

Fullness Vs. Lack 2

Who Am I? Putting on Christ.

(preached 9/22/24)

Please turn to *2 Corinthians 6:16, Galatians 3:25-27.*

LAST WEEK.

- We've been lied to by the world and Satan! We have been given the fullness of God and have it right now!
- We were born as black holes: dark, constantly hungry, and trying to draw in as much as we can to ourselves to try and fill the insatiable void within.
- We were born-AGAIN through Christ as suns: bright and resplendent with God's glory!
- We were regenerated by Jesus to be His Light in this world: shining forth to give life, warmth, and heat.
- When we believe we LACK it directs our thoughts, feelings, words, and actions.
- We'll compete, plead, beg, demand, pout, yell, and much more to try and "get" what we think we lack whether its love, joy, peace, or what have you.
- We'll try and get it from God, our spouse, family, friends, church members, and co-workers.
- Yet Jesus gave us EVERYTHING—His fullness.
- The Fruit of the Spirit is OURS already because the Holy Spirit lives within.
- What if we approached God from a position of fullness vs. lack? Our prayers would be "here I am Lord, send me!"
- What if we approached our spouses full of God's love? We could love them the way Jesus commands us to.
- What if we came to church full of God's joy? It would be an inspiration to all.
- What if we knew we already had God's peace? Then we would rule over fear and no longer be enslaved to anxiety and panic attacks.
- We CAN live this way! The Lord designed us to and today we talk about that.

Read my field manual on Facebook as your active exercise to deal with the lie of lack! 2 parts.

TODAY: you and I were literally created to be full of God.

What if I told you that Jesus has already fulfilled an ancient prayer in YOU?

Won't it be great when, after we pass on, our spirit ascends to join Jesus in Heaven? Take a moment and picture in your mind right now. Not just what it looks like, **but how it will FEEL**. Imagine yourself there right now and EXPERIENCE the joy and eternal peace!

We've heard about "The Throne Room" and there are vivid descriptions of it in several books of the Bible that are quite dramatic. Best of all is the presence of God Himself, sitting on a throne, high and lifted up! Isaiah said *"the train of His [God's] robe filled the temple."*

Imagine yourself standing before Him! What are you feeling? Joy! Awe! Wonder! Love! Would you feel anything "bad" in His presence?

What if I told you that God built something here on earth to be a replica of His throne room?

- That He did that on purpose so that He could live here, on earth, with us?
- So that His magnificent presence with all His glory, joy, and sheer awesomeness would be CLOSE and not far away?

Why would He do that? Why come here and live? Among us?

- Is it possible that He wants us, His children, to experience Him and all His fullness right here, right now, *on earth as it is in Heaven*?
- That His unique design sets us up to experience His fullness, to live it AS OUR DEFAULT?
- What if we denied and rebelled against His design?

What if I told you I was a cat? (Wait for answer). If I denied your answer and insisted on a feline identity, what would your response be?

- Would you believe that I was deceived by both myself and what the world had told me?
- What if I said that I FEEL like a cat, therefore I am one...what would you say to me?
- Might you say to be that God didn't DESIGN me as a cat?
- That I was going against God's will and trying to live according to a blueprint not meant for me?

Hold all these questions and your answers in mind as we continue forward and let's go back to God resolving the 6000 year old problem that happened in the GOE. It was there that we got cut off from God and eternal life. It was there that we stopped being suns and became black holes.

After the Fall, **God immediately began solving this problem** and worked through His people to restore that which we had lost. He enacted *His grand plan to reconnect us to Him* and turn us back into sons and here was the master plan: to bring heaven to earth.

Millennia later and further along in said plan, didn't Jesus tell us to pray this way? *"Thy Kingdom Come, Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven."* Thus in the days of the Exodus the Lord spoke to Moses and said *"You and the people are going to build Me a place down there among you. I'll give you the design of how I want everything, right down to specific details and measurements. You're going to build this place EXACTLY like I tell you to, using the EXACT materials I command. Don't deviate from my design even in the slightest."*

[Exo 25:9 ESV] [Thus says God]: Exactly as I show you concerning the pattern of the tabernacle, and of all its furniture, so you shall make it.

The place would be called the Tabernacle, which was really just a really really big tent. WHY was God so specific in His design and insistent that it be built w/o deviation?

