

JESUS

What Is God Doing?

every1plays & every1prays for miracles, signs, & wonders as distributed by the Holy Spirit.

Pray - Isaiah 65:24; 42:6-7/ Break- through / in / out

PRACTICE What HE Preached

Mark 8: 13-21; 33-38

15 As they were crossing the lake, Jesus warned them, "Watch out! Beware of the yeast of the Pharisees and of Herod."

Religious spirit & Political spirit

**Lose your life > Gain your life.
Gain world < lose your soul.**

1 John 3: 9-16; 4: 10-21

Practice sin or righteousness

Love One Another

The world will have haters

Lay down our lives for 1 another

SO LOVED by God & each other

God's Love is Perfecting in us

God has given us HIS SPIRIT

God Is Love

If someone says, "I love God," and hates his brother, he is a liar

Romans 5: 14-17

17 For if by the one man's offense death reigned through the one, much more those who receive abundance of grace and of the gift of righteousness will reign in life through the One, Jesus Christ.

Reign in Life

Genesis 2:25; 3: 7-13

Disconnection, Shame & Blame



Power of Para- in Paradoxes

Author Unknown

He was the light, yet He hung in darkness on the cross.

He was the Life, yet he poured out His soul unto death.

He was the Rock of Ages, yet his feet sank into the deep waters.

He was the Son of God, yet he died a felon's death.

He knew no sin, yet he took our place and suffered in our stead.

He invited the weary to come to Him for rest, yet on earth He could find none for Himself.

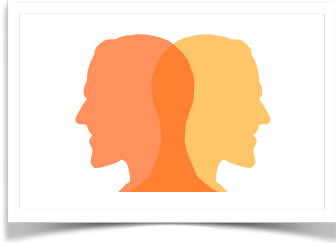
He was the Mighty God, yet He became a servant.

He spoke, and it was done; yet He humbled Himself and became obedient unto death.

He was the Desire of All Nations, yet He was despised and rejected.

He was the Fountain of Life, yet upon the cross He cried, "I thirst."

He experienced death, yet through his resurrection He brings us life full and eternal.



Para- & Paradox

Para- A prefix with many meanings, including:

- beside
- alongside of,
- near
- "closely related &/or resembling"

I.E. words-

- **parable ("throw beside"):** a story illustrating a moral or religious principle
- **paradigm ("show beside"):** an example or pattern
- **paragraph ("written beside"):** a short piece of writing on one topic
- **parallel ("beside each other"):** equidistant, or equal or similar, or arranged for simultaneity
- **paraphrase ("point out beside"):** restatement

Paradox -a seemingly absurd or opposed to common sense and self-contradictory statement or proposition that when investigated or explained may prove to be well founded or yet perhaps true.

The ancient Greeks were well aware that a paradox can take us outside our usual way of thinking. They combined the prefix para- ("beyond" or "outside of") with the verb dokein ("to think"), forming paradoxos, an adjective meaning "contrary to expectation." Latin speakers picked up the word and used it to create their noun paradoxum, which English speakers borrowed during the 1500s to create paradox.



Power of Para- in Paradoxes

Paradox Mysteries to the world, Jesus' Love to us

These are mysteries the world calls nonsense. But to those with eyes of faith, it is truth incarnate; God's expression of His love for us. "But a natural man does not accept the things of the Spirit of God; for they are foolishness to him, and he cannot understand them, because they are spiritually appraised. But he who is spiritual appraises all things, yet he himself is appraised by no man. For who has known the mind of the Lord, that he should instruct Him? But we have the mind of Christ!" (1 Corin. 2:14-16)

Ppl in a Paradox

Well Articulated Article: 2020's church divide - by Sophia LeePost Date: December 10, 2020 - Issue Date: December 26, 2020

Year 2020 has been a brutal, perfect storm of a pandemic, a contentious election, racial unrest, financial troubles, and rampant conspiracy theories. It's been a particularly treacherous time for church leaders to navigate when members split over issues like face masks. But it's not just about masks. Political and ideological tensions within churches aren't anything new, but pastors say this year each conflict—whether it's over mask mandates, Black Lives Matter, or presidential politics—overlaps with the others in a confounding Venn diagram.

