

Living in the Divine Pattern

By Adrian Ebens, 1 April 2021

[Talking to brethren in the United States.]

That's awesome. Well, we'd like to kneel with you and let's just pray together from different sides of the world.

Father, what a joy it is to see our beloved brethren in Talking Rock. We pray Your Spirit, bless them. And as we are united together at this time of the Passover, we thank you for the gift of Your Son. Father, we thank You for the beautiful truth of Your character and how loving and how gracious You are. We thank You for these appointments that You give to us. And I pray for all of our beloved family there as well as here, that we will know that we are Your beloved children in whom You delight. We thank You in Jesus' name. Amen.

It's wonderful to be together again. Just as Colin and I were kneeling together and praying together. We're just praising God for the blessings of the feast. And I hope you've been blessed so far this week. It's wonderful to be with you all and by extension, to our family in Talking Rock and that we can be with you. It's just wonderful to be able to talk to you. And it's a taste of when we will all be together to keep the, as it says, from one New Moon to another and from one Sabbath - and that includes all the Sabbath to the feasts - we shall gather together before our Father. And so, we are gathering together here. We are anticipating when we will gather together in the heavenly kingdom. And it's not far away, is it? It's not far away now.

So, let us kneel together and we will pray.

Father in heaven, it's such a delight to call You Father, and at least in my life, each time I call you Father, I gain a deeper appreciation of Your beautiful character. I wish to worship You and I know all of my brothers and sisters here and all those online. We want to worship You. We want to acknowledge You. And we believe that in gathering together at this feast that You are sealing Your character into our minds. We recognize how unlike You we are by nature. But Lord Jesus, we choose to be crucified with you. This is a daunting request because our flesh doesn't like to be crucified. We don't like to be slapped in one cheek and then have to turn the other cheek. We'd rather turn someone else's cheek with our fist. But we know that you can change this in us and that you can subdue our natures. As it says in the Bible, "I will subdue your iniquities." And we pray, Father, for Your grace now speak to us as we listen for Your voice and that you would guide us together. In Jesus' name. Amen.

This presentation I have entitled Living in the Divine Pattern. The divine pattern only came to exist, as we said through 1 Corinthians 8:6, and the divine pattern tells us that there is a hannel and that channel moves into submission to the Father. He loves His Father, He obeys the words of His Father, He does nothing of Himself. He does what the Father does, what the Father suggests.

And for human beings who stand with the lie "you shall not surely die, that you shall be as gods knowing good and evil by nature," it's impossible to live in the divine pattern. You can't do it. Absolutely impossible, because our natures unfortunately are stamped with "I will ascend into heaven; I will be like the most High; I will be as God."

Give you a good example of when I was about eight or nine years of age and my family were on a holiday and we went we went to a place where they had little catamarans or small sailboats. We'll put that way; a small sailboat. And we were going out on the water. And my father, not being an experienced seaman, excellent cook, but not an experienced seaman, we were sort of drifting away and going further and further away. And I was sitting there and I was watching my dad sort of wrestling with the things, we weren't able to turn around, I was sort of calculating in my mind how far is it to swim back to shore.

My father is not really in control here. And I've got this situation. I think I can swim back. And I said, Dad, I think I'll swim back to shore. And he looked down at me as if to say, Don't be stupid. You'll stay right here. I

was not thinking about all the dangers and all other things in there, but I was so distraught that we were moving further and further away from land.

And I thought, I will handle this situation. I will deal with it. At eight years of age I demonstrated the difficulty of living in the divine pattern, not simply trusting in my father that my father would take care of it. And rather than praying for my father, I determined that I had a solution and I would work everything out and I would save the day and I would swim back to shore. And apart from the fact between where we were and going back to shore, there was plenty of oyster crates that were in the water there. And it would have been a very interesting time if I did try to swim but my father, in love to me, said, You will stay here on the ship. And that in itself is a very interesting thought.

So, human nature. Very much when we see a situation and we see that something isn't happening that we imagine it's for our best interest. It's very natural for human nature to want to assert its authority. It's less natural to want to submit. And this is why, at least in the Army, the penalty for insubordination, at least during the Second World War, if you step out of line and you act outside of the orders, you'll be shot. That's one way of keeping people in order, isn't it? Through fear.

So, I want to read to you something that I found very interesting in regard to the disciples, in regard to this human nature of this insane desire that we have to think, Well, I know how to deal with this situation; I know how to fix this. And how much difficulty this creates within the divine pattern.

And, of course, if Jesus and the Father... If we were made in the image of the Father and His Son, particularly in the marriage relationship, then I believe that before the second coming of Christ that we will be able to more and more reflect that divine pattern. Do you agree? Is it possible for this to happen? And of course, one of the difficulties we have, and I've heard this many times, where people are having marriage difficulties and the wife says, I'd be quite willing to submit to my husband if he would do the right thing. And that's true, isn't it? But how do we deal with disagreements and why do we have disagreements? And living in the divine pattern, how do we resolve things?

