

WELCOME to a 31 week Course sponsored by  
Dallas Willard Ministries & Jesus College

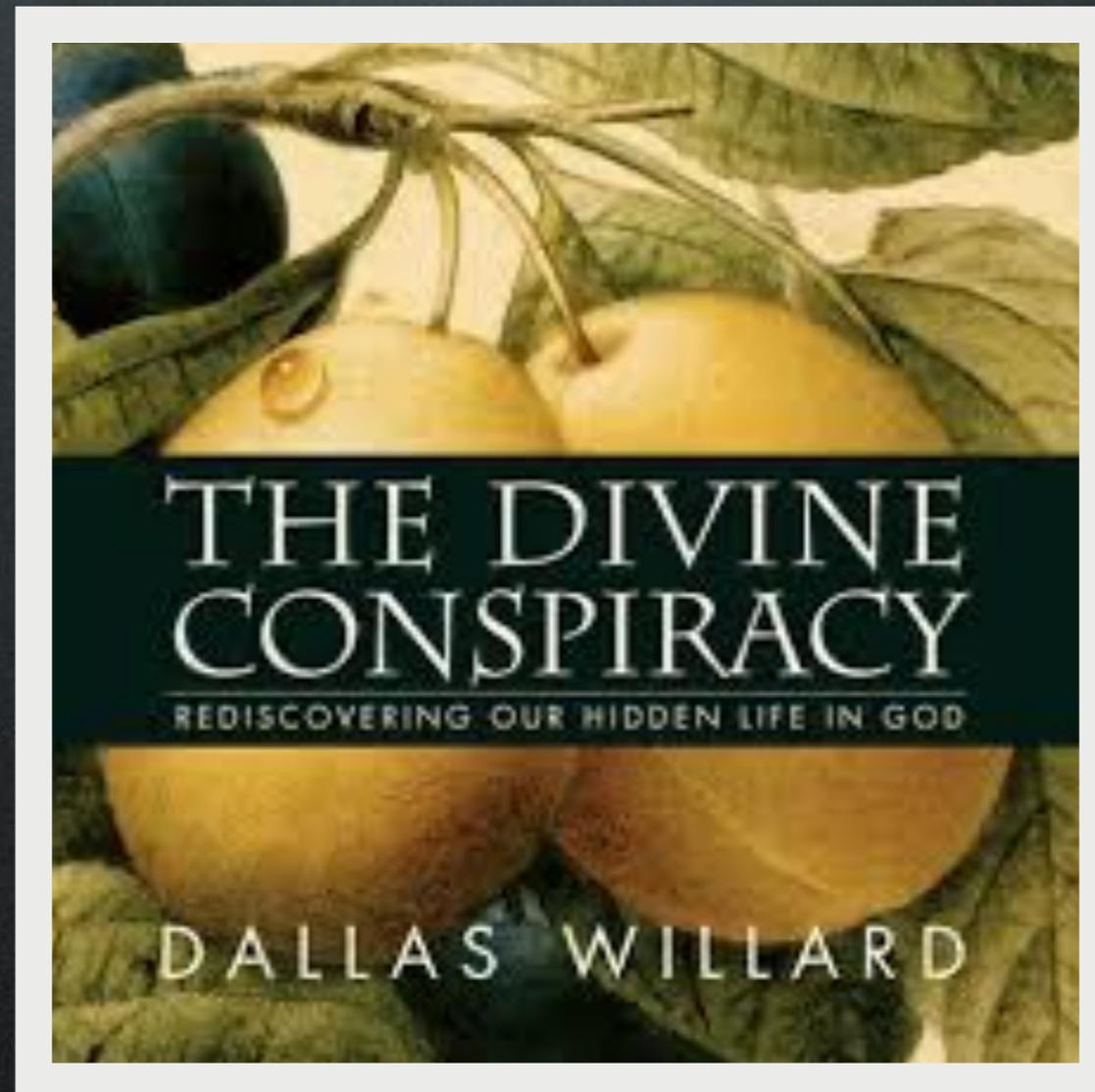


# THE DIVINE CONSPIRACY

Chapter 3 - What Jesus Knew:

