

# **Walking in the Spirit**

Volume 2 of 6

by

**Star R. Scott**

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Calvary Temple Ministries  
50214 Triple Seven Road  
Sterling, VA 20165

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# Chapter I

## *The Triune Spirit*

Man is triune. The Apostle Paul said, *“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”* (1 Th. 5:23). Man is a spiritual being. He has a soul, and he lives inside of a physical body. Man’s mind is made up of emotion, intellect, and will; and his body is comprised of flesh, blood, and bone. Since God is a Spirit and is triune, and man was created in His image, man’s spirit is also triune, consisting of intuition, conscience, and communion. So, man in every aspect, is triune.

Communion is oneness with God in your spirit, that place where the Holy Spirit is dwelling. I Corinthians 6:19 reads, *“What? know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost which is in you, which ye have of God, and ye are not your own?”* Did you know that God is dwelling in the spirit of each regenerated man? Your spirit and God’s Spirit have become one (1 Co. 6:17). In fact, it is very difficult, without the Word of God, to discern between your spirit and God’s Spirit (He. 4:12). We are to walk in that re-created spirit that dwells in our mortal body.

Though we are dissecting the soul and the spirit for the purpose of study, only the Word of God can actually discern between these elements. *“For the word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any twoedged sword, piercing even to the **dividing asunder of soul and spirit**, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart”* (He. 4:12).

## *Spiritual Worship*

John 4:24 tells us that God is a Spirit. Man was created in the image of God, and God is a Spirit. Therefore, man was created as a spiritual being. Man has a soul and abides inside of a physical body. John continues, "*God is a Spirit and they that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth.*" There is only one way that you are going to truly worship God: in spirit and in truth. There is no other way. You cannot worship God solely through your mind, your physical body, or your traditions. You must worship God from the spiritual being that you are. The only way for you to effectively worship God is for the Word of God to find its place in your spirit. Only then can the Word of God come forth through your spirit and bring worship to God. That is the only way that it can be done. It cannot be done in the intellect or in the fleshly realm. They that worship Him must worship Him in spirit and in truth.

This understanding will do away with the thinking of some that the way to tell if God is present is whether or not there is some physical manifestation (goose bumps for example). Physical manifestations in your body have nothing to do with whether or not you are truly worshipping God. It will also do away with the idea that in order for God to be present you must have great oratorical dissertations or sermons that come forth and appeal to the intellect, and tell men what they want to hear, because you cannot worship God in the realm of the soul alone.

Since the soul is comprised of emotion, intellect, and will; and since worship comes from the spirit, emotions do not determine whether or not you are worshipping God. You can worship God with or without tears; it does not make any difference. And yet, personalities will become involved when we are worshipping God. This is because we as individuals are comprised of spirit, soul, and body. Therefore, different areas of will and emotion surface. For example, some people do not want to dance before the Lord, so they will not dance. They should not be looked down upon for this. However, some people do want to dance,

thereby getting their body involved in the worship. Some people do not want to lift their hands; in fact they **will** not lift their hands. Yet the Bible tells us to lift our hands (Ps. 141:2, 1 Ti. 2:8). What will happen then, in this case, is that when they become liberated in the spirit man, their spirit will be loosed by the Word of God, their mind will approve of this expression of worship, and the will factor will then release their hands to go up. However, **the lifting of the hands, the clapping of the hands, the dancing, and so forth is not worship. Rather, they are the evidence of the worship that is taking place in the realm of the spirit, because Man is a spirit.**

### *Man Is a Spirit*

Man does not **have** a spirit; he **is** a spirit. You do not **have** a spirit. You **are** a spirit, you have a soul, and you live in a body. **According to Hebrews 4:12, the Word of God is the only thing that can draw that fine line between the spirit and the soul.** We realize that the Word of God being quick (alive), powerful, and sharper than any twoedged sword, is able to divide between the soul and the spirit.

