

THE SPIRIT & PRINCIPLES
OF *WORK AND DEVELOPMENT*

BEYOND
THE
PAST

TOLU
COLE



BEYOND
THE
PAST

“THEN GOD SAID, “LET US
MAKE MAN IN OUR IMAGE,
AFTER OUR LIKENESS. AND
LET THEM HAVE DOMINION
OVER THE FISH OF THE SEA
AND OVER THE BIRDS OF
THE HEAVENS AND OVER THE
LIVESTOCK AND OVER ALL
THE EARTH AND OVER EVERY
CREEPING THING THAT
CREEPS ON THE EARTH.”

GENESIS 1:26

BOOK OF GENESIS

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KNOWING GOD
AND HIS WAY,
HUMANITY AND
OUR WAY

He is beyond the past

There's a right way to act on God's word. There's a right way to work. This is the apostolic pattern of building and doing the Word. Take for instance, when building a house, there are different levels of quality, or dispensation, all factored into one building of a great house. Different parts of the house use different materials. This apostolic strategy of building accurately is revealed in the book of beginnings, Genesis, because it's a strategy before corruption of the past, revealing the intent and purpose of creation, which was realized in new creation.

Genesis takes us on a journey beyond the past, helping us to know the work, and how to do the work, which is righteousness and holiness, leading to prosperity. Like the tabernacle of Moses, we are to make different demarcations, and invest different levels of glory therein when working in a corrupt world. But as the work is going beyond this world, and advancing, everything should be collapsing into one righteousness and one holiness and one glory. The reason for the demarcations and structuring is to preserve the purity, glory, quality and value of the goal and purpose of the work.

As we grow in work, and ministry, all the dimensions of the work, and all the areas of work, should carry one divine nature and one divine power. Either regarding what we call sacred work, or secular work. This is what we see in Joseph at the conclusion of the book of Genesis, who was God's man to preserve God's people, but also God's man in the world, preserving Egypt. This is like Jesus, who was both the Lamb of God, and the Light of the world.

May you continue to be a sheep that follows the Lord, and a light in the world that shines from the throne, in Jesus' name. Believe that you are, and improve your work in Jesus' name.

C O N T E N T

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AUTHOR'S NOTE

In today's world, the conversation of work and tending the cosmos and ecosystem is a major conversation. In many quarters, there are evolving conversations on new ways to do things better and even what the future of work is.

We speak of the science of things and the digitization of things for more effectiveness. We speak of new technologies and new possibilities. Man is advancing in natural ingenuity.

In spite of all these advancements, man can never outwit God's original pattern of working. All that man knows to do are all little fragments of what God has done, both in His *work of creation*, and in His *work of new creation*, or redemption. What man does is either in righteous alignment or unrighteous opposition to God's style and lifestyle.

When we read the book of beginnings, *Genesis*, we see the revelation of the foundations of God's work and working. We are exposed to the chief principles, methods, purpose and programs of work and working. We come in contact with the Spirit of creation, the very Spirit of God.

We come to see God's chief principles in original working, namely, *righteousness* and *holiness*. We come to understand them in a practical way, and see the very origins of most of what we would later come across in the Bible as divine revelation and divine light.

Our work is a major part of our daily living, and our spiritual work is an essential part of our spiritual life and development, both in devotional life and public ministry life.

Every man must work, and every believer has received the great commission from Jesus (*Matthew 28:18-20*), and has been enlisted to do the work of ministry (*Ephesians 4:12*).

It's for these reasons, that I believe the Holy Spirit has led me to write this study on Genesis, expounding on the principles of spiritual work for our day.

May the Lord cause your resolution for consecration to His will, and doing His work to deepen as you read in Jesus name.

Tolu Cole
June 2023

CONTEXT OF SPIRITUAL WARFARE

We believe the book of Genesis was written by Moses, and this in the context of Redeeming God's people out of bondage and leading them into the promise land. This shows us that the inspired account of Creation we have was given to us in the context of Redemption and New Creation. God puts divine wisdom before knowledge. While Creation is something made by God, New Creation is something born of God, meaning, she is a living and present extension of God Himself.

The beginning of all things is God and the thoughts of God. And in the beginning, God created heaven and earth, but something happened and **"The earth was without form and void, and darkness was over the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God was hovering over the face of the waters."** Genesis 1:2, we see formlessness, and emptiness in the earth, we see darkness all over the face of the deep, and we see Spirit of God was hovering over the face of the waters. We see the dimension of the earth, the waters, and the

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deep, and God was ready to bring form to the earth and fill the earth, but this will happen through the coming of the Word of God, bringing light in darkness, saying “**Let there be light**” Genesis 1:3. The Word of God needed to come to resist the darkness, with light.

