

# CLUTTER

## Let Us Get Started

After the Lord multiplied all the food for the 5,000 men (let alone the women and children), the disciples picked up 12 basketfuls. There was no mess left over. The Lord is not a God of waste, and we need to get rid of the waste in our lives. If you have stuff in your garage over a year, move it or use it. Get it out of there. Many folks have their head full of clutter. They have thoughts about all the things going on.

I am not recommending a lobotomy, but you need to do something with that thinking. What are you thinking on? Is it profitable for your life or somebody else, or is it not profitable? Maybe you are thinking on things too much. Idols. Anything you are thinking about too much is an idol in your life. It may be your health, it may be your wealth, it may be your relationships, it may be... Usually it is not your relationship *with the Lord*, interestingly. It is about all those other things. It is like worshiping the creation rather than the Creator. The Lord says, "Keep your thoughts stayed (or fixed) on Me, and I will keep you in perfect peace." (Isaiah 26:3) Uncluttered.

Many folks are confused, wasting time running around in circles because everything is cluttered in their lives. Then they get overwhelmed, and they shut down.

I remember one time when my daughter was a little girl I walked into her room, and it was like two feet deep with clutter. You often find that with older people. Have you ever walked into a place where there was a little trail to the bathroom, to the kitchen and whatnot? It is a sad thing that happens, but they just get overwhelmed. I went to my daughter's room and I told her, "Clean up your room!" This beautiful little child just sat there crying and looking at me. She was totally overwhelmed. *Where do I begin?*

She was not a disobedient child, she was overwhelmed. And so, I asked the Lord, "What do I need to do here?" Have you ever been overwhelmed? The Lord will free you. She was just sitting there, and I was looking at her

and she was looking at me, and the Lord said, “Son, help her.” And so, I started to pick up some stuff, and I was picking up in one place when I looked over my shoulder. There she was starting to pick up things. Together we got it done in no time. But I learned something there because many times different people work in different ways.

At another time I thought, *Why do I get all this paper; it keeps coming to me every day.* I had four stacks on my desk and then a garbage can, and it kind of worked its way across. Did I want to do it? No, but you have got to do it. And there are some rooms you just want to shut, seal up, and spray the bug spray around. But we have got to get rid of the clutter because it overwhelms us. Simplify things.

I believe that is one of the changes that the Lord is doing. We are going to start to get rid of clutter, whether it is in our head, or it is in our lives and relationships. You can't be everything for everybody. You are not God. *But, Lord, help me to do what You want me to do.* What He will do is come beside you. He is the Paraclete, the Holy Spirit, the Helper. He is the Guide. As we are trusting Him, acknowledging Him in all our ways, then He will start to direct the path, and He will take out what He does not want.

### Ask the Holy Spirit

When you are cleaning up clutter, you have to decide what you will keep and what you will not keep. Ask the Holy Spirit to show you. In relationships, in finance, business, and health. What will you do? What will you do with your mind, thoughts, and attitudes? We have to lighten the load.

As I am shedding pounds again, the Lord was showing me I do not have to go to the gym. I do not have to do strenuous exercise, all I have to do is move. Move 'em, move 'em, shake 'em, shake 'em. Get the heart moving.

So, instead of sitting on a couch, get up and move. Do something. No idle time. You can actually lose weight while you are sleeping if you do not eat too late. Change.

We are going to change some things. *Lord, help me do what You want, how You want me to do it.* Keep your eyes fixed on Him, the author and finisher of your faith. (Hebrews 12:2)

Do not let your money just sit. Move it. Do something with it. It is called the law of use. It is very important to do something with it. Invest it. Get it working. Sow it into the kingdom of God. *Lord, what do You want me to do? How do you want me to do it?*

In regard to health, exercise is the key, but all you have to do is move. Move the parts. You have little joints — move them, work them. I was having hand problems. Well, move 'em. Thank you, Jesus. Do something. And your hands are saying, “Oh, thank you, thank you.”

