Mining the Event

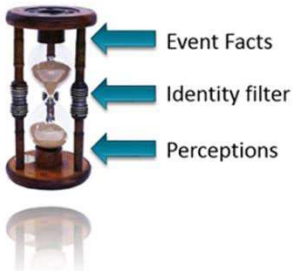
Truth Revealed

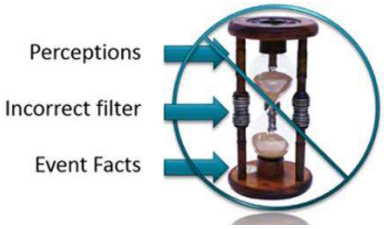
Perspective is the greatest teacher and perception its student.

If four people witness the same event, there will be four entirely different stories recounted. Though some of the major details will be similar, each person will include or exclude details based on what they found to be valuable information. We are no different when it comes to retelling or reliving events and situations in our own life. Our view of an event is often obscured by our constraints and the false identities we carry with us. Often times we infer things, strained through our various filters, and believe those events to be factual rather than something we invented. By allowing this to continue, we often find ourselves stuck in a past event, allowing it to determine our future. For example, a teen watches his angry father walk out of the house and never return. The boy takes on the filter of abandonment, which will then become the lens through which all subsequent relationships will be viewed through. When we realize that we are often looking at events, such as this, through obscured glasses, we can recognize that an objective reexamination is warranted. By looking objectively and insightfully at the situation, the young man can recognize that his father was angry and moved out. The feelings of abandonment were falsely accepted because the father never abandoned his son, he simply divorced the mother. The filter which the teen should have used was that of his identity, which says he is loved with an everlasting unconditional love. Since abandonment does not line up with this, it should have been rejected and the realization that sometimes people divorce acknowledged.

What about the one who caused the pain of the situation? For example, an abusive person who inflicts great pain upon someone they profess to love, feeling completely justified in their behavior, finally recognizes the cruelty of his actions. He then takes on the identity of “I am cruel”, “I am unworthy” and “I am detestable.” Though his actions were not in alignment with God’s expectations, his identity never changed and he needs to refilter all events through the proper filters. Once this is finished, he can then see the facts from the opinions, take responsibility for his actions, restore integrity and rectitude with the person/people he hurt and walk in the truth of who he is in Christ; heading toward his greater purpose and destiny.

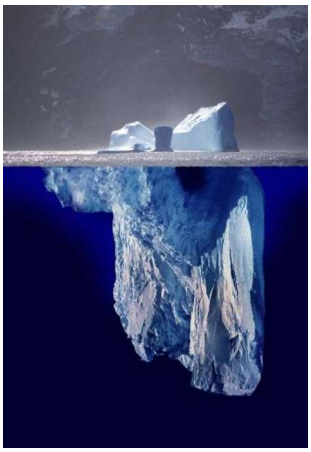
Another example to illustrate finding the truth in the event is an hourglass. If we were to pour the details of an event into the top of the hourglass and let them pass through the filter in the middle, we would end up with the facts on the top and our perceptions on the bottom. Using the correct filters of identity, morality, beliefs, integrity and rectitude, the event will be properly filtered, thus allowing for an objective understanding of the situation. However, if we use an incorrect filter, we flip the glass upside down, allowing our misperceptions to





become our event facts. This is not objective examination.

The keys of objectivity open doors to event facts. How many times have you found yourself listening to someone else and you can immediately identify what their role was, where they invented constraints or ignored critical facts which was to their detriment? How many times have you failed to see yours? The truth is, that we can objectively look into other people's lives, but we often will not at our own. Most of the time we look at the circumstances though our shaded lenses and filter with an incorrect filter. Learning how to separate ourselves and our emotions from the events, seeing clearly and objectively, is the only way that we can move forward into our future possibilities.



