

8. Turn Around

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8.1 Absolute Confidence

At this point in your journey into knowing Jesus as He is, I want to change your life; that is, I want to turn you around. Everything until now has been building to this point; everything going forward will come out from this point.

Let me explain what “turning around” means in your relationship with God. Then, in the next chapter, I hope to show you why I have turned you around.

On the Day of Atonement (Leviticus 16), which represents many of the aspects of Jesus’ sacrifice for us, Aaron, the High Priest did something absolutely incredible, and he did it twice. Aaron turned around inside the Holy of Holies, having secured full redemption in order to take that redemption out to the people.

One Unbroken Sacrifice. When Aaron placed the blood upon the Mercy Seat, he KNEW that all sins were purged (for a year). When he turned around, he went back out to a people who were now free, once again, to walk with God.

This is exactly what the writer of Hebrews was demonstrating in Hebrews 10:11-14. – **And indeed, every priest stands every day ministering, and repeatedly offering the same sacrifices which are never able to take away sins. This One, moreover, having offered one unbroken [bearing of all sin] sacrifice for sins, sat down in the right hand of God; from now on waiting expectantly for His enemies to be made a footstool for His feet. For by one offering, He has perfected those who are continuously being made holy [by God].**

Turning Around. In order for Jesus to “sit down” upon the Mercy Seat, which is God’s throne, He must first have turned around inside of the Holy of Holies. Yet this same Jesus is also seated upon your heart, sprinkled with blood, making your heart that same Mercy Seat of God.

For you to turn around, then, inside the Holy of Holies as well, and to sit down upon the Mercy Seat of God with the Lord Jesus Christ, is to accept first and to assert second that the **one unbroken sacrifice for sins** is enough for you, that your redemption is complete. You are no longer “going into” God; now you rest entirely inside of Jesus inside of Father. All “going” from here on out is you and God utterly together, made one by Jesus.

The Verses of Confidence. Here are the verses of our confidence, Hebrews 3:6/14 (combined together) with 2 Corinthians 2:14 and expanded.

Christ, however, as Son over His house, whose house we are, IF INDEED, our confidence, our bold and public speaking {of Christ our life} and the exultant boasting of our hope {that we are just like Jesus – 1 John 3:1-3}, we should hold in all firmness all the way to perfection and completion. – For, we have become partakers of Christ IF INDEED the source and beginning of our assurance [our substance] we should hold firm until completion and perfection. – Moreover, grace [thanks] to God, always leading us in the triumphal procession inside of Christ, and the aroma of His knowledge being made visible through us in every place.

Part of Christ. We could say Hebrews 3:14 in this way: You are part of Christ IF you are fully

confident that you are part of Christ. To be part of Christ is to be seated with Jesus upon the Mercy Seat, expecting all things to come into submission to love. Our confident faith in God is the only thing that pleases Him (Hebrews 11:6). Yet 2 Corinthians 2:14 shows this same confidence as God and you utterly together going forth as the knowledge of God in every place.

The accusation and counterargument of “Am I worthy? – Am I unworthy?” exists only in the tree of good and evil. God made you weak so that you could live ONLY inside of Jesus.

From Here on Out. I want to look a bit further at the line: **the aroma of His knowledge being made visible through us in every place.**

Until you turn around, you are concerned with your own redemption and salvation, and rightly so. It's not that you could secure your own redemption, it's that you must enter into the knowledge of what is already true. Turning around, then, means that from here on out you are concerned only with Father's Heart, with what God desires for Himself from the beginning. And this invisible God-Love DESIRES with all His Heart to be seen and known, touched and handled, by every member and particle of His creation.

Father Desires. As we have seen, an invisible God-Love can be seen and known through one means only, through humans who believe in Jesus.

The Father, inside of Jesus inside your heart, DESIRES to be seen and known as Love through you. One thing only prevents that from happening right now, and that is the slightest thought in your own mind that you might be, somehow, “fallen short” of God.

And one thing only places you into the full and continuous flow of the aroma of His knowledge always going out from you, and that is your absolute CONFIDENCE that you ARE part of Christ upon

the Mercy Seat and that Father God IS utterly together with you in and through all things.

Actions of Confidence. Let's draw seven things, seven actions for you to “do,” out from this most incredible ruling “verse,” the verse of our confidence.

