

EP72 Revelation 9:20-21 P2

In our last Podcast, we discovered the simplicity of the gospel through what it means to take **Step-1** and be converted by Christ, and what it means to take **Step-2** and choose to become that little child who is dependent upon **Yahweh** for all things, all the time.

Whether it is **Step-1** or **Step-2**, everything must be accomplished **by grace through faith**, for that is the way of the Spirit and His work in-and-through our lives. That is the secret of what it means to be found to be in Christ, which just so happens to be the subject of this Podcast.

In Christ

Now, as to the twisting of the **Codex** that underlies the fiction surrounding the idea that we **ARE** a New Creation and **ALL** things have become new, the Spirit was also clear in His testimony when He qualified this reality and said that **"if"** anyone is **"in Christ"** they **ARE** a New Creation, the old things passed away, **ALL** things have become new.¹ This phrase is also used in the context that there is now no condemnation for those who are **"in Christ"**.²

Those who follow the **fiction** believe that one comes to be **"in Christ"** simply by saying the **"sinner's prayer"** and not through the choice to become like a little child. If that were the case, if the **fiction** were true, after the declaration that there is no condemnation, the Spirit could have left out the rest of **Romans 8** contrasting believers who live according to the Spirit and those believers who still live according to the flesh. No condemnation would be the end of the story because **ALL** things would have been made new.

The key to understanding this passage is this idea that we are to be found **"in Christ,"** which is contrasted with those who are **"in the flesh"** and cannot please God.³ This explains the instruction of the Spirit in the book of **Hebrews**.

Hebrews 3:12-19

Now take care, brethren, that there not choose to be in any one of you an evil, unbelieving heart that falls away from the living God. But now encourage one another day after day, as long as it is still called "Today," so that none of you are caused to become hardened by the deceitfulness of sin. **For we have become partakers of Christ ("in Christ") if we hold fast the beginning of our assurance firm until the end,** while it is said, **"TODAY IF YOU HEAR HIS VOICE, DO NOT HARDEN YOUR HEARTS, AS IN THE PROVOCATION."**

For who provoked Him when they had heard? Indeed, did not all those who came out of Egypt led by Moses? And with whom was He angry for forty years? Was it not with those who sinned, whose bodies fell in the wilderness? And to whom did He swear that they would not enter His rest, but to those who **WERE NOT BELIEVING?** So, we see that they were not able to enter because of **unbelief**.

¹ **2 Corinthians 5:17**

² **Romans 8:1**

³ **Romans 8:8**

First, to fall away from the living God, you must first belong to the living God, you must first be in His household. Second, we have become partakers of Christ (or found to be “*in Christ*”) **if** we hold fast the beginning of our assurance firm until the end. Having the status of “**brethren**” does not secure our position “*in Christ*”.

And what is that assurance? “*For by **grace** you are having been being saved through faith; and that not of yourselves, it is the gift of God; not as a result of works, so that no one may choose to boast. For we are His workmanship, being created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand so that we would walk in them.*”⁴

The phrase commonly translated “you have been saved” in the Greek is “**you are**” (*present active indicative*) and “**having been being saved**” (rendered in the *perfect passive participle*), indicates that this work of salvation begins in the past (when we were converted, the *perfect* tense), it is done by God (the *passive* voice), and it is an ongoing work, hence, the *participle*. In addition, “*created in Christ Jesus*” is rendered in the *aorist passive participle*, thus it should **NOT** be rendered as a past event (“created”), but “**being created**,” something that God is doing and continuing to do throughout our life.

THIS IS THE SIMPLICITY AND PURITY OF DEVOTION TO CHRIST—OUR WILLINGNESS TO ABIDE IN HIS GRACE WHERE OUR RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD IS NEVER ABOUT THE WORK OF OUR HANDS, BUT ALWAYS AND ONLY ABOUT WHAT HE DOES IN-AND-THROUGH OUR LIVES.

IT IS THROUGH OUR CHOOSING TO NOW BE BELIEVING THIS TRUTH THAT WE BECOME PARTAKERS OF CHRIST OR ARE FOUND TO BE “IN CHRIST,” WHICH, IN THE VENACULAR OF THE LETTERS WRITTEN TO THE 7- CHURCHES, IS ANOTHER WAY OF SPEAKING OF THOSE WHO ARE NOW OVERCOMING.

