

Monterrey Mexico Sharing
02/03/04
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Jesus Above Everything

I came this time to be with you, and I want to share with you out of a book that I wrote. It is going to be important that you read from this book during your time away from the conference. It is not a big book, and I think it will bless you. So if you have the time, it will bless you. The name of the book is Having the Right Message. It is called a study and comparison of different emphasis in ministry. Now if you are a Christian, and you have visited other churches, you have seen that there are many different emphases. It is very important that we find out what it is that God wants us to emphasize. *Galations 1:15-18. But when it pleased God, who separated me from my mother's womb, and called me by his grace, To reveal his Son in me, that I might preach him among the heathen; immediately I conferred not with flesh and blood: Neither went I up to Jerusalem to them which were apostles before me; but I went into Arabia, and returned again unto Damascus. Then after three years I went up to Jerusalem to see Peter, and abode with him fifteen days. When Paul walked this earth, but before he came to the Lord, he lived during the time of Jesus. He was in Jerusalem when Jesus was in Jerusalem. Yet he did not follow Jesus. We have no record of Paul following Jesus, before he met him on the road to Damascus. Surely he heard about him, because every body in Jerusalem was talking about him. Jesus, when he was in Israel was a man. There were other followers, people gathered, multitudes also, these all followed Jesus and listened to his words. They believed his words and were touched by his ministry. Many were healed, and were fed, and were blessed. So all of these people were gathered around Jesus. Notice that I drew Jesus bigger than the other people. They looked at Jesus and said, "You are so great, and wonderful, and your way is wonderful." People were drawn to him. When the Apostle Paul came and the Lord dealt with him, (Galations 1) he said that when God called him, that he did not go to Jerusalem, or talk to Peter or John. He did not talk to all the people that knew Jesus. The bible says that he went out into the wilderness and he began to search the scriptures. Now Jesus was alive during his time. The first believers were right there near him, and yet he did not go talk to them, he went further away. He got his bible, and said that if he is real, if he is the true God, I know that the bible is true, then God should open my eyes, and whoever this guy is, he should be revealed in the word of God. So what happened? The bible says that the veil was rent, and he began to see Jesus. Seeing*

not from the shores of Galilee, not feeding the multitudes, but seeing the Christ who is all and in all. He began to see Jesus, not as a man, but as what happened after the resurrection. Here, he was just a man. He was a great, the greatest man, but these people were still separate from him. The relationship was different. These people knew Jesus, but they knew Jesus after the flesh. Did not Paul say something like that in Corinthians? He said I once knew Jesus after the flesh, but no more! I know him in Christ!

If he had talked to one of those who knew him after the flesh, they would have said “He is a good man. He healed me. He blesses people.” But he did not ask those. He asked the Holy Spirit, and the Holy Spirit did not reveal this Jesus, he revealed the resurrected Jesus. The relationship that you have now is with the resurrected Jesus, not the other. Now I will explain what I mean in just a minute. Paul did not talk to those people because they would have described a man that was before the cross. That is the man that the Catholics know. You walk in and you see a figure of him, and where is he? He is on the cross. He is still dying. He rose from the dead! He is the resurrection! These people did not know him as the resurrection. They knew him as the deliverer, the healer. Paul began to see this resurrected Jesus. Pre-cross Jesus was a local hero for the Jews. The other is all in all, Alpha and Omega. When Paul began to see this one, he saw himself in Christ. He began to understand that he had a different relationship than they did. Before the cross, there was a separation. Jesus could touch and bless you, but you were still you, with all of your problems, sins and failures. After the resurrection, you are in him! Him who? The true vine. Who are you? The branch. That is different. These people were not branches, we are the branches. We are the body of Christ! Now these people would listen to Jesus, they would hear what he said and they would say “That is so wonderful!” “I love what he is saying.” Then they would go their own way, and they would forget what he said, and they would go back to their own ways. When they would fall into sin they would say “What is wrong with me, I heard his word?” “I love him, what is my problem?” That happens today, because many people have this old covenant relationship, not a new covenant relationship. Jesus would heal them and they would be walking and leaping and praising God. Then they would go home and lay down at night, and say “I love you Jesus, I am healed, I can walk!” Then they would get up in the morning and someone would say “get up, it is time to go to church,” and their response is “I am tired.” “I do not feel like going to church.” “You have legs!” “He just healed you!” “Get up!” “I know and I am thankful,

but I am tired.” You see, there is a greater problem than sickness. Self! It is the worst. He can heal you, and cast demons out of you, but there is still no hope. He did heal them and cast demons out of them, and still said that there was still no hope, until I go to the cross. That is where the hope is. The hope is not in miracles, the hope is in Christ!

