

How Great Thou Are

Psa 95:3 *For the Lord is a great God, and a great King above all gods.*

Psa 99:2 *The Lord is great in Zion, and He is high above all the peoples.*

Psa 111:2 *The works of the Lord are great, sought out by all those who have delight in them.*

Psa 138:4-5 *All the kings of the land shall give You credit and praise You, O Lord, for they have heard of the promises of Your mouth [which were fulfilled]. Yes, they shall sing of the ways of the Lord and joyfully celebrate His mighty acts, for great is the glory of the Lord.*

Deut 32:3-4 *Ascribe greatness to our God. He is the Rock; His work is perfect. For all His ways are just, a God of faithfulness, and without evil; just and upright is He.*

Psa 48:1-2 *Great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised in the city of our God, in the mountain of His holiness. Beautiful for situation, the joy of the whole earth, is mount Zion, on the sides of the north, the city of the great King.*

- We serve a great God and everything about Him is great!
- Just prior to Christmas I shared a message entitled **Great Expectations**, of which the essence was that expectation is the womb from which the Word is birthed [incarnated] and that God's Word [seed] has been planted in us. I'd like to continue that message.

Lk 1:32 **He will be great** (eminent) and will be called the Son of the Most High; and the Lord God will give to Him the throne of His forefather David,

Tit 2:13 **Awaiting and looking for the [fulfillment, the realization of our] blessed hope, even the glorious appearing of our great** God and Savior Christ Jesus (the Messiah, the Anointed One),

GOD'S GREAT EXPECTATIONS

I am a great God and I have great expectations. It is time for My people to recognize and realize just who they are – My people are not ordinary - they are extraordinary. They are My and creation's great expectation !

Acts 13:17 *The God of this people Israel selected our forefathers and made **this people great** and important during their stay in the land of Egypt, and then with an uplifted arm He led them out from there.*

Eph 3:8 *To me, though I am the very least of all the saints (God's consecrated people), this grace (favor, privilege) was granted and graciously entrusted: to proclaim to the Gentiles the unending (boundless, fathomless, incalculable, and exhaustless) riches of Christ [wealth which no human being could have searched out],*

Col 1:27 *To whom God was pleased to make known **how great for the Gentiles** are the riches of the glory of this mystery, which is Christ within and among you, the Hope of [realizing the] glory.*

Rev 19:5 *Then from the throne there came a voice, saying, Praise our God, all you servants of His, you who reverence Him, **both small and great!***

- Every Christson has been filled with vast, unlimited, internal resources – CHRIST!
- Manifesting those assets, resources, riches will eventually become our habitual state, as we are processed from becoming to being.
- I believe the extent one manifests Christ is the determining factor in whether one is among the company of small or **great** servants who reverence Him.

Gen 1:26 God said, Let Us [Father, Son, and Holy Spirit] make mankind in Our image, after Our likeness, and let them have complete authority over the fish of the sea, the birds of the air, the [tame] beasts, and over all of the earth, and over everything that creeps upon the earth

Num 14:21 But truly as I live and as all the earth shall be filled with the glory of the Lord,

Psa 115:16 The heavens are the Lord's heavens, but the earth has He given to the children of men.

- Remember the answer God gave me to my questioning “what on earth are You doing?” You tell me!
- Nothing just happens.
- Just as God rules the in the visible world, man is to rule the visible world in and for His namesake.
- Man, not God, has dominion upon the earth, therefore if we desire to see the Earth filled with the glory of the Lord, it will require a joint venture between God and us to make it happen!

Eph 5:30 Because we are members (parts) of His body.

1 Pet 2:9 But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a dedicated nation, [God's] own purchased, special people, that you may set forth the wonderful deeds and display the virtues and perfections of Him Who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light

1 Jn 4:17 In this [union and communion with Him] love is brought to completion and attains perfection with us, that we may have confidence for the day of judgment [with assurance and boldness to face Him], because as He is, so are we in this world.

- An image is a representation of a person or thing.
- If we believe that God is great, we must also believe that man is great.
- No one will ever realize their potential in life until they recognize their own greatness.
- While the “HEAD” contains the plans, thoughts, purposes, wisdom, intelligence, vision, hearing, and voice, the “Body” is the vehicle through which these realities are **MANifested**.

Amos 3:3 Can two people walk together without agreeing to meet?