Likewise, one of the major work of the sons of God in these times is declaring and demonstrating the Word of God as light into this present darkness, so that the Spirit of God can move into the earth to form it and fill it. This is what our spiritual work and warfare is.

Our work is for the prosperity of the earth realm, and other dimensions under the dominion of the man of earth, and this prosperity can only happen through righteousness, and holiness.

This righteousness is aligning with the Word of God, and declaring the Word of God as life and light, so that the Holy Spirit can work with that Word. This is what Holiness is all about. This is the template of working, redeeming the earth from darkness. This is why man was created, positioned and assigned as he was.

Men are capable of being sons of God, bearing the image of God. To have the image of God means having God Himself within us, and because of this, we can be led to do things like Him. This is His likeness. We are sons of God; sons of rest, and then, sons of war. We reign by who we are and what we do. This is the kingdom; this is dominion.

“Then God said, “Let us make man in our image, after our likeness. And let them have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over the livestock and over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth.” Genesis 1:26

This dominion is because there was already corruption. The earth was under the tyranny of unrighteousness, and would be under the judgement of the Lord (***Romans 8:20***) into the present state of things now.

The realms under the charge of man are in death by nature, not only by culture. To have dominion then is to redeem the whole of creation back to its original glory (***Romans 8:18-30***), as we ourselves possess the

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glory of God. As we are restored in righteousness then, holiness is restored, and then, glory will be restored. This is prosperity.

Our dominion is over thrones of corruption that seek to establish themselves, and powers that flow from these thrones. When we learn to align with the higher throne of righteousness, which is the name of Jesus, then, the power of the Holy Spirit and other angelic powers will flow from His throne, seeing the King of glory is also the Lord of hosts (***Psalm 24:10***).

So then, the way we make real advancement as mankind, bearing the fruit of the Spirit is by allowing the Spirit to show us the original purposes of God for man, as captured in the throne of God and of Christ. When we get this revelation of the Spirit, and consecrate ourselves to His throne and His name, through repentance, faith and obedience, then we can do real work, by the hand of God, restoring creation back to its original intent, which is new creation. Of course, the thrones of darkness will not give up

without a fight, and that's why we engage in spiritual warfare as a major part of the dominion mandate and the dominion.

When we read *Ephesians*, we would see that this was Paul's burden. It's for the purpose of standing against the evil ones that we learn our new position in Christ, and our consecration to it on earth, so that we can do damage to the kingdom of darkness.

When we also read *Revelation 16*, we would read of the judgement of God on unrighteousness and how this stirs Satan, his antichrist and false prophet to release demonic powers that will assemble men of the flesh for the last battle (*Revelation 16:13-16*). In this context, Jesus tells us that His coming is as the Man of war, who will come in glory, with a roar, for the complete destruction of every lingering unrighteousness.

Jesus said to us, **“Behold, I am coming like a thief! Blessed is the one who stays awake, keeping his garments on, that he may not go about naked and be seen exposed!”** Revelation 16:15, meaning that what

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should motivate our spiritual warfare is not only the advance of the demonic horde, but Jesus' coming and His sudden appearance. So to stay awake, we must keep watching Jesus and watching for Jesus, even at night and in the darkness. We must keep praying and believing.

Also, when we are awake, we keep our garments on, so that when He comes and we have to go out of the house, we wouldn't be going about naked and be seen without protection. Our garments are a protection and a beautification, and this represents the righteousness of God, the glory of God, upon our souls.

This is what happens as we stay in priesthood, because garment also represents priesthood. It's through this priesthood that we expect Jesus properly, like the wise virgins. In Paul's words, **“And then the lawless one will be revealed, whom the Lord Jesus will kill with the breath of his mouth and bring to nothing by the appearance of his coming”** 2 Thessalonians 2:8. Our hope is Jesus Christ, and His entrance today by the breath of His mouth and the appearance of His coming.

This coming of Jesus Christ will bring in a great harvest, yet, before the harvest, there will be a war, between the sons of God and the sons of darkness.

The army of the Lord, are the armies of His harvest. **“The harvest is the end of the age”** Matthew 13:39, and this end of the age is the times prophesied about when all things will be reconciled to Jesus Christ manifestly, and this time is marked by the bright and glorious appearance of Jesus Christ. In preparation for this harvest, we judge carefully, lest by attempting to judge falsehood, we speak evil of the sons of God, which will grieve the Spirit. Jesus told His disciples when they offered to go uproot all the weeds in the Lord’s vineyard, **“he said, No, lest in gathering the weeds you root up the wheat along with them. Let both grow together until the harvest, and at harvest time I will tell the reapers, “Gather the weeds first and bind them in bundles to be burned, but gather the wheat into my barn”** Matthew 13:29-30.

