



## LETTER L-52

4 pages

January 2024

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### WHEN THAT WHICH IS PERFECT IS COME-

**WHAT IS MAN?**- *"And God said, Let us make man in our image, after our likeness; and let them, (male and female), have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over the cattle, and over ALL THE EARTH, and over every creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth."* (Gen.1:26) This is God's purpose for the man that He has made, and it is the work that has been in progress ever since He pronounced these words. *"So God created man in his own image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them."* (Vs.27) God made man to rule over all the earth, but what kind of man has really been ruling over all of God's creation?

David asked, *"What is man that thou art mindful of him? And the son of man, that thou visitest him? For thou hast made him a little lower than the angels, and hast crowned him with glory and honour. Thou hast made him to have dominion over the works of thy hands; thou hast put all things under his feet."* (Ps.8:4-6) The writer to the Hebrews adds, *"...but now we see not yet all things put under him, but we see Jesus..."* (Heb.2:9) Jesus is the only perfect man that walked the earth and who had dominion over the works of God's hands. Jesus could calm the stormy seas and cause Peter to walk upon the waters. He could call up the dead out of their tombs. He could cleanse the lepers with a Word and do mighty miracles. Jesus was a "perfect" man while He walked the earth. He did not have to die; He willingly laid His life down in obedience to His Father. The first man was male and female, a spirit being who could not cultivate the earth, so God formed this spirit man out of the dust of the earth, and gave him a soul to connect with the earth, *"... there was not a man to till the ground, so the Lord God formed man of the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life, and man became a living soul."* (Gen.2:5-7)

Now God's man was a spirit who connected to God. He had a soul from the breath of God, and a body formed out of the dust of the earth. This man was conscious of God through his spirit, and conscious of his body and of the things of the earth through his soul. This was the order in which the perfect man was made to work in the earth and to rule over the works of God's hand. Paul uses this metaphor to describe this perfect man, *"But I would have you know, that the head of every man is Christ; and the head of the woman is man; and the head of Christ is God."* (I Cor.11:3). The spirit of man must be in submission to God's Holy Spirit, and the woman, the soul, must be in harmony with the man, her spirit. This does not mean that a woman is subservient to a man; it means that within each human there is a male and female, a spirit and a soul, and each must work according to God's order.

**DESTROYING THE SERPENT'S WORKS-** *"...For this purpose the Son of God was manifested, that he might destroy the works of the devil."* (I Jn.3:8). The serpent in Eden was not a literal snake that suddenly appeared and spoke to Eve out of that tree. And it was not a literal tree or an apple tree either, these things are visible symbols used to describe the invisible things of God and to help us understand what really happened when man was plunged into the realm of death, and robbed of his dominion mandate. That serpent represents the twisted, lying, malicious, sly and venomous evil spirit that deceived the woman, and through her, deceived the man as well. This process has been ongoing in the garden of our soul and spirit, ever since. The soul, (woman), can easily be tempted by flattering words that please

and feed the fleshly ambitions and lusts of each human being. Adam was nowhere to be found during that fatal encounter and conversation. Eve did not look for guidance from her husband, and the sly spirit wasted no time to seal the deal. He planted in her heart, the powerful seed of the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eye and the pride of life. When Eve welcomed these things within her mind and heart, she felt important in her person, and felt she was as God. The serpent had conquered the soul of the man God had formed and the final, deadly blow came after the soul seduced her husband into accepting the same poisoned reasoning. Thus the spirit was also contaminated with lies. They no longer believed God's word who said, *"On the very day that you eat of that tree, ye shall surely die."* What this meant was that, "If you listen to and believe lies, you shall enter a cycle of eternal death!"

And so they entered into the realm of "Shoal," which means the realm of the dead, and which is translated in the King James Bible as "Hell." Their minds, which before could hear the voice of God, had become carnal, meaning "of the flesh." They had become staunch enemies of God, totally separated from Him. The man who was created to have dominion over all the earth, was now in bondage to the earth, and to multitudes of spirits of evil. The spirit who once communed with God in the cool of the day, had fallen in the darkness of a bottomless pit and was now at the mercy of his soulish desires and emotions, filled with fears, doubts and anxieties, knowing good from evil only through his own carnal reasoning. God's creation was now under the dominion of a man whose mind harbored the thoughts of the god of this world. God cannot take the blame for the harvest of poverty, suffering, devastation, hatred, warfare and violence that has been increasing in the world each day. We can only be thankful that God still loves the world and has made a way to save it.

