

Sunday, October 20, 2019—West Michigan Grace Bible Conference—Head, Heart, & Hands: Serving God from the Heart

Introduction

- Lauren Daigle’s song “You Say” has been the number one Christian song in America for a record 61 weeks, according to Billboard. Listen to the lyrics to the song as I read them aloud. As I read them, think about why this song is so popular.

- I keep fighting voices in my mind that say I'm not enough
Every single lie that tells me I will never measure up
Am I more than just the sum of every high and every low
Remind me once again just who I am because I need to know
Ooh oh

You say I am loved when I can't feel a thing
You say I am strong when I think I am weak
And you say I am held when I am falling short
And when I don't belong, oh You say I am Yours
And I believe (I)
Oh I believe (I)
What You say of me (I)
I believe

The only thing that matters now is everything You think of me
In You I find my worth, in You I find my identity
Ooh oh

You say I am loved when I can't feel a thing
You say I am strong when I think I am weak
And you say I am held when I am falling short
And when I don't belong, oh You say I am Yours
And I believe (I)
Oh, I believe (I)
What You say of me (I)
Oh, I believe

Taking all I have and now I'm laying it at Your feet
You have every failure, God, You have every victory
Ooh oh

You say I am loved when I can't feel a thing
You say I am strong when I think I am weak
You say I am held when I am falling short
When I don't belong, oh You say I am Yours
And I believe (I)
Oh, I believe (I)
What You say of me (I)
I believe

Oh, I believe (I)
Yes I believe (I)
What You say of me (I)
I believe

- So, why has this song been so popular? I think it's because it describes where people, even believers are at these days. Experts are telling us that there are more people reporting a sense of hopelessness, anxiety, and depression than ever before. Through media and technology, the course of this world assails our minds at an ever-increasing rate. Meanwhile, among church people Biblical literacy is at an all-time low.
- What about among Grace Believers or Pauline Dispensationalists? This a particular group of believers within the church who possess all the correct macro-systems.
 - Use the King James Bible.
 - Understand justification by grace through faith.
 - Understand the issue of total forgiveness.
 - Understand their eternal security.
 - Understand that Paul is their apostle and that our doctrine for today is found in Paul's epistles.
 - Understand that we live during the dispensation of grace.
 - Understand that we are not under the law but under grace.
 - Understand that we have been made new creatures in Christ.
 - Understand that we are accepted in the beloved.
 - Understand that God's word is complete and sufficient i.e., they are not looking for advanced revelation from God.
 - Understand that God's word works effectually in their inner man when they believe it.
- Despite having all their macro-systems doctrinally and dispensationally correct these same believers still struggle with substance abuse & addiction, sexual sins & addictions, pornography, anxiety, hatred, envy, wrath, strife, evil speaking, hopelessness, and depression. Simply stated, despite having all the correct macro systems we are still struggling with manifesting the life of Christ in our mortal flesh in details or milliseconds of life.
- Why is this the case? I believe there are a few reasons:
 - I Thessalonians 2:13—and verses like it are viewed/treated as though they are some sort of magic pill. The message has been sent that if you are still struggling with any of the sins, I listed above you aren't really believing the verses. If you were the believing the verses, you would struggle with those sins.

- Galatians 4:6—we have failed to understand that God has given us a new heart by sending his Spirit into our hearts upon salvation. God is good with us at the very core of who we are.
- Romans 12:1-2—our minds are what is in process and in need of being renewed day by day not our hearts. When we renew our minds, something is transformed. I believe that it is our brains.
 - Romans 7:23—the renewed mind is to be the new master of the carnal brain and transform it into a servant of righteousness.
- We have not totally understood the edification process. The main reason people don't "see results" in their edification is they don't know what to expect. Moreover, believers don't know the process or how the process works. The transformation process is just that a process and takes time and persistence.

Heart & Head: What the Proper Alignment?

- I used to believe and teach that what believers needed to do is download the doctrine that they knew and understood in their heads into their hearts. I thought that this was the edification process and that when this download was complete believers would walk in newness of life and manifest the life of Christ in their mortal flesh.
- I now realize that this thinking was confused and backwards. I now believe that believers need to upload an understanding of the new heart they have been given to their heads. Our hearts are so far ahead of our heads because God the Holy Spirit lives and resides in our hearts. Our hearts are not in process, but our heads are.
- Romans 5:5—“. . . the love of God is shed abroad into our hearts by the Holy Ghost which is given unto us.”
- II Corinthians 1:22—God has given us “the earnest of the Spirit in our hearts.”
- Galatians 4:6—according to this verse, the Spirit of God resides within your heart and is crying Abba Father right now as you listen to this message. This happens all the time. Even when you don't read the scriptures is God the Holy Spirit doing something in your life? Yes.
 - Romans 8:15—in this verse we are the one's crying “Abba Father.” Why? How? Because God the Holy Spirit is in your heart also crying “Abba Father” all the time.
 - Romans 8:16—the Holy Spirit “beareth witness” with spirit that I am child of God. The verb translated “beareth witness” is in the present tense, the active voice, and the indicative mood. Which means that right now in the present God the Holy Spirit is communicant my spirit in my inner man.
 - Romans 8:26-27—God the Holy Spirit is constantly advocating for God's truth in our lives.

- Ephesians 1:13-14—God didn't give us the Holy Spirit as the earnest of our inheritance until the day of redemption only to put a gag order on Him your life.
 - The Holy Spirit cries Abba Father
 - The Holy Spirit bears witness with our spirit
 - The Holy Spirit makes “intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered.”
- II Corinthians 4:16—your inward man, the core of who you are is renewed day by day by God the Holy Spirit. How can this be the case?
- Romans 6:6—because your “old man” is crucified with Christ. He is dead, gone, and taken out of the way and God the Holy Spirit has taken up occupancy of your heart from which renews our inner man day by day.
- Romans 12:2—our hearts are not in process, but our heads are. We battle conformity to the world (the default setting) by being transformed (*metamorphōō*) by the renewing of the mind. The renewing of the mind transforms the carnal brain into a servant of righteousness by establishing new pathways in the brain that are tuned into God's word and who God has made us in Christ.
- We are not endeavoring to download an understanding of who we are from our head to our heart, as I used to think. Rather, by the renewing of the mind, we are endeavoring to upload from our heart into our head what is already true of us at the very core of our being. Our heads lag behind our hearts and are in constant need of renewing on a daily basis.

Hands: Doing the Will of God from the Heart

- The natural outflow of getting our heads to line up with our hearts is that our hands go about the work of ministry.
- I Corinthians 16:15—the renewed mind will establish new addictions. Addictions that are good and positive not just in your life but for other members of the body of Christ.
- Romans 12:5, 10; 14:13; 15:5, 7, 14; 16:16—the renewed mind leads to one-anothering. It leads to thinking and acting in your life in accordance with the grace of God and the operating principle of God almighty during the dispensation of grace.
- Romans 14:19—the renewed mind enable us to have ministry and edify other people.
- Galatians 5:13-14

- Ephesians 6:5-6—believers have the capacity to serve their fleshly masters in singleness of heart “as unto Christ.” If one’s ability to do this comes from their heart, then there must not be anything wrong with a believer’s heart anymore.
- Colossians 3:15-16—believers can let the peace of God “rule” in their hearts. Before we were saved our heart was in a state of enmity against God.
- I Timothy 1:5—the believer’s heart is pure before God. Why? Because God the Holy Spirit lives in your heart and cries Abba Father.
- II Timothy 2:22