Chapter 5
150 Intro: How Jesus Served,

His service began long before His public ministry. As a child he was Mother’s helper in little chores, obedient to His parent’s wishes.

Luke 2:13-14 (NLT)
13 Suddenly, the angel was joined by a vast host of others—the armies of heaven—praising God and saying,
14 “Glory to God in highest heaven, and peace on earth to those with whom God is pleased.”

Luke 2:41-52 (KJV)
41 Now his parents went to Jerusalem every year at the feast of the passover.
42 And when he was twelve years old, they went up to Jerusalem after the custom of the feast.
43 And when they had fulfilled the days, as they returned, the child Jesus tarried behind in Jerusalem; and Joseph and his mother knew not of it.
44 But they, supposing him to have been in the company, went a day’s journey; and they sought him among their kinsfolk and acquaintance.
45 And when they found him not, they turned back again to Jerusalem, seeking him.
46 And it came to pass, that after three days they found him in the temple, sitting in the midst of the doctors, both hearing them, and asking them questions.
47 And all that heard him were astonished at his understanding and answers.
48 And when they saw him, they were amazed: and his mother said unto him, Son, why hast thou thus dealt with us? behold, thy father and I have sought thee sorrowing.
49 And he said unto them, How is it that ye sought me? wist ye not that I must be about my Father’s business?
50 And they understood not the saying which he spake unto them.
51 And he went down with them, and came to Nazareth, and was subject unto them: but his mother kept all these sayings in her heart.
52 And Jesus increased in wisdom and stature, and in favour with God and man.

Luke 3:21-22 (KJV)
21 Now when all the people were baptized, it came to pass, that Jesus also being baptized, and praying, the heaven was opened,
22 And the Holy Ghost descended in a bodily shape like a dove upon him, and a voice came from heaven, which said, Thou art my beloved Son; in thee I am well pleased.
Forgiveness follows repentance but “blotting out” of sin takes restoration a step ahead. Our brains need healing physically, too.

Acts 3:19 (KJV)
19 Repent ye therefore, and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out, when the times of refreshing shall come from the presence of the Lord.

When we repent, forgiveness is immediate. Conversion may come later: remember what Jesus said to Peter?

Luke 22:32 (KJV)
But I have prayed for thee, that thy faith fail not: and when thou art converted, strengthen thy brethren.

“The times of refreshing” appear to be future. Paul seems to be having a problem with sin.

Romans 7:21-25 (KJV)
21 I find then a law, that, when I would do good, evil is present with me.
22 For I delight in the law of God after the inward man:
23 But I see another law in my members, warring against the law of my mind, and bringing me into captivity to the law of sin which is in my members.
24 O wretched man that I am! who shall deliver me from the body of this death?
25 I thank God through Jesus Christ our Lord. So then with the mind I myself serve the law of God; but with the flesh the law of sin.

Now we come to the “times of refreshing from the presence of the Lord”. The ultimate fulfillment appears to be future but we have a foretaste and a beginning now.

Exodus 23:12 (KJV)
Six days thou shalt do thy work, and on the seventh day thou shalt rest: that thine ox and thine ass may rest, and the son of thy handmaid, and the stranger, may be refreshed.

Exodus 31:17 (KJV)
It is a sign between me and the children of Israel for ever: for in six days the LORD made heaven and earth, and on the seventh day he rested, and was refreshed.

Isaiah 28:12 (KJV)
To whom he said, This is the rest wherewith ye may cause the weary to rest; and this is the refreshing: yet they would not hear.

They had the timing of the sabbath; so why didn’t they listen?

Isaiah 28:7 (KJV) Wine=doctrines.
7 But they also have erred through wine, and through strong drink are out of the way; the priest and the prophet have erred through strong drink, they are swallowed up of wine, they are out of the way through strong drink; they err in vision, they stumble in judgment.
More Sabbaths Rejected

The new moons and annual sabbaths, with the festivals, ran into the same problems. They had the timing but refused the blessings by the same means.