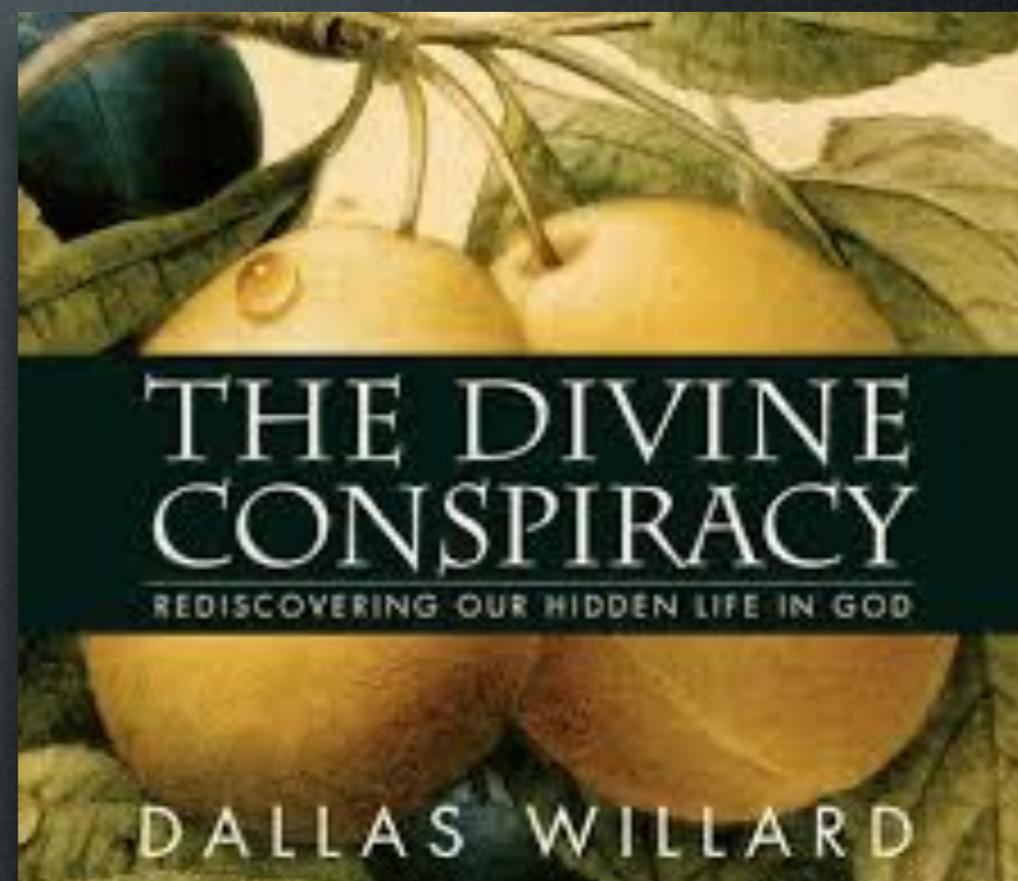
Our God Bathed World

Session 8 - *“All Things Visible & Invisible”*



## Session 7 Review

God is present in space and time and the very air we breathe and we were created to inhabit the heavens right where we are.



*If we are to make sense of Jesus' teaching and practice of the Kingdom of the Heavens, we must understand what spirit and the spiritual are and how they are in space. (Session 7, p. 74)*

# THE DIVINE CONSPIRACY

Chapter 3 - What Jesus Knew:

Our God Bathed World

Session 8 - *“All Things Visible & Invisible”*

## **What is Spiritual Reality?** — *6th Sense*

The Problem — How God is present around us in space and what ‘Kingdom of the Heavens’ is.

Spiritual is not something we ought to be,  
it is something we are...