I want to read to you. I've gone to a passage in Luke but I want to go to Isaiah chapter 3. We have this situation unfolding for us right now. So, chapter 3. About 14 years ago, I took a presentation called The Downward Path. Some of you may have seen that one. It says in Isaiah 3:1, "For, behold, the Lord, the Lord of Hosts, doth take away from Jerusalem and from Judah the stay and the staff, the whole stay of bread, and the whole stray of water."

What are the bread and water the representative of? Christ, the Word. Water, Spirit. All those things. He says, I'm going to take all these things away. How do we understand it? He's going to allow men to reject His word and His Spirit. He's not going to prevent them from doing this, and that's what it means by taking these things away. So, He's not only taking this away, He says He's going to take away "the mighty man, the man of war." That could be a good thing. "The judge, and the prophet," is that a good thing? No, that's not a good thing. "The prudent, and the ancient." No, that's not a good. Why is He going to take them all away?

Audience: *To protect them. We've rejected them.*

We've rejected them: "the wise men, the prudent man, the captain of fifty, the honorable man, the counselor and the cunning artificer, the eloquent speaker." I'm going to take them all away. What happens to a society when that happens? It collapses.

Audience: *Isn't that what Paul Pot wanted to do?*

Amongst many. And as you continue to read down to verse 12. "As for my people, children are their oppressors, and women rule over them. O my people, they which lead thee cause thee to err, and destroy the way of thy paths." That's interesting, isn't it? The taking away of men of society and I do mention this in the book, Life Matters, if you haven't noticed, there has been a sustained campaign within our society over the last hundred years, particularly since the Second World War, to destroy the family unit. And anyone who is engaged in watching television and subjecting themselves to that, you will know that the position of

the father and leader of the home is mocked, is ridiculed. And it is either the mother or the children are the ones that are wise and know what's going on and the father is a complete idiot. And so, what do we find in our society today? We're being transformed into the image of Homer Simpson. Not that I've ever watched Homer Simpson, but I've seen enough to know that this gentleman has difficulties and by beholding, we become changed.

Lester: *Its interesting there was a definite shift because we are used to things like The Brady Bunch where the parents were actually respected. Father knows best, things like that. The fathers are the ones people they went to for advice. And then since then...*

The Waltons, Happy Days, Little House on the Prairie, strong male figures that were leading there. My three sons.

Lester: *It was always with wisdom and kindness and generosity, then there was a big shift.*

And there was a tremendous shift, wasn't there?

Audience: *At the time of the shifting was just as the feminist movement was taking place.*

Yes. In the early 70s, Helen Reddy, she was ready. We weren't.

Audience: *They pull people in with the sweet. Things like that, and I mean with actual viewings and then they start bringing out the other...*

Yes, and we've all been affected by this, haven't we? We've been influenced by this. So, I think of, yeah, I've been exposed to some of the some of the sitcoms in my early years and the attitude towards men and we're reaping the consequences today. Men are displaced in society now. In our society, men are completely superfluous. They're not needed anymore. They don't need to protect their family. They're not important other than to provide money and hand it over in many, many situations. And of course, many men are reacting to this. They're becoming more unstable; they're becoming more violent; they're becoming more predatory. And we are really reaping the consequences in our society today that men are seeking comfort, they are becoming more immature, and God is taking away all the honorable men. He's taking them all away.

And an example of this, and you can understand both sides of this situation where... I saw this in recent statement that a high-ranking army official was in his mind trying to say to young women, If you go out late at night and you get yourself rolling drunk, you're going to invite problems. And he was absolutely smashed for saying that, Like you don't get it. We want to be able to live in this society and go wherever we want and do whatever we want and not be harassed. And he was trying to say to them, You've got to understand human nature and that it's not wise to be out in the middle of the night rolling drunk and doing these things. Is that good advice?

Audience: *Yes. It's common sense actually.*

Apparently not. Apparently, it's not common. So, we were in a very interesting situation.

And in the midst of all this, we're being called upon as God's people to reflect the image of God, to come into the image of the divine Patten to restore. And the beginning of this, I believe, as the Lord impressed this upon my heart, is found in Malakai chapter 4:5. "Behold, I will send you Elijah the prophet before the coming of the great and dreadful day of the Lord: and he shall turn the hearts of the fathers to the children, and the hearts of the children to their fathers, lest I come and smite the earth with a curse." How does God smite the earth with a curse? He allows men to curse themselves. He doesn't interfere. He doesn't prevent them from cursing themselves.