The dangerous trap, which we often fall victim to, is only acknowledging what we are willing to admit. There are past events which haunt us all and human nature instinctively tries to bury and push back feelings, emotions and details of our lives which are unknowingly driving the course of our choices and path. We operate in two spheres of being: the conscious and subconscious. In the illustration of the iceberg, our conscious mind is what we see above the water surface, while the subconscious mind is everything below the water surface. So too, with our subconscious mind, there is more happening below the surface. The subconscious mind affects our behavior and emotions, yet is inaccessible to the conscious mind. Within the subconscious mind, humans create a secret dungeon where the most painful memories are kept. In the oubliette (o͞obl ē ˈet), we try to lock away anything that has happened in our life which causes us the most pain and events we would like to forget. The root word of oubliette is *forget,* which is why we hold those emotions and events captive there, however, they never stay there. In fact, that is the very place where our constraints are forged, directly affecting the way we think, feel, behave and make choices. You are operating through your constraints with unrealized reason. Only when the dungeon is unlocked and the events are faced head-on with an objective and clear vision, along with filtering the events with the proper filters of identity and morality, can the constraints ever be removed.

You have been given the power, by Jesus Himself, to have victory over every area of your life.

> *Truly I say to you, whatever you bind on earth shall have been bound in heaven; and whatever you loose on earth shall have been loosed in heaven. Matthew 18:18.*

Many of us have a misunderstanding of what it means to bind and loose something. We are to bind on earth that which is contrary to the Lord's ways, which will then be supported in heaven, and loose on earth that which He desires. Take the lies of the enemy captive by binding them, in order to loose the truth of God's word.

Though it is often extremely difficult to separate the emotion from the events, it is a critical component when sifting through details in order to separate facts and opinions properly. You must identify all of the 'you ares, I ams, he/she is, etc., which are usually nothing more than someone else's opinion, not fact.

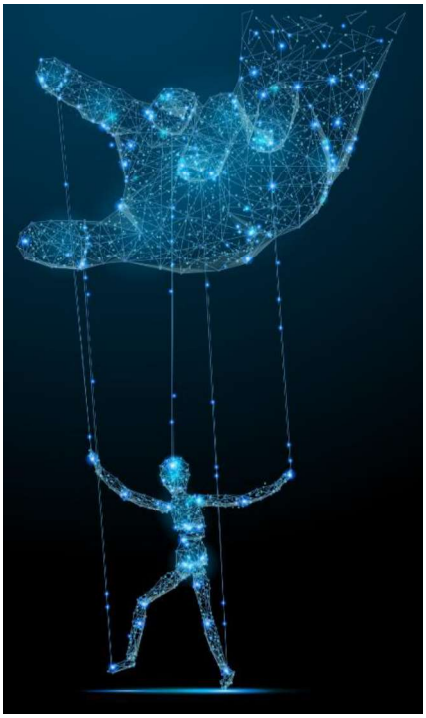
Unfortunately, once the events have been sifted out, humans tend to take the opinions, that which was left behind, and place them down into the event facts, turning them into 'fopinions'. A fopinion is someone else's opinion, or your own, which you have turned into a fact and can no longer distinguish between the two.

Examples of opinions are: "You are worthless." "I am unworthy." "She is hateful."

Examples of fopinions are: "I was told that I am worthless, so I am worthless." "I was cruel to people, therefore I am unworthy." "Based on her actions, I think she is hateful." There is an understood resolve that the statement is the truth, thus moving from opinion to fopinion.

If we are unable to accurately separate the fopinions from our lives, we will continue to make the same mistakes, have the same self-abasing thoughts and continue to make the same poor choices, all to re-enforce and reiterate the same poisonous self-perpetuating cycle our constraints have kept us bound within. We build a fence around our lives with our constraints, and unless we deal with them fully, we will forever be boxed in and held captive by them, thus separated from our possibilities. Once we are able to break free from our captivity, learn to distance ourselves from the emotion and feelings, and recognize the facts of the event, we can then see our future self with unlimited possibilities. Though the past cannot be rewritten, the future has no boundaries.

