

GOD IS NOT MAD WITH YOU

Introduction

Good afternoon, my name is Martin De Villiers and I am a member of Church of Way. I have the privilege to talk to you today about a subject which makes me so excited and has change the way I saw myself as a Christian.

Let me start with a short testimony about my own experience.

I have been a Christian for many years and have spent many hours studying God word and learning it.

It is only during the last few years and especially the last few weeks that I have started joining the dots together.

Once I start to see the picture come into focus many other things that I had learnt started to make more sense, many scripture made more sense.

I used to take scriptures as a “faithful student of the word in context to the situation and then assimilate other scriptures on this topic which I had read in the past, trying to understand them as they relate to one another.

But really they were island of information, a verse here and few verse there, pet verse for this and that but they really did not form a whole or so I thought.

I knew that Jesus Christ died for me and my sins; in fact He died for the sins of the WHOLE world.

I knew He loved me, and I loved Him. I had accepted Him as my Saviour in 1986, but somehow through tradition or other wrong beliefs. I really fought with some of the concept of Redemption.

Redemption means the deliverance of sin, totally! It means to buy back or purchase something, like as a ransom for slaves – we were once slaves to sin but now we are redeemed

Mostly applying what I have learnt from other Christians, but really most of us really do not understand Redemption. What Jesus Christ did for us at Calvary and I hope to prove this to you in my message but for now let just say He paid the complete price for our sins.

The corrugated Christian

As I never fully understood what Jesus Christ did for me and that God was not mad at me, I lived the corrugated Christian life. One day up and on fire for God and the next down in the dumps and far from God because of sin and failure.

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I based my righteousness before God through my feelings and actions and many people have this problem today! My faith as their faith was based on our works, our deed, and our performance.

Whenever I did something wrong, I felt condemned and not welcome in God presence. I knew I was going to heaven but somehow when I was doing His work I felt more of a saint than at other times.

Slowly through reading God's word and letting it soak into my life, my being. I started to learn that Jesus Christ did it all on the cross and that my works are really not going to help with my salvation, it was already DONE!

There was really nothing I still needed to do, my only response to the Gospel was to do what **Romans 10:9** says:

- To confess with my mouth that Jesus Christ IS LORD
- To believe in my Heart that God raised Him from the dead
- And put my faith in God's word that I have eternal life

There really was nothing else to do because Christ had done it all for me.

Even when Pastor Joshua started the mirror on the wall series, I was still not completely convinced and although my heart wanted to believe the truth of the scriptures, my religious nature fought it.

Eventually I got before God and said Lord you have to help me and show me what is right and what is wrong. I decided to switch from head knowledge to God's knowledge. I decided to allow God just to minister his love to me through his word of what He has done from me and I also allowed Him to minister to me through the sermons I was hearing at church.

I purposely took my mind, my will, my emotions anything that would hinder me; I put it aside and allow the message to just come inside me.

I decided to say "Shut up head, I am being led"

Actually in the beginning I was so prepared to fight this new concept that I even went so far as to get copied of the doctrine of Sin and Salvation just to make sure what I believe but through the grace of God, He worked in my life in such a way that I just never read those doctrines because He showed me, my need to submit to Him and allow Him to show me the truth with my mind, will and emotions removed so that His truth could set me free.

"You will know the truth and the truth will set you free" **John 8:32**

So slowly it started making sense, as I joined each dot in the puzzle and although I do not understand everything yet, I know and I am convinced that God is not mad with me; in fact He has never been mad at any of us.

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It is an amazing work of grace and mercy which we do not deserve but He did it anyway. He chose to take Jesus Christ sacrifice on Calvary as COMPLETE, FULL payment for all our sins.

My prayer for you is that when I finish this session with you, you too will also be convinced in your heart that God is not mad at you either!

The IMAGE

In the past we have all had this image of God, whether thought our past experiences, worldly or religious beliefs that God is way out there, He is extremely mad at us and to have a relationship with Him we must be perfect and Holy in every way. We must somehow do something, to make some sacrifices to please Him.