Here's the answer: **it was a replica of the throne room in Heaven.**

[Heb 8:5 NIV] ⁵ They serve at a sanctuary [the Temple] that is a copy and shadow of what is in heaven. This is why Moses was warned when he was about to build the tabernacle: "See to it that you make everything according to the pattern shown you on the mountain."

The same applied when **Solomon built his temple centuries later**, and then Ezra centuries after that. King Herod added to Ezra's Temple and that was the one standing when Jesus and the Apostles walked the earth.

From Moses' Tent to Herod's Temple the purpose was this: *for God to send His Spirit to live IN the Temple.* To dwell in the center, called the Holy of Holies, above the Ark of the Covenant. **Yet Jesus had the audacity to speak a terrible and offensive prophecy** during His 1st coming that inspired anger and confusion:

[Mar 13:1-2 NIV] ¹ As Jesus was leaving the temple, one of his disciples said to him, "Look, Teacher! What massive stones! What magnificent buildings!" **²** "Do you see all these great buildings?" replied Jesus. "Not one stone here will be left on another; every one will be thrown down."

Jesus was telling the disciples that the *Temple of Herod would be destroyed* and it happened in 70 AD when the Romans set it on fire.

Jesus said another really offensive thing about the Temple when responding to skeptics:

[Jhn 2:19-21 NIV] 19 Jesus answered them, "Destroy this temple, and I will raise it again in three days." 20 They replied, "It has taken forty-six years to build this temple, and you are going to raise it in three days?" 21 **But the temple he had spoken of was his body.**

This was the next giant and glorious step in God's plan! For the first time in 4000 years, the House of God would go from an external creation like Moses' Tent or Solomon's Temple to... **the human body.**

Let me ask you this: do you think Father and Jesus came up with this idea on the fly, when Jesus spoke in John 2? **Or was this Their plan all along?** Since we know that only mankind was created in the image of God, is it possible that **WE have always been God's intended Temple?**

The answer is YES!

[1Co 3:17 ESV] 17 If anyone destroys God's temple, God will destroy him. For God's temple is holy, and **you are that temple.**

[1Co 6:19 ESV] 19 Or do you not know that **your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you,** whom you have from God? You are not your own,

[2Co 6:16 ESV] 16 What agreement has the temple of God with idols? **For we are the temple of the living God; as God said, "I will make my dwelling among them and walk among them,** and I will be their God, and they shall be my people."

Keep in mind that your body represents the overall building/house of the Temple and our minds and hearts represent two of the "stations" within: the mind is 7 lampstands (Menorah) and the heart is the Altar of Incense—the place of worship.

Now let's start ***putting this together and apply*** is to the purpose of this sermon series: **to realize we already have the fullness of God and lack nothing!** That we're not black holes but suns who shine with the Light of Christ!

The human body was/is designed by God to be a replica of Heaven's Throne Room.

It was/is literally made to be a house for God to live in so that we can be together!!!

You and I were prepared by Jesus with METICULOUS care to make sure we ARE "on earth as it is in Heaven."

Let's go back to *Moses' Tent and Solomon's Temple* briefly. After each were finally built to God's specifications including the Ark and all the other furniture and artifacts within, it needed to be **consecrated**.

First the priests sacrificed a bunch of unblemished bulls, goats, and lambs and were required by the Lord to sprinkle the blood over the entire building including the Ark, furniture, and artifacts. Then they mixed up massive vats of anointing oil, a recipe given to them by God Himself, and applied that everything as well!

Once all that was done, **it was time to DEDICATE the Temple**. Whether Moses or Solomon, they gathered everyone in Israel to witness **God the Holy Spirit being invited to come from Heaven and make His home inside!** It was a dramatic event with fire, wind, and smoke from incense that filled the entire place!

This happened to you and I!

On the day we were Saved, **High Priest Jesus sprinkled His eternal blood over us**, cleansing us of all sin! Then He applied the anointing oil of the Holy Spirit to us and we were consecrated. Then He called upon His Spirit to descend from Heaven and live inside us and BOOM! He flew down from Heaven and rested above our internal Ark of the New Covenant! *We were dedicated!!!*

The Being living inside of us is GOD!

He is the same Holy Spirit Who...

- Hovered over the face of the deep in the beginning of creation is within us!
- Who clothed Gideon and gave him victory over an a much larger and more powerful army has made us His home!
- Who covered Samson giving him super strength, endurance, and agility has graced us with His presence!
- Who enabled Elijah to call down fire from Heaven has made us His Temple!
- Who caused John the Baptist to leap in his mom's womb when he met Jesus is dwelling inside us!
- Who raised Jesus from the dead and Who will raise US from the dead, is right here, right now, and isn't going anywhere!

