## Fathers and Sons Pastor John Bendixen 19 June 2022

We are directly squarely in an eternal conflict; you're either operating in darkness or in light. If you're a Christian and you're not making progress in your spiritual life, then you're decreasing. You need to be seeking what God's calling and assignment are for your life because only then can you truly be effective in the kingdom of God.

Malachi 4:4-6 (NKJV): <sup>5</sup> "Behold, I will send you Elijah the prophet before the coming of the great and dreadful day of the Lord. <sup>6</sup> And he will turn the hearts of the fathers to the children, And the hearts of the children to their fathers. There is a God-ordained relationship - the hearts of fathers (parents) must be toward their sons and their sons (children) to their fathers (see also Luke 1:15-17 NKJV).

God has a calling for us before we are born. Even in the womb, the Holy Spirit is resting upon you to bring you into your assignment. We are called for much greater than just doing whatever pleases us.

If you are speaking the Word of God, do not quit because God hasn't answered your prayers because in the right time, if you keep believing, they will come to pass. Your words create your world.

I say: The Word of God is my source of my world. Not my intelligence, not my deep thinking, not my education, not my talent, not anybody else, not anything else. I believe God is my source. God's Words are eternal. His assignment is eternal. My God-given assignment rewards me eternally.

If I live in redemption and revelation, then my revolution must come in the form of repentance. I can't keep living the way I was just in reason and reality. I've got to change my mind and live in redemption and revelation to be spiritual. Repentance is what creates the revolution.

What constitutes a good father? Any man can make a baby. But to be a father is a choice.

To be a man and a father means that you must live for God, it doesn't matter how much money you got and how much potential you can give your kids. If you can be a Godly man to your children and to your family, you're giving them much more than you can provide for them financially. They will grow up knowing what the will of God is, not what provision and what potential and what protection means to them because they will get it all in God because you'll get it from God.

Girls, don't sleep with a man until you're married to him. Man, don't sleep with a girl until you're married to her. The world says, it's okay to sleep around before you get married. The Bible says, don't do it.

<sup>3</sup> For though we walk (live) in the flesh, we are not carrying on our warfare according to the flesh *and* using mere human weapons (2 Corinthians 10:3 AMPC). I'm not fighting you. I'm fighting the spirit that's driving you, your thinking, your emotions, your actions.



How do we fight? <sup>4</sup> For the weapons of our warfare are not physical [weapons of flesh and blood], but they are mighty before God, for the overthrow *and* destruction of strongholds. <sup>5</sup> [Inasmuch as we] refute arguments *and* theories *and* reasonings and every proud *and* lofty thing that sets itself up against the [true] knowledge of God; and we lead every thought *and* purpose away captive into the obedience of Christ (2 Corinthians 10:3-5 AMPC). The war is in your head because if it can happen in your thoughts and your head and your emotions, then the devil has got a stronghold in your life.

God's idea of fatherhood and manhood and motherhood and being a good daughter or good child, is first of all to God the Father, then to your human father.

<sup>12</sup> Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit who is from God, that we might know the things that have been freely given to us by God <sup>13</sup> These things we also speak, ... comparing spiritual things with spiritual. <sup>14</sup> But the natural man does not receive the things of the Spirit of God, for they are foolishness to him (1 Corinthians 2:12-14 NKJV).

When you are not spiritual, and you hear spiritual things, spiritual things seem foolish to you. If you're spiritual, you will understand it's black because that's what God says

## John 6:26-27 NKJV)

Now, what makes me a better man or father? When I put the labour in the right order, when I'm labouring for God for the food which endures to everlasting life.

John 14:-7 (NKJV): <sup>6</sup> Jesus said to him, "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me. <sup>7</sup> "If you had known Me, you would have known My Father also; and from now on you know Him and have seen Him."

The devil is always trying to make a stronghold in your mind and cause you to live in reason and reality and relevance. God says you must step over and live in redemption and revelation so that you can live in a revolution. That means you live the way the Father wants you to live.

How do you know what the will of God is for your life if you have a desire in your heart? If you are not living in the church, with the local church as the highest priority besides God in your life. You do not know and you cannot interpret what the desires and will of God is for your life versus your own desires.

How do you know the will of God for your life? If you are doing the written Word of God, then you can start to ask God for the interpreted will of God, but you can't ask it when you're not living the written Word of God. The Word says you should not forsake the assembling of yourselves together. The Word says that He has given you gifts so that we can edify each other and bring each other to maturity.

I say, Father, reveal to me how much You have redeemed me from. Help me to understand that by getting revelation from the Word of God, my life can change forever. My mind will not be confused by all of the strongholds. Bring light to my mind where I have darkness. Let the truth of



God penetrate my mind and heart and to the deepest core of my spirit, and it will bear much fruit in my lives. I trust You as my Heavenly Father.

