

Christ is the Mystery no. 14

“Bound by Fear Set Free by Love”

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Romans 8:1 *There is therefore now no condemnation* That means these is no strong censorship, no being put down or put outside, you are in the inner circle *to them which are in Christ Jesus, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit.* 2 *For the law of the Spirit of life* (that's the law of Life which is Genesis 1:11 every seed after it's kind.) *For the law of Life which is the law of the Spirit in Christ Jesus hath made me free from the law of sin and death.* (In other words if you are free there is nothing holding you in bondage anymore. You are not controlled by an obligation or by the will of another) 3 *For what the law could not do, in that it was weak through the flesh, through self, God sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, and for sin, condemned sin in the flesh:* 4 *That the right-wise-ness of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not after self, but after the Spirit.* 5 *For they that are after the flesh* (in other words, they that are self centered) *do mind the things of self; but they that are after the Spirit give their attention to the things of the Spirit.* 6 *For to be self centered is death; but to be spiritually minded is life and peace.* 7 *Because the carnal mind* (the mind that is absorbed in self) *is the enemy of God: for it is not subject to the law of God, neither indeed can be.* (So if you are ruled by self, you are at war with the things of God and in no way can you subject or submit your self to the things of God, because you do not have His Spirit in you working to will and to do.) 8 *So then they that are in self cannot please God.* 9 *But ye are not self-centered, self-motivated but Spirit centered, spirit motivated, if so be that the Spirit of God dwells in you. Now if any man have not the Spirit of Christ, he is none of his.* 10 *And if Christ be in you, the body is dead because of sin; but the Spirit is life because of right-wise-ness.* 11 *But if the Spirit of him that raised up Jesus from the dead dwell in you, he that raised up Christ from the dead shall also quicken your mortal bodies by his Spirit that dwelleth in you.* 12 *Therefore, brethren, we are debtors, not to self, to live afterself.* 13 *For if ye live afterself, ye shall die: but if ye through the Spirit do mortify the deeds of the body, ye shall live.* 14 **For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, they are the sons of God.** (Now, that is your key to freedom right there.) *as many as are led by the Spirit of God, they are the sons of God* 15 *For ye have not received the spirit of bondage again to fear; but ye have received the Spirit of adoption, whereby we cry, Abba, Father.* 16 *The Spirit itself beareth witness with our spirit, that we are the children of God:* 17 *And if children, then heirs; heirs of God, and joint-heirs with Christ; if so be that we suffer with him, that we may be also glorified together.* 18 *For I reckon that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us.*

This evening I would like to look at this thought Bound by Fear Set Free by Love.

Jehovah of miracles 59-1126 P:33 *Mary didn't stop to think about criticism; she didn't care about criticism. When a man comes to get the Holy Ghost, you don't care what the neighbors is going to say; you don't care if you shout, you speak with tongues, or whatever you do, it's a past that; you took God at His Word; you don't care for criticism. You've lost all your devil made, homemade, intellectual society called prestige. The thing that you want is favor with God. You don't care what the Holy Spirit causes you to do: to shout, scream, or cry, or bawl, or anything you want to do. Anything the Holy Spirit puts on you, you do it because you don't care. You've lost all that manmade stuff. You're free in Christ Jesus. **The Spirit of God has set you free. And you're free in the power of God, bathing in His beauty, worshipping Him in the Spirit and truth. You're a free person.** You've took the Word of God; it took a hold in your heart. You don't care; you're throwing yourself... You say, "Well, if I be standing on my job someday and the boss said, 'Say, I heard you was over there at that holy-roller meeting and got healed.' I'm afraid." No, you're not. Brother, if you're the seed of Abraham, you count it a joy to stand and testify of the power of the resurrection of Jesus Christ. Certainly, you do. **"My people shall not be ashamed.** If you're ashamed of Me before men, I'll be ashamed of you before My Father and the holy Angels," said the Lord Jesus. **So they're not ashamed; they're not afraid.***

Remember the promises concerning the believer?

John 3:18 *"He that believeth" (ὁ πιστεύων) on him is not condemned: but he that believeth not is condemned already, because he hath not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God.*

Romans 9:33 *As it is written, Behold, I lay in Sion a stumblingstone and rock of offence: and "whosoever believeth" (ὁ πιστεύων) on him shall not be ashamed.*

Romans 10:11 *For the scripture saith, "Whosoever believeth" (ὁ πιστεύων) on him shall not be ashamed.*

1 Peter 2:6 *Wherefore also it is contained in the scripture, Behold, I lay in Sion a chief corner stone, elect, precious: and "**he that believeth**" (ὁ πιστεύων) on him shall not be confounded.*

So what do we have to be afraid of?