How does God seek to prevent this curse from falling upon the earth? Whose heart does He turn towards who? The fathers' heart is turned towards the children. In what capacity? In a sense of saying, You are my beloved child and whom I am well pleased. Now, if a man is living in a home environment, and I've heard

this said plenty of times, where a mother of two children in her frustration says, It feels like I've got three children. Have you ever heard that said? So, when that feeling is expressed, what level of confidence does it place in the man? Zero. Now, in many circumstances, because of the society we live in, statements like that are apparently warranted because many men do act like children, because God said He would take away all honorable men, He would take away all the good men and all that. He would just take them away by allowing men to worship a God that is not in a divine pattern. By worshipping a co-equal, co-eternal being and of course, the difficulty for man... And we've talked about this in the past and I want to speak this to you.

Genesis chapter 3. Men has an Achilles heel when it comes to dealing with a woman and it says in Genesis chapter 3. God is saying, Adam, I've got some bad news for you. I'm really sorry to tell you this, but because you've hearkened unto the voice of your wife, it says in verse 17, firstly I said, Don't eat it. And He says, "Cursed is the ground for your sake, in sorrow shalt thou eat of it all the days of our life." How would you like to be told that? The rest of your life is going to be full of sorrow? Adam, I'm really, really sad about this. "Thornes and thistles shall it bring forth to thee and thou shalt eat of the herb of the field." I'm really sad, Adam, that this is happening. "In the sweat of thy face thou shalt eat bread, till thou return unto the ground; for out of it was thou taken: for dust thou art, and unto dust thou shalt return."

That's an interesting verse isn't it. And what is Adam's response to this? I talk about this in the book Comforter. I mean, Adam now being tempted with Satan's nature, being told that this and this and this is going to happen. What happened to the children of Israel after they had sinned on the borders of Canaan and Moses told them, We're going to go back in the wilderness for 40 years? Did they say, Okay, all right. What did they do? They complained, they rebelled, they resisted. And they blame Moses for it.

So, Adam's being told all these terrible things are going to happen. And it says in verse 20, this is Adam's response. "And Adam called his wife's name Eve." In the Greek this is Zoe. Adam called his wife's name *zoe*. What's interesting about this is that in the New Testament, Jesus says, I am the way the truth and the *zoe*. What was Adam saying to his wife? You are my life. There's plenty of songs that have been written about a man when he falls in love with a woman and you are everything to me, you are my life, you are my goddess. You are everything to me. So, in being disconnected from God, the man has found comfort in the woman.

And this is the birth of Eros, finding comfort in the woman and when the woman cannot - because she's not able to - supply the needs of the man and to fulfill all his needs, and when he is confronted with his own sinfulness: Adam, what have you done? What does he do? He blames the woman. "The woman whom Thou gave to be with me, she gave me of the tree and I did eat." We call that the *thanatos* principle, in Greek that's Death. He sentenced her to death. So, when the woman doesn't provide what he wants, he worships. And when she does not able to provide, he burns it, destroys it. And this is the society. We've been living in this environment ever since that time period.

So, there is another sense in which you understand Genesis 3:20, because through the woman, the seed would come. And so, she is the channel for the life of the true Zoe to come. The true Zoe would come through the woman. But Adam said, You are the *zoe*, you are the life source. And while initially that would have sounded very flattering, because I'm sure the woman Eve was carrying this sense of: Oh no, I tempted my husband. I didn't really understand what was going on. And now look at him. What have I done? Carrying all that sense of guilt. And then he flutters there and says, You are my life source. Oh, that's nice. Until the payload comes.

So, if you're my life source, then you're responsible for everything that goes right and everything that goes wrong. You are responsible, because you are the life source. And I'm going to project everything because I'm so insecure. I'm going to project everything back onto you and blame you for everything that happens, not that he ever says that. He just does it.

And so we see here in Genesis 3:20, while through this false understanding, and this is the amazing thing about the cross as we've come to understand, the cross is an accommodation to man's sinfulness. But through a man's misapprehension and misunderstanding, God gives to us a truth of what He's trying to do.

And we talk about this in the fact that the altar in the sanctuary system that represents the cross is made of brass and brass is an alloy that was made by man. It's not a God made metal, it's a manmade metal. And so therefore, the cross is a manmade thing from which God teaches us a truth that will save us. Miraculous. So even in this statement of Adam turning to his wife and now he begins the origins of Delphi, the feminine worship, the goddess worship system, even though this God reveals a truth that I'm going to send... Isn't it interesting where God says, the seed of the woman, He doesn't mention anything about Adam?

God knows what's in Adam's heart. He knows the transition that has taken place. He doesn't even mention Adam. He says the seed of the woman because the whole thing has shifted. She's now the one that's emotionally leading. And so, we have a tremendous challenge in our society today where typically women have a tremendous EQ and men have a diabolical IQ with no EQ. You know what I mean? EQ, emotional quotient, emotional reality, be able to read a situation emotionally. Men more and more are becoming devoid of the capacity to perceive things relationally, because everything is about him. It's my solar system and you revolve around me, and he uses all of his intellect and all of his ability to ensure that everyone stays in their order around him. But as it is in a solar system, they can never get close, otherwise they'll get burned. It's the way that that operates.