The Spirit must have thought that we are dull in hearing, and do not really get what He was communicating (duh), so He continues with the thought He started in **Hebrews 3**, and His words are even more intense and poignant. He clearly wants us to understand.

Hebrews 4:1-12

Therefore, let us fear if, while a promise is now remaining of entering His rest, any one of you may now seem to have come short of it. For indeed the good news is having been being preached to us, just as they also; but the word they heard did not profit them, because it was not being united by faith in those who heard. **For we who have been believing are NOT choosing to enter that rest**, just as He has said, “AS I SWORE IN MY WRATH, THEY WILL **NOT CHOOSE** TO ENTER MY REST,” although His works were having been finished from the foundation of the world.

For He has said somewhere concerning the seventh day: “AND GOD RESTED ON THE SEVENTH DAY

⁴ **Ephesians 2:8-10**

FROM ALL HIS WORKS"; and again, in this passage, "THEY WILL **NOT CHOOSE** TO ENTER MY REST." Therefore, since it now remains for some to enter it, **and those who formerly had good news being preached to them failed to enter because of unbelief**, He again now appoints a certain day, "Today," now saying through David after so long a time just as has been said before, "TODAY IF YOU HEAR HIS VOICE, DO NOT HARDEN YOUR HEARTS."

For if Joshua (or Jesus) had given them rest, He would not have spoken of another day after that. So there now remains a Sabbath rest for the people of God. **For the one who has been entering His rest has himself also rested from his works, as God did from His**. Therefore, let us be diligent to enter that rest, so that no one will fall, through following the same example of **unbelief**.

Again, the simplicity and purity of devotion to Christ is found in our **willingness** to abide in His grace where our relationship with God is never about the **work of our hands**, but always and only about what He does in-and-through our lives. Armed with this truth, we can, and we are to, abide in a state of rest, no longer having to try to prove ourselves to God or to anyone. We are to simply now be believing that He is our **Yahweh Tsidkenu**.

HE IS OUR ONLY GOODNESS, AND HE IS OUR ONLY RIGHTEOUSNESS. WE CAN ADD NOTHING TO WHO HE IS, WHAT HE IS, OR WHAT HE DOES.

Yet, the Spirit says that those who have been believing are **NOT** choosing to enter that rest and are following the same example of **unbelief** as those who refused to enter the Promised Land. Hence, they are **NOT** found to be "in Christ," or partakers of Christ, for they **WILL NOT** choose to enter His rest.⁵

By the way, most translations of **Hebrews 4:6** and **4:11** use the word "disobedience" instead of "unbelief" – which ironically innately pushes us toward the very thing that the Spirit is speaking against, the **works of our hands**, trying to obey God and do it right for Him. But the Greek word "*apeitheia*" is used, which means a condition of being unpersuadable, or abiding in "unbelief". The Greek word for what we understand as "obedience" is the word "*hupakoe*" (which is not used in the text). Likewise, the word for disobedience or being unwilling to be subject to another, "*anupotaktos*" is also not used.⁶

It is vital that we understand that the Spirit is not giving this instruction to people outside of the household of God, to what we would typically call "unbelievers". Rather, He is saying that those brethren who had been believing (those who took **Step-1** and were converted by God), are **NOT** choosing to enter that rest where they cease or literally stop from their works. Thus, because they have succumbed to an "*evil, unbelieving heart that falls away from the living God,*" He swears in His wrath that they will **NOT** choose to enter. It is a weird play on things where God in effect seals the choice that they made so that they will **NOT** choose to enter the "Promised Land" or the place of rest.

Once again, we see that interplay between man's choice and God's sovereignty. In the original passage quoted in **Hebrews**, the Spirit is clear that because they are a people whose hearts turn away from

⁵ "enter" is rendered in the *future middle indicative*

⁶ For "disobedience" or "not subject", see **1 Timothy 1:9; Titus 1:6, 10; Hebrews 2:8**

Yahweh and they refuse to do what He tells them, in His anger He took an oath, “*they will never enter my place of rest.*”⁷ So they choose to not enter His rest and He won’t let them enter.

