My Testimony of Faith

I came to The Lord like many, full of fervour to tell everyone about Jesus and full of expectancy to see what I was reading in the bible in action. I entered into a church congregation full of expectancy and faith, full of The Spirit like many new believers. I soon found myself doing what most denominations do, singing some worship songs and following week to week the same comfortable format. I found myself not walking in the authority or power which I was reading about, but simply asking hopefully for our Father to help with life's problems, in Jesus name. I felt the presence of God in worship but not much else was happening, I began to doubt my faith and that God actually would do anything. Even though He had already freed me straight away of much bondage when I was first saved. God had freed me from much fear and anxiety very quickly but there was still a lot of depression and oppression and torment still ruling my emotions and life. Still I doubted He would help, He seemed so distant, but I was still reading my bible, a lot, all the time, and things were not adding up. Church did not look like the one described in the bible. I read the verse beginning in mark 16:17, "these signs will follow them that believe". First on the list, they will cast out devils/demons. I searched this out and soon discovered a ministry in Australia(online), which included deliverance from evil spirits, and joined it. myself received deliverance and freedom from so many bondages I cannot name them all. Things that had ruled and enslaved my life in so many ways. Religious spirits were the worst of all, they bind our minds to traditions and mans doctrines, and stop us being able to see the truth, and walk in the gifts, but the Lord in His great mercy after a very large battle released me from this and many other things and is still doing this now. It is the walk of sanctification through the washing of the water by The Word. Loving The Truth, departing from sin.

As I became free I began to help deliver others and The Lord taught me as I learned, about the spiritual reality all around and inside us. The effects of sin in everyday life. The price of sin, I found out, was that it opened the gates/doors to satan's kingdom to enter us and rule us through our bondage to sin. In the process of helping others, I found I myself also being liberated from demonic control which I now know works through sin and our worldly desires and lusts. took a while for me to understand and then also believe, that there is now No condemnation in Christ(praise Jesus for the gift of grace). I now had the power to depart from sin and demonic To be set free!—the real tribulations and trials now began. Sin opens the door to demonic slavery, but repentance, faith and grace allows us to resist and leave it. Jesus has given us power to **walk** out from under the curse. I found negative emotions and feelings and thoughts and even infirmities are the result of demonic power over us, through sin. are able to enter into us through sin, but when we repent and depart from sin through faith and the power of The Holy Spirit, we are able to cast them out and be set free and restored. Free of the torment- how I learned to appreciate and praise The Lord as I was set free of bondages and oppression I didn't even know I had. Through this process which is ongoing, and still ongoing, I have learned that the curse drives us to God, to Gods Love(Jesus). To escape the tormentors, we must walk in love. God uses their torment to bring us to Jesus, to cause us to walk in love, and in doing so, we are set free of that particular bondage. I learned this is how sanctification We are sanctified by faith(right away when we first believe) but then we prove our faith by being sanctified and cleaning up our demon infested temple for God to dwell in. He works in us to will and to do His will, from our heart, willingly-not through the law. The tormentors gradually bring us to this -- willing to Love. It becomes an attitude of the heart. Sin just wasn't worth the price once I understood how sin works, and how satan used sin to afflict me. Apart from the fact I am seeking God, understanding this helps us understand the battle we are in.

I realised Jesus has done every thing we need to receive salvation, everything is provided for at the cross. Jesus has paid for us to be redeemed to life in God. Everything we need is provided for. We simply believe and then by faith, we receive salvation through sanctification, which is the process of becoming holy as Jesus is holy. Coming into the image of God as we were created to be. The problem I found though is that much of modern Christianity

