



[Understanding the Christ](#)

Episode 19 - Unmasking God: If You Were Blind

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Scott Stanley challenges traditional denominational views and explores Christ's true purpose: to reveal a loving Father who does not keep a record of sin.

Drawing from John 9–10, Isaiah 40, and 1 Corinthians 13, he explains how repentance, truth, and Jesus' sacrifice free believers from iniquity and lead them into abundant life now.

Modified Transcript:

Scriptures are transcribed directly with notations. Refer to KJV for verbatim wording.

Hi, I'm Scott Stanley, continuing a video series concerning understanding the Christ. I wanted to do this series because of my time spent in the universal churches, having been raised a Baptist and going into Pentecostal churches, and Seventh-day Adventist. I, through my own studies, began to realize there are things in the Bible about the Son of God that the universal churches deny. They just flat out deny a lot of truth, and they refuse to teach it.

But moreover, they refuse to let anyone else who wants to go that way; they refuse to let you believe it. They force you out of their denomination because you're not in agreement with it, and really, that's one of the best things that could ever happen to you is to get away from this Catholic thinking. When I say Catholic, I don't necessarily mean the Catholic Church; it's just universal.

See, there's one point that all of these churches have in common. That is, God is angry and he needs to be appeased of that anger. So that is a problem all of us have to deal with if we're ever going to find the truth. Now, Jesus made the statement in Matthew 11:27. He said,

Mat 11:27 No man knows the Son but the Father, and no man knows the Father, except the Son, and he to whomsoever the Son will reveal him.

See when Jesus came, John 1:18, Jesus came to reveal his Father. That verse literally says,

Jhn 1:18 No man has seen God at any time. The only begotten Son, who's in the bosom of the Father (or in the closest relationship possible), he has come to reveal him. (He's going to reveal his Father.)

Now, all of us living in this world and experiencing each other, experiencing church people, experiencing religion, have come to believe and accept that God needs to be appeased, that God is angry at you because of your sin, and that he needs to be appeased. So in this video, I just want to speak to you from my heart, hopefully to your heart. I know some people will see this video and begin to see the folly of the universal church. You'll begin to see there's more to the Father than what we've been told. There is more to the Son of God than what we've been told. There's more to the Holy Spirit than what we've been told.

I want to kind of start off by saying that God is love. God is love. I don't think anybody would argue that. 1 John 4:8 and 1 John 4:16, God is love. What is love? Well, love is defined in 1 Corinthians 13, and we see, through 1 Corinthians 13, how it matches up to Exodus 34, where the Son of God declares the glory of God, or the name of God, telling us how God is long-suffering, abundant in goodness, meek, kind, and patient. See, all of those are in 1 Corinthians 13.

If I were to turn to 1 Corinthians 13 and just read that, and instead of the word "charity" or "love," just put the word "God," then you would get a framework of the character of God the Father. Now there's one aspect of this that was never taught to me in any of my religious upbringing, and that is 1 Corinthians 13:5, that *love does not impute iniquity. Love does not impute sin.* What is "impute"? It means "to make a record." Love or God does not make a record of sin. If we could go to the cross, if we could have been at the cross that day and heard Jesus say, "*Father, forgive them for they know not what they do,*" see, Jesus was not imputing their sin; he was forgiving it, he was letting it go.

Yet, all of those men who were killing him didn't ask him to do that. At that given point in time, they did not believe he was the Son of God. They did not repent, they did not pray, and yet they were forgiven. Why would they be forgiven? Because God, all of your life, has passed over your sins. He has been passing over the evil in your life. I'm not saying that you're not held accountable, but he is not condemning you to a burning hell because of the sin in your life.

So again, I want to speak to you from my heart. And what I want to do is turn to the Gospel of John, chapter 9, and I want to start reading at verse 39, remembering Jesus came to declare his Father, John 9:39.

Jhn 9:39 Jesus said, For judgment I am come into this world, that they which see not might see; that they which see might be made blind.

