

Volume I

God's Purpose for Man

Relationship and Dominion

Two twin themes of the Bible are Relationship and Dominion:

Relationship	Dominion
Love God with all your heart	Love your neighbor as yourself
They that do know their God	Shall be strong and do exploits
Becoming a disciple	Making other disciples
Our passion for God	Our compassion for lost souls
Jesus' invitation: "Come unto me"	Jesus' commandment: "Go minister to needs of others"
Produces inward fruit (love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness . . .	Produces outward fruit (harvest of souls converted to the Kingdom)
Entitlement to the Father's business	Experiencing the Father's business
His blessings and power flowing to us	His blessings and power flowing through us to someone in need

The key relationship elements between God and man.

RELATIONSHIP ELEMENT	MAN TO GOD	GOD TO MAN
Communication	Man Talking to God	God Talking to Man
Love	Man Loving God	God Loving Man
Trust	Man Trusting God	God Trusting Man

Levels or Depths of Relationship

In the Gospels we see four circles and inner circles of the twelve disciples in their relationship with Jesus:

1. The apostle John was in the most inner circle: *The disciple whom Jesus loved; which also leaned on his breast at supper*" (John 21:20).

2. Peter, James and John, in the inner circle, were the only disciples that witnessed the transfiguration of Jesus: *“He took Peter, John and James, and went up into a mountain to pray. And as he prayed, the fashion of his countenance was altered, and his raiment was white and glistering” (Luke 9:28-29).*
3. The other eight disciples. All of these men tarried in the Upper Room and were present when the Holy Ghost was poured out on the Day of Pentecost. They all became great men, who moved into the innermost circle, their ministry impacting their world -- becoming martyrs for the gospel of Jesus Christ.
4. Judas was in the outer circle. He received the highest calling when he was chosen as one of the twelve disciples. He rejected his calling and someone else took his place. Some of the saddest words in Holy Writ described his life: *“For he was numbered with us, and had obtained part of this ministry. For it is written in the book of Psalms, let his habitation be desolate, and let no man dwell therein: and **his bishoprick let another take.** (Acts 1:17, 20)*

The Closer the Relationship with God -- the Greater the Revelation of God

It is evident that Peter, James and John enjoyed a closer relationship with Jesus during His earthly ministry than the other disciples. They participated in a unique time of teaching and prayer alone with Jesus. They alone witnessed the revelation of Jesus in His glory as He was transfigured before them -- the brilliant light shining from Him.

Also, apparent, after John witnessed the Transfiguration, something dramatically changed in his relationship with Jesus. Thereafter, he was referred to as, ***“The disciple whom Jesus loved.”*** Certainly, Jesus loved all the disciples, but John’s special bond was stronger than the others at that time.

When God chose who would paint the last brush strokes of the New Testament, the one privileged to record the Revelation of Jesus Christ, He selected John, the one closest to Him in relationship. By this time, the other disciples had greatly impacted their world with their dedication to Jesus Christ and died a martyr’s death. There was an attempt to kill John by boiling him in a pot of hot oil, but he was miraculously delivered.

By then, John was possibly 80 years old. After all of his love, sacrifice and suffering for Jesus Christ, it seems that he should have spent his last days as a respected apostle living in peace. But God designated one more assignment for John -- one that transported him, as a prisoner to Patmos, a remote, lonely island. But there are no barriers that can prevent or diminish one’s relationship with Jesus. John was in the Spirit on the Lord’s Day; no one else was around -- just Jesus and John.

Rev. 1:10, 12-16

*10 I was in the Spirit on the Lord’s Day, and heard behind me a great voice, as of a trumpet,
12 And I turned to see the voice that spake with me.*

13 And in the midst of the seven candlesticks one like unto the Son of man, clothed with a garment down to the foot, and girt about the paps with a golden girdle.

14 His head and his hairs were white like wool, as white as snow; and his eyes were as a flame

of fire;

15 And his feet like unto fine brass, as if they burned in a furnace; and his voice as the sound of many waters.

16 And he had in his right hand seven stars: and out of his mouth went a sharp twoedged sword: and his countenance was as the sun shineth in his strength.

John did not see Jesus as he had seen Him in His earthly ministry -- as the lowly Shepherd or the bleeding and suffering Savior. In this revelation, he saw Jesus as the lion of the tribe of Judah in all of His power, glory and majesty; as the King of Kings and Lord of Lords.

- **If we are to experience a greater revelation of Jesus Christ, we must also develop a deeper relationship with Him.**

This special encounter will only occur when we, like John, leave the hustle and bustle of life's distractions and climb the mountain of prayer to be alone with Jesus. This will require a sacrifice of our time, and a change of our priorities and agendas. The setting will be isolation without distractions, where we will have:

- A new revelation of Jesus in His beauty and glory until He is elevated to the very center of our life, while all other priorities blur into the background.
- A revelation of ourselves, of who we are now and what He desires to do to us and through us – working in His Kingdom.
- A revelation of His will, mind and love compared to ours.

