A TASTE OF ELLERSLIE

The Five Fabulous Fingers

A MESSAGE SERIES BY ERIC LUDY

SESSION 1

THE TEXT

The Five Fabulous Fingers Series

The Invisible God

His memorial Name to all generations is YHWH

No man has seen God at any time ...

John 1:18

Not that any man has seen the Father...

John 6:46

No man has seen God at any time...

1 John 4:12

Now unto the King eternal, immortal, **invisible**, the only wise God, be honor and glory for ever and ever. Amen . . . Who only has immortality, dwelling in the light which no man can approach unto; **whom no man has seen, nor can see**: to whom be honor and power everlasting.

Amen.

1 Timothy 1:17; 2:16

The Marvel of "The Word"

It takes that which is invisible and makes it visible

No man has seen God at any time; the only begotten Son, which is in the bosom of the Father, He has declared (revealed) Him.

John 1:18

(Jesus) Who is the image of the invisible God . . .

Colossians 1:15

The Word Reveals

It takes that which is hidden and makes it known

The Invisible Hand

... the right hand of the LORD does valiantly.

Psalm 118:15

The Work Glove

Then answered Jesus and said unto them, Verily, verily, I say unto you, The Son can do nothing of Himself, but what He sees the Father do: for whatsoever things He does, these also does the Son likewise.

John 5:19

The Five Fabulous Fingers

- The Word of God in Text (Scripture)
- The Word of God in Person (Jesus)
- The Word of God in Action (The Cross)
- The Word of God in Us (The Holy Spirit)
- The Word of God Through Us (Christianity)

Finger # 1 — The Text

The amazing, miraculous, perfect Text

When the Text Gains Its Rightful Position...

Everything else falls into place

Fact, Faith, and Experience

What is leading in the Church today?

The Three Positions

Above, beside, or beneath?

The Treasure Map

The Map is not the Treasure, but it is the only thing that can bring you to the Treasure

When the Text Loses its God-ness

Everything else goes on meltdown, Jesus becomes just a really good man, and the Cross becomes merely a wonderful example of love.

The Text is Something Very Special

- Preserved
- Timeless
- Perfect
- Sufficient

It is Truth

Without lie, exaggeration, or hyperbole

It is Love

Explaining a God who loves so much that He would expend the life of His only begotten Son to rescue and redeem those He created

How You Handle the First Finger

Sets the course for how you will handle the other four fingers

SESSION 2

THE MAN

The Five Fabulous Fingers Series

The Five Fabulous Fingers

- 1. The Word of God in Text (Scripture)
- 2. The Word of God in Person (Jesus)
- 3. The Word of in Action (The Cross)
- 4. The Word of God in Us (The Holy Spirit)
- 5. The Word of God Through Us (Christianity)

The Invisible God

His memorial Name to all genera/ons is YHWH

The Marvel of "The Word"

It takes that which is invisible and makes it visible

Finger # 1 — The Text

Finger # 2 — The Man

The amazing, miraculous, perfect Man

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Ten quick meditations that lead to awe and worship

If. . .

what God's Word says about God's Word made flesh (Jesus Christ), throughout the entire Bible, is true,

then...

Jesus is . . .

Meditation #1: He is from Old, from Everlasting. He has no beginning and no ending.

But thou, Bethlehem Ephratah, though thou be little among the thousands of Judah, yet out of thee shall He come forth unto me that is to be ruler in Israel; whose goings forth have been from of old, from everlasting.

Micah 5:2

[Melchizedek resembled the Son of God in] ... having neither beginning of days, nor end of life.

Hebrews 7:3

Meditation #2: He is Very God of Very God.

God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. The same was in the beginning with God.

John 1:1

For in Him (Jesus) dwells all the fullness of the Godhead bodily... For it pleased the Father that in Him (Jesus) should all fullness dwell...

Colossians 2:9; 1:19

(Christ Jesus) Who, being in the form of God, thought it not robbery to be equal with God...

Philippians 2:5

When Jesus saw their faith, he said unto the sick of the palsy, Son, thy sins be forgiven thee. But there were certain of the scribes sitting there, and reasoning in their hearts, Why does this man thus speak blasphemies? who can forgive sins but God only?

Mark 2:5-7

I and my Father are one.

John 10:30

Therefore the Jews sought the more to kill him, because He not only had broken the sabbath, but said also that God was his Father, making himself equal with God.

John 5:18

Meditation #3: He is the Almighty Creator of the Heavens and Earth.