1. Know that you are fully part of Christ.
2. Speak boldly that Christ is your life.
3. Boast in being just like Jesus.
4. Hold firm to your substance against all outward appearance.
5. Stand firm through to all completion (all things now belonging to Love).
6. Celebrate God's leading in all victory in every step.
7. Be confident that the knowledge of God flows out from you everywhere you go.

These are the actions of your knowledge of full salvation.

Giving Thanks. In the remainder of this chapter and all of the next, we will continue with what it means to live “turned around” inside of all the fullness of God. Here I want to talk about something practical and very important for your life.

You have learned in your walk with God the importance of giving thanks in and for all things. It was not an easy thing, but in your tears, in your pain and frustration, when you were betrayed and abused, in spite of all the trauma of your human emotions and because of your utter devotion to Jesus, you gave thanks. And that giving of thanks was your acknowledgement and acceptance of God in your life.

The Foundation of Confidence. According to Paul in Romans 1:21, Adam's rebellion began with unthankfulness, specifically, his rejection of God having created him in weakness.

Every time you gave thanks, even when you did not want to, even when the thanksgiving came only

after the pain had subsided, you were laying the foundation in your own heart of your present confidence in Christ. And every time you gave thanks, you were accepting, contrary to Adam, that God had made you weak for His purposes, and that all of His ways concerning you are perfect.

Let me give you the verses of your glory, this acceptance of Christ inside of you.

Your Glory. Esteem it all joy, my brothers and sisters, whenever you might fall into any and all sorts of trials, knowing that the proving of your faith produces steadfastness (James 1:2-3). – But we also glory inside the pressures [within and without], knowing that pressures bring forth steadfastness, and steadfastness, proof {of Christ}, and proof, hope {that we are just like Him} (Romans 5:4). – I speak, I place to my account that, indeed, the sufferings of this present time are not worthy, have no value compared towards, the glory ready to be unveiled inside of us (Romans 8:18).

But what on earth is happening inside of you as you give thanks through great difficulties?

Christ Formed in You. Here is Paul's cry, inside of himself, for all believers in Jesus, including you, dear reader. **My children, for whom I travail in birth again, until Christ shall have been formed inside of you** (Galatians 4:19).

What is happening inside of you through your practice of giving thanks in your tears is that you are becoming part of Christ in your knowing. Apart from giving thanks in and for all of your difficulty, you could not turn around inside of God, for you could not know the CONFIDENCE of Christ.

The confidence of Christ is KNOWING that God-Love directs your every step and that Father shares all things with you.

8.2 Put on Christ

Abide, live, dwell inside of Me, and I inside of you. AS the branch is not capable of bearing fruit of itself, if it does not remain in the vine, so neither can you, if you do not live inside of me (John 15:4).

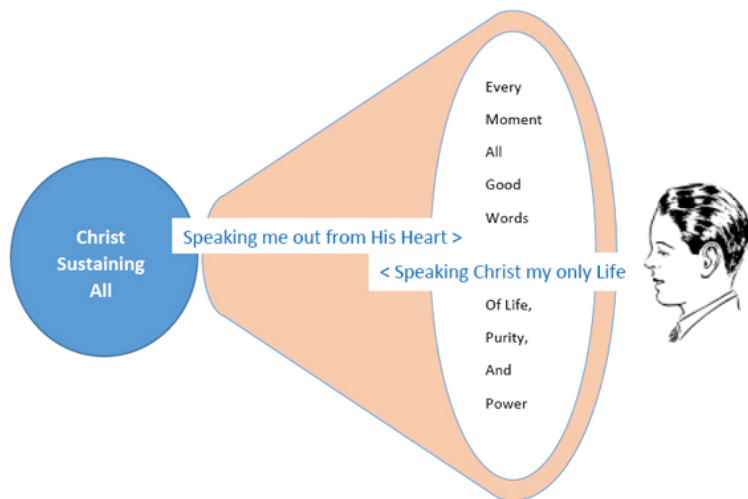
But put on the Lord Jesus Christ, enclothe yourself with, sink into the Lord Jesus Christ as into a garment or into the covers of your bed, and do not give thought {one way or the other} **regarding the desires of the flesh** (Romans 13:14).

Put on the Lord Jesus Christ – Put the Lord Jesus Christ upon yourself. How do you do that? And what does this mean? As Jesus said, no doing can be of God except it comes out from abiding in Jesus.

Two Options. As always, the issue of “how” we put Jesus upon ourselves is between faith and works, between option one and option two. Faith sees, speaks, knows, and lives in what God has already fully accomplished, calling it to be so, but against the sight of the eyes and against the judgment of the human.