### Time to Evaluate

Evaluate the thoughts. Is this a quality thought? Is this a happy God-thought? Purpose to think those. What is a happy God-thought? *The Lord loves me with an everlasting love.*

Speak it, tell others about it, “The Lord loves you too with an everlasting love.” That is a happy God-thought. Start to spread the Holy Spirit life out there, changing your environment around you. You can walk into a very negative environment and start shining for Jesus. It will change the environment around you. Start talking about what the Lord does, what you have seen and heard and know is true, and it will change things. Sometimes you have to encourage yourself that way. Start speaking about what the Lord did “way back when.” Rehearse your testimonies. Remember what the Lord has done. He says, “Don’t forget about all the benefits I have given.” Why would the Lord say that? Because people are going to forget about it when life goes on. Do not let things get common. When your life gets common, it is depreciating. You are losing value in your life. Do not let the people and the things that the Lord has blessed you with ever get common. Appreciate. Add to precious. That is what appreciate is. And only have in your life what is appreciating.

It can be everything that is in my life including the bad stuff. If the bad stuff had not happened, the Lord would not have received the praise for turning it from evil to good to His glory as a testimony for somebody else. Quit

thinking about yourself. We are going to change the world by bringing heaven into it.

Edify means to build up, to encourage, to exhort to greater heights. Heaven. We are going to bring heaven to people, and put a little joy in their hearts. Some folks do not know that their face can smile, and the Lord did not give you eyes that look inside, He gave you eyes with which to look out. Do not let them be common. Value and appreciate everything the Lord has given you. It is very important. These are God's eyes to be used as the Lord would have them to be used to see what is needed. Not just so you do not walk into trees. Your eyes are to see what is going on so you can bring God into those situations. Appreciate. Precious, value.

Do you have something in your life that has grown common? You can tell when it has because you are not excited about it anymore. You are not excited about the person or the relationship; it is like losing the spark. I look for that spark. If it is not there, then the person has become dull. The book of Hebrews talks about not becoming dull of hearing the Word of God. You should be excited about it because if you really know it, you would be excited. It is really true and it is really good and it will cause awesome things to happen. Christians should be the most excited people on the earth.

### Are You Excited about the Lord?

I remember the motto of the Full Gospel Businessmen Association: "the happiest people on earth." We should be, but the Lord is going to shake the church. He will divide His church from man's church, for there are two distinct workings. One has the anointing and blessing of heaven because the people love the Lord and are obedient to His Word. The other one is just a social gathering, having little groups and things about the Lord, but His Spirit is not there or welcomed. It is about the little thing they are doing. There is going to be a shaking to get people excited about the Lord, because they have let things go common, let things get dull. That needs to change.

We should be so excited about going to church and giving offerings and about telling others about the love of God. That is what I live for, that is why I breathe – to praise the Lord. Folks are still looking at their lives and

seeing themselves as common. We are God's good workmanship, created to be to the praise of God's glory, and He is living in the house. How exciting is that? If you are His.

There is a phrase used quite often in the New Testament, "If you are in Christ Jesus." Many people sitting in church are not in Christ Jesus because if they were, they would be excited about their life in God. They would be excited about wanting others to have that life in God. You talk about what you love. If you are not talking about Jesus, and with edifying words that build people up according to their needs, then it is dull talk. If it is about you, your issues and problems and the things that are going on with you, or the negative things out in the world, then it is not worth talking about. You are not talking about who you are in Christ Jesus, you are talking about who you are apart from Christ Jesus. Nothing.

#### Jesus, the Head, We, the Body

*Thank you, Lord, for what you are doing for your people, your Church, of which I am a part.* The Lord talks about the Church, he does not talk about you, but He wants you to be a part of His Church. He is the Head and we are the Body. I do not see my fingers talking about themselves, or my ear talking about itself (of course it cannot talk), nor do I even see my tongue talking about itself. It does not focus on itself. But if the tongue is not working, the ears are not working, the hands are not working, the body is saying it has a problem. Let us recognize what that problem is. Let us let the Lord do something about it. *Lord, show me what is common in my life. What have I let grow common?* Because everything from heaven is not common. Everything that the Lord has done is not common. It is all special.

Call an enemy a friend; speak life into it. Thank God for the enemy that now gives you opportunity to see whether you love like Christ loves. If Christ is in you, He is going to love. He is going to forgive. He is not going to get bitter or upset. *"Count it all joy when various trials (tests) come upon you,"* proving out what is in you and enabling God's patience to be developed. You have it, it just needs to be developed. It needs to be worked so you can be mature in the Lord where nothing phases you anymore, just like Jesus was when he walked the earth.