And so, laying all these things out about human nature and how this began in the very beginning, for us to come into this divine pattern, to us to be able to turn the hearts of the fathers towards the children, to have the husband recognizing his headship role. You are bone of my bone. Flesh of my flesh. I have a responsibility to love, care for and protect you and to put your needs central in the home to ensure that our children are cared for. To actually think of his wife before himself. This is a miracle of God's grace.

If any of us are experiencing any of this at any level, it's only because of the grace of God. And if you're not experiencing this and... This is the reality. If you're not experiencing this, why are you shocked? Welcome to reality. Welcome to human nature. It stinks. This is reality. Why are we so shocked at each other's bad behavior? That's what we are. We can only be shocked if we actually think that we're better than other people. But we do get shocked and we go, Who would do this? But they are empty words because anyone who reads or scans their own brain knows that it's garbage.

Oh, don't be so hard on human nature. Well, read Romans chapter 3. There is none good, no not one. There is none that seeks after God. None. This is what the Bible says about us. And as I've said before in the book, Identity Wars, this is one of the key components of this message is no sugarcoating the reality of human nature and what we are. If we sugarcoat it and we actually think that there are some components in which we are good or that we're better than other people. We're never going to come into the divine pattern. We're never going to be a living the divine part.

It reminds me of Job chapter 5. I quoted this to my wife this morning, we talked about this. Job 5:7. "Yet man is born unto trouble." Is that true? "As the sparks fly upward." The sparks, they fly upward. Man is born into trouble. We see the challenge of human nature when Jesus, the greatest teacher this world has ever seen. He had been with the disciples for three and a half years, they have watched Him, they've seen His selflessness, and as He's coming towards the cross, He's having the final supper with them. Luke 22:20. "Likewise also the cup after supper, saying, This cup is the new testament" - or New Covenant - "in my blood, which is shed for you."

That's beautiful. Then He says this, "But, behold, the hand of him that betrays me is with me on the table. And truly the Son of man goeth, as it was determined: but woe unto that man by whom he has betrayed." This is where we have a moment of shock. Why? "And they began to enquire among themselves, which of them it was that should do this thing." They began the witch hunt, who's going to do this?

And it coupled with this, because what Jesus just said, it's a bit of a chink in human nature, it's like, Oh, do we have to really think about this? And when you're feeling down, what's a really good discussion to have? Notice how the discussion progresses. What do they have to talk about? "And there was also strife among them as to which of them should be account of the greatest." These two parts of the story are not unrelated. One is directly related to the other. I wouldn't do something like this. I would not do something like this.

How many in the garden forsook Him and fled? All. Which of them should be account of the greatest? Can you imagine the pain that Jesus was feeling, like, I've taught these guys for over three years? They've witnessed My life and here I am, about to die and they're having a discussion about which of them is the greatest. Can you imagine what Satan was whispering to Jesus of that moment? You've wasted Your time. You're not going to reach any of them. That's what he would have said, wouldn't he? You look them. I've got them. You think you've made inroads into these people? You've misread human nature. You don't know. I've got them. Of course, it was a lie. But that's what Satan is telling you. It's pointless. Why do you come down here? Why did you even bother? Leave them to me. They're mine.

Notice what Jesus says. I mean, isn't this where in human nature when you're really under pressure and is really struggling, you're about to die and you're about to give up your life? And all they can care about is who is the greatest. Isn't at the moment you would say, Don't you guys get it? I've trying to teach you for three and a half years and you're still talking like idiots. What's wrong with you?

But notice His answer. "And he said unto them, the kings of the Gentile's exercise lordship over them; and they that exercise authority upon them are called benefactors. But ye shall not be so: but he that is the greatest among you, let him be as the younger; and he that is chief, as he that doth serve." As I look upon Jesus in that moment and just that calm, gentle voice. In the midst of a really, really bad situation. This is really bad what's happening here. They're just not getting it and they just absorbed with their old works program of: Well, I've done great things, I've raised people from the dead, I've cast out demons, I was the first one to come to Jesus, I was the first one to recognize that He was the Messiah. All of this kind of stuff.

And Jesus just very calmly and very gently says to them. He just lays out the truth for them and you can extend that even further. Can you imagine what Jesus was suffering in the judgment hall and you can hear Peter cursing and swearing and saying, I know not the man. I mean, Jesus has feelings, doesn't He? How much would that hurt? Just like, Oh, I'm about to yield up My life and the one who claims he knows Me the most has just disowned Me. He had to deal with those feelings, but the look of love in the face of Jesus, in the face of what He was saying, it's what brought about his conversion. Where sin abound, grace did much more abound.