How does that happen? Paul began to see Jesus, not Jesus of Nazareth, So when he came and talked to this person about Jesus, it was as if they talked about two different Jesus’. Can you see that? One was the pre-cross Jesus that called you, and healed you, and blessed you, but you still had all of your problems. The other is the resurrected Jesus, and I am in him, and he is in me. If he heals me body so that my body can go to church, he also fills me with his Spirit, Life, and Nature, and that nature says in me that I must be about my Father’s business. Where is the victory and hope? Christ in me is the hope! He does not say that he will give you hope by touching you, I will give you hope, he says, by being your hope, by being in you and overcoming. Overcoming the devil, problems, and overcoming you. So he talks to one person and they have a different view. He looks around and talks to everyone, and they love Jesus, but of the closest ones that are to him, one is denying him, one is betraying him, the rest are running away. And these are they who love him. So Paul looks at this group and says “What is wrong?” There is so much sin in the church. There is so many problems in the church. There is so much pride in the church. But when he looks here in Christ, no pride, no problems. This one with all the problems is not the church. This is before the church. The church came after the cross. Then what is the church? All of those who are gathered in Christ. But then what about the problems? This man had problems. When you follow this Jesus, he could not overcome, and he did not understand why. But when he was introduced to this Jesus, one new thing was added. The cross. Christ liveth in me.

So each person with their problems began to hear about the resurrected Jesus, and the word started to spread. “Do you remember the Jesus we used to listen to? Remember how good it was and how happy we were but we still had our problems? Well I heard something new, he rose from the dead, and we are in him, and we are his body and we are his life!” Glory to God, that is the victory! This man says that I have a different problem. I have a problem with pride, and how can I overcome? One answer, the cross. I am

crucified with Christ. This one says I have a different problem, sometimes I tell lies. I do not want to tell lies, but when I get under pressure, I lie, I go to the alter and I go oooohhhh. That alter is not the answer, the cross is the answer. When you come to the church alter, you must come to the cross. When you come to the church alter, you will be serious and sincere, but what happens? No victory. At the cross there is victory. Over what? Pride, covetousness, lying, every problem in man. Does God crucify pride? No! Lying? No! Then what does God crucify? You see, the cross has to be applied to each person. How does that happen? If you follow this Jesus, it will never happen. You have to do what Paul did. Get away from religion, because you want to get to Jesus. The real thing! Get into the word, and you say “God open my eyes, I want to see Jesus.” When he begins to reveal him, he will not be at *this* alter, and Jesus walks by, and you are reaching out, “Oh Jesus stop! Do not keep going. Touch me Lord!” That is before the cross. He has already touched you. Amen? That is the answer. Christ!

Paul saw the difference, and he said “There is a problem in the church. It is greater than sin, pride, selfishness, and lying. It is blindness!” Blindness to what? *This* Jesus! To the resurrected Jesus, the one in whom we live. Who lives in us. Overcomes us. Paul saw the problem. What did he do? When he saw *this* Jesus, his whole life changed. He said “it is not my life. It is not my life even to give to God, it is my life to give to the cross, and let Christ come out of me.” That is what he saw, he saw Jesus, all and in all. He said “Where am I?” The spirit of God told him, “In Christ.” “But if I am dead, what can I do?” The spirit said “Only one thing. Let Jesus live in you.” That is the answer. Paul saw this about himself, and said that if this is true of me, it is true of everybody. That means that everyone needs to know the

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And this man said back to him, “Oh, I know about Jesus, but I am not in to the cross, I am in to healing. My church teaches healing.” This man may have said “My church teaches holiness.” Another says, “My church teaches evangelism.” God looked down and said, “I am going to choose someone to spread the word and write it down so that everyone could read it.” So he looked at the one who was preaching healing and said, “No, he missed the mark.” “He understood one little piece, but he did not see Jesus!” So God

looked and said, “No not him.” He looked at all the men, and then he came to Paul. “This man sees the truth. He sees the cross. He sees the resurrection. He understands that the cross is not just an historical event, two thousand years ago, it is working in him now.” Paul says “I *am* crucified with Christ, not that I was a long time ago. The cross still works in me today. Every day.” With him, it is always Christ and him crucified. Do you remember what Paul said in 1 Corinthians 2:2? For I determined not to know any thing among you, save Jesus Christ, and him crucified. So God said “This man. For he preaches the truth.”