stops at simply believing we are saved, and call it faith. They forego on the process of departing from sin- which now has no power over us—through the grace of God. Through learning love. God has not taken away our will and so even as Christians we have choices to make still. We actually prove(faith with works) we believe the gospel by our faith in departing from sin. coming into Jesus image(Love). Through relationship with The Holy Spirit. If we think Jesus did absolutely everything and we are saved by **just** believing we are deceived. We actually prove we believe by the working of our faith in learning to love. I have found it very easy to come under law instead of allowing The Holy Spirit to guide me. This has always lead to a dead end, looking to my own reasoning instead of trusting God. My own reasoning leads me away from the truth. have success when I ask God for help, in faith, and allow him to lead what needs to be done. Faith without works is dead. I also found that there is a law, called the law of liberty, whereby we set our own freedom or we set our own bondage and prison. We choose ourselves, our own judgement—by the way we treat others. As we realise this it will encourage us to love—so that we can receive everything provided for at the cross. It is completely just and fair because we receive exactly what we ourselves set. By our own standards. Our freedom relies on ourself personally holding others forgiven, so God is able to forgive us. We are judged as we judge, therefore we can be free of judgement by judging no-one. We are forgiven as we forgive, therefore we are completely forgiven only if we completely forgive everyone else. As we show mercy, we will be shown mercy. Whatever we sow, that we will reap. We can sow hatred and anger and still reap condemnation-because we show that's where our faith is. The tormentors come in until we forgive. They are our incentive to love willingly. We have choice and can sow love to reap eternal life. We prove our faith by what we sow and what we do. We are setting this by our very own actions, words and thoughts. We have free will, we still have choices to make. I found that yes, Jesus has provided everything we need to be saved, but we must take hold of that—by walking as He walked. We can only receive what Jesus Christ has provided if walk as He walked. That is learn to love. To will and to do Gods will. If we are busy sowing discord and offence we are hardly going to reap a good harvest. As we learn to love, from the heart, we are being sanctified and are coming into Jesus image. From glory to glory and it all rests upon the way we treat others and show love and grace and mercy and display Jesus in us to the world. As we choose love—we are departing from sin—departing from bondage—being sanctified. Proving our faith is faith indeed—faith with works—proven by Jesus working in us. testimony of Jesus love in us, and working through us. Jesus has provided everything we need including the power to walk in love, but we must be able to receive what he has done for us. We receive salvation and our heavenly inheritance by choosing to be lead or co-operate with The Holy Spirit. Looking to Jesus and the cross to overcome all things. Not self. The Spirit will That's the gospel -- love -- it should remain this simple. constantly be guiding us to love. Which is to walk just as Jesus walked. All provided for at the cross and His blood. The Spirit is to walk exactly like Jesus did. We should not allow religion to complicate the simplicity of the gospel—-just learn to love. To walk in The Spirit—- I found we need to take one step at a time, in the right direction—-obeying love.

Our spirit is born from above(free from defilement and sinless), our flesh is from below and profits nothing—(john 3:31)- it is infested. Our soul is caught between the two- we have choice now though, through Gods grace. We can choose to no longer be a slave to sin(which proves our faith). We are sanctified by departing from sin, through walking in love(in The Spirit). must pick up our cross daily, deny ourself and follow/obey The Spirit. Denying self is love, love thinks of others. The rebellion in me—in the carnal nature, is truly astounding and I did not really understand it, until I stood against evil and entered the battle (obeying love 1cor13:4-8). I now **know.** that battle, is **only entered** and fought **through love.** The Holy Spirit, who is very real to me is always leading me to love, which is denying self and caring for others burdens—opposite to our carnal nature and ways of the world. Denying self, no offence, not keeping anger, forgiving all things, no self pity, rejection, depression or pride, but letting go of the world and seeing things in a new way. Learning to see things in the spirit realm in which our born again spirit resides and will be for eternity. This world and physical reality is **temporary**. Our **eternal** life is **now found** in our spirit which is alive to God. Not our worldly flesh. We all want our soul to be attached to Jesus(where our spirit is in), we need to let go of the flesh which is our temporary tabernacle or home. Faith is the way to access this heavenly reality of spirit(IN CHRIST), which is above satan

and which has dominion over everything to do with his kingdom of evil. In Jesus Christ. In Love. The promises are in effect IN Christ. As we Love(abide in Love). No judging, no gossip, no slander, no criticism but instead lifting and edifying others, this lifts us up into spirit above the Doing these things directly confronts evil, I testify to this. Love immediately brings a showdown between evil and good—-if we don't understand this, we back off wondering what's going on. We think we are doing something wrong. But the battle is normal and love forces the enemy to the battle. Which is what we want, and what God wants—the enemy would The demonic kingdom cannot bear love, it forces them to flee. much rather stay hidden. God uses our love(doing) to expose the enemy so we can then smash them with the sWord. Christ, in Love(doing), we are above. It is crucial to follow what God calls love (1Cor 13:4-7). Absolutely necessary to expose evil and rise up IN Christ. All the promises are promised IN Christ. **IN** Christ we are **above** satan and evil. In the flesh we are below and under His IN LOVE-obeying 1cor13:4-7- we are then IN Christ—as we also are enabled to do dominion. this by The Holy Spirit—relationship. It is important to understand this. We are **IN** Christ when we are obeying Love—-or even in the battle to obey—-until we overcome. We hang on to love until we have the victory—-this is faith. All the promises are **IN** Jesus Christ.

