

INNER MAN #1
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“For as he thinks within himself, so he is.” Proverbs 23:7 NASB

“God sees not as man sees, for man looks at the outward appearance, but the LORD looks at the heart.” 1 Samuel 16:7 NASB

“A good man brings good things out of the good stored up in him, and an evil man brings evil things out of the evil stored up in him.” Matthew 12:35 NIV

MY _____.

MY _____.

MY _____.

INNER MAN FACT:

“May God, who puts all things together, makes all things whole, who made a lasting mark through the sacrifice of Jesus, the sacrifice of blood that sealed the eternal covenant, who led Jesus, our Great Shepherd, up and alive from the dead, now put you together, provide you with everything you need to please him, make us into what gives him most pleasure, by means of the sacrifice of Jesus, the Messiah. All glory to Jesus forever and always! Oh, yes, yes, and yes.” Heb. 13:20-21 MSG

LOCKING DOWN YOUR INNER MAN REQUIRES POWER!

“For this reason I bow my knees before the Father, from whom every family in heaven and on earth derives its name, that He would grant you, according to the riches of His glory, to be strengthened with power through His Spirit in the inner man, so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith; and that you, being rooted and grounded in love, may be able to grasp with all the saints what is the breadth and length and height and depth, and to know the love of Christ which surpasses knowledge, that you may be filled up to all the fullness of God. Now to Him who is able to do far more abundantly beyond all that we ask or think, according to the power that works within us.” Ephesians 3:14-20 NASB

INVOLVES _____.

“...that He would grant you, according to the riches of His glory, to be strengthened with power through His Spirit in the inner man, so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith...”(16-17a)

“But if God himself has taken up residence in your life, you can hardly be thinking more of yourself than of him. Anyone, of course, who has not welcomed this invisible but clearly present God, the Spirit of Christ, won’t know what we’re talking about. But for you who welcome him, in whom he dwells—even though you still experience all the limitations of sin—you yourself experience life on God’s terms. It stands to reason, doesn’t it, that if the alive-and-present God Jesus, bringing you alive to himself? When God lives and breathes in you (and he does, as surely as he did in Jesus), you are delivered from that dead life. With his Spirit living in you, your body will be as alive as Christ’s!” Romans 8:9-11 MSG

INVOLVES _____.

“...and that you, being rooted and grounded in love...” (17b)

“But blessed is the one who trusts in the LORD, whose confidence is in him. They will be like a tree planted by the water that sends out its roots by the stream. It does not fear when heat comes; its leaves are always green. It has no worries in a year of drought and never fails to bear fruit.”

Jeremiah 17:7-8 NIV

INVOLVES _____.

“...[that you being rooted and grounded in love] may be able to comprehend with all the saints what is the breadth and length and height and depth, and to know the love of Christ which surpasses knowledge...” (v18-19a)

“And so we know and rely on the love God has for us. God is love. Whoever lives in love lives in God, and God in them.” 1 John 4:16 NIV

INVOLVES _____ .

“...that you may be filled to the measure of all the fullness of God.” (19b)

“May God our Father himself and our Master Jesus clear the road to you! And may the Master pour on the love so it fills your lives and splashes over on everyone around you, just as it does from us to you. May you be infused with strength and purity, filled with confidence in the presence of God our Father when our Master Jesus arrives with all his followers.”

1 Thessalonians 3:11-13 MSG

INVOLVES _____ .

“Now to Him who is able to do far more abundantly beyond all that we ask or think, according to the power that works within us.” (v20)

“Now we look inside, and what we see is that anyone united with the Messiah gets a fresh start, is created new. The old life is gone; a new life burgeons! Look at it! All this comes from the God who settled the relationship between us and him, and then called us to settle our relationships with each other.” 2 Corinthians 5:17-18 MSG

TIME TO MAKE THE TRANSITION

“Christ’s love has moved me to such extremes. His love has the first and last word in everything we do.” 2 Corinthians 5:14

“I’ve loved you the way my Father has loved me. Make yourselves at home in my love.”

John 15:9 MSG

FOR DISCUSSION:

HOW DOES THE REALITY THAT GOD IS LOOKING AT YOU INWARDLY CHANGE HOW YOU THINK AND LIVE?

IN WHAT WAYS DOES YOUR “LIFE STORY” REFLECT AN “INSIDE STORY”?

WHY DO YOU THINK GOD WANTS HIS LOVE TO DOMINATE OUR SELF PERCEPTION?

WHICH ASPECT OF LOCKING DOWN YOUR INNER MAN RESONATES WITH YOU MOST AND WHY?

HOW IS GOD’S LOVE MOVING YOU TO THINK AND ACT DIFFERENTLY RIGHT NOW?