Romans 8:15 *For ye have not received the spirit of bondage again to fear; but ye have received the Spirit of adoption, whereby we cry, Abba, Father.*

Brother Branham said in **Christ is the mystery 63-0728 P:120** *"Look, Christ in you makes Him the center of Life of the revelation. See? Christ's Life in you makes Him the center of the revelation. Christ in the Bible, makes the Bible a complete revelation of Christ. Christ in you makes you the complete revelation of the whole thing. See, what God's trying to do? What is the new birth then? You say, "Well, Brother Branham, what is the new birth?" It is the revelation of Jesus Christ personally to you. Amen. See? Not you joined a church, you shook a hand; you done something different; you said a creed; you promised to live by a code of rules; but Christ, the Bible... **He is the Word that was revealed to you. And no matter what anybody says, what takes place, it's Christ.** Pastor,*

priest, whatever it might be... *It's Christ in you.* That is the revelation that the Church was built upon.

From his message **Position in Christ** 60-0522M 88 83 *For ye haven't received the spirit of bondage again to fear; but ye have received the Spirit of a... [Congregation says "adoption"--Ed.]* Now, after you're adopted, all right, after you're adopted, you're placed; then you understand, after the ceremony's said and you've been put into the Body correctly. You're a son, sure, a daughter; when you're born again you're... that's your birth. But now you're positionally placed. *We've not received the spirit of fear...; but we have received the Spirit of adoption, whereby we cry, Abba, Father.* (Which means, "my God." All right.) *The Spirit itself bears witness with our spirit, that we're children of God: How does it do it? You say, "Glory to God. Hallelujah. It don't bother me; I'm a child of God," and go out and do the things you do? **The Spirit of God will do the works of God.** Jesus said, "He that believeth on Me, the works that I do shall he do also." See, see?*

For ye have not received the spirit of bondage again to fear; Notice here how the Apostle Paul contrasts the spirit of bondage with the spirit of Sonship. But notice he uses the words "*The Spirit of adoption*" which speaks of receiving the identification of the Spirit of God whereby we are considered or recognized or witnessed to be sons. The word bondage must be understood to be that of the will. For our wills at one time were subject to the flesh only but through the Spirit of God by His Word have been set free to follow the leading of The Spirit. Jesus said in (**John 8:34**) *whosoever commits sin is the servant of sin*. Of this bondage no law could ever free you. The law can only cause you fear of the judgments that follow sin. Therefore law, or even the Law of God can only destroy the works of sinful desire, but it does not destroy those passions which allow for the sin to manifest in our lives. Therefore it does not destroy them but actually makes us aware of them and thus increases the desire for sin. It actually intensifies the hatred for the law and the desire to transgress it.

But ye have received The Spirit of adoption whereby we cry Abba Father. He is telling us that **we have become free from fear** and have received the spirit of adoption by which you trust God. This trust he shows very clearly by the words, "*whereby we cry, Abba, Father.*" This is the cry of the heart which is full of childlike trust and knows no fear. (remember, brother Branham told Brother Vayle after he was translated to see the other side, he said, "***Lee, from that time on I know no fear.***" The cry is not of the mouth but of the heart as we see in (**Galatians 4:6-7**) because ye are sons, God hath sent forth the Spirit of His Son into your hearts, crying Abba Father. Wherefore thou art no more a servant, but a son; and if a son, then an heir of God through Christ.

Listen to these words from Brother Branham in the **Church Age Book Chapter 2 - The Patmos Vision P:70** *"Don't fear, John. Don't fear, little flock. All that I am, you are heir to. All my power is yours. My omnipotence is yours as I stand in your midst. I have not come to bring fear and failure, but love and courage and ability. All power is given unto Me and it is yours to use. You speak the Word and I will perform it. That is My covenant and it can never fail."*

Brothers, that is **John 14:12** and 13. 12 Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that believeth on me, the works that I do shall he do also; and greater works than these shall he do; because I go unto my Father. 13 And whatsoever ye shall ask in my name, that will I do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son. 14 If ye shall ask any thing in my name, I will do it.

