

“Deep Conviction, Strong Confidence”
August 23, 2015

John 16:8-16

CORE: HS's deep conviction produces strong confidence (i.e., convinced).
BIG difference between ARROGANCE and CONFIDENCE.

- **Arrogance** is rooted in insecurity; self-focused; takes from others—often dishonoring them.
- **Confidence** is rooted in security; self-less; motivated to give to others—honoring them.

He accomplishes this by MOVING US TO FOCUS ON JESUS, deeply convincing us. [RESPECT- “to give a second look in order to gain a deeper appreciation”]

1. WHO JESUS IS

- **He is our CREATOR**
 - *“For in him all things were created: things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or powers or rulers or authorities; all things have been created through him and for him.” (Colossians 1:16)*
 - *“Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made.” (John 1:3)*
 - We have **destinies** because we were **predestined**—created with a **purpose**.
 - He **WILLED** us into being—in order to **LOVE** us!
- **He HOLDS ALL THINGS TOGETHER**
 - *“He existed before anything else, and he holds all creation together.” (Colossians 1:17 NLT)*
 - *He “upholds all things by His word of power.” (Hebrews 1:3)*
 - He is the “atomic glue” keeping positive & negative elements from repelling.
 - Everything exists because He said, *“Let there be...”*

2. WHAT JESUS DID FOR US

“So the Word became human and made his home among us. He was full of unending love and faithfulness. And we have seen his glory, the glory of the Father's one and only Son.” (John 1:14 NLT)

In the Incarnation, Jesus took responsibility for those He created. Love will not leave you disconnected. He valued us! He did not stop being “God” for 33 years. He emptied Himself of divine privilege—w/o taking away from His divinity! Early church fathers—“fully God and fully man.” Amazing mystery!

He came to “**destroy the devil’s works**” (1 John 3:8)—not tearing into us, but tearing into the one who deceived us! On our behalf, He came to “**bind the strongman**” and “**spoil his kingdom**” (Mark 3:27). Our REJECTION did not QUENCH His AFFECTION!

3. WHAT JESUS DOES IN US

He broke the chains of GUILT by the power of His GRACE!

BOTH guilt & grace give an extremely different interpretation of John 16:

- **Under the “religious spirit”**—SIN means you are guilty; you should be filled with shame; and you will never be able to overcome sin; you are forever a “sinner”. **RIGHTEOUSNESS** means trying your hardest to be perfect, yet you will never attain true righteousness. **JUDGMENT** means that you are forever judged, excluded, guilty, and condemned.
- **But, in the grace of HS’s “convincing ministry”**—you receive “**truth that sets you free!**” SIN, at its roots a refusal to believe Jesus, “**no longer has dominion over you**” (Romans 6:14). You are NOW free to **believe, trust & hope in Jesus!** You now enter into a **covenant RIGHTEOUSNESS** where you are led by, inhabited by, filled with the life-giving Presence of HS. You learn to “sing with, dance with,” move with, “keep in step with” HS as He fills you with life! You experience victory over the crafty, enticing enemy of my soul who was **JUDGED at the Cross**. He can’t mess this up!

Jesus said, “**If I be lifted up—I will draw all people to Me.**” (John 12:32)

- “**Lifted up/glorified**” in 3 ways: **on the Cross** (His love), **in His resurrection** (His power) & **in His ascension** (His endless reign).
- He was “**lifted up**”—not just to take us to Heaven when we die—but to fill us with Heaven’s power while we live!

Paul stated it this way: “*You have been translated into an entirely new Kingdom, with an entirely new LORD! You have come out from under every lie & accusation & shame & hindrance of the enemy*” (paraphrase of Colossians 1:13).

Romans 6:2-6 TPT

CONCLUSION-

- Guilt says: “*I feel sorry for what I did.*”
- Shame says: “*I feel sorry for who I am.*”
- Conviction says: “*You are acting contrary to your new nature. Stop it! You are way too awesome to be acting like that!*”

NOTE: Guard who you allow to speak into your life!

True “**accountability**” actually “*keeps an account of your God-given ability.*” Not about making sure you “**don’t smoke**”—but that you stay “**ON FIRE!**”