



Providence Christian Ministries
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The Dysfunctional Family, May 12, 2010

“God is not interested in the image of perfection being protected but exposes the hidden works of darkness within our Hearts knowing when we see the truth and deal with it are we truly set free. Jesus came to expose the works of the devil by bringing every hidden thing into the light. He forgives all immediately upon confession and repentance but He exposes our darkened Hearts little by little. Many people fail to receive Healing because they are concerned about appearing to have it all together while hiding behind a safety mask of Christianity.”

—This statement is powerful and important to understanding the design and desire of God in the life of believer. It is what the “church thing” is supposed to be about. Otherwise if we don’t grasp it, if we don’t understand it we’re just coming to church trying to obtain a shot of inspiration and encouragement. We also end up frustrated because after a while we can only have so much inspiration and encouragement before the frustrations, disappointments and circumstances of life dull the encouragement. It’s more than Sunday service. The goal is to deal with the roots of what we are and where we live. We must learn through the Word of God what “new” looks like. Otherwise we have no clue. ***“Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new.” (2 Corinthians 5:17)*** God isn’t concerned about the image of perfection. Instead He desires to expose the hidden darkness in our hearts. Only when we perceive truth and deal with it will we be free. Adversity, circumstances and people will cause us to see where we are. We cry about why God allows things to happen in our lives. What we need to ask is, God, what are You trying to show me. It’s when we come across the right person pressing the right button that we discover deliverance comes in layers. Of course, when God sets us free we are free indeed. *But what is freedom in God?* It is God positioning us to become whole. Just because we came up to the altar, confessed to God and received His forgiveness doesn’t mean we will never feel the pull and temptation of that sin again. We still must be delivered from the power of a thing. But now we are positioned to become whole. Our freedom is secure but we continue to be in the process.

—Many believers are concerned about appearances and hide behind the mask of Christianity. We erect an image that everything is cool because we’re anointed. But the first dysfunctional individual was Satan. He was anointed for worship. Consider programs set up to deal with anger, depression and addiction—they teach people how to manage the issue not how to be delivered from it. For instance, a person who attends an alcoholic program leaves still declaring he is an alcoholic. But if he is set free, why continue to call himself an alcoholic? The very declaration keeps him in bondage to the spirit of the addiction. Anything that we’re in bondage to can be masked. We don’t know what it looks like to walk in freedom. *We’re familiar with masking.* We have to remove the masks—the covering and shields—and become free and



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whole. We were called by God to minister. A transfer takes place during ministry but what are we transferring? None of us are perfect but our hearts have to be perfectly turned toward Him and there must be a complete honesty. We like to lie to ourselves so we do the same with God. For most of us, our woundedness took place during childhood and was perpetuated with other authorities as we grew. We have to make sure we are free so we don't transfer hurt and woundedness. We must seek God and ask Him to show us ourselves.



Is it possible to minister to someone while we're in a wounded place? Amazingly, sometimes we will be going through and come upon someone who calls out to us for help. Even in the midst of our own situation an anointing will stir and the Holy Ghost will use the Word in us. Before we know it Word pours forth and suddenly we're ministering! And God is so awesome that the same Word we used to minister to someone else ends up ministering to ourselves. And we walk away encouraged! God doesn't wait until we're perfect or else He would never be able to use us.

The original dysfunctional individual

Ezekiel 28:13-16 - You were in Eden, the garden of God; Every precious stone was your covering: The sardius, topaz, and diamond, Beryl, onyx, and jasper, Sapphire, turquoise, and emerald with gold. The workmanship of your timbrels and pipes Was prepared for you on the day you were created. ¹⁴ " You were the anointed cherub who covers; I established you; You were on the holy mountain of God; You walked back and forth in the midst of fiery stones. ¹⁵ You were perfect in your ways from the day you were created, Till iniquity was found in you. ¹⁶ " By the abundance of your trading You became filled with violence within, And you sinned; Therefore I cast you as a profane thing Out of the mountain of God; And I destroyed you, O covering cherub, From the midst of the fiery stones.

—Satan was beautiful. Covered in precious stones, he was created to worship. The bible says in his creative make up was the ability to worship because he held a special post. Everyone has the ability to worship but some people were specifically *designed* to worship. They have the pipes for it! But they're not all saved or in church and yet...they were still created for worship. Satan was also an anointed cherub. He was *anointed* to carry out his purpose. He appeared as if everything was together...and all that states is we can be anointed but still be highly dysfunctional. Because we have a gift doesn't mean we are dysfunction-free. All that's needed is the right circumstance to reveal it. We all have issues we believed were gone—and on the level we were on, those issues were overcome. But on the new level we have to face another depth, another dimension of the thing we conquered on the last level. Look at a building. In order for a structure to be sustained in height the foundation must be deep. The higher the building, the deeper the foundation. And in a similar vein, the greater the anointing, the deeper



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the roots have to run. And the deeper they run the more disturbances they hit—those disturbances are things we considered conquered. Which were on a certain level, but now we've attained a new level.



The bible states Satan was perfect until iniquity was found in him. That means the entire time Satan carried out his creative purpose iniquity was *in him*. When he was created *by God* iniquity was in him. A holy and righteous God, perfect and just in all His way...and He created Lucifer. Then we can begin to understand other aspects of his nature. That iniquity was in him while he was the anointed cherub carrying out the will of God. Satan had a choice. The difference between him and us was He didn't have free will. We are constantly learning God and so are allowed to commit mistakes, have the opportunity to repent and continue on our walk with the Lord. There were no such options for the enemy. Even if he repented today he would burn in the lake of fire. Satan knew God and still turned from him. Blasphemy—the sin until death. There was no one who knew God better—if there was such thing as a second after the trinity it was Lucifer. He had rank in Heaven and knew God in His splendor and glory—he knew Him in power.



