

SERIES: II CORINTHIANS: THE HEART AND HUMILITY OF A  
MAN OF GOD, WEEK 11

TITLE: THE UNVEILING

TEXT: II CORINTHIANS 3:12-17

INTRODUCTION: (1) I WANT TO BEGIN TODAY WITH A  
QUOTE FROM JOHN MACARTHUR TAKEN FROM HIS  
COMMENTARY ON II CORINTHIANS THAT WILL SET THE  
TABLE FOR OUR STUDY TODAY:

\* JOHN SAID AND I QUOTE: “THROUGHOUT REDEMPTIVE  
HISTORY SATAN HAS SOUGHT TO CONFUSE THE ISSUE  
OF SALVATION AND MAKE IT A MATTER OF HUMAN  
EFFORT.

\*\* ONE OF HIS MOST DEVIOUS AND EFFECTIVE SCHEMES  
HAS ALWAYS BEEN TO OFFER AN EXTERNAL,  
CEREMONIAL, SACRAMENTAL RELIGIOUS SUBSTITUTE  
FOR THE TRUE GOSPEL OF GRACE THROUGH FAITH.

\*\*\* SUCH FALSE RELIGIONS DO NOT PROVIDE SALVATION  
BUT DAMN PEOPLE BY DELUDING THEM INTO THINKING  
THAT BECAUSE THEY ARE RELIGIOUS, ALL IS WELL  
BETWEEN THEM AND GOD.

\*\*\*\* IN PAUL'S WORLD THAT SATANIC, RITUALISTIC COUNTERFEIT RELIGION TOOK THE FORM OF JEWISH LEGALISM, WHICH WAS ADVOCATED WITHIN THE CHURCH BY THE JUDAIZERS. THAT HERETICAL GROUP REJECTED THE TRUTH THAT THE NEW COVENANT FULLY PROVIDED THE MEANS OF SALVATION, MAKING THE OLD COVENANT OBSOLETE."

(2) AND AT THIS POINT JOHN MAKES REFERENCE TO HEBREWS 8:13 WHICH SAYS: "WHEN HE SAID, "A NEW COVENANT," HE HAS MADE THE FIRST OBSOLETE. BUT WHATEVER IS BECOMING OBSOLETE AND GROWING OLD IS READY TO DISAPPEAR."

\* JOHN WENT ON TO SAY IN TALKING ABOUT THE JUDAIZERS AND THEIR REJECTION OF THE GOSPEL OF FAITH, THAT THE NEW COVENANT FULLY PROVIDED THE MEANS OF SALVATION, MAKING THE OLD COVENANT OBSOLETE:

\*\* "THEY (THE JUDAIZERS) ARGUED THAT GENTILES MUST FIRST BECOME JEWISH PROSELYTES BEFORE THEY COULD BE SAVED. TO THAT END THEY ADVOCATED

OBSERVING THE RITUALS AND CEREMONIES OF THE OLD COVENANT. BUT TO CLING TO THE SHADOW OF THE OLD COVENANT WHEN THE REALITY OF THE NEW COVENANT HAD ARRIVED WAS FOOLISH,” AND THEN JOHN MAKES REFERENCE TO HEBREWS 10:1 WHICH SAYS: “FOR THE LAW, SINCE IT HAS ONLY A SHADOW OF THE GOOD THINGS TO COME AND NOT THE VERY FORM OF THINGS, CAN NEVER, BY THE SAME SACRIFICES WHICH THEY OFFER CONTINUALLY YEAR BY YEAR, MAKE PERFECT THOSE WHO DRAW NEAR.”

\*\*\* NOW WITH HEBREWS 10:1 IN VIEW, LASTLY JOHN WENT ON TO SAY: “EVEN THOSE AT THE PINNACLE OF OLD TESTAMENT REDEMPTIVE HISTORY COULD NOT “BE MADE PERFECT” (SAVED) BY THE OLD COVENANT.

\*\*\*\* APART FROM THE NEW COVENANT, THE “SOMETHING BETTER” GOD PROVIDED FOR US, THERE WOULD BE NO SALVATION. HAD THERE NEVER BEEN A NEW COVENANT, THE OLD TESTAMENT BELIEVERS WOULD NEVER HAVE BEEN SAVED BECAUSE THE OLD COVENANT COULD NOT REDEEM THEM.

(3) FORGIVENESS OF SINS COMES ONLY THROUGH THE ATONING SACRIFICE OF THE LORD JESUS CHRIST. THE SACRIFICIAL DEATH OF THE LORD JESUS CHRIST WAS SAVINGLY EFFICACIOUS AND APPLIED TO THOSE UNDER

THE OLD COVENANT.” (END QUOTE) BUT AT THE END JOHN GIVES REFERENCE TO ROMANS 3:24&25 AND HEBREWS 9:14&15.