Do you know what the name of this place is? Berea. Do you know where that came from? The name was chosen out of the bible, but it started about thirty-five years ago, before this place. There was a man, an evangelist from the Assembly of God. A powerful man. Very admired. He was going to many places preaching, and great things were happening. Miracles, blessings, power. But something happened. He was empty on the inside. He would touch people, and God would heal them, but on the inside he felt empty. In between evangelistic meetings, he would go up into his room, and he would get the bible, and he would read, and cry, and said, “Oh God, I need Jesus.” “I am not in sin, or doing things wrong, I just need Jesus.” Do you know what happened? God opened his eyes. Not to this Jesus, but to *this* One. All his ministry he had served this Jesus, but he saw that this Jesus died. He died, and *this* Jesus came forth. That man came out of there, and he began to preach Christ. He began to preach the cross, and people began to gather. Not like this, but in Christ. People began to understand, and the word began to go forth. The people that came said that the world needs *this*, not this. It began to spread. A man came here from that place and began to preach *this* Jesus, and this place started. All over the world, in Korea. Africa, South America, people began to go and preach Christ. They would start a place, and do you know what they called it? Berea. Only one came here, and one into this country and one over there. Later I came to that place in Dallas, and I had been following this Jesus. I was working with a very famous man. Maybe you have heard his name, Kenneth Copland. I worked with him for years. God told me to go to this place. I was twenty-two years old. God began to open my eyes, and I saw the difference, and it changed my life. Now, every day, every where I go, I live for *this* Jesus. I want *this* Jesus to live in me. My victory is not power from heaven, my victory is Christ in me. I became a missionary, and later came back to the states and started a church. Like *this one*, to gather in Him. It is not your life, it is his. It is not your power, it is

his. You are dead. You are dead! He is your life! That is the church that I come from. We raised up a bible school similar to this to preach Christ. I am determined not to know anything, except Christ and him crucified. Students come from here, (the reference is to ACTS) this place of following Jesus, and they hear the message, and God begins to open their eyes. They begin to enter in here, and because God has revealed himself in them, now they are going different places. This was one of the main places for this message, but the last five or six years, God has been using me all over Latin America. This book that you have, I wrote in English, and was translated into Spanish by people in Costa Rica, Cuba, and all over Latin America. They saw the difference, so they were able to write it down. We went to Costa Rica, and there is a church there established on one thing. The same thing that happened to Paul, the same thing that happened to the man that started Berea, the same thing that happened to me, happened to them. Now there is a church in Costa Rica. They live for Jesus, and to spread this message. We went to Nicaragua and we marked the map, and have been all over Nicaragua. We have established a foundation. Not “holiness people,” not “healing people,” but “Christ in you people.” The last few years we have been going to Cuba. Praise God. It is very dangerous, but not for the Lord. We got in there and most of the people knew this Jesus. We began to preach and open the Word. We began to bring our books. They began to read, and they began to cry out from *here*, leaving religion. They said “Lord, I want you!” “I want your life in me!” The Holy Spirit would come and open the veil, and they would see Jesus, and they would be changed into his image. We have a man there who embraced this message. He has dedicated himself to bring Christ to Cuba. People need this message.

When you realize that when you see this Jesus, your life will never be the same. Because it is not your life. Your problems are no longer an issue. Each person that tells you that you have a problem, and another says they have this problem, and instead of going to the one and saying you need holiness, or you need to fast, Paul would go to every one of them and say “You need the cross.” If a person is dead he has no demons. If you are crucified with Christ, you have no demons. You have Jesus in there. If it is “you” in there, and not Christ, you might have all kind of things in there. So you say “I have this problem, there are so many problems.” So what is the hope? Paul saw the hope, and he said, “You need the cross. All of you need the cross.” Crucified, and now one life, Christ! If it is Randy for Jesus, I am going to fail. I am human. I

have many problems. I have weaknesses. But if it is Christ being formed in me. That was Paul's prayer. He looked at the churches in Galatia and said, "You have all these problems, and I am praying for you, that Christ be formed in you again." If you go to a church as a minister and somebody pulls you aside, and says "This church has problems. You are a visiting minister, you need to help us. There are two brothers, and they both want to be the greatest. (James and John) There is another one here, and he is full of pride. He thinks he cannot fail. (Peter) There is another one over here, and he is stealing money. (Judas) This church has got problems, and you are the minister and you need to help us. What is your answer?" What is *your* answer? Is prayer the answer? No, God is the answer. We have a saying, "Prayer changes things." Prayer does not change anything. God changes things. If you pray to him, and he hears you, then he changes things. It is not your prayer that changes things, God changes things. We have people who say "I am a prayer person." And another will say that they are a praise and worship person or another is into evangelism. Before any of those things, Christ is all and in all. I am not in to praise and worship. I am into the Lord, therefore I worship him. I do not go "Oh Hallelujah, and oh this feels so good." That would not be worshipping the Lord, that would be worshipping worship. What if the Lord was not *here* (he taps the chalkboard, and I am unclear as to what he means) and you were going to worship him? You could sing, close your eyes, raise your hands, he is not here, he is gone. But when you worship *him*, the first thing you notice is the Lord. You are looking around the room, "praise the Lord," then you see Jesus, and you say "Praise you Jesus! Hallelujah" because you worship him, you don't worship the worship. There is no subject that is greater than him.

Are you ready to read the book now? That was my introduction. If you get a chance, go ahead and start reading. Read as far as you can. There is no way that I am going to be able to cover all of this book. What I have shared tonight gives you the idea of the meaning of the book. The book is different than what I have shared tonight, but the theme is the same. Jesus above everything. Thank you.