DELIVERANCE FROM THE THREEFOLD DELUSION

Richie Kaa, prepared for the Presbytery fellowship word, 30 January 2022

Transcription of recording, slightly edited

Greetings

It is a particularly significant weekend, with prayer and fasting at the start of the year. We bring greetings from the group in Victoria, particularly from Wonga Park where we attend every week. We really have had a tremendous season together.

Most of our year felt as though it was via livestream, but we were really privileged and have enjoyed being back together physically in the church buildings across the state.

It is great to be with you also in this manner. I know that we have been having a bit of a joke about the thought of coming up here to avoid Covid-19 happening down our way. It turns out that Covid is everywhere, so we are just happy to be here with you, and happy that you can be here too.

Being restored to fellowship at the tree of life

I will pick up from where David Black recently ministered, two weeks ago. His primary focus was a revised statement of our pre-marriage counsel, as well as the format of our wedding service.

We know that the Lord has been urging us to turn in repentance from our *sacramental* approach in these matters and to be restored to *fellowship at the tree of life*.

The remnant of the Spirit

The area that I would like to focus on is the term, 'a remnant (or a portion) of the Spirit'.

We take this expression from the prophet Malachi who wrote, 'Has not the Lord made them one having a portion of the Spirit. And why one? Because He seeks godly offspring. So, guard yourselves in your spirit and let none deal treacherously with the wife of your youth.'

We have often considered this topic over the years, and particularly over the past 12 months. This morning I will give us the backdrop to this provision.

We are all becoming comfortable with the thought that we receive a portion of the Spirit on the day that we marry.

The question I will address is, 'What does this look like? What qualifies us to receive this portion? Also, what impedes us, and what is the evidence that we are walking as ones who are in receipt of this portion?'

Being joined to the conversation of fellowship at the tree of life; the agape meal

I will lay out a simple *framework* for this morning's meditation, and consider which conversation we are joined to. I will highlight the need for every one of us to be converted in order that we can be *joined to the right conversation*.

We will then demonstrate through the example of Peter that *conversion precedes new birth*.

Once two sons of God are born of God's life, there is the basis for a Christian marriage where a couple can receive the fruit of the tree of life which is fed to them by Yahweh at the agape meal.

An *agape* meal is not just a nice new term for sharing a meal with Christian friends. You know that.

Agape defines the nature of our participation at the tree of life. That is, we are receiving the motivation of love to lay down our life, not as a generic expression of Christian kindness, but according to the sanctification of each person.

This will mean that a husband's expression will be completely different from his wife's expression, and neither will feel demeaned or dishonoured. They have a completely unique expression, completely unique works, but are completely in harmony with one another, because it is the same fruit of the tree that is being given and becoming the conversation of their marriage together.

This, then, describes the conversation.

Equipped for our works by the remnant of the Spirit

And, of course, we can add to that the *conduct* of each couple as they receive a portion of His Spirit as an *equipping* for the work of bringing forth godly seed.

An equipping is being given to us.

An *expression* of that is the conversation which is becoming our daily reality together.

The judgement of God when we are disconnected

When we are not eating from the tree of life - we heard this very clearly again last night and then last weekend - we are coming *under judgement*.

Some are *weak* in faith, some are *sin-sick* and some are *spiritually dying*. This is the merciful progression of judgement that unfolds in the life of a believer as they become *disconnected from the tree of life*.

It is apparent from the account in Numbers 21 verses four through to nine that those who were bitten did not immediately drop dead. The fiery serpents came, and as they bit those in the camp, it seems that they became weak; then they became sick. And if they refused to exercise their initiative to call for the elders, they dropped dead.

I am mixing that statement with the statement in the first epistle of John, but I want to highlight this progression that we recognise as being the *judgement of God*.

Knowing the issue which the Lord is judging

There is an initiative to us that, as we become aware of the matters about which the Lord is speaking to us - and there was a great sense of prayer toward this matter last night - we would know, we would personally know, the issue that is causing us to come under the judgement of God.