Non Physical ~ Ultimate Power ~ Thought ~ Valuing

(79-80)

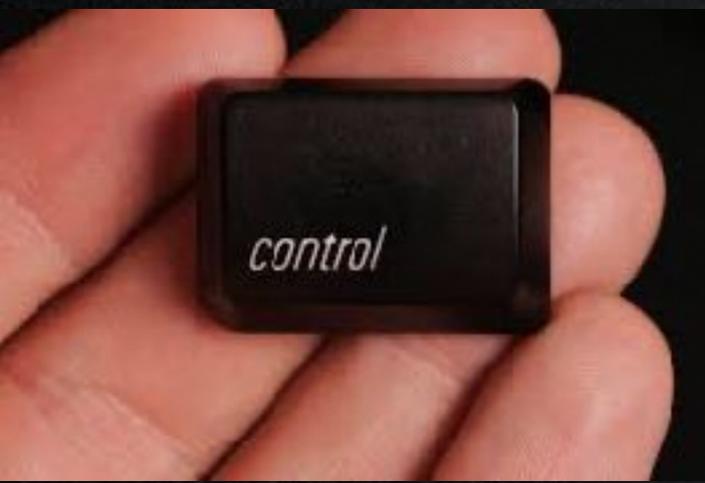
## The Centrality of “My” Will

The will (or heart) is the Executive Center of the self.

Self-Determination ~ Freedom ~ Creativity

*“Our effort...consents or non-consents...the original contribution we make to the world.”* William James

(80-81)



## **The Nature of God**

*“I AM that I AM” Exodus 3:14*

*“For just as the Father has life in Himself, even so He gave to the Son also to have life in Himself.” John 5:26*

~ ~ ~

Nothing other than God has this character of totally self-sufficient being, or self-determination.

## **The Nature of You & Me**

Every human being has a will or will power. It is our inclination and capacity to act on our own and to produce what we find to be good - to be freely creative. Without will we would have not life that is recognizably human.

We are describing the “kingdom” that belongs to every human being by nature. Grace, through confidence in Jesus, permits our kingdom to grow into a union with the Kingdom of God.



## **The Centrality of Our Will or Heart**

The heart, or will, simply is spirit in human beings, and the one thing in us that God will accept as the basis of our relationship to Him.

The heart/will/spirit is the spiritual plane of our natural existence, the place of truth before God, from where alone our whole lives can become eternal.

(81)



## **The Substantiality of Spirituality**

Spirit is un-bodily personal power. (81)

To understand spirit as “substance” is of the utmost importance in our current world, which is so devoted to the priority of matter.

Spirit - thoughts, feelings, willings and their developments which exercises a power that is outside the physical. *Romans 8:6, “The mind set on the Spirit”*

*This is how Jesus sees our world - it is part of His gospel.*



(82)

## *So, what does that mean to me today?*

Through my **will** [my kingdom/queendom - what makes me human], I act by (and with) **grace** to place my confidence in **Jesus**, and I grow into a union of my “spirit” [will] with the Kingdom of God [God = love...love = grace in action.]

Since I am a “spiritual being”, [the real “I” that makes up “me”] I was made to live in the “**Spirit**” - in an interactive dependence upon **God** under his **Kingdom** rule [His loving grace in action in and through me.]

That means “Kingdom Living” is an “eternal” kind of life now where God (“I AM that I AM”) exists eternally.

## **The Problem — The Human Quandary**

HOPELESS...FRANTIC...DESPAIRING...

*“Doors in the Wall”* H.G. Wells

“Chemical vacations from intolerable selfhood and repulsive surroundings.”

Aldous Huxley

Leo Tolstoy, *A Confession*...Feeling completely hopeless until he finally came to faith in a world of God where all that is good is preserved.



(82-83)

# The Problem



Growing up in the wrong Kingdom leaves us confused!  
(phylum...class...order...family...genus...species)

**80:00 + 10K**



## **“The Divine Conspiracy Lectures”**

Dallas Willard Ministries YouTube Channel



[https://www.youtube.com/playlist?  
list=PLQ7tmLfYg7S9ugPhFtlnry9zKLWx\\_oQmW](https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLQ7tmLfYg7S9ugPhFtlnry9zKLWx_oQmW)

12-part video series

The Harvey Fellows 2004 Summer Institute

## **“The Power of the Eternal Kingdom”**

Course Session 8\* — [DC #3 - 52:30-0:57:30](#)

(117) pages of lecture notes in the Jesus College Library

<https://www.jesuscollege.com/dallaswillard-thedivineconspiracy>

\* See the Reading Schedule for related teachings

## **A Solution in The “Mind of the Spirit”**

The world of the spiritual Jesus opened to humanity long ago and still opens to those who seek it...the way to the spiritual world.