What then is the harvest? It’s the high dispensation of God’s Spirit at work, for the redemption and restoration of the glory of God. The harvest is a broad window of

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time in the Spirit when many souls will see and manifest the glory. Jesus said, **“The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; therefore pray earnestly to the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest”** Matthew 9:37-38, showing us that Jesus’ labor and God’s will have already made different levels of dispensations available in the Spirit. We see this exemplified in Genesis by the different patriarchs, from Adam, to Abel, to Enoch, to Noah, to Abraham, to Isaac, to Jacob, and to Joseph.

These prophetic windows are available, and they are open to a specific type of laborer. It’s this kind of laborers that the Lord is looking for now. The Lord is looking for mighty men. The Lord is raising an army, who will enter into the harvest, by their labors and a kind of ‘humble-laboring’.

In telling us to be very committed to the work of the kingdom from the heart, Jesus said, **“My food is to do the will of him who sent me and to accomplish his work. Do you not say, ‘There are yet four months, then comes the harvest’? Look, I tell you, lift up your eyes, and see that**

the fields are white for harvest. Already the one who reaps is receiving wages and gathering fruit for eternal life, so that sower and reaper may rejoice together. For here the saying holds true, One sows and another reaps.' I sent you to reap that for which you did not labor. Others have labored, and you have entered into their labor" John 4:34-38. Jesus gives us a new vision, to see beyond what the Lord has already done in the Spirit, as we *see in the book of Revelation*, which is that the fields are ready for harvest.

People are no longer being condemned by their sins mainly, but by their unbelief in Jesus Christ. It's the lack of the Gospel that's the major problem now, and our work is to preach and demonstrate God, so that we can reap the fruit of Jesus' finished work, which is ***the eternal seed***. In this way, we will rejoice with Jesus, which is eternal joy. This is the joy of those who labor with Jesus. This is prosperity. This is the joy of the Lord that strengthens us for more labor with Him.

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In the last days, we who labor prophetically will enter into the many sacrifices and prayers of others. There will be greater glory in the church, a higher dispensation of the kingdom, a latter rain, and a latter glory, not because we did all the work for those graces, but we received the graces as mantles from the labors of fathers and others that have gone ahead of us.

“Others have labored, and you have entered into their labor.” This is what inheritance is. It is receiving the reward of the labors of others because we are related to them, not because we labored. This is the principle of fruitfulness, wealth, riches, and prosperity in the kingdom. This is God’s strategy of advancing the kingdom work. It is how His kingdom always increases. This is the principle of development. This is why we shouldn’t despise prophecy, because prophecy is often the result of the work of others that have gone ahead of us. Prophecy brings to us a higher dispensation.

May we be effective laborers for the harvest in these last days in Jesus name. This harvest is the restoration of dominion over *“the fish of the sea”* and *“over the birds of the heavens”* and over *“the livestock”* and *“over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth”*, how? When our own dominion is restored, the creation will be restored. **“For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the sons of God. For the creation was subjected to futility, not willingly, but because of him who subjected it, in hope that the creation itself will be set free from its bondage to corruption and obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God”** Romans 8:19-21.

FIRST WORDS

“In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth”

Genesis 1:1

God is before and beyond the beginning, as well as He is beyond the future. He is before ***the creation*** of the heavens and the earth, as well as beyond ***the coming down*** of the new heavens and the new earth.

In our last book, *beyond the future*, where we glance through the book of revelation, as inspired by the Holy Spirit, we glimpsed *the future* of the present world with a prophetic lens. We glimpsed the millennium, and then, we glimpsed *beyond the future* into the ages of the ages, in the new creation and the new Jerusalem, the holy city, where God Himself dwells and reigns fully, in the created order.

This prophetic light of God’s kingdom dominion is so fascinating, Inspiring great faith, hope and love in us, through *the revelation of Jesus*, so that we can be deeply consecrated and devoted to Him and His Gospel purposes today. This is because we don’t have to wait for the future in order to access some realities of “the future”, since we have He who is “beyond the future” ‘with us’ today, and even ‘in us’ today as

believers in Jesus Christ.

Through *the indwelling* and *baptism* of the Holy Spirit then, we can and do have experiences beyond “the future” today. We do experience eternal life through love, grace and power right now.

GOD HIMSELF

Now, it’s fascinating is that what makes *the millennial reign* (*Revelation 20:1-6*) so wonderful, and *the Holy city* so glorious isn’t just the manifestation of the eternal things there but the manifest presence of God Himself. At the “BEGINNING” of all these, who we see is GOD HIMSELF. Through the beginning, God reveals Himself, because His first appearance to us is “the beginning”, for that was when we were created, and set in motion according to the purposes of God for all created existence.

What then is *the beginning*? Not just any beginning, but, “the beginning”? The beginning is the highest and deepest revelation of God in divine time. The beginning is the very pattern of the created order. The beginning is the structure that sustains everything made. The beginning is the secret of understanding. When people want to know about anything, we often have to go to the beginning of that thing to examine

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how it was. The beginning is the Word as revealed by the Spirit, of the intent and will of the Father (*1 Peter 1:2*).

