## The Church - God's Masterpiece

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Date: 04 August 2024 Preacher: David Antwi

[0:00] Hallelujah! Thank you for tuning in to this powerful message by David Entry at Karis Phase 2, our Christ-centred youth services. You can never find Christ outside of the open Word of God.

May Jesus Christ reveal himself to you as you listen. Alright, let's get into God's Word, the most important aspect of our fellowship. I found out, the Bible says there was a man sent from God.

There was a man sent from God, his name was John.

The same came for a witness. So if God sends you, anybody at all can come and say God sent them.

You were not there when they met God. When somebody says they are prophets, including Jesus, when they say Jesus is a prophet, or Mohammed, or somebody else is a prophet, it's not, we can't take anybody's word for what they say.

[1:28] First of all, we have to check their works. Their works. Because when God calls you, he manifests through you in a way that is undisputably supernatural.

So Acts chapter 2, verse 22 said, Jesus of Nazareth, a man approved of God, a man approved of God amongst you, how?

By miracles and wonders and signs, which God himself did by him. So you see the miracles, but it was God at work in man.

And then he asks, in the midst of you, ask ye yourselves no. It's not something that you can deny. So John the Baptist was sent from God.

But when somebody is sent from God, two things that happen. Number one, the most important aspect of someone sent from God is John chapter 3, verse 34.

[2:32] If any man who is sent of God, John 3, verse 34, it says that, for he who God has sent, that's what? Let's all read it out loud.

Let's go. For he who God has sent, he is the word of God. One more time. For he who God has sent, he is the word of God. So when God sends you, definitely there will be a message.

So, now, in this morning, how do you know someone God hasn't sent? Because you can come with a message. If the message does not line up with scripture, God hasn't sent somebody.

So how do Christians know who God has sent? Whether he's a prophet in any religion, how do you know God has sent? The message must line up with what God's word has said.

If it doesn't line up, whatever they are coming from is from devil. So how do you know false religion? What they say is not in line with scripture. And there are no two scriptures.

[3:33] This is the only word of God, all right? Huh? Can you say that? I said, this is the only word of God. But there are other words of God. Why would he give other words?

Why would he give other words which contradict what he's saying? So if God is saying, if God is saying, my name is John. And then he's speaking to another person, he said, my name is Charles.

Now there's a problem. One of them is lying. There must be only one. If it's the same, if the same God speaking through there, then everything they say must line up.

Or everything, it must line up. So one is lying. One is definitely not from God. Even if he has signs and wonders back in it and is affecting lives, it's definitely not.

One is from, because there's contradiction somewhere. So if two don't say the same thing, then one is not a messenger of God. And if he's not a messenger of God, then it's from the devil.

[4:32] Doesn't matter how anybody thinks about it. Something being of the devil is not how you feel about it. If you like somebody and the person has HIV or has STD, it's part of how nice somebody is.

Okay, how about this? You see the girl and the girl is so nice and you can't control yourself. And only to find out that the girl is a demon to come and destroy your life.

And you say, I don't have self-control. And just before you do something, you find out that it's a demon. Because they have a mark. They destroy a mark of the devil.

So that's the devil's agent. Listen. You see, she's nice. But the truth is, you're putting yourself in trouble. But if you don't see the signs and mark, you think it's like every other one.

The same way some religions look like every other normal religion. It might look like Christianity because it also talks about be good, be kind. They also hold on. But it is from the devil.

[5:46] How do you know who is from the devil? Anyone who says Jesus has not come in the flesh. Any religion that says God didn't come in the flesh is from the devil. How do you know that?

The Bible said it. The Bible said it. So one of the signs that God has sent somebody is they speak God's word.

And what kind of word are we talking about? The word they speak is it never contradicts what is already written there. This is the, it's called the written word of God. The Greek word is logos.

It's the written word of God. And we have the spoken word of God, which is the rhema. The rhema must always be judged by the logos. But I didn't sign it.

I didn't sign the contract. But you signed it. You said you have agreed. Yeah, but I didn't sign it. But you agreed. That means, but I didn't sign it. That means I really don't agree. But you said, no, I didn't agree.

But I signed it. Yeah, I just wanted to sign it. I said, sorry. And that's the agreement. Paper speaks louder than words. Just, just vocal, not words, verbal words.

Written words are more powerful than verbal words. Hello? You can, you, you can be thrown into prison because of the written words. Government can make law.

Parliament can be in session and come up with decisions. But if it's not written, it's not a law. That's the written word of God.

So the way you are claiming God has been speaking to me, what God has been speaking to me, and you are saying something rubbish against us. That's not, it's not God. It's the devil who has been speaking to you. Even though you are genuine, you are not fake.

You are, you have good intentions. You are, you are a very good person. But good person doesn't mean we should eat your poo. You are, you understand what I'm saying? I'm a very nice person.

[7:44] So I should be able to speak to you in my mouth. What's the meaning of that? If you are a good person, it's one thing. Also, now, good people, you see, some, some of you, I'm sure you know a relative who caught COVID.

And they put the, in the same house, but they put him in a different room. No one enters there. You're very, very precious person. But you can't go. What? Because he has got COVID.

No one who entered there. A pastor friend of mine, he got, he got COVID. He said, they put him in the outer house. And no one was going there. The wife would come and knock.

And then leave the food at the door. Yes. He said, he also must die. The wife would knock and leave the food at the door. And then later on, they come in.

She wear gloves to take the balls, eat it, and then go and sterilize it. They were afraid of their father. Good man of God. He's a good person, but sorry, he's got COVID.