God testifying of His gifts 52-0713E P:49 So don't fear; fear is of the devil. Everything Jesus would say, "**Fear not, fear not,**" constantly, "**fear not, fear not.**" Is that right? Always, "**Fear not.**" Now, **God don't want you to fear; He wants you to believe.**

Water of separation 55-0121 P:15 I used to often time wonder what's the matter with the Christian church, they're so scared of things. Why, you've got nothing to be scared about. The first word nearly Jesus said after the resurrection, "**Fear not.**" See, **don't fear. Don't get scared.** There ain't nothing going to happen. Nothing can happen. Nothing can bother a Christian. Amen. Not even death itself can even touch the Christian. "**He that heareth My words, and believeth on him that sent Me, hath Everlasting Life, and shall not come into condemnation; but has passed from death to Life.**" Amen. Death itself has no reign over a Christian. Christ died in our stead. Amen. What a marvelous... What a faith that ought to build up in the people, something that'll toe the mark. You'll never get nothing by being a little jellyfish Christian. No, sir. Did you ever see a jellyfish? You just hit him, he splatters all over everything. See? A jellyfish, you know what usually eats them? The crabs and things along the side of the seashore, comes up with his pincher and cuts him in two and takes him down, 'cause the jellyfish just lays there. Brother, **we need some Christians, not jellyfish, but with a backbone (That's right.) that'll stand.** Oh, **I don't mean to fuss with people, but stand for your God given rights that Christ died for.** Certainly. **Not pushed around, we don't have to be.** No, sir. **We got an inheritance.** Amen. **And our inheritance belongs to us. It's your privilege to have anything that you inherited, through accepting Jesus Christ and dying to yourself.** How marvelous. Yes, sir. Satan said, "Well, I'll tell you what I'm going to do." "No, you ain't going to do nothing." That's the way to talk back to him. Say, "I know my position in Christ, and you just might as well get away. I ain't listening to you no more. **I got an inheritance.**"

Romans; 28 And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose. 29 For whom he did foreknow, he also did predestinate to be conformed to the image of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brethren. 30 Moreover whom he did predestinate, them he also called: and whom he called, them he also justified: and whom he justified, them he also glorified. 31 What shall we then say to these things? If God be for us, who can be against us? 32 He that spared not his own Son, but delivered him up for us all, how shall he not with him also freely give us all things? 33 Who shall lay any thing to the charge of God's elect? It is God that justifieth. 34 Who is he that condemneth? It is Christ that died, yea rather, that is risen again, who is even at the right hand of God, who also maketh intercession for us. 35 Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? 36 As it is written, For thy sake we are killed all the day long; we are accounted as sheep for the slaughter. 37 Nay, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him that loved us.

38 For I am persuaded, that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come, 39 Nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Luke 12:2 *Fear not, little flock; for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom.*

Luke 12:4-7 *4 And I say unto you my friends, Be not afraid of them that kill the body, and after that have no more that they can do. 5 But I will forewarn you whom ye shall fear: Fear him, which after he hath killed hath power to cast into hell; yea, I say unto you, Fear him. 6 Are not five sparrows sold for two farthings, and not one of them is forgotten before God? 7 But even the very hairs of your head are all numbered. Fear not therefore: ye are of more value than many sparrows.*

Questions and answers COD 54-0103E P:101 *And a serpent grabbed him through the hand. Now, watch. Paul didn't fear. He said, "Jesus Christ said, 'If they take up serpents, it shall not harm them.'" So he walked over here, shook him off on the fire; turns around and walks over to get some sticks and put back on the fire; turned himself around and warmed his back, and turned around this way and warmed his hands. The natives said, "Why don't he die? Why don't that man die? He ought to drop dead?" But Paul was so full of the Holy Ghost (See what I mean?), so full of the Holy Ghost until the poison wouldn't poison him. Oh, brother, give me a church full of the Holy Ghost. God will do in one year what all theology's failed to do in two thousand years. You wait till the anointing of the church really strikes home to that faithful the little remnant. After the doors of the Gentiles is closed, oh, God will anoint a church then. "He who's filthy, let him be filthy still. He who's righteous let him be righteous still, and he who's holy let him be holy still." And God will anoint the church with the power of God, and things will be taken place. Not only that then, but He's doing it now. Watch signs and wonders. And the people look around and saying, "Well, it's of the devil." Oh, because they don't know the Scriptures, neither the power of God. And that's the reason it's...?...*