He wants us to know.

More than that, He wants us then to *find faith to present ourselves for fellowship*, calling for the elders because we recognise that there is a need for us to be restored in fellowship and to fellowship.

This is the way in which the Lord is coming to us *today*.

These fiery serpents were the seraphim - angels bringing about the judgement of God which, on one side, *caused the death* of all who refused to repent. But, on the other side of the ledger, it brought about a *great revival and cleansing* among the people.

Revival and cleansing is His provision

There was a great revival and great cleansing because those who called out to Moses, as well as to the elders, were finding a way forward. But they had to register the issue that the Lord had with them; to turn in repentance, and to walk in a new way.

The point I want to focus on this morning is that the *seraphim came to take away the iniquity of the people*. I think you would agree that it was by dramatic means.

He came to take away their iniquity, but He also came to address the matter that was speaking against Moses and, of course, against *Yahweh*. Those who were sinning a sin not unto death were healed by the provision of life effected by the prayer of Moses, which required the people to look upon the serpent on the pole.

The judgement of God did fall upon the camp, and those who 'dug in' and refused to turn found no provision. There was no provision for those who refused to turn and receive the provision that was being put in place by Moses as he prayed to the Lord.

Complaint and murmuring

The judgement of God fell upon the camp because their *lips were unclean*, which is confirmed in the way in which they *spoke in complaint* against *Yahweh* and His messenger. They complained; they murmured.

They sat down around their *meal tables*, and they complained about *the bread from heaven*, saying, 'We are sick of it.'

They complained about their *circumstances*, saying, 'We do not want it; we do not like it.'

They complained about the fact that they could not determine their own outcomes.

Their pursuits of pleasure were thwarted because of the scenario that the Lord had brought them into; and they were not happy.

Their dishonour and their complaint demonstrated that they were eating food from the wrong tree.

Their complaint, their dishonouring, and the murmuring in their hearts simply indicated that they were eating food from the wrong tree.

This is true for us today, also. When we eat of the wrong tree, we will speak against the Lord, and we will speak against His presbytery. This will provoke the judgement of God upon us and our houses.

The removal of iniquity

We must register that His judgement is coming to remove iniquity. And He wants to remove the iniquity of every son of God who is gathered here today.

He wants to remove the iniquity, but He is doing it by dramatic means, and He wants you to register it. He wants you to discern the matter that is now working against you to make you weak in faith, sin-sick and even spiritually dying.

This is the matter that the Lord is putting before us.

'So I said, "Woe is me for I am undone [I am ruined]! Because I am a man of unclean lips, and I dwell in the midst of a people of unclean lips; for my eyes have seen the King, the Lord of hosts". Then one of the seraphim flew to me having in his hand [a live coal], which he had taken with the tongs from the altar. He touched my mouth with it and said, "Behold, this has touched your lips; your iniquity is taken away and your sin is purged".' Isa 6:5-7.

Here was, again, the ministry of seraphim coming to address iniquity and the sin of Isaiah. His confession was, 'I am cut off, I am destroyed.' Now, why did he say that? It is because he was *illuminated* to see the King, the Lord of hosts, and he, in the presence of the Lord, had fallen well short.

He knew in that instant that he had eaten from the wrong tree. He registered that his lips were unclean. He registered the nature of his conversation. He registered what he was feeding to those who had fellowship with him.

He was beginning to see and understand the nature of iniquity that sat within his heart and that the Lord was now coming to address. That was his confession. 'I am a man of unclean lips and I live amongst a people with unclean lips.'

Then the fiery coals were administered to his lips by the seraphim, which took away his iniquity and purged his sin. This then sanctified Isaiah to his calling as a prophet.

What conversation are we joined to?

Let us pause for a moment and note that the Lord is coming among us to bring illumination concerning which conversation we are joined to, in order that we might all be joined to the conversation at the tree of life.