[8:43] You see what I'm saying? So don't judge the quality of people by how good they are. If it's a messenger from God, check what he's saying if he's in agreement with this.

So, are you getting what I'm saying? All right. So, there was a man sent from God. His name is John. This John, the same, came to be a witness, to bear witness of the light.

The light we are talking about, Jesus is the light. That all men through John might believe. He was not the light. Verse 8. He was not the light, but he was sent to bear witness of the light.

Verse 15. John bore record. John bare witness of him. He cried saying, this is him of he of whom I speak. That he that cometh after me is preferred before me because he was before me.

Now, his message was about somebody. The focus of his mission, his assignment, his ministry was not him. It was not other people. It was Christ.

[9:54] John the Baptist, the entirety of his ministry. The guy was powerful. Everybody was going to him. But when you come to him, he's pointing to somebody. He did a good job. That's one of the signs of somebody, a man of God that can be celebrated.

He said, who will always point you to Jesus? Who will always point you? One of the signs of a person by God in our days is the word of God in his mouth.

Two, he will point you to Jesus. So those of you who have been doing outreach and you are not pointing both to Jesus. You might not be working for the devil, but you better polish up.

You better polish up. Sometimes you go around and around everybody. Your objective is to make sure that they find out about Jesus. That's why I like to preach. Because preaching that doesn't reveal Jesus is not preaching.

Hallelujah. So we are going back to Ephesians. He said, verse 2, verse 1, and you. Hey, that's strong. And you. Can you imagine?

[10:59] He's talking and he turns it on you. From chapter 1, he's been talking about Jesus and church and... Then chapter 2, he just said, and you. Hey. He's powerful. And you.

You. God has quickened. Who were dead in trespasses and sin. Who was like that? Yeah. Death in trespasses and sin.

Wherein he walked in time past according to the course of this world. According to the course of this world. According to the prince of the power of the air.

The spirit that now works in the children of disobedience. Verse 3. Amongst whom... Amongst whom also... We all once conducted ourselves in the lust of our flesh.

Fulfilling the desires... Desires of the flesh. And of the mind. And were by nature children of wrath. Just as the others.

[12:00] For... But God... Everybody say, but God. But God. Say it again. But God. But God who is rich in mercy. God who is rich in mercy.

Because of his great love which... With which he loved us. Even when we were dead in our trespasses. Made us alive together with Christ. Did you see something?

He started talking about you. And you. You were... Has he quickened? Who were dead? Look at it. Look at the terminologies he was using. The pronouns. He said, and you.

He asked we can. Who were dead in your trespasses. Verse 2. And you. Verse 2. Weren in time past. Ye. You walked.

According to the course of this. According to the prince of the power of the air. And the spirit of... That now works in the children of disobedience. Verse 3. Verse 3. Amongst whom also...

[12:58] We. Right? It changes to we. It's no more just you. I was just talking to you. But I want you to know that this you thing.

We are all... Once upon a time the you. Now he was writing to... Watch this. This is very important. Thank you Jesus. I never saw this. I never seen this. He was writing to Gentiles.

So when you read down. You find out in verse 11. He said, you were aliens. Hey. Yes. On 2nd verse. Verse 12. Verse 12. You were aliens. He used the word...

E.T. Here. In times without Christ. Being aliens from the common... E.T. Aliens. So aliens from what?

The commonwealth of Israel. Wealth that is shared by all. Abrahamic blessing. You are not part of it. You are far from it. So now it's... So he said...

[13:54] And he was talking about the you. Those who are not common. They're common. Then in verse 3. He asks. Ask all. Now it's even includes those who...

The Jews. Because he's Jewish. So among whom also we all. Both Gentiles and Greeks. We were living a certain life that is under the influence of the enemy.

And in the times past in our lives. We were living that way. And fulfilling the desires of the flesh and of the mind. And were by nature children of wrath. Even as others.

Everybody. Both those in... Both Jews and non-Jews. We were all by nature children of wrath. Then he goes to... He said...

But God who is rich in mercy for his great love which he has... Wherein we... Go back to the King James. The new King James. Okay. With great love with which... With which he loved us.

[14:54] Us. Not you. Us. Paul was adding himself. When it comes to who we are in Christ. Nobody was born with the special right.

That I... By nature... I am especially chosen of God from my birth. When you meet someone and say I was born again from childhood. It tells you he doesn't know about Christianity.

No one can ever be born a Christian. Can I say that again? No one. Other religion. Yeah you can be born... Other religion. Hindu. Jewish.

Or other ones. You can be born like that. But you cannot be born a Christian. That's why it's only Christianity we have born again. Because you're already born.

But that first birth is not good enough to make you a Christian. You need the second birth. Else you'll suffer the second death. Yeah.

[15:54] In Revelation. He said... Revelation chapter 20 verse 12, 13, 14, 15. 15, 14, it talks about...

And I saw the death great and small. Okay. Standing before God, the books were opened. I talked to you. I spoke about this a while ago. The next verse. Let me show you something. There's something there that's very interesting. The sea gave up the death that was...

The death and Hades. This morning I was telling you about Hades. Hades is hell. Hades. Other translation is hell. Death and Hades were cast into the lake of fire. That's... Which was what? That is the second death.

You see? So there's a second death. So if you don't accept the second birth, you will suffer the second death. But those of us who have the second birth, we will not die again.

It's important. So we... Because of his love towards us, even when we're dead in our dress, passage verse 5, he made us alive with Christ Jesus.

