

**DISCIPLESHIP 2
METAMORPHOSIS
SERIES**

LESSON 1

**INTRODUCTION - METAMORPHOSIS OF BELIEVERS INTO CHRISTIANS
ATTITUDE ADJUSTMENT IN RELATIONSHIP TO THE WORD**

for

**CHRISTIAN LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE
CHRISTIAN INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL OF THEOLOGY**

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A. THE METAMORPHOSIS OF BELIEVERS INTO CHRISTIANS

EVERY CHRISTIAN IS A BELIEVER **BUT** EVERY BELIEVER IS NOT A CHRISTIAN

INTRODUCTION

THE BELIEVER is best pictured, in the Bible, by the description of Lazarus immediately after Jesus raised Him from the dead. John 11:44.

And he that was dead came forth, bound hand and foot with grave-clothes: and his face was bound about with a napkin. Jesus saith unto them, Loose him, and let him go.

The Believer, who is not yet a Christian, has been added to the Kingdom of God through faith in the Lord Jesus Christ as his Savior and has eternal life. However, like Lazarus, he is still bound up in the stinking graveclothes of sin, in which he was bound up before his resurrection from the dead. Eph. 2:1-6.

And you *hath he quickened*, who were dead in trespasses and sins; Wherein time past ye walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that now worketh in the children of disobedience: Among whom also we all had our conversation in times past in the lusts of our flesh, fulfilling the desires of the flesh and of the mind; and were by nature the children of wrath, even as others. But God, who is rich in mercy, for his great love wherewith he loved us, Even when we were dead in sins, hath quickened us together with Christ, (by grace ye are saved;) And hath raised *us up together*, and made *us sit together in heavenly places* in Christ Jesus.

For the Believer to become a **CHRISTIAN**, one who is reflecting the attitudes and life of the Lord Jesus Christ in his attitudes and conduct (*life*), he (*the believer*) must be loosed from the stinking graveclothes of sin (*attitudes and habits of sin dwelling in him*) which have him bound up head, foot and hand.

Romans 7:14-20

For we know that the law is spiritual: but I am carnal, sold under sin. For that which I do I allow not: for what I would, that do I not; but what I hate, that do I. If then I do that which I would not, I consent unto the law that *it is* good. Now then it is no more I that do it, but sin that dwelleth in me. For I know that in me (that is, in my flesh,) dwelleth no good thing: for to will is present with me; but *how* to perform that which is good I find

not. For the good that I would I do not: but the evil which I would not, that I do. Now if I do that I would not, it is no more I that do it, but sin that dwelleth in me..

THE METAMORPHOSIS PROCESS IS THE BASIS OF THIS COURSE OF STUDY.

The metamorphosis process (*the worm changing into a butterfly*) is God our Father working in the Believer **ATTITUDE ADJUSTMENTS**.

For it is God which worketh in you both to will and to do of *his* good pleasure. Philippians 2:13

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

God our Father is working in the Believer, proper **ATTITUDES IN RELATIONSHIP TO:**

- 1. THE WORD OF GOD;**
- 2. THE WORLD;**
- 3. THE AUTHORITY GIVEN;**
- 4. GOD'S PERSONAL DEALINGS;**
- 5. GOD'S PLAN;**
- 6. GOD HIMSELF;**
- 7. GOD'S GLORY;**

. . . so that He might work in him/her the doing of His **GOOD PLEASURE**.

NOTE: In each of these Relationships the Bible gives a description of the Believer, suggesting attitude adjustments which need to be made in him.

Likewise, in each of these Relationships the Bible gives a description of the Christian which shows that the attitude adjustments are being/have been made.

B. ATTITUDE ADJUSTMENTS IN RELATIONSHIP TO THE WORD OF GOD.

1. In Relationship to the Word the **BELIEVER** is described as a **BABE**, and the **CHRISTIAN** as a **DISCIPLE/LEARNER**

Hebrews 5:11-13, Of whom we have many things to say, and hard to be uttered, seeing ye are dull of hearing. For when for the time ye ought to be teachers, ye have need that one teach you again which *be* the first principles of the oracles of God; and are become such as have need of milk, and not of strong meat. For every one that useth milk *is* unskilful in the word of righteousness for he is a babe.

Matthew 13:15, For this people's heart is waxed gross, and *their* ears are dull of hearing, and their eyes they have closed; lest at any time they should see with *their* eyes, and hear with *their* ears, and should understand with *their* heart, and should be converted, and I should heal them.

Psalms 81:11, But my people would not hearken to my voice; and Israel would none of me.

Luke 6:46, And why call ye me, Lord, Lord, and do not the things which I say?

John 15:7-8, If ye abide in me, and my words abide in you, ye shall ask what ye will, and it shall be done unto you. Herein is my Father glorified, that ye bear much fruit; so shall ye be my disciples.

Hebrews 5:14, strong meat belongeth to them that are of full age, *even* those who by reason of use have their senses exercised to discern both good and evil.

2. The **ATTITUDE** of Believers which distinguish them from Christians is an attitude of not hearkening (*not carefully listening to the Word with the desire of doing what the Word says*) to the Word.

3. The proper attitude in Relationship to the Word has its beginning with a proper view of the Word/Bible.

a. The Bible is the Word of God.

2 Timothy 3:16, All scripture *is* given by inspiration of God, and *is* profitable for doctrine for re-proof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness:

2 Peter 1:21, For the prophecy came not in old time by the will of man: but holy men of God spake *as they were* moved by the Holy Ghost.

1 Corinthians 14:37, If any man think himself to be a prophet, or spiritual, let him acknowledge that the things that I write unto you are the commandments of the Lord.

b. The Bible is both INERRANT and INFALLIBLE.

The Bible being inerrant means that there are no mistakes in the Bible. The Bible being infallible means that there is no possibility of the Bible having a mistake.

WHY? Because God is *omniscient*, having infinite knowledge, knowing all things.

Psalms 147:5, Great *is* our Lord, and of great power: his understanding *is* infinite.

Proverbs 15:3, The eyes of the LORD *are* in every place, beholding the evil and the good.

Isaiah 40:14, With whom took he counsel, and *who* instructed him, and taught him in the path of judgment, and taught him knowledge, and shewed to him the way of understanding?

Acts 15:18, Known unto God are all his works from the beginning of the world.

1 John 3:20, For if our heart condemn us, God is greater than our heart, and knoweth all things.

Titus 1:2, In hope of eternal life, which God, that cannot lie, promised before the world began;

John 17:17, Sanctify them through thy truth: thy word is truth.

4. Attitude Adjustments

Matthew 7:24-29, Therefore whosoever heareth these sayings of mine and doeth them, I will liken him unto a wise man, which built his house upon a rock: and the rain descended and the floods came and the winds blew, and beat upon that house; and it fell not: for it was founded upon a rock. And every one that heareth these sayings of mine, and doeth them not, shall be likened unto a foolish man, which built his house upon the sand: and the rain descended, and the floods came, and the winds blew, and beat upon that house; and it fell: and great was the fall of it. and it came to pass, when Jesus had ended these sayings, the people were astonished at his doctrine: For he taught them as *one* having authority, and not as the scribes.

Matthew 4:4, But he answered and said, It is written, Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God.

Deuteronomy 28:1, And it shall come to pass, if thou shalt hearken diligently unto the voice of the LORD thy God, to observe *and* to do all his commandments which I command thee this day, that the LORD thy God will set thee on high above all nations of the earth:

Luke 6:46, And why call ye me, Lord, Lord, and do not the things which I say?

ATTITUDE ADJUSTMENT: carefully listening to the Word with the desire and intent of doing what the Word says

END of Series

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