Coram Deo PART II (1 Peter 1:13-25)

As we continue our study of 1 Peter, this Part II of the message titled: Coram Deo. You can download the notes at watch Part I here.

"The true Christian life can be summed up in the Latin phrase "Coram Deo." Coram Deo captures the entire essence of the Christian life. It literally infers that all aspects of your life take place in the presence of, or before the face of, God. To live "Coram Deo" is to live one's entire life in the presence of God, under the authority of God, to the glory of God. The bottom line is that you choose not to separate out secular from the sacred; but instead, you consider all things as Holy unto the Lord!

Living Our Lives Before the Face of God

"Therefore **gird up the loins of your mind**, **be sober**, and **rest your hope fully upon the grace** that is to be brought to you at the revelation of Jesus Christ; **as obedient children**, not conforming yourselves to the **former lusts**, as in your ignorance; but as He who called you is holy, you **also be holy in all your conduct**, because it is written, "**Be holy, for I am holy**." And if you call on the Father, who without partiality **judges according to each one's work**, conduct yourselves throughout the time of your stay here in **fear**;

knowing that you were not redeemed with **corruptible things**, like silver or gold, from your aimless conduct received by tradition from your fathers, but with **the precious blood of Christ**, as of **a lamb without blemish and without spot**. He indeed was foreordained before the foundation of the world, but was **manifest in these last times** for you who through Him believe in God, who raised Him from the dead and gave Him glory, so that your faith and hope are in God." I Peter 1:13-21 NKJV

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☑ Gird up the loins of your mind

Gird up the loins: this means to be ready for quick and difficult action, like going into battle. It is the process of taking your long tunic/robe/dress and pulling the material up between your legs and then tying it up or putting a belt around it, essentially turning a robe or long outer

- garment into shorts. This way the material does not impede rapid movement.
- ▼ The Exodus: "And thus you shall eat it: with a belt on your waist, your sandals on your feet, and your staff in your hand. So you shall eat it in haste. It is the LORD's Passover." Exodus 12:11 NKJV
- Truth: "For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, V but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this age, against spiritual hosts of wickedness in the heavenly places. Therefore take up the whole **armor of God**, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand. Stand therefore, **having girded your waist with truth**, having put on the breastplate of righteousness, and having shod your feet with the preparation of the gospel of peace; above all, taking the shield of faith with which you will be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked one. And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God; praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, being watchful to this end with all perseverance and supplication for all the saints—" Ephesians 6:12-18 NKJV

- ☑ Apply this girding/preparation to your Mind:
 - As a man thinks in his heart: "For as he thinks in his heart, so is he. "Eat and drink!" he says to you, But his heart is not with you." Proverbs 23:7 NKJV
 - Be transformed by the renewing of your mind: "I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that you present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God, which is your reasonable service. And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God." Romans 12:1-2 NKJV
 - How do you transform your mind? Meditate on these things: "Finally, brethren, whatever things are true, whatever things are noble, whatever things are just, whatever things are pure, whatever things are lovely, whatever things are of good report, if there is any virtue and if there is anything praiseworthy—meditate on these things." Philippians 4:8 NKJV

<u>⊠</u> Be Sober

Sober-mined: "Likewise, exhort the young men to be sober-minded, in all things showing yourself to be a pattern of good works; in doctrine showing integrity,

- reverence, incorruptibility, sound speech that cannot be condemned, that one who is an opponent may be ashamed, having nothing evil to say of you." Titus 2:6-8 NKJV
- A sound mind: "Therefore I remind you to stir up the gift of God which is in you through the laying on of my hands. For God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power and of love and of a sound mind." II Timothy 1:6-7 NKJV
- Yahweh! "Woe to those who rise early in the morning, That they may follow intoxicating drink; Who continue until night, till wine inflames them! The harp and the strings, The tambourine and flute, And wine are in their feasts; But they do not regard the work of the LORD, Nor consider the operation of His hands." Isaiah 5:11-12 NKJV
- ☑ Leading to poverty: "Do not mix with winebibbers, Or with gluttonous eaters of meat; For the drunkard and the glutton will come to poverty, And drowsiness will clothe a man with rags." Proverbs 23:20-21 NKJV
- ☑ Rest fully on grace (supernatural empowerment from God: giving you something you DID NOT EARN, rather than

