

Beholding the Beyond

- ***Pray for George & Denise Davis***

I. The Divine Plan for Abundant Opportunity

A. The “Your Life Counts” Storyline

Jer 29.11 NIV For I know the **plans** I have for you,” declares the LORD, “plans **to prosper** you and **not to harm** you, plans **to give you hope*** and a **future.‡**

B. Jesus Came to Restore the Plot

John 10:10b I came that they may have **life** and have it **abundantly.**

Mark 10.45 For even **the Son of Man came** not to be served but **to serve**, and **to give his life** as a ransom for many.”

C. Perceiving Reality

1 John 3.1 NKJ Behold what manner of love the Father has bestowed on us, (**NIV How great** is the love the Father has **lavished** on us,)that we should be called children of God! Therefore the world does not know us, because it did not know Him. **2** Beloved, now we are children of God; and it has not yet been revealed what we shall be, but we know that when He is revealed, we shall be like Him, for we shall see Him as He is. **3** And everyone who has this hope in Him purifies himself, just as He is pure.

II. Revelation and the Beginning of Wisdom

A. The Gospel is the POWER for FREEDOM

Rom 1:16 For I am **not ashamed** of the **gospel**, for it is the **power of God for salvation** to **everyone who believes**, to the Jew first and also to the Greek.

WE were **made by LOVE** in the **image of LOVE**. Our heart is never at rest until it is at rest in the limitless love of God (a river always flowing)

B. Unveiling Reality flows out of FAITH into FAITH

17 For **in it** the **righteousness** of God is **revealed from faith for¹ faith**, as it is written, "The righteous shall **live** by faith."

tzedekah - HONOR for relationships, being **right with each other**

Rom 1.18 For the **wrath** of God is **revealed from heaven against** all **ungodliness** and **unrighteousness** of men², **who** by their unrighteousness **suppress the truth**.

wrath - initially a **stepping away**.

suppress the truth by their injustice – for wealth, for power, for pride, for pleasure. When **TRUTH makes us uncomfortable, there is temptation to PRIDE and turning to our own wisdom.**

III. NECESSITY OF PERCEPTION

A. Reality - Bigger & More Beautiful

BUT if we seek Truth, it's all around us!

TRUTH WE were made **by LOVE** in the **image of LOVE**. Our heart is never at rest until it is at rest in the limitless love of God (a river always flowing)

Human bodies were made as temples of the Holy Spirit, where the **uncreated love** would pour into us and through us.

Nature is a textbook of God's glory.

¹ ἐκ πίστεως εἰς πίστιν

² humans

- 19 For what can be known about God is *plain* to them, because *God has shown it to them.*
- 20 For his **invisible attributes**, namely, his eternal power and divine nature, have been **clearly perceived**, ever since the creation of the world, in the things that have been made. So they are without excuse.

LOVE speaks: I'm behind all the beauty. My wisdom, power and goodness is expressed in CREATION.

Ps 19.1 The **heavens declare** the glory of God,
and the **sky** above **proclaims** his handiwork.

- Ps 8.3 When I **look at your heavens**, the work of your fingers, the moon and the stars, which you have set in place,
- 4 **what is man** that you are **mindful** of him,
 and the son of man that you **care for him?**
 - 5 Yet you have made him **a little lower than the heavenly beings**
 and **crowned** him with **glory and honor.**

Tuolumne Meadows Encounter (p 151 Glow in the Dark)

B. RESPONSE to REVELATION

Not everything the world celebrates as love is love.

Loss of Wonder, awe, reverence. The FEAR of the Lord is the BEGINNING of Wisdom.

Can you catch a sunbeam? A dandelion can, and heal the soil!
A maple leaf can. An apple leaf can. Give you an apple
and oxygen.

*If we don't sense something BIGGER than OURSELVES, then
we don't know HOW to think.*

21 For although they **knew** God, they **did not honor** him as God or **give thanks** to him, but they **became futile in their thinking**, and their **foolish hearts were darkened**.

22 Claiming to be **wise**, they **became fools**,

Don't Exchange TRUTH for a LIE.

IV. Living in Renewal & Abundance

REVERSING 21 & 22

For **knowing** God, they **honored** him as God and **give thanks** to him, and they **became renewed in their thinking**, and their **foolish hearts were enlightened**.

once they were fools, but, they **became wise!**

A. Authority: Where It Begins. In the beginning was the Word.

John 14.15 “**If you love me, you will keep my commandments.**”

B. Belief: Our Response to Authority. Obedience is faith!

1 John 5.3 **For this is the love of God, that we keep his commandments.** And his commandments are not burdensome. 4 For everyone who has been born of God overcomes the world. And this is the victory that has overcome the world—our **faith**.

C. Worship: The Expression of Belief. Fullness of Joy

John 15.10 **If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love.** 11 These things I have spoken to you, that **my joy may be in you**, and that your joy may be

full. 12 “This is **my commandment**, that you **love one another** as I have loved you.

Love Your Neighbor as Yourself. Everything is based on this!

Being Rooted & Grounded in Love

Eph 3.14 For this reason I bow my knees before the **Father**,
15 from whom **every family** in heaven and on earth is
named, 16 that according to the **riches of his glory** he may
grant you to be **strengthened with power** through his Spirit
in your **inner [human] being**, 17 so that Christ may dwell
in your hearts **through faith**—that you, being **rooted** and
grounded in love, 18 may have **strength to comprehend**
with all the saints what is the **breadth** and **length** and
height and **depth**, 19 and to **know the love** of Christ that
surpasses knowledge, that you may be **filled with all the**
fullness of God.

20 Now to him who is **able to do far more abundantly than**
all that we ask or think, according to the power at work
within us, 21 to him be glory in the church and in Christ
Jesus throughout all generations, forever and ever. Amen.

**The INFINITE ABUNDANCE locked up in Creation is waiting
for the glorious liberty of the Children of God.**

We ENTER His Gates with Thanksgiving!