

The Supernatural Power of a Transformed Mind

Study Guide

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BREAKING FREE FROM THE UNWORTHINESS DECEPTION

And you, who once were alienated and enemies in your mind by wicked works, yet now He has reconciled in the body of His flesh through death, to present you holy, and blameless, and above reproach in His sight (COLOSSIANS 1:21-22).

We have this idea that by focusing on and emphasizing our unworthiness, we are being more humble. If we spend our Christian lives fixated on our unworthiness, we are doing two things: For one, we are believing a half-truth, which is a lie, and second, we become paralyzed from moving forward and advancing the Kingdom.

A half-truth is no less than a full lie. This concept of unworthiness needs to be confronted, because if we continue to believe we are unworthy, then we will never position ourselves to receive from God. After all, we are unworthy. This is no longer a condition, but an identity. Yes, none of us through our own merits or works is worthy to receive anything from God. This is absolutely true. However, in His grace, God looked upon you as worthy of the greatest gift conceivable—the life of His precious Son.

Jesus is the One who makes us worthy. Any worthiness that we have received is not our own, but belongs entirely to Christ Jesus. He is the one who qualified us to become worthy, or holy, in the Father's sight. To embrace a present identity of unworthiness is the ultimate expression of living beneath the inheritance of salvation. Salvation actually changed our identity entirely. We became new creations who were worthy to come before a holy God, not because of our works, but because of Jesus' work.

This open door is available, and yet so many deny this invitation because they remain under the deception of unworthiness.

This leads us right into the second problem that this deception of unworthiness causes—restricted Kingdom advancement. We never position ourselves to step out and bring Heaven to earth because we consider ourselves unworthy of such a task, and unfit to receive the tools He has made available—His presence, His power, His gifts, and His supernatural ability. Unworthiness puts us under the delusion that in order to demonstrate the Kingdom, perfection is required. The apostles prove that such is not the case. Yes, a pursuit of maturity and integrity and character development is part of the package. This is not license for us to exclusively pursue the power and tools of God while neglecting realities such as discipleship, maturity, and character formation. Jesus never gave an either/or option. It was not some "pursue the miracles" at the expense of character situation, or vice versa. Purity and power are cornerstones of the supernatural life. Perfection, however, was only achieved by one Man, and that Perfection is what authorizes us—faults, problems, growth processes and all—to walk out the supernatural life as normal Christianity.

Living under yesterday's condemnation doesn't make us more humble. If anything, it keeps us focused on ourselves instead of on the Lord. It's much more difficult to humbly receive forgiveness we don't deserve than to walk in false humility, cloaked in yesterday's shame. When we receive free forgiveness, the One who gave it to us is honored. When He is honored, we are truly humbled.

TRANSFORMATION THOUGHT

Believing that we are unworthy before God is not humility; it is a sign that our thinking is out of alignment with what God did for us through the Cross.

REFLECTION QUESTIONS

1. Why do people think that believing they are "unworthy" is a sign of spirituality or humility? What does this deception actually do to our ability to receive from God?
2. How do you currently see yourself? Do you believe it is in alignment with how God sees you?

TRANSFORMATION PRAYER

Father, help me to see myself like You see me. I am worthy. I am clean. I am forgiven. I am your son/daughter. I have been adopted into Your family. Jesus' blood made me worthy to receive all access to Your Presence. Help me to live out of this glorious inheritance all the days of my life!