*“The mind of the spirit is life & peace.” Romans 8:6*

...a world adequate to our nature as ceaselessly creative beings under God!

The “mind of the flesh” is a living death. The heavens are closed...like a inverted bowl in the sky where we constantly must violate our conscience in order to survive. [“Chemical & Sensual Vacations”]





## The Solution in the Kingdom Among Us

Jesus, by contrast, brings us into a world without fear. In His world...there is nothing evil we must do in order to thrive. He lived, and invites us to live, in an undying world where it is safe\* to do and be good.

He was understood by his first friends to have...

“...abolished death and brought life and immortality to light through the gospel.” (2 Timothy 1:10)

Our posture of confident reliance upon Him in all we do allows us to make our life undying, of eternal worth, integrated into the eternal vistas and movement of the Spirit. (84)

\* - “safe” - p. 12, 30, 66, 84, 90

God is not the God of the dead but of the living.

Luke 20:38

# THE DIVINE CONSPIRACY

Chapter 3 - What Jesus Knew:

Our God Bathed World

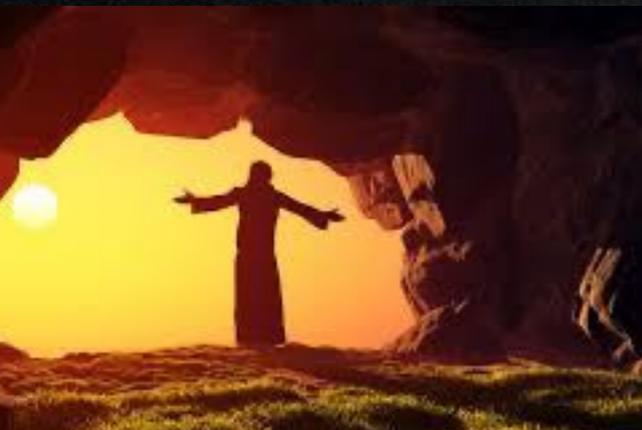
Session 8 - *“Death Dismissed”*

## **Death Dismissed Makes us Careless about Death**

The startling disregard Jesus and the New Testament writers had for “physical death” begins to make sense.

Those who love and are loved by God are not allowed to cease to exist, because they are God’s treasures. He delights in them and plans to hold on to them. He has even prepared for them an individualized eternal work in His vast universe.

(84)



Anyone who keeps my word...everyone living  
and believing in me shall never never die.

