

God's Shifting Process ... Part 3

The Ultimate Shift – The Invisible Reality

Welcome to part 3 of the series on 'God's Shifting Process.' Last month I discussed the biblical promises that Jesus is coming back in the same glory (manner) in which He left; therefore as He prepares for His return, His Glory will cause a shifting and exchange process simply because the power of His presence and Glory exposes the sinful manner in which we as humans have shifted toward.

This month I want to share the ultimate shift that has been occurring that has caught many believers and unbelievers off guard. Before I tell you about the ultimate exchange or shift let me ask a very personal question. How many of you are absolutely shocked at someone who used to be a rock-solid individual but now they live a completely different life? Possibly this person is you, a spouse, a relative, a friend, or a minister who was a person you once admired, respected and/or confided in.

Even though this turn of events in your life or someone else's life seemed unlikely, you now stand amazed at how this occurred over a period of years. In fact it appears that it occurred in an almost an 'invisible' manner as you can't quite put your finger on how it started and where it ended. Nonetheless, the results are devastating and may have left you in complete wonderment about how and why this happened.

The reality is that during the past 10 years there has been a shifting or exchange process that has taken over the respected lives of many people, marriages, churches, ministers, and organizations in a very '*invisible*' manner. How did this process start? Let me begin by stating that God makes it clear in scripture that His son Jesus has a very invisible aspect that must be honored; but when it is not honored an exchange of the invisible begins to take place. In essence when people take for granted the invisible nature of God, an invisible negative aspect of the dark side of life may take over their life. This would explain why so many bizarre activities have happened to so many people in which their lives have been turned upside down; or why things have been exchanged.

It is important that I confirm scripturally that this exchange occurs. Let's start out by looking at Colossians 1:15-20: *He (Jesus) is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation, for all things in heaven and on earth were created by him – all things, whether visible or invisible, whether thrones or dominions, whether principalities or powers – all things were created through him and for him. He himself is before all things and all things are held together in him. He is the head of the body, the church, as well as the beginning, the firstborn from among the dead, so that he himself may become first in all things. For God was pleased to have all his fullness dwell in the Son and through him to reconcile all things to himself by making peace through the blood of his cross – through him, whether things on earth or things in heaven."*

In this passage God ascribes that Jesus is over all things that were ever created, including Creation itself. He is over all things both visible and invisible. In addition, in Christ all

things are made whole, or reconciled back to their healthy nature. This means that when a person begins to dishonor any aspect of a relationship the only way back to fullness is through the visible and invisible aspects of God; through the image of Christ. This definition in scripture helps us identify the solution to all things that plague humanity. God gave the provision as well as the recipe to a full and healthy life.

The flip side of this recipe for health and fullness is the recipe for disaster, and it is found in Romans chapter 1:18-25 *“For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of people who suppress the truth by their unrighteousness, because what can be known about God is plain to them, because God has made it plain to them. For since the creation of the world his invisible attributes – his eternal power and divine nature – have been clearly seen, because they are understood through what has been made. So people are without excuse. For although they knew God, they did not glorify him as God or give him thanks, but they became futile in their thoughts and their senseless hearts were darkened. Although they claimed to be wise, they became fools and exchanged the glory of the immortal God for an image resembling mortal human beings or birds or four-footed animals or reptiles; therefore God gave them over in the desires of their hearts to impurity, to dishonor their bodies among themselves. They exchanged the truth of God for a lie and worshiped and served the creation rather than the Creator, who is blessed forever! Amen.”*

In this passage God states that He made Himself known to all humanity by the invisible attributes of Himself through Creation. He continues to say that those who deny this aspect of God are without excuse. Even though they once saw God in the invisible things such as creation, they stopped Glorifying Him as God through the invisible aspects. It is explained that people who start denying and stop glorifying God begin a process of loving creatures more than God the creator, and/or they begin to love themselves more than the Creator. Verses 24 and 25 specifically state that because of the failure to love the invisible attributes of God, that God completes the ultimate exchange by giving them over to impurities. In essence, God allows them to become gods unto their own desires and eventually exchanges the things that He had planned for them. This shift or exchange explains how a person who was once a rock-solid person living a life of happiness and confidence in God suddenly or more accurately invisibly becomes a different person. It explains how so many friends, family, and clergy have over time been given over to their own lusts and desires in what may have appeared a shocking or invisible manner.

My heart like many of yours has been broken and shattered by the news of many family, friends, or clergy members who have exchanged a normal life with God for a devastating divorce, another relationship and/or bizarre behaviors toward things of this world. As broken as we may be over the exchange and shifting, the reality remains that the process of exchange was explained in scripture. We as a people have been warned what may happen when we exchange our honor and love for God.

The ultimate shift and exchange has many warning signs which may include some of the following starting points.

- 1) Religious people that love only the visible things of God and religion, but ignore the invisible attributes of God.
- 2) Religious people who discredit the supernatural aspects of God. They are discrediting the invisible attributes of God.
- 3) People who love four footed creatures more than they love God. I believe this applies to loving animals more than God Himself. This does not mean we should not enjoy animals. Rather, we need to see what we are most in-love with, the Creator or creatures.
- 4) People who love themselves, their bodies or someone else's body more than they love God.

May we be encouraged to check our love and honor and validate that it belongs to the fullness of Christ which includes both the visible and invisible attributes of God.

Stay-tuned for The Shifting Process – Part four.