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Spirit, Soul and Body #3

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Today is a continuation of the teachings on the spirit, soul and body and the importance of renewing our minds.

2 Cor 5:17 "Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new." KJV

1 Thess 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." KJV

Because of the many outside voices in the world, it is sometimes challenging to be able to help as a pastor those people who are needing help, in order to let them know what God has done for them and wants to do for them. That Gods people would walk in victory and having their needs met. Peter tells us in the following verse what God has for each of them. It not something that He is going to do, but has already done it.

2 Peter 1:3-4 "According as his divine power hath given unto us all things that pertain unto life and godliness, through the knowledge of him that hath called us to glory and virtue: 4 Whereby are given unto us exceeding great and precious promises: that by these ye might be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust." KJV

It is through the word of God that we begin to be partakers of all those things that He has made available to us. A review of the scriptures we have been studying show us that God is a God of peace, not of turmoil and unrest. We are made up of spirit, soul and body and that our spirit has everything that we might have need of in life. That part of us is brand new, old things are passed away. This speaks only about our spirit, the outside part of us does not change, it is still the same as it was before we were born again, ex: overweight, bald, we are still the same in these areas. Only the spirit has been born again and is made new, old things are gone and forgotten. Father God, Jesus and the Holy Spirit has come into us, now everything is there that pertains to life and godliness. How do we pull out those new things that are inside and begin to

show them on the outside, we may have times of sadness and depression, but on the inside we now have joy and happiness.

How do we live in the spirit and not the soulish realm? Learning to renew our minds, thinking like God. We have a responsibility to be a doer of the word, presenting ourselves to God, is our reasonable service. This is the choice we have to make.

Rom 12:1-2 "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. 2 And be not *conformed to this world: but be ye *transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God." KJV

*conformed means to be shaped by outward pressure, thinking without God thinking like the world thinks

*transformed means to be changed, a process of taking on a new form, example the butterfly, being changed outwardly

Some people because of thinking without God is that God is finished with the church as a body, but this is not true. The church is triumphant, the church is not going under, this is the age of the church, the church is the body of Christ and God will not be done with the church until the end of the church age. We are part of that and should not be listening to what is being said in the world, the outside pressure that we sometimes hear.

Becoming transformed by the renewing of our minds, how do we do this? Learning to meditate the word of God, worry it or murmur it. Worry in the natural is talking to everyone, all the time about the problem, thinking about it, while working or trying to sleep, but bringing this worry over into the area of faith enables us to begin thinking about it in the spirit realm, this is how we begin to meditate what the word says remembering the promises that are in the word, the things that belong to us because of the new birth, everything that has been provided and dwelling on those promises.

James 1:21 "Wherefore lay apart all filthiness and superfluity of naughtiness, and receive with meekness the engrafted word, which is able to save your souls." KJV

There are things that begin to happen to us as we begin to meditate on the word of God. We see in James that the word is able to save our souls. We have learned that there are four principles that are involved with the meditation of the word: 1) apply

the word 2) ponder how the word applies 3) does it change the situation and 4) are we in agreement with the word that has been given to us. We can know what the scripture says but it is not really a part of us until we have learned how to meditate.

An example was given in regards how a person was able to meditate the word and what happen in the situation that was encountered. The scripture found in Psalms chapter 5 addresses what the outcome was to be.

Psa 5:12 "For thou, Lord, wilt bless the righteous; with favour wilt thou compass him as with a shield." KJV

A young man had been employed for a period of time with a company but was thinking about asking to be transferred to another location because of problems that he encountered on a daily basis with his supervisor, he had sought counseling regarding the situation and had been advised to hold on, as a believer he had favor according to the word of God. But circumstances had not gotten any better and he was ready to make a change even though it met uprooting everyone and making a move to another part of the country. One last time he had been told to try and hold on just a little longer. Recently he was informed that the supervisor who was the problem got transferred to another district, in fact the one that the man was thinking about transferring to. God had moved for him and he didn't have to leave. There is always an answer through the exceeding great promises. Favor will come to all of us if we continue to meditate and renew our minds, learning to walk after the spirit.

Gal 5:16,25 "This I say then, Walk in the Spirit, and ye shall not fulfil the lust of the flesh. 25 If we live in the Spirit, let us also walk in the Spirit." KJV

Gal 5:25 "If we live by the [Holy] Spirit, let us also walk by the Spirit. [If by the Holy Spirit we have our life in God, let us go forward walking in line, our conduct controlled by the Spirit.]" AMP

Paul is teaching how if we are living in the spirit that we can learn to walk by the spirit and not after the flesh. Sometimes our bodies will resist what the spirit wants to do causing fear to arise, but fear is not part of our spirit, fear comes from the soulish part of man.

There is the divine side, divinity on the inside of us in our spirit; our soul and body is humanity, so we have two different pulls always working on us. Most people on the inside want to do what is right but there is the humanity, the soul and body that do not want to follow the spirit, causing a struggle on the inside, because of the struggle

we have a tendency to say that we are failures but when we understand spirit, soul and body, where the process of where our minds are being renewed, and the spirit mind after becoming a renewed mind has not been conformed or formed by the fashion of this world.

Rom 12:2 "Don't become so well-adjusted to your culture that you fit into it without even thinking. Instead, fix your attention on God. You'll be changed from the inside out. Readily recognize what he wants from you, and quickly respond to it. Unlike the culture around you, always dragging you down to its level of immaturity, God brings the best out of you, develops well-formed maturity in you."