Option two continues in the same way as before, *“You can put Jesus upon yourself if you try really hard.”* This second option first positions Jesus far away from you and then places everything upon your own human performance guided by the sight of your eyes and your human judgment. Option two is always a living hell; option one is always the joy of your Salvation, Jesus Himself fulfilling all that God speaks.

Christ Sustaining You. Before we talk about the practical ways by which you “put on” the Lord Jesus Christ, I want to show you two workings of Christ, the first towards you and the second within you.



Christ – **sustaining all things by the Word of His power** (Hebrews 1:3). Here is a model of this continuous action of Jesus towards you. You exist only by the good-speaking of Christ.

Every Good Speaking. This good-speaking that is Christ sustaining you, causing you to exist and to live, is always coming out of God. – **We bless and speak well of the God and Father of our Lord, Jesus Christ, the One having blessed and spoken well of us with every spiritual speaking of goodness and blessing in the heavenly realms inside of Christ** (Ephesians 1:3).

Then here is our continuous response towards this good-speaking that is Jesus continuously coming “out from” Father towards us and inside of us. – **That the sharing and fellowship of your faith may be energed by the acknowledgment of every good thing which is inside of you inside of Christ Jesus** (Philemon 1:6).

Energeing in You. The one who is acknowledging the good things of Christ inside themselves is the one “putting on” the Lord Jesus Christ.

Then we must look at Christ inside of you, living as you. You see, the huge question of symmophy, of you living inside another Person and another Person

living inside of you is the question of, “Who is in charge?” Who makes the decisions?

For God is the Energeia inside of you, both to desire and to energeo for the sake of good pleasure, of satisfaction and delight (Philippians 2:13). Energeia is the continuous, swirling, living action of God working or “energeing” inside of you, directing your desire by His good pleasure, that is, entirely as He wishes.

Synergeing Together. You see, this is one of the many reasons why Jesus lives in-between you and God. Jesus is continuously causing your choices and God’s desire to be one. God never intends actions that hurt other people, but He always intends you in spite of those actions. And through your faith, you, together with God, are turning even that which was outwardly hurtful, even your mistakes, into the end result of goodness.

This action of God and you together turning all things towards good is what Paul calls “synergeing” or “energeing together as one” (Romans 8:28). This faith is central to your putting Jesus upon yourself.

One Spirit with Christ. Your task towards God, as a believer in Jesus, is to put on the Lord Jesus Christ and to do so entirely by faith. You are calling those things that do not appear outwardly to be the only thing real (Romans 4:17).

Now, **put on the Lord Jesus Christ** cannot be figurative or symbolic. **Put on the Lord Jesus Christ** is 100% literal, spirit, soul, and body – heaven, human, and earth. Let’s start with your heavenly spirit. **He who is joined to the Lord is one spirit with Him** (1 Corinthians 6:17). Put one drop of water into a tub full of water and instantly, it is all one water. Your human spirit and the Spirit of Christ are one, that is, they are one and the same.

One Flesh with Christ. Paul also said, “**Do you not know that your bodies are members of Christ?**” (1 Corinthians 6:15). And elsewhere he says, “**For we are members of His body, of His flesh, and of His bones... joined... into one flesh the two will be**” (Ephesians 5:30-32). To put the Lord Jesus Christ upon yourself is to call your own spirit by Christ and to call your own body by Christ, and entirely by faith regardless of outward appearance.

But you are neither your heavenly spirit nor your earthly body; you are you, your heart, the story you tell yourself about yourself. Your spirit causes you to be self-aware; your body gives you the frame and context of your life; but you are the story of your soul.

Sinking into Rest. The Greek word translated “put on” is *enduo*, which means to clothe one’s self with a garment, but it includes the idea of a sinking into rest. And thus to “put” the Lord Jesus Christ upon your own soul is to sink every moment into the rest that He is, in fact, sharing Himself with you, that everything you are finding in your present story of self is one story with the Lord Jesus.

Jesus has taken your soul, your story of self, upon Himself as His own. And He has given you His soul, His story of self, to be your own. You do not lose yourself in Jesus’ self; rather, you find yourself, real and true, in the joy of being the human expression of His own story.

Call It to Be So. You put on the Lord Jesus Christ, Himself in Person, here and now as your very and only life. Your flesh is God’s flesh; your flesh is filled with God!

