

The Value System of Heaven

Then a shoot will spring from the stem of Jesse, and a branch from his roots will bear fruit. The Spirit of the Lord will rest on Him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and strength, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord. (Isaiah 11:1-2)

This is a prophecy of Jesus the Messiah.

Holy Spirit descended and rested on Him when John baptized Him in the Jordan River:

MAR 1:9 ¶ In those days Jesus came from Nazareth in Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan.

MAR 1:10 Immediately coming up out of the water, He saw the heavens opening, and the Spirit like a dove descending upon Him;

MAR 1:11 and a voice came out of the heavens: "You are My beloved Son, in You I am well-pleased."

JOH 1:32 John testified saying, "I have seen the Spirit descending as a dove out of heaven, and He remained upon Him.

The same Spirit comes upon us when we are baptized in the Holy Spirit:

ACT 1:4 Gathering them together, He commanded them not to leave Jerusalem, but to wait for what the Father had promised, "Which," He said, "you heard of from Me;

ACT 1:5 for John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now."

ACT 2:1 When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place.

ACT 2:2 And suddenly there came from heaven a noise like a violent rushing wind, and it filled the whole house where they were sitting.

ACT 2:3 And there appeared to them tongues as of fire distributing themselves, and they rested on each one of them.

ACT 2:4 And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit was giving them utterance.

In Isaiah 11:2, the word "spirit" is capitalized once and is lower case the other 3 times. This is an important distinction for us to understand.

When this word is **not** capitalized in the Bible it can refer to one of 3 things: a demon, our human spirit, or a value. In this case, because these "spirits" are associated with Holy Spirit, they have to be understood as values.

What are values? Values are defined as enduring, passionate, motivating, important, distinctive core beliefs by which we define our priorities and goals. Values are why we do what we do. They are so important that they motivate our thoughts and actions. They are non-negotiable, i.e. we will never give up or back away from them.

The Holy Spirit of God carries the values of God which define the value system of heaven, and He imparts those values to us, just as He did for Jesus. These values are:

Wisdom = the ability to know what is the right thing to do in every situation, along with the skill to do it with excellence

Understanding = the ability to comprehend what God is saying; spiritual intelligence (i.e. the mind of Christ). Also the ability to discern the true source of information (God, human, or satan)

Counsel = the ability to receive and formulate plans or strategies which are designed to carry out the purposes of God

Strength = the power to carry out plans or strategies successfully, engaging in them from the posture that you are already victorious

Knowledge = the ability to personally engage in something or with someone, such that you receive new information through that experience. It is not intellectual knowledge but experiential knowledge. It's the transforming revelation that is imparted to us through personal encounters with God.

Fear of the Lord = a reverential awe we experience when we realize that the Creator of all things, the God of the universe, is actually speaking to us and desires real relationship with us. As Paul wrote, "work out your salvation with fear and trembling, for it is God who is at work in you, both to will and to work for His good pleasure." (Phil. 2:12-13) This reverential awe causes us to give tremendous weight and importance to everything He says.

How do these values operate in our lives?

Jesus said, "seek first His kingdom and His righteousness, and all these things will be added to you." (Matt. 6:33) One way we can fulfill this is by living out these heavenly values every day. To "seek" means to desire something so strongly that you consider it an absolute requirement, one that you cannot and will not live without.

1. Seeking His wisdom, know-how and skill whenever I need it
2. Seeking to understand more fully what He says to me in His word and through other means, while learning to reject all that is not from Him
3. Seeking to receive and formulate the plans and strategies He has for me to fulfill
4. Seeking to step out in faith to do my part confidently and in His strength, knowing He will do His part
5. Seeking to know Him more and more by prioritizing times of encounter with Him so I can be transformed in His presence
6. Seeking to give God's revelation and working in my life the highest priority, cooperating fully with Him so He can do all He desires in and through me

Declarations/Prayers

I love Your wisdom, Papa. You put me in the one place where I will always have it in abundance: In Christ Jesus, who became for me wisdom from You, and righteousness, sanctification and redemption (1 Cor. 1:30). Thank You for helping me become skilled at applying Your truth to my life, the situations I face, and for the benefit of others who need Your wisdom.