The Word of God does not stay exclusively in the mind of man, but goes into the spirit, where it can produce faith, life, victory, joy, peace, tenderness, kindness, and all of these other traits that are going to be built into the spirit man. The Bible is "spirit food," and we must feed the spirit man. "... *Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God*" (Mt. 4:4). We realize then that it is the Word of God alone that can divide between the soul and the spirit, not us getting together one on one and trying to instruct another man on how to be spiritual. If you and I will read the Word of God and saturate our spirit man with the Word of God, then we will walk in the spirit, and we will not fulfill the lusts of the flesh (Ga. 5:16). We must realize that there is a difference between trying to intellectually apprehend walking in the spirit, and having enough confidence that God's Word can discern between the

spirit and the mind. **Saturate yourself with the Word, and stop trying so hard to walk in the spirit. Your spirit will assimilate the Word of God, and you will automatically walk in the spirit.** You do not have to try to walk in the spirit; it will happen. However, there is something that is required on your part in the way of discipline. It demands of you, the saturating of your spirit with the Word of God instead of other things, such as *Newsweek* and *Popular Mechanics*. You must “...put on the new man, which after God is created in righteousness and true holiness” (Ep. 4:24).

### ***Blameless-Spirit, Soul, and Body!***

In I Thessalonians 5:23, the Apostle Paul prays, and his desire is that “...*the very God of peace sanctify you wholly ....*” The word *sanctify* means “to set apart for service to God.” Paul says that he wants you to be set apart for the service of God entirely — “wholly.” He continues, “...*and I pray God your whole spirit and soul and body be preserved blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.*” We see something very important here. Your body, your soul, and your spirit can all three be blameless! Praise God! That means that **when you begin to walk in the spirit, your soul can be brought into subjection to the Word of God so that not one thought contrary to the Word of God can ever remain in your mind.** I did not say that it would not pass through your mind; I said that the thought would not remain in your mind . It will not dominate your mind. You will not be drawn away by the lusts of the flesh. “*But every man is tempted, when he is drawn away of his own lust, and enticed*” (Ja. 1:14). You will not be overcome by the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, or the pride of life (1 Jn. 2:16).

We realize that it is possible to live after the flesh; you can live without yielding at all to your spirit. Ephesians 2:3 says, “*Among whom also we all had our conversation in times past in the lusts of our flesh, fulfilling the desires of the flesh and of the*

*mind; and we were by nature the children of wrath, even as others.” Galatians 6:7-8 warns us, “Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap. For he that soweth to his flesh shall of the flesh reap corruption; but he that soweth to the spirit shall of the spirit reap life everlasting.” As you walk in the spirit, you will receive and produce love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness, and temperance (the fruit of the Spirit - Ga. 5:22-23). All of this fruit is produced in and proceeds from the renewed heart of man.*

Now, the worst thing that you could possibly do is to receive this teaching and just file it away as another intellectual lecture or assimilation of knowledge. You need to begin to start living and exercising what you learn every day. *“But strong meat belongeth to them that are of full age, even those who by reason of use have their senses exercised to discern both good and evil”* (He. 5:14). If you do not begin to do what you have learned, it will be to your detriment and not to the strengthening of your spirit man.

# Chapter II

## *New Creations in Christ*

We have learned that man is a spirit, he has a soul, and he lives in a body. II Corinthians 5:17 says that if we are in Christ, we have become a new creature. Old things have passed away, and all things have become new. All things become new in which realm? When you got saved, did the color of your hair change? Did you immediately become a genius? So, what is the **all things** that he is speaking of? He is speaking of the spirit man. **Everything about you in the spirit realm became new.** You became a new and complete individual. It was “*Not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to his mercy he saved us, by the washing of regeneration, and renewing of the Holy Ghost*” (Tit. 3:5).

According to Colossians 3:10, we “...*have put on the new man, which is renewed in knowledge after the image of him that created him.*” We have been renewed in knowledge after the image of God. **All of the knowledge of God is capable of being discerned in your spirit.** Everything that He knows, you potentially can know in your spirit man. That will make you a success wherever you go! The Scripture tells us that we have been made an entirely new individual, created after the image of all of the knowledge of God.