- mercy which is NOT giving you something you DID EARN. "For **the wages of sin is death**, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord." Romans 6:23 NKJV
- He gives grace: "But He gives more grace. Therefore He says: "God resists the proud, But gives grace to the humble."" James 4:6 NKJV
- I am what I am: "For I am the least of the apostles, who am not worthy to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God. But by the grace of God I am what I am, and His grace toward me was not in vain; but I labored more abundantly than they all, yet not I, but the grace of God which was with me." I Corinthians 15:9-10 NKJV
- All sufficiency: "And God is able to make all grace abound toward you, that you, always having all sufficiency in all things, may have an abundance for every good work." Il Corinthians 9:8 NKJV
- ☑ Imparting Grace: "Let no corrupt word proceed out of your mouth, but what is good for necessary edification, that it may impart grace to the hearers." Ephesians 4:29 NKJV
- **☑** Obedient Children

- ☑ Obedience is better than sacrifice: "So Samuel said: "Has the LORD as great delight in burnt offerings and sacrifices, As in obeying the voice of the LORD? Behold, to obey is better than sacrifice, And to heed than the fat of rams." I Samuel 15:22 NKJV
- ☑ Obedience to what? "Through Him we have received grace and apostleship for obedience to the faith among all nations for His name, among whom you also are the called of Jesus Christ;" Romans 1:5-6 NKJV
- Not My will: "And He was withdrawn from them about a stone's throw, and He knelt down and prayed, saying, "Father, if it is Your will, take this cup away from Me; nevertheless not My will, but Yours, be done."" Luke 22:41-42 NKJV
- No one who wants the will of God speaks on his owe:

 "Jesus answered them and said, "My doctrine is not

 Mine, but His who sent Me. If anyone wills to do His

 will, he shall know concerning the doctrine, whether it is

 from God or whether I speak on My own authority. He

 who speaks from himself seeks his own glory; but He

 who seeks the glory of the One who sent Him is true,

 and no unrighteousness is in Him." John 7:16-18 NKJV
- **Not conforming to former lusts** (Romans 12 again!)

- Do not be conformed to this world: "I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that you present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God, which is your reasonable service. And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God." Romans 12:1-2 NKJV
- Former lusts are like drinking Old Wine: "Then He spoke a parable to them: "No one puts a piece from a new garment on an old one; otherwise the new makes a tear, and also the piece that was taken out of the new does not match the old. And no one puts new wine into old wineskins; or else the new wine will burst the wineskins and be spilled, and the wineskins will be ruined. But new wine must be put into new wineskins, and both are preserved. And no one, having drunk old wine, immediately desires new; for he says, 'The old is better.' "" Luke 5:36-39 NKJV
 - ☑ What does the choice between new wine and old wine look like? You will never read Romans 6 the with the same eyes again!

"What shall we say then? Shall we continue in sin V that grace may abound? Certainly not! How shall we who died to sin live any longer in it? Or do you not know that as many of us as were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into His death? Therefore we were buried with Him through baptism into death, that just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in **newness of life.** For if we have been united together in the likeness of His death, certainly we also shall be in the likeness of His resurrection, knowing this, that our old man was crucified with Him, that the body of sin might be done away with, that we should no longer be slaves of sin. For he who has died has been freed from sin. Now if we died with Christ, we believe that we shall also live with Him, knowing that Christ, having been raised from the dead, dies no more. Death no longer has dominion over Him. For the death that He died, He died to sin once for all; but the life that He lives, He lives to God. Likewise you also, reckon yourselves to be dead indeed to sin, but alive to God in Christ Jesus our Lord. Therefore do not let sin reign in your mortal body, that you

should obey it in its lusts. And do not present your members as instruments of unrighteousness to sin, but present yourselves to God as being alive from the dead, and your members as instruments of righteousness to God. For sin shall not have dominion over you, for you are not under law but under grace. What then? Shall we sin because we are not under law but under grace? Certainly not! **Do** you not know that to whom you present yourselves slaves to obey, you are that one's slaves whom you obey, whether of sin leading to death, or of **obedience leading to righteousness?** But God be thanked that though you were slaves of sin, yet you obeyed from the heart that form of doctrine to which you were delivered. And having been set free from sin, you became slaves of righteousness. I speak in human terms because of the weakness of your flesh. For just as you presented your members as slaves of uncleanness, and of lawlessness leading to more lawlessness, so now present your members as slaves of righteousness for holiness. For when you were slaves of sin, you were free in regard to righteousness. What fruit did you have then in the

things of which you are now ashamed? For the end of those things is death. **But now having been set free from sin, and having become slaves of God,** you have your fruit to holiness, and the end, everlasting life. For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord." Romans 6:1-23 NKJV