By grace are you saved. The next verse says that... And raised up together and made us sit in heavenly place of Christ Jesus. That's in the ages to come.

Ah, I see. Oh. You see? How many of you have felt marginalized before because you're a Christian?

How many of you have felt... Maybe you didn't understand the English. Marginalized. Do you know what it means?

I don't mean marjorie. Like... They put you on the sidelines. It's like the... You know... Marginalized. Put you on the margins.

They're not in the main thing. They don't care about Jesus. This one too. Who's next? Oh. Sometimes you feel it. They exclude you from socialization.

[17:51] Some of you is good for you anyway. Because God usually uses greatly people who have been rejected. Never forget. So, it's very easy to go through marginalization and exclusion.

Exclusion. So, when you are a Christian, naturally, you will be persecuted. In 2 Timothy 3, verse 12, it says that all those who live godly in Christ, yes.

And all who desire to live godly in Christ Jesus will so fight. It doesn't matter where you are. You can be in England, America, in North Korea. You can be in China, Russia, or Saudi Arabia, Dubai.

Anywhere where people are. It's not based on religion alone. It's based on the condition of human heart. The fallen heart never likes anything Christ. All right.

Can I say that again? That is why some of you, your families are persecuting your family. You are facing persecution in your family. Not because they are bad people. Bad people.

[19:04] So, this your Christ irritates the fallen heart. So, where you touch, some people, you are shocked that, I'm surprised my sister is reacting this way to me. I thought that's for her.

She doesn't really care about anything, anybody, everything. Whatever religion you want, follow. Whatever thing you want, they don't care. Until I started following my mind, they don't get very irritated. Irritated.

No. Because Christianity by nature. Jesus said that in John chapter 16, 17, 18, and 19, I think so.

But then maybe John chapter 15. Yeah. It's 15, rather. 15, 18. Yeah. 15, 18. He says that if the world hates you. Remember, they said, you know that it hated me before it hated you.

So, stop making it about you. You are not that important. I don't know why people don't like me. It's not you. Get over yourself. It's Christ.

[20:05] He said, all those who desire to live godly in Christ will suffer.

All. Not some. All. It comes naturally. Why? Because he said, we ourselves, verse 4, Ephesians chapter 2, we ourselves were like them.

We also, sorry, verse 3, says that amongst whom we also once conducted ourselves in the lust of the flesh, fulfilling the desires of the flesh and of the mind, and were by nature children of wrath.

Like others. We were by nature. So, if you are in the flesh, you will find yourself fighting God. There are many people who are Christians and yet fighting God.

When Jesus came, the problem of Jesus was not the Roman authority. It was the religious leaders. The Bible says that, and they went and plotted how they might kill him.

[21:08] Can you imagine? They went for meeting. They went for their meeting. Religious people meeting and they are saying, how can we get rid of this God? Yes. Thinking, and the Pharisees went and plotted against him how they might destroy him.

People are plotting against our church. So, some of them, they send and come and sit here, thinking, we want to check out what they are doing. If you don't repent, you go to hell.

I'm telling you. Saul of Tarsus. He was determined to pull down the church. This was his words. This was his words. I thought I was doing God a service by closing down churches.

Yeah. I think Philippians chapter 3 or somewhere there. Or somewhere else. He said he thought he was doing God service. By closing down churches or attacking the churches.

That he was doing God service. He was serving God. He was following God. That's what some people do. And when Jesus called him and whipped him, Jesus said, I will show him how many things he must suffer for my name.

Yeah. Because of the way he was attacking the church, whatever you saw, you reap. Oh, yes. Let me tell you something. There is no Christian virtue in sitting online and attacking people who are attempting to preach and their message is not away from Christ.

Even if their message is away from, I will never go and sit online. Let's say I disagree with Hindu. But every time I'm with Hindu, they are liars. What is Christian about that?

Think about it. Let alone. To go and sit there. Let's say I disagree with the church of England. Or I disagree with Redeem. Then every time. These people are, every time.

I can't imagine. It's evident that you are no saint of God. It's evident that there is something evil in your heart. Because when it's godly in your heart, when you open your mouth, sometimes you might not be happy about something, but you keep going.

Then by the time you realize, you revert to what matters and the Christ you represent. If someone is preaching false doctrine, why don't you preach your right doctrine? Why don't you preach what is right?

[23:41] No, no. We have to call them out. We have to call them out. Has anyone called you out? Some of you know. You taught you knew Christianity until you met Caris.

It's true. It's very true. To make Caris. Sometimes when people are making noise, just let your testimony also make the announcement. This is me.

I found Christ. And I'm happy. I'm growing in Christ. I'm doing well in Christ. And thank God he sent Caris. Do it on your Instagram. Show it out.

Don't be ashamed. Paul said, 2 Timothy 1, verse 8. He said, don't be ashamed of the testimony of Christ. Nor of me, his prisoner. He said, don't be ashamed. The devil do not be ashamed of the testimony of our Lord.

Nor of me. If you are standing for Jesus, those people who are suffering for Jesus, who are being marginalized and looked down upon, you don't look down upon. You are happy to identify with them because I know this is a genuine man of God.

[24:39] He said, nor of me, his prisoner. But share with me in the suffering for the gospel. It comes. Am I sharing something at all? I just, sometimes, Paul, in 2 Corinthians, he said, I didn't want to talk about these things.

But you forced me to talk about these things. And he says that, I'll go on, chapter 12. He said that, you know what? I don't want to boast, but permit me more to be foolish so that we can answer those who look at things from the flesh.