Showing Gods grace in all things is impossible for the flesh. In The Spirit—through love in our born again spirit, we can do it by faith. The flesh and the carnal mind is the enemy. By asking God to help as The Holy Spirit reveals places satan still has us bound and imprisoned Our dominion and authority is in the spirit, and we rise into the spirit above we are set free. satan, when we obey The Spirit, and when we walk in love. In the flesh we are under satan, in the spirit we are above. **In** Jesus, **in** love, we are above, and **then** have authority over evil. When we obey love, and The Spirit, without compromise, I have learned, we are brought up into the spirit IN Jesus(safe). When we don't obey love, we come under evils reign and rule until we repent and come back under grace, by walking in love. We then overcome whatever it is that God is dealing with in our life at that time(relationship not law). When we honestly from the heart do --: THESE: -- things(1cor13:4-8)-love and stop playing religious smiles and pretence, I found we soon discover the enemy within because they must stop love. light(exposes) and brings the devil to the surface(he can't hide). Expect a lot of resistance now --> We will **then** discover the pain and un-forgiveness hidden in our hearts and tormented minds—-to stop us being able to obey love. We then want to run away from love because it hurts, it exposes the pain, but the victory is given to the over-comers. Faith and trust. this is when our walk becomes real with God and this is when we find closer relationship with God. We need Him in the battle that ensues to overcome. To be able to obey love. To face past trauma and receive healing. When we actually **DO these things that God calls love.** "This all comes back to forgiveness". Forget what the world calls love—look at what God says love is and simply follow and obey that, to find freedom and wholeness. I know God is looking at my heart and weighing all my motives, actions and thoughts. Remember love is of free will, not forced or manipulated. God wants all pride and self works driven out of me, He just wants me to trust Him and have faith and do my best to obey love as circumstances arise to throw me off course. Looking to the cross-Jesus risen- at Gods right hand for victory. He can work with me then. His works not mine.

I cannot stress **how important it is** to let go of the world(physical) and walk in these **things that God calls love,** with no compromise(our hope is spiritual). It is **The way** to expose evil. I have felt often that I failed God miserably from start to finish as God purifies and cleanses me in the race with the time I have been given to form Jesus in me. Constantly looking to my self and trying to work things out with my own reasoning. Every time I do this it fails, I would save you from this—hopefully by this testimony. Everything fails until I repent and turn to Jesus **in faith.** I have been in Terrible spiritual battles whereby I have had to overcome every emotion and feeling, every offence and anger and frustration, and hurt(demonic bondage). To obey love and not back down. God is teaching me patience too, and so many times it takes a very large battle and a fiery

trial to burn out the old nature. God is a consuming fire—- love consumes our enemies in the battle as we overcome and refuse to back down from love.

Love will lead to being largely misunderstood by the world, each time this leads us to be needing to overcome more rejection and hurt and isolation. Love is hard.... The world does not understand the demonic resistance to those whom obey what God calls love. Evil must try to stop us, and they do try to stop us. As soon as we show love we force them up into the They prefer to stay hidden in darkness. They know we have dominion when we are liaht. walking in Love(Jesus). Rebellion, pride and offence, are constantly ready to drag me down. It is the dying to self. Just like Jesus went through. God has always been faithful and ready to heal, when I finally let go and give it all to him. But letting go can be a terribly hard thing, as can be forgiveness. We purposefully surround ourselves with distractions for comfort(false comfort). To avoid facing love. We do this without realising we are doing it. I am learning to let go of false comfort in order to allow love to conquer. The world offers thousands of ways to avoid love, the gospel though, is a gospel of Love. The devil has and still is constantly trying to drag me into the flesh, into these negative works of the flesh and false comfort. In the flesh under his torment. Religion can be false comfort, love is not. If we wish to let go of vain religion we simply begin to obey what God calls love -- as we do this The Holy Spirit can lead us. Love is in Christ. The promises take effect in Christ, even as we battle to overcome sin, if we keep our eyes on Him until we see the victory.