- ☑ Don't go back to your dirt or vomit!
- "For if, after they have escaped the pollutions of the world through the knowledge of the Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, they are again entangled in them and overcome, the latter end is worse for them than the beginning. For it would have been better for them not to have known the way of righteousness, than having known it, to turn from the holy commandment delivered to them. But it has happened to them according to the true proverb: "A dog returns to his own vomit," and, "a sow, having washed, to her wallowing in the mire."" II Peter 2:20-22 NKJV
- <u>
 "Be holy, for I am holy "</u>
 - Holy: set-apart, in order for something to be holy we need three options. First you need to separate good from not good, and then you need to separate good into good

- and holy. Everything that is holy is good, but not everything that is good is holy.
- If you cannot discern good from evil then you will never be able to discern good from holy. "For everyone who partakes only of milk is unskilled in the word of righteousness, for he is a babe. But solid food belongs to those who are of full age, that is, those who by reason of use have their senses exercised to discern both good and evil." Hebrews 5:13-14 NKJV
- ☑ Everything God made was good: "Then God saw everything that He had made, and indeed it was very good. So the evening and the morning were the sixth day." Genesis 1:31 NKJV
- But only some things God made were Holy: "Thus the heavens and the earth, and all the host of them, were finished. And on the seventh day God ended His work which He had done, and He rested on the seventh day from all His work which He had done. Then God blessed the seventh day and sanctified it, because in it He rested from all His work which God had created and made."

 Genesis 2:1-3 NKJV
- **☑** Where did Peter get this idea?

- "For I am the LORD your God. You shall therefore consecrate [be holy] yourselves, and you shall be holy; for I am holy. Neither shall you defile yourselves with any creeping thing that creeps on the earth. For I am the LORD who brings you up out of the land of Egypt, to be your God. You shall therefore be holy, for I am holy." Leviticus 11:44-45 NKJV
- "And the LORD spoke to Moses, saying, "Speak to all the congregation of the children of Israel, and say to them: 'You shall be holy, for I the LORD your God am holy." Leviticus 19:1-2 NKJV
- "And if you call on the Father, who without partiality judges according to each one's work, conduct yourselves throughout the time of your stay here in fear; knowing that you were not redeemed with corruptible things, like silver or gold, from your aimless conduct received by tradition from your fathers, but with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot." I Peter 1:17-19 NKJV

Without partiality and with proper fear!

"Therefore circumcise the foreskin of your heart, and be stiff-necked no longer. For the LORD your God is God of gods and Lord of lords, the great God, mighty and

awesome, who **shows no partiality** nor takes a bribe. He administers justice for the fatherless and the widow, and loves the stranger, giving him food and clothing.

Therefore love the stranger, for you were strangers in the land of Egypt. **You shall fear the LORD your God**; you shall serve Him, and to Him you shall hold fast, and take oaths in His name." Deuteronomy 10:16-20 NKJV

- "Then Peter opened his mouth and said: "In truth I perceive that God shows no partiality. But in every nation whoever fears Him and works righteousness is accepted by Him. The word which God sent to the children of Israel, preaching peace through Jesus Christ—He is Lord of all—" Acts 10:34-36 NKJV
- No Partiality: "For there is no partiality with God. For as many as have sinned without law will also perish without law, and as many as have sinned in the law will be judged by the law" Romans 2:11-12 NKJV
- Obey God, Fear God, He is NOT partial: "Bondservants, obey in all things your masters according to the flesh, not with eyeservice, as men-pleasers, but in sincerity of heart, fearing God. And whatever you do, do it heartily, as to the Lord and not to men, knowing that from the Lord you will receive the reward of the inheritance; for

you serve the Lord Christ. But he who does wrong will be repaid for what he has done, and **there is no partiality**."