Paul said this. He said, so you can have something to tell those who also look at things from the flesh. He said, it's not profitable for me to boast. Like I'm preaching. Why am I wasting time talking about some of these things?

I really don't like it because guys, I got a lot to share from you. But sometimes, if you are more educated, someone will beguile your innocent minds.

So 2 Corinthians chapter 11, verse 2 and 3. He said, I betrothed you to Christ, but I'm afraid that Satan will beguile. He says that, for I'm jealous for you with the godly jealousy.

[25:44] For I have betrothed you to one husband that I may present. Look at verse 3. Verse 3 says that, but I fear, lest somehow, as the serpent deceive him by his craftiness, so your minds may be corrupted by the simplicity, I'm sorry, from the simplicity that is in Christ.

There's a certain simplicity in Christ. Someone will begin to do videos, and because your mind is simple, he can corrupt your mind. And think, all these churches, why is the pastor wearing a tie? What has that got to do with your growth in Christ?

Do you understand that? What has that got to do? It's not, the pastor, the way he was rebuking some people, it's not, I don't like that. I don't like that. You don't think about how you can overcome this pornography.

Don't be thinking about overcoming the pornography and talking about why is he correcting someone. Is that you corrected? Because he will correct you because you, the rebel in your heart, you are not ready for correction. So he has to teach you so you can overcome and be a Christian.

Every Christian should be able to be corrected. For the word of God, all scripture is given by the inspiration of God and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for instruction, for correction and instruction.

[27:02] That's what the pastor who uses the word of God must be able to do. But sometimes we have to talk about some things so you know that this thing, what people are saying is not true.

Yes, people are saying it's not true. They will find every means because the way charis is changing lives, Satan will find every means to target charis. Please, pardon me. Let me sound like Paul.

Pardon me. I don't, now it is when I want to preach. I want to take focus on myself. God, genuine preaching, good preaching is putting focus on Jesus. But Paul said, let me speak a little bit about myself.

In fact, the whole of 2 Corinthians chapter 11, he was talking about his exploits. The things he has done for Jesus. The things he, he said, do they, they want to come. He said, are they Jews and more? Can you imagine? He said, are they Jews?

He said, I am more. What? 1 Corinthians chapter 11. 2 Corinthians chapter 11, is that? He said, are they Jews? I am more. He said, are they Jews?

[ 28:04 ] So am I. And are they Israel? So am I. Are they sons of Abraham? So am I. Whatever they, go to the next verse. Whatever they are. He said, are they ministers of Christ?

I speak as a foolish. You see, therefore, I said, I don't want to do this, but let me just speak like you. Consider me as a fool. Listen to what I've got to say. I am more. What is it they have achieved for Christ that we haven't done it?

That's what Paul is saying. I am more. Can you imagine? Someone says that are they ministers of Christ? Me. I am more than them. And he begins to list, and list the things he has done that makes him more.

He said, labored more abundantly. Go back. Labored more abundantly. In labored more abundant. In strife, above measure.

Strife, that means they beat him. They beat him. He said, I've received more than normal. They're beating me for Christ. Above measure. In prison, more frequently. In death.

[29:00] Does he die? He said, dies often. Because sometimes the state, he knows he's not coming back, but Christ brings it. In death. Look at the next verse. Before me to come to here.

In death. No. From the Jews, I've received 40 stripes minus one. That's 39. Some of you don't know that. 40 stripes minus one.

They whipped you. Whipped you. Whipped you. From the Jews. I received. Let's go. Let's go on. Three times, I was beaten with rods. Yes. Once, I was stoned.

Three times, I was shipwrecked. And night and day, I have been in the deep. Not knowing how it was going to happen. The deep mean on the high seas. Because there was.

So, it's not everything he went through that was recorded in scripture. Because it speaks about shipwreck. Go back, please. The shipwreck. It says that. Beating once, twice.

[29:57] You see? It says that. Three times, I was shipwrecked. But we only received one. It's not everything that was recorded. He's saying that other ministers are more.

What shows you a minister is not your ability to sit online and talk. Show us your stripes. Your marks for Christ. Show us what you have suffered for Christ. Show us. And show us your fruits. Everywhere I go.

Many times, everywhere I go. I see people talking to me. Come to me. He said, my life has changed. Every time when I travel. People come to me. I don't know them. I don't know them. Fruits.

Fruits. It's not what you are saying. Show us your works. Many people are not doing the work of God. They are looking for relevance. They are looking for importance.

Audience and following and likes. So don't follow people like that. Bible says that. Whose faith follow? Considering the results of their faith.

[30:53] When you are following somebody, remember. Look for their track record. And the outcome of their life. Don't follow someone who has been doing this for one year. I'm telling you.

Two years is not enough. You can't be a marriage counselor because you've been married for two years. Please. You don't know what it means. If you are married for 20 years. 30 years.

With children. Your children are finished. Then you have something to tell us about marriage. Generally speaking. I've been. I was younger than many of you when I started doing this.

And I've not toned down. The same way. Same way. Fervency and passion. Passion. That hasn't changed. This thing is real.

All right. Enough of Paul. Let's get to Ephesians. I promise you I'm going to talk about the workmanship of Christ. I'll wrap it up small.

But I promise you. You will learn something. Much of what I've been doing is contending for the message. And our mission. Sometimes it's necessary to contend with the wolves.

Who are looking for the sheep. And some of them will surreptitiously. You know what that means? It's a word. Surreptitiously. Or clandestinely.