When we have experienced this encounter with Jesus, His light will be shining through us, affecting our dark and hurting world. We will be sitting in heavenly places and will be singing the song of the redeemed recorded in the book of Revelation.

- *“Blessing, and glory, and wisdom, and thanksgiving, and honor, and power, and might, be unto our God forever and ever. Amen.”*
- *“Alleluia, salvation, and glory, and honor, and power, unto the Lord our God.”*
- *“Alleluia: for the Lord God omnipotent reigneth.”* (Not only reigning over the universe, but ruling and reigning in our lives).

Refer to the following page for the table of contents followed by some of the key PowerPoint charts for this book.

Table of Contents

I. The Purpose of Man

1. Relationship and Dominion
2. God Seeks Worshipers and Intercessors
3. Relationship and Dominion in Bible History
 - 3.1 At Creation - Adam
 - 3.2 Before Calvary - King David
 - 3.3 Jesus' Ministry
 - 3.4 Birth of the New Testament Church
 - 3.5 Apostle Paul's Teaching to the Church

II. Relationship with God

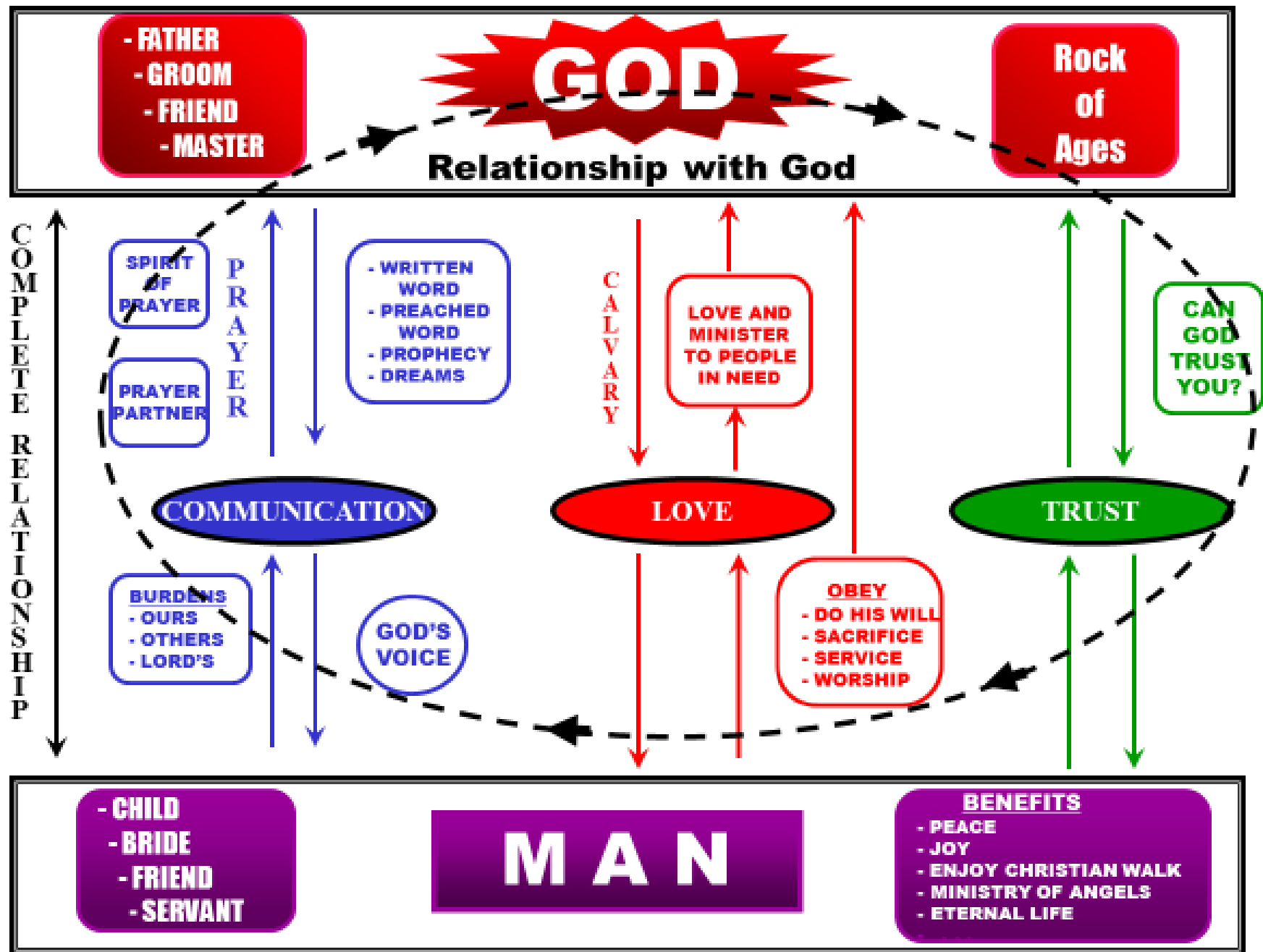
1. God and Man Relationship Roles
 - 1.1 Father / Child
 - 1.2 Bride / Groom
 - 1.3 Friend / Friend
 - 1.4 Master / Servant
 - 1.5 Beyond Human Relationships
2. Foundational Relationship Elements
 - 2.1 Communication - Talking to God
 - 2.2 Communication - God Talking to Us
 - 2.3 Love - God's Love to Us
 - 2.4 Love - Our Love to God and Our Neighbor
 - 2.5 Trust - Trusting God
 - 2.6 Trust - God Trusting Us
3. New Levels of Relationship and Revelation
4. Urgency of the Times