\* ROMANS 3:24 – “BEING JUSTIFIED AS A GIFT BY HIS GRACE THROUGH THE REDEMPTION WHICH IS IN CHRIST JESUS.”

V. 25 – WHOM GOD DISPLAYED PUBLICLY AS A PROPITIATION IN HIS BLOOD THROUGH FAITH. THIS WAS TO DEMONSTRATE HIS RIGHTEOUSNESS, BECAUSE IN THE FORBEARANCE OF GOD HE PASSED OVER THE SINS PREVIOUSLY COMMITTED.

HEBREWS 9:14 – “HOW MUCH MORE WILL THE BLOOD OF CHRIST, WHO THROUGH THE ETERNAL SPIRIT OFFERED HIMSELF WITHOUT BLEMISH TO GOD, CLEANSE YOUR CONSCIENCE FROM DEAD WORKS TO SERVE THE LIVING GOD?

V. 15 – FOR THIS REASON HE IS THE MEDIATOR OF A NEW COVENANT, SO THAT, SINCE A DEATH HAS TAKEN PLACE FOR THE REDEMPTION OF THE TRANSGRESSIONS THAT WERE COMMITTED UNDER THE FIRST COVENANT, THOSE WHO HAVE BEEN CALLED MAY RECEIVE THE PROMISE OF THE ETERNAL INHERITANCE.”

\*\* NOW WHAT DO THOSE VERSES AND JOHN'S QUOTE HAVE TO DO WITH OUR TEXT TODAY?

\*\*\* WELL, THE ANSWER IS EVERYTHING.

\*\*\*\* FOR PAUL AT THIS POINT IN CHURCH HISTORY IS DEFENDING AND PROCLAIMING THE NEW COVENANT GOSPEL IN II CORINTHIANS 3.

(4) FOR FALSE TEACHERS INFILTRATED THE CHURCH AT CORINTH.

\* AND THESE FALSE TEACHERS, CLAIMING TO BE THE APOSTLES OF GOD, PREACHED THAT THE RITUALS AND CEREMONIES OF THE OLD COVENANT WERE ESSENTIAL FOR SALVATION.

\*\* AND TO BOOST THEIR OWN CREDIBILITY AND AUTHORITY WITH THE CHURCH AT CORINTH, THESE FALSE TEACHERS ATTACKED PAUL'S INTEGRITY AND HIS CREDIBILITY AS AN APOSTLE AND MINISTER OF CHRIST.

\*\*\* AND HERE IN II CORINTHIANS CHAPTER 3, AS A PART OF HIS RESPONSE TO THESE FALSE APOSTLE'S ATTACKS, PAUL COMMUNICATES THE SUPERIORITY AND GREATER GLORY OF THE NEW COVENANT OVER THE OLD COVENANT.

\*\*\*\* AND THAT UNDERSTANDING IS ESSENTIAL TO UNDERSTAND THE CONTEXT OF II CORINTHIANS 3:6-18, AS PAUL DISARMS THE JUDAIZERS AT CORINTH AS THEY WERE TRYING TO TAKE BELIEVERS AND PUT THEM BACK UNDER OLD COVENANT PRACTICES.

(5) AND PAUL IN OUR TEXT TODAY WILL SHOW THAT THE VEIL THAT OBSCURED THE OLD COVENANT IS ONLY REMOVED IN CHRIST AND THE REVELATION OF THE OLD COVENANT IN THE OLD TESTAMENT IS A MYSTERY APART FROM CHRIST.

\* BUT THANKFULLY IN GOD'S GREAT PLAN OF REDEMPTION, JESUS CHRIST HAS COME AND RATIFIED THE NEW COVENANT BY HIS DEATH, MATTHEW 26:28.

\*\* AND FOR THOSE WHO COME TO FAITH IN CHRIST ALONE, SPIRITUAL PERCEPTION IS NO LONGER VEILED AND EVERYTHING BECOMES CLEAR. THERE IS A SPIRITUAL UNVEILING IN THE NEW COVENANT.

\*\*\* AND THE WORD VEIL WHICH LIT. MEANS COVERING IS USED 4 TIMES IN OUR TEXT TODAY, AND THE WORD UNVEILING IS ACTUALLY USED IN V. 18, A PART OF THIS SECTION.

\*\*\*\* SO IN MY UNDERSTANDING OF OUR TEXT TODAY, WE NOT ONLY SEE THE SUPERIORITY OF THE NEW

COVENANT, BUT ALSO AN UNVEILING OF THE OLD COVENANT BY THE NEW WHICH IS WHAT I'VE TITLED OUR SERMON FOR TODAY: THE UNVEILING.