Audience: *[Inaudible]*

That's a good thought. Yeah, Lucifer was the closest to Him, he knew Him the most. Jesus that shared more with him than anybody else simply because he'd known Him the longest. And yet he disowned Him, he turned away from Him. This is the human nature that unfortunately all of us are in possession of. And it's a lesson to us and we need to be reminded of this lesson: to whom much has been given, much is required.

And there is a danger that in being a part of this message that we might be in danger of saying who is the greatest? Who is the greatest among the Christians? Who are the ones that have the most light? Who are the ones that know more than anybody else? Could there be a danger of that? I thank you, God, that we're not like those Catholics, those Protestants, those Buddhists, those Muslims. I thank you God, I'm not like them. And in saying such a thing, you proved you're exactly the same. No different to anybody else. Better to acknowledge it up front and say, I'm no different. I'm a son of the first Adam by nature, and therefore I am the same as everybody else and I'm in great need.

The only way for us to move into this reality of the divine pattern of living in the divine pattern is for this deeper recognition of the depravity of man. The depravity of man, and this is not something that we can manufacture if we go to Acts chapter 5 verse 31. "Him hath God exalted" - being the Son - "with his right hand to be a Prince and a Savior, for to give repentance to Israel, and forgiveness of sins." He gives us repentance, He gives us forgiveness of sins. And as Paul says in 1 Corinthians 8:2, "If any man thinks he knows anything, he knows nothing yet, as he ought to know." Knowledge puffeth up.

And I've said this before and I'll say it again, the knowledge that we are receiving is a double-edged sword. The more that we know, the more danger we experience. Do you understand? The more that we know, the more danger we experience, the more that Satan is saying to you, You know a lot more than other people. And when Satan starts to remind you, as Jesus said, One of you on this table is going to betray me. When

you start to get convicted about sin in your life, your temptation will be: Who is the greatest? That's the temptation.

And just as before, the closing scenes of the life of Christ will be repeated and this is the seed principle, wherever Christ manifests His Spirit the scenes that took place in the gospels will be repeated. This is the reality and this is why the danger exists for us. Those of us who believe that we are the closest to Jesus, we shouldn't deny that reality, should we? But what we have been shown has caused our hearts to rejoice.

The beautiful pictures that we see of our Father, the tears of joy that we have shed and thought to know and to believe and to understand that God didn't drown millions of people in the flood with His own hands, He allowed man to destroy Himself. I don't know about you, but that's brought me tremendous relief. Tremendous relief. God doesn't kill the Amalekite babies and have them slaughtered and hacked to death. It wasn't Him who did this. Do you know how much joy that gives me? I'm sure you do. My Father's not like this. This darkness just rolled off my back.

And as Jonathan expressed so beautifully in the concept of the atonement, when I realized the atonement was not to satisfy an angry God, I could be released from the feminine worship. I didn't need to find comfort in the woman. I could find comfort in my Father because He's not a killer. You cannot find comfort in your Father if He is a killer. Does that make sense? Of course it makes sense. It should be self-evident, shouldn't it? And we have become inheritors of these things, of all people on the earth. This is such a blessing. This is such a blessing. And then Satan is ready for you. He's ready for you because there are more steps ahead of us in which we will be faced with our own sinfulness.

Jesus said in the night that He was betrayed, All of you will forsake me this night. If there's going to be a repeat of history, is that part of the history going to be repeated or are we going to say, Although all men would forsake you, Lord, I will not forsake you? Is that what we're going to do? Or do we say, Lord, have mercy on me, a sinner, please help me, please help me not to forsake you? Because I know prone to wander, Lord, I feel it. Leaves the God that I love. That's always there. With a spotlight is put on us. And everybody in the media is looking, Who is this small group of people? Who are they? Are we going to try and run and hide in the bushes and act as if, No we don't know, no we don't know? We don't know anything about this message.

The sad part for me is my name is written on a lot of the books. I've got nowhere to hide. Maybe we should take the names off. I've got nowhere to hide. Pinned. But you can still deny. You can still deny it. The people forced me to write these books and out came this golden calf.

Audience: *Hide in the secret place of the Most High.*

Ah ha, but the secret place at the Most High is to be in the shadow of the Almighty. But there is no denying the fact that we will be confronted with our human nature in public, under crisis, under pressure, under stress where everybody is watching us. What is going to come out of you? The love of Jesus or self-preservation? I think I'll swim back to shore from here, Dad. I've got. I'll handle it. I'll deal with it.

This is the thing that I pray to my Father, because I know that I'm capable of this and I don't like to be embarrassed in front of lots of people, I start to do really, really interesting things when I'm placed under the spotlight on a wider stage. I can feel it, I can feel the temptation. And that's why I say, Father, have mercy on me, a sinner. Help me. Help me to understand that I need you every moment of every day.

