

So then faith comes by hearing,
and hearing by the word of God.

Romans 10:17

The Church Under (and On) Fire

The Church Under (and On) Fire

What we have learned to this point.

The Church Under (and On) Fire

What we have learned to this point.

And what you now hopefully believe about God,
about you, and about His Kingdom.

The Church Under (and On) Fire

The Church Under (and On) Fire

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There is nothing greater or higher than God.

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God created everything, including us, for a purpose.

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Knowing God's purpose for creating us and serving our Creator is the most important thing we can do.

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It is a great and indescribable blessing for a lowly creation like us to be able to have a relationship with their Creator.

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Yet that is what our Creator has allowed.

The Church Under (and On) Fire

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And we have been granted this great gift on the basis of God's grace and mercy, and not on our own merit.

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And our King gives us the power to carry these out.

The Church Under (and On) Fire

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This amazing power comes from the King Himself,
who has chosen to live in us, His citizens,
in the Person of the Holy Spirit.

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Therefore, the King is always with us.

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He will not, nor ever has, left us alone or as orphans.

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So we are empowered and protected by our King.

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But our King also loves us.

So much so, our King has adopted us as His children,
and has given us an inheritance as such.

The Church Under (and On) Fire

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Which means we can know Him as Father.

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And He invites us to come to Him as His children.

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Jesus, God's Son, is the One who revealed God, our King, to us as our Father.

And in doing so, we became joint-heirs with Christ of all that belongs to our Father, the King.

The Church Under (and On) Fire

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Now, there is no fear in approaching God,
for He is our Father and loves us as His children.

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Now, there is no fear in approaching God,
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And as His children, we have access to Him.

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We can boldly come before His throne.

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Let that sink in for a moment.

Hebrews 10:19-22

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Therefore, brethren, having boldness to enter the Holiest (how) by the blood of Jesus, by a new and living way which He consecrated for us, through the veil, that is, His flesh, and having a High Priest over the house of God, let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water.

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The Church Under (and On) Fire

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Since God is Sovereign and there is nothing greater than Him, it would stand to reason the greatest joy in life comes from finding our pleasure in Him.

And, like Jesus His Son, our greatest joy is to devote our life to doing the will of the Father (John 6:38) and the things that please Him (John 8:29).

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Only then can we experience the blessings that come from being a child of God and a son of the King.

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But there is a problem we each face.

The Church Under (and On) Fire

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We have an enemy.

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This enemy is Satan, the father of lies (John 8:44), and deceiver of the whole world (Rev. 12:9).

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There is a sinister creation of God that wants to destroy the work of God and deflect the glory of God to himself, and not where it rightfully belongs.

This enemy is Satan, the father of lies (John 8:44), and deceiver of the whole world (Rev. 12:9).

And since Satan cannot attack God (for Satan is also a created being), he instead attacks those God loves, you and me, God's children.

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For if Satan can get the objects of God's love to look to him and this world for satisfaction and fulfillment, he can deflect glory from God to himself and feed his insatiable pride.

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Will they trust in themselves, or in their Father?

The Church Under (and On) Fire

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But the Father has already given His children the power to withstand all the attacks of Satan.

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But the Father has already given His children the power to withstand all the attacks of Satan.

All they have to do is use this power by faith.

1 John 4:4

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You are of God, little children, and have overcome them (the spirit of antichrist), because He (the Holy Spirit) who is in you is greater than he (Satan, flesh, the world, others) who is in the world.

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Ephesians 6:10-12

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Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord and in (what) the power of His might. Put on the whole armor of God, (why) that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil.

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Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord and in (what) the power of His might. Put on the whole armor of God, (why) that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil.

The Reason: For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this age, against spiritual hosts of wickedness in the heavenly places.

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Ephesians 6:16

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(why) with which you will be able to quench
(how many) all the (what) fiery darts
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It seems that faith is the key that unlocks the blessings and power of being a child of God.

And how do we increase our faith in Him?

The Church Under (and On) Fire

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Faith is the confidence (assurance) in the love, attributes, promises, and character of God (since we know Him as our Father).

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And this confidence does not come by seeing some tangible proof. It comes by knowing and trusting and resting (abiding) in Him.