(6) AND UNDER THAT THEME WE'LL LOOK AT 3 POINTS. NO. 1 THE PREACHING OF PAUL, V. 12; NO. 2 THE PICTURE THAT PAUL PAINTS OF THE UNVEILING OF THE OLD COVENANT IN THE NEW COVENANT, VV. 13-16; AND NO. 3 THE POWER THAT FREES US TO SEE THESE TRUTHS, V. 17, THE HOLY SPIRIT.

\* AND WITH THOSE POINTS AS OUR ROADMAP TO FOLLOW IN THIS SPIRITUAL UNVEILING, LOOK AT V. 12 PLEASE WHERE WE'LL SEE OUR FIRST POINT, THE PREACHING.

I. THE PREACHING, (READ V. 12)

A. NOW THE FIRST WORD IN V. 12, THE WORD THEREFORE, OR SINCE, TAKES US BACK TO V. 11 AND LIT. MEANS, THESE THINGS BEING SO, OR CONSEQUENTLY, OR ACCORDINGLY, THESE THINGS BEING SO, THE TRUTHS OF V. 11.

\* AND IN REVIEW FROM TWO WEEKS AGO, V. 11 SAYS: "FOR IF THAT WHICH FADES AWAY WAS WITH GLORY, MUCH MORE THAT WHICH REMAINS IS IN GLORY."

\*\* AND THAT WHICH FADES AWAY WAS THE OLD COVENANT, AND THE OLD COVENANT FADES AWAY WHEN ITS FUNCTION IS COMPLETE, WHEN IT SHOWS US OUR SIN AND DRIVES US TO THE SAVIOR, THE LORD JESUS CHRIST.

\*\*\* BUT IN CONTRAST, THE NEW COVENANT IS WHAT REMAINS, IT LASTS, IT'S PERMANENT.

\*\*\*\* IT IS TO SAY, IT WILL NEVER BE REPLACED WITH SOMETHING GREATER OR MORE GLORIOUS, IT WILL PERMANENTLY BE IN FORCE.

1. NOW KNOWING THAT THE MESSAGE YOU PREACH OR SPEAK WILL NEVER CHANGE GIVES A PREACHER GREAT CONFIDENCE, A HOLY BOLDNESS AND A SURE HOPE, LEADING US BACK TO V. 12.

\* FOR THE HOPE IN V. 12, WHICH PAUL SPEAKS IS THE SURE CONVICTION THAT THE GLORY OF THE GOSPEL, THE NEW COVENANT WILL NEVER FADE OR BECOME DIM. PAUL HAD COMPLETE CONFIDENCE, A SURE HOPE, A CONFIDENT EXPECTATION THAT HIS MESSAGE WOULD NEVER CHANGE OR BE REPLACED WITH SOMETHING BETTER.



\*\* AND WHEN YOU HAVE THAT KIND OF SURE HOPE IT GIVES YOU GREAT BOLDNESS IN YOUR PREACHING AND WHAT YOU COMMUNICATE IN YOUR WITNESSING.

\*\*\* AND THE GREEK WORD TRANSLATED BOLDNESS OR BOLD HERE IN V. 12 LIT. MEANS FREEDOM OF SPEECH, WITHOUT CONCEALMENT, WITHOUT AMBIGUITY, WITH FEARLESS CONFIDENCE AND COURAGE.

\*\*\*\* AND SO SURE AND WELL ESTABLISHED IS THE CONFIDENT HOPE PROVIDED BY THE NEW COVENANT, THAT THOSE WHO COMMUNICATE AND PREACH IT, DO IT WITH COURAGEOUS CONFIDENCE, WITHOUT RELUCTANCE, WITH NO WAVERING, THEY SPEAK WITH AUTHORITY.

2. AND ISN'T IT A JOY TO KNOW THAT THE GOSPEL WE COMMUNICATE NEVER CHANGES, WILL NEVER BE UPDATED OR IMPROVED, THAT IT WILL NOT FADE AWAY WITH SOMETHING BETTER TO FOLLOW.

\* FOR MANY THINGS IN OUR WORLD ARE IN FLUX, BEING IMPROVED, AND FADING AWAY, FROM MEDICAL TECHNIQUES TO TECHNOLOGY WITH OUR PHONES AND COMPUTERS.

\*\* AND THE FACT OF THE MATTER IS DESKTOP COMPUTERS ARE BECOMING OBSOLETE. AND IF YOU HAVE AN IPAD 2, GUESS WHAT? THE IPAD 3 IS COMING OUT NEXT MONTH.