**THE INCORRUPTIBLE SEED** *"But when the fulness of time was come, God sent forth his Son, made of a woman, made under the law, to redeem them that were under the law, that we might receive the adoption of sons."* (Gal.4:4-5) When Jesus appeared on the earth, this world was ready for the true light of truth to be manifested among humans. Jesus was the beginning of a new and unique "move of God" in the world. His teachings of love and righteousness shone a bright light on all the evils that were hid in the hearts of man, and especially on the hypocrisy of the scribes and Pharisees that were the religious leaders of the Jewish people at the time. His death and resurrection began a time of great tribulations for the saints. Jesus appeared in the likeness of the Father; He was the revelation of the true God to the world. Thus the fulness of time had begun. Then Jesus did something that none other had ever done; through the Spirit of holiness that was in Him, He arose from His tomb and triumphed over the power of death and hell. When a plant dies, it leaves its seeds behind. In His death, Jesus left a new, incorruptible seed behind, a seed He sowed into the hearts of men and women everywhere. As the parable of the sower explains, some of the hearts were hard ground which rejected it, some were too cluttered with the cares of this world and yet others just had no depth to receive it. But there were those who received that seed and nurtured it into new beings, in the same image and likeness of the Son of God. Through the first faithful disciples, the seed of the incorruptible Word of God, has multiplied throughout the world. The first harvest of sons, after the image of the firstborn Son, will soon be reaped and appear ready to feed the world. The Word that Jesus speaks to our spirits, is not a new teaching or religion; the Word that Jesus imparts to us actually forms a new life within us. To be enchristed cannot be compared to any of the world's religions, for it involves the receiving of a new seed which produces a new kind of being. There are many moral teachings, daily practices and life's standards that are very valuable and should be part of our lives, until the Word of life that we partake of daily, replaces all of these and the Christ that the world is groaning and travailing to see, is alive again in the world.

This new birth simply begins when God's Holy Spirit opens our spiritual ears and we hear His voice, believe what we hear, and follow Him. Soon we discover that the Word we follow gives us new life and

new hope, and separates us from all the warped ideas of man's wisdom and teachings. By faith, we truly truly stand on solid ground, *"Being born again, not of corruptible seed, but of incorruptible by the word of God, which liveth and abideth forever."* (I Pet.1:23)

The life of every human who enters into this world comes from God's Spirit, yet, each is born without knowledge or understanding of the realm of spirit, or of the things of God. Each human bears the image of the first Adam, the soul man, whose consciousness is of the earth, filled with emotions, touchy feelings and whose desires are to satisfy the flesh. *"And so it is written, The first man Adam was made a living soul; the last Adam was made a quickening spirit...The first man is of the earth earthy: the second man is the Lord from heaven...And as we have borne the image of the earthy, we shall also bear the image of the heavenly."* (I Cor.15:45,47,49) This new man is the one in the image of God; the one who will soon rule all the earth by righteousness, and show the way for all to enter into the kingdom of God.

**GOD'S PERFECT MAN-** God designed a precise order for man's life. Man is spirit, soul and body, in that order. The spirit and the soul are invisible while the body is the visible covering and expression of the soul and spirit. The spirit is the life, the character, the inner strength, the courage and determination of a person, while the soul is the conscious mind, the emotions that are affected by the senses, and the affections that are tied to the things that attract us. The soul can be moody and changeable, not always dependable. Bible teachers often fail to separate the spirit from the soul, yet we read, *"The word of God is quick, powerful and sharper than any two edged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit..."* (Heb.4:12) The spirit of man is sometimes called the "unconscious," and his soul is his consciousness. While the soul is "unstable," the spirit is the anchor, the guide and stabilizer of the mind and actions of man; it is the husband of the soul.

But this order was turned upside down when the spirit lost the light of God and fell into darkness. Then the soul fell into the hands of many worldly lovers who led her astray. Through the death of Jesus, the spirit is reconciled to God, and through the Holy Spirit, he is quickened or made alive. All things become new and the spirit of man is caught up into the Christ Spirit. With our new Christ spirit, our minds begin to change, and the things we used to think are no longer the same; thus our souls are being saved. *"For what man knoweth the things of a man, save the spirit of man which is in him? Even so the things of God knoweth no man but the Spirit of God. Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the spirit which is of God; that we might know the things that are freely given to us of God... For who hath known the mind of the Lord, that he may instruct him? **But we have the mind of Christ.**"* (I Cor.2:11-12,16) Then we begin a journey of becoming sons through learning, through trials and testing, until our spirits are fully mature in Christ.

