

LET NOT YOUR HEART BE TROUBLED

Bertie Brits

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Thank you so much for allowing me to serve you with the Good News of Jesus Christ. The structure of the message that I have today is going to be very simple. I'm just going to have it in two parts: To encourage you and then to have a short teaching at the end where I am speaking from Romans chapter 10. I am going to repeat a little of what I said last week from Romans chapter 10 and we are going to just look at verses 1-5. But, the main focus of today's message is going to be encouragement.

We are going through this pandemic which has turned out to be much more than a pandemic. It also turned out to be a political race to see who is going to be the one that can make use of this pandemic in the best way for him politically. It's turned out to be a situation where a lot of people are losing their jobs, especially in South Africa. They are talking about 7 million jobs that will be lost. That will bring our unemployment to about 40+ percent, which is crazy! It is something that brings a lot of fear to people's hearts.

A lot of people today do not know if they are going to have a job after this lockdown. I'm especially thinking of people in South Africa that are worried. Their children are scared, living in absolute fear not knowing if their parents are going to have money or not, or if they are going to get this coronavirus. There is a lot of fear in people's hearts! I'm not talking just about the people in the church but, I'm talking in general. This message is to encourage you that are in our church as well as something that you can send to friends that can encourage them.

You might know people who do not have the message of the Resurrection, the message of the grace of God, as something they meditate on every day. They just meditate on the news, what is coming through the television screen or through the news media. I heard somebody say that he is not watching TV anymore. He says it now basically boiled down to He is getting his news by his phone. I mean, what's the difference? You are being bombarded with the things of this world, the news of this world, and not all of us can handle that. That information is too much for a lot for of us. We don't know how to handle all of that.

Yesterday, I said to a friend of mine, that we are not made to handle so much information. I don't think, that when God made man, that He made us to carry, as a burden in our hearts, the death of thousands upon millions of people in the world. You know, years and years ago, in the good days, before there was all the news media, you would have to deal with a death of your father and your mother and some friends and maybe you some people in town. Unless you'd been through a war and you had to deal with that and that was very, very traumatic but through the news media today, we carry the death of all people in our hearts and in our minds every day.

All of a sudden, the problems that was that of a president becomes the problems of the world and we need to think through and sift through and handle all of this. We don't always know how to handle that.

I want to encourage you from the Scripture today, if you are a person that lives in absolute fear, you don't know what to do, you are facing the end of your business. I think in South Africa they are talking about closing down many wineries. Some might say, "Hallelujah! The alcohol has stopped!" Yes, on the other side, we also find thousands of people working in that industry, having jobs that provide for their wives and children, and they sit with fear in their heart not knowing what to do. You might not know if this is going to happen to you.

I just read some very simple encouragement for you from the Scripture today:

Psalm 112:

5 A good man shows favor, and he lends: he will guide his affairs with discretion.

6 Surely he shall not be moved forever: (So, yes, something might happen that wants to move you. You might go through a bit of a difficult time but it says, Surely, he shall not be moved forever.) **the righteous shall be in everlasting remembrance.**

7 He shall not be afraid of evil tidings: his heart is fixed, trusting in the LORD.

Isn't that absolutely beautiful! **His heart is fixed, trusting in the Lord!**

Things might come that feel like it can move us a bit but we will not be moved forever and we are not afraid of bad news! Why are we not afraid of bad news? We are not afraid of bad news because our trust is in the Lord!

This week I put a post on Facebook. What I basically said and what came to my heart is: When our trust is in the Lord, we are beholding Jesus, the Resurrected Jesus. We are not beholding our problem and then praying, having Jesus in the back of our minds to sort out our problem. No! Our eyes are not on how Jesus sorts out the problem. Our eyes are fixed on the Resurrected Jesus Christ and I think that is what the Psalm writer has in mind here. My heart is not moved for I am having my heart fixed on Jesus. Let us read it again"

He (the righteous) **shall not be afraid of evil tidings: his heart is fixed** (not moved), **trusting in the LORD.**

Now that is very simple! We are trusting in the Lord and we are not afraid of bad news! Some people say, "What if bad news comes?" We are not afraid of bad news because we are trusting in the Lord. What if the bad news comes that I now don't have a job? We are trusting in the Lord.

