

From Shadow to Fullness - Part 1 Living in What's Already Ours

by John Himmelberger

Intro

Before Jesus, access to God came with conditions, rituals, and repetition that never truly dealt with sin. The law was only a shadow—a faint outline of the real solution. But now, through one perfect sacrifice, the shadow has been replaced by substance. In this teaching, you'll discover what it means to live from the finished work of Jesus: not striving for access, but resting in it; not working for identity, but walking in it. You've been perfected. You've been invited in. This isn't religion—it's family.

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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Part 1: From Law to Grace, From Striving to Sonship

Intro:

There's a big difference between living toward something and living from it. Many believers still approach God like they're under an old system, trying to earn approval, maintain access, and deal with sin through effort or emotional sacrifice. But that system was never designed to perfect anyone. It only pointed forward.

What was once shadow has now been fulfilled in Jesus. The cross didn't just change our future, it changed our identity, access, and position. This isn't about someday or one day. This is about walking in the reality that you've already been made clean, adopted, and empowered. The law reminded you of your distance. Grace reminds you of your belonging.

1. The Law Was a Shadow, Not a Solution

"For since the law has only a shadow [just a pale representation] of the good things to come, not the very image of those things, it can never... make those who approach perfect." Hebrews 10:1 (AMP)

The law did its job, it revealed need, exposed sin, and pointed to something better. But it could never remove sin. It could never restore access. It was repetition without resolution. Year after year, sacrifice after sacrifice, it reminded people of what was still missing.

Gold to Hold:

The law told us what was wrong. Jesus became what was right. Stop living like you're still waiting for access. It's already been given.

2. Jesus Finished What the Law Foreshadowed

"But when this Priest had offered one sacrifice for sins for all time, He sat down at the right hand of God."

Hebrews 10:12 (AMP)

There is no more sacrifice left to make. Jesus didn't just cover sin, He removed it. He didn't sit down because He was tired. He sat down because the work was done. That seat is the signal: nothing more needs to be added. Everything is now available through Him.

Gold to Hold:

You're not called to live from effort. You're called to live from completion. The seat of Jesus is your standing with God.

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3. Bold Access Is Your Inheritance

"Let us then approach God's throne of grace with confidence, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need."

Hebrews 4:16 (AMP)

You weren't just forgiven, you were invited in. Boldness isn't arrogance. It's agreement. You're not approaching God as a beggar at the gate. You're coming home to the Father who already opened the door.

Gold to Hold:

Grace doesn't give you a backstage pass. It hands you a key. Access is your normal now.

4. You Are Not Who You Were

"By this one offering He has forever perfected those who are being sanctified." Hebrews 10:14 (AMP)

The tension of the gospel: you've been perfected, and you're being sanctified. Identity is settled. Maturity is unfolding. You are not trying to become worthy of sonship, you're learning to live from the worth He already gave you.

Gold to Hold:

Stop working for what's already yours. Start walking in it.

5. From Slaves to Sons and Daughters

"...so that He might redeem those who were under the Law, that we might receive the adoption as sons and daughters."

Galatians 4:5 (AMP)

Adoption changes everything. You're not under a system anymore, you're in a family. You're not trying to earn favor, you're walking in favor. This is about inheritance, not performance. Intimacy, not religious distance.

Gold to Hold:

You don't pray like a slave. You speak like a son. You listen like a daughter. Everything changes when you know where you sit.

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Practical Application: Living From Fulfillment

1. Audit Your Beliefs

Are you still operating from a shadow mindset, trying to earn what was already finished? Ask the Spirit to show you.

2. Practice Bold Access

Begin prayer with confidence, not apology. Come to God as a child with access, not a sinner begging at the door.

3. Reject Religious Guilt

If a voice says you haven't done enough, check the source. That's not how the Father speaks.

4. Declare Completion Out Loud

When you feel unworthy or distant, speak truth aloud:

"By one offering, I have been made perfect. I am being sanctified. I belong in His presence."

Final Thought:

The cross wasn't a new chapter, it was the fulfillment of the story. You're not walking in shadows anymore. You're walking in the fullness of what Jesus finished. Live like it's already done, because it is.