesus commands those who belong to Him that we must not resist evil but love our enemies. Jesus Himself and His apostles were examples for us in this matter. They had no bodyguard and they didn't defend themselves with violence or with any human weapon.

Our share in the death of Jesus causes us to feel that we have nothing to lose if someone attacks against us. Our share in the resurrection of Jesus causes us to feel that we have a good future whatever it happens to us. We feel we are on the side of the Winner though we would lose everything in this world, because we have submitted ourselves to the Lordship of Jesus.

Many believers take a divorce from their spouses and marry another one. Although they defend their doctrine with the Bible passages, the real cause for this doctrine is the same as for resorting to force. They consider the doctrine of Jesus too difficult to carry out. They don't want to be faithful to the point of death - neither to Jesus nor to their spouse. Because they are selfish exploiters of God's grace they do not submit to the truth of God.

Human thinking resists the gospel of God and all teachings that rise from it. Therefore many have received the gospel as a different kind than it really is. It is natural that a different gospel causes different kinds of doctrines.

The gospel, which is man made up, promises God's blessing that before everything else satisfies all our earthly desires. They are really many who try to use Jesus to improve their own goodness and to obtain health, wisdom, friends, success and influence. Sure, the gospel of man promises also heaven after death, but it considers that a secondary matter - like only a matter of course.

Already during the time of the apostles some mocked at Christians so that they claimed the gospel gives the permission to sin and the

right to consider evil good. *"Let us do evil that good may come' - as we are slanderously reported and as some affirm that we say."* Ro.3:8 Many hear the gospel so that it would give the right to sin without any fear of a punishment. Also today the same form can be found in the teachings of Christianity that lives in the spirit of lawlessness.

The cross of Christ offends the self-satisfaction of men and therefore they reject it. If they however want to be Christians in the hope of the blessings of God, they receive the teachings of the Bible in the form that pleases them. In the spirit of their own evilness they have interpreted the teachings of Jesus and so suppress the truth in unrighteousness. We live now the time when people willingly listen to teachers of unrighteousness. *"The time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine, but according to their own desires, because they have itching ears, they will heap up for themselves teachers."* 2Ti.4:3

If you want to hear a doctrine according to human mind, you will definitely stray. If you seek a doctrine according to the mind of God, you will find it in Jesus. He said about His own doctrine as follows: *"My doctrine is not mine, but His who sent me. If anyone wills to do His will, he shall know concerning the doctrine, whether it is from God or whether I speak on my own authority."* Joh.7:16-17 You will experience what doctrine is from God, if only you want to do His will and not your own. Therefore die to your own will together with Jesus.

Be careful that you do not sympathize with sin! We so easily want to be compassionate for the values of the world, when they blame us for lack of compassion, for example for war veterans and the divorced and remarried. With these accusations they try to force us to agree with the spirit of the world. Look at Jesus who suffered on the cross the punishment of your evilness and make a choice between Him and the world - for which of them you have compassion! Through Him you can have compassion for people who are perishing under the wrath of God.

Paul lived in this spirit: *"God forbid that I should boast except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by whom the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world."* Ga.6:14 Is this mutual crucifixion

separating also you from the world? If this is not true in your life, you cannot understand correctly what Paul has written. Do not think that you would find right doctrines by reading books! Instead change the spirit of your mind conformable to God's gospel. Be diligent in repenting and not in reading!

Doctrine and eternal life

I want to please God because He sacrificed His Only Son for me. God's love has made me right-minded. However all we believers are mistaken in some points when seeking what is pleasing and perfect will of God. So the right-minded have not yet the right doctrines in everything.

There are wrong doctrines that prevent us from being saved, because they take away the gospel of God from us. *"Whoever transgresses and does not abide in the doctrine of Christ does not have God. He who abides in the doctrine of Christ has both the Father and the Son."* 2Jo.1:9

There also are doctrines that don't take away the salvation from us, but they prevent us from producing good fruit for eternity. Therefore we should purify ourselves from all the thoughts that produce the doctrines, which are against the gospel. In other words we should guard our thoughts against the thoughts of the world so that we don't agree with them and have a share of their spirit.

The believers, who are made unclean by the spirits of the world, should repent. If we allow the Spirit of God change the spirit of our thoughts, our proud, greedy and selfish thoughts vanish and the humbleness, generosity and unselfishness of Jesus captivate our mind. Then also our worldly-minded doctrines die out and we receive a share in the doctrines of Jesus.

You cannot judge what doctrine is right, if you don't live in the right gospel. You cannot have a share in the right gospel, if you have not repented your evilness. So change your mind and turn to Jesus. He is waiting for your contact and for your response to the love He showed to you on Golgotha.

The Bible version used in references is NKJV

Those who belong to Jesus Christ

Today Jesus lives in His glorious body on the throne of God, but also in His own by the Holy Spirit.

Jesus Christ lives

The Bible doesn't tell what Jesus looked like outwardly, when He was on earth. Instead it tells in the first chapter of the Revelation book how He looks today in His glorious body.

It is well known how Jesus was dressed when He was living on earth, but now He doesn't look like that any more. Today He is the high priest who is dressed in a rope reaching down to His feet and with a golden sash round His chest. Today He leads His own from His heavenly place. He takes care of His congregations that live on earth and holds in His hand their servants. His envoys act all over the world.

The Bible doesn't tell the hair color of Jesus during the time He was on earth, but it tells that today His head and hair are white like wool, as white as snow. Also the Bible doesn't tell the eye color of Jesus when He was on earth, but it tells that today His eyes are like a flame of fire. He sees everything and the fire of the holy love in His eyes sanctifies His own and judges His opponents.

The Bible tells that Jesus looked like an ordinary human being when lived on earth, but today He looks like God. His feet are like bronze glowing in furnace, and His voice is like the sound of rushing waters. His feet glow truth, which encourages His own to walk in truth, and will crush those who walk in lies.

The Bible doesn't tell what kind of a face Jesus had when He was in His mortal body, but it tells that today His face is like the sun shining in all its brilliance. In the same way as the sun keeps our planet alive with its light Jesus keeps alive His Church when His own are looking at His face in their spirit.

Jesus Christ is the glorious Lord! He has all authority in heaven and on earth. Happy is he who is allowed to be His own. He says to His own: *"Do not be afraid; I am the First and the Last. I am He who*

lives, and was dead, and behold, I am alive forevermore. Amen. And I have the keys of Hades and of Death." Re.1:17-18

The Christ's

When Jesus was here as a man those who believed in Him were called His disciples. Later when He already was exalted to heaven, those who believed in Him got to be called Christians. Outsiders of the Church of Jesus gave disciples this appellation. Nowadays many are called Christians though they are not Christ's.

Did the disciples start to call themselves Christians? Surely some adopted it, but it is not good to name oneself with the names given by outsiders. It is better to use the name that God gave because it gives us the right identity.

In the Old Testament it is prophesied that those on whom God pours His Spirit will say about themselves that I am "the LORD's". In the New Testament the same is said in these forms: "who belong to Christ Jesus" and "Christ's". "LORD's" is the same as "Christ's" because Jesus Christ is LORD.

"One will say: 'I am the LORD's'." Isa.44:5

"For whoever gives you a cup of water to drink in my name, because you belong to Christ, assuredly, I say to you, he will by no means lose his reward." Mr.9:41

"I am the good shepherd; and I know my sheep, and am known by my own." Joh.10:14

"There stood by me this night an angel of the God to whom I belong and whom I serve." Ac.27:23

"Now if anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, he is not his."