The Scripture is clear: Many people in Jesus' time were as much stressed out about the normal things of the world like politics and all those things just as what we are. And Jesus, knowing politics, knowing how money works, knowing the normal cares of this world, knowing all those things, He came and said something very simple. He said, "Look at the birds of the air. They don't sow or reap or gather into barns.

Look at the lilies of the field. They don't toil or spin and yet I tell you that not even Solomon, in all his glory, was arrayed like one of these." What was He saying? He was saying this: "Solomon, in all his glory, got all the money he had, he did everything he did through hard work." He did it through taxation and all those kinds of things. There was a lot of the effort of man involved in there but these lilies and these birds, only lived by what God graces them with. They live by the upkeep of God, alone! Then Jesus explains to us how we are provided for in this world. He says, "Look at the birds of the air. They don't sow or reap or gather into barns. Yet, your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not worth more than they?" Are we not of greater worth? You see, the fact that our businesses work, the fact that we can do what we do, the fact that we have a job... it's not our job providing for us. It is our God that provides for us and now we have a job.

So, if we lose this job, the Source that provides the job has not changed and can never change! He is the unchangeable God, the One that provides forever, the One who is from everlasting to everlasting, that has no beginning and no end! That means that His provision doesn't have a beginning where it started because of something that you've done. He **is** a Provider in His being and His provision, therefore, can never end. Who He is can never end and He has come and decided to express who He is towards you! Glory to God!

You might say, "But there are other people. Look how God provides for them financially and they are now rich and I don't have!" God has blessed that man and through him, He's going to bless you. That is how it works. Look at the case of Joseph. There was a massive famine that came over the land and God raised Joseph up and gave him the interpretation of the dreams that were given to the Pharaoh. They, basically, provided for the whole known world in that time of famine and God was caring for all people. And in the very same way, it will be with you. The thing that can bring us fear is to have our trust in what we possess. But, let us put our focus on Jesus. Let us put or focus on Jesus and each one of us that do have, let us follow the generosity in our hearts towards those who are around us not taking the burden on us that we must be God providing for all people. We just do what God puts in our heart and that's it! And live from the influence of God's love towards us and towards others. That is it! It is as simple as that!

So, I want to you that if we look at Psalm 112, it clearly says, "Surely, the righteous shall not be moved!" Who are the righteous? The righteous are not those who have done everything the Law says. The righteous are those who God blessed. We have been made the righteousness of God through the death and the resurrection of Jesus Christ. You are the righteous. So, what can you expect? We can come to a place where we say, "God, I'm looking at the Lord. I'm looking at the fact that death was conquered! I'm looking at the fact that I stand righteous before You! I'm looking at the fact that Your goodness and Your faithfulness is expressed towards me in You keeping Your promise that You have towards me!"

We are going to look at different passages today, looking at how God is good to us. Yes, I'm not saying that sometimes there is not hard work, where we in our businesses work hard. If I just look at myself in ministry, I do spend a lot of time in studying and reading, praying about things, and looking at scriptures and all those kinds of things. It isn't as if everything just falls from the sky.

Yes, we do practical things but the revelation that comes as I study, cannot be bought with money. It is something that is given by God. In the very same way as you were, as you had a job, as you worked, as you were in business and all those kinds of things, the provision that came through the things, you might have worked very hard, but the life that comes and the provision that comes, comes from God. And maybe this way of doing business or that job that you've had, it has now changed. The God who gives life has not changed! He remains the same! Look at David. Look at the people in the Old Testament. Look at Jesus. Look at the disciples. Look at the early Church. God has provided! Glory to God and He shall always provide!