Jn 17:22 I have given to them the glory and honor which You have given Me, that they may be one [even] as We are one:

Jam 1:8 [For being as he is] a man of two minds (hesitating, dubious, irresolute), [he is] unstable and unreliable and uncertain about everything [he thinks, feels, decides].

- When God seeks to do extraordinary things of earth, he seeks out Christsons with whom and through whom He will do it. This is because man is God's instrument through which he works. Men must therefore become compatible with God in thought before he can work with the Lord in kingdom endeavors.
- Being one means we are free from duality.
- A double minded man is simply off course and is not in the proper state to receive what God is saying or to perceive what God is doing.

Self Sacrifice

Rom 12:1 I APPEAL to you therefore, brethren, and beg of you in view of [all] the mercies of God, to make a decisive dedication of your bodies [presenting all your members and faculties] as a living sacrifice, holy (devoted, consecrated) and well pleasing to God, which is your reasonable (rational, intelligent) service and spiritual worship.

- We must be willing to commit our lives to a life of radical change.
- The word faculty means an inherent mental or physical power. For those who desire to attain unto a higher state or existence they must first believe that they are chosen and commissioned to do so.

Lovers Of Truth

Zech 8:19 Thus says the Lord of hosts: The fast of the fourth month and the fast of the fifth, the fast of the seventh and the fast of the tenth, shall be to the house of Judah times of joy and gladness and

cheerful, appointed seasons; therefore [in order that this may happen to you, as the condition of fulfilling the promise] love truth and peace.

Jn 8:31-32 *Jesus, therefore, said unto the Jews who believed in him, 'If ye may remain in my word, truly my disciples ye are, and ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.'*

Jn14:6 *Jesus saith to him, 'I am the way, and the truth, and the life, no one doth come unto the Father, if not through me;*

Jn17:17 *sanctify them in Thy truth, Thy word is truth;*

1Tim 2:4 *Who wishes all men to be saved and [increasingly] to perceive and recognize and discern and know precisely and correctly the [divine] Truth.*

- The intended purpose of truth is to ring freedom/liberty in every dimension: spiritually, physically emotionally, socially, financially, etc.
- The word know is the Greek word “ginosko” which means: to learn to know, come to know, get knowledge of, perceive, understand and it's a Jewish idiom for sexual intercourse.
- To know the truth one must become intimate with the Truth for it is He that gives knowledge and understanding concerning all matters.
- Truth possesses an errant power with in itself to produce what it says.
- To the extent that we are intimate [know and understand]the Truth to that extent it becomes our way of thinking [mind of Christ].
- God's truth contains power to liberate from every kind of sin, sickness, bondage, conflict, poverty.
- In order for us to fulfill this powerful potential, we must first build Truth into our souls [minds] until they are renewed.

Jn 6:26 *Jesus answered them, I assure you, most solemnly I tell you, you have been searching for Me, not because you saw the miracles and signs but because you were fed with the loaves and were filled and satisfied.*

- Christsons will not compromise Truth for sake of popularity.
- Christsons are not deterred by the negative thoughts and opinions others may have of them, they are governed by God not opinion polls.

Christsons Are Ever Changing, Progressing, Growing, Expanding

• **Gen 3:8** *And they heard the sound of the Lord God walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and Adam and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the Lord God among the trees of the garden.*

• God's voice was not heard while they were standing. God was walking and if they were to commune with God they too would have to walk, progress and move.

• God is constantly on the move and if we desire to advance into deeper depths and higher heights we have to move with Him.

Psa 103:5 *Who satisfies your mouth [your necessity and desire at your personal age and situation] with good so that your youth, renewed, is like the eagle's [strong, overcoming, soaring]!*

Prov 4:18 *But the path of the [uncompromisingly] just and righteous is like the light of dawn, that shines more and more (brighter and clearer) until [it reaches its full strength and glory in] the perfect day [to be prepared].*

Jn 10:10 *A thief comes only to rob, kill, and destroy. I came so that everyone would have life, and have it in its fullest.*

- Contrary to popular opinion, man was not created to decline. Man was created to evolve, grow, expand and increase on every level.
- Christsons are ever-growing, ever changing.

- True life is progressive in nature. To be truly alive is to grow, increase, and reproduce if we're not evolving and expanding and growing it's a sign that we're either dead or dying.
- Anything that ceases to grow and evolve will inevitably die. The moment anything ceases to grow, stagnation sets in.
- Everyone who is progressing in the way of life needs a place where he or she can consistently be fed and nourished in the Higher ways the kingdom.

