

Spirit Soul & Body Lesson #18

Spirit vs. Flesh

Outline

From Andrew Wommack Spirit Soul & Body Study Guide

1. Once you're born again, the rest of the Christian life is learning to walk in the Spirit, which is letting what God has done through the new birth dominate you more than your physical, emotional, mental realm.

2. One of the hardest things you'll ever do is learn how to turn from your natural self-rule and let who you are in Christ dominate instead.

A. It's difficult because you must perceive your spirit by faith in God's Word because you can't see or feel it.

B. All you have to do is start basing your thoughts, actions, and identity on who you are in Christ.

3. As long as your flesh is contrary to your spirit, you'll have conflict.

"This I say then, Walk in the Spirit, and ye shall not fulfil the lust of the flesh.

For the flesh lusteth against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh: and these are contrary the one to the other: so that ye cannot do the things that ye would.

But if ye be led of the Spirit, ye are not under the law" (Gal. 5:16-18).

A. "Contrary" means they're opposite, enemies, and adversaries.

B. This conflict between your spirit and flesh is your true spiritual warfare.

4. You cannot please God in your flesh.

"So then they that are in the flesh cannot please God" (Rom. 8:8).

A. Living after the flesh brings all forms of death.

"Therefore, brethren, we are debtors, not to the flesh, to live after the flesh. For if ye live after the flesh, ye shall die: but if ye through the Spirit do mortify the deeds of the body, ye shall live" (Rom. 8:12-13). "For the wages of sin is death" (Rom. 6:23a).

B. Your flesh is Satan's inroad to bring death into your life.

C. As a born-again believer, your flesh is made up of your soulish and physical realms.

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5. As Paul taught how God now deals with people based on His grace, not their performance, this raised the question in Romans 6:1:

“What shall we say then? Shall we continue in sin, that grace may abound?”

A. The answer, of course, is no. “God forbid. How shall we, that are dead to sin, live any longer therein?” (Rom. 6:2).

B. Your spirit is the part of you that’s dead to sin.

C. Your body and soul can still do sinful things, but the born-again part of you cannot.

6. When you were born again, you were baptized into His death.

“Know ye not, that so many of us as were baptized into Jesus Christ were baptized into his death?” (Rom. 6:3).

A. Being baptized into His death is automatic, but walking in newness of life isn’t.

“Therefore we are buried with him by baptism into death: that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life” (Rom. 6:4, emphasis mine).

B. Manifesting newness of life is something that should happen, but it depends on how you renew your mind. “For if we have been planted together in the likeness of his death, we shall be also in the likeness of his resurrection: Knowing this” (Rom. 6:5-6a).

7. Your spirit died to sin, cannot sin, and has no desire for sin, but this doesn’t automatically mean that your soul and body will reflect that change.

A. Your walking in resurrection life depends upon you:

“Knowing this, that our old man is crucified with him, that the body of sin might be destroyed, that henceforth we should not serve sin” (Rom. 6:6).

B. “Old man” refers to the spirit you had prior to salvation.

C. Your “old man” no longer exists because it’s been crucified, has died, and was buried with Christ.

D. Your new self is now who you are in the spirit.

E. What you’re dealing with is the spirit vs. the flesh