Let me read this again:

Psalm 112

6 Surely he shall not be moved forever: the righteous man shall be in everlasting remembrance.

5 A good (the righteous) man shows favor, and he lends:

He already has an attitude and I like what it is saying here. What does the righteous man do? He gives to other people. Why does he do that? Why does he have that inclination of, "Let me be generous." It is the heart of God towards him that is born in him. That is why that person knows that the giving that he gives, that the love that he has shown to other people, when it was going well with him financially, the reason why he does that is because he knows that is how God is towards him. That is it! It is a fruit.

Righteousness in the New Testament is not something where we do the Law. It is an action because of what God exercised towards us. If I have always known that God has provided for me, God has cared for me, and that is why I can preach, why good things can be in my life, from that platform, I am good to others. Now, that is not a seed that I have sown! Some say that is a seed you sowed that you live off. Rubbish! It is the goodness of God that I live off! Even if I have not given, it is not an issue! God is our provider and the person that knows that is not moved when he hears bad news because he knows that God is the one that cares for him anyway. So, it might be that our situation changes a bit but our heart is fixed because we trust the Lord. Glory to God! Amen and amen!

Please, in this time, never think, "Why has this bad thing happened to me? Maybe I stopped believing in the sowing and reaping message or the tithing message, and now I might be going through a bit of a difficult time. Hey, let me tell you something and this is the next point I want to move to. The coronavirus, COVID-19, doesn't have eternal life! It is a virus that will die. Just in itself it does not possess eternal life. It's going to die. You are going to outlive it! You might say, "But people have already died of it." Those who have already died, who believed in the Lord, will outlive the coronavirus. I promise you that. Church, we have eternal life! And our eternal life is not a spooky place somewhere. Eternal life is not some spiritual place somewhere! Eternal life is expressed in the resurrected Jesus! Before Jesus died, He knew He knew that He is the possessor of eternal life.

He's the son of God and yes, there was the voice that thundered, that said, "What if You get crucified? What if You die?" And what did Jesus do? He said, "On the third day I will be raised!" His eyes were fixed on the Father and His heart was not moved. His heart was stable because He was beholding the Father and what the Father had promised Him.

I want to tell you that the corruption that is in politics and in some politicians and this whole corrupt, political systems of this world does not possess eternal life. It shall pass away! What is in you has much more longevity than what the corrupt systems of this world has. The corruption and the systems of this world is subject to termination. It doesn't have eternal life in itself. It is a system of death of which the whole world is part of and God has come to save us out of that because God knows that the systems of this world and the corruptions of this world is not eternal. And He sees that we are in it. He's come to save us out of it for it shall surely pass away. But we now have life! Glory to God!

But you might say, "But I am not seeing all that life in me now!" But we see Jesus who has said this, who has believed it and who is raised from the dead, who has the fullness of the Godhead bodily. And we also have that now and it is for the Spirit of God to manifest in us. It is not our job! We just rest! We need to realize that the gospel is not the message of how Jesus did everything for us and how we must now try and get that to manifest. It is a rest in who He is. That is what this is all about. I want to tell you that Jesus also addressed the political system of His time. He also said things when the threat of death came His way and I want to read that. I think that some of these Pharisees might have been some good Pharisees.

Luke 13:31 *The same day there came certain of the Pharisees, saying unto him (Jesus), **Get out of here, and depart from here: for Herod will kill you.*** The word, "will" there means determines.

I want to read it to you from The Message paraphrase:

Just then some Pharisees came up to Jesus and said, "Run for your life! Herod's on the hunt. He's out to kill you!"

Now imagine that! Here, the king decides to kill you! He now has a plot to kill you! It would be like the President of your country has now decided to kill you. What are you going to do about that? Listen to what Jesus said to him:

32 And he said to them, you Go, and tell that fox (that sly thief) **Behold today and tomorrow, I cast out demons, and I cure people but on the third day it shall be completed.**

Let me read the King James:

And he said unto them, **Go ye, and tell that fox, Behold, I cast out devils, and I do cures today and tomorrow, and the third day I shall be perfected.**

My goodness! What He was saying to Herod is this: Now, I'm still curing people here and there and now you might threaten to kill Me, but I want to tell you, "On the third day I will be perfected!" He was saying, "You are going to have a perfect problem!"