John 8:52; 11:26

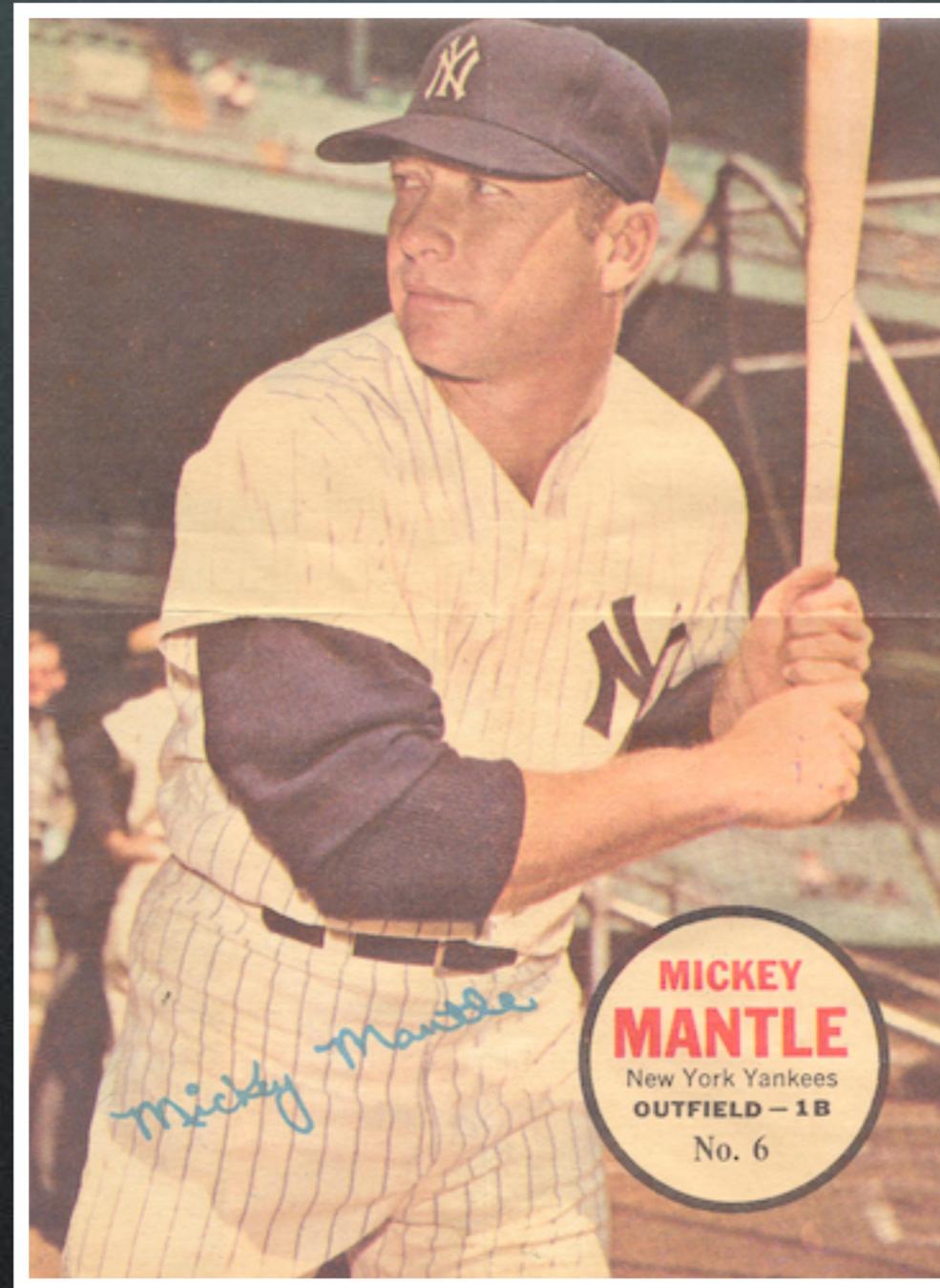
## **Jesus Dismissed Death**

“When we’ve been there 10,000 years  
Bright shining as the sun.  
We’ve no less days to sing God’s praise  
Than when we first begun.”

We are never-ceasing spiritual beings with an eternal destiny in the full world of God.

How should we take care of ourselves when we are never to cease? Jesus shows his apprentices how to live in the light of the fact that they will never stop living.

*“Had I only known how long I was going to live,  
I would have taken better care of myself.”*



Mickey Mantle when dying of diseases brought on by a life of heavy drinking. (86)

## **The Saints Go Marching In**

*“One day soon you will hear that I am dead. Do not believe it. I will then be alive as never before.”*

D.L. Moody

~ ~ ~

*“This is the end, but for me it is the beginning of life.”*

Dietrich Bonhoeffer

~ ~ ~

*“It’s really important to understand how joy cuts through everything. And to anticipate that your moment of passage from this earth will be one of great joy.”*

Dallas Willard, February, 2013...3 months before his death

## **The Dual Context of Life in God's World**

*“The widow put more in the offering than all others.”*

Jesus lived and taught in full view of the Heavens opened. This causes multitudes to dismiss His teachings as “unrealistic”.

They do not see His world.

The context of the Kingdom Among Us transforms the respective actions.

*“Little is much when God is in it.”*





## **Which Side Really Is Up?**

First is Last and Last is First = The Great Inversion

All models of human hopelessness are fruitful and secure in God's view. (89)

*As it is in the Heavens...The Kingdom Among Us*

To become a disciple of Jesus is to accept now that inversion that will sooner or later be forced upon everyone by the irresistible reality of His kingdom. (90)



## **The Resistance Built into Our Daily Life**

Human life certainly resists the great inversion.

