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**A TIME FOR...**

**“Walking in Freedom”**

# Out of slavery into freedom

## Exodus 6:6-7 (NIV)

<sup>6</sup> “Therefore, say to the Israelites: ‘I am the LORD, and I will bring you out from under the yoke of the Egyptians. I will free you from being slaves to them, and I will redeem you with an outstretched arm and with mighty acts of judgment. <sup>7</sup> I will take you as my own people, and I will be your God. Then you will know that I am the LORD your God, who brought you out from under the yoke of the Egyptians.’”

# Two trees and two choices

## Genesis 2:15-17 (KJV 1900)

<sup>15</sup> And the Lord God took the man and put him into the garden of Eden to dress it and to keep it. <sup>16</sup> And the Lord God commanded the man, saying, Of every tree of the garden thou mayest freely eat: <sup>17</sup> But of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, thou shalt not eat of it: for in the day that thou eatest thereof thou shalt surely die.

# Tree of Life - eat freely



2 Peter 1:3 (NIV)

<sup>3</sup> His divine power has given us everything we need for a godly life through our knowledge of him who called us by his own glory and goodness.

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## Tree of the knowledge of Good and Evil - don't eat



Matthew 4:8-9 (NIV)

<sup>8</sup> Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their splendour. <sup>9</sup> “All this I will give you,” he said, “if you will bow down and worship me.”

## The knowledge of Good and Evil

- Good = (Hebrew tov) = functional
- Evil = (Hebrew wa ra) = dysfunctional
- Sin = (Hebrew hatta'h) = to miss the mark, go astray
- Righteousness = (Hebrew tsadiq) = on the correct path

# Two dysfunctional things we have inherited

## 1. Self-centeredness - Genesis 3:6-7 (KJV 1900)

..... she took of the fruit thereof, and did eat, and gave also unto her husband with her; and he did eat. 7 And the eyes of them both were opened, and they knew that they were naked.....

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## 2. Human reasoning - Mark 8:16-17 (KJV 1900)

<sup>16</sup> And they reasoned among themselves, saying, It is because we have no bread. <sup>17</sup> And when Jesus knew it, he saith unto them, Why reason ye, because ye have no bread? perceive ye not yet, neither understand? have ye your heart yet hardened?

Herein lies the root of double mindedness



All our thoughts and actions convey our allegiance to one tree or the other and they are empowered by our agreement

# 'Old Testament' prophecy

## Isaiah 61:1 (NIV)

<sup>1</sup> The Spirit of the Sovereign Lord is on me, because the Lord has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent me to bind up the broken-hearted, to proclaim freedom for the captives and release from darkness for the prisoners.

## Genesis 6:5-6 (KJV 1900)

<sup>5</sup> And GOD saw that the wickedness (*dysfunction*) of man was great in the earth, and that every imagination of the thoughts of his heart was only evil (*dysfunctional*) continually. <sup>6</sup> And it repented the LORD that he had made man on the earth, and it grieved him at his heart.

# From dysfunction to functional in Gods kingdom

## Romans 12:1-2 (KJV 1900)

<sup>1</sup> I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service.

<sup>2</sup> And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God.

## Mark 10:46-52 (CEV)

<sup>46</sup> Jesus and his disciples went to Jericho. And as they were leaving, they were followed by a large crowd. A blind beggar by the name of Bartimaeus son of Timaeus was sitting beside the road. <sup>47</sup> When he heard that it was Jesus from Nazareth, he shouted, “Jesus, Son of David, have pity on me!” <sup>48</sup> Many people told the man to stop, but he shouted even louder, “Son of David, have pity on me!” <sup>49</sup> Jesus stopped and said, “Call him over!” They called out to the blind man and said, “Don't be afraid! Come on! He is calling for you.” <sup>50</sup> The man threw off his coat as he jumped up and ran to Jesus. <sup>51</sup> Jesus asked, “What do you want me to do for you?” The blind man answered, “Master, I want to see!” <sup>52</sup> Jesus told him, “You may go. Your eyes are healed because of your faith.”

The truth is still the truth even if no one  
believes it

A lie is still a lie even if everyone believes it

# Transforming our thoughts means realigning them

## 2 Corinthians 10:5 (NIV)

<sup>5</sup> We demolish arguments and every pretension that sets itself up against the knowledge of God, and we take captive every thought to make it obedient to Christ.

# We have to make a choice

## Deuteronomy 30:19-20 (NLT)

<sup>19</sup> “Today I have given you the choice between life and death, between blessings and curses. Now I call on heaven and earth to witness the choice you make. Oh, that you would choose life, so that you and your descendants might live! <sup>20</sup> You can make this choice by loving the LORD your God, obeying him, and committing yourself firmly to him. **This is the key to your life.**



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