The problem is that you can now threaten Me with death but I will be raised from the dead and what I am under is much greater than what you could ever bring to Me. And I shall not have My life shaped to the stupid threats of some Fox! I have My life shaped to Truth!" That's what Jesus said. That is the perfection that He talks about there.

Jesus learned obedience through the things that He suffered.

Hebrews 5:8 *Though he were a Son, yet learned he obedience by the things which he suffered;*

And then He was perfected from where He becomes the Author of salvation.

Hebrews 5:9 *And being made perfect, he became the author of eternal salvation unto all them that obey him;*

He was not perfected **through** suffering. No! The Bible says that He learned obedience through the things that He suffered. That means that He suffered. It was just the way the writer of Hebrews was saying. He suffered and the suffering that He was suffering was in obedience to God. God said to Him, "I want You to take the sins of people upon You." And He went to the cross in obedience to God but then He was perfected in the resurrection. That means that Jesus wasn't perfect before the resurrection! "Oh, Bertie!" He wasn't perfect! He was subject to death! He could die. He could be tempted. He wasn't perfected. But He was perfected the day He was raised from the dead from where He becomes the author of salvation saving us now so that we can have the hope of eternal life. Jesus was perfected in His resurrection. Glory to God! That is very, very powerful!

The scripture says that He learned obedience from the things that He had suffered. That means that He just obeyed the Father even in suffering and was perfected. How was He perfected? He was raised and so He became the Author of salvation.

When Herod threatened Him saying, "I'm going to kill You!", Jesus said, "Go tell the Fox that I shall be perfected. I shall be made immortal. What will you do to Me? I'm your problem! I am greater than anything Rome can ever do to Me for My eyes are fixed on what the Father has promised Me! He says, "On the third day, I will be raised!" So, what was Jesus' mindset in the presence of death? It was, "I shall be raised!" That is His mindset: I shall be raised and there is nothing that I'm going to try and do now to preserve My own life. I know My life is preserved in the voice, the promise, of the Father. "

When Jesus was in the desert tempted of the devil, what was the devil's message to Him? The devil's message to Him is, "Well, even though You are a Son of God show some proof that You are the Son of God." And Jesus said to Him, "We shall not live by bread alone! What we need, in order to live, is for the Word, the promise, that the Father has towards us to be fulfilled." What He was basically saying is, "I'm not going to try to flee from Herod to try and save My own life! That's not what I am going to do." He says, "But, I am going to go to Jerusalem." If you read on, it says that is the place given for all the prophets to be killed by the very people God is speaking to.

He was saying to Herod, "Man, the problem is not so much you, I'm obeying the Father and I've got the promise of eternal life. I'm doing some signs and miracles today but I shall be perfected!" So, I want to tell you that you cannot perfect yourself by having your business do business for another five years or ten years. You cannot perfect yourself by any of those things. We have the Word of perfection. We have the Spirit of perfection, which is the Holy Spirit, poured out on us. Glory to God! Hallelujah!

John 13: Peter wants to be where Jesus is.

36 Simon Peter said to him, Lord, where do You go? Jesus answered him, Where I go, you cannot follow me now; but you shall follow me afterwards.

37 Peter said unto him, Lord, why can I not I follow you now? I will lay down my life for your sake.

38 Jesus answered him, "Will you lay down your life for my sake? Truly, truly, I say to you, the cock shall not crow till you have denied me three times.

Jesus goes on and says to Peter, **John 14: "Let not your hearts be troubled. Believe in God; believe also in me.**

Why was Peter's heart troubled? Peter's heart was troubled because his eyes were fixed on what he needs to do right now. Remember, Peter wasn't thinking of Jesus dying for my sins and he didn't even believe in that. Peter didn't believe in the gospel we believe today. He was walking with Jesus. He was doing miracles in the name of Jesus and he was very happy that the devils are subject to him in the name of Jesus. He was basically thinking, "Hallelujah, we are now having the Messiah here and with all these signs and wonders in our pocket, we can now truly take over the political system of this world. And we can end Rome's rulership over us because we have something here! We have a real good Messiah, Jesus, here, the sent One from God and we are now going to take over this world! I am willing to even die for this because I want to see the kingdom of God established in this world, through You, Jesus! I'm willing to die for You!"

