

*And if the bugler doesn't sound a clear call, how will the soldiers know they are being called to battle?*

1<sup>st</sup> Corinthians 14:8 NLV

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**FLM Prayer Study #164**

**SPIRIT, SOUL AND BODY**

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

1<sup>st</sup> Thessalonians 4:23

MADE IN THE IMAGE OF GOD

*And God said, Let us make man in our image, after our likeness; and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the fowl of the air and over the cattle and over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps upon the earth. So God created man in his own image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created them. Genesis 1:26-27*

We know from numerous passages that God is a tri-union God: God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit. Mankind, made in the image of God, is also tri-union: Spirit, Soul, and Body

SCRIPTURAL TERMS

1. **Heart:** Soul and Spirit
2. **Spirit:** the real you, that which is dead in trespasses and sin but is born again by the Spirit of our God, the spirit wants more of God, it's that vacuum inside every human that can only be filled by "Christ in you, the Hope of Glory," (Colossians 1:27), the Spirit is the real you, it is what allows you to communicate with God spirit to Spirit. This is also known in scripture as the inner man.
3. **Soul:** the soul is the mind, will and emotions; the soul is self-conscious and runs on feelings and self-desires
  - a. **Mind:** intellect, imagination, reasoning, thoughts, logic
  - b. **Will:** ego, decision, choice, purpose, desire, determination, intent
  - c. **Emotion:** senses(hearing, seeing, feeling, smelling, tasting), intangible feelings such as love, anger, moodiness, hate, etc.

4. **Body:** the carton you come packaged in; the outer appearance, the flesh nature

### SALVATION

We have wrongly been taught that salvation means exclusively the born again experience. Any Bible student can easily see that the term *salvation* is much more than just the new birth. A quick look in a Strong's Concordance shows us that the word in the Greek is *soteria*, which has the connotation of rescue or safety and includes such words as deliverer, health, and save. Since Jesus' very name means *God is Salvation*, we know that our salvation is "*All the promises of God in Him[Jesus] are yea and in Him[Jesus] Amen, unto the Glory of God by us*" (2<sup>nd</sup> Corinthians 1:20). Also, since Jesus in the New Testament is the Jehovah of the Old Testament, we know that salvation includes all the compound names of Jehovah:

**JEHOVAH ELOHIM**, The Eternal Creator (Genesis 2:4-25)  
**JEHOVAH ADONAI**-The Lord, our Master (Genesis 5:2-8)  
**JEHOVAH EL ELYON**-The Lord, the Owner (Genesis 14:2)  
**JEHOVAH EL OLAM**-The Lord, the Everlasting One (Genesis 21:33)  
**JEHOVAH JIREH**-The Lord, our Provider (Genesis 22:8-14)  
**JEHOVAH RAPHA**-The Lord, our Healer (Exodus 15:26)  
**JEHOVAH NISSI**-The Lord, our Banner (Exodus 17:15)  
**JEHOVAH-McKADDESH**-The Lord who sanctifies (Leviticus 20:8)  
**JEHOVAH SHALOM**-The Lord our peace (Judges 6:24)  
**JEHOVAH TSIDKENU**-The Lord our righteousness (Jeremiah 23:6)  
**JEHOVAH SABAOTH**-The Lord of hosts (1st Samuel 1:3)  
**JEHOVAH SHAMMAH**-The Lord, ever present (Ezekiel 48:35)  
**JEHOVAH ROHI**-The Lord, our Shepherd (Psalm 23:1)  
**JEHOVAH ELYON**-The Lord, our Blessor (Psalm 7:17)  
**JEHOVAH HOSENU**-The Lord, our Maker (Psalm 95:6)  
**JEHOVAH-GIBBOR**-The Lord, the Mighty (Isaiah 42:13)  
**JAH-JEHOVAH**-The Lord, the Jehovah (Isaiah 12:2)  
**JEHOVAH HEHOSUA MESSIAH**-The Lord Jesus Christ (Matthew 1:21)

Therefore, salvation embraces all of these qualities of Jehovah or Jesus as we know Him, and includes peace, provision, health, blessings, fruitfulness, victory in all areas, etc.

How are we, therefore, brought to salvation in our spirit, soul and body?

1. **Salvation for the spirit** is instantaneous when you are genuinely born again. *Being born again, not of corruptible seed, but of incorruptible, by the word of God, which liveth and abideth forever.* (1<sup>st</sup> Peter 1:23)
2. **Salvation for the soul** comes progressively as you cleanse your mind with the Word of God, walk in obedience, and take on the Mind of Christ. *But if our gospel be hidden, it is hidden in them that are lost, In whom the god of this age hath blinded the minds of them who believe not, lest the light of the glorious gospel of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine unto them.* (2<sup>nd</sup> Corinthians 4:3-4) *For who hath known the mind of the Lord, that He may instruct Him? But we have the mind of Christ.* (1<sup>st</sup> Corinthians 2:16) *Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus.* (Philippians 2:5)
3. **Salvation for the body** comes in the future when we receive a glorified body. *For our citizenship is in heaven, from which also we look for the Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ, Who shall change our lowly body, that it may be fashioned like His glorious body...*(Philippians 3:20-21b)

Thus, with this understanding of spirit, soul and body, we can better understand passages such as Ephesians 3:16-21:

*That He [Jesus] would grant you, according to the riches of His glory, to be strengthened with might by His Spirit in the inner man [your spirit] that you, being rooted and grounded in love, may be able to comprehend [in your soul], with all saints, what is the breadth and length and depth and height, and to know [in your spirit man] the love of Christ, which passeth knowledge [the soul with the mind, will and emotions], that you might be filled [in the spirit] with all the fullness of God. Now unto Him who is able to do exceedingly abundantly above all that we ask or think [in our soul], according to the power [dunamis] that worketh in us [in our spirits], unto Him be glory in the church by Christ Jesus throughout all ages, world without end. Amen.*

### Proper Alignment

The main purpose we study Spirit-Soul-Body is so that we can be in proper alignment. The Lord's will is that we be led by our spirits, not by our souls (mind, will, emotions), nor by our body or flesh nature. If you want to check and see if you are being led by your spirit, all you have to do is see if you are producing the fruit of the Spirit: love, joy, peace, long suffering or patience, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness, self-control (Galatians 5:22-

23). The spirit wants what is of God and is God conscious. Jesus is on the throne of your life.