Colossians 3:22-25 NKJV

- ☑ Judged according to works—so conduct yourself in fear
 (reverence)
 - You had work to do! "For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God, not of works, lest anyone should boast. For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand that we should walk in them. Ephesians 2:8-10 NKJV
 - Pay attention to the work you are doing! "For we are God's fellow workers; you are God's field, you are God's building. According to the grace of God which was given to me, as a wise master builder I have laid the foundation, and another builds on it. But let each one take heed how he builds on it. For no other foundation can anyone lay than that which is laid, which is Jesus Christ. Now if anyone builds on this foundation with gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, straw, each one's work will become clear; for the Day will declare it, because it will be revealed by fire; and the fire will test each one's work, of what sort it is. If anyone's work

which he has built on it endures, he will receive a reward. If anyone's work is burned, he will suffer loss; but he himself will be saved, yet so as through fire. Do you not know that you are the temple of God and that the Spirit of God dwells in you? If anyone defiles the temple of God, God will destroy him. For the temple of God is holy, which temple you are." I Corinthians 3:9-17 NKJV

- **Redeemed with corruptible vs. incorruptible things**
 - The seed you are sowing! "Now may He who supplies seed to the sower, and bread for food, supply and multiply the seed you have sown and increase the fruits of your righteousness, while you are enriched in everything for all liberality, which causes thanksgiving through us to God." II Corinthians 9:10-11 NKJV
- Corruptible things: aimless conduct received by tradition from your fathers
 - Revealed by Fire: "Now if anyone builds on this foundation with gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, straw, each one's work will become clear; for the Day will declare it, because it will be revealed by fire; and the fire will test each one's work, of what sort it is. If

- anyone's work which he has built on it endures, he will receive a reward." I Corinthians 3:12-14 NKJV
- A man's own glory is like a flower in a field of grass.

 Both have beauty that is perishable: "Let the lowly brother glory in his exaltation, but the rich in his humiliation, because as a flower of the field he will pass away. For no sooner has the sun risen with a burning heat than it withers the grass; its flower falls, and its beautiful appearance perishes. So the rich man also will fade away in his pursuits." James 1:9-11 NKJV
- The corruptible things are here today and gone tomorrow, so focus on the incorruptible: ""No one can serve two masters; for either he will hate the one and love the other, or else he will be loyal to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and mammon. "Therefore I say to you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink; nor about your body, what you will put on. Is not life more than food and the body more than clothing? Look at the birds of the air, for they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns; yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they? Which of you by worrying can add one cubit to his stature? "So why do you worry about

clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow: they neither toil nor spin; and yet I say to you that even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these. Now if God so clothes the grass of the field, which today is, and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will He not much more clothe you, O you of little faith? "Therefore do not worry, saying, 'What shall we eat?' or 'What shall we drink?' or 'What shall we wear?' For after all these things the Gentiles seek. For your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things. But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you. Therefore do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about its own things. Sufficient for the day is its own trouble." Matthew 6:24-34 NKJV

Traditions of men are like those perishable things that fade away: "As you therefore have received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk in Him, rooted and built up in Him and established in the faith, as you have been taught, abounding in it with thanksgiving. Beware lest anyone cheat you through philosophy and empty deceit, according to the tradition of men, according to the basic principles of the world, and not according to

- **Christ.** For in Him dwells all the fullness of the Godhead bodily; and you are complete in Him, who is the head of all principality and power." Colossians 2:6-10 NKJV
- ▼ Traditions of Pharisees: "Then the scribes and Pharisees who were from Jerusalem came to Jesus, saying, "Why do Your disciples transgress the tradition of the elders? For they do not wash their hands when they eat bread." He answered and said to them, "Why do you also transgress the commandment of God because of your tradition?" Matthew 15:1-3 NKJV
- ✓ Incorruptible things: The precious blood of the lamb without blemish and without spot
 - Behold the Lamb: "The next day John saw Jesus coming toward him, and said, "Behold! The Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!" John 1:29 NKJV
 - Our Passover Lamb: "Therefore purge out the old leaven, that you may be a new lump, since you truly are unleavened. For indeed Christ, our Passover, was sacrificed for us." I Corinthians 5:7 NKJV
 - Spotless Lamb: "Your lamb shall be without blemish, a male of the first year. You may take it from the sheep or from the goats." Exodus 12:5 NKJV
 - **☑** They Blood of the Lamb

- Precious Blood: "And they shall take some of the blood and put it on the two doorposts and on the lintel of the houses where they eat it." (Exodus 12:7 NKJV) "Now the blood shall be a sign for you on the houses where you are. And when I see the blood, I will pass over you; and the plague shall not be on you to destroy you when I strike the land of Egypt." Exodus 12:13 NKJV
- "Now when He had taken the scroll, the four living creatures and the twenty-four elders fell down before the Lamb, each having a harp, and golden bowls full of incense, which are the prayers of the saints. And they sang a new song, saying: "You are worthy to take the scroll, And to open its seals; For You were slain, And have redeemed us to God by Your blood Out of every tribe and tongue and people and nation," Revelation 5:8-9 NKJV
- "In Him we have **redemption through His blood**"
 Ephesians 1:7 NKJV
- "And according to the law almost all things are purified with blood, and without shedding of blood there is no remission." Hebrews 9:22 NKJV
- "For the **life of the flesh is in the blood**, and I have given it to you upon the altar to make atonement for

your souls; **for it is the blood that makes atonement** for the soul.' Therefore I said to the children of Israel, 'No one among you shall eat blood, nor shall any stranger who dwells among you eat blood.'" Leviticus 17:11-12 NKJV