Come in amongst us. They are wolves. But they come like sheep. Paul said they came to spy on us. Galatians chapter 2. They came to spy on us. To take away our liberty in Christ.

Yeah. Well. Ephesians. I was actually. Okay. So Ephesians. Said by grace are you saved. He made us sit in heavenly places. Verse 6.

With Christ Jesus. Verse 7. Verse 7. Ephesians chapter 2. Verse 7. That in the ages. That this is where I got. I went off. That. Watch this. Then I said people are criticizing.

[ 32:50 ] They are actually. Sometimes. Since you became born again. You don't have money at home. Okay. You finish uni or something. You don't have money. So don't attack them. They don't. Jesus said forgive them.

They don't know what they are doing. They don't know what they are doing. They are attacking you for going to church. They are attacking you for praying. One. Don't give them grounds. Legitimate grounds.

Because when your mother is upset. That every time you are in church. And you are. You don't do anything at home. Your. Your room is so dirty. Your room is so dirty. You don't do anything.

We have so many take away bowls. That will fill any bin lorry. Easily. In your room. And every time. You are church.

Church. Church. At least. She has a point. She is not saying don't do church. But she is saying that. This. If this is what church is about. I don't think it is worth it. You are always spending all your time in church.

[ 33:44] And you are failing every exam. You are failing every exam. There is not. Your life is not progressing. No. That is not church. So then. Out of their concern.

They will begin to attack. What is consuming all your time. It is not like they don't like it. But you are giving grounds. Where are you doing evangelism.

And still failing your exam. Please. It is not. The time you are evangelizing. It has passed all the exams. You are failing. Do you get what I mean?

So then that gives people some legitimacy. Watch this. You finish uni. And for. Eight months. You are not looking for a job.

And you are always at home. Listening to preaching. And saying amen. God will bless me. Amen. Please. Please. You are spoiling our preaching. After you hear the preaching.

[34:40] Ga-ga. Go and look for a job. That is. If you live with your parents. And you finish uni. You might not get a job. Based on your qualification. But at least.

Something that will bring in some income. So every time. Mom. Can I have money to call Uber? Mom. Can I have money. Can I have money to call. Your sisters are looking down on you. Even though. They are.

They are messing up. Even though. They are living. A rough life. At least they have money. And they look down on you. Because you don't want to work. They work. And they spend their money on alcohol.

And you don't work. And you want them to give you money. They will look at you. And say. Go and ask your pastor. Your pastor. Go and ask the pastors of your church.

Who are using their money to buy speakers for the church. Go and ask them. You have given the grounds. Do you understand that? You have given the grounds. And then.

[ 35:36 ] Your uncle. Came the other time. And gave everybody 200 pounds. And you went to use all your own to sow seed. There is nothing wrong with that. But then. You went and told them. I sowed the seed. They said.

This thing is a cult. This is the money making cult. It is making some people rich. So. You two. Be very responsible.

If. There is. There is a situation at home. And you give money. Because you are working. Saving. That's right. You are working and serving. If you only do church work. And you don't work. You are very lazy.

And God cannot do much with you. At your age. You should be able to combine the two. Because you. What I do full time ministry. Okay.

What. What is full time ministry? Going out to preach every day. Going out to preach every day. And then you drink. Eh. I mean.

Then you better maybe look for a different job. Because you are going to look for Sundays, you might fall back. You are going to look for a job at the betting shop.

Meanwhile, you used to have gambling problems. You are not being smart. Am I communicating?

But when all things are right, and your mom needs money, or your dad needs money, your sister, you are helping them, and you are doing church, and they are critics. That's what I'm talking about. I'm not talking about when there is a legitimate, genuine, legitimate, virtuous reason to query your laziness.

[ 37:38 ] Because lazy person, no lazy person should be rewarded. No. And most failure, academic failure, is laziness. I'm not saying all. Most people who fail exam is because they are lazy.

Listen, sometimes it's easy to wake up and say, You are failing exam. You are praying five hours and failing exam.

You are a student. Why should a student be praying five hours? Because I want to be a prophet. My friend. Elijah was running a business.

It was a mantle that they treat us in school. It was a mantle. So, don't rob Peter to pay Paul. Your level of lack has lasted too long.

If God blesses, please, let him begin to speak in your life. But God will not bless. Have you ever seen fruits or a garden that came by?

[38:44] It's a beautiful garden. It just developed by itself. No. God doesn't even do that. He's not a gardener. So, he can't do it for you. You have to take care of the garden. Clear the weeds.

Water the garden. Buy some new plants. Decorate them. That's your job. It's not God's job. But God will give you the strength so you are not sick in bed so you can't do the garden. So, after you do all that, you say, God, I thank you for helping me to do this.

You give him the credit. By you. He gave you the ability. Paul said, 1 Corinthians chapter 15 verse 10. He said, by the grace of God, I am what I am.

He said, nevertheless, I went. I labored more than others. My results are more than them because I worked more than them. I worked more.

Listen. You can be a child of God. You drop from heaven. If you are in school and you don't study, someone who is practicing satanism, if he's studying, they will pass and you will fail.

[39:42] Oh. This is said to your faith. Add virtue. Add results. Add virtue to your faith.

Am I preaching at all? Oh. See, so what I'm trying to say is, some things don't just happen automatically. Somebody must take responsibility for what you did to allow it to happen.

That's right. And so, if you're struggling financially, first of all, don't blame prayer life. Blame your hardworking abilities and your common sense, application of common sense.

