

# Walking in Him and Your Effectiveness in Prayer

## The Three Parts of Man

### DISCUSSION:

One important aspect of our makeup, as God has created us, is the three parts of our person. We have a permanent existence because of our origin as an eternal living spiritual being; that is our spirit, which originated in the heart of God. We also possess a soul, which includes our mind, our will, and our emotions. Lastly, we possess a body, which is our “earth suit.”

***May your whole spirit, soul, and body be preserved blameless (1 Thessalonians 5:23).***

The apostle Paul revealed the three parts of man to us in his writings to believers in the New Testament. He mentioned *spirit, soul, and body* to the Thessalonians. In addition, to the Corinthians he explained in great detail about the differences between all three.

*All things are lawful for me, but all things are not helpful. All things are lawful for me, but I will not be brought under the power of any. Foods for the stomach and the stomach for foods, but God will destroy both it and them. Now the body is not for sexual immorality but for the Lord, and the Lord for the body. And God both raised up the Lord and will also raise us up by His power. Do you not know that your bodies are members of Christ? Shall I then take the members of Christ and make them members of a harlot? Certainly not! Or do you not know that he who is joined to a harlot*

*is one body with her? For “the two,” He says, “shall become one flesh.” But he who is joined to the Lord is one spirit with Him. Flee sexual immorality. Every sin that a man does is outside the body, but he who commits sexual immorality sins against his own body. Or do you not know that your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit who is in you, whom you have from God, and **you are not your own**? For you were bought at a price; therefore glorify God in your **body** and in your **spirit**, which are God’s (1 Corinthians 6:12-20).*

- ◆ The spirit of man is the first important aspect we must consider when discussing walking in the Spirit.
- ◆ We must first realize that the Holy Spirit must have a way of becoming one with man spiritually.
- ◆ The fact that we can walk in the spirit is proof that man actually is a spiritual being who is eternal as well as flesh and blood.

#### WHAT IS THE HOLY SPIRIT SAYING TO YOU:

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#### APPLICATION:

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## Origin of Man

#### DISCUSSION:

God is eternal because He did not come from the physical realm .but the original realm—the realm of the Spirit. There has never been time, as we know it, in the realm of the Spirit. In Heaven, there is no aging as there is on earth. As an eternal Spirit, God said, “Let Us make man in Our image, after our likeness.... So God created man in His own image; in the image of God He created him” (Gen. 1:26-27).

- ◆ So man is made in the image of God.
- ◆ We are to worship Him in spirit and in truth because He is a Spirit and we are a spirit (see John 4:24).
- ◆ Man was created in His likeness so man is also a spirit as well.
- ◆ God gave man a soul, and he lives in a body (see 1 Thess. 5:23).
- ◆ The spirit of man will separate from the body and be with Christ when we leave this earth realm to be with Him in Heaven, if we are born again.

***For I am in a strait betwixt two, having a desire to depart, and to be with Christ; which is far better: nevertheless to abide in the flesh is more needful for you (Philippians 1:23-24 KJV).***

***But though our outward man perish, yet the inward man is renewed day by day (2 Corinthians 4:16 KJV).***

**WHAT IS THE HOLY SPIRIT SAYING TO YOU:**

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**WHAT IS THE APPLICATION FOR YOUR LIFE:**

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## The Born-Again Spirit of Man

### DISCUSSION:

Jesus said to Nicodemus, "Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God" (John 3:3 KJV). Jesus was talking about spiritual birth, not physical birth. Nicodemus reacted as most people do.

"How can a man be born when he is old? Can he enter a second time into his mother's womb and be born?" (John 3:4). This is the thought process of many. Their initial reaction is toward the natural, not toward the spiritual. Jesus differentiated between

the physical and the spiritual when He said, *“That which is born of the flesh is flesh, and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit”* (John 3:6).

***The fact that we can walk in the spirit is proof that man actually is a spiritual being who is eternal as well as flesh and blood.***

The apostle Peter wrote that your spirit is the “hidden man of the heart,” which is not corruptible but of a meek and quiet spirit. “But let it be the hidden man of the heart, in that which is not corruptible, even the ornament of a meek and quiet spirit, which is in the sight of God of great price” (1 Peter 3:4 KJV).

- ◆ The born-again spirit of man is so restored to the image of God that if we will seek to be of a meek and quiet spirit, we will not experience corruption.
- ◆ The hidden man of the heart is in communication with God.
- ◆ We who are led by the Spirit of God are not led with our heads or our feelings.
- ◆ In the same way, our bodies do not lead those of us who are led by the Spirit.
- ◆ It is only through our spirit, when we are a new creature in Christ, that the Spirit of God can lead us.

**WHAT IS THE HOLY SPIRIT SAYING TO YOU:**

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**WHAT IS THE APPLICATION FOR YOUR LIFE:**

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## Led by the Spirit of God

- ◆ Many people are led by their own desires and do not even know it because they are dominated by the flesh.
- ◆ This kind of life becomes selfish and works against the desires of the Spirit.