The idea of an all-encompassing, all-penetrating world of God, interactive at every point with our lives, where we always be totally at home and safe\* regardless of what happens in the visible dimension of the universe... is routinely treated as ridiculous.

There is no field of expertise in human affairs where interaction with God is part of the subject matter or practice that must be mastered in order to be judged competent. Not chemistry...public administration... education...nursing...police...Christian ministry... marriage...parenting. (90)

\* - “safe” - p. 12, 30, 66, 84, 90

We live by our competencies.

*Our souls are soaked with secularity.*

In any context in which people are supposed to be smart and informed, even the most thoughtful and devout Christian will find it hard to make a convincing presentation of the relevance of God and His spiritual world to “real life”.

(91)



# Q&C

Your Questions & Comments are welcome!

(Use the Q&A on the bottom of your Zoom screen)



Q&A

## **WAIT! I can live like that today?**

Through repenting [thinking about what I think about after being with **Jesus**], I put my mind on the **Spirit** and choose by my will to prioritize **God's** Kingdom come, **God's** will be done in my life as in the heavens [surrounding space where **God** reigns - not *a long time ahead in a land far, far away.*]

The Spirit of Jesus empowers me to...

- ~ Live without fear.
- ~ Seek to do the good.
- ~ Speak truth.
- ~ Live without worrying about my physical needs.
- ~ Show love, know joy, have peace in all situations.
- ~ See and live in the world Jesus knew - a God bathed world
- ~ Not be afraid to die.

**Meditation** — *Romans 8:1-6*

## **Application**

Q - Do I resist or embrace life in the great inversion where I can live in Heaven on Earth daily?

Q - How do I “live by my competencies?” (91)

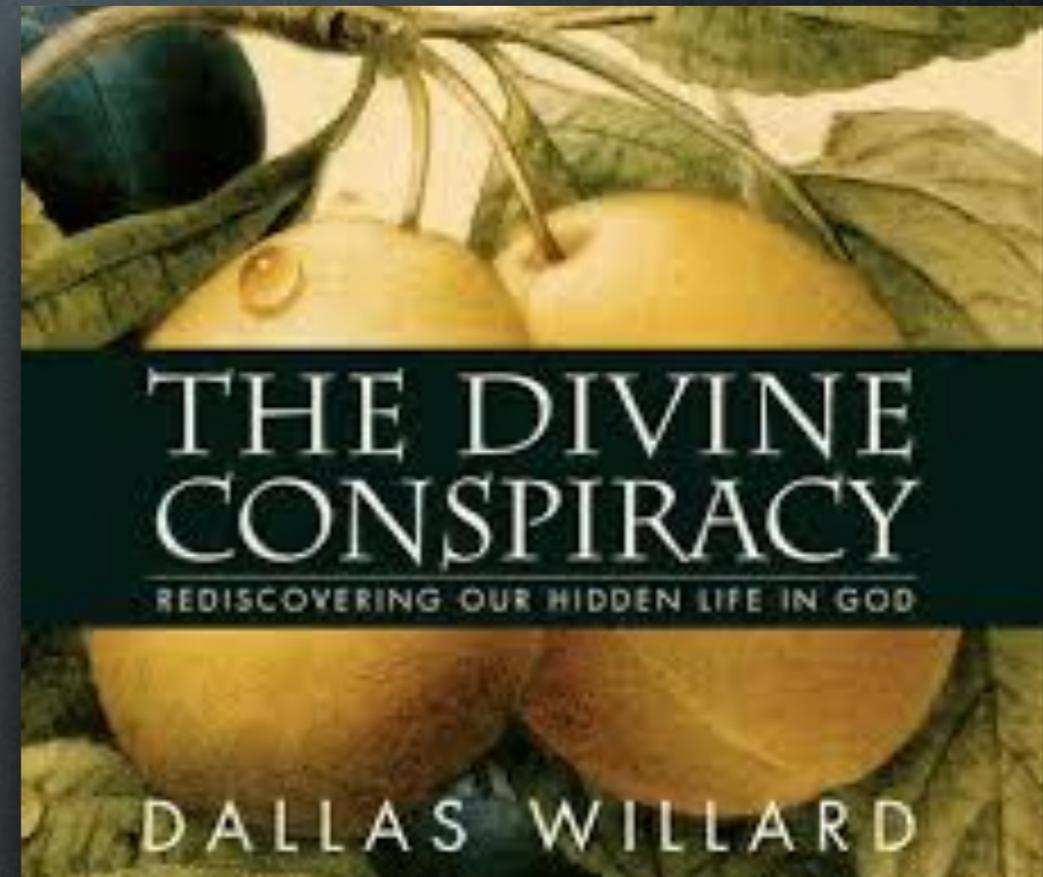
Q - How is my “soul soaked with secularity”? (91)

What spiritual practice will soak my soul in the Spirit?