Isaiah 1:13-20 (KJV)

13 Bring no more vain oblations; incense is an abomination unto me; the new moons and sabbaths, the calling of assemblies, I cannot away with; it is iniquity, even the solemn meeting.

14 Your new moons and your appointed feasts my soul hateth: they are a trouble unto me; I am weary to bear them.

15 And when ye spread forth your hands, I will hide mine eyes from you: yea, when ye make many prayers, I will not hear: your hands are full of blood.

16 Wash you, make you clean; put away the evil of your doings from before mine eyes; cease to do evil;

17 Learn to do well; seek judgment, relieve the oppressed, judge the fatherless, plead for the widow.

18 Come now, and let us reason together, saith the LORD: though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they be red like crimson, they shall be as wool.

19 If ye be willing and obedient, ye shall eat the good of the land: ...

God hates our worship when we are cherishing sin in our lives. When we let him change the way we think, our choices will change.

Notes:
The enemy of our souls has infiltrated our worship of the creator just as he said he would. Some have the seventh day Sabbath, but have not found delight in the festivals that portray the future of the church.

The followers of Jesus have their part to play as they follow their Savior.

Isaiah 4:2 (KJV)
In that day shall the branch of the LORD be beautiful and glorious, and the fruit of the earth shall be excellent and comely for them that are escaped of Israel.

Isaiah 11:1 (KJV)
And there shall come forth a rod out of the stem of Jesse, and a Branch shall grow out of his roots:

Isaiah 58:12-14 (KJV)
12 And they that shall be of thee shall build the old waste places: thou shalt raise up the foundations of many generations; and thou shalt be called, The repairer of the breach, The restorer of paths to dwell in.
13 If thou turn away thy foot from the sabbath, from doing thy pleasure on my holy day; and call the sabbath a delight, the holy of the LORD, honourable; and shalt honour him, not doing thine own ways, nor finding thine own pleasure, nor speaking thine own words:
14 Then shalt thou delight thyself in the LORD; and I will cause thee to ride upon the high places of the earth, and feed thee with the heritage of Jacob thy father: for

the mouth of the LORD hath spoken it.

Psalm 23:1-3 (KJV)
1 The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want.
2 He maketh me to lie down in green pastures: he leadeth me beside the still waters.
3 He restoreth my soul: he leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake.

Zephaniah 3:9 (NLT)
9 Then I will purify the speech of all people, so that everyone can worship the LORD together.

Zephaniah 3:18-20 Holman Christian Standard Bible (HCSB)
18 I will gather those who have been driven from the appointed festivals; they will be a tribute from you and a reproach on her.
19 Yes, at that time I will deal with all who afflict you. I will save the lame and gather the scattered;
I will make those who were disgraced throughout the earth receive praise and fame.
20 At that time I will bring you back, yes, at the time I will gather you. I will give you fame and praise among all the peoples of the earth, when I restore your fortunes before your eyes. Yahweh has spoken.
**Our Restoration**

**Zechariah 8:19** (NLT)
19 “This is what the LORD of Heaven’s Armies says: The traditional fasts and times of mourning you have kept in early summer, midsummer, autumn, and winter are now ended. They will become festivals of joy and celebration for the people of Judah. So love truth and peace.

**Isaiah 58:13** (NLT)
“Keep the Sabbath day holy. Don’t pursue your own interests on that day, but enjoy the Sabbath and speak of it with delight as the LORD’s holy day. Honor the Sabbath in everything you do on that day, and don’t follow your own desires or talk idly.

**Malachi 3:16-18** (KJV)
16 Then they that feared the LORD spake often one to another: and the LORD hearkened, and heard it, and a book of remembrance was written before him for them that feared the LORD, and that thought upon his name.