ALPHA & OMEGA

God's intent are often stated at the beginning, and realized at the end. In knowing God, then, we must know Him as *the Alpha and the Omega*. He Himself, at the beginning of the revelation said, **"I am the Alpha and the Omega," says the Lord God, "who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty"**, Revelation 1:8, and repeated the same words at the end of the revelation: **"And he said to me, "It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. To the thirsty I will give from *the spring of the water of life without payment*"** Revelation 21:6. These very words were echoed by Jesus Christ when He was giving His most important prophetic message to the churches in the book of revelation: **"Behold, I am coming soon, bringing my recompense with me, to repay each one for what he has done. I am the Alpha and the Omega, the first and the last, the beginning and the end."** Revelation 22:12-13.

So then, we see that because God is *"Alpha and Omega"*, He is always present and He is most powerful, He is Almighty. He is aware of all we do and will reward every man for every deed.

We also see that because God is “*alpha and omega*”, He has used His ***almighty power*** to accomplish redemption for mankind (*Revelation 21:6*). This is what we call grace, so that those thirsty “in faith” and “in humility” can come to drink from the spring of the water of life freely, without payment. This spring of the water of life was released by God’s grace and God’s power, because of God’s steadfast love.

It’s on the basis of this, that Jesus who is the greatest manifestation of God and His purposes, tells us that ***He is coming soon***, and bringing with Him the kingdom. This kingdom is the recompense. This kingdom is the reward. This kingdom is the work of God fully manifested. The kingdom is the work of God and it’s full maturity.

Everything man has ever done on earth will be revealed to man in reality as it is before God, in truth and in the realms of eternity.

Jesus is coming, with His eternal kingdom on earth, why? So that what God intended at the beginning of creation, sovereignly and eternally, could be eternally accomplished and realized.

The book of revelation tells us that what God intended would definitely be realized, *so that every man will prepare and make sure not to be at the wrong side of this*, because anyone

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who resists God's Will does it to his or her own peril.

Its a prophetic word of warning to anyone not in faith, and a prophetic word of encouragement to those in faith, so that they persevere in faith until ***the end***. Revelation stirs our vision of grace, for the purpose of perseverance in the consecrations of faith, which are the consecrations to grace.

On the other end, ***the book of Genesis*** tells us of what God intended and how He initiated what He intended at the beginning. ***This tells great things about the mystery of faith, and the workings of the power of God.***

The HolySpirit tells us, as believers to imitate God (*Ephesians 5:1*), showing us that just as God had a vision and purpose, and deployed this purpose in and through creation with specific agendas, so also, we, who are part of His agenda must discover this eternal purpose, and have that purpose become ours. As we become one with His will, we then follow God's methods in our thinking, acting and working.

Our whole quest in this seeking and meditation is *knowing God and His will and doing it*. We do this because we know that He is, and is a rewarder of they that diligently seek Him (*Hebrews 11:6*).

Just like we love to ask how old someone is when we want to know them more intimately, seeking to discern their entrance into this world, likewise, let's explore God's first works, through God's first words, so that we would understand God's original intent and how He set that in motion, that we may also know how to envision and how to set things in motion for proper development.

Isaiah 45:18 tells us that God's purpose of forming the earth is to fill the earth, having it as a habitation. By this, we know that the reason for our working and creativity is also for the habitation of God and God-consciousness. This is what it means to be and do all things to the glory of God (*1 Corinthians 10:31*). Our thoughts, feelings, words, actions, habits, character, working and relationships are aimed at exercising and reflecting God-consciousness.

THE BEGINNING, THE BLUEPRINT, THE FOUNDATION

"In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth" Genesis 1:1

Planning didn't originate from man but from God. God had a pattern, template and blueprint for creation at the beginning. It's called the Word of God (*Psalms 33:6, John 1:1-3, Colossians 1:16-17, Hebrews 1:10-12, Revelation 4:11*).

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This is what the beginning is. It's the Word of God. God doesn't have a beginning, yet, in Him, there emerged the beginning of everything else. This beginning didn't begin with formation, but with creation.

This blueprint called the beginning covers the things that will be made, how they will function, and how they will be maintained, which includes how they will be restored if anything goes wrong.

When we read Job, one of the oldest books of the Bible, we learn of the deep wisdom of God, that this wisdom is a manifestation of His divine Person. We learn that the wisdom of righteousness is a manifestation of the God who is righteous. This was the revelation that Job was given after he complained and God started to ask him questions according to **Job 38-42**. Through this seeming "crisis of faith" season, like the experience of the cross of Jesus, Job would take on a renewed revelation of God, from God's perspective and not just from his own perspective. This is what Paul spoke about in **2 Corinthians 5:16-17**.