### *My Spirit - His Tabernacle*

The Scripture tells us that those who are joined to the Lord are one spirit with Him (1 Co. 6:17); that which is born of the Spirit is spirit (Jn. 3:6); and we are born again by the Word of God, the incorruptible seed that has taken root in our spirit man (1 Pe. 1:23). The image of God is on the inside of you! You, as a spiritual being, are now “renewed” after the redemptive work



of Jesus Christ. You “... *have put on the new man, which is renewed in knowledge after the image of him that created him*” (Col. 3:10). The spirit man of every one of us is created in the image of Jesus. The Spirit of God tabernacles within us. He does not any longer abide in the Holy of Holies. He no longer rests on the mercy seat of the Ark of the Covenant, but the Spirit of God is living in the spirit of every one of us who are redeemed of the Lord. When we begin to realize what is abiding on the inside of us, when we begin to realize that the Spirit of God and all of His fulness is on the inside of us, when we begin to understand what and where that Shekinah glory is, we are going to be able to allow it to emanate from us. And there will come a time in our lives when the glory will shine as brightly as it did in the life of Moses when he experienced it under the law, that men and women will begin to see that glory emanating from our faces as they saw it in Moses’ face. “*And not as Moses, which put a vail over his face, that the children of Israel could not stedfastly look to the end of that which is abolished*” (2 Co. 3:13). It is going to happen. People are going to walk into your presence and fall before you under the power of the presence of God as they did when they entered into the Holy of Holies, because of the Greater One who is living within you. Has God lost His power? Has God lost His glory? If man was not able to walk into the presence of God in the Holy of Holies, how much more should we allow that spiritual presence of God in our inner man to emanate from our inner man and overwhelm people with the love and the power of God! This is what He is calling us to today.

### ***Putting on the New Man***

Paul said in Colossians that the new man was renewed in knowledge after the image of He that created him (Col. 3:10). Similarly, Ephesians 4:24 reads, “*And that ye put on the new man, which after God is created in righteousness and true holiness.*” We are righteous today. We are right now truly holy

before all spiritual beings, before all the natural beings on earth, in heaven and under the earth. We are spiritual beings having the very image of God, if we would dare allow that image to come forth from us!

Let us look at some of the things that your spirit will do for you, as a regenerated man. We will see some of the things that the spirit man will produce if you will begin to obey the spirit and not the soul or the flesh. If we are born again, **we are new creatures** in Jesus Christ (2 Co. 5:17). **We are new creatures**, with the image of God abiding within us, created in righteousness and true holiness, and yet I would dare say that very few of us lived today truly walking in the spirit — living in the spirit. Very few of us are led by our spirit rather than by our mind. Most of us look to our mind and to our body to govern our being in this life. However, if we can totally operate our mind and our body through the spirit, then we will realize what that spirit man is capable of doing. When the doctors say that it is impossible for you to move your limbs, when you do not have enough strength to rise up off of the bed, when doctors say that you only have a week to live, that spirit man can cry forth, “No!! I am in charge here!” Make that body rise from that wheelchair, make that body get off that bed, and make that body live another fifty years by the power of God, regardless of any disease. We are going to unlock some doors that will set you free, if you are living after the voice of the Holy Spirit in your inner man, if you are living after the voice of intuition that is inside of you instead of the reason that is in your mind, if you are walking after the spirit and not fulfilling the lust of the flesh (Ga. 5:16). When everything is crying out against that still, small voice in your spirit, and you choose to obey the Word of God, **that is** when the Greater One rises up in you. When you acknowledge God, and do not lean to your own understanding (Pr. 3:5-6), it is then that you are walking in the spirit.

## ***Your Spirit - the Life of Your Soul and Body***

I Peter 4:6 reads, “*For this cause was the gospel preached also to them that are dead, that they might be judged according to men in the flesh, but live according to God in the spirit.*” We find that regardless of any flesh relationship, the life of man is in the spirit of man. **Your spirit does not rely on your soul or your body to exist, but rather your soul and body rely on your spirit to exist. If the spirit ever ceased to exist, so would the soul and body.** James 2:26 tell us that “...*the body without the spirit is dead....*” All life - whether it be spiritual or physical, whether it is the flesh or of the flesh — all life is emanating from the spirit man. **The spirit of man is the life-giving faculty.** “*It is the spirit that quickeneth; the flesh profiteth nothing: the words that I speak unto you, they are spirit, and they are life*” (Jn. 6:63). The breath (Hebrew- “*ruach*”) that God breathed into the nostrils of Adam was the breath of life; it was the spirit of God that came into him, and from that time on the life of God has been perpetuated in the human race. This is something that is abiding within us today.