Gen 26-12-13 Then Isaac sowed in that land, and received in the same year a hundredfold. And Jehovah blessed him. And the man became great. And he went forward and grew until he grew very great.

- Isaac's greatness was the direct result of his sowing
- The word "very" is the Hebrew word "m@od" which means exceedingly, much, might, force, abundance, greatly.
- A man will always reap from the field in which she chooses to sow. We are constantly sowing time, thoughts, energy, finances and other resources into things that influence our lives accordingly.
- The questions we must ask ourselves are what and why?
- GIGO = garbage in, garbage out.

1 Tim 6:9-10 But those who crave to be rich fall into temptation and a snare and into many foolish (useless, godless) and hurtful desires that plunge men into ruin and destruction and miserable perishing. For the love of money is a root of all evils; it is through this craving that some have been led astray and have wandered from the faith and pierced themselves through with many acute [mental] pangs.

Prov 3:13-17 Happy (blessed, fortunate, enviable) is the man who finds skillful and godly Wisdom, and the man who gets understanding [drawing it forth from God's Word and life's experiences], For the gaining of it is better than the gaining of silver, and the profit of it better than fine gold. Skillful and godly Wisdom is more precious than rubies; and nothing you can wish for is to be compared to her. Length of days is in her right hand, and in her left hand are riches and honor. Her ways are highways of pleasantness, and all her paths are peace.

- Christsons are neither preoccupied with nor do they pursue money, prestige, or power, rather they pursue wisdom, knowledge and understanding.
- Christsons are investigators. Their minds are never idle. They know that casual thoughts produce casualties and passive thoughts lead to mediocrity and disappointment.
- Christsons do not dwell within the confines of human thought and limitation. Rather they think in the realm of revelation and Godly knowledge. Because they go beyond the usual thoughts of ordinary men they are mold breakers.

Givers, Not Takers, Producers Not Consumers

Gen 1:28 And God blessed them and said to them, Be fruitful, multiply, and fill the earth, and subdue it [using all its vast resources in the service of God and man]; and have dominion over the fish of the sea, the birds of the air, and over every living creature that moves upon the earth.

Ps 23:5 You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies. You anoint my head with oil; my [brimming] cup runs over.

Jn 3:16 For God so greatly loved and dearly prized the world that He [even] gave up His only begotten (unique) Son, so that whoever believes in (trusts in, clings to, relies on) Him shall not perish (come to destruction, be lost) but have eternal (everlasting) life.

Acts 20:35 *In everything I have pointed out to you [by example] that, by working diligently in this manner, we ought to assist the weak, being mindful of the words of the Lord Jesus, how He Himself said, It is more blessed (makes one happier and more to be envied) to give than to receive.*

2 Cor 9:6-8 *[Remember] this: he who sows sparingly and grudgingly will also reap sparingly and grudgingly, and he who sows generously [that blessings may come to someone] will also reap generously and with blessings. Let each one [give] as he has made up his own mind and purposed in his heart, not reluctantly or sorrowfully or under compulsion, for God loves (He takes pleasure in, prizes above other things, and is unwilling to abandon or to do without) a cheerful (joyous, `prompt to do it") giver [whose heart is in his giving]. And God is able to make all grace (every favor and earthly blessing) come to you in abundance, so that you may always and under all circumstances and whatever the need be self-sufficient [possessing enough to require no aid or support and furnished in abundance for every good work and charitable donation].*

- God is our cup to run over that we might possess more than for ourselves to always have the ability and wherewithal to be generous to others.
- God is a living and a giving God. To be like God is to live and to give.
- Christsons give on every level: spiritually, mentally, physically and financially.