So that we can be joined to this conversation at the tree of life, the Lord is going to take away our iniquity and purge our sin. Praise the Lord!

And He does not use tongs to carry a hot coal to our mouths.

The atoning ministry of the scraphim is now with Christ, and it is His eyes as a flame of fire that are exposing our iniquity; the iniquity that resides within our heart.

Christ came alongside Peter

Christ came alongside Peter to *take away his iniquity*. We have been appreciating the nature of how Christ comes and joins us; comes alongside us. Joh 18:15.

He came alongside Peter and, like the fiery serpents who bit those who spoke with unclean lips, or the fiery coals applied to Isaiah's unclean lips, so it was that *Christ's fiery eyes searched Peter's heart*, fully exposing his iniquity and bringing him completely undone.

He could have repeated the statement of Isaiah, 'I am destroyed. I am ruined. I am brought completely undone.'

Peter's *religious projection* had failed in the most spectacular manner, and before the very eyes of Christ.

If a person wanted their projection as a disciple to succeed, they would have really wanted it to succeed in front of Christ. For Peter, it fell apart in the most dramatic of fashions. More than that, it was recorded in the Scriptures for all of us through history to enjoy.

Peter's conversion – a pathway of discipleship; for us also

But he provides a wonderful example for us all, because that *pathway of discipleship* is a pathway on which *every one of us* will walk.

We must walk this way to know conversion.

This is what the Lord is impressing upon us in our understanding of how we can receive and join the conversation at the tree of life. Peter's religious projection failed in the most spectacular of manners and, of course, before the eyes of Christ. Peter was *utterly bankrupt*, and he wept bitterly. That is where *Peter was converted*, coming to a complete endpoint concerning his religious projection.

He did not think to himself, 'I will go again. I will see if this succeeds tomorrow.' He was not motivated to 'tinker' a little bit to see if he could help this projection to succeed.

He registered that this was 'done and dusted'. There was nothing in this for him any longer. He was brought to complete reality.

The Lord desires this for each of *us*. Each of us needs to be converted, and I trust that there is no one here today who disagrees with that point.

We *each* must register that this is for us the *pathway of discipleship*.

All of the disciples had to be converted; washed and given sight

Peter was converted from his projection as a religious zealot, and that had to happen before he was born again. That was equally applicable to the other disciples.

We tend to focus on Peter being a zealot.

However, we need to register that an entire reality of *projection* sat with every one of the disciples, and each one of them had to be *converted*.

Judas' sin was a sin unto death, because he would not hear the word that Jesus was coming to wash him with. He would not receive it.

He was at the wrong tree, joined to the wrong conversation, and could not obey the word which would have washed him and given him sight concerning the hidden things of his name, of his works, and of those with whom he was joined in fellowship.

He could not receive that word and that washing from Jesus. *He would not obey the word*, and would not obey the word which was going to wash him.

This is the nature of the fellowship of the washing.

For the rest of the disciples, their conversation was an *illumination* which caused them to understand, or comprehend, the depths of their wretchedness.

We have to say, quite simply, we cannot accept the heights unless we start at the bottom of the mountain; unless we can accept the depths of our wretchedness. Let us apply this point.

'I am not sure that I am born'

For some of this here, there is there still a large degree of religious zealotry in us which needs to be converted before we can be properly *born of God*. I do not want you to be surprised by that statement.

I recall that, around about the time of the National Bible School last year, a number of folk said to me, 'I am not sure that I am actually born of God. I was born into the church, raised in the church, married in the church; but I'm not sure that I am born.'

Now I'm putting that statement before us. I want that to provoke us; not to insult us.

I want to bring that question for us here today, but I am certainly not questioning anyone. However, I know that when the word came, it was as though the Lord mercifully and lovingly said, 'There is *more* for you.'