## ***Purify Your Soul***

I Peter 1:22 reads, “*Seeing ye have purified your souls....*” How many of you want your souls to be purified? Soul in the Greek is the word *psuché*. It is comprised of emotions, intellect, and will. How do your souls get purified? The Scripture continues, “... *in obeying the truth....*” What truth? The Word of God is truth, John 17:17 tells us. How do you obey the Word of God? You obey it through the spirit. You cannot do the Word of God from your mind. You cannot sit down and say, “Okay, I am going to do the Word of God. I am going to do everything that God tells me to do. I am going to walk in the spirit. Body, you are going to shape up, and you are going to walk today like Jesus did because the Bible says so, and the Bible says that “...*as he is (presently) so are we in this world*” (I Jn. 4:17). That is the soul talking! You leave for work, and everything goes wrong - you

are late because breakfast is not ready, you cut yourself shaving, you have a flat tire and then an accident, and you lose your job once you do get to work. Somewhere along the line you are going to faint in your mind (He. 12:3). **You can only obey the Word through your spirit. And if your spirit has not been fed the Word of God, you will faint in your mind.** You can only walk in the image of Jesus if you have saturated your spirit man with the Word of God.

We find out here what the spirit does: it sustains life, and it enables you to obey the Word of God. You cannot obey the Word of God without your spirit being alive. The Word of God is foolishness to those who are not born again (1 Co. 2:14). How many of you have had people who tried to convince you that the Word of God was true before you were saved? What did you do? You laughed at them. It was foolishness to you. It was just another fairy tale. It was as real to you as "Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs." You cannot obey God with your mind alone. But when you become new in your spirit, when you become a new creature, you will be able to receive the knowledge of Him that created us in righteousness and true holiness.

# Chapter III

## *Take up the Sword and Fight!*

In Ephesians 6:17-18, we see that the Word of God is the sword of the **spirit**. The sword of the spirit, or the Word of God, has been given to men and is to be used by the spirit of man as our sword or our offensive weapon against Satan. The Word will not produce anything through you if it is not operating through your spirit.

The Scripture says that we are to take the sword of the spirit which is the Word of God, and we are to pray. This is the purpose of the spirit man and the Word being found in your heart. We are to **take** the Word of God, "*praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit ....*" (Ep. 6:18). **The spirit man is the only entity of the trinity of man who is able to resist the devil with the Word of God.** You can speak the Word of God all you want from your mind, and you will **not** cause the devil to flee. The sword belongs to the **spirit**. This is not the Holy Spirit's sword. He does not need a sword. He is not wrestling against principalities and powers; we are. The Word is the sword of the spirit (Ep. 6:10-18). It is the sword that you are to take up in your spirit man and fight the enemy with, resist him, and see him flee from you (Ja. 4:7).

Let us find out whether or not this can be true. He says of the whole armour of God that we are to take it, and do warfare. Does He call it the shield of the Holy Spirit? Is it the helmet of the Holy Spirit? Is it the breastplate of the Holy Spirit? No; yet it is called the "armour of God." To fully understand this, you must understand that this **whole** armour is the Word of God. Every aspect of the armour here is the Word of God. Here we are taking the Word of God into our spirit man and allowing it to emanate from our spirit as a shield, as a sword, as a breastplate,

and as a helmet. This is what the Word will produce in you — the protection of God. God and His Word are one, and He watches over His Word to perform it (Je. 1:12). When you hide the Word of God in your heart, you do not sin against Him (Ps. 119:11). There is no double mindedness, there is no doubt, and there is no evil thinking (Ja. 1:6-8). The Word tells us to take “...*the sword of the spirit, which is the word of God: praying always with all prayer and supplication in the spirit...*” (Ep. 6:17-18). We are to take the Word of God and pray out of our spirit, not out of our mind. **The Word of God is dead to you when it is solely in your mind. The Word is alive when it abides in your spirit.** Take the Word of God, that sword, out of your spirit and use it, and you will be successful.