III. Relationship and Dominion

1. Relationship and Dominion Comparison Table
2. Discipleship - Relationship and Dominion

IV. Conclusion

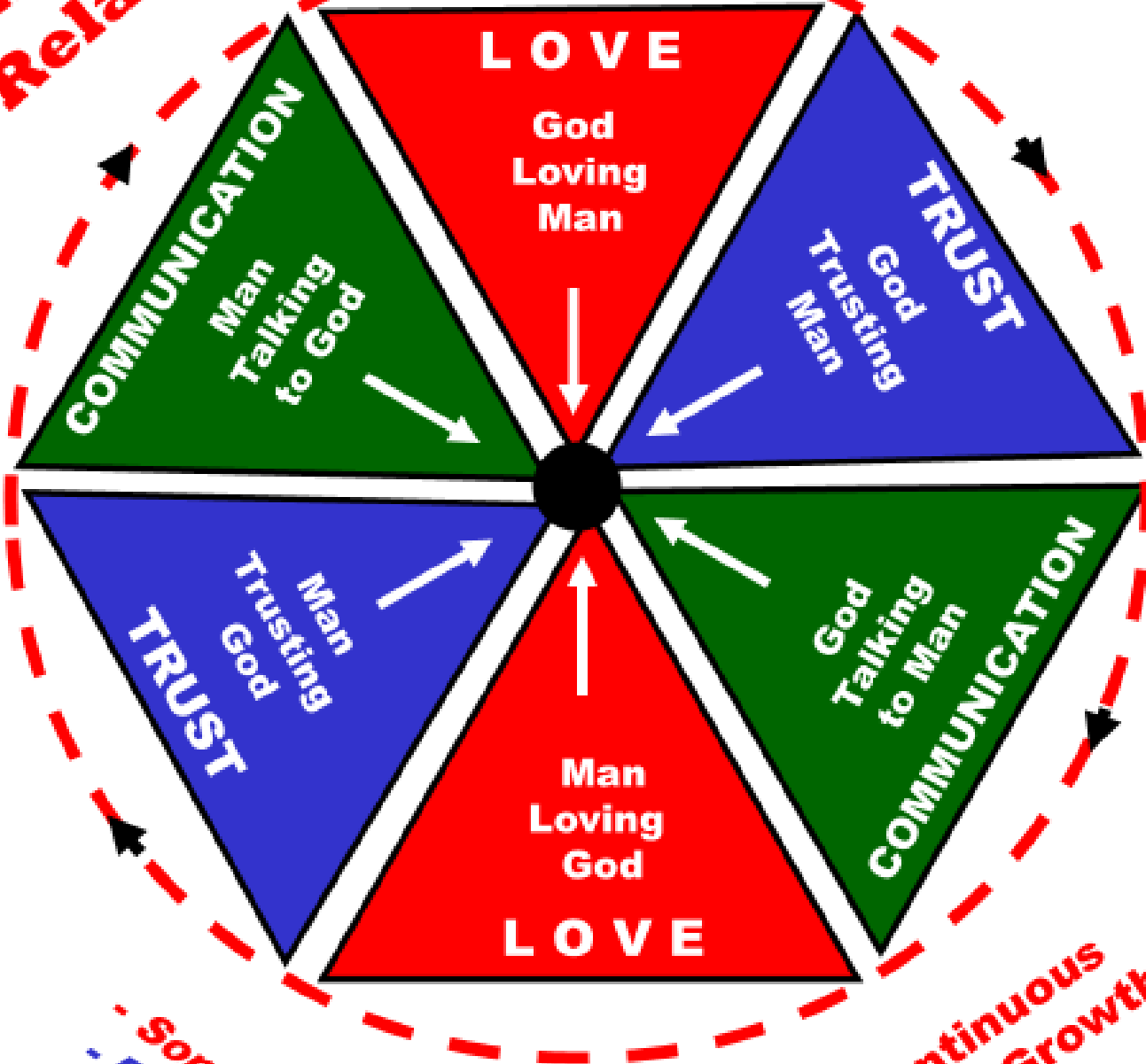
1. I Must Be About My Father's Business
2. Importance of the Father's Business