When you are persecuted, bless. Bless God and thank Him that you are counted worthy to be a Christian. Given an opportunity to love, be a Christian. I always tell folks that are saying bad stuff to me, "Thank you." (I usually don't hear it, though, it is usually told to others.) But then again you do not hear a lot of the other good words either, do you? It matters not whether it is good or negative, it is all to the praise of God's glory. I do not care about what is being said because my life is about the glory of God.

If you go common (fleshly), then it matters what people think, or what you think. But if you go heavenly, it does not matter what people think or what you think. What matters is what the Lord thinks. We have to learn to distinguish between them. For that to happen, "*Be sober, be vigilant because you have an adversary.*" (1<sup>st</sup> Peter 5:8) But most importantly, "*Watch and pray lest you enter into temptation*" (Matthew 26:41), temptation to go into the flesh and let things get common. Always remember who you be in Christ Jesus. You are a child of the Most High God with all the promises of heaven to participate in with the Lord, in the divine nature. I never do anything by myself.

I used to and I still do talk about "we," not "I." People look at me and say, "What are you talking about?" I am saying "we" (the Lord and I). The Lord did that when He created man. He said, "*Let us make man in our image*" – The Father, Son and the Holy Spirit – all one God but three manifestations of the Spirit. When we say "us," we mean the Body of Christ. Where the Head moves, the Body moves – unless you have been decapitated, and you are running around like a chicken with its head cut off. Many do not understand that expression, unless you have been there and have seen what happens when the chicken still runs around. Where is it going? What is it doing? It does not know.

This is why we always have to keep Jesus as the Head. The brains of the operation. He will order the steps. The Lord never lets anything that He does go common in His thoughts, nor does He about us. He always holds us in high esteem as His children. He never talks against what is of Him. Watch the words that go with those thoughts, and let us get rid of the clutter, the non-profitable.

## What Is of Value?

Some things may be profitable, but they are not for us. Do you have something in your garage that would do somebody else some good? There is an expression, “one man’s junk is another man’s treasure.” That comes from what I am talking about. You consider it junk because it is not something you hold value in or use, but it could be something really useful for somebody else. So give it away. No garage sales! If it is so valuable, then why are you going to sell it? If you do not use it, then bless somebody with it.

Have you ever noticed that folks who go to garage sales are looking for a bigger deal than what you are willing to give?

Let things be of value. Everything has a value, has a purpose under heaven. What the Lord has created has value. Do not ever think people have no value. That is what the world does, trying to be one over another. It is not right. Everyone is special. Everyone is to be respected and honored. The Lord loves believer or unbeliever alike and does not show partiality with one over another. Those that are believing have the privilege because they receive what the Lord gives. He gave it to everybody, but they did not receive it because they did not see the value of it. You did, and that is why you are experiencing the blessing. The rights of heaven are worth a whole lot more than the rights of the world.

So, if you have something common in your life (but it is not common), you just see it that way. Let the Holy Spirit bring it back to its rightful place of value. That can only happen with Jesus as First Love because He will order what is of value and what is not. Naturally, we just want to get rid of what is not of God. That is an easy clutter to clean. You know your life, you know what is going on – just get rid of it. The Word says, “Get rid of bitterness, get rid of worry, fear, or anxiety. Get rid of sexual immorality. Get rid of the nonsense.”

## Other Kinds of Clutter

The Lord is saying, “Let us get rid of the clutter.” Get rid of the sin that so easily besets, and then the weights. (Hebrews 12) There are other things that are distractions in your life. There are cares that you are carrying that the Lord does not want you carrying. He says to cast all your cares on

Him. Humble yourself. You are not God; quit trying to play God. Quit trying to fix things. Quit trying to be everything to everybody; you are not God. That is His role. You have to know your place. He told me at age 24 when I was physically worn out, "I've already saved the world. What are you doing, son? All you're responsible for is what I give you to do. No more and no less."

People say, "Pastor, you need to give somebody a call." And I say, "Well, you give the call. It is on your heart to give them a call." Sheep are supposed to tend to sheep. You believe God; you pray. You do what is needed to be done. In Christ Jesus we can do all things through Christ who strengthens us.

