

As born again Children of God each and everyone of us as a purpose, a Kingdom assignment.

Our assignment was laid out for us before the foundations of the world were and our assignment is important and our assignment is our destiny.

Ignorance of your assignment does not negate your assignment it simply means you must keep walking by faith the path of discovery.

The greatest threat to our assignment is not out here. Its not our natural or spiritual enemies. Its not what they did or said, our single greatest threat is Self.

Some folks have the odd idea that they honor God by dishonoring themselves the very ones created in His image.

Do you remember what happened when the children of God referred to themselves as grasshoppers?

Num 13:33 (AMPC) ...we were in our own sight as grasshoppers, and so we were in their sight.

God had never demeaned them by calling the grasshoppers.

They said we are grasshoppers and assumed that the inhabitants of the land saw them in the same way but that was was an assumption

Jos 2:11 (NASB) "When we heard these reports, our hearts melted and no courage remained in anyone any longer because of you; for the LORD your God, He is God in heaven above and on earth below.

The enemy was afraid and God was for them and yet the talked themselves out of the promised land.

We know arrogance and self importance is bad but clearly calling yourself a worthless grasshopper is not the answer so what is.

Rom 12:3 (TPT) God has given me grace to speak a warning about pride. I would ask each of you to be emptied of self-promotion and not create a false image of your importance. Instead, honestly assess your worth by using your God-given faith as the standard of measurement, and then you will see your true value with an appropriate self-esteem.

The only way to gain an honest appraisal of your worth, potential and future is to see yourself the way God sees you.

James says something very similar.

Jas 1:23-25 (NAS95) For if anyone is a hearer of the word and not a doer, he is like a man who looks at his natural face in a mirror; [24] for once he has looked at himself and gone away, he has immediately forgotten what kind of person he was. [25] But one who looks intently at the perfect law, the law of liberty, and abides by it, not having become a forgetful hearer but an effectual doer, this man will be blessed in what he does.

Jas 1:23-25 (TPT) If you listen to the Word and don't live out the message you hear, you become like the person who looks in the mirror of the Word to discover the reflection of his face in the beginning. [24] You perceive how God sees you in the mirror of the Word, but then you go out and forget your divine origin. [25] But those who set their gaze deeply into the perfecting law of liberty are fascinated by and respond to the truth they hear and are strengthened by it—they experience God's blessing in all that they do!

Understanding how He sees me gives me the grace to live freely.

Understanding how He sees me gives me the courage to pursue my destiny.

You will never rise above your own belief.

What you believe matters more than what I believe - for you.

What I believe matters more than what you believe - for me.

What you believe forms, fashions and shapes your life.

As God's obedient children, never again shape your lives by the desires that you followed when you didn't know better. Instead, shape your lives to become like the Holy One who called you.

I think I should give you the title of today's message....

What do you see when you look into the mirror?

The answer to this question is vitally important.

The Cross made you & me flawless!

I need to say that again. The Cross made you flawless.

The sacrifice on that Cross was enough and His grace is sufficient.

Do you believe that?

Do you believe that Christ on that cross was enough?

Do you believe that His grace is sufficient?

Do you believe that you are flawless?

Pro 4:23 (NAS95) Watch over your heart with all diligence, For from it flow the springs of life.

Notice in this scripture that the issues of life come from the heart. One definition of the word issue is final outcome, another is to emerge. So here we see that life is not made up of situations and circumstances which occur on the outside, life is really made up of what is in the heart.

This is why we are urged to watch over our heart with all diligence. Because what is in our heart will emerge and be the final outcome of our lives. If you want to change your life, you must change your heart.

Too often we get caught up into thinking that what goes on around us is life. But it is not; it is only the externals of life.

Life is on the inside, not the outside. What is on the outside is temporary, what is on the inside is eternal.

The eternal is more powerful than the temporary.

What is in your heart has the power to change what is going on around you.

This is why in proverbs we are told to keep, guard and be diligent with our hearts. Because the picture that is imprinted on your heart is transposed on your surroundings.

If you have a picture of poverty in your heart, that poverty is projected forth into your surroundings.

On the other hand if you have a picture of prosperity in your heart than prosperity will be projected forth into your surroundings.

Above all keeping keep your heart, because it determines the quality of your life.

Now you may wondering why did I ask you what do you see when you look into the mirror?

Because mirrors are much more than tools that reflect a visual image. Mirrors reflect thoughts.

Mirrors reflect what is in your heart. Don't worry no one else can see past the physical image in the mirror, but you can see deeper than that.

What do you see when you look into the mirror?

What is your reaction to the image that you see? How you see yourself is infinitely more important than how others see you.