In effect, these “brethren” addressed in **Hebrews 3** and **4** are still living like slaves in His household who **MUST** do work and **MUST** prove themselves worthy to some degree to get the blessings of God raining down upon their lives. Hence, they will eventually be cast out of the Kingdom, for He swears in His wrath that they will **NOT** choose to enter. Though they now abide in the same household, the son of the slave woman will **NOT** be an heir with the son of promise.⁸ And those who do not choose to become like a little child will **NOT** inherit the kingdom of heaven.⁹

In contrast, the one who has been entering His rest (rendered as a *participle*, indicating it is an ongoing process that comes through **Step-2**, where one learns to trust **Yahweh** as their **I AM** and learns to rest from everything), has himself also rested (stopped, desisted) from his works, as God did from His. Why? Because that person is learning to trust that **Yahweh** is his **Adonai Shaddai**, the Despotical Almighty, who has everything under His control, and that He is their **Yahweh Tsidkenu**, their only source of righteousness. Such a person believes that **EVERY** good thing and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow of turning, and therefore such good things and perfect gifts are not as a result from anything they do.¹⁰ They are now believing that all things must be **by grace through faith**.

Again, this is the simplicity and purity of devotion to Christ that is found in our willingness to abide in His grace where our relationship with God is never about the **work of our hands**, but always and only about what He does in-and-through our lives as we choose to now be believing that He is our **I AM**.

We learned in the letters to the 7-churches, that we are simply to be **willing** to allow God to systematically kill off the Old Man (our *flesh*) so that the Spirit, within the New Creation, comes to possess our being thereby enabling Jesus, through the Spirit, to live His life and do His work in-and-through our bodies. Thus, He says that if we ask anything in His name, He will literally be the one “to do it” so that the Father may be glorified in the Son.¹¹ You see, it is not about us doing anything to please the Father, it is Jesus who pleases and glorifies the Father. He just wants to do it in-and-through our bodies.

This is how we become holy like our heavenly Father who is holy.¹² It requires a lifestyle of death to the *flesh* so we can be possessed by the Spirit as the “strongman” (our Old Man) is disposed from our house, as Jesus now comes as that thief in the night.¹³

Only when we are **willing** to let God progressively dispose us of our Old Man, or as He said in the letter to the church at Laodicea, only when we choose to buy from Him gold having been refined in the fire, can we be defined as being a New Creation, where **ALL** things have become new and that old manner

⁷ See **Psalm 95:8-11**

⁸ **Galatians 4:21-30**

⁹ **Matthew 18:3**

¹⁰ **James 1:17**

¹¹ **John 14:13-14**

¹² See **1 Peter 1:15-16**, where “be holy” is rendered in the *passive voice* indicating it is God’s job to make this our reality, but “you shall be holy” is rendered in the *future middle indicative*, indicating that it is still our choice to choose to be holy, indicating our willingness to let God cause us to be holy.

¹³ See **Luke 11:21-23; Matthew 12:29; Revelation 2:16, 3:3**

of life has been killed (or crucified with Christ) day-by-day as we agree with Jesus that He is permitted to wage whatever war is necessary for Him to become our **Adonai** and our **I AM**.

Then we can honestly declare, *"I have been crucified with Christ. I now live though it is no longer I who now live but Christ lives in me, and this life which I now live in the flesh, I live by faith in the Son of God who has been loving me and giving Himself for me."*¹⁴

This is the *Design Point* of Christianity: Christ living His life in-and-through our bodies. Take note, it does not happen automatically just because we said the "sinner's prayer," but it happens through the process of crucifixion, or the putting to death of all that is within our being that does not now believe that we must rest and let **Yahweh** be our only source of, well, everything!

Jesus spoke to us of this possibility to be "in Christ" and to live free from our Old Sinful Nature. But what He said is a bit different than what you probably have read in your chosen translation of the **Codex**.

John 8:31-37

So, Jesus was saying to those Jews who had been believing Him, "If you continue in My word, then you are truly disciples of Mine; and you will choose to know the truth, and the truth will make you free." They answered Him, "We are Abraham's descendants and have never yet been enslaved to anyone; how is it that You say, 'You will choose to become free'?" Jesus answered them, "Truly, truly, I say to you, everyone who is now committing sin now is the slave of sin. The slave does not now remain in the house forever; the son now remains forever. "So, if the Son shall make you free, you will choose to be free indeed.

Once again, Jesus is talking to those who had been believing Him and not to the unbeliever.¹⁵ He states that only those who continue in His word are His disciples. It is rendered in the *subjunctive*, because it is not guaranteed that just because they had been believing that they would continue to be believing. To be His disciple, one must now be believing (now and continually).