Jhn 9:40 Some of the Pharisees which were with him heard these words, and they said, Well, are we blind also?

Jhn 9:41 And Jesus said unto them, If you were blind, you should not have sin: but now you say, We see; therefore, your sin remains.

Now, if I could just bundle all of that up, what is it he's saying? Remember, Jesus said he's coming to declare his Father, who Jesus says "I have come for a judgment for a decision made... for a judgment, so that you people who recognize you're blind would realize then, you don't even have sin. What does he mean? "*Father, forgive them, they don't know what they're doing.*" When you recognize who God is, that God is love, and he is not making a record of your sin... Why wouldn't he do that?

Because he realizes you cannot not do it. We are led away; we're in iniquity. We were conceived in iniquity (Psa 51:5). Iniquity is that thought you have before you sin. You don't know how to stop that. Maybe you can stop it a little bit toward your children, toward certain people in your life, but eventually you reach a point where you just cannot keep covering up that iniquity. It starts coming out.

If you knew the truth about God, you would realize you don't even have sin, just like God forgave those soldiers who were crucifying his Son. Why would he not forgive you, too? All of your life. But because you think you understand the process of salvation, because you think you understand God, then your sin remains on you. In fact, there are people who are listening to this right now, becoming irritated, because they can't believe God can just simply forgive somebody. There has to be a payment made.

See, that is iniquity, and that is the problem of the universal church, whether you're pagan, Catholic, or Protestant. You can't believe the ability of God to forgive another person. If he knows that you don't understand yourself and you don't understand God, then he is not holding that against you. He has already forgiven it. In order for you to receive forgiveness, the first thing you do is repent.

You come to the understanding that God is love, and love does not make a record of sin. You repent of your sin and you determine, "I am not going to do this anymore." You repent of your sin, you will find the forgiveness of God, which has been there your whole life, and you can now walk in a completely new understanding of God and your Savior. Turn with me to Isaiah 40. Reading from verse 1.

Isa 40:1 Comfort ye, comfort ye, my people, saith your God.

Isa 40:2 Speak ye comfortably (now that "comfortably" in verse 2 is "to the heart"). Speak ye to the heart, to Jerusalem, and cry unto her, that her warfare (spiritual warfare) is accomplished, that her iniquity is reconciled; for she has received of Jehovah's hand double for all her sins.

Speak to the heart, your warfare is accomplished, your iniquity is reconciled now to God because you've received the double. So we've spoken about the double. We need to tie this in to what we're looking at in the Gospel of John. So what I want to do is go back to John 9, and then we're going to let that lead us right into chapter 10. Again, John 9:39.

Jhn 9:39 Jesus said, For judgment I've come into this world, that they which see not might see; and that they which see might be made blind.

Or, why don't we just say, "I've come into this world that they who don't understand salvation, they might see it. They might understand it, and that they who think they know it might be made blind and realize you've been blind all your life about God."

Jhn 9:40 Some of the Pharisees which were with him heard these words, and they said, Are we blind? Are you telling us we're blind also?

Jhn 9:41 And Jesus said unto them, If you were blind (if you realized you don't know the truth about God is love and the salvation of God and redemption in Christ), if you were blind, then you wouldn't have sin: but now you're saying, Well, we see, though. (We see the truth. We see the way to salvation.) Well, therefore, your sin remains on you.

Because you're seeing it through the eyes of the universal church. That's all you've heard all your life. Now, chapter 10, because I believe Jesus is still speaking here.

Jhn 10:1 Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that enters not by the door into the sheepfold (or what if I just said the door of your heart), but he climbs up another way, the same is a thief and a robber.

Jhn 10:2 But he that enters in by the door is the shepherd of the sheep.

What's the door? In this parable, it's the door of your heart. What does it mean to enter into the sheepfold through the door, the door of their heart? What's the other way, if you enter into the sheepfold another way? Let me tell you something, and again I'm speaking from my heart. You know, throughout your life, you did not know what you were doing, committing the sins that you committed in holding the anger against people that you've held. You did not have the tools to put away iniquity and stop it from becoming sin.

