

Crowned With Dignity and Worth 6

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The prison doors are open—why are you still inside?

- Not understanding your VALUE and WORTH creates a life of torment, fear, and vexation.
- The torment or vexation of not seeing yourself the way God sees you plagues most Christians.

VEX – To tire or wear down through continual application

Luke 15:31 – “And he said to him, ‘Son, you are always with me, and **all that I have is yours.**”

- Son and daughters serve because of relationship
- We’re not servants who earn our status as sons and daughters
- Trying to “earn” your place in the family creates:
 - A distorted view of the Father
 - A wasted inheritance
 - The giving away of what is most precious—THEIR RELATIONSHIP WITH THEIR FATHER!

Judges 16:15-17 – ¹⁵ Then Delilah said to Sampson, "How can you say, 'I love you,' when your heart is not with me? You have mocked me these three times, and have not told me where your great strength lies." ¹⁶ And it came to pass, when she pestered him **daily with her words and pressed him, so that his soul was vexed to death,** ¹⁷ that **he told her all his heart,** and said to her, "No razor has ever come upon my head, for I have been a Nazirite to God from my mother's womb. If I am shaven, then my strength will leave me, and I shall become weak, and be like any other man."

When your soul is vexed, you will give away the most precious things in your life.

You will live far below your potential and purpose!

Once you come under the dominion of another, they will be your lord or master.

II Peter 2:6-8 - ⁶ and he condemned the cities of Sodom and Gomorrah by burning them to ashes, and made them an example of what is going to happen to the ungodly; ⁷ And delivered **just or righteous Lot, who was vexed (tired or worn down by continual application)** with the filthy conversation or lifestyle of the wicked: ⁸ (For that **righteous man** dwelling among them, in **seeing and hearing, vexed his righteous soul from day to day with their unlawful deeds;**)

Even the righteous can be brought down if they expose themselves long enough to influences that are contrary to God's view of them.

This is why it is so important to have your children connected to the youth ministry and for you to be connected with the people of God –GROWTH TRACK – SMALL GROUPS – WEEKEND SERVICES.

The Remedy - The Mirror of God's Word

James 1:21-25 – ²¹ So get rid of all uncleanness and the rampant outgrowth of wickedness, and in a humble (gentle, modest) spirit **receive and welcome** the Word which **implanted and rooted** [in your hearts] contains the power to **save your souls**. ²² But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves. ²³ For if anyone is a hearer of the word and not a doer, he is like a man observing his natural face in a mirror; ²⁴ for he observes himself, goes away, and immediately **forgets** what kind of man he was. ²⁵ But he who looks into the perfect law of liberty and **continues in it**, and is not a forgetful hearer but a doer of the work, **this one will be blessed** in what he does.

- Staying in the mirror will cause you to have God's Word implanted and rooted into your heart.
- If you don't stay in the mirror, you will not experience victory.
- Give yourself wholly to the "mirror," or reflection of what God says.
- The area that you are bound in will be an area that you aren't persuaded of the truth of God's Word or believed the reflection.
- What has persuaded your heart will govern your thoughts and thereby, will govern your life.

People who are bound to certain areas have given themselves over to those areas in thought, long before action. As a man thinks in his heart, so is he. (Proverbs 23:7)

II Corinthians 10:4-5 – ⁴ For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal or fleshly, but **mighty through God** for pulling down strongholds, ⁵ [Inasmuch as we] cast down, refute arguments and theories and reasonings and every proud and lofty thing that exalts or sets itself up against the knowledge of God; and **we lead every thought** and purpose away **captive** into the obedience of Christ

There are **thoughts, arguments, theories, and reasonings** that will **set themselves up AGAINST THE KNOWLEDGE OF GOD or THE TRUTH ABOUT GOD or THE TRUTH ABOUT GOD IN YOU.**

We must FIGHT AND TAKE CAPTIVE THE THOUGHTS that are contrary to God's mirror.

HIS OBEDIENCE:

- Brought you redemption and reconciliation with the Father
- Made a way into the very presence of God
- Gave you peace with God
- Brought you dignity and worth

Philippians 1:6 - being confident of this very thing, that He who has begun a good work in you will complete it until the day of Jesus Christ; **NKJV**