17 And they shall be mine, saith the LORD of hosts, in that day when I make up my jewels; and I will spare them, as a man spareth his own son that serveth him.

18 Then shall ye return, and discern between the righteous and the wicked, between him that serveth God and him that serveth him not.

**Psalm 11:5**
The LORD trieth the righteous: but the wicked and him that loveth violence his soul hateth.

*It is a grief that we enjoy violence in our entertainment just like the apostate princes in old Israel. God does not like it anymore now than then.*

Notes:
...........................................................................................................
...........................................................................................................
...........................................................................................................
...........................................................................................................
...........................................................................................................
...........................................................................................................
...........................................................................................................
...........................................................................................................
Serving 3: Jesus was Tried for Us

At His trial, Jesus did not answer his accusers because he had chosen to carry all our sins in his own body to the cross. He was guilty.

Matthew 27:11-14 (KJV)
11 And Jesus stood before the governor: and the governor asked him, saying, Art thou the King of the Jews? And Jesus said unto him, Thou sayest.

12 And when he was accused of the chief priests and elders, he answered nothing.

13 Then said Pilate unto him, Hearest thou not how many things they witness against thee?

14 And he answered him to never a word; insomuch that the governor marvelled greatly.

Colossians 2:13-15 (NLT)
13 You were dead because of your sins and because your sinful nature was not yet cut away. Then God made you alive with Christ, for he forgave all our sins.

14 He canceled the record of the charges against us and took it away by nailing it to the cross.

15 In this way, he disarmed the spiritual rulers and authorities. He shamed them publicly by his victory over them on the cross.

Galatians 5:24 (KJV) And they that are Christ's have crucified the flesh with the affections and lusts.

Galatians 2:20 (KJV) I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me.

Barabbas is a parable of all of those who are redeemed.

Matthew 27:17 (KJV)
17 Therefore when they were gathered together, Pilate said unto them, Whom will ye that I release unto you? Barabbas, or Jesus which is called Christ?

Matthew 27:21 (KJV)
21 The governor answered and said unto them, Whether of the twain will ye that I release unto you? They said, Barabbas.

Matthew 27:24-25 (KJV)
24 When Pilate saw that he could prevail nothing, but that rather a tumult was made, he took water, and washed his hands before the multitude, saying, I am innocent of the blood of this just person: see ye to it.

25 Then answered all the people, and said, His blood be on us, and on our children.

For all who accept him, he also carried this sin to the cross.
What He Accomplished

Matthew 27:26 (KJV)

26 Then released he Barabbas unto them: and when he had scourged Jesus, he delivered him to be crucified.

Acts 2:36-39 (KJV)

36 Therefore let all the house of Israel know assuredly, that God hath made the same Jesus, whom ye have crucified, both Lord and Christ.

37 Now when they heard this, they were pricked in their heart, and said unto Peter and to the rest of the apostles, Men and brethren, what shall we do?

38 Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost.

39 For the promise is unto you, and to your children, and to all that are afar off, even as many as the Lord our God shall call.

Acts 2:46-47 (KJV)

46 And they, continuing daily with one accord in the temple, and breaking bread from house to house, did eat their meat with gladness and singleness of heart,

47 Praising God, and having favour with all the people. And the Lord added to the church daily such as should be saved.

In Jesus, we that are afar off can praise Him that we can be of one accord. That can only happen by yielding to the power of the Holy Spirit of truth.

Notes:

__________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________

__________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________

__________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________

__________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________

__________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________

__________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________

__________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________

__________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________

__________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________

__________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________
Serving 4: Jesus Died in Our Place

Jesus lay down his own life for us. No one could touch his Spirit, but they could harass him as he died. If he had shown one shred of self-preservation, all would have been lost.

**John 10:15 - 18 (KJV)**

As the Father knoweth me, even so know I the Father: and I lay down my life for the sheep.

16 And other sheep I have, which are not of this fold: them also I must bring, and they shall hear my voice; and there shall be one fold, and one shepherd.