We often see God as an example of our earthly father or compared Him to an earthly experience. We see Him as unforgiving with a large stick waiting for us to do something wrong so that He can punish us! And Devil is having a field day at God's expense.

That is the truth with most religions today, they all have to work for their salvation, somehow pay for their sins and they never have complete confidence in their own salvation, there are no guarantees.

Christianity is completely different to any other religion, because Jesus Christ did it all, we just need to accept it and apply our faith to it.

This was even true in Jesus' time, people said and though similar things, in **John 9:1-10** there is a story mentioned about a the deaf man who came to Jesus to be healed. He had been deaf since birth and the people asked Jesus if this man or his parents had sinned that he was blind since birth? What did Jesus say? Neither had sinned but this was so that God Glory might be manifested in this blind man.

God want to manifest His glory in your situation. You are not in your situation because of your or your parents sins. You are there because it is an opportunity for God to be glorified through your life.

The Message

Having said all this, I want you to know it is only because of Christ and God mercy and grace to me that I stand before you this afternoon and it is only through Christ and God mercy that you are where you are today.

I also believe that no one is here by accident and that God has a special plan and message for each of you today, and I believe that message is that God is not mad with you!

It never has to be done again. Christ has done, once for all time, He obtained an eternal redemption for us, **Hebrews 9:11-12**. "*But now Christ has come*

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as the high priest of the good things to come. He passed through the greater and more perfect tent not made with hands, that is, not of this creation, and he entered once for all into the most holy place not by the blood of goats and calves but by his own blood, and so he himself secured eternal redemption".

In fact He has chosen to deal with our sins many years ago at the foundation of the earth; his plan was to put ALL our sin on His son Jesus Christ so that He could pay the price for SIN.

In **Romans 5:8-10**, it says *"But God demonstrates his own love for us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. Much more then, because we have now been declared righteous by his blood, we will be saved through him from God's wrath. For if while we were enemies we were reconciled to God through the death of his Son, how much more, since we have been reconciled, will we be saved by his life?"*.

Before we even knew who God was, before we were even born or born again, actually before the foundation of this world, God's love was for us.

Remember, when Adam sinned, it did not surprise God or catch Him off guard! He had already made a plan; the plan was that Jesus Christ's blood would redeem us from our SINS so that we can be made Righteous and Justified.

Just a side note, whenever you see the words:

<u>WORD</u>	<u>Definition</u>	<u>My Definition</u>
JUSTIFICATION	God's act of declaring a sinner righteous	Just as if I have never sinned!
RIGHTEOUS	A person has been judged and has been deemed to be leading a life which is pleasing to God.	Right standing with God.
SANCTIFICATION	Set apart for a special purpose ,made sacred or Holy	Made pure, clean and Holy
ATONEMENT	Refers to the forgiving or pardoning of sin through the death of Jesus Christ by crucifixion, which made possible the reconciliation between God and creation.	Sin has been pardoned.
GRACE	The gift of divine favour in salvation of sinners.	God's Riches At Christ Expense. Un merited favour.
MERCY	Mercy is a word used to describe compassion shown by one person to another.	Compassion or leniency

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	Or a request from one person to another to be shown leniency or unwarranted compassion for a crime or wrongdoing	
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So: Jesus Christ's Death on the cross has made us in right standing before God, just as if we have NEVER sinned. We were made pure and were set apart for a very special purpose!

That should make you very excited.

Listen again "Jesus Death on the cross made us in right standing before God just as if we have NEVER sinned"

And as David put it in **Psalm 130:3-4**, "*If you, O LORD, were to keep track of sins, O Lord, who could stand before you But you are willing to forgive so that you might be honoured.*".

Without the sacrifice of Jesus, how would we:

- How can we possibly JUSTIFIED before God?
- How can we possibly be RIGHTEOUS before God?
- How can we possibly be SANCTIFIED before God?
- It would be impossible to get or obtain, ATONEMENT, MERCY and GRACE.