I will always seek Your wisdom, "For wisdom is better than jewels; and all desirable things cannot compare with her." (Proverbs 8:11)

Thank You Papa for giving me the mind of Christ so I can truly understand and know the things You have freely given to me in Him. And thank You for the ability to discern the source of whatever I'm hearing (You, human reasoning, or the enemy), so I can have total confidence when You speak to me.

I greatly desire to understand more of the mysteries You have hidden for me, and I will relentlessly pursue this goal because "The unfolding of Your words gives light; it gives understanding to the simple." (Psalm 119:130)

Thank You for clear plans and strategies to expand Your Kingdom here on earth through my life. I declare that my vision and dreams will align with Your dream for me, and I expect that my destiny will always be too big for me to accomplish without You.

I will always need and seek Your specific direction and guidance, because "The counsel of the Lord stands forever, The plans of His heart from generation to generation." (Psalm 33:11) and "Many plans are in a man's heart, But the counsel of the Lord will stand." (Proverbs 19:21)

I am so grateful that You have given me all the strength I need to accomplish everything I am called to do in this life. I declare that I truly can do all things through Christ who strengthens me. Because I am one with You, Jesus, I know I am always working from Your place of victory over all things.

I will always partner with You to see that everything You created me for is fulfilled and accomplished for Your glory, because I know that "those who wait for the Lord Will gain new strength; They will mount up with wings like eagles, They will run and not get tired, They will walk and not become weary." (Isaiah 40:31)

I love you, Papa. And I love that You love me so much that You want me to know You deeply and intimately. Thank You for Your eternal invitation to experience life transforming encounters in Your presence, where Your amazing revelation sets me free from everything in me that doesn't look like Jesus.

Knowing You in this way is my highest priority and greatest delight, and I will never cease from pursuing more of You because, as Jesus declared, "This is eternal life, that [I] may know You, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom You have sent." (John 17:3)

I stand in awe of You, Papa God. I am overwhelmed with the truth that You, the all powerful, all knowing Creator of everything would consider me worthy to be Your child; that You would make me one with You so I can abide in You and You in me. Your words and revelation to me are more precious than anything here on earth, and Your amazing grace that empowers me to obey and fulfill them is a gift whose value is beyond comprehension.

I want to always feel the weight of Your glory on everything You say or show me, so that, by Your grace, I will demonstrate consistently that I am wholly surrendered to You.

These values not only guide us in our relationship with Papa, but also in our relationships with one another:

Wisdom represents the practical outworking of righteousness in our relationships. Righteousness is having the right thoughts, attitudes, words and actions, i.e. the characteristics of Jesus manifested in and through us toward one another. Wisdom is knowing what to do in order to behave righteously toward each other.

Understanding represents the ability to “listen deeply” to what someone is saying, to show empathy and focus, so that we can truly hear and comprehend what is in the other’s mind and heart. It is also the ability to discern accurately the source of someone’s behavior: Holy Spirit/new nature, their old nature, or the enemy.

Counsel represents the ability to receive Papa’s heart for someone, to prophetically see and know what His plans and purposes are for them, and to stay focused on declaring that to them, i.e. “calling out the gold.”

Strength represents the ability to help someone become free of whatever is oppressing or holding them back from growing into maturity. It is also the ability to remain patient, showing them grace during their journey.

Knowledge represents the ability to choose connection with each other, to maintain the priority of relationship, in so far as you are able to do so. It is recognizing the gift that each person is to us, and the value of knowing them as a unique creation of the Father.

The “**fear of the Lord**” represents an ability to honor, respect and highly value each other, and the willingness to receive what God wants to give you through another person.