Right now, I'm speaking to your heart. I'm telling you something that you've experienced. I want to teach you something about the love of God and how he is treating you the way you would treat your own child. He's not casting you out because you've done something wrong. He is saying you really didn't know what you were doing.

Watch the other way to come into the sheepfold. Logic, or I could say intellect and emotion. That is how people approached me about Jesus forgiving me, that he died to pay my sin debt. See, that verse is not in the Bible, but it makes perfect sense because an eye for an eye, a tooth for a tooth, stripe for stripe... and if I've done all this bad stuff, I deserve to have it all done to me. So Jesus is going to get on that cross and take my punishment, so God doesn't have to do that to me.

See, that makes perfect sense to somebody who doesn't know the truth. To someone who doesn't know God, they will appeal to your spirit, the way you see it. You've done that all your life. I've done that all my life. You step on my toes, then I'm going to step on yours. "Surely that is how God looks at us. If you do something bad, I'm going to come after you." That's what we've been taught. That is the way we've read the Bible.

Yet I dare say there are people listening to this video that have never seen the end of the Gospel of John, chapter 9, where he says, "*If you were blind, you wouldn't even have sin.*" If you recognized you're wrong about God, you would realize "he isn't holding anything against me. I need to repent of my sin. I need to correct what I can correct. But God is not condemning me." ... "*Father, forgive them. They don't know what they're doing.*" While they were killing him, he said that. You and I are no different. We're no different.

See, I want you to understand that people are going to come into the sheepfold with lies and deceptions about God. And it will halfway make sense, because we look at these things through earthly eyes, through an earthly understanding. It only makes sense that God's mad, Jesus is mad, he's going to kill us all. That only makes sense.

But then you pick up a higher authority, the Bible, and you hear your Savior say things. You read these verses, "*Speak to the heart of my people. Tell them their warfare is accomplished.*" Why? Well, they receive the double? What is the double? Let's keep reading this in John chapter 10, verse 2.

Jhn 10:2 He that enters in by the door (the heart of the person) is the shepherd of the sheep.

Jhn 10:3 To him the porter will open; and the sheep will hear his voice: and he'll call his own sheep by name, and he'll lead them out.

Jhn 10:4 And when he puts forth his own sheep, he'll go before them, and the sheep follow him: for they know his voice.

Now, there are a couple of things in this. He'll go before them. The place we need to go to understand and receive the forgiveness of God and the Holy Spirit of God, Jesus went there on the cross. When he decides to lead them away, he goes before them, and we will follow the Lamb whithersoever he goes (Rev 14:4). On the cross, he portrayed us. He is showing us ourselves.

What about this "he calls us by name?" He'll call us all by name. There is no pretense here. There's no make-believe. The Lord could look at me and say, "You know, you're an adulterer. You're a liar. You're a cheater. You're a hater." He'll call you by your name. He'll be honest about it. He'll call you by name and lead you out of that. He'll lead you out of the confusion into the kingdom of God.

When I considered making this video, I realized that this is a characteristic of Jesus, because this is a characteristic of his Father, and what Jesus said and did was from the Father (Jhn 8:28, Jhn 12:49-50). He is going to enter into you, enter into the sheepfold, through the door of your heart, and he is not going to pull any punches. He isn't going to say, "Well, you know, I know you did that, but I'm going to act like you didn't do it." No, he doesn't do that. You did do it. You're guilty.

If you humble yourself before God, you will find the forgiveness from him, and you'll realize, "he never condemned me. I was condemning myself. He wasn't condemning me." And he will lead me out of the Babylonian thinking that you're just a dirty rotten sinner. See, Jesus Christ, the only begotten Son of God, when he went to the cross, he became us. He became who we actually are on the inside. He was the outward picture of the inward truth.