We are not excluding the Holy Spirit. Where is the Holy Spirit? He is **in** you. He is in your spirit. Those who have been joined to Christ are one spirit (1 Co. 6:17). So your spirit and the Holy Spirit are one. In the past, I believe that we have erred by emphasizing the Holy Spirit as an external form of help, and looking externally beyond ourselves for help, when the help is in us. It is Christ **in** us, the hope of glory (Col. 1:27). It is the renewed spirit. God did not have to come down and help Adam before he fell, did He? He did not come and help him out, but He did come to fellowship with him. Father does not have to come here and help us on an external basis because He is living inside of us! Oh, that we would realize that the reborn spirit holds within it the presence and the power of God. God is not living in heaven exclusively. John chapters 14 - 16 reveal to us that the fulness of the Godhead abides in us.

### ***The Sword of the Renewed Spirit***

In John 14:16, Jesus says that He will send us another Comforter, that He may abide with us forever, “*even the Spirit of truth; whom the world cannot receive, because it seeth him not, neither knoweth him: but ye know him; for he dwelleth with you, and shall be in you.*” Where is the Holy Spirit going to be?

He is going to be in you. Verse 23 says, "*Jesus answered and said unto him, 'If a man love me, he will keep my words: and my Father will love him, and we will come unto him, and make our abode with him.'*" The Scripture said **we** will come unto him. You have the Spirit of God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ living in your spirit. Remember, the spirit man is the only one who can wield this sword effectively. That is why many people have said, "I know people who have confessed the Word and stood on the Word and said all of the right things and nothing happened." Why do you think nothing happened? One common reason is that it came out of their mind and not from their spirit. We know that this Word is alive and powerful and sharper than a twoedged sword (He. 4:12). Is it alive to those who are carnally minded (Ro. 8:6), or to those whose eyes are blinded, or to those who, as the Scripture says, still have the vail over their eyes (2 Co. 3: 14)? No; it is alive to those who receive it as living. It is alive to those of us who are born of the Spirit and move in the spirit realm. The Word works in the realm of the spirit, and it produces results in the realm of the natural. The Word is effective when it gets into the spirit of man. **The Word is the sword of the renewed spirit.**

# Chapter IV

## *Focus on the Spirit Man*

*“This I say then, Walk in the Spirit, and ye shall not fulfill the lust of the flesh”* (Ga. 5:16). This is not speaking exclusively of the Holy Spirit. In the context of this chapter of Galatians, Paul is not comparing the Holy Spirit with the flesh of men. He is comparing the spirit of man with the flesh of man. He says to walk in your spirit man, and you will not fulfill the lusts of the flesh. We have this thing all turned around, and we have begun to come up with rules. If you belonged to an organized church, such as the Catholic Church or the Pentecostal Church, you know that they have man-made rules. All of these rules were designed to keep us holy. This is done totally contrary to the Scriptures. The Bible does not say to get your flesh under control, and then you will walk in the spirit. It never once says that if you dominate your flesh, you will be a spiritual man. Rather, it says that **if you walk in the spirit, then you will not fulfill the lust of the flesh.**

### *Works of the Flesh and Fruit of the Spirit*

What else does this spirit man produce? What else is the new man doing with that image of God inside of him, the very image of Christ in him? It is constantly producing. The flesh is producing, and the spirit is producing. You can find out in your own life what is producing the most effectively. We are told in Galatians 5 what the flesh produces. Verses 19-21 say, “...*adultery* (this can mean spiritual adultery as well as physical adultery), *fornication, uncleanness, lasciviousness, idolatry...*” Anything you put before God is an idol. Pride is one form of idolatry. Pride is putting yourself in front of Jesus. Putting work, family, recreation, and so forth before Jesus is idolatry. The