The glorious light of God radiated through Lucifer and yet he possessed iniquity in him. It's a lesson to believers. We have to be careful in our judging of people because we're not perfect and we also are not aware of God's plans for the lives of others. We're not qualified to judge whether someone will or will not be. Just as God's mercy lies on us we have to afford others the same. Our walk of righteousness doesn't qualify us. Some of us are afraid to be honest due to our dysfunction...we are afraid to be hurt. Especially by the church. The church can be vicious with our mouths and tongues. It's ironic how the world will forgive us when we make a mistake but the church will hold us hostage for the rest of our lives.

—God intended for our lights to shine in the earth. What He established in Heaven to be toward Him God also established in earth for us to be toward Him. That's why worship is supposed to be a part of our lives. It's a part of our responsibility and privilege to worship Him. Many of the angels had the ability to go before God in His glory, and because of Jesus, we can now go boldly before the throne.

—In Satan's original state as an angel of light he ruled over the earth. His rule was supposed to reflect God's ruling over the heavens. All rule is supposed to be reflective of God. It's duplication. There's nothing new under the sun because it all came from God. We didn't replace Satan's responsibility in heaven but in the earth we are God's ambassadors to carry out



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His will and dominion. Dominion was given to Adam but before Satan fell he possessed it. Remember that the *creation* story is really the *restoration* story. The transgression of Satan created chaos and in Genesis when we see God placing the earth and universe in order He's restoring them to their original states. Adam was given the authority and dominion in earth that Satan originally held. And what the first Adam messed up the second Adam redeemed.

—A question to consider...was Satan's fall originally in the plan and if so, did God change the plan? The bible states the plan of salvation was laid down before the foundation of the world. **"...just as He chose us in Him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before Him in love..." (Ephesians 1:4)** So before our creation—the world's creation—God had ordained and established the plan of salvation to be carried out by Himself. Did He know iniquity was in the enemy before He created him? Did God have knowledge of Satan's fall and his ultimate perversion of the nations? Yes! And He did not change His plan. God has a desire in His divine heart for man to love Him by choice and will. It's where we obtain the desire to be loved—from our Creator! God wanted a people to love Him by choice. It's why He gave it to us. He had the ability to make us love Him but He didn't. God knows that is not love. In His infinite wisdom, God understood that our human nature and flesh didn't possess the ability to love Him like He needed. So He placed His love in us and said love Me with My love. Because I'm the only one who can love Me the way I need to be loved. How awesome is that? We find our identity in God instead of people, positions, jobs and things, because He will never walk away and leave us questioning who we are.



If we don't love ourselves we are unable to love someone else. It's not possible. In order to love ourselves we must know God. He has to teach us what it is to love. And it is through Him we learn how to love people. In order to walk in forgiveness we have to learn from God. His love guides us, reveals to us how that looks. We cannot forget that love is a spirit. As God is a spirit...and God is love. But also love is a characteristic of God, one of His spirits. There's natural love and Godly love. We are more acquainted with natural love—emotions, flesh. But then there's the spirit of love—the Agape. This does not have anything to do with the flesh. It's about the spirit of God. The spirit of love is when God commands us to love men above circumstances and people. We are so bogged down with inconsequential things because we like to relegate love wholly to the flesh. In our natural minds being in love with someone is just an excuse to be emotionally out of control. Like threatening someone when they decide to leave us. Love says, I love you so much that if you didn't love me and I had to watch you walk away to someone else—if that's God's plan and it makes you happy—I will bid you well, even in my hurt. There's a difference between love and being emotionally out of control. When I love someone I wish them no ill. Another secret is when we love someone we never stop loving them. We might not be able to stay with them but we still love them because it's eternal. When



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the bible speaks of being in love, a man *moves into the state of loving* a spouse. It's as eternal as God is. It's when someone who has hurt us deeply calls and if they need Help we would still move. That's the love of God. The other stuff is flesh and self-gratifying.

—Satan banks on us remaining dysfunctional. His plots, plans and ploys are contingent on keeping us that way. If we suffered a physical handicap like a bad ankle, we might be okay to walk on it for a while with little problems. But as soon as it received more weight the handicap would become clearer. The same theory applies to us as we walk in the will of God, under His anointing. In our dysfunctional state we cannot carry the weightiness of the anointing. It is heavy. The enemy desires to keep us dysfunctional so when God releases a new anointing the dysfunction reveals itself. Satan is so crafty he will allow us to achieve promotion but afterward He will blow the winds of adversity and the dysfunction in us that was hidden will be exposed. The anointing is heavy and it takes a solid foundation to handle its weight. And the more anointing the deeper the roots have to burrow. Yet every time we go deeper we discover more dysfunction because it's buried in childhood, our pasts. The process of God peeling away the layers doesn't happen overnight. We must delve into the heart beat of God to find out what lies under those layers and receive healing. Intimacy problems are not from our Father. Of course, everyone is not openly affectionate but being compassionate, intimate and loving is from our Father—it's His nature. We should be a reflection of Him. Circumstances, rejections and pasts created barriers, walls and dysfunctions but we should not be bound by them. We have to allow God to minister to the hurt, to the wound. It's not easy, especially with our baggage, but we have to be willing to be honest and allow God to reveal *us to us*. God will never refuse us if we come to Him open and honest willing to be healed and freed. If we lower the walls of pride and allow Him in God will heal. During childhood it was the child that was hurt and wounded and the child that needs to be healed. That little boy or girl has been affecting our lives, messing up our relationships, causing us to be hermits, not allowing us to get along with people and who makes us mad when no one's around. Get the child healed and we'll walk in victory.



*Denotes Spiritual Footnote