

<b>Captivated by Love</b>		
<b><u>Eph. 1:3-6</u></b>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•<i>God created us because He takes pleasure in us.</i></li> <li>•<b>Don Nori:</b> <i>“Heaven is my destination, not my destiny. Many will reach their destination, but few will fulfill their destiny.”</i></li> <li>•<b>Fulfilling our destiny is directly related to our identity as the bride of Christ.</b></li> <li>•Jesus is the <i>bride’s first love, last love and only love.</i></li> <li>•The <i>pleasure of His love is the driving force behind the devotion and tenacity of this end-time bride.</i></li> </ul>		

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<b>Captivated by Love</b>		
<b><u>Eph. 1:3-6</u></b>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•<i>Religion has taught us it is wrong to experience any kind of pleasure.</i></li> <li>•<i>So, we just try harder and grit our teeth to overcome through warnings and threats.</i></li> <li>•<i>Warnings have their place – to those with careless, irresponsible or hardened hearts.</i></li> </ul>		

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<b>Captivated by Love</b>		
<b><u>Religion’s Control &amp; Bondage:</u></b>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•<i>Fear discourages me...it does not make me Christlike.</i></li> <li>•<i>Guilt makes me feel hopeless, and does not make me want to seek the Lord.</i></li> <li>•<i>Shame makes me run and hide from the One who loves me, and the One that I love, however weak that love may be.</i></li> <li>•<i>Condemnation tells me the One Who has purchased me, and that I have left all to follow rejects me because I have failed.</i></li> </ul>		

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<b>Captivated by Love</b>		
<b>Religion's Control &amp; Bondage:</b>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•<i>Babylonian religious systems only enforce the need to grit the teeth, change the externals and keep the rituals, but do nothing to change the soul.</i></li> </ul>		

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<b>Captivated by Love</b>		
<p><b>1 John 3:21:</b> <i>"Beloved, if our heart does not condemn us, we have confidence toward God."</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•<i>He has RESCUED and PURCHASED us, and there's nothing we can add to it!</i></li> <li>•He has <i>invested too much to turn back from the process of completing us.</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•<i>Religion, through deception, wants me to do it for myself.</i></li> </ul> </li> <li>•The Lord wants me to let <i>Him do in me what He has already purposed.</i></li> <li>•This is where the <i>voluntary and involuntary embracing of discipline comes...to clothe us in the bridal garments of outward acts of faithfulness.</i></li> </ul>		

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<b>Captivated by Love</b>		
<p><b>John 21:1-3</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•After <i>being with the Lord for three years, observing power, miracles, etc. did not change Peter...</i> it was only after he was <i>faced with himself and the Lord's heart for him.</i></li> <li>•This <i>bridal soul had not been awakened to the limitless love, grace and passion</i> the Lord had toward him...he <i>ran to his past, (the familiar) in his failure.</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•It's interesting that <i>Peter was the only one surprised about his failure.</i></li> <li>•He had <i>been used by the Lord for three years with this weakness still inside him.</i></li> </ul> </li> </ul>		

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<b>Captivated by Love</b>		
<b>John 21:15-17</b>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>•How is <i>possible to serve the Lord and never to personally know Him and His mercy?</i></li><li>•After <i>confronting the failure</i>, the Lord <i>gets Peter to see, although it's very weak, that Peter REALLY does love Jesus.</i></li><li>•He says, "<i>Now get back to town and fulfill the Father's will.</i>"</li><li>•Peter <i>realized he could not change himself and wanted to quit.</i></li><li>•<i>Change depends upon the mighty working of the Spirit and our yielded cooperation with Him...not on us!</i></li></ul>		

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