And Jesus said to him, "Your heart is troubled because your heart is fixed in what you think you need to do in order to save the day! Don't let your heart be troubled! Peter, in your ability, you are going to deny Me! Your ability doesn't work. You can't sort out this problem. You believe in God but you are not believing that I can solve it for you. But you believe in God but also believe in Me. I am going to do it! I will prepare a place for you and then I will come and take you and put you where I am." He's not talking about going to heaven one day. He's actually talking about being a possessor of eternal life, bodily. He's talking about the perfection of His resurrection and where He is in His bodily born from the Father.

He's saying to Peter, "I'm going to prepare a place for you. There's a lot of place in eternal life for all of you but I need to go and sit down as a human at the right hand of God and take humanity into the Godhead. That's how I prepare a place for you that you can be a partaker of eternal life. Then, I, by My Spirit, will see that you, from your mortal condition, will get into that place. It is not for you to do it. It is for Me to do it. You trust Me."

Peter's problem was a troubled heart. His heart was troubled with many things. Like Jesus said to Martha, "Martha, Martha, you are troubled with many things. Your heart is troubled with works!" So, what troubles us? What troubles our heart? What brings fear to our heart? The greatest thing in our heart is the fear of, "What am I going to do?" If this and this happens, what am I going to do?

Let me give you a testimony out of my own life. We have our own TV station which we broadcast the grace message in South Africa 24/7. Now we got news from the owners of this whole platform. They have 200 plus stations. They said to us, seemingly, "During this COVID-19 time, people are not really paying their subscription." So, obviously, they need to pay the satellite companies for their bandwidth. Now they are going to broadcast less channels because they need to afford this bandwidth. The channels that they gave out for free, which we are one of those channels, our air time was just given to us for free, 24/7, which was an absolute miracle! They basically said that they are going to close those channels down for now. I mean, I could have lived all the time saying, "What if?" I mean they are giving me all this air time for free.... What if one day they will take it away?" I mean, I never lived in the "what if when they take it away?" It's just happening now that they are doing it. And what do you say in this situation? "Thank God for the two or three years we could have broadcast for free! Hallelujah!"

"But, Bertie, what if people don't hear the gospel?" I'm not God! It's God's job to work in their hearts and to lead them. The time when we could have preached and it was for free, glory to God! If it's not there anymore, I mean, what can I do? Am I now going to pray this TV station into life now because this is what is happening in the world? No, this is what is happening and we have a hope and we expect that should things get right, that they will offer it to us again, we will be very happy if they do that, glory to God, but we are not going to lose some sleep over this thing. We are not going to do that because we are not scared of bad news because our hearts are fixed on the One that was perfected. He's come and spilling out His perfection and His life, from that perfection on us. It is not a kind of a thing where we are building this kingdom with God! It is God that brought forth a kingdom in this world and to the advancing of this kingdom, there shall be no end, by the doing of God. Alleluia! It's not for me to try and "pull up my socks" and try and get the kingdom of God! You will make yourself tired!

I want to say to all the people: You might have big churches, big buildings, not knowing how to pay for everything and not knowing what is going to happen, and all those kinds of things. Listen, don't let the thing destroy you! If you don't have the money to pay those things and they want to sell your things and close it down, let it be! Let it be and just continue to believe in the good news of Jesus Christ for all the years you have been in that building.