Jesus Christ, by whom all things were made

For by Him (Jesus) were all things created, that are in heaven, and that are in earth, visible and invisible, whether they be thrones, or dominions, or principalities, or powers: all things were created by Him, and for Him: and He is before all things, and by Him all things consist.

Colossians 1:16-17

For this man (Jesus) was counted worthy of more glory than Moses, in as much as He who has built the house has more honor than the house. For every house is built by some man; but He that built all things is God.

Hebrews 3:3-4

And to make all men see what is the fellowship of the mystery, which from the beginning of the world hath been hid in God, who created all things by Jesus Christ...

Ephesians 3:9

(God) hath in these last days spoken unto us by His Son, whom He has appointed heir of all things, by whom also He made the worlds...

Hebrews 1:2

Meditation #4: He is, um, HE IS.

He is, in truth, Jehovah God, the I AM, that WAS, IS, AND IS TO COME The Revelation of the Father

He that has seen Me has seen the Father ...

John 14:9

Jesus said unto them, Verily, I say unto you, Before Abraham was, I AM.

John 8:58

Jesus Christ the same yesterday, and to day, and for ever.

Hebrews 13:8

I AM Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the ending, saith the Lord (Jesus), which IS, and which WAS, and which IS TO COME, the Almighty.

Revelation 1:8

Meditation #5: He is the Word of God Made Flesh.

He is the Bible brought to life — breathing, walking, talking, healing, and rescuing

And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us . . .

John 1:14

And He (Jesus) was clothed with a vesture dipped in blood: and His name is called The Word of God.

Revelation 19:13

By the Word of the LORD were the heavens made; and all the host of them by the breath of His mouth.

Psalm 33:6

The Word of God in Letter...
is now the Word of God in Life
The Word of God in Law...
is now the Word of God in Spirit and Truth
The Word of God in Proverb...
is now the Word of God in Person

Meditation #6: He is the Perfect Fulfillment of All Prophecy and Promise of the Christ.

With Divine Right to Rule and Control

Meditation #7: He is Over All.

King of kings and Lord of Lords

[The Father has set Jesus] at His own right hand in the heavenly places, far above all principality, and power, and might, and dominion, and every name that is named, not only in this world, but also in that which is to come: And hath put all things under His feet, and gave Him to be the head over all things to the church, Which is His body, the fullness of Him that fills all in all.

Ephesians 1:20-23

... God also hath highly exalted Him (Jesus), and given Him a Name which is above every name. That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of things in heaven, and things in earth, and things under

the earth; And that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

Philippians 2:9-11

These shall make war with the Lamb, and the Lamb shall overcome them: for He is Lord of lords, and King of kings ...

Revelation 17:14

And he hath on His vesture and on His thigh a name written, KING OF KINGS. AND LORD OF LORDS.

Revelation 19:16

Meditation #8: He is the Only Savior.

Outside of Him, No Man Can be Saved

Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me.

John 14:6

Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved.

Acts 4:12

Wherefore he is able also to save them to the uttermost that come unto God by him, seeing he ever liveth to make intercession for them.

Hebrews 7:25

Having therefore, brethren, boldness to enter into the holiest by the blood of Jesus, By a new and living way, which he hath consecrated for us, through the veil, that is to say, his flesh; And having an high priest over the house of God; Let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled from an evil conscience, and our bodies washed with pure water.

Hebrews 10:19-22

There is a Sign Given

That we might recognize the arrival of His Majesty

And the angel said unto them, Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, which is Christ the Lord. And this shall be a sign unto you

Luke 2:10-12

What is the Sign?

Brace yourselves for meditation #9

Meditation #9: He... The One Who IS... The One Who Created the Heavens and the Earth... God Himself... He... ummm...

Let's just read the Scripture...

And the angel said unto them, Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, which is Christ the Lord. And this shall be a sign unto you; you shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger.

Luke 2:10-12

He ...

The One Who IS...

The One Who Created the Heavens and the Earth...

God Himself . . .

The One who is Holy, Holy, Holy...

The One who has measured the waters of this earth in the

hollow of His hand...

The One who meted out heaven with a span . . .

The One who comprehended the dust of the earth in a measure . . .

The One who weighed the mountains in scales and the hills in a balance . . .

The One to whom the nations are as a drop in a bucket and are counted as the small dust of the balance . . .

The One who when He heads off to war,

There are none that can stay His hand ...

The One who sits as King between the mighty cherubim, above all, over all,

and in control of all...

The God of all the kingdoms of this earth . . .