Do you see yourself as a winner or a whiner? Do you see yourself as a faith giant or grasshopper? Do you see yourself as the solution or the problem? The answers to these questions are important.

Why? Because how you think about yourself so very important?

Pro 23:7 (NAS95) For as he thinks within himself, so he is. ...

These thoughts and opinions are much more important than any outward appearance.

Your thoughts are reflections of your soul or your heart.

What you are in your heart is manifested in the world for all to see.

What others say about you is of minor importance. It is what you say about yourself that truly matters. When the pressure is on, what comes out of your mouth?

Luk 6:45 (TPT) People are known in this same way. Out of the virtue stored in their hearts, good and upright people will produce good fruit. But out of the evil hidden in their hearts, evil ones will produce what is evil. For the overflow of what has been stored in your heart will be seen by your fruit and will be heard in your words.

Your heart is filled with whatever you submit yourself to most often.

If you submit yourself to the Word of God and allow it to fill your heart then your heart will have impressed upon it a God-picture.

If you submit yourself to news of poverty and sickness then your heart will have impressed upon it a picture of sickness and poverty.

What is in your heart will emerge and become the final outcome of your life.

If you are not satisfied with the way your life is going then you need to change the picture that is in your heart.

Don't become overly concerned with what is happening around, be more concerned with what is happening in you.

In 2 Corinthians chapter eleven the apostle Paul gives us a brief synopsis of his life.

He was in labor, in prison, in danger of death, and beaten times without number. He had been stoned, shipwrecked, and chased from city to city. Yet, he declared to Timothy that he had fought the good fight of faith and that he had finished his course.

How did Paul manage to overcome all of these things? The answer is in verse twenty-eight, "Apart from such **external** things." Paul did not let the external become internal.

When he was in prison, prison was not in him. **Do not let where you are become who you are!**

Your life is not determined by things around you, your life is determined by what is in you.

If you do not let that which is external become internal then your external will change to become like what is in the internal.

Your problem is not with the things that you can see, smell, touch or feel. Your problem is with what is in your heart.

People are always so preoccupied with changing their situation that they often miss the heart of the problem.

I remember a certain car that I had. I always had electrical problems. I would change the alternator and the voltage regulator would go bad. I would change the voltage regulator and the battery would die. I was always fixing symptoms because I did not know what was at the heart of the problem. Many people do the same thing with their lives. They are spending all of their time praying about the symptoms and ignoring the heart of the problem.

If you are in the same situation now that you were in five years ago and very little has changed. If you healing has never manifested, if your

prosperity continues to elude you and your joy is always temporary then you can be sure that you have not spent enough time in the Word and in prayer to allow the Holy Ghost to change that picture which is in your heart.

People always seem to think that if only...

...if only I had another job.

...if only I lived in another city.

...if only I was married to someone else.

...if only I wasn't married at all.

The grass is always greener on the other side of the hill. But if you don't change what is in your heart. Then it won't take you long to kill the grass on the other side of the hill just like you did in the yard you now have.

Always remember this statement, **"GOD IS NOT NEARLY AS INTERESTED IN CHANGING YOUR SITUATION AS HE IS IN CHANGING YOU."** If He can change you, then you can change your situation.

"became as grasshoppers in our own sight..." This was the problem.

The problem was not the giants. The problem was not the land that devoured its inhabitants. The problem was how they saw themselves.

No doubt the giants were huge. Giants always are. That is why they are called giant.

But God's promise is always bigger than the biggest giant.

And when God gives a promise contained within that promise is all the power needed to obtain the thing promised.

God is no respecter of persons. All of the children had the same promise, the same power and the same potential. Yet, most died in the wilderness while two of them inherited the promise. What was the difference?

Caleb and Joshua had a "we shall surely overcome" attitude. That was the difference.

When the people looked in the mirror they saw grasshoppers. Nothing more.

When Joshua and Caleb looked in the mirror they saw over-comers. Nothing less.

What do you see when you look into the mirror?

The only thing that separates winners from whiners is the way they respond to lives difficulties. All of us face the same pressures.

The devil has not invented some new form of torture that is exclusive to your situation. Hundreds of people have faced the same problem you are facing right now. Some have won, some have lost. It was not God that determined who won and who lost. It is always God's desire and plan for people to win. The determining factor was in the heart of each individual.

Never forget who you are. Remember that in times of pressure, heartache and turmoil you are not just your average human. You are a child of God.

Don't forget who you are!

Watch over your heart.

You are who God says that you are regardless of what your emotions, surroundings, family or friends say. You are blessed to be a blessing. You are a healthy, wealthy, spirit-filled overcoming child of the King. Look in the mirror again, what do you see?