Ro.8:9

"If we live, we live to the Lord; and if we die, we die to the Lord. Therefore, whether we live or die, we are the Lord's." Ro.14:8

"Or do you not know that your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit who is in you, whom you have from God, and you are not your own?" 1Co.6:19

"In Christ all shall be made alive. But each one in his own order: Christ the firstfruits, afterward those who are Christ's at His coming." 1Co.15:22-23

"If anyone is convinced in himself that he is Christ's, let him again consider this in himself, that just as he is Christ's, even so we are Christ's." 2Co.10:7

"If you are Christ's, then you are Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise." Ga.3:29

"Those who are Christ's, have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires." Ga.5:24

"Nevertheless the solid foundation of God stands, having this seal: 'The Lord knows those who are His ', and, 'Let everyone who names the name of Christ depart from iniquity'." 2Ti.2:19

Jesus has paid the price for all people, so that they could become His own. In practice most refuse to become His own. However even today Jesus roams through the slave market of sin and wants to redeem people from the slavery of sin. If only someone wants to be bought to be His own, He has by which to pay.

Many would like to be free from the slavery of sin but they also would like to be free from the dominion of Jesus. They regard belonging to Jesus as a matter limiting their freedom and therefore they keep fighting against sin with their own strength. They have not believed that it is good to be under the dominion of Jesus. He has promised: *"My yoke is easy and my burden is light."* Mt.11:30

Jesus appears in His own

Today Jesus lives in His glorious body on the throne of God but also in His own through the Holy Spirit. He manifests Himself in His own as commonly as God the Father manifested Himself in everyday life of Jesus for 2000 years ago. *"As He is, so are we in this world."* 1Jo.4:17

The portion of His own is to be similar to Jesus when He was a man in flesh, not less nor more. To be less would mean we continue to sin and to be more would mean we appear like God.

The Holy Spirit is in the heart of a believer as the guarantee that he belongs to Jesus. Just therefore He causes in us this confession: "Jesus Christ owns me." The death and resurrection of Jesus opened to us the access to His possession.

The world faces Jesus in His own, if they are obedient to the Holy Spirit. Jesus told this when He said to His disciples as follows: *"As*

the Father has sent me, I also send you!" And when He had said this, He breathed on them, and said to them, 'Receive the Holy Spirit.'"

Joh.20:21-22

Everyone who is Christ's is an envoy of Jesus in this world. In the past God the Father appeared to the world in Jesus. In the same way Jesus now appears to the world in His own. God the Father appeared to the world when Jesus did no wrong but lived according to the goodness of God. In the same way Jesus appears to the world when His own do no wrong but live according to the goodness of Jesus.

Many wait to see miracles to be able to believe in God. They want to see sick persons to be healed and fire coming down from heaven, but they don't care about the greatest miracle. The greatest one is, when a human being does no wrong any more but lives according to the will of God. This miracle appears in those who belong to Jesus and annoys wrongdoers, because it causes guilty conscience in them.

He who is Christ's doesn't lie, kill, steal, fornicate nor commit adultery. He is not proud, nor greedy nor selfish but humble, generous and diligent for the benefit of others. He rejoices at truth and forgives those who wronged against him. Out of love to God he is ready to obey the will of God also when it means denying his own will and suffering.

To be aware that I belong to Jesus is the key factor to enabling the Holy Spirit to cause God's goodness in me. The other factors of my identity can occupy my consciousness so much that they suppress the influence of the Holy Spirit on me. Everything I append to these words "I am" moulds my identity. I am Christ's and everything else, what I am, let it be through Him.

I am neither a Protestant nor a Pentecostalist, nor am I a charismatic person nor a melancholic, nor am I a fundamentalist nor a rightist, nor am I good nor wise, but I am Christ's. It does good to us to have an identity crisis, because then we can say "I am not" and so remove from our ego the old identity that wants to sin.

To be transformed into the likeness of your owner

Who are you? What are you? What is the identity that you obey when you make decisions? Does the fact that Jesus owns you dominate your consciousness so much that it causes you to act according to His will?

God wants to give you an identity crisis helping you to agree with this fact: "I am nothing!" Being in this state you can face God, for *"God has chosen the things which are not, to bring to nothing the things that are."* 1Co.1:28

When Jesus says to your spirit, "you are mine", then you are allowed to pass from death into life and from insignificance to real being. Then you will get mercy to experience: "I belong to Jesus Christ." Don't allow anything, how humanly highly esteemed it may be, to take away this happiness from you.

He cannot influence on us if we don't give room for Him in ourselves. He doesn't purify our ego by force. If we put away values and attitudes we inherited from this world, we have denied ourselves and taken up our cross and are able to follow Jesus.

We have to take the same attitude toward Jesus as He had toward His Father. Jesus did nothing in His own name but what He did, He did in His Father's name. He says: *"I have come down from heaven, not to do my own will, but the will of Him who sent me."* Joh.6:38

Because I am Christ's I am not in this world for my own will but I am here for the will of Jesus. This attitude comes from the new identity: "I belong to the Lord Jesus Christ." Whatever other thing I am, also it demands me to fulfilled, if I don't deny myself.

He, who has been allowed to experience what does it feel like to fulfill his identity in Jesus, knows how much better it feels than making one's own dreams come true. When Jesus had fulfilled the will of his Father, He said: *"My food is to do the will of Him who sent me, and to finish His work."* Joh.4:34 Living according to the will of Jesus tastes good. It is good and healthy food.

Only that, what I am by the grace of God in Jesus Christ, is valuable. I have been raised with Christ. I live because He lives!

The Bible version used in references is NKJV

Holiness

Holiness means being separated from something for a certain purpose or devoting to a certain position. God is dedicated to goodness and in Him there is no wickedness. His holiness is goodness. All evil is unholy to Him.

Devotees

Someone devotes oneself to one's career, another to one's family or hobby. Who devoted his life to his career arranges matters of his family and his hobby according to his job. Who devoted himself to his hobby puts things in his life as the hobby demands. Many try to arrange their lives so that they would be able to dedicate themselves to many things at the same time. For example they try to devote themselves as much to their family as to their career. Although somebody would succeed to do that, it is however possible to keep only one thing as the most sacred one in his heart.

A devoted one often achieves something with good quality. Therefore an employer is pleased with the employee who has devoted himself to his work. A coach of an athletic club is pleased with a sportsman to whom sports is the holy thing. Also God is glad about a believer, who has devoted himself to God.

Devoting to a matter makes man himself the sacrifice that he gives his matter. Dedicating or devoting means always sacrificing oneself. Someone gives oneself to "the altar of science", another sacrifices one's life to one's fatherland.

All dedications have symbolic celebrations where the sacrifice is given in theory. That dedication or oath obliges one to do in practice what was promised. In a military oath or pledge a man promises to sacrifice himself for the independence of his fatherland. In a degree ceremony that is done in a university the received academic degree obliges to live for science. An ordination oath devotes a priest to live to the confession of the church.

Many consider these oaths and dedications only formal ceremonies. The true dedication is certainly always a matter of heart, but oaths and dedication ceremonies affect binding in the level of spirits.

They affect also those who gave the oath only for form's sake. In those ceremonies devotees can be participants with demons. *"Do I mean then that a sacrifice offered to an idol is anything, or that an idol is anything? No, but the sacrifices of pagans are offered to demons, not to God, and I do not want you to be participants with demons."* 1Cor.10:19-20

After the second world war many Germans pointed out, how the military oath that they had given Hitler, had miraculously made them blind. They had dedicated themselves to Hitler and therefore they saw things according to their devotion. In the same way it happens nowadays in Kosovo. Many Serbs have devoted themselves to their fatherland so ardently that they are participants with demons, who have inspired them to do the recent cruelties. So be always careful when you are asked to devote yourself to something.