One of the major articles of our faith is the appearing and the appearance of God. God is a person that cannot simply be defined, He must be encountered and experienced.

Many of the questions Job asked God as he complained showed the many assumptions that he had concerning God.

He needed clarification, and the major clarification he needed was first knowing that only God is God, and he was not. He also needed to know that wisdom is a personal manifestation of God.

WISDOM: A PERSONAL MANIFESTATION OF GOD BEFORE A GENERAL MANIFESTATION OF GOD

The beginning is the wisdom of God, and this beginning is first a personal manifestation of God, before it's a general manifestation of God. That's why Jesus said He is the beginning (*Revelation 22:13*), and why Hebrews say the Word of God is living, active and powerful (*Hebrews 4:12*).

How is this possible?, someone might ask. How is it possible for God to be personally manifested as wisdom and a template and a blueprint?

The answer is clear. It's because He is God, and He is All-present and Almighty. Nothing is impossible with God, but the way God ordained to make this possible is through the presence and power of His Spirit. That's how God became the Word, and that's how the Word later became flesh (*John 1:14*). Notice, I didn't say God was "made" into the Word, rather, I said that God "became" the Word.

John said, **"In the beginning was the Word, and the Word**

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was with God, and the Word was God” John 1:1, this is a divine order that’s taking us back into eternal past.

We joined the narrative from the beginning, because our foundations and our roots are in the beginning, but before the beginning began, there was the Word. This is what the Holy Spirit is showing us through John. He is helping us backtrack. And then, He tells us what the Word is, that the Word was actually a reality that was with God. The Word was the very pattern of things in God. God and the Word were together as partners and companions. They were comrades and friends, so to speak. They had the same spirit and operations. They seemed to be eternally distinct realities on the one end, yet, eternally inseparable reality on the other end. Again, we ask the question, why was the Word with God? It’s because the Word came out of God. Meaning, the Word is God coming out of God. The Word is God Himself stepping out of Himself because of the purpose of God, and the agenda of God for creation. So then, the history of the Word was actually God. Before the Word became the Word, the Word was actually God.

“Was” speaks of timing before transition or transformation or evolving. All this evolving and transformation is done through the presence and power of God, who is also a Person.

The Holy Spirit works us backwards from the beginning, to the Word, and to the partnership of God and the Word in the Spirit, and to God Himself from whom the Word came. So then, if we would work forward, we would see that, 'God became the Word, meaning, God stepped out of God as the Word, while nothing reduced in God as He was being expressed, and then, God existed with this exact and supreme expression of Himself, having conversations and fellowship on how all creation will pan out. Then the Word became the foundation of all creation, so that all the intentions of God for personal expression and delight can be initiated through the creation that will be built on the foundation, which is the Word. This foundation is the beginning.

It's because of such a reality and knowledge of the same that Jesus would say, **"And now, glorify me, Thou Father, with Thyself, with the glory that I had before the world was, with Thee"** (John 17:5 YLT), because God Himself is the glory of the Word, because the Word is the exact expression of God (*Hebrews 1:3*). God is the life of the Word, and the Word is the life of God. This glory is eternal glory because it's the glory before the world existed or began. The mystery of this glory is the Holy Spirit, because He is the presence of God, the atmosphere of God, the kingdom of God, the reign of God.

THE BEGINNING, THE WORD, HAS BOTH CREATION & REDEMPTION (NEW CREATION) IN ITS CONTEXT

Remember, the beginning is the foundation, it's the Word. This 'Word' is the template for (a) why things ought to be, which is for the glory and pleasure of God who decided to make things, (b) what things ought to be, as an expression of His person and eternity, (c) how things ought to be, which is how God is, just like the presence and Spirit of God, and (d) how things will be restored when they go out of order so that they are restored.

This is like a feedback system that is efficient. This is God's righteousness captured by the Word and the beginning and the foundation. Truly, righteousness and justice are the foundation of His throne.

Revelation 13:8 tells us that redemption is part of the original patterns and foundations of God's throne. **"And bow before it shall all who are dwelling upon the land, whose names have not been written in the scroll of the life of the Lamb slain from the foundation of the world;"** (*Revelation 13:8 YLT*), showing us that the pattern of the slain lamb and the sacrifice for sin (*if I could say eternal sacrifice for eternal sin*),

was already in God's eternal covenant plan, captured in the Word.

The scroll of the life in the hands of the one seated on the throne of life seems to me like a scroll pilled from the back of the tree of life, which represents God's eternal covenant system for man, by which man comes to partake and eat of eternal things, both fruits of life and leaves of life.

So then, the Word of God is a complete foundation for all human living, but also, all creation living.