## **Session 8 Summary**

The grand inversion occurs when we learn by God's grace as disciples of Jesus to live in the presence of the Kingdom among us, without ceasing, now and forever.



**80:00 + 10K**



## **“The Divine Conspiracy Lectures”**

Dallas Willard Ministries YouTube Channel



[https://www.youtube.com/playlist?  
list=PLQ7tmLfYg7S9ugPhFt1nry9zKLWx\\_oQmW](https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLQ7tmLfYg7S9ugPhFt1nry9zKLWx_oQmW)

12-part video series

The Harvey Fellows 2004 Summer Institute

Course Session 8\* — [DC #3 - 53:40-57:40](#)

(117) pages of lecture notes in the Jesus College Library

<https://www.jesuscollege.com/dallaswillard-thedivineconspiracy>

\* See the Reading Schedule for related teachings

## **Next Week — Session 9**

Ch. 3 - What Jesus Knew: Our God Bathed World

### **“Jesus as Master Intellect”**

Hardback - pp. 91-95

Paperback - pp. 90-104

**For Recorded Sessions + Slides, go to:**

[JesusCollege - The Divine Conspiracy](#)

Starts Next  
Tuesday

# *“Spiritual Transformation as a Natural Part of Salvation”*

(3) Tuesdays, May 17-31, 2022

30 Minutes weekly for 11 weeks

8 AM - *or* - 4 PM (US Pacific = GMT -7 hours)



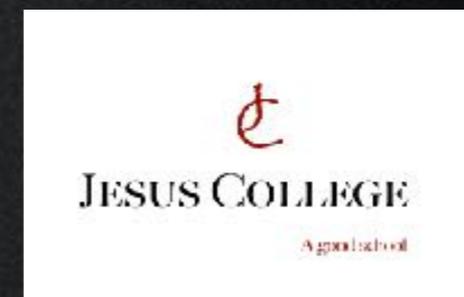
*What does it mean to be saved? What is my part in salvation?*

In this inspiring 75 minute presentation at Wheaton College, Dallas Willard offers keen insights into salvation as a natural part of spiritual formation. Uniquely, he reads a paper which later became Chapter 26 in *Renewing the Christian Mind*. Dallas' humble brilliance addresses how Christians misunderstand salvation, then he presents rich teaching of grace, true salvation, and spiritual disciplines for Christlike transformation, finishing with a clarion call to follow Jesus today.

~ Interactive Teaching ~ Power Point ~ Q&A  
~ Study Guide ~ Completion Certificate