If God kept records of our sins how would we ever stand in His presence? I am Guilty as charged and so are you. How can we ever stand before God, in His presence?

You see God is so Holy that even the slightest blemish of sin would discount us.

That is why He had to send Jesus a perfect sacrifice, one who was totally Holy, totally Righteous and Totally pure to die on our behalf, a sacrifice once and for all eternity.

Decide what you will believe

I know that each of you are ministers of the gospel of Christ and you are really serious about God so it is very import, that each of us must decide how and what we will believe, you heard of my struggle I had and I trust that that will motivate you to relax and let God minister into your Spirit these truths.

Remember if you have the mumps you cannot preach the measles, the people who hear you will get the mumps not the measles and so it so important that you understand His grace and mercy for yourself, so that you can let it sink into your spirit so that it becomes a life style before you preach it to others.

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You will never be able to go where you have not been spiritually yourself. You must experience Redemption to tell others about. You must know God is not mad at you before you can tell other. You MUST sort this out in your own heart first ,let God minister to you.

Even if you are on the right track, you still get run over by a train if you just sit there. I want to show you a short video clip of how our perceptions of something can be totally wrong.

So before going on, I want exhort and encourage you to doing what the bibles says. I want to ask you to listen with your spirit, and take what God's word says to you; I remind you that the basis of everything we preach MUST be the Word of God!

In, **2 Timothy 3:16-17** that *"Every scripture is inspired by God and useful for teaching, for reproof for correction, and for training in righteousness, that the person dedicated to God may be capable and equipped for every good work"*.

THE GOOD NEWS OF THE GOSPEL

We want you to preserver in sound doctrine and use His word as a mirror so that this mirror will reflect the true you. This is no new Gospel we are preaching, this not a new direction, this was God's original plan because if the gospel was a gospel of works how could it ever be GOOD NEWS? We would be working ourselves to death trying to please God and that would not be fun and most definitely not GOOD NEWS.

I will prove it to you, Galatians 3:8-14 says *"And the Scripture, foreseeing that God would justify the Gentiles by faith, preached the gospel beforehand to Abraham, saying that, "In you all the nations shall be blessed." Therefore those who are of faith are blessed with believing Abraham. For as many as are of the works of the law are under the curse; for it is written, "Cursed is everyone who does not continue in all the things which are written in the book of the law, to do them." But that no one is justified by the law before God is evident, for "The just shall live by faith." But the law is not of faith, but "the man who does them shall live by them." Christ has redeemed us from the curse of the law, having become a curse for us, for it is written, "Cursed is everyone who hangs on a tree," so that the blessing of Abraham might come to the Gentiles in Christ Jesus, that we might receive the promise of the Spirit through faith"*.

Jesus Christ became the curse on our behalf so that the problem of sin is dealt with so that we the just – justified, just as if we have never sinned. He sacrifice to away the power the law had over us through ours sin. And He made JUST – Justified!!!

The Good news of the Gospel is that Christ died for all our sins, He became the curse, once and for all time, so that the problem with Sin is deal with for the entire World, for all eternity. God accepted this sacrifice and now God is not mad at anyone of us!

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Jesus Christ justified us, just as if we have never sinned, opening our right standing with God (Righteousness) so that we have access to the very presence of God by His Grace and Mercy and through our FAITH in Him we have received REDEMPTION, JUSTIFICATION, RIGHTEOUSNESS, SANCTIFICATION, ATONEMENT, GRACE and MERCY.

That is why. “*WITHOUT FAITH is impossible to please God*”, **Hebrews 11:6**, because without Faith we cannot experience God, we have to believe the He is who He says He is, He has done what he said He has done, He will do what he says He will do and that He has made a place for us through His Son, there is not other way to approach Him but by Faith in Him.

And that is why our own righteousness or works whatever we use to try and get access to God is according to **Isaiah 64:6**, is as “*filthy rags*”, the Hebrew word is “ayd” Strong’s reference 5708 (means menstrual rag), something detestable.