One good thing

Dedication to one good thing can put in a good order all affairs of life. In practice people serve many idols and have given themselves on many altars. Some have dedicated themselves only to one thing, but is it so good a thing that it puts also other things in a good order?

God wants that we devote ourselves only to Him. If we do that He promises us the guidance, which puts all other things of our life in good order. Therefore the independence of Finland is not a holy thing to me, but the will of God. What can I do for Finland depends on the effect of God in my life. I cannot solemnly promise or swear anything, because I am not my own. I do not sacrifice my life to my family or career, but I got my wife through the guidance of God and my place of employment is the answer for my prayer.

God has given us an example of the right devotion in Jesus Christ, who gave himself wholly for the will of God: *"For I have come down from heaven not to do my will but to do the will of Him who sent me."* John.6:38 God's will in His case was that He came to atone our sins. God sacrificed His only Son as the sin offering of our sins that we would be able to be saved. We can dedicate ourselves to God only through this offering.

To be saved means dedicating oneself to God for the sake of the sacrifice of Jesus on Golgotha. *"We have been made holy through the sacrifice of the body of Jesus Christ once for all."* Heb.10:10

Man sees God as good and holy, if he sees God's deed in the death and resurrection of Jesus. On the other hand nobody is holy in the eyes of God, if he has not received Jesus as the Saviour of his own sins.

First I must receive the sacrifice which God gave for my sake. After this I can give myself as a sacrifice to Him. *"I urge you, brothers, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as living sacrifices, holy and pleasing to God."* Rom.12:1

Notice, how dedicated God is to his rescue work, which He has done also for you!

God's holy people

"Holy, holy, holy is the Lord God Almighty, who was, and is, and is to come." Rev.4:8 The Holy Father, the Holy Son and the Holy Spirit is the Lord God.

Lord Jesus was once on the cross for our sins.
Now He is on the throne in heaven and
He will come soon back onto earth.

God is holy. He is very unique. He is separated from everything created. He is the Lord who arouses fear and is worthy of respect. Only He has the true power of dominion!

He has decided to call and separate for Himself the nation from the sinful mankind. His people have a share of His holiness. Through Jesus Christ it is possible to get the citizenship of God's nation. *"Through Him we both (Jews and Gentiles) have access to the Father by one Spirit. Consequently, you are no longer foreigners and aliens, but fellow-citizens with God's people and members of God's household."* Eph.2:18-19

It is important for everyone, who has received Jesus as his Saviour, to become aware of the rights of one's citizenship. Jesus calls his disciples brothers. *"Both the one who makes men holy and those who are made holy are of the same family. So Jesus is not ashamed*

to call them brothers." Heb.2:11 Apostle Paul sends his letters to God's people and says, "to the saints in Ephesus, the faithful in Christ Jesus."

In the Bible it is often said that they who believe in Jesus are saints. The word is the same which is used of God, when it is said that He is holy. Something of God's holiness is transferred to a person when he receives Jesus.

His blood cleans a believer of sins. The share in His death separates a believer away from the sinful generation. The power of His resurrection joins a believer to God's family. *"Giving thanks to the Father, who has qualified you to share in the inheritance of the saints in the kingdom of light. For He has rescued us from the dominion of darkness and brought us into the kingdom of the Son He loves."* Col.1:12-13 The migration of people from all nations to the Kingdom of Jesus Christ has been in progress already for 2000 years.

God's holiness is the power that makes the border between the world and God's nation. The membership of a Christian Church is only a share in the earthly association, and it doesn't make anybody a member of God's people. When the membership of a formal congregation is considered the membership of God's people it hides the existence of God's real people.

Saints have their own congregations, but it is very hard to keep them only for the saints. *"As in all the congregations of the saints,..."* 1Cor.14:33 It is the aim that only those who already are saints join to the congregation of the saints.

Nobody can become a saint by joining to a congregation of the saints. In practice godless persons have often entered the actions of the congregations of the saints and they have polluted them. Fortunately the border between the world and God's people doesn't base on the card files of the congregations, but God's holiness separates the real congregation from the world. Among the churches of the unholy persons there live the groups of the saints of Jesus.

The holy life of Jesus' own means conforming to the holiness of God in daily life. *"As obedient children, do not conform to the evil*

desires you had when you lived in ignorance. But just as He who called you is holy, so be holy in all you do." 1Pet.1:14-15

God's nation declares through its holiness God's Holiness. *"But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people belonging to God, that you may declare the praises of Him who called you out of darkness into His wonderful light. Once you were not a people, but now you are the people of God; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy."* 1Pet.2:9-10

Before receiving Jesus nobody is a member of God's nation and has not got God's mercy. After receiving Jesus you are a member of God's nation and you have got God's mercy. Who is holy continue to be holy still. Jesus' own will live as it is proper for God's holy people.

Thanks God for all His saints. They are scattered throughout all nations and churches with the different names. When saints before unknown to each others meet for the first time, they at once feel the love and good contact. They are like the persons of the same nation who are strangers in a foreign country and become glad when they meet their countrymen.

"Who will not fear you, O Lord, and bring glory to your name? For You alone are holy..." Rev.15:4 When Jesus has come onto earth with His saints, He will judge all nations. Then it will be said: *"You are just in these judgements, You who are and who were, the Holy One,..."* Rev.16:5 Then it is not said anymore that He "is to come".

If you are not a saint now, become a saint through Jesus so that you would be able to meet the Holy God. If you are a saint now, endure to be the saint in every situation that you would share more in God's holiness and thus you would have greater joy, when you will see the face of the Holy Father.

The Bible version used in references is NIV

Sanctification

Who is Jesus' own has a holy covenant with God. Uniting oneself with Him means sharing in His holiness. Your spirit is holy, if the Holy Spirit governs it. Your soul is holy, if it is governed by your sanctified spirit and your body is holy, if it is governed by your sanctified soul. Jesus in you gives you hope that your life will be changed!

The holy covenant

Becoming a believer is stepping into the new covenant with God. I have the holy covenant with Him. He called me into this covenant through the gospel. It is the new covenant in the blood of Jesus Christ. God accepted me into this covenant, because the blood of Jesus cleaned me and made me worthy of it.

In every union the members unite themselves with each other and they live in some way on the terms of the other member. In the union of God we live completely on the terms of God. Or how is it, would you like to see that God is being transformed into your likeness after you united yourself with Him?

Share in His holiness

The change that God causes in us is called the sanctification. *"Now that you have been set free from sin and have become slaves to God, the benefit you reap leads to holiness, and the result is eternal life."*

Rom.6:22 The holy covenant leads us to become one with Him. The sanctification is based on the fact that He lives in me through His Spirit.

There is no hope of change without His presence. *"Christ in you, the hope of glory."* Col.1:27 God aims at the sanctification with us, but we can oppose His plan. Every believer resists sometimes God and gets the same amount of His discipline. *"God disciplines us for our good, that we may share in His holiness."* Heb.12:10 This discipline is mainly verbal for before the previous verse there is the next sentence: *"My son, do not make light of the Lord's discipline, and do not lose heart when He rebukes you, because the Lord disciplines those He loves."* Heb.12:5-6

When a passage of the Bible offends your heart do not resist it and think that now you have been hit with the Bible. Instead receive the reprimand as love of God the Father. The heavenly Father practises also corporal punishments, for *"He punishes everyone He accepts as a son."* Heb.12:6

Thoroughly sanctified

"May God himself, the God of peace, sanctify you through and through. May your whole spirit, soul and body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ." 1Thess.5:23 So there is the sanctification of spirit, soul and body. Your spirit is blameless, if one has wholly submitted oneself to God. Your soul is blameless, if it has been submitted itself to your sanctified spirit. Your body is blameless, if it has been submitted itself to the sanctified soul.