17 Therefore doth my Father love me, because I lay down my life, that I might take it again.

18 No man taketh it from me, but I lay it down of myself. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it again. This commandment have I received of my Father.

The death of body and the death of spirit are two separate things. Man could kill his body but he himself lay down His spiritual body. His Father received His Spirit. He did this for us.

**Mark 9:30-32 (KJV)**

31 For he taught his disciples, and said unto them, The Son of man is delivered into the hands of men, and they shall kill him; and after that he is killed, he shall rise the third day.

32 But they understood not that saying, and were afraid to ask him.

**Matthew 10:28 (KJV)**

And fear not them which kill the body, but are not able to kill the soul: but rather fear him which is able to destroy both soul and body in hell.

We have more to lose than what we can see. This is more than we can wrap our minds around, but we can trust our savior.

Moses and Elijah, whose very existence depended on the completion of Jesus mission, were sent to comfort and strengthen him for his ordeal.

**Matthew 17:3, 5 (KJV)**

3 And, behold, there appeared unto them Moses and Elias talking with him.

5 While he yet spake, behold, a bright cloud overshadowed them: and behold a voice out of the cloud, which said, This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased; hear ye him.

The spilling of his blood began to be seen in the Garden of Gethsemane.

**Luke 22:44 (KJV)**

44 And being in an agony he prayed more earnestly: and his sweat was as it were great drops of blood falling down to the ground.

**1 Peter 2:22-25 (KJV)**

22 Who did no sin, neither was guile found in his mouth:

23 Who, when he was reviled, reviled not again; when he suffered, he threatened not; but committed himself to him that judgeth righteously:

24 Who his own self bare our sins in his own body on the tree, that we, being dead to sins, should live unto righteousness: by whose stripes ye were healed.
Savior of the World

1 John 4:14 (NLT)
Furthermore, we have seen with our own eyes and now testify that the Father sent his Son to be the Savior of the world.

John 4:42 (NLT)
Then they said to the woman, “Now we believe, not just because of what you told us, but because we have heard him ourselves. Now we know that he is indeed the Savior of the world.

2 Peter 2:20 (NLT)
And when people escape from the wickedness of the world by knowing our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ and then get tangled up and enslaved by sin again, they are worse off than before.

Isaiah 49:26 (NLT)
...All the world will know that I, the LORD, am your Savior and your Redeemer, the Mighty One of Israel.”

Mark 15:34 (KJV)
34 And at the ninth hour Jesus cried with a loud voice, saying, *Eloi, Eloi, lama sabachthani?* which is, being interpreted, My God, my God, why hast thou forsaken me? (Psalm 22:1)

When LORD is spelled with all uppercase letters it refers to all the Godhead. They were torn apart by sin so we could live eternally, without sin.

Notes:

........................................................................................................................................
........................................................................................................................................
........................................................................................................................................
It was important to Jesus that children should care for their parents. Jesus lived in obedience to the commandments he gave on Mount Sinai. To those who honor father and mother He gave the promise of length of days.

John 19:25-27 (KJV)
25 Now there stood by the cross of Jesus his mother, and his mother's sister, Mary the wife of Cleophas, and Mary Magdalene.
26 When Jesus therefore saw his mother, and the disciple standing by, whom he loved, he saith unto his mother, Woman, behold thy son!
27 Then saith he to the disciple, Behold thy mother! And from that hour that disciple took her unto his own home.

The Commandment

Exodus 20:12 (KJV)
12 Honour thy father and thy mother: that thy days may be long upon the land which the LORD thy God giveth thee.