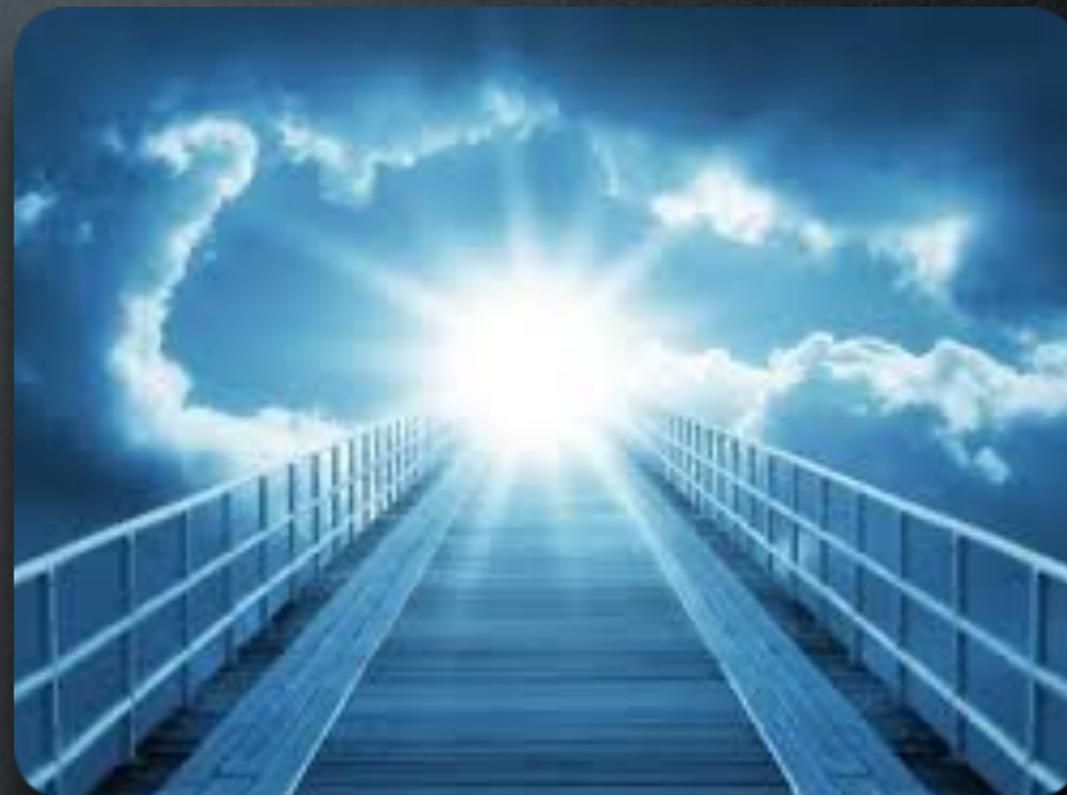
**Information or Registration — [info@JesusCollege.com](mailto:info@JesusCollege.com)**

Co-sponsored by



May your next  
10,000 minutes be  
mindful of your next  
10,000 years,

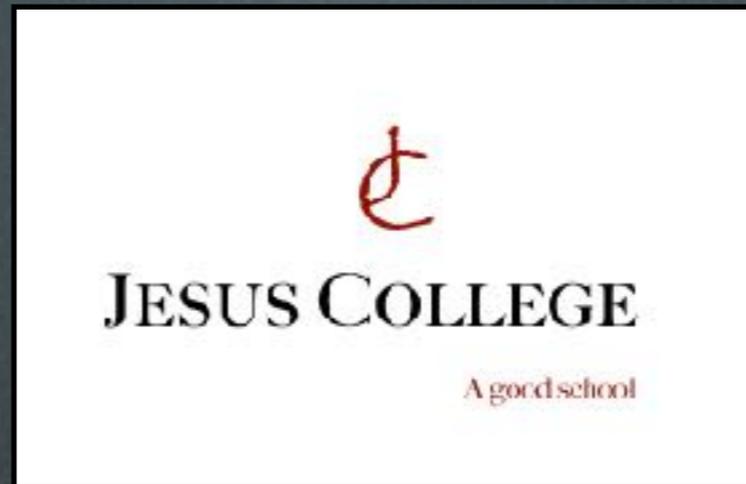
*Doug*



# THE SCHOOL of KINGDOM LIVING

**Information...Registration** — [JohnC@dwillard.org](mailto:JohnC@dwillard.org)





Apprentice to Master Love — //Nouns  
*“A Student of the Superior Benefactor”*

Apprentice to Master Love — //Verbs  
*“Training to be proficient in willing the good”*

**The Mission of Jesus College** - To Empower Apprentices to Master Love by knowing Jesus as the One, great truth and live a good life found in such truth.

**The Vision of Jesus College** - To equip Trainers (Ministry, Business Leaders, Parents) to mentor Leaders (Senior Apprentices) to disciple Apprentices to Master love.

**The Storehouse of Jesus College** - Over 325 [FREE downloadable resources & links](#) offering the good life in the person, work, teachings & life of Jesus through “Eyes to See” visual resources and “Ears to Hear” audio resources, plus gatherings live & online provided by JESUS COLLEGE.