The One who can bind the sweet influences of Pleiades, and loose the bands of Orion . . .

The One who can set the dominion of His ordinances in the earth. He can send forth lightning, number the clouds, and stay the bodies of heaven . . .

This One was wrapped in swaddling clothes and laid in a filthy animal feeding box

Meditation #10: We are Those Swaddling Clothes.

The Almighty Has Condescended to Be Wrapped In Us

... Christ in you, the hope of glory:

Colossians 1:27

Bonus Meditation #11: I Know Him, the Very God of Very God, Personally.

He calls me friend, brother, son, bride, His beloved, the sheep of His pasture

SESSION 3

THE ACTION

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... Himself took our infirmities, and bare our sicknesses.

Matthew 8:17b

Surely He has borne our griefs, and carried our sorrows ...

Isaiah 53:4a

Who His own self bare our sins in His own body on the tree, that we, being dead to sins, should live unto righteousness...

1 Peter 2:24a

For in that He Himself has suffered, being tempted, He is able to aid those who are tempted.

Hebrews 2:18

Seeing then that we have a great high priest, that is passed into the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold fast our profession. For we have not an high priest which cannot be touched with the feeling of our infirmities; but was in all points tempted like as we are, yet without sin. Let us therefore come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need.

Hebrews 4:14-16

The Action

Humble, Loving, Kind, Selfless

Perfect, Righteous, Holy, Just

Heroic, Brave, Courageous, Daring

As God Himself would do it As a man ought to act

Cleansing, Washing, Atoning, Forgiving, Redeeming,

Breaking, Crushing, Saving

Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord, and in the power of His might. Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places. Wherefore take unto you the whole armor of God, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand.

Ephesians 6:10-13

- 1. Stand therefore, having your loins girt about with truth,
- 2. and having on the breastplate of righteousness;
- 3. And your feet shod with the preparation of the gospel of peace;
- 4. Above all, taking the shield of faith, wherewith ye shall be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked.
- 5. And take the helmet of salvation,
- 6. and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God:
- 7. Praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, and watching thereunto with all perseverance and supplication for all saints;

#1 - Stand therefore, having your loins girt about with truth

His High Priestly Action — He was made naked that we might be clothed

Then Pilate therefore took Jesus, and scourged him.

John 19:1

And they stripped him . . . and parted his garments . . .

Matthew 27:28a, 35a

Then the soldiers, when they had crucified Jesus, took his garments, and made four parts, to every soldier a part; and also his coat: now the coat was without seam, woven from the top throughout.

John 19:23

They said therefore among themselves, Let us not rend it, but cast lots for it, whose it shall be: that the scripture might be fulfilled, which saith, "They parted my raiment among them, and for my vesture they did cast lots." These things therefore the soldiers did.

John 19:24

#2 — And having on the breastplate of righteousness

His High Priestly Action —

His heart was broken that ours might become the dwelling place of God

But one of the soldiers with a spear pierced his side, and forthwith came there out blood and water.

John 19:34

For these things were done, that the scripture should be fulfilled, A bone of him shall not be broken.

John 19:36

And again another scripture saith, "They shall look on him whom they pierced."

John 19:37

#3 — And your feet shod with the preparation of the gospel of peace

His High Priestly Action —

He washed our feet and submitted His feet unto defamation that our feet

might be shod with Iron and Bronze

After that he poured water into a basin, and began to wash the disciples' feet.

John 13:5

For dogs have compassed me: the assembly of the wicked have enclosed me: they pierced my hands and my feet.

Psalm 22:16

And His feet like unto fine bronze, as if they burned in a furnace . . . His feet are like fine bronze. . .

Revelation 1:15; 2:18

Let him dip his foot in oil. Thy shoes shall be iron and bronze...

Deuteronomy 33:24b,25a

#4 — And take the helmet of salvation

His High Priestly Action —

His head became the brunt of cruel and savage taunt that ours might bear the wreath of Christ-endued authority

And when they had platted a crown of thorns, they put it upon His head, and a reed in His right hand: and they bowed the knee before Him, and mocked Him, saying, Hail, King of the Jews! And they spit upon Him, and took the reed, and smote Him on the head.

Matthew 27:29-30

#5 — Above all, taking the shield of faith, wherewith ye shall be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked

His High Priestly Action —

His hands were bludgeoned with nails that ours might take hold of the

promises of Heaven

The other disciples therefore said unto Him, We have seen the Lord. But He said unto them, Except I shall see in His hands the print of the nails, and put my finger into the print of the nails, and thrust my hand into His side, I will not believe.