GOD’S WAY OR NOT WAY

Why obtain everything SANCTIFICATION, RIGHTEOUSNESS, JUSTIFICATION, ATONEMENT, REDEMPTION, GRACE and MERCY, not by our works, not by anything else but FAITH in the FINISHED work of Jesus Christ on the cross of Calvary. When we try to do this we ignore the Righteousness / the right standing that comes through faith in Christ!

As it says in Ephesians 2:8-9, “*For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: Not of works, lest any man should boast.*”

It is only by God’s grace and mercy and our applied faith in these facts that we have access so no one can boast in anything, any works, any special abilities but the Christ sacrifice and God’s mercy and grace.

DOERS OF GOD WORD

We need to do what God’s word, we need to put His word in action in our lives and becoming doer of His word and not merely getting head knowledge, even if this contradicts what we were taught or what we believe we need to choose God’s word over our ideas, thoughts, training etc.

As **James 1:22-26**, says “*But become doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves. Because if anyone is a hearer of the word and not a doer, this one is like a man observing his natural face in a mirror; for he observed himself and has gone away, and immediately forgot what sort of man he was. But the one who looks into the perfect law of liberty and continues in it, and is not a forgetful hearer but a doer of the work, this one shall be blessed in what he does.*”

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I do not know if you are aware but when a silversmith refines silver he will continue to heat it and remove the dross until he can see his own reflection in the silver, so it must be as we look into perfect mirror of God's word, we must continually remove the dross in our lives. Wrong thoughts, wrong actions, wrong understanding and wrong beliefs about ourselves and mainly about God and replace them with what the Word of God says.

TAKE A FRESH LOOK IN THE MIRROR

So I encourage you to take a fresh look in the mirror of His word, please take note of the scriptures and after we finish today go and spend time letting the reality of God's perfect plan of Salvation and His reassuring Word wash over you so that you can start experiencing His GRACE and MERCY.

When we become doers of the word of God we might find that some concepts are difficult to understand or apply, then we need to go before God and do what His word says, Proverbs 1:7 says "*that the fear of God is the beginning of all wisdom*".

We who lack wisdom should ask God for it, as it says in **James 1:5-8**, "*If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask of God, who gives to all generously and without reproach, and it shall be given to him. But let him ask in faith, doubting nothing, for he that doubts is like a wave of the sea driven and tossed by the wind. For let not that man suppose that he shall receive anything from the Lord; he is a double-minded man, unstable in all his ways.*"

Let me just pause and explain the double minded man, I am sure it will be explained in one of the sessions, but briefly ,

1 Corinthians 2:16 says that "*We have the mind of Christ*" but we also have in our flesh realm (Soul and body) and mind, thoughts, reasoning. This is the area that Devil has access to, and is normally controlled by our fleshly desires, the world or even Devil. This is battlefield and God has given us specific weapons to fight in this realm in Ephesians 6:11.

- The belt of truth in the KJV it says the loins guarded by truth
- The breastplate of Righteousness – Right Standing with God
- The shoe of preaching the Gospel – The good news Jesus Christ has paid the debt for our sins and God is not mad at us.
- The shield of Faith – We need to put our faith in His GRACE and MERCY so that we can put out the fiery darts / arrows of the Devil.
- The helmet of Salvation – The knowledge that Jesus Christ did it all, I am justified, just as if I never sinned, Right standing before God, protecting the our mind so that we can have the Mind of Christ.
- The Sword of the Word of God – God's word is our defence mechanism.

We have only been given one offensive weapon, why because Christ did EVERYTHING else for us at the cross of Calvary, it has been done ALREADY!!!

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It is only through the mirror of God's word that we have all the other pieces of armour effective in our lives:

- God's word brings us truth, the truth of the Gospel, the truth of who we are in Christ.
- Christ death on the cross made us righteous, He brought us into right standing with God
- Helmet of Salvation – Christ died so that we might have an eternal salvation
- Shoes of preaching the Gospel – When you realise what Christ did for you, you will automatically start preaching.
- Shield of Faith – Our faith in Christ finished work on the cross has brought us Grace and Mercy

The double minded state is when our brain says one thing and our Spirit man, the mind of Christ, says something else often in contradiction.