THE WORD IS AN ETERNAL & LIVING REALITY

The Word knows how He was able to be God, come out of God, and became transferable, from personal context to general context.

The beginning and the foundation represents something that's transferable. The patterns are patterns because they can be learnt, received and given. This is the beauty of foundations and plans. One architectural plan can be used to build many buildings that look just like that. One innovation can be replicated in a million ways. This is the code of creation. it's the design, the idea, the product, the service, the understanding, the foundation. It doesn't change. Though the expression of it and the use of it can change, the design itself cannot change.

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This design is what's called truth.

This "transference" that happens from moving from personal context to general context is what happened when we move from man knowing Jesus to knowing Christ. Jesus came to reveal Christ, not only the Son of Man. The Son of Man Jesus came to reveal the Son of God, so that when we believe in the Son of God as sons of men, we ourselves can be transferred into sons of God. We can receive a name, and a heritage.

This transformation and transference is done in the eternal Spirit of God, who is also a distinct person. He is not begotten, the way the Word was begotten, but He is flowing raw from God, and in God. He is an extension of the atmosphere of God. In reality, everything dwells in the presence of God. Paul said, **"Yet he is actually not far from each one of us, for 'In him we live and move and have our being'"** Acts 17:27-28, showing us that everything exists in God. There's no life or existence apart from Him, there's no movement apart from Him, and there's no being apart from Him. This is the truth, and He is the truth (*1 John 5:6B*). Because of this, He is the one that can testify of things the most. He has the accurate testimony of God, of man, and of everything.

This is what the Word teaches us.

The Word who is well aware of how He came into His present expression, as the Son of God (*John 1:14*) and He tells us this. **“And I will ask the Father, and *he will give you another Helper, to be with you forever, even the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him, for he dwells with you and will be in you.*”** John 14:16-17.

First, the incarnate and living Word tells us that He is a helper. He has come to help us that are created behold the glory of the God who created us, and then, our own glory as creation. Because the world is created, more so, fallen, in its present state, it wouldn't be able to *“see the HolySpirit”* nor be able to *“know the HolySpirit”*. The present world is marked by selfishness and sinfulness. At the heart of this sinfulness is unbelief. Without faith, without looking away from the world and looking at the Word of God, people cannot see that there's someone called the HolySpirit who is nearer them than everything visible. They are not able to see with the 'eyes of faith', and recognize His existence. Not only that, without 'eyes of faith,' *seeing with the human spirit, and with the light that comes from God*, natural men are not able to “know the HolySpirit” (**John 14:17**). Knowing the HolySpirit is being aware that He is God. Seeing Him is knowing that He is real. But there are many spirits who are real, including angels and

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demons; but beyond reality, He is God, and He is God ready to be in us. He is not only reality, He is Sovereignty.

In God's eternal foundations and eternal ways, He has ordained His presence to not only be with us externally but to be in us internally.

This is what His pleasure and agenda in creation was, and what His accomplishment in redemption is.

God wanted to create things and realities, and then, fill those things and realities that He created. This is the purpose of both creation and redemption. This is what He realized in Christ Jesus (*Ephesians 3:9-11*), and foreshadowed in the foundation and at the beginning of creation.

God made us to be His habitation, and God made everything else to also be habitations. There are different degrees to this habitation, so that there can be great beauty through different levels of habitation of God, different dimensions, with different realities, powers, faces, possibilities, colors, shapes and sizes.

God's intent was the glory and beauty of Holiness. Truly, with the psalmist we say, "**Worship the LORD in the splendor of holiness**" Psalm 96:9. Holiness is beautiful, full of splendor and glory, multisided and multi-breasted. It's in these different

expressions and dimensions that we worship, showing the LORD as the head of all these.

So then, to receive the HolySpirit, we have to be in faith. It's by faith that we see Him as reality and know Him as God. Once we believe that the HolySpirit has been released to us, poured out, and we recognize that He is God, then, we are able - we've made room to receive Him.

Jesus told them, "**You know Him, for He dwells with you and will be in you**" John 14:17, by this meaning that He, Jesus, and the HolySpirit are one. It's Jesus that's dwelling with them, but Jesus is a manifestation of the HolySpirit in the flesh. He was a conception and habitation of the HolySpirit (*Luke 1:35*). Jesus was telling them somewhat like what John 1:1 was saying, that the Son of God and the Spirit of God were with each other. Many people were physically seeing the Son of God, but they couldn't physically see the Spirit of God, however, they were seeing the communion of the Son of God with the Spirit of God in constant faith and prayer, and also the manifestation of the person of the Spirit of God through the supernatural works of Jesus Christ (*John 3:2*). This is what nicodemus recognized. In seeing Jesus and watching His moves, He immediately recognized that Jesus wasn't just a man moving alone, He was moving with the HolySpirit.