**A Complete
Relationship**

GOD

- Father
- Groom
- Friend
- Master

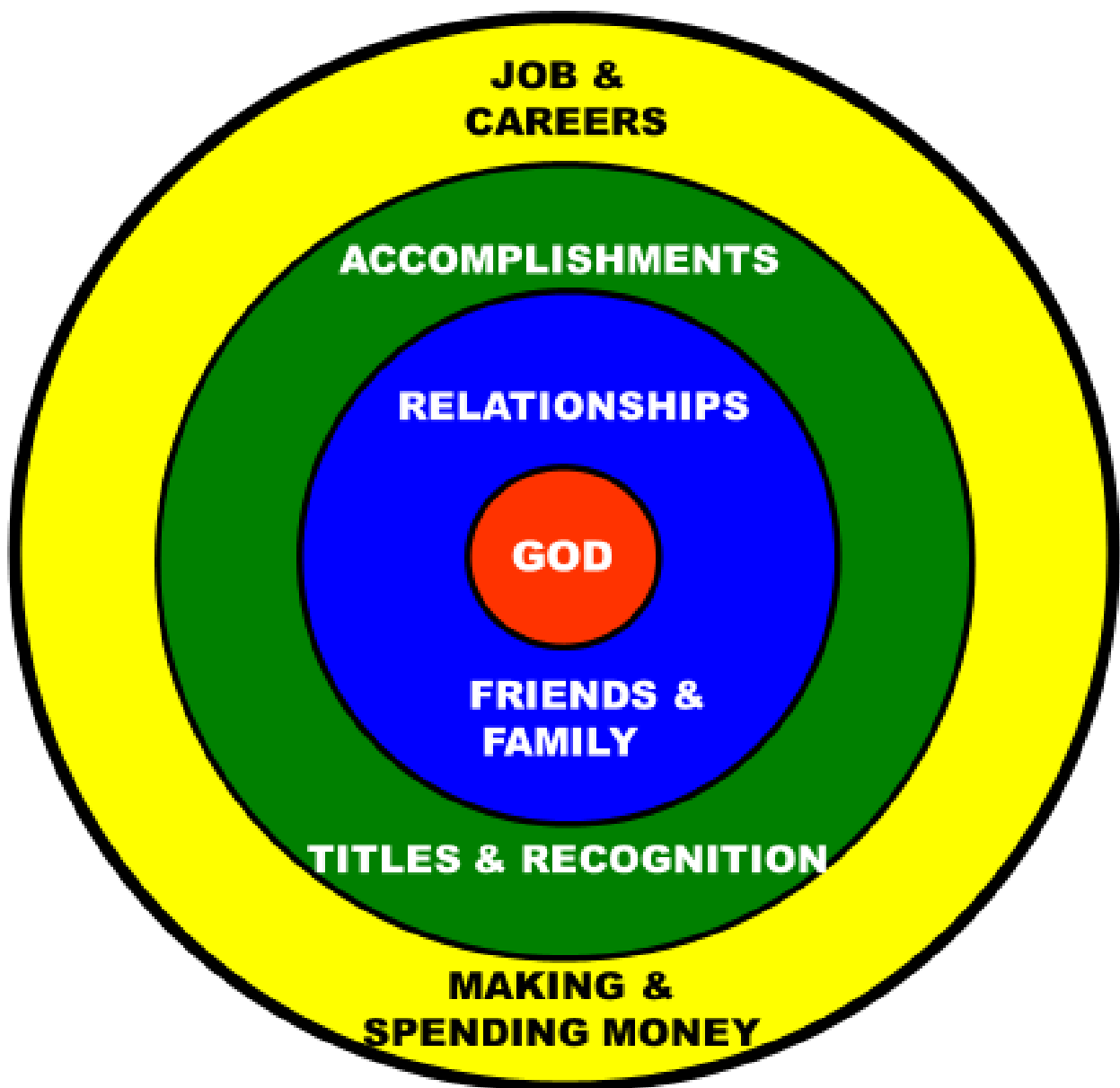


**A Continuous
Cycle of Growth**

- Son
- Bride
- Friend
- Servant

MAN

OUR PRIORITIES AND COMMITMENTS



**Whatever is at the center of our life
will be the source of our security,
guidance, wisdom, and power.**

LEVELS OF RELATIONSHIP WITH JESUS