\*\*\* AND IF YOU HAVE AN IPHONE 4, THE 4S HAS ALREADY REPLACED IT. AND THOSE ARE GOOD THINGS, I THINK. FOR IT IS ALL A NEW LEARNING CURVE, BUT IF IT MAKES ME MORE EFFICIENT AND EFFECTIVE, I'M FOR IT.

\*\*\*\* BUT THE GOSPEL OF THE NEW COVENANT WILL NEVER COME OUT WITH IGOSPEL 2 OR 3 OR 4. IT WILL NEVER BE UPDATED OR IMPROVED, WHY? BECAUSE IT CAN'T BE IMPROVED, IT'S ALREADY PERFECT!

3. AND WHEN YOU COMMUNICATE IT TO OTHERS THAT SHOULD BRING CONFIDENCE AND BOLDNESS, IT IS PERFECT AND YOU WILL NEVER HAVE TO UPDATE IT WITH VERSION 4 (OR IT'S NOT OK TO EAT MEAT ON FRIDAY, BUT NOW IT IS.)

\* AND PAUL UNHESITATINGLY PREACHED THE LIBERATING MESSAGE OF THE NEW COVENANT, EVEN THOUGH IT ENRAGED THE JUDAIZERS WHO CLUNG FIERCELY TO THE OLD COVENANT.

\*\* AND THAT'S THE PREACHING OF V. 12, WHICH LEADS US TO THE PICTURE THAT PAUL GOES BACK TO IN VV. 13-

16. LOOK AT V. 13 PLEASE WHERE WE'LL START TO SEE THE PICTURE.

## II. THE PICTURE, (READ V. 13)

A. NOW THE PICTURE THAT PAUL PAINTS IN VV. 13-16 IS THAT THE NEW COVENANT IS CLEAR, IT IS UNVEILED AND THAT THE NEW COVENANT IS CHRIST CENTERED.

\* AND PAUL WILL GO BACK TO MOSES AND AN ILLUSTRATION THAT HE USED IN V. 7 OF II CORINTHIANS 3 ABOUT MOSES WHEN HE RECEIVED THE 2'D GIVING OF THE LAW AND COMING DOWN FROM MT. SINAI WITH A GLOW ON HIS FACE AND THAT AT TIMES WOULD HAVE TO PUT A VEIL ON HIS FACE.

\*\* AND WHEREAS THE MINISTRY OF MOSES WAS AT TIMES MARKED BY CONCEALMENT, HE HAD TO VEIL HIS FACE, PAUL'S MINISTRY OF THE GOSPEL, THE NEW COVENANT HAS THE CHARACTER OF GREAT OPENNESS, HE USES NO VEIL IN HIS MINISTRY.

\*\*\* AND WITH THAT SAID, AS YOU LOOK AT V. 13 WITH THOSE PICTURES BEFORE YOU, PAUL BEGINS IN V. 13 BY SAYING HE WAS NOT LIKE MOSES WHO USED TO PUT A VEIL OVER HIS FACE.

\*\*\*\* SO PAUL WAS UNLIKE MOSES. A CONTRAST IS MADE BETWEEN THE TWO MEN. AND MOSES IS THE GREAT

REPRESENTATIVE OF THE OLD COVENANT IN THIS PICTURE THAT PAUL PAINTS. AND MOSES PUT A VEIL OVER HIS FACE, GOING BACK TO EXODUS 34:33-35.

1. AND MOSES VEILING HIS FACE WAS ACCORDING TO THE REST OF V. 13 IN II CORINTHIANS 3, WAS SO THAT THE SONS OF ISRAEL WOULD NOT LOOK INTENTLY AT WHAT PAUL CALLS THE END OF WHAT WAS FADING AWAY.

\* AND THAT PHRASE OR EXPRESSION PICTURES, IT SYMBOLIZES THE SHADOWY, VEILED, DIMINISHING NATURE OF THE OLD COVENANT.

\*\* IT WAS FILLED WITH TYPES, PICTURES, SYMBOLS AND MYSTERY AND COULD ONLY BE UNDERSTOOD WITH THE NEW COVENANT IN VIEW, TO SEE YOU HAVE TO HAVE FULL LIGHT, AND THEY HAD THE FLASHLIGHT, IN THE OLD COVENANT, BUT NOW THE NEW COVENANT AND CHRIST HAD COME WHICH WAS THE BLAZING LIGHT OF A NOONDAY SUN.

\*\*\* AND PAUL WILL GIVE THE REASON WHY THE ISRAELITES IN MOSES' DAY DID NOT COMPREHEND THE VEILED AND FADING GLORY OF THE OLD COVENANT AS THEY LOOKED AT IT. LOOK AT V. 14 PLEASE AS THE

PICTURE CONTINUES TO BE PAINTED IN PAUL'S ILLUSTRATION FROM MOSES VEILING HIS FACE.