Follow The Leader.....Lead The Followers

Num 11:24-25 *So Moses went out and told the people the words of the Lord, and he gathered seventy men of the elders of the people and set them round about the Tent. And the Lord came down in the cloud and spoke to him, and took of the Spirit that was upon him and put It upon the seventy elders; and when the Spirit rested upon them, they prophesied [sounding forth the praises of God and declaring His will]. Then they did so no more*

Deut 34:9 *And Joshua son of Nun was full of the spirit of wisdom, for Moses had laid his hands upon him; so the Israelites listened to him and did as the Lord commanded Moses.*

Ps 133 *A Song of Ascents. Of David. BEHOLD, HOW good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity! It is like the precious ointment poured on the head, that ran down on the beard, even the beard of Aaron [the first high priest], that came down upon the collar and skirts of his garments [consecrating the whole body]. It is like the dew of [lofty] Mount Hermon and the dew that comes on the hills of Zion; for there the Lord has commanded the blessing, even life forevermore [upon the high and the lowly].*

Matt 10:24 *"No pupil is greater than his teacher; no slave is greater than his master.*

- God is always seeking to perpetuate the work He begins in the hearts of men. The way He does this is to look for hungry hearts who are willing to hear and obey his instructions through those He sends.
- Anointing flows down.
- It's impossible to receive the anointing of another without recognizing that anointing and putting oneself in a position to receive that anointing.
- We receive the spirit of those to whom we recognize and receive because the spirit of wisdom and understanding is transferable.

2 Kgs 2:2-4 *And Elijah said to Elisha, Tarry here, I pray you, for the Lord has sent me to Bethel. But Elisha replied, As the Lord lives and as your soul lives, I will not leave you. So they went down to Bethel. The prophets' sons who were at Bethel came to Elisha and said, Do you know that the Lord will take your master away from you today? He said, Yes, I know it; hold your peace.*

Elijah said to him, Elisha, tarry here, I pray you, for the Lord has sent me to Jericho. But he said, As the Lord lives and as your soul lives, I will not leave you. So they came to Jericho.

Matt 4:19 *And He said to them, Come after Me [as disciples--letting Me be your Guide], follow Me, and I will make you fishers of men!*

- Christsons possess the ability to attract other Christsons to them.

- Christsons recognize greatness in others. The person who understands his own greatness, tends to look past the shortcomings of others to recognize and draw out the greatness in them as well.
- Teachers/mentors do not pursue their pupils/protégés, rather it is the pupil/protégé who seeks out/after the teacher/mentor.

Matt 13:11-12 *And He replied to them, To you it has been given to know the secrets and mysteries of the kingdom of heaven, but to them it has not been given. For whoever has [spiritual knowledge], to him will more be given and he will be furnished richly so that he will have abundance; but from him who has not, even what he has will be taken away.*

Matt 17:1 *AND SIX days after this, Jesus took with Him Peter and James and John his brother, and led them up on a high mountain by themselves.*

Jn 2:23-25 *During the time he was in Jerusalem, those days of the Passover Feast, many people noticed the signs he was displaying and, seeing they pointed straight to God, entrusted their lives to him. But Jesus didn't entrust his life to them. He knew them inside and out, knew how untrustworthy they were. He didn't need any help in seeing right through them.*

Christsons do not invest their time and energy into relationships that are not changing, progressing, growing, expanding, giving, producing

- Do not expend your time and energy running after people who are not ready to receive.
- Dream about animals in mating season Discern and give yourself to people in heat ...those who are ready to receive the seed of the kingdom.
- Do not do for others what they can and must do for themselves. *Work out your own salvation with fear and trembling. ***Phil 2:12****

Christsons Focus on Today Not Yesterdays or Tomorrow

Php 3:12-13 *Not that I have now attained [this ideal], or have already been made perfect, but I press on to lay hold of (grasp) and make my own, that for which Christ Jesus (the Messiah) has laid hold of me and made me His own. I do not consider, brethren, that I have captured and made it my own [yet]; but one thing I do [it is my one aspiration]: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead,*

- History may be a nice place [memories] to visit but can't live there.
- Looking back prevents you from seeing what's ahead, fulfilling that to which Christ has called you.
- Coulda, woulda, shoulda.
- Pressing on and pressing in TODAY is what differentiates one who is fulfilling the vision to which Christ has called them from someone who's dreaming the day away.

2 Cor 6:2 *For He says, In the time of favor (of an assured welcome) I have listened to and heeded your call, and I have helped you on the day of deliverance (the day of salvation). Behold, now is truly the time for a gracious welcome and acceptance [of you from God]; behold, now is the day of salvation!*

Heb 4:7; 11:1 *Again He sets a definite day, [a new] Today, [and gives another opportunity of securing that rest] saying through David after so long a time in the words already quoted, Today, if you would hear His voice and when you hear it, do not harden your hearts..... NOW FAITH is the assurance (the confirmation, the title deed) of the things [we] hope for, being the proof of things [we] do not see and the conviction of their reality [faith perceiving as real fact what is not revealed to the senses].*

- Christsons understand the importance of today.
- I AM always in today.
- My immediate vision is to have a productive today because it's impossible to fulfill my destiny if I can't master my today.