This causes us to become double minded, “Yes let's do this, not but this”

We need to become single minded, we HAVE the mind of Christ and we need to live out of this realm, our whole being must be brought in to submission to the Mind of Christ, God what do you say about this and this situation, not how do I feel about this situation.

You see it is our faith in Christ finished work on Calvary and God's grace and mercy that will bring us the break through.

SIN is dealt with - Christ Died for all SIN

In understanding that, God is not mad at us and does not keep our sins against us, we must first understand and know beyond a shadow of a doubt that SIN has been totally dealt with at the cross of Calvary. It has been complete removed from the picture, and this is totally and only through Christ's death on the cross.

Jesus Christ has dealt SIN a death blow at the cross, when He said it was Finished, it was really finished and dealt with nothing more had to be done. He has justified us, **Romans 5:8-10**, just as if we have never sinned.

We know from **1 Corinthian 15:22**, “*For since death came through a man, the resurrection of the dead also came through a man. For just as in Adam all die, so also in Christ all will be made alive*”.

He did this once for all time, so that we can obtain an ETERNAL redemption from sin, see **Hebrews 9:11-12**, “*But now Christ has come as the high priest of the good things to come. He passed through the greater and more perfect tent not made with hands, that is, not of this creation, and*

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he entered once for all into the most holy place not by the blood of goats and calves but by his own blood, and so he himself secured eternal redemption".

2 Corinthians 5:21 says "*For he hath made him to be sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him".*

God made Jesus become sin, He place the sins of the WHOLE WORLD on Jesus, He took out all His Anger, wrath and extracted all the punishment we deserve for our sin, He took it all out and more on Jesus Christ, that is why the crucifixion was not a pretty sight and why it was so gory and filled with blood. Jesus was beaten up, whipped, spat on, swore at, they were not playing with Him. The were out to hurt, kill or mame Him. Then after all that He was hung on a cross, I do not know if you are aware but Jesus was hung NAKED on the cross. Where He bled and died for your, and mine sins and the sins of the WHOLE WORLD, no one was exempt, He died for everyone!!!

And so the sin problem WAS and IS dealt with for all Eternity. God completely judged Jesus Christ for the sins of the whole world. All of God's anger over our sins was justly punished to the full letter of the law and measure the Law required and God chose to accept Jesus Christ's complete sacrifice for all our sins at Calvary and chose to dealt with us in GRACE, God riches at Christ's expense. God looks at us through the mediator Jesus Christ

1 Timothy 2:5-6 "*For there is one God and one intermediary between God and humanity, Christ Jesus, himself human, who gave himself as a ransom for all, revealing God's purpose at his appointed time*".

It is Jesus Christ who has saved us and made God not angry with us anymore.

2 Timothy 1:9-10 "*He is the one who saved us and called us with a holy calling, not based on our works but on his own purpose and grace, granted to us in Christ Jesus before time began, but now made visible through the appearing of our Saviour Christ Jesus. He has broken the power of death and brought life and immortality to light through the gospel!*"

He, Jesus Christ saved us, and Grace was granted to us and He broke the power of death and brought us immortality. So with the sin problem solved, we all have a choice to accept Jesus Christ's complete work or reject Him.

Contrary to popular belief, people do not go to Hell because of their sins, I just explain that Christ took away the ALL judgment and punishment for sin from EVERYBODY, people go to Hell because they refused to Accept Christ's finished work on the cross by refusing to Believe – John 16:8.

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The way we are saved is found in, **Roman 10:9** says “*That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved*”.

So because of Christ FINNISED work on the Cross of Calvary, where He received:

- The complete and just judgment for the sins of the whole world
- He was judged and found guilty of all our sins.
- He was sentence to the penalty our sins deserve.
- He was punished and died for each and every one of our sins.
- Then He went to the Father and presented His blood as our atonement.
- God accepted Jesus’ sacrifice for the sins of the entire world.
- God chooses to not be mad at us because our sins have been dealt with.
- God gives us Grace and Mercy which we must apply through Faith

We have been made Righteous, in right standing with God. We have been JUSTIFIED, just if I have never sinned and we have been give access to the throne room of God by Jesus’ blood.