B. READ V. 14. NOW THE REASON THAT THE CHILDREN OF ISRAEL DID NOT LOOK INTENTLY SO AS TO CLEARLY COMPREHEND THE VEILED AND FADING GLORY OF THE OLD COVENANT WAS NOT MOSES' FAULT OR THE FAULT OF THE OLD COVENANT.

\* FOR THE REASON GIVEN HERE IN V. 14 WAS THEIR MINDS WERE HARDENED, THEIR MINDS WERE BLINDED, THEIR MINDS WERE MADE DULL.

\*\* AND THE GREEK VERB TRANSLATED HARDENED, BLINDED OR MADE DULL, DEPENDING ON WHICH TRANSLATION YOU HAVE LIT. MEANS "TO COVER WITH A THICK SKIN," "TO HARDEN BY COVERING WITH A CALLUS."

\*\*\* AND METAPHORICALLY IT MEANS TO MAKE THE HEART DULL, TO GROW HARD, TO CALLOUS, TO BECOME DULL, TO LOSE THE POWER OF UNDERSTANDING.

\*\*\*\* AND THAT IS THE M.O. OF THE CHILDREN OF ISRAEL FROM THE TIME OF MOSES TO THE PRESENT DAY, THEIR WAS STUBBORN, HARD-HEARTED UNBELIEF.

1. AND PAUL MOVES FROM MOSES' DAY IN HIS PICTURE TO HIS OWN DAY WITH THE JUDAIZERS AT CORINTH AND MOST JEWISH PEOPLE IN GENERAL.

\* FOR HE GOES ON TO SAY "FOR UNTIL THIS VERY DAY AT THE READING OF THE OLD COVENANT (SUCH AS WHEN IT WAS READ IN THE SYNAGOGUE SERVICE) THE SAME VEIL REMAINS UNLIFTED."

\*\* AND A VEIL OF INTELLECTUAL DARKNESS BLINDS THE JEWS IN GENERAL, WHICH I MIGHT ADD, REMAINS UNTO THIS DAY.

\*\*\* FOR ACCORDING TO ROMANS 11:25B, PAUL SAYS: "THAT A PARTIAL HARDENING HAS HAPPENED TO ISRAEL UNTIL THE FULLNESS OF THE GENTILES HAS COME IN," UNTIL THE NUMBER OF ELECT GENTILES HAS COME TO SALVATION IN THE PLAN OF GOD.

\*\*\*\* AND AS PAUL POINTS OUT, THE JEWS IN MOSES' DAY WERE HARD HEARTED AND MOSES NEEDED TO PUT ON A VEIL AT TIMES IN COMING DOWN FROM SINAI AND RECEIVING THE LAW, AND NOW TODAY, THE OBSCURING VEIL OF UNBELIEF REMAINS UNLIFTED FOR ISRAEL BECAUSE THE VEIL IS REMOVED ONLY IN CONNECTION WITH CHRIST AND HIS WORK.

2. IN OTHER WORDS, THE VEIL THAT OBSCURED THE OLD COVENANT IS ONLY REMOVED IN CHRIST.

\* AND ONLY BY FAITH ALONE IN CHRIST ALONE CAN A PERSON SEE THE GREATER GLORY OF THE NEW COVENANT, AS WELL AS THE REPLACEMENT OF THE OLD BY THE NEW.

\*\* AND PRACTICALLY THIS MEANS HARD HEARTED BLINDED PEOPLE LIKE THE JUDAIZERS WRONGLY THOUGHT THEY COULD BE SAVED BY KEEPING THE LAW AND ITS CEREMONIES.

\*\*\* AND THE RELIGIONISTS OF JESUS' DAY LOWERED THE MORAL REQUIREMENTS SO THEY COULD ACHIEVE EXTERNAL, SUPERFICIAL RIGHTEOUSNESS WHICH LEADS TO PRIDE AND LOOKING DOWN ON PEOPLE.

\*\*\*\* BUT BY DOING SO, THEY RENDERED THE LAW'S PURPOSE OF REVEALING THEIR SIN AND HELPLESSNESS INEFFECTIVE.

\*\*\*\* SO THEY DID NOT SEE THEMSELVES AS LOST; THEREFORE THEY SAW NO NEED OF A SAVIOR, ESPECIALLY A HUMBLE MEEK SAVIOR WHO DIED ON AN OLD RUGGED CROSS.

3. AND BELOVED, THE VEIL OF IGNORANCE OBSCURES THE TRUE PURPOSE OF THE OLD COVENANT TO THE

HARDENED HEART. AND THAT, IN TURN, MADE THEM IGNORANT OF THE NEED OF THE NEW COVENANT AND CHRIST.