Indeed, there is more for us. He is calling us and continuing to stir us, to provoke us forward, because He wants each of us to know the assurance of our birth in Him. He wants us to have assurance. We must know the confidence of new birth.

I have had a number of people say to me, 'I am not sure that I am born.' I suspect that there are many families and houses and individuals right across the fellowship of churches who are under the adoption, but who are not yet born of God.

Preparing the ground for conversion

We are recipients of *prevenient grace*, but may not yet born of Him.

However, we are absolutely in the territory of where we can be born. And He wants us to understand and know the reality of conversion, for which He is preparing the ground.

Now, we can console ourselves by reminding ourselves that the disciples were not born again until Jesus breathed on them.

But the ground of their hearts was *prepared* with their *conversion* from their self-righteous and religious projections.

Illumination of our religious projection; and restoration to the conversation of life

The evidence of Peter's conversion was his inability to confirm that He could 'agape' Christ.

We heard that in prayer last night when Peter Hay said, 'I can "phileo" you.'

So Jesus, who was really wanting to make the point, said, 'Well, do you "phileo" Me? Do you actually phileo Me?'

'If that little performance that you rolled out in Caiaphas' house is the sweet fellowship of friendship, then I would hate to see how you treat your enemies.'

He was making the point to Peter to make sure that they were 'on the same page'. Indeed, they were on the same page, because Peter could sit in that conversation with Jesus. He could have fellowship with Him, and it was a difficult conversation. It was an awkward conversation, but I suspect that Peter kept his gaze on His eyes because he knew that restoration was occurring in their fellowship.

It brought Peter to the *depths*, to the bottom of the mountain, where *Christ had descended* for his iniquity, and it allowed Peter to *acknowledge* the wretchedness of his true condition.

That is what conversion must be for every one of us. It must be a *complete illumination* and complete awareness of the *wretchedness of our religious projection* so that we can see it taken away.

When we arrive at this place, we have come onto the ground of blessing, because we have been completely relieved of our religious projections as a result of seeing with our own eyes what they produce.

The work of washing joins us to the fellowship of Christ's offering journey

We have *seen the damage*, and we have seen the destruction in our relationships and in the way that we live and conduct ourselves. This helps us to understand the nature of what the *work of washing* is achieving.

Jesus did not 'wash away' Peter's bad response. Where Jesus washed their feet at the last supper, within a few hours, I think you would all agree, Peter engaged in a manner which was most unpleasant.

With a very pragmatic view on matters, you could argue that the way in which Peter acted certainly demonstrated that the washing was terribly inadequate.

But that way of thinking is still the mindset of a projection.

Jesus did not try to 'wash him up' so that he could present well; so that his projection would succeed.

Jesus washed Peter so that he might *remain joined* to the fellowship of His offering journey, which is where he was converted.

It was so that he could *stay joined to the fellowship; stay joined to the conversation*. This was so that he could receive and walk in the provision which was included within that circumstance for him.

Adopted, converted, and born of God

Once Peter was *converted* and then *born*, he could receive his call to go and *strengthen the brethren*, and he did just that. He got on with the works of his name.

And, indeed, the Lord is calling each of us to know the simplicity and the confidence that we too can live, walk, and function in this way.

It is critical, then, that every adopted son be converted in order that they can be born of God.

Joined to His conversation and eating the fruit that He gives to us

Only those who are born of God have access to the tree of life that *joins* us to the conversation of *Yahweh*.

We heard last week that if we eat the word in any way other than in an *agape* meal and in the mode of *agape*, the fruit, or the food, which God is giving to us will become the fruit of the other tree.

This is where we come under judgement. As I said before, some are weak in faith, some are sin-sick, and some are spiritually dying.

We must continue to *discern the body*, which means that we must be *illuminated by the light of the word* in order that we eat the fruit of life and know its proper application in our lives.

Two sons of God in a marriage

In the context of a marriage, we cannot be joined to the conversation at the tree of life unless we are demonstrating that we are recipients of a remnant of the Spirit.