MESSAGE

Paul is writing to the Galatians regarding the freedoms that they are beginning to experience, they have never had this freedom before, to such a degree that they begin following the flesh, forgetting about the new man, the spirit inside of them. Paul challenges them to walk after the spirit and not the flesh, even though there is a battle going on the inside of them. The humanity part on the inside of us will dominate unless we renew our minds and renewing is an on going process. There is a part of us in our spirit man who says we can overcome but the other part says that we are going to fail, which voice are we going to listen to, depending how we have been renewing our minds this will determine the voice we listen to.

Reading the 14th chapter of Matthew will give us the entire story of what was transpiring during this time of Jesus' life. He showed much compassion, was healing the sick and delivering the multitudes and encouraging their faith even though there was doubt. The ministry of John the Baptist is also spoken of in this chapter. Jesus stayed focused about what He was doing and the people were exposed to the miraculous by the food they had received. Jesus walking on the water caused the disciples to be afraid and Peter ask Jesus to let him walk on the water, but Peter began to fear and sink, Jesus reached out and saved him. The spirit man on the inside of Peter said he could walk on the water, but the soulish part took over as he began to look at the things around him causing him to sink and he became fearful.

This is what we are faced with many times, we receive a word from God and we start out but when we begin to encounter difficult circumstances we begin to doubt and the soulish part of us takes over and we begin to doubt as to whether we have heard from God or not. Doubt or fear is not in our spirit, faith is in our spirit, it is a spiritual living force. The only thing that will keep us from walking in the light of joy and

love is an unrenewed mind. The soulish part or the human side and the struggle that goes on with that part of us that is a new creature, the spirit of man lives forever, never dies just keeps living, only at death does the spirit depart from the body.

Matt 14:13-14 "When Jesus heard of it, he departed thence by ship into a desert place apart: and when the people had heard thereof, they followed him on foot out of the cities. 14 And Jesus went forth, and saw a great multitude, and was moved with compassion toward them, and he healed their sick." KJV

Matt 14:22-36 "And straightway Jesus constrained his disciples to get into a ship, and to go before him unto the other side, while he sent the multitudes away. 23 And when he had sent the multitudes away, he went up into a mountain apart to pray: and when the evening was come, he was there alone. 24 But the ship was now in the midst of the sea, tossed with waves: for the wind was contrary. 25 And in the fourth watch of the night Jesus went unto them, walking on the sea. 26 And when the disciples saw him walking on the sea, they were troubled, saying, It is a spirit; and they cried out for fear. 27 But straightway Jesus spake unto them, saying, Be of good cheer; it is I; be not afraid. 28 And Peter answered him and said, Lord, if it be thou, bid me come unto thee on the water. 29 And he said, Come. And when Peter was come down out of the ship, he walked on the water, to go to Jesus. 30 But when he saw the wind boisterous, he was afraid; and beginning to sink, he cried, saying, Lord, save me. 31 And immediately Jesus stretched forth his hand, and caught him, and said unto him, O thou of little faith, wherefore didst thou doubt?" KJV

Many times we start in the spirit and we must continue in the spirit, but on a daily basis we find ourselves being attack from every side, starting to live in our soulish part, we quit walking in the spirit, but as we begin to understand the spirit, soul and body we realize what is beginning to happen.

Rom 4:19 "And being not weak in faith, he considered not his own body now dead, when he was about an hundred years old, neither yet the deadness of Sarah's womb:" KJV

Rom 4:18-20 "Who against hope believed in hope, that he might become the father of many nations, according to that which was spoken, So shall thy seed be. 19 And being not weak in faith, he considered not his own body now dead, when he was about an hundred years old, neither yet the deadness of Sarah's womb: 20 He staggered not at the promise of God through unbelief; but was strong in faith, giving glory to God;" KJV

Rom 4:17 "(As it is written, I have made thee a father of many nations,) before him whom he believed, even God, who quickeneth the dead, and calleth those things which be not as though they were." KJV

Paul is using Abraham as an example of a great man of faith, in the New Testament this is also what we see, but in the Old Testament in relationship to Abraham we see

the faithfulness of God, to bring to pass in a man His purpose, God doesn't give up. Read Romans chapter 4 and learn more of the story of Abraham and his great faith, the promise that had been given to him and his wife even though a long period of time passed before the event took place. His mind had become renewed, he was transformed believing the word of God, he began to think like God thinks and never doubted what had been spoken to him in regards to having a son and that he would become the father of many nations.

Isaiah 46:10 "Declaring the end from the beginning, and from ancient times the things that are not yet done, saying, My counsel shall stand, and I will do all my pleasure:" KJV

Strong faith comes with a renewed mind as the spirit speaks to you. There will always be challenges working against us, but the spirit on the inside tells us that we can do it. Renewing our minds to His plans and purposes as we get quiet will enable us to know that God isn't done with us yet. There is always the human side working against us but our spirit will continually encourage us to not give up. Start living out of your spirit, renewing your mind to His plans and purposes and begin to think like God thinks. Knowing that God wants to favor each of you comes from meditating on the word of God. Don't let the human side rob you of the blessings that God has for you.

There are plans and purposes to be done, God isn't done, keep pursuing, begin to trust in what God has given you, you will be amazed in what you can do, His plan and purpose has never changed. The human side wants to quit, but no! the spirit side is saying continue.