



A City Without Walls: Where God Becomes the Boundary

by John Himmelberger

Intro

This teaching confronts the tension of living in an overexposed world with limitless access but diminishing clarity. While modern culture pushes us to know everything, Scripture reveals a better way: God Himself as our boundary. Drawing from Zechariah 2, we see that Kingdom security is not found in information, control, or self-built walls, but in Presence. We were never designed to carry infinite knowledge, but to live anchored in relationship, discernment, identity, and peace that flow from knowing Him.

My Intention and Assumptions

I hope that your relationship with God, Jesus, and the Holy Spirit is strengthened through this teaching. My assumption is that you have read or are reading all 66 books of the Bible for context. This is meant to be 'salt' and make you thirsty. You're welcome.

About the Author

John Himmelberger is a teacher, pastor, and lifelong learner. With decades of experience walking with Jesus and leading others into transformational truth, John brings a grounded yet radical perspective rooted in Scripture, personal growth, and kingdom living.

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“A City Without Walls — Knowing, Not-Knowing, and the Need for Kingdom Boundaries”**

1. OPENING — The Tension We Live In

Here's the reality:

We don't know what we don't know.

In the ancient world, that wasn't a crisis.

Today... it's shaping our entire culture.

We're the most informed generation in history and somehow the most confused.

We have endless access and decreasing clarity.

We're drowning in knowledge and starving for wisdom.

We have access to more information than any generation in history,
yet we're carrying less clarity, less stability, and less peace.

We're the first generation that can see into a thousand worlds at once
and not belong to any of them.

That alone should tell us something:

Unlimited access doesn't produce truth — it produces collapse.

2. THE ANCIENT WORLD — A Protected City

- Ancient worldviews were *closed systems*.
- People inherited meaning, identity, and belief.
- There were boundaries around what they knew, believed, and experienced.

In the ancient world, belief systems were contained.

You lived inside the worldview your community handed you.

It may not have been perfect, but it was *stable*.

They didn't know what they didn't know — and it didn't bother them.

There were boundaries, walls, a sense of structure.

Proverbs says:

“A person without self-control is like a city with broken-down walls.”

Walls represent:

- identity
- protection
- order
- clarity

The ancient world had walls — they just weren't built on revelation yet.

3. THE MODERN WORLD — A City Without Walls

Now look at us.

Today we question everything, dismiss everything, and somehow embrace everything all at once.

- We have limitless access to information.
- Every worldview is available.
- Every belief system is at our fingertips.
- Everything is questioned, dismissed, redefined, and deconstructed.

We're exposed to every worldview, every doctrine, every ideology, every "truth claim" that pops into the algorithm.

And the result?

We've become a city without walls.

Overexposed.
Under-rooted.
Spiritually porous.
Emotionally scattered.
Starving for direction but drowning in options.

We live in a culture of:

- overexposure
- contradiction
- deconstruction
- suspicion
- information overload

This creates:

- identity fragmentation
- anxiety

- spiritual vulnerability
- confusion about truth and authority

We weren't designed for infinite inputs.
We were designed for intimacy with God.

4. THE BIBLICAL PICTURE — Zechariah 2

“Run, speak to this young man, saying,
‘Jerusalem will be inhabited as villages without walls,
because of the multitude of men and livestock within it.
****For I,’ says the Lord, ‘will be a wall of fire around her,**
and I will be the glory within her.’” Zechariah 2:4-5

Zechariah prophesies something wild:

“Jerusalem will be a city without walls...
and I will be a wall of fire around her.”

In other words:

**“I’m removing the old boundaries — not to expose you,
but to replace them with Myself.”**

This is Kingdom.

God isn't trying to limit our access.
He's teaching us that **information isn't protection — Presence is.**

Walls built by people can fall.
A wall of fire? That's Him.

Point:

**The Kingdom doesn't give us less truth — it gives us a different kind of boundary.
Not informational walls, but relational ones.**

It's not:

- “Know everything.”
- “Figure everything out.”
- “Control every variable.”

It's:

**“Let Me be your boundary.
Let My presence define your world.”**

5. KINGDOM TRUTH — You Don’t Need All Knowledge

Modern culture tells you:

“Know more.
Learn more.
Figure it out.
Build your own truth.”

Kingdom truth says:

**“You were never created to carry that load.
You don’t need all knowledge — you need *My* voice.”**

Discernment is not mental overload.
Discernment is recognizing the Shepherd in the noise.

Your identity is not formed by what you discover.
Your identity is formed by who you are with.

This is the shift:

**From trying to know everything
to trusting the One who does.**

Teaching point:

****You were never meant to carry the burden of infinite access.**

You were designed to live within the boundaries of God’s presence.**

Shift the focus: (uh – pist – uh – mology)

- Modern identity: “Build your own truth.”
- Kingdom identity: “Receive truth from relationship.”
- Modern epistemology: “Know everything.”
- Kingdom epistemology: “Know Him.”

Use Proverbs 3:5–6:

“Lean not on your own understanding...”

6. APPLICATION — What This Looks Like

Here's where this lands:

A. Discernment

You don't need to evaluate every voice —
you need to recognize *His* voice.

B. Identity

Your identity is not formed by the world you access,
but the Presence you abide in.

Access doesn't establish identity.
Presence does.

C. Peace

Peace isn't found in knowing more.
Peace is found in knowing Him.

D. Boundaries

You get to ask:
“What inputs am I letting shape me?”
“What voices have I let in that God never sent?”

Boundaries aren't about restriction — they're about alignment.

7. DECLARATIONS

Speak this over the room:

- “My mind is not a city without walls.”
- “The Presence of God is a wall of fire around my life.”
- “I don't need endless knowledge — I need His clarity.”

- “I hear His voice above every other voice.”
- “I live anchored, not scattered.”

8. ACTIVATION — Let Him Rebuild the Walls

Ask the Holy Spirit:

**“What walls are You rebuilding in me today?
What open gates need to close?
Where do You want to protect me with Your presence?”**

This is not restriction — it’s restoration.

9. CLOSING — The Kingdom Lens

Here’s the truth:

We were never meant to live in a world without walls.
Not walls of fear — walls of Presence.

We don’t need to know everything.
We don’t need to see everything.
We don’t need to solve everything.

We need the One who holds everything.

A city without walls is vulnerable.
A city with God as its wall cannot be shaken.