\* AND PAUL REITERATES THE TRUTH IN V. 14, IN VERSE 15. LOOK AT IT PLEASE.

C. READ V. 15. NOW THE PICTURE CHANGES SLIGHTLY HERE IN V. 15 FOR THE READING OF THE OLD COVENANT IN V. 14 IS CHANGED TO THE READING OF MOSES IN V. 15, SPEAKING OF THE LAW.

\* AND IN THE O.T. ILLUSTRATION THAT PAUL USES OF MOSES, THE VEIL WAS OVER THE FACE OF MOSES, BUT NOW A VEIL LIES ON THE HEARTS OF THE JEWISH PEOPLE.

\*\* AND WHEN THE LAW WAS READ AS A PART OF SABBATH WORSHIP FOR THE JEWS, THEY STILL DO NOT GET THE PURPOSE OF THE LAW.

\*\*\* THEY TRY TO KEEP IT FOR RIGHTEOUSNESS, RATHER THAN SEEING THEY CAN'T KEEP IT AND ARE DRIVEN TO THE ONLY ONE WHO EVER KEPT THE LAW PERFECTLY, THE LORD JESUS, AND SEE THEIR NEED OF HIS RIGHTEOUSNESS.



\*\*\*\* THERE IS A VEIL THAT LIES OVER THEIR HEARTS THAT THEY DON'T SEE CHRIST AND THEIR NEED OF CHRIST, QUOTE ROMANS 10:4.

1. AND THIS REPETITIOUS THEME CONTINUES. THE JEWISH PEOPLE AND THE FALSE TEACHERS, THE JUDAIZERS AT CORINTH WERE STILL TRYING TO OBTAIN RIGHTEOUSNESS ON THE PRINCIPLE OF DOING – WORKS RELIGION, NEVER REALIZING THAT THE WORK HAS ALREADY BEEN DONE BY THE SAVIOR ON THE CROSS OF CALVARY.

\* THEY ARE, LIKE MULTITUDES TODAY, SEEKING TO GAIN SALVATION BY THEIR OWN MERIT, NOT REALIZING THAT THE LAW OF MOSES UTTERLY CONDEMNS THEM AND THAT THEY SHOULD FLEE TO THE ARMS OF THE LORD JESUS FOR MERCY AND GRACE.

\*\* AND THE ONLY WAY THE VEIL THAT BLINDS IS TAKEN AWAY IS WHEN A PERSON TURNS FROM THEIR SIN TO THE LORD. LOOK AT V. 16 PLEASE.

D. READ V. 16. NOW IT IS ONLY WHEN A PERSON TURNS TO THE LORD THAT THE VEIL IS TAKEN AWAY.

\* AND BELOVED THE BLESSINGS OF THE NEW COVENANT COME ONLY BY GOD'S SOVEREIGN GRACE ALONE, THROUGH FAITH ALONE IN JESUS CHRIST ALONE.

\*\* AND THEN ALL THE CLOUDS AND MISTS AND SHADOWS THAT VEILED THE TRUTH IN THE OLD COVENANT ARE BLOWN AWAY, REMOVED LIKE FOG OR SMOKE BY A HIGH WIND.

\*\*\* AND PAUL HERE IN V. 16 GOES BACK TO EXODUS 34:34 WHICH SAYS: “BUT WHENEVER MOSES WENT IN BEFORE THE LORD TO SPEAK WITH HIM, HE WOULD TAKE OFF THE VEIL UNTIL HE CAME OUT; AND WHENEVER HE CAME OUT AND SPOKE TO THE SONS OF ISRAEL WHAT HE HAD BEEN COMMANDED.”

\*\*\*\* NOW WITH EXODUS 34:34 BEFORE US, PAUL BORROWED THE IMAGE OF SALVATION AS A VEIL BEING TAKEN AWAY FROM MOSES UNVEILING HIMSELF IN GOD’S PRESENCE.

1. AND MOSES IN EXODUS 34, REMOVED HIS VEIL BECAUSE HE WANTED A DIRECT VISION OF GOD’S GLORY. AND SO IT IS WITH SINNERS WHO TURN TO GOD THROUGH JESUS CHRIST. THE VEIL IS TAKEN AWAY AND THEY HAVE A CLEAR VISION OF THE GLORY OF GOD REFLECTED IN THE FACE OF JESUS CHRIST.

\* AND TO TURN IN REPENTANCE AND FAITH TO CHRIST, A GIFT OF GOD’S GRACE, IS TO TURN TO THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD. AND GOD ENABLES A PERSON TO SEE THE S O N

SON IN ALL OF HIS BLAZING GLORY BY HIS REGENERATING WORK.

\*\* AND WHEN YOU SEE THE BRIGHT LIGHT OF THE SON, THE OLD COVENANT FADES AWAY.