So everything starts from the renewal of your spirit. *"Let us purify ourselves from everything that contaminates body and spirit, perfecting holiness out of reverence for God."* 2Cor.7:1 What does contaminate your spirit? It also has contaminated your soul and has caused unclean deeds in your body.

Don't begin to change only your deeds or clean your emotional life. Go and clean the source from which they well forth. The words and the deeds which are against your attitudes are pretending. If you try to begin your sanctification in some other level than the level of your spirit you have decided to become a pretender.

The most unholy thing

Pretending is detestable in God's sight. It is the most unholy thing. Jesus says: *"Be on your guard against the yeast of the Pharisees, which is hypocrisy."* Luke 12:1 If you have decided to live according to the Christian values without changing of your heart first, you have joined in the party of Pharisees.

Jesus compares pretending with yeast, because it is so easily spread from one man to another. This is the reason why it is good to come out from the fellowship which is based on pretending. *"Therefore come out from them and be separate, says the Lord. Touch no unclean thing, and I will receive you. I will be a Father to you, and you will be my sons and daughters, says the Lord Almighty."* 2Cor.6:17 The Christianity contaminated by pretending is more dangerous

than any other pretending because it deceives people in their relationship with God.

Someone can rebuke me: "You must more carefully select your words and speak to people more kindly." I reply: Do you mean that I must pretend? Is it enough for you that I change my words? Why do you not rebuke me: "Look at how unkind heart you have. There are not warm enough thoughts about people in your heart." Let us not force our soul to follow only the form of the biblical behaving, but let us allow God to change our spirits.

Be determined to avoid pretending. If you give in to it, God's sanctifying work doesn't go on in your life. The sanctification caused by God is the fruit of the truth.

Hypocrisy is a suit of a godless man

Why is hypocrisy so popular? It is the essential feature of our cultural life. Everybody knows that good manners are only a thin layer in man. Many parents, teachers and priests have done much work to educate people to be pretenders.

Of course it would be awful if people could not pretend to be good, but they would carry out their real character without inhibitions. Hypocrisy is the fruit of pride. It is not easy to uncover one's heart publicly. How many times I have been ashamed of myself and I have said to Jesus: here is my heart, take it and change it as you wish. Pretending is like a suit that covers our bad heart and the uncovering is like nudity on a public place.

Protecting unholy heart with pretence is a terrible common thing also in Christianity. Many people who say that they have got forgiveness of their sins from God do not live as holy people. They have still godless thoughts and attitudes. They have had to resist the Holy Spirit, because otherwise the share of God's Spirit would have changed them. *"We, who with unveiled faces all reflect the Lord's glory, are being transformed into His likeness with ever-increasing glory, which comes from the Lord, who is the Spirit."* 2Cor.3:18

The Holy Spirit gives courage to undress the suit of pretence, because He promises to give us a new and a better suit. *"You were taught to put off your old self, which is being corrupted by its*

deceitful desires; to be made new in the attitude of your minds; and to put on the new self, created to be like God in true righteousness and holiness." Eph.4:22-24

Holiness is the suit of a believer

When a believer agrees with God's attitudes with all one's heart, one will experience so great freedom and internal glory and peace that sinners cannot even imagine it in their dreams. Paul says that it is our treasure: *"We have this treasure in jars of clay to show that this all-surpassing power is from God and not from us."* 2Cor.4:7

What practical deeds the holiness of God causes in us? There are many examples in the Bible of them. Briefly it means that a believer behaves in the same way as Jesus. *"For all of you who were baptised into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ."* Gal.3:27

Make your thoughts holy

God expects that we make our thoughts and attitudes holy. If we would work equally hard with our thoughts as we attend to our words and deeds our world would be different.

What do you think about yourself, about God and about world? Examine your heart and know your deepest thoughts! *"If we judged ourselves, we would not come under judgement. When we are judged by the Lord, we are being disciplined so that we will not be condemned with the world."* 1Cor.11:31-32 The right thoughts about self make resurrection faith holy. The right thoughts about God make love holy. The right thoughts about world make the hope of future holy.

Thoughts about self

Self-confidence is an unholy thing. The circumcision is an example of removing self-confidence. God circumcises our hearts. *"For it is we who are the circumcision, we who worship by the Spirit of God, who glory in Christ Jesus, and who put no confidence in the flesh."*

Phil.3:3

The foreskin is removed in the example, but in real circumcision the whole flesh is removed. *"In Him you were also circumcised, in the putting off of the sinful nature."* Col.2:11

How does God use His knife when He circumcises us? *"For the word of God is living and active. Sharper than any double-edged sword, it penetrates even to dividing soul and spirit, joints and marrow; it judges the thoughts and attitudes of the heart."* Heb.4:12

God's word is aiming to cut you away from your sinful nature. Note carefully this! Your happiness depends just on that word of God, which offends you most *"Hold on to instruction, do not let it go; guard it well, for it is your life."* Prov.4:13

We don't want to be weak in such a way that we lose our self-confidence. However, if we don't submit ourselves to God in this thing we will never be able to live in the faith of God. We must first be uncertain so that there would be room in us for the assurance of God. Proud thoughts about ourselves cause the discipline of God in our life. Thanks to Him of the grace of discipline! The sanctification in this case means that we give ourselves to God with many prayers and we put our confidence in Him in all our matters. May you have the holy faith!

Thoughts about God

Advising of God is an unholy thing. Often we think about God unfairly though we have got from Him so much good things. Many people don't confess that they are advising Him, but if they would examine their hearts they would see that it is true. Many consider God too strict and they want to teach God to be more merciful. The sanctification in this case means that you absorb the truths of the Bible. Jesus says: *"Blessed is the man who does not fall away on account of me."* Luke 7:23

Jesus is a stone that causes men to stumble. He is this kind of stone also for many believers. He says about Himself: *"Everyone who falls on that stone will be broken to pieces, but he on whom it falls will be crushed."* Luke 20:18 Those who don't believe at all will be crushed, but those who are offended by Jesus as believers will be broken to pieces. Peter says in his letter that Jesus is *"a stone that causes men to stumble and a rock that makes them fall. They stumble because they disobey the message."* 1Pet.2:7-8

A believer who is broken to pieces is not healed by the commentary of the Bible which tries to remove the sharpness of God's word.

Instead he will be healed by the power that causes him to stay on the operating table of God. In this case it is essential to remember how Jesus has become the cornerstone of my life. He died for my sake on the cross. He took on Himself all the judgement of God that I deserve. One look to the pains of Jesus on the cross nullifies all your wrong thoughts about God. You cannot believe the love of God through any other vision.

So bring all your bad thoughts about God to Calvary. Attach your eyes to the sacrifice of Jesus and it will testify to you that God is innocent and it disproves all evidences against God. May you have the holy love!