Scripture continues, "...*witchcraft, hatred, variance, emulations, wrath, strife, seditions, heresies, envyings, murders, drunkenness, revellings, and such like: of the which I tell you before, as I have also told you in time past, that they which do such things shall not inherit the kingdom of God.*" Now, the Scripture does not say that if you do one of these things, you will not inherit the kingdom of God. It is saying that if you are living in these things and allowing them to dominate your life; if you are doing these things continually; if your eyes are catering to the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eye, and the pride of life; if you are being drawn into the worldly mode of doing things and living continually after the flesh, then he is telling us that the spirit man will be starved out, and eventually the spirit man will lose the life of God. That man's salvation will be lost, and he will be separated from the love of God which is in Christ Jesus. The people who are involved in this type of a lifestyle, the people who are living after the flesh, and this is their **habitual** pattern of living, will not inherit the kingdom of God. It is impossible. For it is written that you shall have no other gods before Him (Ex. 20:3). Serving self-will, will cost you the kingdom. Fight to hold on to your crown of victory. There is warfare that is going on, and if you give your flesh free reign, it is going to commit adultery or murder. It is going to be involved in hatred, and variance, and strife, and emulations, and heresies, and all of these other works. Everyone is a potential murderer or adulterer. Everyone potentially can experience hatred, and you will, if you allow your flesh to dominate your spiritual man. As long as we give in to that appetite, it will take over.

On the other hand, Galatians 5:22 - 23 says, "*But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness, temperance: against such there is no law.*" Most people teach this as the fruit of the Holy Spirit. However, this is not speaking exclusively of the Holy Spirit. It is speaking of the contrast between the flesh and the spirit. So, we saw the works of the flesh, and now the Scripture reveals the fruit of

your spirit man. **This is the fruit that the regenerated man is supposed to produce.** It is the fruit that the man who is created in the image of God in righteousness and true holiness is supposed to produce. The Word says that if you are that new man and are living in the Spirit of God, then that reborn spirit, that new spirit will produce these characteristics in you.

### ***God Wants Your Heart***

Ecclesiastes 5:5 tells us that it is better not to make a vow, then to make a vow and not keep it. Many of us have come before God, and we have vowed and have said, “Lord, I acknowledge you as the Lord of my life, and I give you complete control of my life. I acknowledge you as the only source of life in me, and I want you to lead me in every aspect of my life.” And the Lord says, “Okay, sell all that you have, and give it to the poor” (Mt. 19:21). And you say, “Everything but that, Lord, everything but that. You do not know how hard I have worked.” But what do you have that He has not given you (1 Co. 4:7)?

Do you know that God does not want your money? God could have made it just fine without the rich young ruler’s paycheck. What did God want? He wanted the rich young ruler. He wanted that man’s heart. Only when we see how vile the little things are will we come to the place of being cleansed by the washing of the water by the Word (Ep. 5:26).

### ***Little Foxes***

We have seen what the flesh can produce. Most of you do not want to commit murder or adultery. But you see, if you fail to feed your spirit man the Word of God, that potential grows towards reality. Every day that we do not saturate ourselves with the Word of God, we are closer to fleshly domination.

In Romans 6:6, the Bible makes it very clear, that the old man, the man of sin, was crucified, destroyed, and buried with Jesus. He is dead, thank God. However, the Greek word for dead or destroyed being used here in reference to the works of the

flesh, does not mean that they were totally annihilated; it means that they were made inoperative. When you were born again, the man of sin, the old man, was made inoperative; he was crippled. That is, he is no longer the dominant force in your life. And if all we did from the day we were saved was study the Word of God, live in obedience to the inner witness of our heart, faithfully do the Word of God, that man would never be resurrected or dominate again. But the moment that we cater to the flesh, the moment we give in to the lust of the flesh, that man begins to be strengthened every time we feed him. **Every** time you feed him, he becomes that much stronger.

Satan is not going to come in one day with a big sign, reading, "Commit murder." It is the little foxes that spoil the vine (Song 2:15). He is not dumb. He is not going to come in with a neon sign telling you to commit adultery. He could not get to you that way. But you see, it is in those **little** things — the missed devotions and prayer time, failure to fellowship with the saints, using God's money for "necessary" temporal things, becoming critical and self-serving. **It is by one bad decision at a time that the flesh assumes control. Habitual choice against the revealed will of God will kill the spirit man.** However, when the spirit man is saturated with the Word of God, when the spirit man is fed continually the Word of God, then you will grow strong and into the image of Jesus.