- ◆ It hurts the Kingdom because other people are affected as well.
- ◆ The Spirit of God can be grieved, and this grieving will cause Him to pull back.
- ◆ As believers, we should desire what the Spirit wants and yield to Him.
- ◆ “For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, these are the sons of God” (Rom. 8:14).

#### **WHAT IS THE HOLY SPIRIT SAYING TO YOU:**

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#### **WHAT IS THE APPLICATION FOR YOUR LIFE:**

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## Children of God

#### **DISCUSSION:**

The Spirit of God has announced that we are children of God. It is through our spirit, the spirit within us, that the Holy Spirit communicates to us. “The Spirit Himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God” (Rom. 8:16). You see, the Holy Spirit of God is speaking from His Spirit to our spirit.

- ◆ As children of our Father God, we receive every provision from the spiritual realm.
- ◆ These things then manifest into this earthly realm by the reality that comes from this manifestation in our spirits.
- ◆ “Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen” (Heb. 11:1).
- ◆ The Spirit of God knows no defeat.
- ◆ He knows not how to doubt. It is foreign to Him. It is not in the communication of heaven. Paul said:

*When I was a child, I spoke as a child, I understood as a child, I thought as a child; but when I became a man, I put away childish things. For now we see in a mirror, dimly, but then face to face. Now I know in part, but then I shall know just as I also am known (1 Corinthians 13:11-12).*

So now, the only way we can see and hear is by the spirit realm; we see and hear spirit to Spirit. When we lose this flesh and blood body and our fleshly mind, which is our carnal understanding, we will be able to see and hear clearly without any hindrance.

**WHAT IS THE HOLY SPIRIT SAYING TO YOU:**

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**WHAT IS THE APPLICATION FOR YOUR LIFE:**

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## The Candle of the Lord

### DISCUSSION:

David's son Solomon, in all his wisdom, concluded that the heart of man or his spirit is lit up like a candle or a light bulb. "The spirit of man is the candle of the Lord, searching all the inward parts of the belly" (Prov. 20:27 KJV). This is a good verse to talk about when gaining understanding about how the human spirit works with the Holy Spirit.

- ◆ The spirit of man is like a light that illuminates all the inward parts.
- ◆ We only have to yield to the Holy Spirit as He illuminates our inward parts.
- ◆ This light will illuminate our path and allow us to see clearly each step to take in the Lord's perfect will.
- ◆ When the Lord would light David's candle, referring to his spirit, in the Old Testament, David was able to see and the darkness was dispelled.

- ◆ David said, “For thou wilt light my candle: the Lord my God will enlighten my darkness” (Ps. 18:28 KJV).
- ◆ So you can see that the human spirit has the ability to encounter the Holy Spirit so powerfully that it creates light from Heaven in your heart.
- ◆ That light allows us to have a wonderful, intimate communication from Heaven.

#### WHAT IS THE HOLY SPIRIT SAYING TO YOU:

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#### WHAT IS THE APPLICATION FOR YOUR LIFE:

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The apostle John says that when we walk in the light, the result is fellowship with Him:

*But if we walk in the light as He is in the light,  
we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus Christ His Son  
cleanses us from all sin. (1 John 1:7).*

## Spirit Consciousness

#### DISCUSSION:

John 4:24 says, “God is Spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in Spirit and truth.” If our God is Spirit, then we must contact Him with our spirit. This means that

our spirit has the ability to communicate with God’s Spirit. We change our way of thinking in order to understand that God communicates with us.

*But as it is written: “Eye has not seen, nor ear heard, nor have entered into the heart of man the things which God has prepared for those who love Him.” But God has revealed them to us through His Spirit. For the Spirit searches all things, yes, the deep things of God. For what man knows the things of a man except the spirit of the man which is in him? Even so no one knows the things of God except the Spirit of God. Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit who is from God, that we might know the things that have been freely given to us by God. These things we also speak, not in words which man’s wisdom teaches but which the Holy Spirit teaches, comparing spiritual things with spiritual. But the natural man does not receive the things of the Spirit of God, for they are foolishness to him; nor can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned. But he who is spiritual judges all things, yet he himself is rightly judged by no one. For “who has known the mind of the Lord that he may instruct Him?” But we have the mind of Christ (1 Corinthians 2:9-16).*

This is a profound passage of Scripture that we can meditate upon for a long time and probably still not get everything out of it that the Holy Spirit intended. Here we must understand that God is giving us secrets about many things.

- ◆ In order to pray effectively, we must team up with the One who has been sent to help us pray.
- ◆ If someone was sent to help you in an area and that person was an expert in his or her field, you would submit to their counsel and abilities.
- ◆ You would allow your task to begin and to end with their oversight.
- ◆ So let us see what the truth is about our situation concerning where we stand now and where the Spirit of Counsel wants to take us.