Thoughts about world

Loving world is an unholy thing. Often we think about this world as if it would be people's and not God's world. If we obey Jesus we think about this world that it is reserved for fire. We are waiting for the new world which God will create. If our thoughts are sanctified in this case we don't become rooted in this world. *"The time is short. From now on those who have wives should live as if they had none; those who mourn, as if they did not; those who are happy, as if they were not; those who buy something, as if it were not theirs to keep; those who use the things of the world, as if not engrossed in them. For this world in its present form is passing away."* 1Cor.7:29-31

An earthly minded believer is unholy and he/she is in danger to lose his/her faith. *"For, as I have often told you before and now say again even with tears, many live as enemies of the cross of Christ. Their destiny is destruction, their god is their stomach, and their glory is in their shame. Their mind is on earthly things."* Phil.3:18-19

The right thoughts about this world come from thinking about the current home of God. *"Set your minds on things above, not on earthly things. For you died, and your life is now hidden with Christ in God. When Christ, who is your life, appears, then you also will appear with Him in glory."* Col.3:2-4

May you have the holy hope!

Only God is holy! Let Him be near you! Holy, holy, holy is the Lord God Almighty, who was, and is, and is to come.

Do work in Jesus

Jesus Christ did the great work for us on the cross. Do work caused by His work.

Working on the ground of the work of Adam

Our need of work is caused by the Fall. Adam and Eve did the considerable work when they ate the forbidden fruit. Our working is caused by their work because we have not the paradise on the earth for the sake of their work. If we lived in the paradise, we would be happily unemployed. We would only do something nice and have not the need to labour for our food.

Because God cursed the creation due to sin, the mankind must do a lot of work to support itself. When food, cloth and house are earned the basic needs are filled. However it has never been enough for man but he has started to seek easy life, riches and glory.

The mankind tries to remove the curse that sin caused by using machines and technology. Nowadays more and more often many also have the possibility to receive their basic needs without sweating. Even so the curse is not removed, but it appears in bad side effects of the technology.

Although the mankind very much tries to produce the paradise it will not succeed. Not until the return of Jesus will bring the paradise on the earth. All our works in Adam will pass away. However God has given us the possibility to do work that's results will remain forever.

Working on the ground of the work of Christ

God gave His only Son to be the sacrifice for our sins. Jesus Christ did the great work on the cross for our good. He suffered on the cross the punishment of our sins. He destroyed the work of Adam and Eve. If we receive the work of Jesus, we are allowed to start doing work in Him. We can rejoice at its results forever.

If we receive God's love in the cross work of Jesus, He will make His home with us in the Holy Spirit. Then He will appear in us and cause deeds of God. *"We are His workmanship, created in Christ*

Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand that we should walk in them." Eph.2:10

If we take pains in Adam, it is in vain, because its result will pass away. Instead our troubles in Jesus are not in vain, because its result is deposited in a heavenly account. *"Be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that your labor is not in vain in the Lord."* 1Co.15:58 Jesus encourages those who are His: *"Provide yourselves money bags which do not grow old, a treasure in the heavens that does not fail, where no thief approaches nor moth destroys."* Lu.12:33

Maybe you say that you don't reach for any heavenly property but it is enough for you that you will be saved. That's right. It is enough for you but you should also think about God and not only about yourself. He gave the great sacrifice for you. He deserves to reap the great crop from you. God becomes glad of your works in Jesus. You want to make Him glad, don't you?

Works of the world

Those who belong to Jesus do the same earthly jobs as others, but they don't any more reach for perishable treasures with their working. Jesus defined the relation between the earthly and eternal works as follows: *"Do not worry, saying, 'What shall we eat?' or 'What shall we drink?' or 'What shall we wear?' But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you."* Mt.6:31.33

A believer seeks works in Jesus and trusts that God provides his basic needs together with His work. This means that a believer does his earthly work for Jesus and not for money. The kingdom of God is present in believers and God's righteousness appears in daily actions of believers.

We cannot be worried and be grateful at the same time. If we are worried about our earthly needs, we are prevented from being grateful to God for His sacrifice. If the works of this world are too important to us, we easily become partakers of its sorrows. The anxieties of life can put to death our faith in Jesus and produce the everlasting destruction for us. The spirit of the world is not satisfied

with the basic livelihood, but it is reaching for high things. The targets of the world are based on pride, greed and selfishness.

If all the nations were satisfied with the basic livelihood, the independence of the nations could be possible. However now the nations have become dependent on things that can be produced only by the international cooperation. The development of technology forces all the nations to cooperate in the way they lose a part of their independence to international bodies. The nations are so dependent on each other that the need of the world government is obvious for everyone.

The international division of labour has caused unemployment and economic crisis in many countries. The contradiction between the independence of nations and the supranational aspirations is becoming worse and worse until the economy of the world will collapse. Then will be sought a power that could unite all the nations into the united states of the world. Globalization can overcome patriotism only by a religion.

The nations of the world will be united with a religion. In the Bible the world ruled with the religion is called the kingdom of the beast. Antichrist and the Beast will govern on the earth. The Beast play god and Antichrist is his prophet. It will be cruel dictatorship where everyone is demanded to bow to the Beast. Because people rejected Jesus they will receive the Beast instead.

When Jesus will come from heaven on earth He will destroy the kingdom of the Beast and establish here the Kingdom of God.

Works of Jesus

Nobody can do work in Jesus, if he is not first a partaker of the cross work of Jesus. The experience of the salvation is the foundation on which we can build; that is to do work in Him. Some believers are "unemployed" in Jesus. Sure they do something to serve God but their deeds are not done in Lord Jesus Christ but in Adam. The holy fire of God will burn such deeds in His coming.

What have you done therefore and only because Jesus died for you? Think about God's love towards yourself in His sacrifice.

Works of Jesus grow in us in the power of the Holy Spirit, when we are thinking of His work in Golgotha. Your work comes from His work. It is grace for grace. He, who received the saving grace, is allowed to receive the grace to do works of Jesus. If His grace doesn't cause His works in us, there is something wrong how we have experienced His grace. Faith without works is dead.

When Jesus is speaking to believers in Sardis He reveals us that He expects perfect deeds from those who are His. *"I know your works, that you have a name that you are alive, but you are dead. Be watchful, and strengthen the things which remain, that are ready to die, for I have not found your works perfect before God."* Re.3:1-2

Jesus examines our works. Therefore Paul urges also us ourselves to examine our works: *"Bear one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ. For if anyone thinks himself to be something, when he is nothing, he deceives himself. But let each one examine his own work."* Ga.6:2-4 He doesn't urge us only to examine our deeds but also our thoughts that led to them. He is speaking about our works as reaping what we have sown by our thoughts.

"Whatever a man sows, that he will also reap. For he who sows to his flesh will of the flesh reap corruption, but he who sows to the Spirit will of the Spirit reap everlasting life. And let us not grow weary while doing good, for in due season we shall reap if we do not lose heart." Ga.6:7-9 Sowing to our flesh means that we agree with the thoughts of our sinful nature. Sowing to the Spirit means that we agree with the thoughts of Jesus. Reaping means that we act according to our thoughts.

Easily we can give up rejecting the fleshly thoughts arising in our mind and become weary of replacing them with the thoughts according to the mind of Jesus. If we love Jesus, we diligently sow His thoughts to ourselves. We can notice new willing and doing in us, which is good and pleases God.

They are many who warn believers about the works of the law and going under the law but they don't warn about lawlessness and lovelessness towards Jesus. Really, you need to do nothing to earn the salvation. Jesus earned it for you by His work He did on the

cross. You cannot be saved by your good works, but you can do good works because you already are saved.