\*\*\* AND THE POWER OF THIS WORK COMES THROUGH THE MINISTRY AND WORK OF THE HOLY SPIRIT. LOOK AT THE POWER, OUR THIRD POINT TODAY, IN V. 17 PLEASE.

### III. THE POWER, (READ V. 17)

A. NOW THE WORD SPIRIT IS CAPITALIZED IN ALL OF THE GOOD TRANSLATIONS I LOOKED AT INCLUDING THE NAS, THE NIV, THE ESV, THE NKJV AND THE KJV.

\* AND I POINT OUT THAT THESE TRANSLATIONS USE THE UPPER CASE "S" HERE BECAUSE WE ARE TALKING ABOUT THE SPIRIT OF GOD, THE HOLY SPIRIT.

\*\* AND WE HAVE ALREADY SEEN IN VERSE 6 OF II CORINTHIANS 3 THAT THE LETTER OF THE LAW KILLS BUT THE SPIRIT, THE HOLY SPIRIT GIVES LIFE, SPIRITUAL LIFE.

\*\*\* AND BELOVED, THE HOLY SPIRIT IS INVOLVED IN THE WORK OF REGENERATION, MAKING PEOPLE ALIVE SPIRITUALLY THAT ARE NATURALLY DEAD IN TRESPASSES AND SINS.

\*\*\*\* SO THE SPIRIT GIVES LIFE, HE REMOVES THE VEIL FROM THE HEART THAT BLIND PEOPLE CAN SEE THE LIGHT OF THE GLORIOUS GOSPEL OF CHRIST IN THE NEW COVENANT.

1. AND IT IS THE SPIRIT OF THE LORD WHO BRINGS THE LIBERTY OF SALVATION TO REPENTANT SINNERS OF ANY AGE.

\* AND HE BRINGS LIBERTY FROM BONDAGE TO THE LAW AND THE DEATH IT BRINGS. THIS IS A WORK, A FUNCTION OF HIS DIVINE MINISTRY.

\*\* FOR THE HOLY SPIRIT IS THE THIRD PERSON OF THE GOD HEAD, GOD THE SPIRIT.

\*\*\* AND THE DEITY OF THE HOLY SPIRIT, THAT HE IS GOD IS BROUGHT OUT IN THE FIRST PART OF V. 17 WHERE PAUL SAYS, "NOW THE LORD IS THE SPIRIT."

\*\*\*\* AND THAT DECLARATION STRONGLY AFFIRMS AND COMMUNICATES THE DEITY OF THE HOLY SPIRIT FOR THE LORD WHO IS TALKED ABOUT IN V. 16 WHEN A PERSON TURNS TO THE LORD, THE LORD JESUS, HE DOES SO THROUGH THE LIFE GIVING WORK OF THE HOLY SPIRIT.

2. AND THE LORD JESUS AND THE HOLY SPIRIT ARE ONE IN PURPOSE, IN UNITY AND IN THIS RESULT OF BEING

BORN AGAIN. THE HOLY SPIRIT REMOVES THE VEIL AND A PERSON IS ENABLED TO TURN TO CHRIST.

\* AND AS JESUS SAID IN JOHN 10:30, "I AND MY FATHER ARE ONE." ONE IN ESSENCE, ONE IN UNITY, ONE IN PURPOSE, BUT ARE DISTINCT PERSONS IN THE TRINITY OR GODHEAD.

\*\* AND JUST AS THE FATHER AND CHRIST ARE ONE IN THE MYSTERIOUS UNITY OF THE TRINITY, SO THE LORD JESUS AND THE SPIRIT ARE ONE IN ESSENCE AND PURPOSE. THEY ARE DISTINCT AS PERSONS, BUT ONE IN PURPOSE AS ONE GOD IN 3 PERSONS, NOT 3 SEPARATE GODS OR ONE GOD WHO IS SOMETIMES THE FATHER AND SOMETIMES THE SON AND SOMETIMES THE HOLY SPIRIT, BUT ONE GOD IN THREE PERSONS.

\*\*\* AND THE FATHER, SON AND HOLY SPIRIT ARE ALL AT WORK IN THE WORK OF REDEMPTION. THE FATHER PLANNED IT, THE SON CARRIES OUT THE PLAN AND THE HOLY SPIRIT APPLIES IT, HE REMOVES THE VEIL.

\*\*\*\* NOW THE LORD IS THE SPIRIT. THE ONE WHO CARRIED IT OUT, THE LORD JESUS IS GOD AND THE SPIRIT IS GOD WHO REMOVES THE VEIL. THEY ARE ONE IN PURPOSE AND DISTINCT IN THE BIBLE.