Matthew 15:3-9 (KJV)
3 But he answered and said unto them, Why do ye also transgress the commandment of God by your tradition?
4 For God commanded, saying, Honour thy father and mother: and, He that curseth father or mother, let him die the death.
5 But ye say, Whosoever shall say to his father or his mother, It is a gift, by whatsoever thou mightest be profited by me;
6 And honour not his father or his mother, he shall be free. Thus have ye made the commandment of God of none effect by your tradition.
7 Ye hypocrites, well did Esaias prophesy of you, saying,
8 This people draweth nigh unto me with their mouth, and honoureth me with their lips; but their heart is far from me.
9 But in vain they do worship me, teaching for doctrines the commandments of men.

John 3:34-36 (KJV)
34 For he whom God hath sent speaketh the words of God: for God giveth not the Spirit by measure unto him.
35 The Father loveth the Son, and hath given all things into his hand.
36 He that believeth on the Son hath everlasting life: and he that believeth not the Son shall not see life; but the wrath of God abideth on him.
Matthew 12:46-50 (KJV)

46 While he yet talked to the people, behold, his mother and his brethren stood without, desiring to speak with him.

47 Then one said unto him, Behold, thy mother and thy brethren stand without, desiring to speak with thee.

48 But he answered and said unto him that told him, Who is my mother? and who are my brethren?

49 And he stretched forth his hand toward his disciples, and said, Behold my mother and my brethren!

50 For whosoever shall do the will of my Father which is in

heaven, the same is my brother, and sister, and mother.

Romans 8:15 (KJV)

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.

Luke 11:13 (KJV)

If ye then, being evil, know how to give good gifts unto your children: how much more shall your heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to them that ask him?

Romans 8:16 (KJV)

The Spirit itself beareth witness with our spirit, that we are the children of God:

The bonding of families is very dear to us. The unity we find in the family of the kingdom of God is a special kind of kindredness.

Notes:
In the last days of Jesus’ life three men are seen. Judas, Peter and the thief on the cross. Jesus loved them intensely. What did they do with his love? Do they represent us in the time we live? Judas is the first in line.

Matthew 26:21-25 (KJV)
21 And as they did eat, he said, Verily I say unto you, that one of you shall betray me.
22 And they were exceeding sorrowful, and began every one of them to say unto him, Lord, is it I?
23 And he answered and said, He that dippeth his hand with me in the dish, the same shall betray me.
24 The Son of man goeth as it is written of him: but woe unto that man by whom the Son of man is betrayed! it had been good for that man if he had not been born.
25 Then Judas, which betrayed him, answered and said, Master, is it I? He said unto him, Thou hast said.

If he did not want him condemned, why did he betray him? It has been suggested that he was politically minded. He wanted Jesus to use his power to take over the earthly kingdom of which he planned to be a high-ranking officer. He must have refused the invisible kingdom of heaven. Now what about Peter?

Matthew 26:33-35 (KJV)
33 Peter answered and said unto him, Though all men shall be offended because of thee, yet will I never be offended.
34 Jesus said unto him, Verily I say unto thee, That this night, before the cock crow, thou shalt deny me thrice.
35 Peter said unto him, Though I should die with thee, yet will I not deny thee. Likewise also said all the disciples.

Matthew 27:3 [Full Chapter] (KJV)
Then Judas, which had betrayed him, when he saw that he was condemned, repented himself, and brought again the thirty pieces of silver to the chief priests and elders,
4 Saying, I have sinned in that I have betrayed the innocent blood. And they said, What is that to us? see thou to that.

And he cast down the pieces of silver in the temple, and departed, and went and hanged himself.
The End Result

The last of the three men is the thief. How did he respond to Jesus?

Luke 23:40-43 (NKJV)

40 But the other, answering, rebuked him, saying, “Do you not even fear God, seeing you are under the same condemnation?

41 And we indeed justly, for we receive the due reward of our deeds; but this Man has done nothing wrong.”

42 Then he said to Jesus, “Lord, remember me when You come into Your kingdom.”

43 And Jesus said to him, “Assuredly, I say to you, today you will be with Me in Paradise.”

Now let’s compare these three:

Judas: Betrayed Jesus to the leaders. Was it to manipulate Jesus into taking control of an earthly kingdom from which he expected to profit? He failed, losing the Kingdom of God.