You've preached. You've helped people. You've been good to people and God has lived in you there. Why now kill yourself over it? It is God's church! Maybe some things are changing. Start to preach via the internet. If you don't want to do that then, just preach to the folks that you have contact with. It's not a sin to have a small church. It's not a sin to care for those that are within your ability and reach. Let us not go and try and make things work in the name of Jesus, working up in our faith. Be encouraged! But you might say, "That is the most wicked thing that I've just heard! We need to stand up in the name of Jesus!" Listen, when Jesus Christ was on the earth, He said, "Heaven and earth will pass away but not one of My words will pass away!" He said that without making any effort to ever write down one word. 38

Can you show me where Jesus definitely wrote anything? But you might say that He wrote in the ground when the woman was caught in the act of adultery. It never says that He wrote any words there. He could just have been bored scratching around some stones there or whatever. Some say that He wrote this or some say that He wrote that ... that is just speculation. Jesus was definitely not the highest educated man as pertaining to literacy of His day. He grew up as a carpenter's son. But what He was carrying in His mouth. He could read and I am sure He could write but to Him, what He said, had so much life in it that it could never die! He didn't make any effort to write anything down. He knew it was so flooded with life that He can just say it. He went to small villages. Imagine this: If we want what we say to be recorded forever more, are we going to now go to some small African village and preach it there and make no effort to even write anything down and never command our disciples to even write it down?

About twenty years after the resurrection of Jesus, the first documents were drawn up, where they were writing things down. That's amazing! The Word can never die and the encouragement that I want to give to you is: Listen. The kingdom of God is not falling because your church closes! The church can never close, my friend! Maybe the way you've preached can change a bit. Maybe you can go back to that building a year from now when things change but you don't have to lose sleep over these things all the time!

And another thing. It's just very practical. Please, as preachers, don't go and try to make something work by trying to build an internet ministry now. Don't you just want to rest a bit? Don't you just want to come to a place, from the pure heart, just love some folk? In my heart, the Holy Spirit's working in me. I will not preach one message on a camera or preach one message unless I feel inspired to do it. I'm not saying that I'm preaching a message every day to encourage people because I might not feel to do it tomorrow and then I feel like I have to work up something. I'm not going to do that. I speak by the inspiration that God has put in my heart when I feel that I want to do that. That's what I want to do. Even if I don't want to preach on a Sunday, I will broadcast an old message but, I am not going to do and live from this, "I must make the Kingdom work!" It's not going to work! Let us not let our hearts be troubled. It's not how we lay down our lives for the Kingdom. It's about how God has come to give us life in the Kingdom.

Hebrews 13:5 Let your conversation be without covetousness; and be content with such things as you have: for he has said, I will never leave you, nor forsake you.

Let your conversation be without covetousness; and be content with such things as you have: That is so beautiful to me now! I know that can also talk about just be happy in the situation with whatever stuff you have but if you take that word, “whatsoever you have,” it means whatsoever is close to you. Then he goes on and he says: ***“for he has said, I will never leave you, nor forsake you.”*** That means that **He** is close to you. So, He says, “Let not your conversation be with covetousness.” Don’t go and say, “I just hope that I can have this thing... and I can have that thing...” Be happy with what is close to you. That money might be far from you. That business deal might be far from you. That other job may be far from you but what is close to you is God! ***I will never leave you, nor forsake you.***

Let your conversation be without covetousness (a desire for stuff); ***and be content*** (Be happy with what is close to you) ***with such things as you have: for he has said, I will never leave you, nor forsake you.***

:6 So that we may boldly say, The Lord is my helper, and I will not fear what man shall do (what can man do) ***to me.***

Can you see that Hebrews is having this whole concept of the perfection of the resurrected Jesus and perfection towards us. We cannot die... and that includes our bodies. But what if we die? God calls it sleep. He calls it the nap. That’s what He calls it. We have eternal life! We have the One, that has conquered death, close to us and I’m happy with the One that is close to me!

He talks about money things here. He talks about the normal things of this world. He is saying, “Listen, don’t worry about these things. I have said, “I will never leave you nor forsake you! Therefore, what can man be able to do to you? Look at the birds of the air. They don’t sow or reap. Look at the lilies of the field. They have life and they are clothed by grace and not their works! Don’t let your heart be troubled!”