***On our own, we do not know what God has prepared for us who love Him! How can we pray without Him?***

**WHAT IS THE HOLY SPIRIT SAYING TO YOU:**

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## WHAT IS THE APPLICATION FOR YOUR LIFE:



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First Paul, by the Holy Spirit, lets us know our condition and what we lack without the Counselor. According to Scripture, here is our condition:

### Our Condition

#### ***1. Your eyes have not seen.***

We need to realize that in our condition, and without the Holy Spirit's help, our eyes may have the ability to see, but we are not able to *discern* the spiritual realities before us. It is apparent when our eyes become spiritually opened—we will be able to see spiritual realities more clearly.

#### ***2. Your ears have not heard.***

We need our spiritual ears open as well. Our spiritual ears need to be able to pick up the voice of Heaven and discern what is being said to those who have *ears that hear*.

#### ***3. Your mind has not imagined.***

God gave us the ability to imagine. Our mind can make an image of anything it wants. We have the ability to do what we imagined. At the time of the Tower of Babel, the Trinity decided to come down to see the city and the tower the Babylonians had built.

*And the Lord said, Behold, the **people is one**, and they have all one language; and this they begin to do: and now **nothing will be restrained** from them, which they have **imagined** to do. Go to, let us go down, and there confound their language, that they may not understand one another's speech (Genesis 11:6-7 KJV).*

But the apostle Paul tells us that our mind has not even imagined what God has for us. We need the Spirit to help us.

#### ***4. It has not entered into your heart.***

The heart is the deepest part of you, where your passion is found. You cannot even experience the truth in the deepest inner part of you, which is your spirit, until the Spirit of God delivers it to you. Then, and only then, can you truly see what God has planned for you. When the spiritual reality finally enters through the gates of your heart, you will be flooded with understanding.

Thank God Paul does not stop there. The apostle tells us that *through the Spirit of God* we can receive revelation of what *He has for us*. Knowing what God has for us is the knowledge of His will for our life. I do not know about you, but I perceive that it is invaluable to know what plans God has for me.

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**STORY:**

I recall a time when I wanted to discern God's will and could not get clarity. It concerned some leadership training that I was asked to attend for my church. It would require me to miss work. That meant the time for training would cost me a whole week's wages because it involved a long weekend. My job required me to travel and I worked on an airplane for three days at a time, so I would have to lose the whole three-day trip. I remember entering an elevator at the hotel in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania and asking the Lord again what I should do. I had asked the Lord for the answer to this same question several weeks prior with no answer. This time, I stated my case and felt that I should at least have the conference paid by the church because I was losing a week's wages to attend the required training. I received no answer to my prayer, so I continued to my room and flew out the next day to complete my work week at the airline.

The next week I was in the very same hotel. As I stepped into the elevator, I realized that God had not yet answered. So I stated my case again, including the fact that He should compensate me for the cost of the conference, which was a little over a hundred dollars. As I got off the elevator, I still did not hear Him say anything. I got my key out, placed it in the door, and entered my room for the night. Immediately, I heard what was apparently the audible voice of God. He told me to get on my knees immediately. I thought I was in trouble, so I started to repent. *I am sorry for complaining, Lord*, I said. In an audible voice, He said, "Look under your bed." There, under my bed, was a one hundred dollar bill. There was a great deal of garbage under there also. The hundred dollar bill was very old. But I began to thank God for it and asked Him if I should change it into twenties because it looked so old and did not seem authentic to me. He told me it was real, and I put in my pocket.

The next morning as I was boarding my flight, a gentleman who was carrying a firearm with the proper paperwork checked in with me. This was the proper procedure for all armed individuals on an aircraft. He was with the Department of the Treasury counterfeit division. I saw that the Lord was providing me with the confirmation I needed concerning my one hundred dollar bill, so I pulled the bill out of my pocket and showed it to him. He said that it was old, but it was authentic. God had answered my prayer and the gentleman went and sat down in his seat. God had confirmed to me His will. He provided the needed money and a confirmation of the authenticity of the one hundred dollar bill. I use this story as an example of the fact that God does answer our prayers and that we also must be specific with Him. The Holy Spirit will give us revelation on how to pray.

Whenever I pray, I ask the Holy Spirit to make known God's will and His intention for me through His written Word. Next, I ask that the revelation of God's Word would flow through my spirit and out of my mouth by the Holy Spirit. Finally, when I start to utter words from my lips of what God is saying by His Word and by the Spirit, they flow together in a stream of power. When I make my requests known to God, the peace of God guards my heart because my words match Heaven (see Phil. 4:6-7). I see all of Heaven implement His plan for my life!

***God's revelation through His Holy Spirit helps you pray effectively.***