John 20:25

#6 — And the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God

His High Priestly Action —

He was struck upon the cheek

and His mouth touched with vinegar that our mouths might bear the Word

of God and wield the Almighty sword of the Spirit

And out of his mouth goeth a sharp sword, that with it he should smite the nations . . .

Revelation 19:15a

... one of the officers which stood by struck Jesus with the palm of his hand

John 18:22

And they spit upon him ... and smote him on the head.

Matthew 27:29-30

they filled a sponge with vinegar ... and put it to his mouth.

John 19:29

#7 — Praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, and watching thereunto with all perseverance and supplication for all saints

His High Priestly Action —

He interceded for us in order that we might become His mighty intercessors

SESSION 4

THE LIFE

The Five Fabulous Fingers Series

... in the likeness of Melchizedek, there arises another priest who has come, not according to the law of a fleshly commandment, but according to the power of an endless life.

Hebrews 7:15-16

Akatalytos - Ah-ka-ta-la-toss

Indissoluble, inextinguishable, unstoppable, unable to be destroyed, unable to be hindered, everlasting, endless

... (a) priest who has come ... according to the power of an Akatalytos life.

Hebrews 7:15-16

Jesus Has the Power of Life

For as the Father raises up the dead, and quickens them; even so the Son quickens whom He will... Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that hears my word, and believes on Him that sent me, hath everlasting life, and shall not come into condemnation; but is passed from death unto life.

John 5:21, 24

Therefore does my Father love me, because I lay down my life, that I might take it again. No man takes it from me, but I lay it down of myself. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it again.

This commandment have I received of my Father.

John 10:17-18

The Great Redemption

The amazing work of unstoppable Life

Jesus... might taste death for everyone... that through death He might destroy him who had the power of death, that is, the devil...

Hebrews 2:9, 14

... Our Savior Jesus Christ ... has abolished death and brought life and immortality to light through the gospel.

2 Timothy 2:10

Jesus — the only possible solution

An Adam without Sin, a High Priest that carries with Him a spotless satisfying offering

He knew no sin (2 Corinthians 5:21); In Him was and is no sin (1 John 3:5); He did no violence, neither was any deceit in His mouth (Isaiah 53:9); He did no sin, neither was guile found in His mouth (1 Peter 2:22); He was, and ever is, the Lamb of God (John 1:29); Without blemish and without spot (1 Peter 1:19); He did nothing amiss (Luke 23:41); Certainly He was a righteous man (Luke 23:47); The prince of this world had nothing (no legal grounds of condemnation) in Him (John 14:30); He was in all points tempted like as we are, yet without sin. (Hebrews 4:15); He was just (1 Peter 3:18).

The Ransom, The Redemption

Not just the moral requirements of the Law (an Adam without Sin), but the fulfillment of the just

penalty and compensation of the Law (Death, Curse, Wrath, Separation)

God cannot steal. And thusly, God cannot override the jurisdiction of the Devil and steal from him

those children that are condemned under the Law of Sin and Death. Heavenly justice demands due

payment, equitable compensation, appropriate satisfaction of punishment. It's eye for eye, tooth for

tooth, blood for blood. It's slave for slave, body for body. God satisfied the legal demands of His own

Law by giving up His own eye for our eye, His own tooth for our tooth, His own blood for our blood,

His own body for our body.

He became obedient unto death, and thusly gave up His life for our life, He took on Himself the

equitable compensation, the due payment for our sin, the just and satisfying punishment for our

disobedience. He paid it with His own body and blood. The perfect body and blood for all those in

legal bondage.

Jesus Purchased You AND Your Body

He wants to move in and make your body His home

... do you not know that your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit

who is in you, whom you have from God, and you are not your own?

For you were bought at a price; therefore glorify God in your body

and in your spirit, which are God's.

1 Corinthians 6:19-20

24

And I will pray the Father, and He will give you another Helper, that He may abide with you forever — the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees Him nor knows Him; but you know Him, for He dwells with you and will be in you . . . Because I live, you will live also. At that day you will know that I am in My Father, and you in Me, and I in you.

John 14:16-17,19b-20

You IN Christ - Christ IN You

The Great Exchange

... if the Spirit of Him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, He who raised Christ from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through His Spirit who dwells in you.

Romans 8:11

... Christ in you, the hope of glory.

Colossians 1:27

But I Thought the Holy Spirit Was In Me?

Why does it say, "Christ in me?"