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So then, Jesus came to demonstrate the life and ministry of man, who is in communion with God and consonance with the purpose and will of God.

Jesus was telling them that just as the HolySpirit was with them through Jesus externally (*trapped by physical mortal body*), but in Jesus internally, He would enter into believers internally, so that they can also fellowship with the HolySpirit deeply, and walk in the manifestation of His power externally through following His purpose in the service of the Gospel of the glory of God above every other glory.

So then, it's clear that the Word of God is a living reality in the Spirit of God, and the Son of God demonstrated this to us. This was the glory that we beheld when we looked at Jesus. We saw the begotten of the Father, who was full of the Spirit. Full of grace and truth means full of the Spirit of God who is the very reality of grace and truth. It's the HolySpirit that puts grace and truth together in an inseparable way in regards to men.

Grace is power and truth is wisdom. These two sides of the same coin in regard to men, but in regard to God, they are one and the same. They are realities of the same HolySpirit. They are two wings of the eagle and dove. It's like they are the rod and staff that comfort us (*Psalm 23:4*), because the

rod is for shepherding and the staff is a scepter. We know the Holy Spirit is the scepter of Jesus in the earth (*Psalm 110:2*). We behold the glory of God as life through the joined and spiritual ministry of the Word and the Spirit of God.

This is the reality of our faith, apostolic and prophetic, wise and powerful, energized by the Word with our will in motion, and anointed by the Spirit with our spirit in release as our wills are in motion. This is the grand pattern we see in the foundation, in the beginning.

It's with all this in mind that we can understand the first words that open the Bible, **"In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth"** Genesis 1:1. This verse sets for us the context of all things. This tells us about everything. It tells us about (1) the beginning, (2) God, (3) God's work of creation, (4) the heavens and (5) the earth. The Holy Spirit is so masterful in His inspiration of the Holy written Word (2 *Peter 1:21*).

The entire Bible is a book of prophecy. We read of 'the prophecy of Scripture' where Peter says, **"For no prophecy was ever produced by the will of man, but men spoke from God as they were carried along by the Holy Spirit"** 2 Peter 1:21. This "carrying along by the Holy Spirit" is what inspiration is about.

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It's this inspiration that's the mother of innovation, expression and creativity, because without divine inspiration, there cannot be divine innovation, divine expression or creativity.

The heavens and earth are divine creations. They are divine expressions. They are the result of divine inspiration.

THE PRESENT SITUATION

Before we speak about the creation of heaven and the creation of earth, let's look at how God acted at the beginning, to help us know how to act in this present existence.

Worthy of note is the fact that *the book of Genesis* was written by Moses, according to popular historical consensus. Moses was a mediator of the old covenant of redemption, showing us that the revelation of the creation history and beginning was for the purpose of being able to know God deeply beyond the law, so that we can be effective witnesses in revealing Him in every generation. This revelation came so that the children of Israel would know their roots, and be inspired to have better perspective of their present situation, and their destiny.

After understanding ***Genesis 1:1*** and the communication of the ordinations of God therein, we discover that our next interest is the experiencing of those ordinations, as in ***Genesis 1:2***.

“The earth was without *form* and *void*, and darkness was over the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God was hovering over the face of the waters.” Genesis 1:2.

Since we are on earth, and for the purpose of being very relatable, after telling us that everything flowed from God, both heaven and earth, God tells us about the kingdom agenda. It’s an agenda of bringing form and fullness to spiritual realities in God, in a visible dimension. This is the purpose of work, and what work actually is.

Man cannot be so “spiritual” that he wouldn’t work, translating the spiritual in a visible dimension.

Whether the “formlessness” and “emptiness” of the earth was due to a prior destruction of the natural order of not, is not our first concern now, since we are not simply dealing with intellectual or carnal analysis of divine proceedings, but with *how to live* before God and before men in faith and obedience to the will and ways of God.

Praise God that we are told that **“The earth was without *form* and *void*, and darkness was over the face of the deep”**, so that we all know that the Lord can help all of us, even when we might feel formless and empty, and we can all do the work of God, giving the spiritual reality form, and

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giving fullness to the earth that God has created.

God created earth, and in His intension, He wanted to work with His Word to form and fill the earth, and man would be the embodiment of the Word, judging the earth through dominion. This is what makes sons of God. They are God's regent judges as sons of God.

God engages this conversation in ***Psalm 82:1-8***, in regards to the judgement of the earth. The judgement of the earth is not without the sons of God. They are gods on the earth. They speak, and their words are weighty because of who they are. Because they've been "born of God", meaning they've come into alignment with the foundations, with the Word of God. The Word of God is what God has spoken eternally. The Word of God is settled forever. Man is the embodiment of the Word of God, the pillar and ground of truth, the demonstration of the wisdom of the Spirit (***Ephesians 3:10***).

