

Word Of Life Ministries

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SPIRIT, SOUL AND BODY

1st Thessalonians 5:23

And the very God of peace sanctify you wholly, and I pray God your whole spirit and soul and body be preserved blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

From the creation of mankind in the Garden of Eden, man was made a tripod - being. He was created with a body that was formed from the dust of the ground, but he didn't become a living being until God breathed the breath of life into his nostrils. Adam was created different from all the other creatures God had created; he was created with an intellect, will and emotions.

Adam was given the power to rule everything that was upon the earth including his will and emotions. Although he had a portion of God's spirit living within his earthen vessel, he was created as a free will agent to accept or decline the instructions of God.

When Adam disobeyed God, he let his soulish realm override the Spirit that was indwelling him. As soon as he disobeyed God, both he and his wife died spiritually.

When God created Adam, He was to serve God in obedience by yielding his spirit, soul and body subject to God's commandments. When Adam disobeyed, he died spiritually and he brought forth physical and spiritual death to man.

Adam was given the opportunity to eat from every tree of the Garden except the tree of knowledge of good and evil. Adam and Eve was not forbidden to eat from the tree of life until they had sinned. Once they sinned God evicted them out of the Garden before they could eat of the tree of life and live forever. In their original state they didn't know the difference between evil and good, but once they were aware, God explained to them the consequences of their disobedience.

God gave them life, their disobedience brought forth sin, and sin brought forth death in their spirit as well as their bodies. Their sin not only brought death to them but their descendents, sin was carried down through the bloodline. In order for man to be reconciled to God, Jesus had to leave the Father and come and die for the sins of man. The breath of life that was given to Adam would have to be given to Adam's descendents in order for them to communicate and be reconciled to God.

God commune with us through our spirit. His spirit has to encircle our spirit in order for us to have fellow-

ship. God loved us to the degree that He sent His Son to redeem mankind and return us to our original state. In order to serve God our spirit have to be renewed or rebirth from it's sinful nature. Jesus told Nicodemus that in order for one to enter into the kingdom of God, they had to be born-again, born of water and of the Spirit. The Spirit, the water, and the blood, is the testimony of Jesus. It's through the shedding of the blood of Jesus that we have been reconciled to the Father. Water baptism symbolizes the cleansing of personal repentance on the part of the believer. Born-again indicates the Spirit of God indwelling our human bodies sanctifying it to Himself.

In order for us to be disciples of Jesus Christ and sons of God we must yield our entire being to the Word of God. God wants us to walk or live in the Spirit indicating that we're always minded of the Spirit of God indwelling our being and yielding to His instructions.

We cannot worship God through our flesh because the flesh is enmity against God. The flesh doesn't want us to do anything the Spirit of God would have us to do. It fights against righteousness. God can place it in our spirit to pray, the flesh will tell us, "you're tired, you're sleepy". Try fasting, all you can do is think or talk about is food. The flesh will dominate our spirit if we don't learn

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how to have our flesh under subjection to the word of God and the Spirit of God. We put flesh under subjection when we tell it what to do instead of it telling us what to do. One or the other will rule, it depends on who we feed the most. If we feed the flesh, then it will rule, if we feed our spirit, our spirit will rule.

We feed our spirit by reading the word of God on a consistent basis, In the beginning was the Word and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. Every time we read the word of God, we're placing more of Jesus, the Word in us, as we read the word of God, it cleanses us (**John 15:3 Now ye are clean through the words which I have spoken unto you**) As Jesus spoke the Words to His disciples, He's still speaking to us through the word of God. As we read, listen to what He's saying and live according to His word, His word will cleanse our spirit, then our spirit will dominate our soul and our body.

We can't look and listen to everything and expect our spirit to be strengthened. Just as the body needs foods to survive, the spirit needs the word of God to overcome the flesh. We can't hear God when our spirit is static; receiving other frequency. God is talking, but we can't hear because the soul and body is talking to us. We have to build our spirit just as a gymnast do physical exercise to develop and display strength and balance. When the spirit is developed the soul and body will develop to display holiness, separated from the things of the world, exempli-

fyng the nature and attributes of the Father and Son.

Our minds, wills and emotions (heart) is what makes up our soul. In order for the kingdom of God to be dwelling in our mortal bodies these three must come in line with the word of God.

Our minds is the thing that usually gets us in trouble. Thoughts that enter into the mind and then to the heart will either bring forth life or death. Thoughts can bring joy, happiness, anger and hatred.

