

WHAT THE GENUINE MUST BE AWARE OF AS FATHER CHASTISES

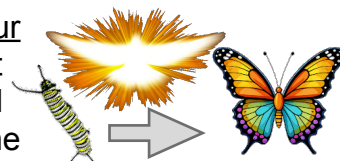
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Prophetic
Nugget

"When Your judgments are executed, people learn righteousness" (Isaiah 26:9).

The Genuine Live Free Of Autocratic Theology
The Genuine's Touchstone Is Our Lord Jesus, His Spirit, & The Bible

Dear Friends in Christ Jesus our Lord,

Living *genuinely* born again is a life of "spiritual metamorphism"—your transformation from being ruled by self and sin nature into the obedient character of our Lord Jesus. The **New Covenant** which our Lord inaugurated requires the *genuine* to commit to a lifelong process of transformation by the Holy Spirit as He develops **divine character** and offers you **divine purpose and meaning** (Romans 12:2; 2Corinthians 3:18; Romans 6:4). This work of grace is your ongoing transformation as a *genuine* follower of Christ. And your unwavering commitment to be 'metamorphosed' by the Spirit is what distinguishes you from unbelievers and nominal Christians.



The *genuine* anchor your spiritual life on the Lordship of Jesus, on the ministry of the Holy Spirit in and through you, and on the singular authority of the Bible. God's Word stipulates that the *genuine* live by a divine set of "family values". From the moment you're *genuinely* born again and are baptized, transformation begins! ♦ You die to your old self (Galatians 2:20). ♦ You become part of a divine family with a heavenly Father Whose will you fulfill (Matthew 12:50). ♦ You forsake rule of your own life and submit to the rule of our Lord Jesus (Romans 10:9). ♦ You rely on our Lord's indwelling Spirit Who •guides you, •confirms truth to you, •empowers you to do Father's will (John 16:13).

Your transformation as *genuine* begins when you realize that God is indeed REAL and that you have grievously offended Him by your sins. You also discover that our Lord Jesus paid the price for your sins, and you repent. The Greek word for repentance means a **complete and radical change of mind**. The process of **transformation** requires you to confess your sins and repent, purposing in your heart to turn from them. That opens the way for your *heart motive* to yearn to become more like our Lord Jesus, into His **divine character**. Paul's words become your experience: *"I count everything as loss because of the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For His sake I have suffered the loss of [who I once was] and count it as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ"* (Philippians 3:8).

The Heart Motive Of The *Genuine's* Life



1. Doing Father's will out of love
2. Living by trust under the rule of our Lord Jesus
3. Living by the guidance, confirmation and empowerment of the Holy Spirit
4. Living under the singular authority of the Bible

Embodied in the **New Covenant** is the ongoing relational union with our Father and our Lord Jesus. This relational intimacy motivates you to do your part in extending the **Kingdom of God** (Matthew 6:33. Our Lord mentions the Kingdom 50 times, so it's significant!). It's in the action of extending the Kingdom of God that the *genuine* discover that your heart motives have **divine purpose and meaning**. You understand that the Bible is intended to be put into practice because of WHO authored it! You take action because HE Who called you wants to use you.

What we're describing is precisely how the Holy Spirit and Scripture define the *genuine*! Your life motive flows with love-based courage if you fervently seek the truth and are willing to pay any cost to live it out (see Revelation 12:11). Please be one of these!

“No one knows the thoughts of God except the Spirit of God. Now we have received not the **spirit of the world**, but the Spirit Who is from God, that we might understand the things freely given to us by God. And we impart this in words **not taught by human wisdom** but taught by the Spirit, explaining spiritual things to those who have the Spirit” (1Corinthians 2:11b-13).

We want to warn you to avoid the **“spirit of the world”** and how this spirit has advanced **autocratic theology**, which means theologians have mandated what you must believe. This ungodly domination is wholly unbiblical! You need to recognize this especially if you're going to fellowship with people who have spent considerable time in nominal Christianity. Many of their beliefs are overshadowed by mandates concocted by theologians. The **spirit of the world** opposes everything we've previously mentioned about the way of life of the *genuine*. Characterized by pride and philosophical reasoning, this spirit motivated theologians who established autocratic beliefs which often contradict Scripture—beliefs which people believe because they sound holy even if they aren't in God's Word. Here are examples of how the **spirit of the world** influenced theologians whose writings have become **autocratic theology** in their respective religious persuasions— and they may have influenced you too:

Thomas Aquinas, a renowned Roman Catholic theologian, was heavily swayed by the Greek philosopher Aristotle. Aquinas relied on Aristotle's mainstay of logic and philosophy as the rational foundation for his Catholic theology. The Protestant Reformers were deeply influenced by a blend of Humanism and the Renaissance. Both led the Reformers to critically examine the Bible, often infusing their own particular biases and interpretations into Scripture. The Renaissance fostered an environment of questioning authority, especially the singular authority of God's Word. The **autocratic theology** of these men commanded belief in their respective writings which were far removed from the biblical foundations of Christ-like development, keeping His commands, and doing Father's will.

The various religious persuasions which these learned men fostered fail to emphasize the life experience of relational intimacy with our Father and our Lord Jesus which the New Covenant offers. Nor do their theological mandates rely on the guidance, confirmation and empowerment of the Holy Spirit in doing our Father's will. Autocratic theologies are often instilled into the various **catechisms** and **confessions** to indoctrinate the nominal. They look to these interpretations as truth alongside God's Word. Throughout nominal Christian denominations, catechisms and confessions often have dominance over the **Bible as the singular source for faith**. Catholic and many Protestant theologies stress that believers must keep their particular autocratic and quite often unbiblical regulations even if they contradict or eliminate key Scriptural truths. This means nominal Christians can keep collectively sinning since they're never held responsible by their leaders to trust and obey the Bible alone as their sole source of God's perspective and way of life.

“He has made us competent as ministers of the New Covenant” (2Corinthians 3:6a).

The *genuine* must possess absolute confidence that our Lord Himself makes you competent as His minister because of His Spirit dwelling in you. The way of life in the New Covenant is one of **spiritual intimacy** filled with **divine purpose and meaning**. If you're going to become a spiritual fellowship family with others who are *genuine*, you must embrace the divine purpose and meaning of living according to the New Covenant out of grateful love for your Lord. If even the slightest tinge of autocratic theology is allowed into your fellowship, you'll experience strife and discord. Let the Scriptures speak for themselves! For more insight into the issues we've discussed, please read:

•Lifebyte 31. God's Warning For Today – Jeremiah's Call to Repentance

•TODAY! What Would Jesus Be Doing If He Were You? Insight 13. Collectively Becoming The Family Of Lord Jesus (Part 2)