Hebrews Chapter 6 57-0908E P: *94 While we have our heads bowed, if there be such a one that would like to swap a carnal life of ordinances, of baptisms, of sensations, of little carnal things like that, for a real heart full of real love, that--that you could walk up to your bitterest enemy, put your arms around him, and say, "Brother, I'll pray for you. I love you." If you'd like to swap that experience of carnal things for a real experience of love, would you raise your hand to God, and say, "God, take me tonight and make me what I should be"? I'll pray for you right from the pulpit here. Would you desire prayer? Raise your hands. 95 God bless you back there, sir. God bless you, brother. Someone else? God bless you, sir. "I have been in the church for years." God bless you, sir. God bless you here, brother. God bless you back there, little lady. "I will ask God to make me peaceful." Do you... Are you real raging? Are you out of sorts? Do you doubt? Do you toss about? Do you wonder whether It's really right or not? When you come to Christ, do you come with a full assurance, a heart full of love? Do you walk up to Him without one fear, saying, "I know that He's my Father and there's no condemnation." You've passed*

from death unto Life. You know it, and you notice your life; you're loving, you're forgiving, you're gentle, you're peaceful, you're meek; all these fruits of the Spirit accompany your life day by day. And as soon as you do anything wrong, "Oh, my." Just as soon as it come to your mind you've done wrong, quickly you make it right, right then. Don't wait another minute; go right then and make it right. If you don't, well, you don't have the Spirit of Christ. You might be a good woman; you might be a good man. You might be well thought of in the church. You might be well thought of in the neighborhood, but have you went on to that perfection, to that place to where you're wholly trusting in Christ? And by the... Just give you the seal... Abraham believed God and it was imputed unto him for righteous, and God give him the seal of circumcision as a confirmation.

In 1 JOHN 4: 18 "There is no fear in Love. But perfect love drives out fear. Because fear has to do with punishment. The one who fears is not made perfect and complete in Love."

DIAGLOTT: *fear has restraint.*

WUEST: *This aforementioned love which exists in it's completed state throws fear outside, because this fear has a penalty, and the one who fears has not been brought to completion in the sphere of this love, and is not in that state at present.*

- 1) to throw fear aside you must first be able to recognize it.
- 2) fear brings restraint from a lack of trust, unrest.

NIV: *fear has to do with punishment.*

The **NIV** states **1 John 4: 16-18** this way...*And so we know and come to rely on the love God has for us, for God is love and whosoever lives in love lives in God, and God in him. In this way, love is made complete among us so that we will have confidence on the day of judgment, because in this world we are to be made like Him, (and I might add, how does this come about? Through the renewing of the mind). There is no fear in love, But perfect love drives out fear, because fear has to do with punishment. The one who fears is not made perfect, complete and mature in love.*

Weymouth: *Our love will be manifested in all it's perfection by our having complete confidence on the day of Judgment; because just what He is, we are in the world. Love has in it no element of fear, but perfect love drives away fear, because fear involves pain, and if a man gives way to fear, there is something imperfect in his love. We love because God first loved us.*

Now, what John is telling us here is that if we truly have perfect Love then we cannot fear because perfect Love casts out all fear. It is fear that causes men to war with one another, and it is uncertainty and fear of the uncertainty that causes people to do things in a self defense kind of thinking. And that is what causes strife and ill treatment toward one another is fear. But perfect love casts all that away.

1 John 4: 17 - 18 (read) Fear has torment = Kolasis = punishment or penalty, and what is the penalty? it has to do with causing to hold back, to check, curtail, or restrain In other words as long as you are under fear, you will not move forward. You tighten up and stop your progress.

Because it is not of God to fear. Every time the Angel of the Lord came to man, the first words out of His mouth would be "Fear not! For I have come from the Presence of the Lord." We find also in **1 John 4: 18** that *perfect or mature love casts out fear because fear has to do with punishment.*

Fear causes damage, because when a person is afraid they become bound by their fears. We read in **1 John 4.** *That perfect or mature Love will cast out fear because fear has a penalty, it has to do with you freezing and crystallizing in your thinking.* Joseph began to fear that Mary had not been faithful and so God sent His Angel to tell him not to fear to take Mary as His Wife. What did fear do here? It caused Joseph to doubt and it caused him to stop moving forward with the plan of God for his life.