Thoughts play a very important role in our will and emotions. Apostle Paul knew how our thoughts can detour us from the things of God, that's why He said, **Phiippians 4:8—Finally, brethern, whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report; if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, think on these things.**

If we think on righteousness, we will do righteousness, we will do the things that pleases the Father. When the spirit is fed the proper food, the thoughts will line up with the word of God.

When the adversary come and try to speak lies to our mind, we must have enough word in us to fight the good fight of faith. When Satan came to Jesus, Jesus fought back with the word and Satan left Him for a season. Satan will leave us for a season too, if we have enough word in us. When doubt comes to bring worry or fear, it's the word of God that has been soaked into

our spirit that will raise up and bring forth deliverance in our minds and emotions. The word of God must be rooted in our hearts to bring forth a godly life style. What's in the inside will manifest on the outside. Reading and studying the word of God will open our understanding so that we will know how we're suppose to possess our vessels. Listening to anointed preaching and teaching is another way we can feed our spirit. Listening to anointed gospel music will usher us into a spirit of praise, which is another way of feeding our spirit. In order to keep connected to God we must feed our spirit. We minister to God through our spirit as well as our body, the body will come in line if the spirit is right.

God made us free will beings to choose what we desire to do without being made. When the spirit is converted to holiness, we will no longer desire to please our will, but we will seek God's will. When the spirit is connected with God our will is seeking those things that will magnify our Lord. When it's time to pray, it's our will that will tell the flesh to come subject to prayer. When flesh tell us to avenge ourselves, it's our will that will say forgive and pray for the individual. When our flesh tell us to lie, it's our will that will make us tell the truth. It's our will that will either accept the word of God or reject it. It's our will that will dictate what our mind and emotions tell us to do or not to do. Our will has to be transformed to God's will, and that comes by reading the word of God and coming subject

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to the word of God. Prayer, reading and studying the word of God is a Christian's spiritual food. Just as we can't live physically without eating food, we can't live spiritually and dominate unless we're full of the word of God as well as taking into practice what we read.

God wants our entire beings to be presented to him in holiness. **(Romans 12:1—I beseech you therefore brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies, a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service.)** In the Old Testament the priest would kill and offer animals as a sacrifice. The priest could not offer an animal that was sickly or diseased, the animal couldn't have a spot or blemish. After Jesus' ascension, we, the body of Christ must present ourselves as a living sacrifice. A living sacrifice is not only being dedicated and obeying the word of God, it's also those that will serve and worship no other god whether it's a physical, financially or a relationship god.

Holiness is not a religion, it's complying to the word of God. Holiness is for every nation and denomination. Holiness means to be separated from the things that will not edify or glorify God in spirit, soul, and body. Our body was bought with a price, our bodies are the temple of God. **(1st Corinthians 6:19—What? Know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost, which is in you, which ye have of God, and ye are not your own. God does not want anything and everything coming**

into His temple. Just as we don't allow certain things to come into our home, God is the same way, He doesn't want profanity, lying, jealousy, envy, back-biting, gluttony, worry, fear and so forth to be dwelling in the same body He's dwelling in. We as Christians basically think of sin as fornication and adultery, lying, cheating and stealing, but if we are peace-breakers, unruly, will not submit ourselves to authority then we are carnal minded, and have not submitted ourselves fully to the Lord which is sin.

Listening and looking at everything also defiles the body as well as fornication and adultery because words are spirit whether they are godly or ungodly. What we see influences us to do right or wrong. Just as Satan influenced Eve by words, he's still influencing through sight and words.

Many have fell into sexual sin because of what they were watching and listening to. Sex without marriage **(godly)** is a sin. **(1st Corinthians 6:18—Flee fornication. Every sin that a man doeth is without the body; but he that committeth fornication sinneth against his own body.)** Heterosexual will be ushered to the bottomless pit just as a homosexual. God wants us to submit our entire being to Him. **(Leviticus 18:22—Thou shalt not lie with mankind, as with womankind: it is abomination.)**

In general, whether we are married or single, if we're dating, we want to know we're number

one in that persons life. None of us want something or someone to come before us; God is the same way, He wants us to make Him the center of our life. He don't want us sharing our bodies unlawfully with anyone.

When God looks upon us, He doesn't want to see us comprising with the world. We are in the world, but we are not of this world and we shouldn't look or conduct ourselves as the world does. There should be a difference in a Christian the world can see. If we're looking and conducting ourselves as they do, what could we tell them that Jesus will do, if they can't see Him in you!

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