If you don't examine the motives of your works, you mix the deeds by which you try to be saved with the deeds you do because you are saved. *"Now to him who works, the wages are not counted as grace but as debt. But to him who does not work but believes on Him who justifies the ungodly, his faith is accounted for righteousness."* Ro.4:4-5
If you are righteous by faith in Jesus, don't try anymore to earn the salvation by doing the works of the law, because they are works in Adam. Instead do works in Christ Jesus.

Jesus lived as the example for us. When He did works of God He said: *"My food is to do the will of Him who sent me, and to finish His work."* Joh.4:34 Correspondingly Jesus has sent us to the world so that we would do His will. Working in Jesus is meaningful. It gives a better satisfaction than the work in Adam. It is great mercy from God to be able to do right and not only believe in truth. The works of faith are grace from God.

"Therefore we also pray always for you that our God would count you worthy of this calling, and fulfill all the good pleasure of His goodness and the work of faith with power, that the name of our Lord Jesus Christ may be glorified in you, and you in Him, according to the grace of our God and the Lord Jesus Christ."

2Th.1:11-12

The rest of the weekend is coming for all the workers. In the same way the Sabbath-rest will come to those who are working in Jesus. *"There remains therefore a rest for the people of God, for he who has entered His rest has himself also ceased from his works as God did from His."* Heb.4:9-10

This is a nice vision, isn't it? God and His people are resting after the week they worked together. I wonder what kinds of feelings will we have when spending the rest day in the town of God together with Him. Those who will experience the resurrection of the righteous will know it.

The Bible version used in references is NKJV

Secret life

Man's inner life is a great secret. Our motives are hidden in the depth of our hearts. Is our motive fear, sense of duty or love? In the light of God's words our motives are revealed. Jesus Christ shows us also the motive of God, if we venture to come into the light. Will you get the faith from His faith and the motive from His motive?

Motives

What are the real motives of your words and your deeds? Necessary needs and adopted duties are our usual motives.

Pride can compel us to adopt duties, the motives of which seem generous self-sacrifice. Greed can make us order for ourselves duties, the motives of which seem industrious willingness to serve.

Our selfishness can make us fulfil duties, the motives of which seem love.

If you believe in God, what are your motives? What are your motives when you don't believe in God? Someone serves God, because he fears the judgement of God. Whereas another runs away from God for the same reason. Fear is being uncertain of what we hope. Faith is the opposite to fear, because faith is being sure of what we hope. Duties adopted through fears are the foundation of the religious world.

Experiencing God's love through the faith in Jesus is the foundation of the biblical Christianity. Received love gives a motive to do deeds of love. Unfortunately also this motive can be changed only to fulfilling one's duty. The motive of love lives only in voluntariness. However the love of God gives us power to fulfil also our duties with joy.

Spiritual awakening means the revelation of motives

Sometimes we hear words or fall into a situation where our inner life is uncovered. The real motives of our deeds are revealed and we must receive shame or honour in the eyes of people. If we are ashamed of our secret life we are apt to pretend, so that we would

not be uncovered. This is understandable self-protection. However it is better for us in good time to confront the truth in the light of God's words before pretending becomes so fixed a habit that we believe our own lies to be true, no matter what happens.

"For the word of God is living and active. Sharper than any double-edged sword, it penetrates even to dividing soul and spirit, joints and marrow; it judges the thoughts and attitudes of the heart.

Nothing in all creation is hidden from God's sight. Everything is uncovered and laid bare before the eyes of Him to whom we must give account." Heb.4:12-13 Maybe someone has not the ability to be ashamed of one's motives. Only when God is speaking to him he gets a prick in his heart. God's judgement against his wrong motives gashes his heart. In this case many fetch a spiritual plaster and harden their hearts so that the truth would not cause any pain.

For this kind of person who is wounded by God's word there is the real medicine reserved by God Himself. This is the medicine: Look at the motive of God, when He gave His one and only Son to be wounded on the cross for our sins. God put on Jesus the punishment that we deserve so that we could get mercy. If you don't understand His motive in this deed, you cannot experience His love.

When a sinner receives Jesus as the Redeemer of his own sins he experiences how the judgement of God's words in his heart is changed into the words which testify of God's grace and forgiveness to him. After this many believers can feel that now I have no reason to hide anything in my life. However it is a mistake.

Good secrets

It is often thought that a secret life is always negative. Jesus shows us the secret life which is positive and good. He urges us to do good things in secrecy. These deeds we do not do for the reason to be saved, but therefore that we already are saved by grace through the faith in Jesus.

Nobel thoughts, right words and good deeds so that only God and I know about them! It is lovely and teaches us to know our own motives and helps us to notice also a little bit about the motives of others. It guards us against pretence and is a good deposit to the

place, where thieves do not break in and steal and where moth and rust do not destroy.

"Be careful not to do your acts of righteousness before men, to be seen by them. If you do, you will have no reward from your Father in heaven." Matth.6:1 Jesus gives us three examples of good secret life: giving donations, praying and fasting. He encourages us to do all these in secrecy and says: "Then your Father, who sees what is done in secret, will reward you." He urges the children of God: *"Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth,... But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven,..."* Matth.6:19-20

However He doesn't promise this kind of good secret life to produce something good only at our destination in heaven, but also a good effect at present. *"For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also. The eye is the lamp of the body. If your eyes are good, your whole body will be full of light."* Matth.6:21-22 You will get healthy spiritual eyes, with which you can see what is genuine Christianity. The body of the real Church of Jesus is full of light.

Acts of righteousness

Putting things in order must be started from thoughts. Be thankful in your thoughts to God about the salvation you got in Jesus. Don't get weary of sacrificing thanks to God in the thoughts of your heart. Public prayers can be dangerous, because in those it is so easily spoken more to men than God. *"But when you pray, go into your room, close the door and pray to your Father, who is unseen."*

Matth.6:6

A public prayer in a congregation has still a great meaning, because in it we together agree about what we will ask in our hearts. *"I tell you that if two of you on earth agree about anything you ask for, it will be done for you by my Father in heaven."* Matth.18:19

The motive of a prayer is crucial in order to get something from God. *"When you ask, you do not receive, because you ask with wrong motives, that you may spend what you get on your pleasures."* James. 4:3 The root of the right motive is just there that God is the initiator in our relationship with Him. *"We love because He first loved us."* 1John.4:19 To love God is the right motive. When we pray in secret, give donations so that the receiver doesn't know

about us or we fast so that people don't see it, we test our own motives.

When you in your thoughts look at the love of God in Jesus, you can think, say or do something only for the reason that Jesus is good. Be quiet, don't tell anybody what you decided in your heart to do at that gracious moment. It doesn't need to be something great, but small and invisible, and good and right. Then you will do it, and only for Jesus.

Be aware of that the value of a deed doesn't depend on its outward greatness, but on the right motive. *"If anyone gives even a cup of cold water to one of these little ones because he is my disciple, I tell you the truth, he will certainly not lose his reward."* Matth.10:42

Realize how valuable the right motive is in the eyes of God. On the other hand we can get a great impression of a deed that it is a great deed of love, but it actually is not, because the motive is wrong. *"If I give all I possess to the poor..., but have not love, I gain nothing."*

1Cor.13:3

At this point someone could say that it gained at least those poor people. That is right but here it is spoken about God's love, not only His goodness. We can do good to each other whatever are our motives and good deeds always have their intrinsic value.

More valuable than all goodness is to love God. Disciples were bothering the woman, who poured a lot of very valuable perfume on the head of Jesus, when He was at His last supper. Jesus saw the good motive of the woman and said: *"The poor you will always have with you, but you will not always have me."* Matth.26.7-8 That deed was not normal goodness, but it was genuine love to God.