You just finished your PhD in maths or PhD in politics. You want to be an MP, right?

But no one is voting for you. So, what do you do? Go and look for a job in the hospital. Go and look for a job with transport for landing.

[ 40 : 48 ] I mean, look for a job somewhere. Because the purpose of a job is to bring in income to sustain yourself. First. And as you sustain yourself, you begin to plan for what you really want to do.

Most people, since you finish uni, you've decided not to study again. And you're expecting your income to go up. You are a joke. No.

No one will pay you so much for you to work that less. When you are young, work hard. And don't stop evangelizing.

Don't stop serving in church. But work as well. After church, you are working. Monday, you are working. You are asleep. You call yourself a fiery believer. 10 a.m., you are still asleep.

What is wrong with you? 10 a.m. And then you are now stretching. Ah. I like my sleep.

[41:44] Hey! Don't say that. Don't say that. You haven't achieved anything to light sleep. Listen. Even God.

Say God. God. Do you know how God created things? Not Big Bang. God said, let it be. And I won't. He just spoke into existence. Watch this. Even God, who just spoke into existence.

After six days, He didn't rest before He did the work. He worked before He rested. You are resting before getting a job. Wow.

Wow. My darling, listen to this. Listen to this. I have to go back to this thing. You, for, since you finished unit two years ago, you've not been working.

And yet, you want to go on holidays. For what? For what? What? What? You want to go on a holiday.

[42:50] Meanwhile, you don't have a job. Hey! No! And you want, you want, you want to go to Honolulu. Hey! You want to go to Miami.

Hey! Hey! You don't have a job. Hey! Forget your friends are going and so what? Forget about the, even not in Cornwall.

Forget about the holiday. When they are, they are under there in Jamaica, drinking cocoa notes. You should be online looking for a job. Yes! So that now, it, it is more honorable to fund your life.

Yes! You work to fund what you, so it's, it's, it brings you so much value to yourself. When you are working to fund, that's why fraud is wrong. Say it!

Say it! Say it! Say it! Say it! Say it! Say it! Say it! Say it! You, you are not working, and yet, you want to live a certain lifestyle.

[43:52] That's, that's, that's, that's, I just, I, I, I, I, I just don't understand. I just don't understand.

Listen, you can't, and it's not holiday. I don't do holiday. I'm not saying it's wrong. No, I'm not saying it, you have to. But, I'm so busy.

I'm so busy. There's no room for relaxation. Even though it's necessary to rest, okay? Rest, rest, okay?

But some of you, you don't need rest now. Because your life is a long rest, for a long time. Yes. If you are, if you don't have a job, your job is to look for jobs.

That's it. Yes. Okay. Come on. All right, sit down, let me finish. Especially those who, you don't, you are not working, you fail your uni. Listen, listen, if you have, if you have a degree, don't stay there, first degree, try and go further.

[ 44:57 ] Try and go further. You are so young. And you are academically sound. Why do you stop to go and look for money? You can maybe do some jobs, but upgrade yourself.

Study more, read more, have a bit of, let the, let the, let us to your name. Yes. When BBC interview, they say, oh, this is the director of this, especially Oxford, everybody thinks what you are saying is sensible.

Because of your, just that. So don't just be, I'm praying. And you are not upgrading yourself. I value, God is doing his best, but you to take responsibility.

Because some of, some of us, there's nobody who has succeeded in your family. You are the first. But if you don't take care, it's a man, it's, it's, it's a sickness in your background.

Everybody is relaxed about life. So you are likely to also be relaxed. And end up being like everybody. And your children will come and continue the suffering. You also suffered. Hey.

[46:01] Can I finish? Let me go back to my text and I finish. So Ephesians, it says that, verse seven, I was going to say, is that, so that in the ages to come, he will show his exceeding riches, the exceeding riches of his grace, in his kindness towards us in Christ.

So a time is coming when God will prove that, you see, this is how gracious have been to. People might look down on you now. Just stay focused and work with God. Because in the ages to come, your glory is not now.

A time is coming when no one can dispute it. Okay, so in the times to come, God will display, he will show, he's, show the exceeding riches of his grace, in his kindness towards us.

Wow. That's amazing. Verse eight, for by grace are you saved through faith, not of yourself, it's the gift of God. Verse nine, not of works, lest any man should boast.

Verse 10, I wanted to get to verse 10, so we wrap up. Is that okay? Verse 10, in fact, all my preaching was this, verse 10. I don't know how, I've gone all everywhere. But is somebody learning something?

[47:07] Oh. For we are the, ah. Why is all this happening? Because we, therefore, we are, we are, the workmanship, or God's workmanship, now, the Greek word translated, workmanship, is poimen.

And it's the same word that is translated, you get the word poem, poem. Okay, so when somebody is saying poem, it's not only words that are spoken, but poem and you also, when you use some translation, some translation, you use that, we are the masterpiece.

It's like craftsmanship. Do you see that? New living to us. For we are God's masterpiece. Let's all say, we are God's masterpiece. We are God's masterpiece. Say it again, we are God's masterpiece.

We are God's masterpiece. I know some people don't want to say it. Let's all say it together. We are God's masterpiece. We are God's masterpiece. What does that mean? When they say this is Michelangelo's masterpiece, or Leonardo da Vinci's masterpiece, it means that he's done a lot of works, but this one, the display of his skill, of his wisdom, of his ability in those works, they are all captured in this single work.

When you look at this single work, it tells you so much about his, in fact, all the other works are good, but this one tells you the extent of his uniqueness.