This is when both people meet the Lord as a son of God on their own, and know the *white stone* with their name on it, and the garments that He has given to them for their priesthood.

THE THREEFOLD DELUSION OF WOMEN

I will narrow in here and be quite specific in speaking to women. Unless each woman is converted and born of God, she will default to the threefold delusion that accompanied Satan's lie when he spoke to Eve in the garden. She, then, of course, fed it to her husband.

We will consider the three elements of this threefold delusion.

Good for food

'When the woman saw that the tree was *good for food.*'

This refers to that sense of *fulfilment*, that sense of *security*, certainty, that absolutely suits this particular delusion,

Pleasant to the eyes

'That it was pleasant to the eyes.' This refers to the promotion of an ideal *image*; the pursuit of what looks good; the pursuit of what looks pleasing,

To make one wise

'And a tree desirable to make one wise.' A woman is deluded into desiring to be the *source* of life. She works to *create solutions*. She creates an image that will satisfy her.

'She [then] took of its fruit and she ate. She also gave to her husband who was with her, and he ate.'

The ground was cursed for mankind's recovery

It is worth noting here that the man was not cursed. Mankind was not cursed, but the *ground* was. It then became for him *a processive context* for his recovery.

There was an opportunity for them to continue in fellowship with *Yahweh*. There was an opportunity for them to continue to grow and to mature; but they were now placed into a different context.

A remnant of the Spirit in daily conversation at the tree of life

The evidence that a couple are receiving a remnant of the Spirit is they are receiving light and life from the tree of life, which becomes their conversation.

The simple proposition that I am putting forward this morning, is that a portion of the Spirit is represented by the *daily conversation* that occurs between a husband and wife at the tree of life.

A key point that I want to develop this morning relates to the question, 'Which tree is the source of your marriage conversation?'

There is no access to the tree of life until the threefold delusion is broken

I will follow that very quickly with this statement;

You have *no access* to the tree of life until the *threefold delusion is broken!*

We have no access to the tree of life until that persistent delusion is broken and removed.

This is only possible as every wife, by herself, mourns alone for the damage and destruction of this delusion upon herself, upon her house and family, and upon the relationship between her and her husband.

The delusion of Sarah

Sarah proposed to Abraham that Hagar be employed as a surrogate to bring forth the child that God had promised.

Sarah saw the situation. She summed it up, and defaulted to her creative delusion: 'I think I can see a way through this so that the will of God can be fulfilled.'

Of course, upon hearing Sarah's creative solution, Abraham 'ate' the proposition.

There is little doubt that it gave to them a son. They produced a son, which was both the fulfilment of their desire and the fulfilment of God's promise - so they thought.

It also completed the *ideal image* of family that Sarah had probably longed for.

And the entire plan made Sarah *feel wise*; that is, wiser than her husband.

But when Abraham heeded the voice of his wife, he was joined to the wrong conversation at the wrong tree. This is because Sarah, like Eve, was deceived by the three elements of Satan's lie.

The way of recovery in marriage

The key point that I want to focus on this morning is that every woman will project these three elements to verify, or validate, her identity, unless she is converted, born of God's life, and then sanctified and cleansed by her husband, daily, as he washes her with the water of the word.

An important key for us in how we make *recovery* in our marriages is conveyed in the prayer of Paul.

'That we may be able to comprehend with all the saints what is the width and length and depth and height - to know the love of Christ which passes knowledge that you may be filled with all the fulness of God.' Eph 3:18.

A woman must know the depths of her wretched reliance upon this threefold delusion

The Father will *strengthen* us in the inner man so that we may comprehend with all the saints what 'the depths' is - and I want to lean on that one word here.

He wants each of us to comprehend the depths. We must be illuminated to the depths - each one of us.

In this meditation, I am tying 'the *depths*', for a woman, *to her complete addiction to the wrong tree*, which is expressed in this threefold delusion.