It's very easy because of all the books and all the materials and all the translation and all the stuff we're doing all around the world. It's easy just to be sucked up into the work and just to do the work and to forget that you're wretched, miserable, poor, blind and naked by nature. Only when you realize these things can you have the Laodicean antidote. Gold tried in the fire. Do you know what that means? Don't you? How do you come into possession of gold tried in the fire? You got to go through the fire. Raiment. White raiment. That we are sons and daughters of God. And eye salve.

Think of the poet Robbie Burns, Oh, that I had eyes to see me as other men see me. You know that poem? If I could see myself. Ye said, You can see the speck in your brother's eye, but you can't see the log in your own eye.

The interesting thing, and I do write about this. I'll share with you a story because this speaks of the origins of this message. And so, I wrote about it on page 132 of the new book, Escaping the Pentagon of Lies. I coded it in here. And I'll just read to you a little bit. "When Jesus told Satan that man should live by every word of God, He was referring especially to the words of God that spoke just prior to the baptism as Jesus believed the words of His Father that He was a beloved Son. Jesus used the key of faith to unlock the prison house of our worthlessness." And I talked earlier about sinfulness of human nature and the worthlessness that we all inherit from the first Adam.

"Some in the audience began to weep as they grabbed hold of the reality of what Maatan was saying. Others sat there stunned, trying to take in the significance. 'Who here has the faith to enter this kingdom and claim their true identity in Christ?' Many stood up and rush to the front crying. 'I believe that I am a child of God through Christ.'"

This event happened in 2002 and I had read from Job 5:7, "Man is born into trouble, the sparks fly upward" in the challenge of human nature. And as we spoke about these things back then, at the beginning of this message, it was a tremendous surge to the front by people and the Spirit moved upon their hearts and I'd never seen anything like it. And this gentleman said, We've come to the borders of the Jordan. What should we do now? It was such an amazing experience. And for the next 48 hours, I felt such a sense of peace. And if this happened in the beginning of the message, it's going to happen in the end.

And again, it's not something that sometimes when we hear things like that, you start to feel stressed like, I'm supposed to repent quick, start beating myself up. You can't do it. You cannot do it. You can only be drawn as you look to Jesus, as you looked at the beauty of His character in contrast to your own character, and then know that you are a beloved child of God, not by anything you've done, not by any of the works that you have practiced. None of those things are going to get you into the kingdom of God. It doesn't matter how many books you share. It doesn't matter how many people you talk to. That's not going to get you into heaven. The only thing that gets you into heaven is your belief that despite your wickedness and your sinfulness, God has forgiven you and your belief of those things. That's the only way that we enter.

And when you accept that there's rest, there is peace. There is peace in these things. And so, I just pray in our time during the feast here, we think about these things, think about the closing scenes of the life of Christ. Think about the reality.

Think about these things. All you will forsake Me and flee. That's what it says. Now, that's not a guarantee, but that's speaking to our human nature. If you're human nature is still controlling, if you're still the one in control, if you're still the one that's guaranteeing and making sure that everything is working for you, you will forsake Him and flee. But like all the disciples, you will have opportunity to repent. We will all have opportunity to repent.

But if we recognize these things now and we prepare for that event and ask Jesus to help us not to do this because we know we are fully capable of doing it, then we can be prepared. Could not you watch with Me for one hour? Why couldn't the disciples watch for Him for one hour? Though all men will forsake you, I will not forsake you. That's why. If you have the belief, you're not going to forsake God, you'll be asleep when the action is happening, when you should be praying. That's the challenge to me. That's the word to me.

And of course, the closest place where this issue of human nature - protecting myself and looking after myself - happens is within the family unit and how we relate to one another. You know yourself, how many times a day do you feel irritated or annoyed? Every time we feel irritated, every time we feel violated, every time we feel that someone isn't taking recognition of my needs and is cutting me off and treating me badly, then you are wrestling with your human nature.

If you know that you're a beloved child of God, if you know that your Father in heaven loves you and He is the one that determines your value, then you can absorb the blows of those around you. And will you receive blows from those around you? At least once a week, isn't it? At least once a week is something that will happen that you feel, Oh! And then the head goes down. Why is the head going down? I judge you. That's what that is. The countenance fell. Suddenly you're not a beloved child of God for some reason, because someone has not treated you as they ought to treat you. And the head goes down as if what that person has done to you outweighs what God believes about you.

Can that which a person beside you says or does to you destroy what your Father says of you and who you are? Can they so simply destroy your value like that? How brittle is human nature. I marvel at this when people write to me really harsh and critical things and I can feel my nature and I say, Adrian, Adrian, O ye of little faith, how are you so easily disturbed by the words of another man or woman? Why are you troubled? O ye of little faith. Trust in your Father. Believe in your Father. And then another message comes and they turn the blade and you're thinking of all the things you're going to say to them. And you ruminate in your brain for hours and hours about how you're going to expose them and show them to be a hypocrite for what they've done to you. And you there at 3:00 in the morning. Some of you know what I'm talking about.