[48:44] And now, how many of you know God has created a lot of things? Including my nose. God created our world. God created everything in the world.

And now people are combining other things God has created to make a mobile phone. To make tablets. It's a combination of what is already in work. Now watch this.

And it says that the height of God's creation, real God creation, is that in the beginning, God created...

Genesis 1.1. In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth. Do you know, most of us might not be aware, I'm not really too much into stars and the galaxies, but when you look at the planets, it's a unique thing.

No man can invent it. No man can invent it. Some of the planets like Saturn, huge. Saturn, I hear it has about 12 moons.

[49:48] Or 8 moons. The earth has only one moon. Saturn has 8 of them. And every one of them is far bigger. I mean, these inventions, and scientists look into space, and what they see, how can this just be?

So scientists are inclined to think, maybe there's another planet somewhere, where human beings inhabit. When you look at the solar system, and our solar system is not the only one.

There are other systems in the galaxies. And so the Bible didn't say God created heaven, where God lives. He created the heavens. So that means the galaxies and everything.

By faith, Hebrews chapter 11, verse 3, by faith, we understand that the worlds, not the world, the worlds were framed. God just spoke it into being.

So, when you look at all that God has created, the heavens, and not only the heavens, He created the earth. And then, the prime, or the center, and the topmost of all His natural creation, is man.

[51:03] When I say man, not male, not male, but human being. Okay? Human beings are the, the climax of God's creation.

When you look at yourself, are you not a wonder? Don't you even amaze yourself sometimes, the way your emotions are? Your appetite and your feelings, sometimes you don't even, you have not even finished discovering yourself.

You are a mystery to yourself. Sometimes, you are surprised you like the guy. Like, it's a mystery. It's a mystery. The way you love Jesus, sometimes you are even confused that, I can still be attracted to pornography.

How? How? You understand what I mean? I mean, sometimes, you marvel yourself.

you said, I will never go there again. And now you live there. Hey! Jesus! Open that house. Wow. Some, some, sometimes, you, when you are growing, you begin to find out, you are not who you always thought you are.

[52:15] Oh, yeah. In fact, one of the things that really reveals you, is relationship. Hey! Wow. My God bless you. Most of you think you'll be a good wife.

Hey! A lot of the guys here, think they are going to be a wonderful husband. Hey! Hey!

But, you are a potential womanizer, but you don't know. Hey! You, as a person, it will take, volumes of books, to understand who you are.

Amen. So, when we look at you alone, this handsome gentleman alone, science can examine him, philosophy can check him.

And there will be so many things science can learn just by looking at him. There's so much philosophy can know just by looking at him and observing him. Here alone is a masterpiece.

[53:31] God created the heaven. When you look at the galaxy, that should be a masterpiece. But I say, oh, no, I'll show you the masterpiece. Then you look at the earth. The earth has so much.

When you look at some of the natural scenes, when you go to safari, the way the animals, this is amazing. How can all this? He said, that's not a masterpiece. Then you look at human beings like us, all of us together, very complicated creatures.

And yet, he said, we've done the masterpiece. He said, you haven't seen the masterpiece. God said, you want me to show you my masterpiece? He said, the church. For we are God's masterpiece.

God's masterpiece. God's masterpiece. He has created. Huh? He has done what? He was created. Oh.

So the church is not just a combination of people. It's a creation of God. The church, we are created. Go back to my version.

[54:29] It says that, for we are the workmanship of God, created in Christ Jesus for good works. We have been created. So watch this. In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth.

And then God said, let there be. Let there be. And on the sixth day, he created man. On the seventh day, he rested. He didn't do any creation again. On then the eighth day, he comes back to creation.

That's when Jesus was resurrected from the death. God created a new man. Look at verse 15 quickly because of my time. Look at verse 15. Watch this. Talking about Jesus Christ, he abolished in his flesh.

When he was on the cross, when he was dying, he abolished in his flesh the enmity. That is the law of commandments contained in the ordinance. Two days ago, I was thinking about multiculturalism.

It's a very difficult thing to achieve that. Very difficult. Very difficult. Very difficult. Very difficult. Very difficult. Very difficult to be. Watch this. It's true. It's very difficult for any community to achieve a holistic multiculturalism.

[55:35] Because one culture is likely to be dominant. It's human nature. Even in the world. How come I was flying through France. I went to some of the shops.

And bonjour. Bonjour. I said, I was just having a browse. Then they said, let us know. They all speak English. But you come to UK, we don't have to speak French.

It's like the English language has become the dominant language. That's human nature. Maybe times come, it might change. But now, the English language is the dominant.

The dollar is the dominant currency. If you have dollars, anywhere you go in the world, you'll be able to survive. So multiculturalism will mean somebody with time is going to dominate.

So when people come to your territory and you want to embrace their culture, with time, the more they increase, the more their culture begins to. Because there will be a cultural clash.

You can't change people because you have accepted them. Why am I saying this? The church is the only organization that can be truly multicultural. I will explain it.

Why? Why is it the only? Because when Jesus was dying, his work on the cross, he targeted the things that divide us. So Bible says that he himself is there.

From verse 14. He's there. Let's go to verse 14. For he himself is our peace. No, not peace with God. No, no. He's not talking about peace with God. Rise up, please. Let's say we are from different cultures.

Okay. Let's say he's from Russia. She's from Russia. I'm from Ukraine. We are enemies. How can we be together and worship together and dance together? It won't work. It will not work.