This Word is inspired; it is anointed of God. Everything that is in the Word of God is given for instruction into righteousness, for reproof, for correction (2 Tim. 3:16). The Word is perfect, converting the soul (Ps. 19:7). Hide it in your heart, so that you will not sin against God (Ps. 119:11).

### ***Be Controlled by the Spirit***

Here is where Satan has really deceived the Church. He has made us believe that if someone has done something that we do not like, then we automatically do not like that person. Our mind says, "Wait a minute. That person is doing things I do not like."

Satan, the accuser of the brethren (Re. 12:10), then begins to build a case against them in our mind, and we begin to hate them in our mind after the flesh. We begin to believe that the flesh (our emotions and feelings) is stronger than the spirit of love that is within us. We accept what our emotions tell us — “I am supposed to hate that guy.” And all of the time our spiritual man, that intuitive voice, that conscience inside of you, that communion inside of you is telling you, “No! I do love him!”

The question at hand is, are we going to live after the flesh, or are we going to live after the spirit? If we are going to live after the spirit, then we can love people regardless of what they have done, because we are motivated, not by our senses, but by the spirit, and the fruit of the spirit is love. It is easy once you begin to walk in the spirit. How do you walk in the spirit? You saturate yourself with the Word of God. You do not give your mind a chance to build a case against the Word. You replace lying thoughts with the Word of God, and begin to bring the spirit into dominance (Ro. 8:5, 2 Co. 10:5).

How many of you have ever really had a problem in a relationship with an individual? You just did not like them. Yet all of the time that anger and strife was there, you realize that if you look back on that situation, it was all in your head, but down inside, there really was love. How can you stop the seeds of hatred? You must listen to your spirit instead of your mind. You will never do it reading *Good Housekeeping* or watching *As The World Turns*. All you see in these things is people hating people and everyone having a tragedy. This is what many people are feeding their minds. Proverbs 23:7 tells us that the way a man thinks in his heart, so is he. We pick up the newspaper and devour it from cover to cover, and then go to sleep before we can read one page of the Bible. It is not wrong to read the daily newspaper, but we should be reading our Bible first. It is the good news. You are not going to find much good news in the newspaper. We must emphasize the feeding of the spirit man.

# Chapter V

## *Liberty in the Spirit*

There is liberty in the spirit, but the Scripture says not to use your liberty as an occasion to the flesh. II Corinthians 3:17 reads *“Now the Lord is that Spirit: and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is liberty.”* Furthermore, Galatians 5:13 tells us, *“For, brethren, ye have been called unto liberty; only use not liberty for an occasion to the flesh, but by love serve one another.”* Do not allow your liberty to bring you into a situation that you are not strong enough to handle. Some people are so full of the love and the power of God, and have prepared themselves with the Word of God to the point that they can walk into all sorts of vile environments. I know of people who have done it to evangelize. They were not enticed in any way by the sin, but rather were winning people to the gospel. However, some people are not ready for this. You must know where you are, and walk in it. Some can “eat meat,” and some cannot (Ro. 14:2, 14; 1 Co. 8:7). Those who are strong are to bear the infirmities of the weak (Ro. 15:1). Furthermore, those who consider themselves strong, should not get angry at those who are still living by rules. Love them. Understand them. Have your faith unto yourself before God (Ro. 14:22). If a brother is around who is weaker than you, do not offend him; do not cause him to stumble. If you are somewhere with people on your own spiritual level, your conscience is clear, you are free in the spirit, and a thing is lawful for you, then take your liberty (Ro. 14:1-23).

### *The War inside of You*

*“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”* (Ga. 5:16-

17). There is a continual war going on between the carnal mind and the Holy Spirit of God. Paul states in Romans 8:7, "... *the carnal mind is enmity against God: for it is not subject to the law of God, neither indeed can be.*" The Holy Spirit is trying to draw men to Christ through the three-fold ministry mentioned in John 16:8. It reads, "*And when he is come, he will **reprove the world of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgment.***" The flesh is continually rejecting the Spirit of God. Paul says in Romans 7:25 that the flesh man serves the law of sin. However, this is not the war that Paul is talking about here. He is talking about the warfare that is going on between the spirit man and the flesh.

