## Beloved Part 9: In Bed or in Red

Pastor John Bendixen 31 July 2022

If you're in the world system, it's idolatry because you worship a system more than you worship God. So, you're either in bed (with the world), or you're in red (covered by the blood of Jesus).

God is restoring relationships because there are things that are happening in the world system that is coming to your door. The enemy of God is actively at work as the prince of darkness, and he has a legitimate right to influence things that are happening on the earth He uses the lust of men for greed and for power for his own advantage.

God wants us to be restored in relationship with Him because you need to trust Him more than anybody. You can't trust your job. You can't trust the economy. You can't trust me. You can't trust anybody. You got to trust God. You can trust what I say about God's Word, and you can trust God's Word, but that's where your relationship has got to be restored with Him that you trust Him more than the system.

The enemy of God has disguised his influence in your life, through institutions and through the institution of government. "We will tell you how you can educate your children." Who are you going to trust? The institution or God? The Bible says spare the rod and spoil the child. In other words, smack their bum, but the government says you're not allowed to because you're committing violence against your child.

Many Christians don't know how to develop their spirit man. They don't know how to touch God.

## Romans chapter 12:1,2 (AMPC)

We have to develop the real you. <sup>2</sup> Do not be conformed to this world, the systems of this world (this age), that we live in here [fashioned after and adapted to its external, superficial customs]. The custom of the world is you have to go to work from eight to five. You've got to network. You got to have an education that is world approved...

People often ask me, "How do I know what the perfect will of God is for my life?" They want to know, they want somebody to prophesy over them, or they want to say, "I know the will of God because I have a desire to do something in my life." Well, you can't know what the will of God is unless you are transformed by the renewing of your mind, and you've given your body as a sacrifice to God. Once you've done those things and you're not adapting yourself to the customs of the world. Now you can know what the will of God is. You touch God, you integrate your ways with God, and then strategic intentions become known to you. That's the will of God for your life.

## Romans 12:1,2 (MSG)

<sup>1</sup>So, here's what I want you to do. God helping you. Take your everyday, ordinary life—going to work, going to college, going to school, going to places—your sleeping, eating, going-to-work, walking-around life—and place it before God as an offering. That means, "Here, God, this is where I find myself in my life. But I place it before you; tell me how You want me to change." Embracing what God does for you is the best thing you can do for Him. <sup>2</sup> Don't become so well-adjusted to your culture that you fit into it without even thinking.

"I just go with the flow; I don't have to think about it; it's just natural and normal for me to do this every day." Instead, fix your attention on God. You'll be changed from the inside out. If you fix your attention on God, He touches you. The difference between our God and any other god is that our God touches you. His presence touches you. His life, His peace, and His grace touch you, and you can touch Him.





Beloved

The only person that can mature you spiritually is God. The God in the church, in every believer, should touch you. That's why going to church is an essential part of touching God because I touch the God in you.

How do I *touch* God on a regular basis? How do I let God *touch* me on a regular basis? Because if we don't allow God to *touch* us, and we don't *touch* God on a regular basis, then we are in danger of always living according to superficial customs. Jesus did not come and die for you so that you can live like everybody else in the world. Jesus came to die for you so that you can live like Him.

## How do we touch God?

- Through communion (1 Corinthians 1:23-26). Have communion daily. Say, "I'm touching Your body, and I'm touching the Blood of Jesus, and I'm remembering that You died for me, and today I choose the life of Christ that's inside me.
- Colossians 3:12-16
- Through tender mercies. If someone has offended you, put on tender mercies towards them.
- Through kindness. If you want to touch God, be kind to somebody.
- Through humility. Pride is one of the seven things that God hates.
- Through meekness. Meekness is just power under control.
- Through long-suffering. Refuse to quit on God, and on His Word.
- Through forgiveness. You want to *touch* God function in forgiveness.
- Through letting the peace of God reign in your heart.
- Through thankfulness and worshipping God.
- Through praying for all men and our leaders (1 Timothy 2:1-3).

Do you understand that touching God and touching His ways have a direct impact on what happens to your future? If you touch God every day, you're going to have that strength and peace, you're going to be able to hear from God, what do I do next? If you are somebody that is so overcome by the cultural ways of this world, you handle issues the way immature people handle it. You don't handle it God's way. What's the outcome of that? You don't know. You think you can control every outcome?

Because I live touching God, I integrate my ways with God. This is not a hard thing for me. I let His Word, I let the worship that is in the sound and song penetrate my life and flow over me daily. I give thanks to God daily. I touch God daily, and so what happens is that my responses were always spiritual.

Matthew 26:6-13 (NKJV) – the account of Mary anointing Jesus' feet with fragrant oil.

The offering was so extravagant, that the disciples were offended by it.

If you want to experience the *touch* of Jesus; she came to worship Him with the most expensive gift she had. I'm not asking for money here; I'm asking you to give God the most expensive gift that you've got. What's that? It's your time, it's your energy, and it must come from your heart. If you give God your heart and you give Him your time, it's a fragrance that permeates everywhere. Such extravagant giving is a powerful place of worship and restoration, and God uses it to restore relationships.

If you will have your relationship with God restored, let Him touch you. You touch Him. Make a choice in your heart, "I want to touch God. I want Him to touch me daily. I want to touch Him daily.



Beloved

Take all of yourself and say, Here I am, Lord. I don't know how I'm going to do this every day, but I'm doing it right now because I can only make a choice in this moment." Every time you choose the moment that you're in, say, "I worship You, and I'm giving my sacrifice of my thanksgiving, my praise, my kindness, my meekness, my gentleness. I'm going to be a person that walks in these things, and I'm going to be God-conscious because I break bread every day.