- "Only be sure that you do not eat the blood, for the blood is the life; you may not eat the life with the meat. Deuteronomy 12:23 NKJV
- "For it pleased the Father that in Him all the fullness should dwell, and by Him to reconcile all things to Himself, by Him, whether things on earth or things in heaven, having made peace **through the blood** of His cross." Colossians 1:19-20 NKJV
- "For this is My blood of the new covenant, which is shed for many for the remission of sins." Matthew 26:28 NKJV
- "He indeed was foreordained before the foundation of the world, but was manifest in these last times for you who through Him believe in God, who raised Him from the dead and gave Him glory, so that your faith and hope are in God." I Peter 1:20-21 NKJV

- **Foreordained before the foundation of the world but manifest now**
 - Your redemption through the blood was foreordained:

 "In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of His grace which He made to abound toward us in all wisdom and prudence, having made known to us the mystery of His will, according to His good pleasure which He purposed in Himself, that in the dispensation of the fullness of the times He might gather together in one all things in Christ, both which are in heaven and which are on earth—in Him. In Him also we have obtained an inheritance, being predestined according to the purpose of Him who works all things according to the counsel of His will, that we who first trusted in Christ should be to the praise of His glory." Ephesians 1:7-12 NKJV
- So your Faith would be that Yahweh raised Y'shua from the dead and gave Him glory
 - "Therefore I also, after I heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love for all the saints, do not cease to give thanks for you, making mention of you in my prayers: that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give to you the spirit of wisdom and revelation in

the knowledge of Him, the eyes of your understanding being enlightened; that you may know what is **the hope of His calling**, what are the riches of the glory of His inheritance in the saints, and what is the exceeding greatness of His power toward us who believe, according to the working of His mighty power which He worked in Christ when He raised Him from the dead and seated Him at His right hand in the heavenly places, far above all principality and power and might and dominion, and every name that is named, not only in this age but also in that which is to come. And He put all things under His feet, and gave Him to be head over all things to the church, which is His body, the fullness of Him who fills all in all." Ephesians 1:15-23 NKJV

The Enduring Word

"Since you have **purified your souls** in obeying the truth through the Spirit in sincere love of the brethren, **love one another fervently** with a pure heart, having been born again, not of corruptible seed but incorruptible, through the word of God which lives and abides forever, because "**All flesh is as grass, And all the glory of man as the flower of the grass**. The grass withers, And its flower falls away, But the word of the LORD endures forever." Now this is the word which by the gospel was preached to you." I Peter 1:22-25 NKJV

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 - **You have purified souls because you obeyed the truth**
 - ✓ Purify yourself: "And everyone who has this hope in Him purifies himself, just as He is pure." I John 3:3 NKJV
 - ☑ Cleanses yourself from filthiness: "Therefore, having these promises, beloved, let us cleanse ourselves from all filthiness of the flesh and spirit, perfecting holiness in the fear of God." II Corinthians 7:1 NKJV
 - Clean Hands: "Therefore submit to God. Resist the devil and he will flee from you. Draw near to God and He will draw near to you. Cleanse your hands, you sinners; and purify your hearts, you double-minded. Lament and mourn and weep! Let your laughter be turned to mourning and your joy to gloom. Humble yourselves in

- the sight of the Lord, and He will lift you up." James 4:7-10 NKJV
- ☑ Obeying the Truth: ""If you love Me, keep My commandments. And I will pray the Father, and He will give you another Helper, that He may abide with you forever—" John 14:15-16 NKJV
 - He is the truth: "Jesus said to him, "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me." John 14:6 NKJV
 - The word is truth: "Sanctify them by Your truth. Your word is truth." John 17:17 NKJV
 - "The entirety of **Your word is truth**, And every one of Your **righteous judgments** endures forever." Psalms 119:160 NKJV
- "All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work." II Timothy 3:16-17 NKJV
- **✓** Love: fervently and with a pure heart
 - ☑ Fervent love: "And above all things have fervent love for one another, for "love will cover a multitude of sins."" I Peter 4:8 NKJV

The only Love there is: "Love suffers long and is kind; love does not envy; love does not parade itself, is not puffed up; does not behave rudely, does not seek its own, is not provoked, thinks no evil; does not rejoice in iniquity, but rejoices in the truth; bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.

