

SPIRIT, SOUL, BODY



# Lecture 4

## Spirit, Soul & Body

When considering Spirit, Soul and Body, we need to realise that as “new creations in Christ” our spirit is now the **‘real’** us. We need to focus on and emphasise our spiritual life by depending on the Holy Spirit and the Word. God made this possible when He set us free **once for all** from the law of the sinful nature:

Romans 8:1 (Wuest translation)

**Therefore, now, there is not even one bit of condemnation to those who are in Christ Jesus, for the law of the Spirit, that of the life in Christ Jesus, freed you once for all from the law of the sinful nature and of death.**

Here we see **the Holy Spirit has set us free from the sinful nature**. God has nullified the sinful nature and enabled us to live by the Holy Spirit. We have the power, however, through our will to ignite the sinful nature if we choose to gratify the flesh by putting “self” first instead of God.

Kenneth S. Wuest describes these three parts (Spirit, Soul and Body) based upon the original Greek:

*“A human being is composed of three parts. With his physical body he has world consciousness. His five senses located in this body receive sense impressions from the outside world. With his soul he has self-consciousness. He knows that he is a personality. With his spirit, he has God-consciousness.”*

When our spirit is indwelt by the Holy Spirit, we have the capacity to know God through His Word, we can worship the living God in spirit and in truth.

1 Corinthians 15:44-47 (Wuest translation)

**“It is sown a body which is a fit instrument by which the individual can live a life in which the interests and activities of the soul-life predominate. It is raised a body which is a fit instrument by which the individual can live a life in which the interests and activities of the human spirit predominate. Since there is a soulical body, there is also a spiritual body. And thus it stands written, The first man Adam came into existence a living soul. The last Adam became a life-giving spirit. But not first is the spiritual, but the soulical, afterward the spiritual. The first man is out of the earth as a source, made of earth. The second Man is out of heaven as a source.”**

We are now ‘out of heaven’ like Jesus. We rose from the dead with Jesus and are born of God.

2 Corinthians 5:21 (Wuest translation)

**“He who did not know sin in an experiential way, on behalf of us and instead of us, was made [the representative of] sin, in order that, as for us, we might become a righteousness of God in Him.”**

1 John 1:9 (Wuest translation)

**“If we continue to confess our sins, faithful is He and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from every unrighteousness.”**

Why confess our sins when all our sins, past, present and future are already forgiven by God? First of all, who knows all the sins we have committed or are committing? It is not just about the wrong things we do, but also the things we don't do that we should be doing ie. sins of omission, wrong thoughts, neglect, wrong attitudes, etc. It is absolutely impossible for us to confess all our sins, since we do not even know all of them.

We have already been forgiven and cleansed, therefore we confess our sins for two reasons: one, we have a relationship with God and we are sorry for having disobeyed Him, and two, we are acknowledging our sin in order to bring correction; this brings peace to our conscience. The wellbeing of our soul depends on a good conscience

1 Timothy 1:19 (Wuest translation)

**“holding faith and a good conscience, which [latter] certain having thrust from themselves concerning the Faith, have suffered shipwreck.”**

Acts 24:16 (Wuest translation)

**“And in this also I myself am constantly disciplining myself to be having a conscience which does not cause offense to God and to men at all times.”**

1 John 1:7 (Wuest translation)

**“But if within the sphere of the light we are habitually ordering our behavior as He himself is in the light, things in common and thus fellowship we [the believer and God] are having with one another, and the blood of Jesus His Son keeps continually cleansing us from every sin.”**

Under the New Covenant, remission of sins comes through faith in the atoning sacrifice of Jesus' blood. It is about what Jesus did for us, not what we do.

Matthew 26:28 (Wuest translation)

**“for this is my blood of the testament which in behalf of many is being poured out for the putting away of sins.”**

Ephesians 1:5-7 (Wuest translation)

**“having previously marked us out to be placed as adult sons through the intermediate agency of Jesus Christ for himself according to that which seemed good in His heart's desire, resulting in praise of the glory of His grace which He freely bestowed upon us in the Beloved, in whom we are having our redemption through His blood, the putting away of our trespasses according to the wealth of His grace.”**

## **CONCLUSION:**

**We must learn to discern the spiritual and the natural realms in order to choose to exercise our will and live a spiritual life in Christ. Our minds need to be renewed with the Word and our will is to be submitted to God. Our body and our soul are to be under the authority of the Holy Spirit and God's Word. Our will to obey God's Word brings freedom and victory, peace, joy and all the attributes of Jesus. LET'S LIVE BY THE LIBERTY WE NOW HAVE THROUGH THE HOLY SPIRIT.**