Can the words of someone beside us overturn the words of our Father that easily? And steal our piece? O us of little faith. Blessed are they that believe and do not see. Unless I see the marks in your hand and this sort of things, I will not believe. This is the test for us now.

And so, the way that our character develops is that the law enters and our sin abounds. That's humiliating. Why can't we just have a lovely ceremony and we all get it and we all believe it and all of the sins just disappears? Isn't that wonderful? That's not how it works. The message comes and then God allows the circumstances to arrive and sin manifests itself in your life. And then you're confronted with the fact that you've just been humiliated by your sinfulness and then you either justify yourself and blame everybody else, or you say, Oh, Lord, I'm sorry. I believe in Your mercy. I believe that You forgive me. I know that I'm Your child and I know that You love me.

This is why the gate is strait and the way is narrow because it's a humiliation of our natural flesh. This is not pleasant for us to have to go through these things to be embarrassed. And that's why we try as much as... Our homes are kind of like a physical Facebook. We hide everything in our home. We manifest our ugly natures, and then we go out: Hi, how are you? We go to church and we be lovely and kind as much as possible and then we go home and (*makes arguing noises*). On the way home. Soon as you shut the car door. Can't believe you said that. How dare you?

And this is the reality. Home is supposed to be a safe place, but the most dangerous places to be in the world at the moment is in the female womb and in a home. 137 women every day are killed by their partner or former partner. The place where the greatest number of murders are happening is abortion. Forty or fifty million abortions every year. That's the most unsafe place for a person to be now on the earth. And in the home, 137 women every day.

The man has become a boy and now he's blaming the woman for everything. We are in a really, really, really bad situation. Domestic violence in Australia every 2 minutes, there's a call to the police. What about the calls that aren't made? This is the environment that we're living in all around us. This vibration every 2 minutes. Every 37 seconds, someone decides, you know what, I'm done with life. Every 37... No, 37 a minute. 37 a minute contemplated. That's because they don't know they're beloved children of God and they don't believe it, and they've been programmed to something else: You're stupid, you're dumb, you're pathetic, go away. Well, there's online bullying and stuff. People bullied into death. Can happen really fast, can't it? Terrible.

But Jesus says, I'll never leave you, nor forsake you. And we only talk about these things in order to make a contrast. Many people just say, All I need to do is breathe deeply and think positive. It's not the gospel. The gospel is recognition of your sinfulness. You can't wish sinfulness away. You can't just pretend. Let's just pretend. Let's just all be nice and tidy. If that was the truth, you know, the best place to be would be in a network marketing organization. I had the most positive, most pumped up, energetic people on the earth.

Until they stop making money. They are so friendly. And as long as you're buying a product, they will love you forever. As soon as you stop, you're out. Sounds like church. Same situation going on. Just ignore the fact that you've got the disease. Just think it away.

And in many cases, I mean, of course, positive thinking is a very important part of it. But if you don't acknowledge the problem, you can't get healing. And if we don't acknowledge the extent of our human sinfulness, we cannot get the true remedy. It's not behavior modification. The heart is deceitfully wicked above all things, who can know it. Or as it says in the modern translations, it's beyond cure, which means it has to die. I am crucified with Christ, it's no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me. And the wonderful thing about what the Scripture teaches us, as I said, the fact that this is what human nature is really like, the fact that every day that I have words of encouragement or people that tell me that they are praying for me or loving me, I know that this is Jesus from so many different places where He's reaching out to me through other people and telling me of His love for me because human nature is not capable of doing this.

And people say, where is God when you know how evil human nature is? God is everywhere, speaking through people, reaching out, encouraging, supporting and caring. Thoughts of care and concern. It's only coming through God. Christ is the source of every right impulse. This is at the heart of our message. And so, we are invited in order to come into the divine pattern. It's easy to come into the divine pattern when you acknowledge your true condition and you ask Jesus to come into your life because He's fully submitted to His Father and He's not easily provoked. All of those things.

And so, we see and we will close on this verse, 1 Corinthians 11:3. "But I would have you know, that the head of every man is Christ." Submission to Christ, submission to that voice. When you feel that irritation and you feel that anger and Jesus is calling out to you, I can help you. You don't need to say these words you're about to say. You're sitting there with your finger on the send button, ready to send an absolute flame throwing statement to someone who's hurt you. You don't have to do this.

The Lord's help me many times I've written something out and He's helped me to delete many, many messages that I wanted to send to people. It's a step in the right direction. That's causing sin to abound, but it doesn't... Once it gets released... The only people who know who wrote that letter is God in the NSA. NSA, National Security Organization, that monitors everything that we type, all the keystrokes, you could say Facebook, they know everything. They're omniscient.