The hope and the great mercy of God being extended to us at this time is that every wife might comprehend that she will never know the heights of her sonship until she knows the depths of her wretched reliance upon this threefold delusion.

The conversation about the depths is difficult

However, the moment that a husband points out that very fact to his wife, he is 'in deep water'. Would that be fair to say?

The moment that you come with a conversation to have the discussion about the depths, you will be in very, very *difficult* waters.

This is because the *default of every marriage* is that a wife is *feeding* this to her husband. It is very likely that this *began in courtship*, and has now become the 'staple diet' of their marriage.

The moment a husband lays down his life and begins to initiate conversation at the tree of life, it is very likely that his wife will feel *betrayed*. Her response may be, 'Hold on, this is how we have always lived. These are the unwritten rules of our relationship. What is happening?'

But, men, to remain silent on this matter would be *treacherous*.

It would be treacherous not to initiate such conversation as one who is *laying down life* to wash his wife by the water of the word.

Herein lies the dilemma for us all, because the *moment* a man encroaches upon the threefold delusion of his wife, he is in very difficult territory.

When a woman is not praised and affirmed by the romance of the marriage, her *identity* is on the line, and she will very quickly become a *victim*, feeling devalued.

If things persist, she will feel crushed. She will eventually go to her sickbed and become 'lame', and unable to take her place in the marriage in the order of headship.

Moving romance to the tree of life; life laid down

By the way, romance, for many of us, is a counterfeit dialogue that has replaced the proper dialogue of a remnant of the Spirit.

We need to get the dialogue of romance in our marriages *back to the tree of life*.

It has to be a proper life-laid-down capacity that is given to us so that romance begins to take the form of *life laid down*.

The challenge to a woman regarding her delusion

The lie of Satan conveyed as the threefold delusion has become, for every woman, regardless of their temperament and regardless of their upbringing, the fundamental means by which she verifies her sense of self-worth, and validates her identity.

When a husband crosses this line, he will know a very *unique kind of heat*. This is because he has just adjusted the identity verifying parameters of their marriage covenant; and he has 'tinkered with' their *unique chemistry*.

Sitting just below the surface is a powerful *defence strategy* which causes her to run straight to the response of being a 'victim'.

When a woman is challenged in her deluded state, it is instantly seen by her as being 'abuse'.

Then it goes quickly from 'fight', which is the reaction that her husband will receive, to 'flight'; from fight to flight.

What is flight? It is avoidance. There is no way of meeting each other on this matter. A typical response would be, 'You said your bit; I heard what you had to say. I'm busy.'

The challenge to a man to initiate the marriage conversation

Of course, the world will confirm very quickly that the husband is indeed 'an abuser'. So, what do we do?

Many men would not dare risk the loss of balance in 'the delicate ecosystem' which is their marriage.

Would that be true? Some men 'tiptoe' around certain matters because they are not sure how to engage in and initiate such a conversation.

The Lord is *giving us faith* that we might lay down life so that we can walk in this way to which the Lord is calling us.

The impact on the marriage is that a wife's desire in this deluded state is towards her husband, and so she feeds him her 'fruit', and he eats it. But he soon realises that her godlike propensity for things to look good and for things to remain nice brings great confusion.

He reacts, and he rules over her until his need for affirmation causes him to capitulate to his 'cherub-like' default response.

This is the equation for disharmony in every marriage, right into old age; even to the point that many die feeling completely alone.

Every woman must be delivered from the threefold delusion

Every woman must be *delivered* from the threefold delusion that is her default, so that she can come to the place of accepting the depths of her wretchedness.

Then she can know the height of her name, and the fruitful expression of her sonship.

This simply confirms our need for *conversion*.

Peter could not proceed until he was *illuminated* to the depths of his wretchedness.

And no wife can proceed until she can see the impediment which is stopping her from coming to the tree of life.