Romans 10:

1 Brethren, my heart's desire and prayer to God for Israel is, that they might be saved.

2 For I bear them record that they have a zeal of God, but not according to knowledge.

3 For they being ignorant of God's righteousness (They were ignorant of what God has done. I am paraphrasing what is written there. They are ignorant, ignoring, of what God has freely given them in Jesus, and are going about trying to get Jesus to manifest. That is what he basically saying there) ***and going about to establish their own righteousness, have not submitted themselves unto the righteousness of God.***

4 For Christ is the end of the law for righteousness (But they are still trying to bring forth the end of the law which is the Christ or the Messiah.) ***to every one that believeth.***

Church, there is nothing that we need to try and do! Let us just be very practical about this. When a bad thing comes your way, what do we do if you want to do something? You just say to God, "Help." That's it. And you rest. You behold the resurrected Jesus! Don't behold your problem and see how God is going to sort out your problem. Just go and think of the resurrected Jesus. He's above death. He's above sin!

"Oh, God! Look at what is happening in the politics!" You guys don't even want to know what is going on in South African politics! It is crazy! What do you do? I'm not looking at how Jesus is going to sort out the politics because I don't need the politics to change in order for me to have life. I just behold the resurrected Christ! I see a human perfected at the right hand of God. I see His life is my life. I see, as I behold the fullness of the glory of God in the face of Jesus. I see it as in me and I see how I am being changed into the very same image by beholding that image. So many times, we think that the life we have we'll have by the things of this world is already freely given to us. We don't have to go over land and sea to have life. We don't need the newest car. A man's life does not consist out of the abundance of his possessions. His life consists out of Jesus!

And I want to tell you this: As I looked at that, I find that it brings a peace and a calmness to me in this world that makes a person also, in this world, not have nothing. A person that is mindful of the resurrected Christ and His finished work, you find that he is at peace. He can make good decisions as pertaining to a job. Let's take it very practically: If you have lost your job and you are now looking for another job, but your eyes are focused on Jesus and not the job, you will find that when you go for that interview and speak to that boss, it is not from the perspective of you trying to make it work putting pressure into the situation, saying things that you are not supposed to say, having a bad interview. No, you will go with the peace of God because you know that God is your source and when you go and speak you are not going to try and fabricate things that's not truly who you are. You will speak from a heart of rest and God will, in such a way, provide a job for you. It might take a time for God to do that. Things are being sorted out but, in the meantime, He will still care for you! You will still eat. Some of us must still struggle to lose weight during that time. How do we know? One thing you know is that God provides for us. Be encouraged, Church! We are the Church, the body of the Christ! Hallelujah! Coronavirus does not have eternal life. Corruption in these politics does not have eternal life. I want to tell you that neither democracy nor socialism or any of those things has eternal life.

Let me get very radical... We so much want to protect our constitutions. I'm not saying that you should not do that. I'm not saying that you should not make your stand in this world. Do what you feel the Lord leads you to do but know this: If the constitution needs your life to have it safe, how can it save you? It is then in the need of the life of mortals to keep it going. How can it provide life for you? It can never! Your eyes are on the wrong thing if your eyes are on, "Let us keep the Constitution." In a thousand years from now, if Jesus has not returned, I want to promise you that the South African constitution will not be there anymore. The U.S. constitution will not be there anymore. It's going to be gone! It's going to change. It is subject to change because it is made by man. It's man's wisdom but I want to tell you that the wisdom of God. The Bible says and Jesus Christ became the wisdom of God... not our Constitution! Our Constitution is not the wisdom of God. Neither communism nor democracy is the wisdom of God. Jesus Christ is the wisdom of God.

God decided that the wisest thing you can ever do is to be informed about God's life in the physical man, Jesus Christ. "But, Bertie, we need to be informed in this world." I agree. We can be informed by the news media, but, if those things cause fear in your heart or those things cause you to walk with stress all day, get it out of your life. I want to define 'informed'. True information is the knowledge of God! Some of us are so informed that we are not informed at all! We are informed about our situation. We are informed about the things of this world. What about being informed that you are the righteousness of God in Christ? What about being informed that you are a possessor of immortality? What about being informed that Jesus is the President of the whole world? What about the information that we cannot be kept safe by our constitutions but by Jesus Christ? What about the information where we behold the fullness of the Godhead bodily in the face of Jesus Christ and we behold that as the word of God's promise towards us? What about that info? I think that sometimes we need to switch a lot of the things off and go and pray to God and look at the resurrected Jesus so that we can be informed. Let God inform us!