- Faith does not understand tomorrow because it operates exclusively in the now.

Is 42:8 *I am the Lord; that is My name! And My glory I will not give to another, nor My praise to graven images.*

- The word another is the Hebrew word “acher” which means: another, different and that comes from the word “achar” which means to delay, hesitate, wait or stay behind.
- Gods glory does not come to those who delay, hesitate, wait or stay behind.

Movers & FakersShakers & Quakers

Heb 12:18-23 *For you have not come to the mountain that might be touched and that burned with fire, nor to blackness and darkness and tempest, and the sound of a trumpet, and the voice of words (which voice they who heard begged that a word should not be spoken to them any more, for they could not endure the thing commanded, "And if so much as a beast should touch the mountain, it shall be stoned or thrust through with a dart," and so fearful was the sight that Moses said, I exceedingly fear and quake).*

But you have come to Mount Zion and to the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, and to an innumerable company of angels, to the general assembly and church of the first-born who are written in Heaven, and to God the judge of all, and to the spirits of just men made perfect,

- Israel liked God as long as He didn't get too close and/or speak to them directly.

Josh 1:7 *Only you be strong and very courageous, that you may do according to all the law which Moses My servant commanded you. Turn not from it to the right hand or to the left, that you may prosper wherever you go.*

- Christsons are not overcome by problems, circumstances, situations, tests or trials may come their way because they maintain their focus on plans, strategies and answers.
- Christsons devote their attention to the real issues in life. They do not invest themselves in people and/or things they cannot change, influence or have an impact on.

Christsons Are Faithful/Not Fearful

Matt 14:23-29 *And after He had dismissed the multitudes, He went up into the hills by Himself to pray. When it was evening, He was still there alone. But the boat was by this time out on the sea, many furlongs [a furlong is one-eighth of a mile] distant from the land, beaten and tossed by the waves, for the wind was against them. And in the fourth watch [between 3:00--6:00 a.m.] of the night, Jesus came to them, walking on the sea. And when the disciples saw Him walking on the sea, they were terrified and said, It is a ghost! And they screamed out with fright.*

But instantly He spoke to them, saying, Take courage! I AM! Stop being afraid! [Exod. 3:14.]

And Peter answered Him, Lord, if it is You, command me to come to You on the water.

He said, Come! So Peter got out of the boat and walked on the water, and he came toward Jesus.

2 Tim 1:7 *For God did not give us a spirit of timidity (of cowardice, of craven and cringing and fawning fear), but [He has given us a spirit] of power and of love and of calm and well-balanced mind and discipline and self-control.*

Jude 1:20 *But you, beloved, build yourselves up [founded] on your most holy faith [make progress, rise like an edifice higher and higher], praying in the Holy Spirit;*

- Christsons are never hindered by fear.
- Fear stunts growth and shuts the door to increase and progress.
- It was fear that prompted the disciples to cower in what they considered to be the safety of the boat.
- When Peter stepped out of the boat he stepped out of the ordinary into extraordinary.

- The ordinary are afraid to get out of the boat while the extraordinary are afraid to stay in.
- The ordinary think of what might happen by stepping out while the extraordinary consider what will happen if they stay in.
- The ordinary are thinking of sinking, the extraordinary are thinking of defying the odds.
- The ordinary consider and are constrained by the risk, the extraordinary consider and are motivated by the reward.
- The ordinary are content to stay where they are while the extraordinary are concerned with where they're going.
- The ordinary question what if it doesn't work out, the extraordinary question, what if it does.
- The storm is God's opportunity to move from ordinary to extraordinary.
- The most dangerous place to be is in the boat!

Faith of Word And Word Of Faith

Jn 10:27 *The sheep that are My own hear and are listening to My voice; and I know them, and they follow Me.*

Rom 10:17 *Faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.*

Matt 17:20 *And Jesus said to them, Because of your unbelief. For truly I say to you, If you have faith like a grain of mustard seed, you shall say to this mountain, Move from here to there. And it shall move. And nothing shall be impossible to you.*

- Knowing and hearing the Word of the Lord is familiar to Christsons and because of that they can move in faith to be and do what God has and called them to.