If you are operating with the soul in the driver's seat, instead of the spirit, you want what is of self and is self-conscious. You may be born again and an active church member, but you are carnal with self on the throne of your life. Soulful people often have a religious spirit and are usually boring teachers of the Bible because they try to intellectualize the Gospel message. They also are very feeling oriented. If they don't "feel" it, they don't believe it. We must walk by faith not by sight or feeling (2<sup>nd</sup> Corinthians 5:7), and we must accept Jesus by faith. Often the Lord tests our faith, and we might even begin to doubt our salvation. Without faith it is impossible to please Him (Hebrews 11:6). He wants us to be a faith people because faith is the victory that overcomes the world (1<sup>st</sup> John 5:4b), and how we need to be a body of overcomers in this wicked and perverse generation.

Soulful religion is a "feel good" religion, and we see this often in charismatic and Pentecostal fellowships that thrive on hype and manipulation. We believe strongly in Pentecost and in the gifts and ministry of the Holy Spirit and consider our own ministry charismatic, and we certainly are not implying that all charismatic and Pentecostal churches operate in the soulful realm. The charismatic and Pentecostal churches, who have mature beyond the soulful realm, are generally so right on with what the Lord is doing today and are the hope of the church in America. We must grow-up believers who surrender their plans and ambitions and life to God's will and ask Him what He wants done. We cannot walk in His Spirit if we are telling God where *we* are going and what *we* are doing, without consulting where *He* wants us to go and what *He wants us to do* and then having the nerve to ask Him to bless it.

Soulful religion tends to focus on charismatic superstars who lead the congregation to seek manifestations instead of more intimacy with Jesus. They lead with their personalities instead of with the Spirit. The soulful church is all about feeling. Often they pridefully want to outdo all the other churches. Generally members of soulful churches lack commitment, do not witness Jesus in the work place with the actions of their lives, and are self-willed. The soul is the area where we have the most problems in conforming to the pattern Jesus set for us, and it is the place of the battlefield of the mind between our thoughts and the kingdom of darkness. It breeds Jezebels, does not submit easily to authority, and had rather be entertained by music and drama rather than be convicted by God's Word. Many go to meetings impatiently waiting for the preaching to get finished so that they can

participate in and watch the personal ministry. There is nothing wrong with personal ministry, but God vindicates His Word, not the ministry.

The soul is the seat of our personalities. We should be conforming our personalities to the character of Jesus. It is not that God wants our personalities dead. He wants us to reckon ourselves dead (Romans 6:11). In other words He wants us to be no more independent but dependent and submitted to Him. When you are born again, you lose the right to be your own God, and your spirit, submitted to His Holy Spirit, should be your authority over your soul.

We all know that those who lead by the body or flesh nature produce fruit of a different nature than those led by the spirit. Colossians 3 tells us what some of these fruit are: fornication, uncleanness, inordinate affection, evil desire, covetousness, anger, wrath, malice, blasphemy, filthy conversation, and lying. I find that often those who are habitually caught up in these things are not really born again. This is the force behind exploitation of women and sex talk that is so prevalent among men in the secular work place, pornography, affairs, etc., These people seemingly have no moral conviction about their sin and have no interest or consideration for what God's Word says about their activities. Unfortunately, even some church members fall into this category. We have prayed with some who had strong spirits of whoredoms and an earthy, fleshly nature that is easy to discern. The Bible tells us that we can put off these things and can put on tender mercies, kindness, humbleness of mind, meekness, long suffering, forgiveness, love, and peace (Colossians 3).

#### How do we become spirit-ruled?

1. **We must deny self, take up our cross, and follow Him:** Matthew 16:24-*Then said Jesus unto his disciples, If any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross and follow me.*
2. **We must be washed by the Word:** Ephesians 5:25-27- *Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ also loved the church and gave Himself for it, that He might sanctify and cleanse it with the washing of water by the Word; that He might present it to Himself a glorious church, not having spot or wrinkle or any such thing, but that is should be holy and without blemish.* Romans 12:1-2-*I beseech you, therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that you present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service. And be not conformed to this world; but be you transformed by the renewing of your mind.*

3. **We must consider Jesus:** Hebrews 12:1-3-*Wherefore, seeing we also are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which doth so easily beset us, and let us run with patience the race that is set before us, Looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith, who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God. For consider Him that endured such contradiction of sinners against Himself, lest ye be wearied and faint in your minds.*

### REASON ENOUGH

by Ernie Haase, Wayne Haun, and Joel Lindsey

You have walked me through the valley of the shadows dark and low  
And that's reason enough to believe  
You have shown me endless mercy. Oh why, I'll never know  
And that's reason enough to believe.

So I won't wait for signs and wonders to teach me how to trust  
Cause You've already proven, Lord, the depths of Your great love.  
You took the cross so willingly and spilled Your precious blood.  
And that's reason enough to believe. Yes, that's reason enough to believe.

When I took Your grace for granted, I was granted even more.  
And that's reason enough to believe.  
With compassion You convinced me, I'm not hopeless anymore.  
And that's reason enough to believe.