Then He states that the truth will make you free, not that you are "free" automatically just because you had been believing, but that in the future you will be free, and that is a statement of fact (rendered in the *future active indicative*). But that comes by way of choice. Those who in the future **choose** to know the truth (it is rendered in the *middle voice*), **that we are being saved by grace through faith and not a result of works**, will in the future be free.¹⁶

Jesus continued that everyone who is now committing sin is the slave of sin, even though they are in His household and *"had been believing."*¹⁷ Hence, the slave and the son do dwell together. But the slave does not now remain in the house forever! The son now remains forever. Only those who have taken **Step-2** and have chosen to know the truth, that they must be like a little child living by grace through faith,

¹⁴ **Galatians 2:20**

¹⁵ "believed" is rendered in the *perfect active participle*

¹⁶ "know the truth" is rendered in the *future middle indicative*, "make you free" is rendered in the *future active indicative*

¹⁷ "commits sin" is rendered in the *present active participle*

now remains forever.

“So, if the Son **shall** make you free, you will choose to be free indeed.” Once again, we are drawn to the fact that it is up to **Yahweh**, in His timing, to set us free from our Old Sinful Nature—our life of slavery to sin. It is not guaranteed that He will, just because we had been believing (or in our vernacular, just because we said the “sinner’s prayer”). That is why “*shall*” is rendered in the *aorist active subjunctive*, it speaks about what is *possible* through the overall span of our lives, but not about what is guaranteed. The contingency seems to be our need to now and continually be believing.

But rest assured, if the Son makes us free, we will choose to be free indeed.¹⁸ We will have been overcome with our new nature (the New Creation) and we will choose to now be believing and we will choose to be free indeed, no longer abiding as a slave. And that is a statement of fact.¹⁹

Willingness to Believe

It is God’s job to transform us into His likeness. This is a power that does not come from within us (just like our initial conversion came from His grace, simply because we chose to be believing that that He died for our sins, that He is the Savior of all mankind, and then asked Him to come into our lives).

In that light, we are commanded to **now** let God transform us, by the renewing or renovation of our mind.²⁰ He wants to clean out each room in our mind and remodel it to be a place of belief such that we are convinced that all things we need for life and godliness come from Him alone. And it comes through the true knowledge of Him who has given us everything we need for life and godliness.²¹

Thus, He just asks us to be **willing** to believe, by faith, that He is our **Adonai Shaddai**, our **Yahweh Tsidkenu**, and the **Hayah** (our Sovereign Lord Almighty, our Righteousness, and our **I AM** – our only source for life and godliness).

If you think about it, this is a relatively simple and reasonable demand which He places on our life – to simply now be believing He is who He says He is, and then to trust Him to be our goodness and to lead us and deliver us from our enemies. Because of the simplicity of this demand, Jesus could honestly say that His yoke is easy, and His burden is light.²²

**WE ARE YOKED BY FAITH, AND WE CARRY THE BURDEN OF WILLINGNESS.
THE REST IS GRACE, AND IT IS ALL UP TO HIM.**

And while a simple demand, in my experience, it is one of the hardest commands for us to embrace. Believing that He is our **I AM** in the face of all that we think and feel and experience, which seems to testify to the contrary, is a miracle that can only come from Him (by grace through faith).

With that said, our transformation into His likeness is subject to His timing and to all the preparation

¹⁸ “be free” is rendered in the *future middle indicative*

¹⁹ “free indeed” is rendered in the *future active indicative*

²⁰ See **Romans 12:2**, “transformed” is rendered in the *present passive imperative*

²¹ See **2 Peter 1:3**

²² **Matthew 11:30**

He does to get us ready for when He chooses to now come as a thief in the night (in the midst of our darkness, when we need Him the most) and knock on a door of heart asking us to open it up to Him, and let Him refurbish the room and make it a place of fellowship and safety.

The way He described this process to the church at Laodicea (Behold I stand at the door and knock) sounds a whole lot better than how He images the process in the book of *Hebrews*. In Chapters 3 and 4 of *Hebrews*, the Spirit utilizes the example of the exodus, the wandering in the wilderness, the ultimate entry of the believing Jews into the Promised Land, the war to possess the land, and so on, to give us instruction about the consequences of living like a slave in unbelief. He also makes it clear that the fulfillment of all His promises come through believing, evidenced by our willingness to rest, just as He rested—in other words, our willingness to let go of the **works of our hands**.