And so Bible says that he himself is our peace. Jesus is our peace. If I look to Jesus, she looks to Jesus, we can have fellowship together. He is same with our peace. Who has broken down?

[57:39] He has both won. The two of us are now one. Okay. How did he do it? And has broken down the middle wall of segregation. Every human society has something that excludes others.

If you are a Tory, you are not a Labour. You are not Labour. Labour have their own ideology. Stories have their own. If you subscribe to Labour, that means you can't be part of, you can't be an MP and you are Labour and Tory at the same time.

Thank you. Thank you. It doesn't work like that. But for us to have one, be one, Jesus, one of the things he did on the cross is to remove and break the barriers that divide human beings.

Bible, this is what he's saying. He made two factions become one. And we remove the middle wall of separation. Look at the next verse. Having abolished in his flesh the enmity.

Always there is some level of disagreement that exists between communities. Postcode tensions. Now you can come to church and this one is from this postcode, but you are one in Christ.

You can be English and have oneness with Nigeria in Christ. You can be a Caribbean and have oneness with a Russian in Christ. Actually, you can be from Syria and have oneness with a Jew in Christ.

You can be from Lebanon or Palestine and have oneness with a Jew in Christ. That's what Christ did on the cross. And it's spiritual.

And so we actually, the church is the only organization that is gloriously heterogeneous. We are different, but we are glorious. And we can be multicultural and it doesn't spoil anything.

Why? Because we are not gathering around any culture. We all gather around just the word of God. Just the word of God. Now, he said, watch this. Watch this. Verse 15.

He says that he abolished in his flesh the enmity. That is the law of commandment contained in the ordinance. So as to do what creates. He was trying to create something.

[59:46] The church is a new creation. The church was created so as to create. Watch this, my time. So as to create in himself. He's not just the creator, but he's the sphere of creation.

Where did he create it? In himself. He took you. Put him in himself. Took you. Put you in himself. Took you. Put you in himself. Took you. And he created one entity in himself.

Now, the Greek word translated in himself also has connoted with himself. So he's the sphere and yet he's still the substance. So the Christ in you. The Christ in you.

The Christ in you. The Christ in you. Is what makes us one. It's not your opinion. It's not your ideology. It's not your feelings. But the Christ in you is what makes you one with me. What makes us the church and one is the Christ.

Christ is the common element. Christ. So as a minister, I should be ministering Christ into you. Christ into him. Christ into you. And it's the Christ that we have that makes us one.

[ 60:50 ] So you see how dangerous it is. When we focus away from Christ, we begin to have problems in our unity. Because your ex-girlfriend will just come up after you.

The girl who took your former boyfriend, you see her and you can't get on with her. Because you are operating outside of Christ. In Christ. Your stepmother who you hate so much.

You can't fellowship with her because you are operating outside of Christ. But when it comes to Christ, suddenly all those things don't matter unless you stay in the flesh. Because I'm trying to say this because the church is a creation.

God has created a few things. But the masterpiece of his creation is the church. Don't travel around the world to try and see the best of God's creation. Look at the church.

We. We are the. Put you on the screen again. Let me finish on that. We. Verse 10. Ecclesiastes 2.10. For we are his workmanship.

[61:54] We are his masterpiece. We are his centerpiece. We are the prime. The cream de la cream of his creation. Created.

Oh, created. Yes. In Christ Jesus. For good works. Which God has prepared beforehand that we should walk in. Don't. Being part of the church is the best thing God can ever do for you.

The best thing. You might not have a job. But thank God you are in the church. You might not have a glorious history.

But thank God you are in the church. You might have been bad in the past. Like Paul. Paul. He said, I was. I was in Jesus person. First Timothy chapter one.

Verse 14 and 15. He said, I persecuted the church. I blasphemed against God. But I did it ignoring. God had mercy on me. He said, me.

[62:49] I'm not preaching. Verse 15. Look at verse 15. First Timothy chapter one. Verse 15. He said, he said, this is a faithful saying. And what do you have? That Christ should come into the world to save sinners. Of whom me, I am chief.

What have you done? And because of that, you think God will not save you? How bad have you done? Have you closed down a church before? He was arresting them, closing down churches.

And yet God said, come. I want you to be part of the church. So it doesn't matter how bad you are being. Please don't let the devil talk you out. Paul said, me. I'm a chief sinner. Can you say you're a chief sinner?

Are you worse than Osema Milani? Are you worse than Hitler? You are not a chief sinner. I don't care about your body count. You are not a chief sinner. Or porn counts or whatever.

You are not a chief sinner. You are not a chief. You murdered somebody. You are still not a chief sinner. You are still not a chief sinner. Who is a chief sinner?

Paul said, me. I'm the chief of sinners. And yet he had mercy on me and saved me. That means there's hope for somebody. Every time you hear preaching like this, it means that God is trying to initiate you into the people who are special to his heart.

Then the choice is yours. Would you say yes or you say no? The choice is yours. God wants to initiate you so that you can be part of the people who is going to use to make a statement that look at me.

God, I am good. Look at his life. I can do anything. I can take anything. I mean, God is the only recycler who recycles people. Many recycling organizations, they recycle bottles.

They recycle plastics. They recycle bags. They recycle papers. But God recycles people. God recycles people. God recycles people.

Sometimes when some people ask me, what do you do? I'm tempted to tell them that I'm in the recycling business. When you push me, push me. I tell people how not to go to hell.

[64:49] Are you interested? Did you receive something? Thank you for choosing to listen to this message by David Entry.

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