At the same time, our soul is learning to turn to her new Christ spirit for all things. Little by little, the lovers that pleased her, no longer attract her. Her affections are changing; she has a new husband who loves her, and cleanses her with the washing of the water of the Word, until she turns away from all her lovers and returns fully to her first love which is Christ! While the entire creation is coming to the end of its ability to sustain itself in this world, the forming of sons has been an "underground" work of God. *"For the earnest expectation of the creature, (creation) waiteth for the manifestation of the sons of God."* (Rom.8:19) When the soul and the spirit are in perfect harmony with God's Holiness, and with each other, the body will be changed too. This will be the "better, or perfect" resurrection that the witnesses on the other side of the veil, as well as all of us are eagerly awaiting. *"For we know that the whole creation groaneth and travaileth in pain together until now. And not only they, but we ourselves also, which have the firstfruits of the Spirit, even we ourselves groan within ourselves, waiting for the*

*adoption, (placing of the sons), to wit, the redemption of our bodies."* (Rom.8:23) This is what Paul meant when he told us to *"...work out your own salvation with fear and trembling."* (Phil.2:12) Our spirit was quickened to new life, and is being trained, disciplined and formed into the Christ spirit, but our soul has yet to be fully delivered from her bondage to the world. The reconciliation of the spirit to Christ, is freely given through the death of the Son, by faith, then our new Christ spirit, works daily in our soul to complete the work of salvation. The redemption of the spirit is a worldwide finished work, but the saving of the soul is an individual work; it is our **own** salvation which must be "worked out."

**QUIT YOU LIKE MEN!** *"Watch ye, stand fast in the faith, quit you like men, be strong. Let all your things be done with charity."* (I Cor.16:13-14) When Paul wrote these words to the Corinthian church, he was urging and encouraging their spirits, The sons who come into maturity are chastened, disciplined and tested, many times through suffering, *"Now no chastening for the present seemeth to be joyous, nevertheless afterward it yieldeth the peaceable fruit of righteousness unto them which are exercised thereby. Wherefore lift up the hands which hang down, and the feeble knees; and make straight paths for your feet, lest that which is lame be turned out of the way; but let it rather be healed."* (Heb.12:11-13) As we become sons, our spirits stand immovable in support and love of our souls. Our soul has been yearning for that which was once her first and only love. Within our inner self, we have been feeling this need to find the one whom our soul loves. *"By night on my bed, I sought him whom my soul loveth, I sought him but I found him not."* (S.of S.3:1) Our soul was lost, we had no consciousness or awareness of the need for the pure love of Christ.

When our spirit was quickened, our seeking soul was looking everywhere to find him. She looked for a Jesus somewhere in the heavens, or a Jesus in the literal words of the Bible. She made pictures of her Jesus to hang on the wall or in her mind. But all of these were not the true husband and lover of her soul. Not long ago I had this dream, *"I was in my bedroom, (twin beds in the dream). I looked on my husband's bed and there were several of his things laying there: his keys, his belt, his handkerchief and pocket trinkets. Above all I could smell the exhilarating scent of His presence. It was like a wonderful cologne or after shave scent that filled the house and my whole being. I knew my husband had come home. But where was he? I had to find him. I knew that he was in the house."* My house, our house is our inner self where our soul dwells. Our Christ spirit is already come, but we are looking elsewhere. Before He left the earth, Jesus assured us, *"I will not leave you comfortless; I will come to you. Yet a little while, and the world seeth me no more, but ye see me, because I live, ye shall live also. At that day ye shall know that I am in my Father; and ye in me, and I in you."* (Jn.14:18-20). He has been in our house, in our spirit all along but we did not know it. But when we become mature sons, we find that He and the Father have been bringing our spirit unto themselves, to become one with them. Look no further for you husband; Christ formed in us is our new spirit and our husband. *"...when he shall appear, we shall be like him, for we shall see him as he is."* (I Jn.3:2) And again, *"But when that which is perfect is come, then that which is in part shall be done away. When I was a child, I spake as a child, I understood as a child: but when I became a man, I put away childish things. For now we see through a glass, darkly; but then face to face: now I know in part, but then I shall know even as also I am known. And now abideth faith, hope and charity, these three; but the greatest of these is charity."* (I Cor.13:10-13) That which is "perfect" is the company of perfected spirit, soul and body sons of God.

**Note:** Many are the predictions for 2024, but let us be patient, and trust the Lord, and know that the Son of righteousness is arising in the sons. **"Not by might, not by power, but by my Spirit saith the Lord!** Let us follow the Spirit, and not be carried away with the masses! God bless us all.

Because He is love, *Jackie Caporaso*