Blessing of voluntariness

If you have received God's love personally you have a privilege to show your love to God. Don't adopt too many duties, so that there would be room for voluntariness in your life. Don't allow your church to load you with so many duties that you lose your heavenly reward.

Apostle Paul understood that in his case preaching the gospel was his duty. He said about it: *"Yet when I preach the gospel, I cannot boast, for I am compelled to preach. Woe to me if I do not preach the gospel! If I preach voluntarily, I have a reward; if not voluntarily, I am simply discharging the trust committed to me. What then is my reward? Just this: that in preaching the gospel I may offer it free of charge, and so not make use of my rights in preaching it."* ^{1Cor.9.16-19} It is a duty of the church to pay a salary to its evangelist, but Paul freed the church from its duty to pay for him and he did it because he loved God.

Secret love life with God will be revealed when Jesus comes from the heaven and rewards the servants of God. *"Behold, I am coming soon! My reward is with me, and I will give to everyone according to what he has done."* ^{Rev.22:12}

The Bible version used in references is NIV

God's form

Shape of a body is not as important as the form of character expressed by thoughts and words coming out of the heart.

Looking at the form of God is nourishing the mind of man. If a Christian lives as Christ lived he has the form of Christ. The Bible's Jesus shows the beauty of God's form. He is the exact representation of His being and the radiance of His glory. Look at the loveliness of His form, and fall in love with Him!

God's image in us

God created us in His own image, but because of the sin we have lost His likeness. Now He again wants reveal Himself in us. He sent His Son to the world so that we would be changed into His likeness.

The form of Christ is missing in many Christians, because they have not nourished their souls by looking at the form of Jesus. They don't walk as Jesus did, because they are not one with Him in spirit. Because they have nourished their soul by following religious manners, they have got the form of their denominations. Many Christians have the form of Catholicism, Lutheranism, Baptism or Pentecostalism. If they knew Jesus, they would have His form.

Paul, the apostle said about himself: *"God was pleased to reveal His Son in me."* Gal.1:16 He said to the Galatians bewitched by their religiousness: *"My dear children, for whom I am again in the pains of childbirth until Christ is formed in you."* Gal.4:19

Who would like to have the form of Jesus! Isaiah saw already hundreds of years before the birth of Jesus that people did not like His form. *"Who has believed our message and to whom has the arm of the LORD been revealed? He grew up before Him like a tender shoot, and like a root out of dry ground. He had no beauty or majesty to attract us to Him, nothing in His appearance that we should desire Him."* Isaiah.53:1-2

People consider the biblical Christianity gloomy and repulsive. They look at it like a little and insignificant plant pushing out from the dry ground. They don't wonder how life is coming up from the dry ground, but they despise its insignificance.

Mystery of the true Christianity

However someone stops beside the tender Shoot and finds a treasure. The secret of the true Christianity is only opened for those who know personally Jesus Christ. God uncovers His secret to them: *"To them God has chosen to make known among the Gentiles the glorious riches of this mystery, which is Christ in you, the hope of glory."* Col.1:27

God has ordered believers to be like Jesus: *"For those God foreknew He also predestined to be conformed to the likeness of His Son, that He might be the firstborn among many brothers."* Rom.8:29

If you love Jesus, you want to be changed into His likeness. By looking at Him you will be conformed. If your love for Jesus grows cold, you will be arrested by your sinful nature. If you lose your identity in Jesus, then the identity of your denomination overwhelms you. Therefore the world is full of Christians without Christ. Turn to God and ask to look at the form of God in Jesus Christ. *"We, who with unveiled faces all reflect the Lord's glory, are being transformed into His likeness with ever-increasing glory, which comes from the Lord, who is the Spirit."* 2Cor.3:18

The form of the submission of Jesus

Submission to God is the first quality of Jesus that must be adopted by a believer. Jesus said: *"My teaching is not my own. It comes from Him who sent me."* John.7:16 Jesus operated as an errand boy of His Father. He asked glory to His Sender, not to Himself. He represented His Father, not Himself. Jesus didn't think about what He would like to do with His life. He didn't have any plans for His future. *"For I have come down from heaven not to do my will but to do the will of Him who sent me."* John.6:38 Do in the same way and Christ will be formed in you.

Let's abandon our own opinions and plans and let's seek only the glory of Jesus and the will of God in all our decisions. Jesus said: *"As the Father has sent me, I am sending you."* John.20:21 We cannot be sent by Jesus, if we live according to our own plans. Dependence on God, submission to His plans and seeking of His interests express the form of character of Jesus.

This world is not pleased with this kind of form! It looks scornfully at the submission of Jesus and will perish with the chaos created by its selfishness. Independence, self-sufficiency and seeking of own benefit express the form of our sinful nature. Turn your back to the self-will of the world and see the beauty of the submission to God in the words and deeds of Jesus. In this way also you can become submissive to God in everything.

The form of the humbleness of Jesus

Humbleness is the most important quality of Jesus which must mould a Christian. *"Your attitude should be the same as that of Christ Jesus: Who, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be grasped, but made Himself nothing, taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness. And being found in appearance as a man."* Phil.2:5-7

Although Jesus did miracles He didn't pose as a super preacher but an ordinary man. He didn't allow any outward thing to express that He is the Son of God. He didn't come to be served but to serve, although He was the Lord of everything.

He didn't seek publicity and respect or worship of people. When He became too famous He fled to a wilderness and hid from publicity. When the people wanted to make Him a king, He refused to take political power. When some praised Him He said that only God is good. He said that His deeds were done by His Father. *"It is the Father, living in me, who is doing His work."* John.14:10 A Christian in the form of Christ says: "It is Jesus, living in me, who is doing His work."

The faces of the self-opinionated darken before the humbleness of Jesus. How could it be possible that a proud one could see any beauty in Jesus the Nazarene! It is just because of the humbleness of Jesus that many do not believe that He is God. Instead anyone touched by God's grace puts Jesus' humbleness into practice. He makes himself nothing and takes the very nature of a servant. The one full of one's own importance is without the form of Christ.

The form of the impartiality of Jesus

Truth is impartial. God's impartiality is expressed in the life of Jesus. It is the foundation of the saving gospel, because God

gave Jesus as a sacrifice for everyone. Without favourites God judges everyone according to one's deeds. In the same way He doesn't show favouritism when He gives mercy on a person, who believes in the gospel. Jesus is an unbribable messenger of truth in judgement as well as in mercy. He handled all people equally, whether Jews or Gentiles, rich or poor, men or women, slaves or free.

Who would take to the absoluteness of Jesus! A sinner has the form of a diplomatic plotter, who doesn't know any absolute truth. Everything is relative to him. A sinful nature is practised in flattery and slander. Instead a Jesus' own is equally unbribable as God to witness for truth. A believer can put the impartiality of Jesus in practice in countless situations of his life.

The form of the self-sacrifice of Jesus

Sharing one's own and self-sacrificing serving express the form of Jesus in us. *"This is how we know what love is: Jesus Christ laid down His life for us. And we ought to lay down our lives for our brothers."* ^{1John.3:16} Inspect how patiently Jesus treated all people! He gave His time and attention to those who needed it. He took care of poor and sick people and gave Himself as a sacrifice for our sins to redeem us from the slavery of sin.