"It doesn't seem like there's any conversation that's disconnected from conflict in some way," said Nate Pyle, lead pastor of Christ's Community Church in Fishers, Ind., who's seen his own members leave over disagreements on how his church is handling discussions on race. "In a sense, we're playing whack-a-mole and trying to deal with all of these conflicts at the same time."

Adding to the dynamic is the fact that usual modes of discipleship and fellowship—meeting in person, reading facial expressions and body language, touching each other, singing and laughing together—are gone. No seminary courses prepare pastors for deciding whether to close their churches, when to open, which ministry to cut, or how to care for the sick from 6 feet away.

A July 2020 survey by Lifeway Research revealed the top “pressure point” Protestant pastors faced during the pandemic was maintaining unity in their churches and dealing with complaints and conflicts, followed by figuring out how to care for members from a distance. Other top pressure points included “personal exhaustion” and ministry “uncertainty.”

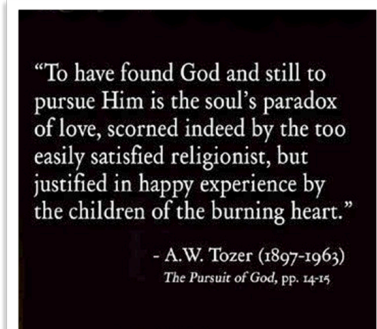
A Religious spirit+ & A Political spirit+

Religious spirit judges others to show it is right and others are wrong

Political spirit justifies itself as as being right and the other as wrong

They both have these common cautions: (not all ppl in them are this way, but where are ppl drawn into it)

1. Domination
2. Power
3. Manipulation
4. Fear
5. Agenda
6. Competition
7. Division



JESUS Preached Paradoxes"

- If you try to save your own life, you will lose it; if you lose your life, then you will gain life
- If you love your father and mother more than me you are not worthy of me (Matthew 10:34-39); yet we are to honor father and mother and you will have long life
- We can not love ppl more than we love God and be worthy of Jesus; yet we can not love God without loving one another and ppl

Great conflicts, they seem like contradictions - but they are both true, hence Paradoxes

Andy Stanley - Manage the Tensions- not either or, but both

Jack Hayford - beautiful job of communicating this. Why do we believers bicker about matters when both are adequately represented in the Scriptural Truths.

Part of the practical Power of Para- in Paradoxes is somewhere between the Truths that are revealed.

The Paradox: Love God and Love ppl

Reign in Life

Hoekstra's Day by Day by Grace (November 20th) Reigning in Life by the "Much More" Grace of God

For if by the one man's offense death reigned through the one, much more those who receive abundance of grace and of the gift of righteousness will reign in life through the One, Jesus Christ. (Romans 5:17)

Man's problems are a result of his relationship with Adam, who fell in sin and rebellion. God's remedies are found in a new relationship with Jesus Christ.

As we have seen, all of humanity begins life ruled by a tyrant dictator called death. "By the one man's offense death reigned through the one."

However, when people become related to Jesus Christ through faith, they can learn to reign in life by the "much more" grace of God.

Notice again that God's remedy for those under the reign of death is two-fold:

- 1. "those who receive abundance of grace and of**
- 2. the gift of righteousness will reign in life."**

Every Christian has received, and has been standing in, the gift of righteousness since the day they were justified by faith in the Lord. This is the only way that anyone can be accepted by a holy, righteous God. Yet, having this wonderful gift of imputed righteousness (credited to our account in heaven) does not automatically bring spiritual victory into the daily lives of God's justified saints. Many Christians, although possessing this gift of righteousness, do not walk in daily victory. The reason for this lack of victory is related to God's other provision, "abundance of grace."

Many Christians do not characteristically live by receiving God's grace. Many attempt to live victoriously by merely doing all that they can by their own human resources. Step by step, they hope to achieve victory through their best efforts. This always proves inadequate, because victory must be received from the Lord.

Reign of death & disconnection

Disconnection

Shame

Blame

Paradox: imperfect ppl in a perfect place with a Perfect God who Covers a multitude of sins!

Power of Para- in Paradoxes

Para- paraklētos is The Holy Spirit and para- beside each other, close to one another

John 14: 16 And I will pray the Father, and He will give you another [e]Helper, that He may abide with you forever— 17 the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees Him nor knows Him; but you know Him, for He dwells with you and will be in you.

IN us

Beside us

Song Lyrics: And as You speak, A hundred billion failures disappear