Get rid of the sin; that is getting rid of clutter. Then we go after the things we are carrying that we do not need to be carrying. We are cleaning the house. We do not have to sit there overwhelmed and belittled by what is going on. We will overcome. Get rid of the negative thoughts. Then your opinion has got to go. Your opinion will just mess up your life. Instead, what does the Lord say?

We are cleaning house. Get rid of the sin. Get it out. Get rid of the cares. Humble yourself under the Living God. Get rid of all the things that you are worried about and fearing about. They are idols and you have to get them out.

I have had hundreds and hundreds of trophies in my life. I even had a Hollywood trophy for being the most beautiful baby. At one point in my life the Lord said, "Son, just move them out." I gave them to a place that does that kind of business. I do not need trophies. I do not need accolades. I do not need to remember all the things that I've done. The Lord is the greatest trophy, the Lord in our life.

Clean the house. Get rid of the clutter, and get rid of the negative things. Get rid of all the negative thoughts, attitudes, opinions, the fear of man, and what people are going to think (self). That just clutters the works. Get rid of your visions, your dreams about you, your plans, and the plans of others for you. Get rid of all that. I want only the Lord's plans. I want only what the Lord has for me. Get rid of your plans for others. You want God's

plans for them. Give them to the Lord. Give everybody and everything to the Lord. Once you do that, you have entrusted everybody including yourself to Him, so you do not need to be concerned about yourself or anybody else. You gave everybody to the Lord.

### See Some Changes

Now you are positioning yourself to be used of the Lord because your focus is only on Him. A faithful servant has His eyes on the Master only, and he is watching the Master, and listening to the Master. He is not listening to anything else out there or around him. He is only concerned about the Master, the Lord Jesus Christ, and waiting for whatever the Lord wants done. Watching and waiting. Anticipating and expecting whatever the Master wants to do when he wants to do it.

We are not to think about anything else. How can you do that? That is what Jesus said to do, and then He will order out everything else in your life. What you have done is you have quit letting life order your life (or living from circumstances, situations, issues, and problems, letting them control your whole life). Many people's lives are going from one situation to another situation and they are being bounced around, controlled and manipulated by whatever happens. The devil loves that. He has a hay day with that because he can just throw something into your life. You have 99 things going well and you look at that one thing, and you can spend all your thoughts and life trying to fix it. The Lord taught me many years ago about those brush fires. The thief puts up all these brush fires everywhere, and you are so busy trying to put them out that you are not able to focus on or do what He wants. You are distracted with all those other things.

We are cleaning the house. We are getting rid of the clutter. We are going to see some changes, and Jesus is going to be high and lifted up in our lives. We will let Him and His peace come. *"Let the peace of Christ dwell in you richly."* Let the Word of Christ dwell in you richly. Let it. For that to happen you have to get rid of all the clutter.

### A Word from the Lord:

*For I have said unto you that there is too much, too much, too much, too much. Like I said to Martha, "Martha, Martha, you are troubled about so many things. Mary is doing the one thing needful." So listen to My Spirit*

*and what I say. Follow what is being directed and what is being given, for I am showing you how to clean up the clutter, how to get rid of it in the order of how to do it. Because you can't clean up one level if the other level isn't clean. Because it is all stacked against you. But I am for you, saith the Lord, and I am showing you how to do this, and enabling by My Spirit to do it, for I am helping you to do it just like My son helped his little daughter that day. My Spirit directed him and showed him the way to help her. Be obedient to My Spirit and you will see the house clean. For My presence to fill the house, to fill the life with My good things that I have prepared. The clutter gets in the way of what I have for you. Don't let the house be full of things that I haven't given you to do, or to think about. For I am with you. Let us clean it, let us do it, let us do it now and get it done, saith the Lord, so that My work can go on, for I am coming soon. This needs to be done so the new life can begin and begin in Me. It has begun, it has begun. It is done, it is finished. I have died for you that you might have life and have it more abundantly. Now walk in it, live in it, and see the goodness of what I have done. Value it, cherish it, don't let it become common, no. It is very special, for I have done it, saith the Lord. I have done it, saith the Lord.*

It has begun. Jesus is Lord. He is not Lord of clutter. He is a God of order, His order, and we have to let Him order that which He has done. He has shown us how to do it here.

He actually gave the order of how to get rid of the clutter. The first time in my whole life I ever shared this lesson. It is for now. It is for this appointed time.

We have to do this, we have to become doers of the Word.