That man wore the crown of thorns, the stripes on his back, the land was dark... yet he himself was perfect before God. But he did that so we could see ourselves. If he is going to lead us out, or wants us to go out, he goes before us, and we hear his voice. You

know why? Because he's honest with you. People can tell you, "Oh, you're just a dirty rotten sinner." We believe that because we feel that way.

But the truth is, when somebody tells you the truth, that God is saying, "I'm not condemning you. Yes, you are guilty of things, but I'm not condemning you. I'm going to fix it. I want to help you fix it, and my Messiah is going to help you turn from all iniquity. My Messiah is going to save you from sin." Not the punishment of it! He doesn't save you from the punishment of sin; he saves you from sin, period.

Once you get the truth of what iniquity is (where does it even come from), you let the Savior in your life, because on the cross, he destroyed the works of the devil in you (Jhn 3:8), if you can believe it. He didn't destroy the work of the devil in the whole world... just in the people who believe. If you can believe it and realize you haven't been accurate about salvation, and you realize I've been blind about God... what is the truth? Then he's going to let you know, you don't even have sin.

We need to clean up your mind, clean up your thinking. Get rid of the pain and the sorrow. Get rid of the hard feelings and the anger and the bitterness so that you can have a life and live it more abundantly. *"Speak to the heart of my people, speak to the heart of Jerusalem. Tell them their warfare is accomplished, the spiritual warfare is accomplished."*

Why? Well, they've received the double, what's the double? It's Jesus on that cross as he is portraying us. If you can see that, and if you can look at him and see yourself and find the power that he's going to give you to turn from iniquity... he's setting you free from all iniquity. He is the only begotten Son of God, born in eternity past, born in Bethlehem. He came to declare his Father, not himself. No one knows the Son except the Father. And no one knows the Father except the Son reveals him to us, and that's why he came (Jhn 1:18). He wants you to see the Father.

What do you need to see? God is love. Love is long-suffering, patient, kind, and meek. Love helps you. To receive it, repent. Find repentance in your heart so that you'll never turn back and go that way again. Find repentance in your heart. Find the forgiveness of God. Realize He's never condemned you. Realize, because Jesus is His Son, we have the authority to say we are children of God. That gives you the authority.

He loved you so much, he gave you his Son. Then his Son is what he was willing to pay to save us from iniquity and lead us out of Babylon into the kingdom of God. He is knocking at the door. No joke. The door of your heart. This is where that man will come in, not through a bunch of fancy words of men's wisdom, trying to talk you into it. The Lord's going to tell you the truth. You are guilty. You're a sinner. You've done things that have hurt people, and you're carrying anger toward people yourself. That's no joke. He's going to call you by name, but when he does, he's going to heal you of all of that.

He can easily say, "You know what? You didn't know what you were doing. Guess what, neither does your ex-wife nor your ex-husband. They didn't know what they were doing either." They are condemning themselves with what they're being told from the universal church. God is not condemning you. Those people who are found in Christ are not condemned, because in Jesus Christ, you find the love of the Father. In Jesus Christ, you find the forgiveness of God. In Jesus Christ, you will find power over sin.

When it says he wants you to have life eternal, he wants you to have life more abundantly. He doesn't mean, "In the by and by, pie in the sky." He means now, you can have life more abundantly. You can live free from iniquity and stand firm. Don't let anyone take the truth away from you.

Jesus Christ gave himself on that cross to redeem us from all iniquity, that he might purify unto himself a peculiar people zealous of good works (Tit 2:14). Let's be counted in that number and recognize the folly of what we've been taught all of our lives, that we truly do have a loving Father. He loves us; he's just simply waiting with arms open for those of us who can say, "I know I'm a child of God," because Jesus Christ is his only begotten Son.

Entering into that truth, you are born from above. You will find yourself free of iniquity, and you will find joy unspeakable and full of glory. That's where we're headed. The world's coming to an end. But I pray that we have success here and now, that we overcome.