In this image, He addresses our need to be those few who by faith choose to cross over the Jordan River and into the Promised Land, willing to let Him lead us in His effort to subdue and conquer all the enemies in our heart, mind, soul, and strength which fight against Him being our Lord God Almighty and our only source of righteousness (or goodness).

The Fruit of Belief

Regardless of how it is imaged, the process is the same. When He comes and knocks on a door, think of it as His having chosen the city, town, or village in the Promised Land which He wants to subdue. Then consider all the crazy ways He led the Israelites to victory. Each battle was different, but when they trusted Him and not their own wisdom or strength, they were successful. Consider the promise **Yahweh** made to the Israelites before they ever made the choice to cross over the Jordan river into the Promised Land.

Leviticus 26:1-13

You shall not make for yourselves idols, nor shall you set up for yourselves an image or a sacred pillar, nor shall you place a figured stone in your land to bow down to it; for I am **Yahweh** your God. 'You shall keep My sabbaths and reverence My sanctuary; I am **Yahweh**. 'If you walk in My statutes and keep My commandments so as to carry them out, then I shall give you rains in their season, so that the land will yield its produce and the trees of the field will bear their fruit. 'Indeed, your threshing will last for you until grape gathering, and grape gathering will last until sowing time.

You will thus eat your food to the full and live securely in your land. 'I shall also grant peace in the land, so that you may lie down with no one making you tremble. I shall also eliminate harmful beasts from the land, and no sword will pass through your land.

'But you will chase your enemies and they will fall before you by the sword; five of you will chase a hundred, and a hundred of you will chase ten thousand, and your enemies will fall before you by the sword. 'So I will turn toward you and make you fruitful and multiply you, and I will confirm My covenant with you.

'You will eat the old supply and clear out the old because of the new. 'Moreover, I will make My dwelling among you, and My soul will not reject you. 'I will also walk among you and be your God, and you shall be My people. 'I am **Yahweh** your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt so that you would not be their slaves, and I broke the bars of your yoke and made you walk erect.

Before they even ventured into war, or before they opened the door upon which He knocked, He promised them **peace, rest, fruitfulness, and security**. All the things we desire in our life. And since He used His name 3 times, we know these are **perfect** promise that rests upon the glory of His name.²³ This is the same peace and “rest” or sabbath from our works that is promised to those who are now believing.²⁴

These promises of **peace, rest, fruitfulness, and security** are all fulfilled through our journey of faith which begins with **Step-1** and comes to be our reality through **Step-2**. For example, He promised that we can share in His divine nature (this is **Step-1** where He gives us the New Creation, which is the home of the Holy Spirit), and then through Him come to be defined by diligence, moral excellence, knowledge, self-control, perseverance, godliness, brotherly kindness or affection, and *agape* love (that which only comes as He who is *agape* is expressed in-and-through our lives).²⁵

All these attributes are presented in the **Codex** as a progression that goes from one to the other. They do not all come to us at once. The idea is that as we are **willing** to let Him wage His war in our Promised Land, each victory brings us another step towards our abiding in **peace, rest, fruitfulness, and security**. But these experiences come about through war as Jesus, through His Spirit in the New Creation, displaces our enemies of wrong belief and unbelief and comes to possess our being.

This is essentially what Jesus meant when He said, “*For whoever has, to him more shall be given, and he will have an abundance; but whoever does not now have, even what he now has shall be taken away from him*”.²⁶ And with “*taken away*” being in the *passive* voice, we know that God will do it. Just like He did to Ishmael and to all those who wandered in the wilderness until they died, never entering the Promised Land, never obtaining the inheritance. The slave does not now remain forever, only the son!

Battling By Grace Through Faith

As with the Israelites journey of war through the Promise Land, **if** we are willing (and that is a big “**if**”) He will lead the effort and He will provide progressive victories. And with each victory, we will experience more of His **peace, rest, fruitfulness, and security**. With that said, it is important to keep in mind that as with the Israelites conquering of the Promised Land, He does not clear out all our enemies right away, but over time He goes after that within our being that does not want Him to be our **I AM**. But this war is conducted in His timing.

