

## INVESTMENT OF GOD

(Is. 55:11)

### Introduction:

1. A recent devotion by Rudy stirred up my mind. Rudy mentioned the investment of God in man, and that concept fascinated me. Jesus often used worldly concepts to teach us spiritual truths.
2. Investment = literal to put “in clothes”, figuratively to put in a position of authority or power, figuratively to put value into for the purpose of profit-Webster’s New World Dictionary.
3. Let us consider together the investment of God in man via the creation and our salvation.

### Discussion:

#### I. Creation (Gen. 1:26, 27).

- A. All of the physical universe was created for us (stars at night ought to make us feel very significant), the children of God clothed in the flesh.
  1. Why clothed in the flesh? So that we might **choose** where to spend out eternity. Or rather, that we might **choose** to love God or not.
  2. All of creation is to meet our needs and to teach us about the truth of our existence (Rom. 1:16-20ff).
  3. Unfortunately, Satan has been very effective at turning the blessings of the physical reality into stumbling blocks. Our blessings become proof of our independence and our trials as proof of God’s nonexistence (1 John 2:15-17).
- B. God did not just create us and loose us upon the universe ignorant and afraid. He taught us from the very beginning what our physical existence was all about; that we might **choose** well.
  1. Gen. 2:7-25 = God created us and all, gave us a labor to be about, set up a faith-based system for maintenance of our proper relationship with Him, and then gave man woman to aid him in the physical life and teach him (God is always teaching) about the spiritual.
  2. Consider all the instruction that God gave man in the beginning: language, knowledge of the natural world, and knowledge of Himself. Man has always been given all things unto life and godliness (2 Pet. 1:3).
- C. God created us and put us (invested us) into the position of dominion. Man is a special creation of God’s, sharing His nature. From our lowly perch this fills us with awe and questions (Ps. 8). But, God has always answered these questions. We just **choose** to forget when we lose sight of the spiritual/eternal because of the physical/temporal.
  1. We either deny God’s existence outright (Rom. 1:28) or refuse to glorify Him as God (Rom. 1:21).
  2. Then we struggle in the fallen world (created by our sin/**choice**) in our fallen state (invested by our sin/**choice**), and all becomes distorted and confusing. “Satan laughing spreads his wings, oh Lord yeah”-from *War Pigs*.

#### II. Salvation.

- A. God knew and God planned. God had always planned a further investment in man; His Son (Eph. 1:3-14).
  1. Spiritual blessings would be added to all of the physical blessings *in Christ*.
  2. We would become children of God (like Him, and His heirs) *in Christ*.
  3. Our wrong choices (the distorted and confused) would be righted (made straight and apparent) *in Christ*.
  4. The fullness of His love would be poured out upon us and made manifest *in Christ*.
  5. We would be identified as God’s by His very Spirit, but only *in Christ*.
- B. 1 Pet. 1 = God’s full investment in man.
- C. There is one last aspect of God’s investment to be considered, the giving of value in order to receive profit.

1. God has invested us with our existence, our position in the physical universe, our salvation, and our new position in the spiritual realm (His children! His heirs! Joint heirs with Christ!).
2. But He has also made us fellow workers with Christ (1 Cor. 3:9; 2 Cor. 6:1) in the fulfillment of God's will (1 Tim. 2:4).
3. Sobering thoughts to always keep in mind.
  - a. Satan is still trying to trip us up with the things of the physical/temporal (1 Pet. 5:8).
  - b. Remember the words of our Lord and what they mean for us today (Luke 17:7-10). We are commanded to be working for God if we would be God's people; it is not an option, bonus, or suggestion. We must share in His desire and be wholly engaged in His work, if we truly want to be His children.

**Conclusion:**

1. Brethren, let us stop and consider all that God has invested in us. Let us do this often. It will help to ground us, focus us, and inspire us. How can we but serve Him lovingly, thankfully, and entirely? Truly the love of Christ compels us, does it not?
2. Invitation.