Forgiving Those Who Hurt Us



The Bible tells us that *we do not battle against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms (Ephesians 6:12)*. Therefore, we must be quick to recognize that the people who hurt us are nothing more than tools in the real enemy's hand. After all, we do not despise the bullet that wounds, rather the one who fired the gun. Once we understand this, we can pray for our earthly enemies with new understanding and wholeheartedly bless those who persecute us, for they are merely captives needing the freedom that only Jesus can provide.

Never take your own revenge, beloved, but leave room for the wrath of God, for it is written, "Vengeance is Mine, I will repay," says the Lord. "But if your enemy is hungry, feed him, and if he is thirsty, give him a drink; for in doing so you will heap burning coals on his head." Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good. Romans 12:19-21

"But I say to you who hear, love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, pray for those who mistreat you. Whoever hits you on the cheek, offer him the other also; and whoever takes away your coat, do not withhold your shirt from him either. Give to everyone who asks of you, and whoever takes away what is yours, do not demand it back. Treat others the same way you want them to treat you. If you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners love those who love them. If you do good to those who do good to you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners do the same. If you lend to those from whom you expect to receive, what credit is that to you? Even sinners lend to sinners in order to receive back the same amount. But love your enemies, and do good, and lend, expecting nothing in return; and your reward will be great, and you will be sons of the Most High; for He Himself is kind to ungrateful and evil men. Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful." Luke 6:27-36

Unfortunately, we have all found ourselves as a puppet and tool of the enemy. There are many of us who find ourselves bound and controlled by the enemy and the wielder of great pain and suffering to others. For those of us who acknowledge that we are the guilty one who inflicted the hurt, constraints and fopinions on others, forgiveness of ourselves is extremely difficult. Even if we are able to forgive ourselves, we often carry on our shoulders the great burden of "unworthy," which keeps us in a place unable to fulfill our destiny. This too is a lie from the enemy who is trying to keep us shackled and as a puppet under his control.

As far as the east is from the west, so far has he removed our transgressions from us. Psalm 103:12

The instant you repent for your actions and ask for forgiveness, you are free from all condemnation.

Therefore there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. Romans 8:1

We are assured and comforted by the promise that:

For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor any other created thing, will be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord. Romans 8:38-39

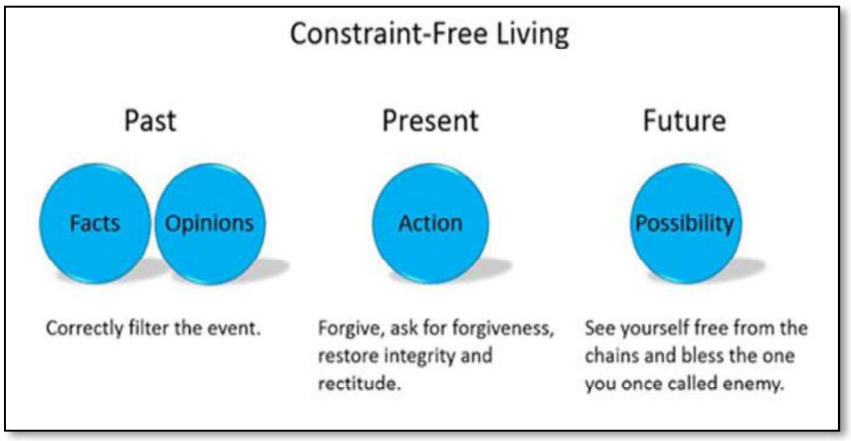
There is nothing that you could have done, whether it be to yourself or someone else, that can keep you from the promises of God. You cannot out sin the love of God for you! Your identity is set in the bedrock of Heaven; unchangeable, eternally true, covering any sin you have committed.