There is no part of Jesus that is not found in you; there is no part of you not found in Jesus, including your sin and your shame. There is no part of you not filled with Jesus Himself in Person; there is no part of Jesus in which you are not found.

To “put on,” to *enduo*, is to call it to be so, to ask and believe you have received the full enclothing of Jesus, to speak to yourself and out loud that everything you are is Jesus sharing Himself with you, regardless, and to give thanks that the Lord Jesus is sharing your life with you through all circumstances.

You Have Always Belonged. Then, here is what you find. What is true now, has always been true, for you have always belonged to Jesus and He has always been sustaining you by every good Word coming out from Father’s thoughts regarding you.

And so, as you put Jesus upon everything you are right now, so you will see Him there in every moment of your past, living as you, sharing all things with you. Even when you did wrong things, He did not intend the wrong, but He did intend you in spite of your actions, and He does take all responsibility for your wrong actions entirely upon Himself. See Jesus there with you, part of you, in every moment, circumstance, and memory of your past.

One Seamless Story of Christ. As you put the Lord Jesus upon every particle that you are and upon every present circumstance, “Jesus, this is You, sharing Yourself with me,” and as you put the Lord Jesus upon every moment and occasion of your past, something begins to happen in your knowing. Your whole life, all the way through and every present moment, regardless, becomes one seamless story of Christ.

What was once pain becomes glory. What was once wrong becomes pure. What was once confusion becomes God’s perfection showing itself in your humanity. As you know Jesus, so you know yourself, and as you know yourself filled with Jesus, so you know Him as well.

Making God Happy. Now, the thing that really makes God happy is that you put the Lord Jesus Christ upon yourself, upon all that you are, with all confidence, even reckless certainty.

Reckless certainty, in the tender knowing that Jesus is already all that you are as you find yourself to be, including your limitations and your abilities, your sorrows and your joys. Reckless certainty that Jesus wants with all desire to share your life with you as you and that you share His life with Him as Him.

Reckless certainty that you live only inside of Jesus and He inside of you in all ways and through all things of your past and your ongoing today, this absolute certainty that you are part of Christ and He is part of you is the only thing that pleases God.

8.3 Devotion

Be holy, for I am holy (1 Peter 1:16). – **Be devoted to Me, for I am devoted to you.**

You would not have come this far in your desire to know Jesus as He is except you were already devoted to Him as your life. Nonetheless, you find yourself in this present riddle, one might say. You cannot know Jesus as He is except you be just like Him, and you cannot be just like Jesus except you know Him as He is.

Many, on learning their precious union with Christ, that Jesus is living as them in this world, are content with such knowledge inside their limited sphere and desire nothing further. That is their right, and God will bless them.

God's Entrance. The problem is simply this – until you turn around in the Holy of Holies, God's desire, to be seen and known by all, cannot even begin to be fulfilled.

Up until you turn around in the Holy of Holies, inside all the fulness of Christ, your life is an entrance into the knowledge of God, into knowing just what your Salvation is all about. From turning around on, your life is an entrance of God the Father through you into the knowledge of all, into Salvation revealed in every place.

To “turn around” means to sit down with Jesus upon the Mercy Seat of God, your own heart, and to be that Mercy Seat, the beating heart of Father, towards all.

Being the Mercy Seat. Here is being the Mercy Seat, the throne of heaven, in its simplest form. – **Love one another just exactly as I love you** (John 5:12).

And here is God's commandment to you to BE His Mercy Seat in a slightly larger rendition. – **And be kind with one another, tender-hearted, forgiving [giving favor to] each other, in exactly the same way that God inside of Christ gives favor freely to you. Therefore be imitators of God, as beloved children and walk inside of love, in just the same way that Christ also loves us and gives Himself to us for our sakes, an offering and a sacrifice to God, into a sweet-smelling aroma** (Ephesians 4:32-5:2).

Only God Is Love. You are incapable of love. In fact, Paul said in 1 Corinthians 13 that you can perform all the actions of love your entire life and it's all a waste of time, for there is no love inside any of it. **God is love** (1 John 4:8). To love is to “God,” something you cannot do yourself, something God IS in Person through you.

But because God is love, He will never compel you to love Him, nor ever force Himself upon you. For you and Father to walk as one together, you must desire Him in just the same way that He desires you. Jesus says to you, in your heart, and living as you, **“You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind”** (Matthew 22:37). – Your response to Him speaking to you is always, **“Let it be to me according to Your word.”**

Your Own Choice. Your entrance into agreement with God up until now has always been based on your own choice, your own willingness to

devote yourself to a God who has already and absolutely devoted Himself to you.