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Just like a child does to their human parents.

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In the same way, we are to approach our Father in faith in Him, and not in what we want Him to do.

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So as we enter into the troubling times our Father warned us were to come, how can we enhance our faith and stand strong against His, and our, enemy?

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In Scripture, the Lord encourages us to look back.

And when we see God's sovereignty in the past, it strengthens our faith in Him for the future.

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Consider these examples.

The Church Under (and On) Fire

The Church Under (and On) Fire

Abraham and Lot

The Church Under (and On) Fire

Abraham and Lot

David and Goliath

The Church Under (and On) Fire

Abraham and Lot

David and Goliath

Crossing of the Jordan River

The Church Under (and On) Fire

Abraham and Lot

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Crossing of the Jordan River

Battle of Jericho

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Abraham and Lot

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Jesus and the Baskets of Food

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Corrie and Betsy ten Boom

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Corrie and Betsy ten Boom

You and Me

The Church Under (and On) Fire

The Church Under (and On) Fire

One last thought,

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As a child of the King, our Sovereign God,
what confidence does that give you in fulfilling
your responsibilities as His child?

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As a child of the King, our Sovereign God,
what confidence does that give you in fulfilling
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Do you know what He commands you to do?

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As a child of the King, our Sovereign God,
what confidence does that give you in fulfilling
your responsibilities as His child?

Do you know what He commands you to do?
Do you also know how He expects you to do it?

The Church Under (and On) Fire

One last thought,

As a child of the King, our Sovereign God,
what confidence does that give you in fulfilling
your responsibilities as His child?

Do you know what He commands you to do?

Do you also know how He expects you to do it?

And do you know that nothing, not even your sin
and failure as a child of His (the prodigal son),

can separate you from the love of God in Christ Jesus?

The Church Under (and On) Fire

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So how are we to engage God's, and our, enemy?

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How do we fight for the souls of those who are lost?

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So how are we to engage God's, and our, enemy?
How do we fight for the souls of those who are lost?
How do we free those who are in bondage as slaves
to sin, the flesh, and the father of lies (John 8:44)?

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So how are we to engage God's, and our, enemy?
How do we fight for the souls of those who are lost?
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to sin, the flesh, and the father of lies (John 8:44)?
What are we to do?

The Church Under (and On) Fire

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How do we fight for the souls of those who are lost?
How do we free those who are in bondage as slaves
to sin, the flesh, and the father of lies (John 8:44)?

What are we to do?

Let me close by sharing this with you.

Our Weapons for Spiritual War

Hebrews 10:32-34

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But recall the former days in which, after you were illuminated, you endured a great struggle with sufferings: partly while you were made a spectacle both by reproaches and tribulations, and partly while you became companions of those who were so treated; for you had compassion on me in my chains, and joyfully accepted the plundering of your goods, knowing that you have a better and an enduring possession for yourselves in heaven.

Hebrews 10:35-36

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Therefore do not cast away your confidence,
which has great reward.

For you have need of endurance,
so that after you have done the will of God,
you may receive the promise:

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which has great reward.

For you have need of endurance,
so that after you have done the will of God,
you may receive the promise:

And what is the promise?

Hebrews 10:37-38

Hebrews 10:37-38

“For yet a little while,
and He who is coming will come and will not tarry.

Now the just shall live by faith;
but if anyone draws back,
My soul has no pleasure in him.”

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and He who is coming will come and will not tarry.

Now the just shall live by faith;
but if anyone draws back,
My soul has no pleasure in him.”

And what does our confidence declare?

Hebrews 10:39

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But we are not of those who draw back to perdition,
but of those who believe to the saving of the soul.

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Remember who you are.

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But we are not of those who draw back to perdition,
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Remember who you are.

And remember Who you belong to.

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Remember who you are.

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Our confidence rests in God,
and not in our own strength.

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And remember Who you belong to.

Our confidence rests in God,
and not in our own strength.

So rest in Him.

Hebrews 10:39

But we are not of those who draw back to perdition,
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Remember who you are.

And remember Who you belong to.

Our confidence rests in God,
and not in our own strength.

So rest in Him. And watch Him move.