One last time. God it not made at you. Say “God is not mad with me; he has chosen to dealt with me differently to what my sins deserve because of Jesus Christ’s sacrifice.

LICENSE TO SIN

This is not a license to SIN! Remember that our sins have consequences; you will reap what you sow! God will forgive you but sin has consequences, if you slept with a woman and she falls pregnant the consequences are the baby, if you murder or some crime the consequences of the countries punishment for the crime are your consequences. Sin has consequences.

Do not allow the devil in road in your life, he will use your sins to put a yoke on you and destroy, your family, your ministry, your marriage, and your relationships and eventually kill you

1 Peter 5:8 says that we must “Be sober,(3525 - nay-fo be sober, abstain from wine, watch, be discreet) be vigilant because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion,(3023 - Leh-ohn – literal lion) walketh about, seeking whom he may devour: (2666 -Kat-ap-ee-no – To drink down, gulp entirely, devour, drown, swallow up)

Let quickly look at a lion, a lion only hunts three types of prey

- The young – the young Christians but letting them believe that the Christian walk is too difficult for them to accomplish.
- The Sick and the old - When you are sick because of your sins burden.
- The straggles and those left alone and separate from the group - When you move out of God covering.

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CLOSE

There was once a man who lived in England, he had a beautiful home, and many beautiful artifacts and priceless paintings. In fact he had one of the best private art collect ever collect.

This man lost his wife when their son was born and so he only one son who would inherit all this treasure. But the War broke out and his son went to fight in defense of his country.

During his training he met a young artist and they became very close friends. Unfortunately the son was killed in a major battle but this friend survived and so after the war he decided to paint a portrait of his best friend. I took him sometime but eventually it was finished.

He then packed the painting in the car and took it to his friend's father as a gift to remind him of his son.

The father was very impressed that his sons best friend had done such an incredible, he looked at the painting a recognized the resemblance to his son but he also notice that it really was not done perfectly but because it was a picture of his son and was done in an incredible act of love decided that he would pay the young man but this friend would not take a cent and left.

The old man displayed this painting in the best place in his art collection and when friends came to visit they commented on all the flaw the painting had. Some even scoffed that he had such a painting in his collection.

One day the old man died and his will had stipulated that his art collection be auction off first. The entire art world was in complete uproar because he really had a priceless collection of art.

Eventually the day of the auction dawned, many art collectors and museums from around the world came to bid on his collection. The first piece of art to be auction off according to the will was the painting of the man's son.

Everyone did not want it because it had too many flaws and was not worth buy according to their esteemed knowledge, so no one bid on this picture.

The auctioneer asked if anyone would please bid on the painting but everyone shouted that he should go on to the really art and donate this piece to charity.

Just then the gardener came forward and asked if he could buy the picture of the son out of respect to the man he worked for? He only has five pounds but if they would let him he would buy it.

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The auctioneer asked if there were any other bid, going once, going twice, going three times and slammed his hammer down and said sold to the gardener.

He then announced that the auction was over, people complained and asked why, none of the art work was auctioned yet. The auctioneer said the old man's will said, whoever buys the picture of my son, also inherits my entire estate!

You see whoever has the son, Jesus Christ, whoever buys the fact that God is not mad at them and chooses through faith in Christ finished work on the cross also has the inheritance.

Christ did it all; there is nothing else for us to do. God met all the judgment, punishment that the law required for our sins to satisfy His anger of our sins so we can come boldly to Him,

Now we can do what Hebrew **4:16** says "*Therefore let us come boldly to the throne of grace, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need*".

It trusts that you will do this, today. Come to the Lord's Throne and receive Grace and Mercy from God in Faith.

God is not mad with you!!!