When you entered the Gate into Jesus your Savior, you surrendered your heart to Him. When you entered the Door into Jesus your Bread and Light, you surrendered your soul to Him. When you entered the Veil into Jesus as your only life, you surrendered your flesh to Him.

Never did God force you in any of that; nonetheless, here is His right. The moment you said, “Yes, Lord,” at every step, your Father sealed you, in that moment, into the choice of your heart to be devoted to Him.

Most Private and Personal. And that is why God has never paid any attention to all your screaming “NO’s” since then, for they have no meaning to you or to Him. That is why every single time you have fallen flat on your face in the mud of foolish humiliation, Jesus has simply picked you up, loved you, and continued on living with you and as you as if nothing had ever happened.

But this time it’s a bit different. This time, as God turns you around inside Himself, He wants to share something with you, He wants to give you something of Himself that is His most private, most personal, most precious quality of Being.

God wants to give you His Heart; God wants to share Hheart with you.

A Terrible Thing. The love of God has [already] been poured out [has been shed abroad] inside of our hearts through His Holy Spirit, the One having been given to us (Romans 5:5). That word, “poured out” or “shed abroad” (the Greek word means both) denotes being the Mercy Seat, sharing Heart with God.

Sharing heart with God is a terrible thing. What will you do with His Heart? And how will you live inside of and as a Consuming Fire? **For our God is a**

consuming Fire – let brotherly love remain [abide] (Hebrews 12:29-13:1).

And so God must protect His Heart and yours, and He does so with the seal of love, the seal of devotion.

Be Devoted to Me. Be devoted to Me, for I am already utterly devoted to you. God is going to take you places together with Himself you have never known or considered. BUT, before He can do such a thing, He must **CONTEND** with you.

Do not love the world, nor the things in the world. If anyone should love the world, the love of the Father is not inside of him (1 John 2:15).

You can know Jesus as Savior and still love the world. You can know the power and giftings of the Holy Spirit and still love the world. You can live inside of union with Christ and still love the world. But if you do, sharing Heart with Father will never enter your mind, you will never know such a thing.

The World Outside and In. The world, in this instance, means two different things that always work together, both of them deadly to your faith.

On the outside of you, the “world” is all those associations of humans and demons in this present age, all the countries and flags, all the causes and pursuits, all the glory of man in defiance of God. To pledge your heart to the battle flags of human “countries” is to seal yourself against knowing God’s heart inside of yours.

Then, on the inside of you is your own imagined “life” in this world. That imagined “life” is what you do to line yourself up with what you think other people think about you, whether to control them or to be controlled by them.

Turned Away. You can see how those two things are what turned Adam’s heart away from God in the garden, the outward show of the serpent on the

one hand and the face of Eve (what Adam imagined Eve to be thinking about him) on the other hand.

You are perfectly free to love what you think other people think about you or to love identifying with the horrific “glory” of this world and of the kingdoms of men; the truth is, Jesus bears even that inside Himself. It’s just that Father cannot share His Heart with you, for you would certainly abuse His heart.

And so, for this moment right now, Father contends with you, “Be devoted to Me, My dear one, for I AM devoted to you.”

Pray Out Loud. “Father, sharing Heart with you is the only thing I want. For Your sake, Father, I devote myself to You, and to Your Heart, in the same way that You are utterly devoted to me. Father, I want Your Heart to be safe, here, inside of my own heart. Father, I would share Hheart with You.

Father, I separate myself from all the deceit of this world and from all the boasting of humans. I separate myself from ever wanting to be somebody in the eyes of anyone else.

Father, I give you my life, all that I am, and every circumstance you and I share together, to be Yours, that You might walk as One together with me, sharing me with Yourself and Yourself with me. Father, I belong only to You in the same way that You belong utterly to me.”

The Points of Confidence and Devotion. Confidence and Devotion are married together. There is never one without also the other. Here are the points of knowing both.

22. Absolute confidence in God is the only thing that pleases Him, declaring with all certainty that His Word, the Lord Jesus, is true and Personal inside of you and giving thanks in all.

23. Believers put the Lord Jesus Christ upon themselves entirely through faith, sinking into Him

living now as them in every circumstance and moment of their lives.

24. As Father God is devoted to you, so you also devote yourself utterly to Him, to share His Heart together as your own. And as you are devoted to Father, so you separate yourself from the outward human “glory” of this world.