I'm just honest. I think what has happened so many times with politics and those kinds of things and the excuse of being informed is we, actually, were so having our focus and our heart into life comes from what is happening around me, that we have used the excuse that we cannot be just like an ostrich putting our head in the sand. Now, we are all the time wanting to be informed because we are anxious not knowing how we are going to get this thing to produce life for us. Hey, let's get our eyes on Jesus! The way you get your eyes on Jesus is not by quoting four verses! It is by beholding the physical Jesus, beholding what has happened in the resurrection and the reality and the truth thereof. We need to come to a place where we need to deal with a resurrection of Jesus the way the Apostles dealt with it. They thought Jesus was this political leader that was going to help them to bring in God's Constitution which was the Law of Moses. That's what they thought and then the guy died. Then He was bodily raised, walked here for some days and then ascended on high. Now that messes up your whole way of thinking but it is something we need to deal with. "God, what does that mean? What does it mean for us today?"

God decided that the only way we can have true salvation is by Him raising Jesus from the dead and giving Him as our Messiah. "But, Bertie, do you know what this political party says?" Tell those foxes that today we live and we preach the Gospel and tomorrow we shall be made perfect! Hallelujah! Glory to God!

I trust that this has encouraged you. Let us not be like the Pharisees and the Sadducees and the scribes of their time, trying to work up our own righteousness willingly ignoring the resurrected Jesus. What we seek, by working up our own system so many times, has already been given. What we think is on the other side of a peaceful political system has already been given to us in the resurrected Jesus.

"But, Bertie, it looks as if you are not trying to face reality." No, go and ask God what is real. Go and ask God what is true. Go and ask God what is eternal. Why have our lives shaped by something that is only for a moment? "Now, but Bertie, you know we are physical. There's a real world!" Do you want to tell me that Jesus is not real? Do you want to tell me that His body is not real? He has no bones in the grave!

The problem is that our theology became such a “spiritual” theology where it is about our spirits departing from our bodies and where our spirits go to a heaven somewhere, which is a non-physical, non-material place, to a certain degree as measured to a physicality today, that we cannot see that God can save this world. But what the message of the Gospel is, is that Jesus, the Word, became flesh and dwelt amongst us and that flesh was perfected. There’s no bones in the grave! But some people say that the resurrection means something else. There’s only one definition for the resurrection to me: No bones in the grave and the body living forever in the fullness of the glory of God! That is the definition of eternal life and that is the definition of the resurrection.

And I want to tell you that God didn’t come to play games. He came to bring eternal life to this world. As we behold this truth, we find that we live and we flourish even in the midst of all these things, with our eyes fixed on Jesus, the Author and the Finisher of the persuasion that He WAS raised and that His promise to us is resurrection. “But, what’s going to happen in the end? I’m scared! What’s going to happen in the end?” This is what Jesus said, John 6, this is His job: His job is that everyone that the Father gave Him, He would raise him up in the last day!” So why shall we stress as if Jesus is not going to do His job? He IS the President! He is the King! He is the Lord! We are **in** this world but the life that we have is not **of** this world. Hallelujah! Glory to God!

Father, I want to thank You for Your goodness. I want to thank You for Your grace. I want to thank You for life!

I thank You that we can behold Jesus raised from the dead, the One with eternal life, and that we are the possessors of eternal life! Lord, we cannot have our lives shaped by our view on viruses and our view on politics and all those kind of things, for those are temporal things! The viruses don’t have eternal life! The political systems don’t have eternal life! Our Constitutions do not have eternal life! But You have! And we are today looking at what is eternal and what is true and we see that as our destination. And we see the power that brings us to it. It is You and not us. Therefore, we have peace today! Amen and amen

I thank You so much that I could just share this Good News with you today. I trust that it has encouraged you. Share it with some friends. People need it. Amen