

Pastor Ron Case  
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## **“Faith & Faithfulness”**

**“For everyone who has been born of God overcomes the world. And this is the victory that has overcome the world—our faith.” (1 John 5:4)**

### **The Third Day Paradigm**

**Genesis 1:9-13** – (9) “And God said, ‘Let the waters under the heavens be gathered together into one place, and let the dry land appear.’ And it was so. (10) God called the dry land Earth, and the waters that were gathered together he called Seas. And God saw that it was good. (11) And God said, ‘Let the earth sprout vegetation, plants yielding seed, and fruit trees bearing fruit in which is their seed, each according to its kind, on the earth.’ And it was so. (12) The earth brought forth vegetation, plants yielding seed according to their own kinds, and trees bearing fruit in which is their seed, each according to its kind. And God saw that it was good. (13) And there was evening and there was morning, the third day.”

**1 Corinthians 15:3-4, 23** – (3) “For I delivered to you as of first importance what I also received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the Scriptures, (4) that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures...

(23) But each in his own order: Christ the firstfruits, then at his coming those who belong to Christ.”

### **The Mandate to Propagate**

**Genesis 1:22** – “And God blessed them, saying, ‘Be fruitful and multiply and fill the waters in the seas, and let birds multiply on the earth.’”

**Genesis 1:27-28** – (27) “So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them. (28) And God blessed them. And God said to them, ‘Be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth and subdue it, and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over every living thing that moves on the earth.’”

### **Life Strategy**

**John 15:4-8** – (4) “Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit by itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in me. (5) I am the vine; you are the branches. Whoever abides in me and I in him, he it is that

**bears much fruit, for apart from me you can do nothing. (6) If anyone does not abide in me he is thrown away like a branch and withers; and the branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. (7) If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. (8) By this my Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit and so prove to be my disciples.”**

**Faith involves the Active Choice to Abide in Jesus; Fruitfulness is the Inevitable Outcome of that Abiding – Faith Begets Fruit**

### **What is the Condition of My Heart?**

**Luke 8:11-15** – (11) “Now the parable is this: The seed is the word of God. (12) The ones along the path are those who have heard; then the devil comes and takes away the word from their hearts, so that they may not believe and be saved. (13) And the ones on the rock are those who, when they hear the word, receive it with joy. But these have no root; they believe for a while, and in time of testing fall away. (14) And as for what fell among the thorns, they are those who hear, but as they go on their way they are choked by the cares and riches and pleasures of life, and their fruit does not mature. (15) As for that in the good soil, they are those who, hearing the word, hold it fast in an honest and good heart, and bear fruit with patience.”

### **What is my attitude towards this life?**

**Philippians 1:21-25** – (21) “For to me to live is Christ, and to die is gain. (22) If I am to live in the flesh, that means fruitful labor for me. Yet which I shall choose I cannot tell.

(23) I am hard pressed between the two. My desire is to depart and be with Christ, for that is far better. (24) But to remain in the flesh is more necessary on your account.

(25) Convinced of this, I know that I will remain and continue with you all, for your progress and joy in the faith”

(ESV used unless otherwise noted)

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