"God has taken his place in the divine council; in the midst of the gods he holds judgment "How long will you judge unjustly and show partiality to the wicked? Selah. Give justice to the weak and the fatherless; maintain the right of the afflicted and the destitute. Rescue the weak and the needy; deliver them from the hand of the wicked." They have neither knowledge nor understanding, they walk about in darkness;

all the foundations of the earth are shaken. I said, “You are gods, sons of the Most High, all of you; nevertheless, like men you shall die, and fall like any prince.” Arise, O God, *judge the earth*; for you shall inherit all the nations!” Psalm 82:1-8.

Sons of God are elders on earth. They have dominion, not just by age, but by grace. Age is an expression of grace. Grace is ageless. God the Father tells the sons of God to arise, and give justice and righteousness to the people of the earth. The foundations of God’s throne is righteousness and justice (*Psalm 89:14*). The sons of God are to restore the foundations. The foundations of God are not in order on the earth. For this, the Lord is raising His sons. He wants them to know that they are immortals, because they’ve partaken of the tree of life, through the eternal covenant.

When we pray to God to arise, God arises in us through the revelation of the covenant, and the endowment of the HolySpirit for accomplishing the work of the kingdom. It’s these anointed and appointed men and women that are in Christ, equipped with the baptism of the HolySpirit for the kingdom work of building. The world awaits their manifestation (*Romans 8:19*), until the kingdom of this world becomes the kingdom of our God and His Christ (*Romans 11:15*). This was the work that Moses was engaging in, building the kingdom, and it’s for this work that the deeper revelation of divine order

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and divine things came. This is walking in love. Paul speaks about the labor of love. Love is incomplete without grace and power. Grace and power are aspects of love, just like the Son and the Spirit are persons in God.

“The earth was without *form* and *void*, and darkness was over the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God was hovering over the face of the waters” Genesis 1:2. Along with this formlessness and emptiness, darkness was over the face of the deep voidness. So then, for there to be forming and filling, there has to first be light, which shatters the darkness.

What is darkness? Was it created by God? Or did it flow from God? Is there darkness in God? John said, **“God is light, and *in him is no darkness at all*. If we say we have fellowship with him while we walk in darkness, we lie and do not practice the truth. But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin”** 1 John 1:5-7. John is clear. God is light. The Holy Spirit spoke to us that there’s no darkness in God, and knowing God is knowing God in truth. Light represents truth, and darkness represent lies. Light represents eternal fellowship, eternal love, and darkness represents sin. Sin is not eternal, and therefore it’s a lie.

Paul said, **“giving thanks to the Father, who has qualified you to share in the inheritance of the saints *in light*. He has delivered us from the domain of darkness and transferred us to the kingdom of his beloved Son, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins”** Colossians 1:12-1. Here, Paul calls light the kingdom of his beloved Son. This shows us that light is the presence of the Word of God, or the expression of the presence of the Word of God. Light is the powerful combination of the Word of God and the Spirit of God. This is an eternal union that cannot be broken or resisted. This is the three-fold chord that cannot be broken. **“The threefold cord is not hastily broken”** Ecclesiastes 4:12B. If one chases one thousand, and two chases ten thousand, you can imagine how many that three will chase. This is what we see in the name of the Father, Son and Spirit. That name bears the eternal union of life, which enters darkness as light, shattering it always. Light is always victorious over darkness. This is because light and darkness are not opposites. They are not on the same plane.

Let me illustrate. Light is like a *3-dimensional reality*, and darkness is like a *2-dimensional reality*. Darkness is not uncreated, it's created. This is because darkness flowed from a created being, an angel turned demon; **“for the devil has been sinning from the beginning”** 1 John 3:8. This means

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that the first template for “sinning” and “unrighteousness” and “darkness” is the devil. Jesus said to the religious people who wanted to kill Him, **“You are of your father the devil, and your will is to do your father’s desires. He was a murderer from the beginning, and does not stand in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he lies, he speaks out of his own character, for he is a liar and the father of lies”** John 8:44. The devil is the innovator of sin and darkness. Light is above darkness, that’s why the psalmist said, **“If I say, “Surely the darkness shall cover me, and the light about me be night,” even the darkness is not dark to you; the night is bright as the day, for darkness is as light with you”** Psalm 139:11-12. With God, darkness doesn’t really exist in His own realm. He can always see through it, and banish it any moment. This is the heritage of the name of God.

The name of God is the city of glory. It’s a civilization of immortality. It’s the administration of eternal life. The psalmist said **“for darkness is as light with you”**, meaning, darkness is not obscuring anything for God. Darkness is clearly seen by God, that’s why God judges darkness. Eventually, God will judge death and hades in the lake of fire (*Revelation 20:14*).

So then, when we read, **“The earth was without form and void, and darkness was over the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God was hovering over the face of the waters”** Genesis