The Prodigal Son

And He said, "A man had two sons. The younger of them said to his father, 'Father, give me the share of the estate that falls to me.' So he divided his wealth between them. And not many days later, the younger son gathered everything together and went on a journey into a distant country, and there he squandered his estate with loose living. Now when he had spent everything, a severe famine occurred in that country, and he began to be impoverished. So he went and hired himself out to one of the citizens of that country, and he sent him into his fields to feed swine. And he would have gladly filled his stomach with the pods that the swine were eating, and no one was giving anything to him. But when he came to his senses, he said, 'How many of my father's hired men have more than enough bread, but I am dying here with hunger! I will get up and go to my father, and will say to him, "Father, I have sinned against heaven, and in your sight; I am no longer worthy to be called your son; make me as one of your hired men."' So he got up and came to his father. But while he was still a long way off, his father saw him and felt compassion for him, and ran and embraced him and kissed him. And the son said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and in your sight; I am no longer worthy to be called your son.' But the father said to his slaves, 'Quickly bring out the best robe and put it on him, and put a ring on his hand and sandals on his feet; and bring the fattened calf, kill it, and let us eat and celebrate; for this son of mine was dead and has come to life again; he was lost and has been found.' And they began to celebrate. Luke 15:11-24

Once we surrender to Jesus as our Lord and Savior, we become the prodigal son. Regardless of our past, we are given the cloak of belonging, the signet ring of authority, the name of power and the seat reserved at the right hand of Jesus. We no longer have to carry the feeding trough of our past to sleep in, as we have been established in the castle with the king. Purposely going back to the pigs, reliving the destructive behavior of our past is not where we are supposed to be. A prince or princess has all rights, access, favor, honor and inheritance of the King. You are that prince or princess. Your past is now a faraway land to which you never need return.

Be mindful that just because you follow Jesus does not mean you are immune to the influence of the enemy. All he needs is a sliver of opportunity to gain access of leverage over any particular aspect of your life which is not in alignment with Christ. For example, if you have allowed unforgiveness to live in your heart and have not dealt with it as the Lord wanted, that area of your life is an avenue of access for the enemy to have control over you. Do not be naive, the enemy will exploit every deviant area of your life which has not been surrendered to Christ. Leaving the properly filtered event in the past allows you to take action in the present based on the constraint free possibilities of your future. Living fully in this restored state allows for the true forgiveness of your enemies as you see yourself free from them in your future self.



If I speak with the tongues of men and of angels, but do not have love, I have become a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal. If I have the gift of prophecy, and know all mysteries and all knowledge; and if I have all faith, so as to remove mountains, but do not have love, I am nothing. And if I give all my possessions to feed the poor, and if I surrender my body to be burned, but do not have love, it profits me nothing. 1 Corinthians 13:1-3

"You have heard that it was said, 'You shall love your neighbor and hate your enemy.' But I say to you, love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, so that you may be sons of your Father who is in heaven." Matthew 5:43-48

Above all, keep fervent in your love for one another, because love covers a multitude of sins. 1 Peter 4:8

But if you do not forgive others, then your Father will not forgive your transgressions. Matthew 6:15

It is possible to love those whom you call enemy or have hurt you deeply. If we look at others through the filter of identity, then it is possible to see that person as they are meant to be, even if their actions do not line up with the truth. It is easy to love the kindhearted, but the wicked is quite challenging. Therefore, in alignment with obedience to God and His word, begin viewing all people as He does: as an eternal being, a child of God, forgiven, loved with an everlasting unconditional love, and uniquely gifted to do great works for the Lord. Beloved, understand that forgiving and loving is not the same as condoning! However, looking at the original creation rather than the temporary behavior will help to make authentically loving the individual easier. After all, we are grateful for God's grace, mercy, forgiveness, love and patience with us, how then can we not extend that to another one of His children?

This is a daunting and extremely difficult task, however it has been said that holding unforgiveness in your heart is like drinking poison and hoping for the other person to get sick. It is time to release unforgiveness from your heart and live in freedom. The Lord will give you strength and be with you every step along the way; beloved you are strong and have the power to forgive.