A sinner has the form of a selfish pleasure-lover. How could an egoist see any beauty in the Redeemer who suffers for others! A self-confident person sees the form of weakness in a vicarious sacrifice. Instead the one who knows that he's going to be judged because of his sins, sees, that it is the only way to peace with God. The form of the self-sacrifice of Jesus appears in the person who has got the forgiveness of his sins through the sacrifice of the Calvary.

The form of the pacifism of Jesus

Refusing violence is an essential part of the form of Christ. He didn't resist evil with evil, but committed the defence of Himself to God. The non-violence of Jesus was more than refusing armed defence. He also didn't defend the interest of God with mental violence. *"He will not quarrel or cry out; no-one will hear His voice in the streets. A bruised reed He will not break, and a smouldering*

wick He will not snuff out, till He leads justice to victory." Matthew

12:19-20

Jesus doesn't shout and demonstrate in the streets. You can see His peaceful being passing you. He doesn't preach His message to those who don't want to listen to Him. Jesus doesn't impose and doesn't manipulate. If someone commands Him to go away, He will go and doesn't come back without invitation. He doesn't attack against you with His words trying to persuade you into a friend of God. How could those, who are intensely fighting for their rights, take to His gentle form?

A sinner has the form of a selfish defender. Although it is very obvious that he is guilty he doesn't confess it, but excuses himself in every way and wages war for his legal rights. How could it be possible that a man acting with clenched hands could see that the justice wins in Jesus, who doesn't resist evil!

The one who has shared God's mercy is worried about those living under the wrath of God. He doesn't want to injure them, because he knows how great a destruction is waiting for them after they have died. They have enough to endure in God's wrath. Who would have the heart to add their pains with his revenge?

The pacifism of Jesus means also that we don't bring any matter before the court, but we rather allow us to be wronged. *"The very fact that you have lawsuits among you means you have been completely defeated already. Why not rather be wronged? Why not rather be cheated?"* 1Cor.6:7 Quarrels of believers prove that Christ has not taken His form in them.

Don't imitate Jesus

We can try to follow the principles of Christian life, but we are not able to copy them from the Bible to our life. The focus of my efforts must be that I let Jesus freely live in me, not that I try with my own power to live like Him. If He lives in me, He can also express His form in me. It is not allowed only to imitate Jesus, but I actually have to be changed into His likeness.

If He doesn't show Himself to you, nothing can change you. He is the source of life that can flow from within you. I wish you would

love Jesus because of His sacrifice and then He would make His home with you.

Jesus lives in me

Jesus says: *"If anyone loves me, he will obey my teaching. My Father will love him, and we will come to him and make our home with him."* John.14:23 *"For it is God who works in you to will and to act according to His good purpose."* Phil.2:13

When you obey the teachings of Jesus, it proves that you love Him. However your form will be not changed before He lives in you. If God lives in you, your struggle is what kind of a position you give to Him in your internal life. Our world of thoughts is the greatest battle field!

To be one soul with God or with the world? This is the very question!

The soul of the world hates God and the soul of God doesn't take to the soul of the world. *"See, he is puffed up; his desires are not upright - but the righteous will live by his faith."* Hab.2:4 You can enter the grace of God through faith, but the energy to live new life comes from the faith of God. *"To this end I labour, struggling with all His energy, which so powerfully works in me."* Col.1:29

Is the common way of thinking affecting in you more powerfully than God? God has the possibility to win in your soul, if He can live in you.

About my transformation

As we understand, the orthodoxy doesn't guarantee uprightness. It is needed deeper unity with God's thoughts. It is a well known fact how a theory becomes a part of our soul. Also in this matter it is true that without practical exercises a theory doesn't become merged in us. Looking at His form must lead to some practical deeds. *"The man who looks intently into the perfect law that gives freedom, and continues to do this, not forgetting what he has heard, but doing it - he will be blessed in what he does."* James 1:25

You have to do in practice what Jesus says and then the form of your soul is transformed. He only gives power for one step at a

time. If you feel that you have not now the power to do something that you know that is God's will, don't get worried. It means that God wants that you first do something else. Resolve what God wants you to do just now. You will get the energy for it. Do it, and don't dream about other things.

Experiences with God get you closer to Him. You feel as if you were your spirit getting up to the mountain of God. You can look at the world with the eyes of God. It changes your soul. You start to hate the same things as God and to love the things He loves.

It is not easy to look at this world with the eyes of God. My soul is filled with pain and sorrow for the sake of godless people. Also it is grace from God when I can be sad together with Him, not only sharing His joy.

Who allows God's holiness to live with him? Many believers have turned away from the way of God, because they have been scared of their thoughts which were from God. He worked in them to will, but they hesitated to put it into practice.

When they stopped on the road of God they missed the refreshment of God. Disobedience to the will of God exposed them to seeking refreshment of the soul of the world. They stayed to listen to cheerful laughter, though what God heard was rejoicing with evil.

After they had been satisfied with the refreshment of the world they received unclean as clean. Their souls were united with the dissolute nirvana of the world-soul. Woe, I hope that they will come back! Remember what that matter was where you resisted the will of God and ask Him mercy just for it.

It is important to learn that we have a privilege and grace also to suffer together with Jesus. Without this attitude we easily drive Him out of our life.

We shall be like Jesus

According to God's plan life here is not easy for us. A great part of all the promised good things will be given us in the new coming world. If we are imperfectly like Jesus in this age, in the future world we will be perfectly like Him.

"If we endure, we will also reign with Him." ^{2Tim.2:12} If God doesn't lead me to sufferings for Jesus, I will be left without a seat of His government. I am not sorry about that, for the most important thing in the likeness of Jesus is what I am for Him, not that what I do. The best thing is that I can say like He can say to God, "my Father".

I experience His presence when I follow Him in His footprints in this land of agony. These experiences encourage me to believe that His way leads me to the happy destination.

"We know that when He appears, we shall be like Him, for we shall see Him as He is. Everyone who has this hope in Him purifies himself, just as He is pure." ^{1John.3:2-3}

The mind of Jesus is pure. Purify yourself by adopting His mind.

The Bible version used in references is NIV

There is only one Teacher in the Church of God, Jesus Christ. However the position of a servant exists which is for the apostolic teaching ordered by Jesus.

Doctrines are not cause but effect. In which spirit you live that's doctrines you carry out. Every doctrine has originated from some spirit. The form of a doctrine is the mark that a spirit left on it.

Today Jesus lives in His glorious body on the throne of God, but also in His own by the Holy Spirit.

Holiness means being separated from something for a certain purpose or devoting to a certain position. God is dedicated to goodness and in Him there is no wickedness. His holiness is goodness. All evil is unholy to Him.

Who is Jesus' own has a holy covenant with God. Uniting oneself with Him means sharing in His holiness. Your spirit is holy, if the Holy Spirit governs it. Your soul is holy, if it is governed by your sanctified spirit and your body is holy, if it is governed by your sanctified soul. Jesus in you gives you hope that your life will be changed!

Jesus Christ did the great work for us on the cross. Do work caused by His work.

Man's inner life is a great secret. Our motives are hidden in the depth of our hearts. Is our motive fear, sense of duty or love? In the light of God's words our motives are revealed. Jesus Christ shows us also the motive of God, if we venture to come into the light. Will you get the faith from His faith and the motive from His motive?

Shape of a body is not as important as the form of character expressed by thoughts and words coming out of the heart. Looking at the form of God is nourishing the mind of man. If a Christian lives as Christ lived he has the form of Christ. The Bible's Jesus shows the beauty of God's form. He is the exact representation of His being and the radiance of His glory. Look at the loveliness of His form, and fall in love with Him!