Yahweh once told Joshua something that must have seemed very odd. He said,

Exodus 23:27-31

I will send my terror ahead of you and create panic among all the people whose lands you invade. I will make all your enemies turn and run. I will send terror ahead of you to drive out the Hivites, Canaanites, and Hittites. But I will not drive them out in a single year, **because the land would become desolate, and the wild animals would multiply and threaten you**. I will drive them out a little at a time until your

²³ The number 3 is **Code** representing perfection.

²⁴ See **Hebrews 4:1**

²⁵ See **2 Peter 1:3-11; 1 John 4:8, 16**

²⁶ **Matthew 13:12**

population has increased enough to take possession of the land.

According to the **Code**, “wild animals” or the “wild beasts of the earth” provides us an image of demonic spirits. If you remember, Death and Hades were given the power to kill over a fourth of the earth with various implements, one of them being the “wild beasts of the earth” which was **Code** for demonic spirits.²⁷

The idea is that if **Yahweh** were to automatically clear out the enemies in our land who oppose Him, there would be a huge void, or desolate spot, that would be vulnerable to the invasion of demonic spirits (the “wild animals”), for that territory would **NOT** have been conquered **by grace through faith**, but just by grace, by God’s favor. And that is a problem, and it explains why war is so necessary. He has designed it such that our freedom always comes by way of a mutual relationship: His work (**grace**) and our choice to now be believing that He is our **I AM (faith)**. And that is because His goal is not just our freedom, but first-and-foremost that we know Him as the Lord, our God Almighty, our **I AM**, and therefore choose to be free.

We are protected from the enemy (by grace) when we stand firm in our faith. Thus, in each battle, or in each room in which Jesus knocks, His goal is to teach us **WHY** we can trust in His name and **HOW** to trust in His name so we can now be believing. He does not intend to clean out the room and leave it empty. He wants it filled as a place of fellowship where He abides. It is all about our having a mutual relationship with the Lord, our God Almighty.

Thus, if we are willing to now be believing and trust ourselves to His name (whether that is **Yahweh Tsidkenu, Yahweh Raah, Yahweh Nissi, Yahweh Sabaoth**, or any of His glorious names²⁸), we will come to know victory in that territory, but a victory that comes **by grace through faith**, not a result of works that anyone should boast. He will provide the victory (which is an expression of His grace), but we are to now be believing, or betting our life upon His name (our expression of faith).

And if we continue to now be believing in His name, that victory will stand. But if we turn once again to the **work of our hands** trying to control the territory in our soul through our own efforts, once again trying to be good, then we will fall and surrender the territory. We will take all that has been refurbished in that room and tear it out and toss it aside. Hence the **WARNING** of the Spirit:

Hebrews 3:12-14

You are commanded to now take care, **brethren**, that there not be in any one of you an evil, unbelieving heart that falls away from the living God. But now encourage one another day after day, as long as it is still called "Today," so that none of you will be caused to be hardened by the deceitfulness of sin. For we have become partakers of Christ, **if** we hold fast the beginning of our assurance firm until the end.

²⁷ **Revelation 6:7-8**

²⁸ **Yahweh** our Righteousness, **Yahweh** our Shepherd, **Yahweh** our Banner or rallying point, **Yahweh** the Lord of Heavens Armies

As we previously discovered, the “*assurance*” to which we are to hold fast firm unto the end is found in the very essence or the centrality of the gospel: “*For by grace you are having been being saved through faith and not that of yourself, the gift of God, not of works, lest any man should choose to boast.*”²⁹ Our very lives are to be lived **by grace through faith**—what God does through our willingness to now be believing in His name. And we must never forget, **faith is always a now thing!** It speaks not of our past, but of what we are now choosing to be believing.

Our Willingness & His Timing

Now, this issue of our **willingness** to let Him eradicate the enemies in our soul is huge because He is clear that He does not want us to make any treaties of “peace” with the enemies in our land, as Israel did with the Gibeonites. His desire is to eradicate all His enemies, so that we might now come to abide in **peace, rest, fruitfulness, and security**. You see, when we make treaties with these enemies (not truly consider them to be an enemy of our soul), over time we will likely end up worshipping the gods of the land, just like the Israelites. We will become idolators.

We will stop here and pick up in our next Podcast with what it is that God requires from us, what He desires to produce in us, and that is an honesty from within.

²⁹ ***Ephesians 2:8-9***