



INCLUSION: GOD'S MERCY UNTO THEM ALL MARCH 24, 2025

ROMANS 11:32 NKJV - (32) "For God has committed them all to disobedience (unbelief) that He might have mercy on all."

A wise man once uttered: "The Christ of God has proclaimed that I am an overcomer of the world, the flesh, the devil, and death. By the grace of God, I agree, and I walk daily in the overcoming power of Christ. By God's Grace, I hear a cry from Heaven proclaiming that I have come to this conclusion, that the answer is not exclusion. The answer is inclusion. It's not evolution, it's revolution. The Christ of God has taken up His watchfulness in me this day." The foregoing is the daily confession of an Overcomer. Note: it states that the answer is inclusion, and not exclusion.

During times within the ministry of the Church, there have been reports of individuals that have felt judged, excluded, and unworthy. Over the years, many have testified about instances where they felt excluded, ostracized, or singled out for various reasons. Yet some are able to testify to instances where their actions knowingly or unknowingly (by omission or commission) may have caused someone else to feel excluded, ostracized, or singled out - where they should have been more patient and supportive of others but were not.

To combat this, due regard must be given to the contributions of everyone. Individuals who have been in the ministry for a shorter period should not be made to feel that what they receive from God is less important than others. Individuals who are female should not be made to feel that on account of their sex, they have less to contribute. Individuals who are younger should not be made to feel that they are less able to hear the voice of God than those who are older. Individuals who are not as schooled in Biblical studies should not be made to feel that his or her voice holds less authority in matters pertaining to God.

Why inclusion and what are the perils of exclusion? Let's go back to the beginning. **JOHN 1:2** tells us that "In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. The same was in the beginning with God." God did nothing without His Son. In fact, God included His Son in every work and created all things by the Son (**EPHESIANS 3:9**), without whom nothing was made (**JOHN 1:3**). The relationship of God our Father and His Son, Christ demonstrates the principle of inclusion. We see this principle of inclusion further displayed in the relationship of Christ, the Son of God, and the Holy Ghost. The Father included the Son in the work of creation, and the Holy Ghost is included in continuing the work of gathering and teaching the Lord's Church. At the earthly departure of Jesus, He told the disciples in **JOHN 14:16**, "And I will pray the Father, and He will give you another Helper, so that He may be with you forever."

In verse **26**, the Comforter is revealed as 'The Holy Spirit' whom the Father has sent, who teaches us all things. Think less about prosperity in terms of material blessings, and more about Spiritual effectiveness in ministry.

SCRIPTURE READING: 2 PETER 1:8-10

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK: Disobedience comes to fruition in real time; so, experience His obedience!