3. AND WHEN THE HOLY SPIRIT IS AT WORK IN BRINGING LIFE, THERE IS LIBERTY. HE BRINGS FREEDOM, NOT BONDAGE, HE SETS A PERSON FREE FROM THE BONDAGE OF SIN, DEATH AND THE LAW AS A MEANS OF ACQUIRING RIGHTEOUSNESS.

IN WRAP UP: (1) IN THE THIRD CENTURY, THE CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST HAD TO CONFRONT A HERESY CALLED SABELLIANISM, WHICH MISINTERPRETS II CORINTHIANS 3:17 AND TAKES IT OUT OF ITS CONTEXT.

\* AND SABELLIANISM TEACHES THAT JESUS CHRIST AND THE HOLY SPIRIT ARE ONE AND THE SAME PERSON. AND TO BE SPECIFIC, THIS HERESY TAUGHT THAT AS GOD IS ONE, THE FATHER, SON AND THE SPIRIT ARE NOT DISTINCT PERSONS, BUT MERELY DIFFERENT MODES OF THE GODHEAD.

\*\* THEREFORE THAT HERESY TODAY IS CALLED MODALISM, A VIEW THAT THE FAMOUS TV PREACHER OF THE POTTER'S HOUSE T.D. JAKES TAKES.

\*\*\* AND MODALISM, THE RESURRECTION OF SABELLIANISM IN OUR DAY, TEACHES THAT THE FATHER, SON AND HOLY SPIRIT DO NOT SIMULTANEOUSLY EXIST AS DISTINCT PERSONS.

\*\*\*\* RATHER GOD AT SOME TIMES AND PLACES IS THE FATHER, AT SOMETIMES THE SON, AND OTHER TIMES THE HOLY SPIRIT – THE ONE GOD APPEARS IN DIFFERENT MODES – MODALISM.

(2) WHEREAS THE BIBLE TEACHES THERE IS ONE GOD IN WHOM THERE ARE 3 ETERNAL SIMULTANEOUS PERSONS, THE FATHER, THE SON AND THE HOLY SPIRIT.

\* AND ALL THREE ARE THE ONE GOD, CO-ETERNAL, CO-EQUAL, NOT ONE GOD WHO TAKES ON 3 MODES OR FORMS.

\*\* AND WE SEE ALL THREE PERSONS SIMULTANEOUSLY AT ONE TIME AT THE BAPTISM OF JESUS IN MATTHEW 3:16&17, QUOTE THEM.

\*\*\* AND WE SEE ALL 3 IN THE BENEDICTION OF II CORINTHIANS 13:14 (QUOTE IT).

\*\*\*\* AND WE SEE THAT WE ARE TO BE BAPTIZED AFTER SALVATION IN THE NAME OF THE FATHER, SON AND HOLY SPIRIT, MATTHEW 28:19&20.

(3) AND WE SAW ALL 3 PERSONS WORK IN SALVATION IN EPHESIANS 1 A FEW WEEKS AGO.

\* AND TO LIE TO THE HOLY SPIRIT IN ACTS 5:3&4 IS TO LIE TO GOD.

\*\* BUT MY POINT IS, NOT TO DO AN EXTENSIVE TEACHING ON THE DOCTRINE OF THE TRINITY TODAY, BUT TO REMIND YOU, IF THERE HAS EVER BEEN A DAY THAT WE NEED TO KNOW WHAT WE BELIEVE AND WHY WE BELIEVE IT, IT IS TODAY.

\*\*\* BELOVED, WE NEED TO KNOW THE TRUTH, THE BIBLE, VERY WELL.

\*\*\*\* AND THIS IS REINFORCED IN OUR STUDY TODAY, FOR THE LEGALISTS OF PAUL'S DAY WERE TEACHING ERROR, ADDING WORKS TO FAITH, MISUSING THE LAW OF GOD, PUTTING A YOKE OF BONDAGE AROUND PEOPLE'S NECKS.

(4) AND YOU HAVE HEARD THIS BEFORE FROM YOUR ELDERS – PASTORS, AND YOU WILL HEAR IT AGAIN, BE CAREFUL WHAT YOU READ, LISTEN TO, WATCH AND TAKE INTO YOUR MIND.

\* FOR SATAN IS A MASTER OF MIXING ERROR WITH TRUTH AND TRYING TO MAKE IT EDIBLE SO WE WILL EAT AND DIGEST IT AND BELIEVE IT.

\*\* TRUE BELIEVER, GLORY AND BE SECURE IN THE TRUTH ALONE WHICH WE HAVE, AND STUDY IT AND LIVE IT TO BE



SANCTIFIED, WHICH I WILL TALK ABOUT, LORD WILLING,  
NEXT SUNDAY IN V. 18. (LET'S PRAY)