Peter walking on the water. He was walking all right, till he seen the waves contrary and he got scared. Jesus said, "Why'd you fear?" That's what's the matter with the Holy Ghost people today. They've got a lot they're afraid...The devil's just trying to scare you out of something. He's trying to put something off somewhere else, say, "Some of these days you'll be this." You are now. Now, we're sons of God. Now, we're seated together in heavenly places. Now, we have all powers in heavens and the earth. See? Now, we have it. Not in the millennium, we won't need it then. We got it now. We're... Right now we are the sons of God. "It does not appear what we shall be, but we know we'll be like Him." What you are here is a reflection of what you are somewhere else. "Those who He called, He justifies." Is that right? "Those who He justified, He has glorified." Already in the Presence of the Father, we have a glorified body. Whew! Wasn't that deep? All right. We'll find out whether it's right or not. "If this earthly tabernacle be dissolved, we have one already waiting." Is that right? That's right. So right now, and what we are there, is a reflection. Here, what we are here, is a reflection of what we are somewhere else. So if your deeds are evil, you know where it comes from. You know where your other body's a waiting.

118 Lean not to Thy Own Understanding 65-0120 *You know, the Bible said you can believe a lie and be damned by it. See? That's exactly the truth. They form, no matter what the Word of God says, they lean to their own understanding. They lean on it; they believe it; they think it's the Truth. You can keep believing a lie over and over and over till it's the truth to you. That's right. But how do we know whether it's Truth or not? God proved it's Truth, 'cause it's in His Word and He a-vindicates It. He does His own interpretation of It. How do they do, get to this? They do it by their culture, their education, of their understandings of their--the degree of doctor's degree, and so forth, that they have come from some certain seminary and learned these things. The 4th attribute we see Webster refer to in the defining of neurosis. This 4th attribute is Phobias which we all know is an irrational, excessive, and persistent fear of some particular thing or situation. In the book of Job we find out that the things you fear the most will come upon you. In [2 Tim 1: 7] we read, " For God has not given us a Spirit of fear, but of Power and of Love, and of a sound mind. " So then we can see by this that to have fear shows you don't have a sound mind. Because it is not of God to fear. Every time the Angel of the Lord came to man, the first words out of His mouth would be "Fear not! For I have come from the Presence of the Lord."*

We found also in **1 John 4: 18** that *perfect or mature love casts out fear because fear has to do with punishment*. Notice as I said earlier, the first is what sets the trap. Anxiety. The cares of this life. Being caught up into them and not having our focus on Christ in this Word, having come down with a shout for our deliverance.. The next thing happens is we get caught into the pressure and so compulsion results where we find ourselves doing things not because common sense tells us to, not because we really want to, but because we have been pressured into it. These irrational sorts of behavior then force us to be living a lie and thus once we have hit this stage we enter into the 3rd manifestation which is devil possession and by this time our minds are completely gone. No longer are we able to focus on the things of God but only on the irrational behaviors which have overwhelmed us.

In **1 JOHN 4: 18** "*There is no fear in Love. But perfect love drives out fear. Because fear has to do with punishment. The one who fears is not made perfect and complete in Love.*"

So God must place something within us to bring us to this place of perfection and lacking fear.

In Ezekiel we see why God says, I will give you a new heart and a new spirit. It is in order for us to be able to from our heart fulfill His Word and His Law.

Martin Luther said in His **Preface to the Book of Romans**, "*God judges according to what is at the bottom of the heart, and for this reason, His law makes its demands on the inmost heart and cannot be satisfied with works, but rather punishes works that are done otherwise than from the bottom of the heart, as hypocrisy and lies. No one in his works is a doer of the law, for even though you might keep the law outwardly, with works, from fear of punishment or love or reward, nevertheless, you do all this without willingness and pleasure, and without love for the law, but rather with unwillingness, under compulsion: and you would rather do otherwise, if the law were not there. The conclusion is that at the bottom of your heart you hate the law. What matter, then, that you teach others not to steal, if you are a thief at heart, and would gladly be one outwardly, if you dared? For this reason he Paul says in Romans 7 that the law is spiritual, For if the law were for the body, it could be satisfied with works; but since it is spiritual, no one can satisfy it, unless all that you do is done from the bottom of your heart. But such a heart is given only by God's Spirit, so that he acquires a desire for the law in his heart, and henceforth does nothing out of fear and compulsion, but everything out of a willing heart. Where that spirit is not in the heart, there sin remains, and displeasure with the law, and enmity toward it; though the law is good and just and holy.*"