"But I'll have you know, that the head of every man is Christ; and the head of the woman is the man." This is only possible by the grace of Christ and when we realize that the head of Christ is God. This is an invitation to come back into the channel of blessing. The natural thing for all of us is when we sense that we're being asked to do something, when we're looking and we're assessing the situation and according to our understanding, it's not making sense. Like when they are at the Red Sea and Moses pointed the road forward and said, Go forward. And the people like, Are you crazy? What's wrong with you?

These are the steps that are ahead of us. And when the head of a home says we're going in this direction. I can't see the value in this. Of course, we cover all that in the divine patent about if there is information that the head that is not aware of, he should be made aware of that information to assist him in his decision-making process. Does that make sense? Have you considered, are you aware of this information? Oh, I wasn't aware of that. Okay, well, we're going to do this then.

And someone that is a good leader in his home can take on new information and not need to be a know it all. Because many men, when they are presented with information like, I knew that. Because he's so offended, We're going to do this anyway. Is that right? Is that how it works? Because he so offended that someone else knew information that he didn't know, now he looks bad apparently. And it can be the way you say it, like, *(in a harsh tone)* Have you considered this or what about this? That doesn't help. That's going to put him in the ditch when it's shoved in the face. Words can be spoken and cut right through. Saying, Don't be such a jerk, you're missing this piece of information. We need to go this way. Oh, it's going to be a bad day at the office when that happens and we deal with it in that way.

But the good news is that when we're in these situations, we could always appeal to Christ. And if we trust that my Father is in control of things and I've had plenty of opportunities to learn to trust in my Father in different situations, one of them was when I was in Romania and I was driving with a gentleman and we're heading down this this mountain cliff and this mountainside. And he had decided to pass these three semitrailers on the way down.

Now I had a couple of options. One was to grab the wheel or to try and take over. I couldn't speak Romanian, so it was pretty hopeless trying to tell him what to do. And I just said, Okay, Father, I'm in your hands. I trust you to get me through this. We passed those three semitrailers in some of the most brilliant driving I've ever seen. How the angels got us around those bends I have no idea. And I didn't wet myself, so I was really relieved. I was in my Father's hands. I said, Father, I trust you. I trust you didn't bring me all the way over here to Romania to die on the side of this mountain.

So, I believe that putting yourself in God's hands really helps. It was like, what I said to this lady, and I thank my Father for this, I think I mentioned this recently. The fact that I was coming from Cape Town to Johannesburg and a storm was coming into Johannesburg. And I was talking to this lady, I think she was a journalist and we were talking a bit like that. And then the storm started to hit and the plane was just bouncing like this. And she freaked out. She grabbed my hand and I said, We're not going anywhere. My job is not finished yet. I said, Wow, Father, I wish I could be like that all the time. She just looked and said, How can you be like that? I said, It's in the book. I know my Father loves me and my Father takes care of me.

So, I'm just so thankful when those things manifest. It's so nice to see Christ's Spirit manifest in you. And yes, when you're with other people, you've got greater incentive. But the greatest place for those things to manifest is in your own home, where those things should manifest more than anywhere else. Not this opposition or opposite where we're lovely to everybody else and we treat our family like dirt because they know us. They've got all dirt on us. So, what's the point in trying to be good if they all know all the bad stuff about me? So, I might as well be bad.

So, I choose to believe that we can be transformed and as it says, Turn the hearts of the fathers to the children. Knowing that this is the key, knowing that we beloved of the Father and the Father will take care of us. We can submit to duly pointed authority and trust that God will take care of us. This is the great test for us. This was the great test for the angels in Heaven. When God made it very clear to everyone that His Son was leader over them. Two thirds of the angels submitted to the Father and said, Yeah, the Father, we choose to believe Him. And a third of the angels said, No, we don't like this. We don't see that this is the right thing to do. And they're going to lose their lives as a result of that. So, this is a big issue for all of us.

So, I would like to kneel together. Thank you for your brethren in the United States that joined us and all the others around the world and pray for each of us that we will take hold of our sonship and daughtership and cease to manifest this evil nature that we have inherited.

Father in heaven, I just thank You so much for the gospel. I thank You, Lord Jesus, that Your demonstration of how You handled Yourself when people were treating you so badly and You said, Father, forgive them for they know not what they do and Father, into Your hands I commit My spirit. If we trust that You are taking care of us and that You are watching over all of our needs and that You love us. And we will be kept in perfect peace because our mind is stayed on You so that when we are in the home, we don't need to defend ourselves and protect ourselves from those closest to us and demand of them to treat us respectfully. We can treat them respectfully and lovingly because we know we are loved by You. Help us to believe this. The greatest evidence that we know that we are children of God is when we treat our family members and our extended family members with love and grace and kindness and not fain this shock when we make mistakes or we do things that are inappropriate. We act shocked, and then we tell everybody else about what a lame person this individual is. Father, thank You that these things are going to stop amongst Your people. You are going to change us and we believe it. We trust in You. We thank You, Father. In Jesus' name. Amen.