Love never fails. But whether there are prophecies, they will fail; whether there are tongues, they will cease; whether there is knowledge, it will vanish away. For we know in part and we prophesy in part. But when that which is perfect has come, then that which is in part will be done away." I Corinthians 13:4-10 NKJV

Born Again: Corruptible vs. Incorruptible Seed

Born Again: "Jesus answered and said to him, "Most assuredly, I say to you, unless one is born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God." Nicodemus said to Him, "How can a man be born when he is old? Can he enter a second time into his mother's womb and be born?" Jesus answered, "Most assuredly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God. That which is born of the flesh is flesh, and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit. Do not marvel that I said to you, 'You must be born again.'

The wind blows where it wishes, and you hear the sound of it, but cannot tell where it comes from and where it goes. So is everyone who is born of the Spirit."" John 3:3-8 NKJV

- ☑ Corruptible vs. Incorruptible: "So also is the resurrection of the dead. The body is sown in corruption, it is raised in incorruption." I Corinthians 15:42 NKJV
- **<u>Ine word of God is alive</u>**
 - The word of God is living and powerful: "Let us therefore be diligent to enter that rest, lest anyone fall according to the same example of disobedience. For the word of God is living and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the division of soul and spirit, and of joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart. And there is no creature hidden from His sight, but all things are naked and open to the eyes of Him to whom we must give account."

 Hebrews 4:11-13 NKJV
- "because "All flesh is as grass, And all the glory of man as the flower of the grass. The grass withers, And its flower falls away, But the word of the LORD endures forever." Now this is the word which by the gospel was preached to you." I Peter 1:24-25 NKJV

- All flesh is grass: the glory of man is as the flower in the grass which both perish
 - The glory of man? "For what man knows the things of a man except the spirit of the man which is in him? Even so no one knows the things of God except the Spirit of God." I Corinthians 2:11 NKJV
 - Man's glory perishes: "Let the lowly brother glory in his exaltation, but the rich in his humiliation, because as a flower of the field he will pass away. For no sooner has the sun risen with a burning heat than it withers the grass; its flower falls, and its beautiful appearance perishes. So the rich man also will fade away in his pursuits." James 1:9-11 NKJV
 - Again—all things not of the Kingdom will perish—so
 SEEK FIRST the Kingdom: ""Therefore I say to you, do
 not worry about your life, what you will eat or what you
 will drink; nor about your body, what you will put on. Is
 not life more than food and the body more than clothing?
 Look at the birds of the air, for they neither sow nor reap
 nor gather into barns; yet your heavenly Father feeds
 them. Are you not of more value than they? Which of you
 by worrying can add one cubit to his stature? "So why do
 you worry about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field,

how they grow: they neither toil nor spin; and yet I say to you that even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these. Now if God so clothes the grass of the field, which today is, and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will He not much more clothe you, O you of little faith? "Therefore do not worry, saying, 'What shall we eat?' or 'What shall we drink?' or 'What shall we wear?' For after all these things the Gentiles seek. For your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things. But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you." Matthew 6:25-33 NKJV

<u>Ine Word of God endures forever</u>

All flesh is grass and will fade away, but... the Word of God will last FOREVER: ""Comfort, yes, comfort My people!" Says your God. "Speak comfort to Jerusalem, and cry out to her, That her warfare is ended, That her iniquity is pardoned; For she has received from the LORD's hand Double for all her sins." The voice of one crying in the wilderness: "Prepare the way of the LORD; Make straight in the desert A highway for our God. Every valley shall be exalted And every mountain and hill brought low; The crooked places shall be made straight

And the rough places smooth; The glory of the LORD shall be revealed, And all flesh shall see it together; For the mouth of the LORD has spoken." The voice said, "Cry out!" And he said, "What shall I cry?" "All flesh is grass, And all its loveliness is like the flower of the field. The grass withers, the flower fades, Because the breath of the LORD blows upon it; Surely the people are grass. The grass withers, the flower fades, But the word of our God stands forever."" Isaiah 40:1-8 NKJV

NEXT WEEK

Living Stones (1 Peter 2)