We weren't just forgiven at Salvation, **we were born again in the very likeness of Jesus!** *Our design came down from Heaven itself and is a replica of where God lives there!*

The Tabernacle and Temple were meant to *be a place where God's presence could be experienced:* it was the original "Light of the world" and "city on a hill." THIS IS US!!!!!!!!!!

What do we lack???

Instead of looking in the mirror and calling ourselves

fat, old, or ugly (which comes from a position of lack!) how about we speak TRUTH to ourselves and say *"I am God's Temple!"*

Suppose we've messed up and sinned and maybe have been living a lifestyle of sin we knew was wrong. Instead of thinking "I'm a worthless sinner who deserves bad things" why don't we say: "I have been consecrated holy by the blood of Jesus and anointed by the Holy Spirit! I will no longer join myself with the darkness of sin!"

Maybe we've been feeling disconnected from God. We feel like He isn't talking to us, not involved in our lives, and He's a zillion miles away from us in heaven. How about we respond to those thoughts and feelings by swinging the Sword of the Spirit? We tell that voice *"I have been dedicated by Jesus Himself, Who called for the Holy Spirit to descend from heaven and live inside of me! Jesus promised He would never leave and never forsake me!"*

[Heb 13:5 ESV] 5 Keep your life free from love of money, and be content with what you have, for he has said, ***"I will never leave you nor forsake you."***

This verse is what we've been talking about: **love of money comes from a position of LACK**. We want what money buys us. The material things it acquires for us makes us FEEL a certain way that seems to fill some of that void in us.

Yet new things—and the newness of things—never last do they? A new car, cell phone, shoes...**it “gets old” really fast and the internal hole is back.**

We have something better than what money buys: we have GOD!

What God gives is vastly different than what the world offers because **God gives ETERNAL gifts.**

Eternal gifts last forever, never get old, and never become boring. Does the love, joy, or peace of God get boring?

Everlasting gifts can't be stolen, corrupted, or given back. They don't wear out.

[Jas 1:17 NIV] 17 Every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of the heavenly lights, who does not change like shifting shadows.

It's time for us to leave our old selves behind. Before Jesus Saved us, we were cut off from Him. We were dead inside, full of darkness. Even though we were designed as God's Temple, He didn't live inside us then. Thus we were black holes: constantly hungry, always consuming, yet never satisfied.

But then a miracle happened. **Jesus found us, rescued us from the quicksand** we were drowning in, and set our feet upon solid Rock. He washed the mud of sin off us with His blood, anointed our heads with oil, and our cup ran over. He set a table before us in the presence of our enemies making them our footstool, anointed our heads with oil, and our cup runneth over.

What's the next line in Psalm 23?

Surely pain and depression will follow us all the days of our lives....
Caught that one did you? Let me try again.

Surely anxiety and worry will follow us all the days of our lives....

No?

Surely loneliness and trauma will follow us all the days of our lives....

Wrong again?

Surely anger and resentment will follow us all the days of our lives....

Still no?

Surely addiction and envy will follow us all the days of our lives....

So what's the right one?

[Psa 23:6 KJV] 6 Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life: and I will dwell in the house of the LORD for ever.

If you corrected me on my misquote of Scripture above, then are you living any of the false ways I listed above?

Are you still wearing the clothing of depression, anxiety, loneliness, resentment, and addiction and believe that you're stuck with it up until death or the Rapture?

It's time to shed those dirty rags and put on Christ!

[Rom 13:14 ESV] 14 But put on the Lord Jesus Christ...

[Gal 3:25-27 ESV] 25 But now that faith has come, we are no longer under a guardian [OC], 26 for in Christ Jesus you are all sons of God, through faith. 27 For as many of you as were baptized into Christ have put on Christ.

EXERCISE: have an internal conversation with all the parts that make you up: your mind, heart, and body. You represent your born-again regenerated spirit who is one with The Holy Spirit:

- Lovingly and patiently reassure them that Jesus has not left them with a negative bank account.
- That you are born again and God's Temple, and all parts of you designed by God.
- You've been consecrated by the Blood of Christ and the oil of the Holy Spirit.

- You've been dedicated by Jesus and God the Holy Spirit lives within you.
- You are holy ground!
- You are made in Christ's image and a SUN of God the Father!