Peter: Denied he knew Jesus, then repented bitterly. After his conversion he became a faithful apostle of Jesus.

Thief: Saw Jesus’ character of love and confessed his sins. Jesus answered his plea with the promise he craved.

Do we see these three groups today?

What will we do with Jesus’ love?

Each of us have a choice to make. Humility is the only way to submission to the leading of the Holy Spirit. This new attitude is also a gift of God.

Notes:

........................................................................................................................................................................

........................................................................................................................................................................

........................................................................................................................................................................

........................................................................................................................................................................

........................................................................................................................................................................

........................................................................................................................................................................

........................................................................................................................................................................
Serving 7: My Savior Died Alone

During His walk among men, Jesus had much comfort in the presence of His Father. The Son had never before been separated from the presence of his Father. Now the exceeding evil of the sin he carried for us hid his Father’s face.

Isaiah 37:16 (KJV)
O LORD of hosts, God of Israel, that dwellest between the cherubims, thou art the God, even thou alone, of all the kingdoms of the earth: thou hast made heaven and earth.

John 16:32 (KJV)
Behold, the hour cometh, yea, is now come, that ye shall be scattered, every man to his own, and shall leave me alone: and yet I am not alone, because the Father is with me.

John 8:16 (KJV)
And yet if I judge, my judgment is true: for I am not alone, but I and the Father that sent me.

John 8:29 (KJV)
And he that sent me is with me: the Father hath not left me alone; for I do always those things that please him.

Psalm 83:18 (KJV)
That men may know that thou, whose name alone is JEHOVAH, art the most high over all the earth.

Jesus had read in the scriptures of the things that would come to him. Rejection by those He would die for was understood by Him because he knew mankind.

John 2:25 (KJV)
And needed not that any should testify of man: for he knew what was in man.

He was denied by Peter and His followers. He was betrayed by Judas.

Acts 3:13-14 (KJV)
13 The God of Abraham, and of Isaac, and of Jacob, the God of our fathers, hath glorified his Son Jesus; whom ye delivered up, and denied him in the presence of Pilate, when he was determined to let him go.
14 But ye denied the Holy One and the Just, and desired a murderer to be granted unto you.

Matthew 26:25 (KJV)
Then Judas, which betrayed him, answered and said, Master, is it I? He said unto him, Thou hast said.

He was rejected by the Jewish nation who chose Caesar as king.

John 19:14-16 (KJV)
14 And it was the preparation of the passover, and about the sixth hour: and he saith unto the Jews, Behold your King!
15 But they cried out, Away with him, away with him, crucify him. Pilate saith unto them, Shall I crucify your King? The chief priests answered, We have no king but Caesar.
Then God Hid His Face

John 19:16 (KJV)

16 Then delivered he him therefore unto them to be crucified. And they took Jesus, and led him away.

Jesus must have been repeating the twenty second Palm.

Psalm 22:1-2 (KJV)

1 My God, my God, why hast thou forsaken me? why art thou so far from helping me, and from the words of my roaring?

2 O my God, I cry in the day time, but thou hearest not; and in the night season, and am not silent.

Isaiah 53:3-6 (KJV)

3 He is despised and rejected of men; a man of sorrows, and acquainted with grief: and we hid as it were our faces from him; he was despised, and we esteemed him not.

4 Surely he hath borne our griefs, and carried our sorrows: yet we did esteem him stricken, smitten of God, and afflicted.

5 But he was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace was upon him; and with his stripes we are healed.

6 All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned every one to his own way; and the LORD hath laid on him the iniquity of us all.

There have been vivid, detailed descriptions of His physical sufferings. His anguish at the separation from His Father has received little comment. This he chose, rather than have us suffer that separation from God and life.

Notes:

________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________