But you are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if indeed the Spirit of God dwells in you. Now if anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, he is not His.

Romans 8:9

Of this salvation the prophets have inquired and searched carefully, who prophesied of the grace that would come to you, searching what, or what manner of time, the Spirit of Christ who was in them was indicating when He testified beforehand the sufferings of Christ and the glories that would follow.

1 Peter 1:10-11

The Five Fabulous Fingers

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- 5. The Word of God Through Us (Christianity)

Why is the Holy Spirit Desirous to Live Inside Us?

You are our epistle written in our hearts, known and read by all men; clearly you are an epistle of Christ, ministered by us, written not with ink but by the Spirit of the living God, not on tablets of stone but on tablets of flesh, that is, of the heart.

2 Corinthians 3:2-3

But we all, with unveiled face, beholding as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from glory to glory, just as by the Spirit of the Lord.

2 Corinthians 3:18

The Invisible Hand in the Visible Glove

It takes that which is hidden and makes it known

SESSION 5

THE LOVE

The Five Fabulous Fingers Series

... the love of God has been poured out in our hearts by the Holy Spirit who was given to us.

Romans 5:5

The Chief Gift

The Holy Spirit

The Chief Outcome

Love

... that He would grant you, according to the riches of His glory, to be strengthened with might through His Spirit in the inner man, that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith; that you, being rooted and grounded in love, may be able to comprehend with all the saints what is the width and length and depth and height — to know the love of Christ which passes knowledge; that you may be filled with all the fullness of God.

Ephesians 3:16-19

The Invisible Hand

The Holy Spirit

The Movement of the Work Glove

God is most clearly seen through Love

To me, who am less than the least of all the saints, this grace was given, that I should preach among the Gentiles the unsearchable riches of Christ, and to make all see what is the fellowship of the mystery, which from the beginning of the ages has been hidden in God who created all things through Jesus Christ; to the intent that now the manifold wisdom of God might be made known by the church to the principalities and powers in the heavenly places . . .

Ephesians 3:8-10

Living Letters

The Word of God now being revealed through us, the Church

You are our epistle written in our hearts, known and read by all men; clearly you are an epistle of Christ, ministered by us, written not with ink but by the Spirit of the living God, not on tablets of stone but on tablets of flesh, that is, of the heart.

2 Corinthians 3:2-3

What's More Important?

Faith or Love?

But without faith it is impossible to please Him...

Hebrews 11:6

... whatever is not from faith is sin.

Romans 14:23b

I show you a more excellent way....

1 Corinthians 12:31

The only thing that counts is faith expressing itself through love.

Galatians 5:6b

Love is the Impetus Behind the Word

For God so loved the world that He gave ... (John 3:16)

Love is the Outcome of the Word

By this all will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another. (John 13:35)

What's the Invisible Hand Wanting to Express?

I Really REALLY Love You!

What is Love?

That behavior which is absent of self-interest and wholly occupied with another's gain

God is love.

1 John 4:8

What happens when the Holy Spirit begins to Love in and through us?

The fruit of the Spirit is Love ... (Galatians 5:22)

Let no man seek his own, but every man another's wealth.

1 Corinthians 10:24

Let no one seek his own, but each one the other's well-being.

1 Corinthians 10:24

They desired only that we should remember the poor, the very thing which I also was eager to do.

Galatians 2:10

Love is a Higher Behavior than mere Law Abiding

Dub's Question

Daddy, would it be illegal to speed, if by speeding you rescued someone's life?

Daddy's Answer

Dub, the law is set in place to help people and not to harm people. The law has a letter and it has a spirit. The letter says no you can't speed, no matter what. But the spirit says, if it is in the loving interest of another, and speeding would save a life, **then you must speed**.

When it is Love, the Law turns on its sirens and escorts you down the interstate

- The pregnant woman needing to get to the hospital
- The ten Booms protecting the Jews
- Brother Andrew smuggling Bibles
- Amy Carmichael rescuing girls being dedicated to the Hindu temple for child prostitution
- David eating the showbread
- Jesus healing on the Sabbath
- Ox in the ditch
- A sheep in a pit

It's Lawful to do Good on the Sabbath

It is Lawful to do that which is "more excellent" always

If you are led by the Spirit, you are not under the law . . . the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control.

Against such there is no law.

Galatians 5:18, 22-23

For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has made me free from the law of sin and death. For what the law could not do, in that it was weak through the flesh, God sending His own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, and for sin, condemned sin in the flesh: That the righteousness of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit.

Romans 8:2-4