In the flesh I am tormented, until I overcome it through love. Love is our cross. Obey all of 1cor 13:4-7 and you will soon agree. Overcoming pride and rebellion has been a terrible thing, with demonic power binding me to it until I am able to forgive, or stop judging or let go of past traumas and pain. We desperately need healing for these. God is the awesome healer and is always merciful and full of grace, as soon as I am able to repent from the heart. To forgive from the heart. From the heart, so that I am able to escape the torments of sin. I have learned that the curse, which was given for our sake, is Gods love to drive us back to Jesus, back to love. It is impossible for the flesh to overcome, it is always by faith and looking to relationship with Jesus and The Spirit and The Father. Asking God and believing He will help. Believing Gods Word, believing and applying Gods promises. The battle is spiritual, the flesh is powerless. Faith through Love is the weapon. Grace is the power to do this—there is no guilt, shame or penalty, so sin has no power over us now—-if we believe. No matter how rebellious I have been, no matter how desolate and lost I have felt at times, when I am finally able to call out from the heart to God, His love is always there. Overcoming the carnal nature. Learning to draw on Jesus and what He has already done—drawing on the spiritual power he's given me. Learning to let go and ask Him to overcome for me, through me. Until I do this each time, my flesh fails. He is full of grace and His mercy endures forever:) He is always ready to forgive me, as soon as I am ready to forgive others or repent of what The Holy Spirit is leading me to turn away from or forgive or deal with.

I have learned, (or am learning), to follow The Spirit(relationship) and **not come under the bondage of the law** and it's condemnation—which always brings in the tormentors. It is by grace and relationship. Learning how to love through relationship with The Holy Spirit is very different to obeying rules and laws. It is all about our **heart and motives.** Love comes from free will. I have learned and testify that religion is very dangerous—allowing a man to be our head is very dangerous. It is another gospel. Only The Spirit can do this work. The Spirit works THROUGH LOVE! I testify that it is a race to form Jesus in us. We are sealed(our spirit that is) **unto** the day of redemption(Ephesians 4:30). We have a certain amount of time to get the filth of satan's kingdom out of us. To form Christ in us(the hope of glory). To loose our soul from

demonic defilement. Only God can do this and lead this, I have learned to follow The Spirit and not man. Only God can unravel the mess we make of our lives. Man hasn't a clue what is in our heart, God knows everything. The higher we become, the more we are serving others—opposite to the world.

God <u>uses man</u>, through the <u>gifts</u> of The Spirit, --to help edify and teach each of us <u>to</u> --hear and follow The Spirit -- and walk in the <u>gifts</u>.

I know these things now, through many trials and tribulations which I am now able to count as joy. I know God is always faithful, worthy of praise, always ready to forgive, full of grace and mercy, but also will bring correction-Rod(His love), to keep us on the narrow way. I know He can only do what He needs to do, if we obey to walk in love. And if we do not depart from The Traditions and doctrines(religion) are very dangerous—the same as with the Pharisees. There is no new thing under the sun. There is so much God has done in me, through me and for me. I praise Jesus. I have more and more joy, the closer I get to Him, amidst the battle. Jesus name, I have cast countless demons — -out of myself and other people(as Jesus did), seen many healed(as Jesus did), seen all the gifts operating through the church and have seen the church that looks and works like the one I read in the bible, operating in The Spirit of power. Jesus Christ the same yesterday, today and forever. I am still growing in Jesus and still learning, and still turning from every weakness and defilement the Lord reveals to me. glory. (Colossians 1:27)(Psalm 24). We are doors and gates for Jesus to walk and work through, upon the Earth. Jesus gave up His life so He could take it up again — in us. He had to go so The Comforter could come in us. Relationship with God. Don't allow religion to complicate the simplicity of the gospel. Love. Jesus in me:) Jesus in you:)

What God calls love

<u>1 Corinthians 13</u>
4Love suffereth long, and is kind; love envieth not; love vaunteth not itself, is not puffed up, 5doth not behave itself unseemly, seeketh not its own, is not provoked, taketh not account of evil; 6rejoiceth not in unrighteousness, but rejoiceth with the truth; 7beareth all things, believeth all things, hopeth all things, endureth all things. 8Charity never faileth:

The battle begins when we begin to obey *These* things

The Lord has blessed me to write many messages to help and edify the church in Pakistan. Many are written as I came to understanding in my own walk and through my own trials and then revelation. I am blessed and give God praise and thanksgiving for everything He is doing in my life and my brothers and sisters in Pakistan and in the nation of Pakistan. Jesus Church.

Praise, honour and glory to Jesus Christ

Stephen Westlake(new888life.com)