The daily conversation of two sons of God, born of God, standing in faith, and making offering

The answer to this is that every marriage must receive a portion of the Spirit, which is the daily conversation of two born again and accountable sons of God, each with faith to stand in their name, and to make offering according to their sanctification in the order of headship.

This is how they *multiply the life of God* and feed it to their household such that the godly seed might be nurtured.

As this is established, it can then become our *house to house culture* so that this is the mode of motherhood that strengthens our women.

The outcome of the threefold model; mankind was altogether evil

We will consider the outcome of the threefold delusion, and the Scripture gives to us the perfect case study.

Prior to Eve's death, she found recovery in her marriage with Adam; and she found recovery in her work as a mother. Together, they brought forth Seth, to take the place of Cain.

I think it is safe to assume that a key aspect of Eve's recovery is that she 'drew a line' and kept the sons of God - all those who were participating in the *agape* meal - apart from the daughters of men.

After the death of Adam and Eve', it was 'a free-for-all'. What do I mean by that? There was a mixture, because the sons of God saw that the daughters of men were beautiful, and married them.

The simple implication, then, is that the three elements of Satan's lie that Eve received and that became her conversation, then became the *culture* of the people who filled the earth before the flood.

Before you know it, God repented of ever having made mankind.!

What was the *fruit* of this conversation? It was that every inclination of the thoughts of men's hearts were 'altogether evil' all of the time. That is quite a statement.

Their thoughts were altogether evil, all the time producing violence, great corruption, and giants in the land. This is what the niceness and idealism of the threefold delusion produced.

The simple point I want to put before you is that the *conversation of the daughters of men* was the *conversation of Eve* before she found recovery, which then became the conversation and culture of the house of every son of God because of the marriage.

Yahweh's repentance

How did *Yahweh* respond? He repented that He had made man. And He appointed a day when He would destroy them from the face of the earth.

Only one man found grace in the eyes of the Lord and, of course, that was Noah.

In relation to Noah finding favour, I will make a simple assumption. Perhaps Noah's was the last household who maintained connection to the gate at Eden where Yahweh fed to them the agape meal.

A portion of the Spirit; a daily conversation at the tree of life; sanctified works

A portion of the Spirit is not a static thing that two people receive on a particular day, and then have it for life.

Rather, you receive it *every day* at the tree of life. You receive it every day.

What a great privilege!

It becomes your conversation, which then *converts* to your sanctified works, each day.

That conversation helps you to know the nature of your *obedience*.

Conversion and mourning

The major point that I have been labouring today is that, before we can join the conversation, each son must be gathered - every house and every individual in every house - and be *converted*, house by house by house, mourning for the way that our *religious projections have pierced Christ*, and have joined us to the wrong conversation.

Please note that Zachariah recorded, very clearly, 'Every wife by herself.' That is the emphasis that I have picked up here this morning.

Turning from a sacramental mode of headship

The Lord is urging us to turn from our *sacramental mode* of headship. There is no 'script' for a husband; and there is no 'script' for a wife, in their life together. That would be sacramental living. We do not run our life according to scripts.

Our life is a real-time conversation that occurs at the tree of life, between a Christian man and a Christian woman who are both sons, are born of God, and who have *faith* to stand to the height of their *name*.

But they also have *faith* to look upon the depths of their wretchedness.

This is where deliverance is found; and this is where deliverance will come for us.

A couple recognises that the covenant of marriage that they made with each other, before *Yahweh*, is now central to how they will continue to grow and mature as sons of God.

We are now moving into a phase where the spirit of grace and supplication will *convert* every member of every house - husband, wife and children - to the true order of headship, and will gather them into the body of Christ.

Those who are born of the Spirit must walk according to the Spirit each day.

And if you are a married person, you will be walking *together* at the tree of life, where *Yahweh* will feed to you the fruit of the tree of life as the *agape* meal, so that it becomes life to you.