He says that there is a warfare that is continually going on inside of individuals **between the flesh and the renewed spirit man**, each vying for dominance. He is teaching us that the flesh is lusting against the spirit man, and the spirit man is lusting, or fighting and forcing itself against the flesh. Who is going to win? **The one who you feed the most will win.** The one best prepared for warfare will be the victor. There is no unconditional guarantee that your spirit is going to win these battles. How many of you have had warfare going on inside of you, and you went the way of the flesh? We all have; so we know personally that there is no unconditional guarantee that our spirit will win every battle. After you chose the flesh you said, "Oh, Lord, I did not want to do that!" Sin is contrary to your new nature. You instantly cried out to God, "Lord, You said if I confess my sin, You are faithful and just to forgive me and to cleanse me from all unrighteousness" (1 Jn. 1:9). And He does! Praise God! But we are not to sin habitually. Sin is not to have dominion over us. Romans 6:14 tell us, "*For sin shall not have dominion over you: for ye are not under the law, but under grace.*" John tells us, however, that if we do sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous. "*My little children, these things write I unto you, that ye sin not. And if any man sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous*" (1 Jn. 2:1). We know all too well that there is a war going on inside of us and

that we do not win every battle. However, we must emphasize the importance of these battles. The battle is over the dominance of your will.

### *Walk as He Walked*

The spirit man, once you are born again, is created perfect, created in the image of Jesus Christ. How do we keep him that way? How do we keep him demonstrating the image of Jesus in our daily walk? How do we get the spirit man to **always** win out over the flesh? Do we believe that it is possible to walk perfect and never sin again? If it were not possible, the Bible would not say, "*Be ye therefore perfect, even as your Father which is in heaven is perfect*" (Mt. 5:48). The Lord said to Abraham, "*...walk before me, and be thou perfect*" (Ge. 17:1). And we are told to walk as Jesus walked (1 Jn. 2:6). How did He walk? Perfectly. He was tempted in every way that we are, yet without sin (He. 4:15). He says that through His redemptive work, we are to come to be a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fulness of Christ (Ep. 4:13). The Bible says that as He is presently, so are we in this world (1 Jn. 4:17)! Do you believe that Jesus is a sinner today? No! Then why should we be, if we are to be as He is presently? The Scripture says that the flesh and the spirit are contrary the one to the other, so that it is hard for you to do the things that you would. The King James Version says that you "cannot" - "*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*" (Ga. 5:17) - but what is being spoken of here it that it is a difficult thing. Notice the emphasis in this passage. It is telling us that the part of your being that is fortified, recognized, and catered to is the dominant force that ultimately controls volition. Romans 8:5 reads, "*For they that are after the flesh do mind the things of the flesh; but they that are after the spirit the things of the spirit.*" To "mind" the flesh, or to feed the flesh, implies dwelling upon, having your thoughts intent upon, or devoting attention to the

flesh. The same is true of “minding” the spirit. If you “mind” the flesh, then you will serve the flesh. However, if you “mind” the spirit, then you will serve the spirit instead of the flesh.

### *A Supernatural Life*

Watch what happens if you will fill yourself with the Word of God. You will begin to grow. I Peter 2:2 tells us, “*As newborn babes, desire the sincere milk of the word, that ye may grow thereby.*” You, through patience and comfort of the Scriptures have hope, Romans 15:4 tells us. Hope is favorable expectation. We have hope for being conformed to God’s image, hope of eternal life, hope for victorious living in our daily walk. All of this comes from feeding your spirit man the Word of God. This spiritual growth is going to evidence itself in your life by love - a love for God and the love of God. The fruit of the spirit is love (Ga. 5:22). When you have this kind of love, then you will have the fruit of spiritual joy. When you have joy, then you will have strength, because the joy of the Lord is our strength (Ne. 8:10). A merry heart (joy) does good like a medicine, Proverbs 17:22 tells us. So now you are well, praise God! All of this comes from feeding the spirit man the Word of God. Peace also manifests, when you begin to saturate your spirit man with the Word. Many other attributes of God’s character manifest from our renewed spirit man when he is fed the Word of God. These include long-suffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness, temperance; and against the productive, mature, obedient spirit man, there is no law (Ga. 5:22-23).

Jesus Christ lived this life free from any law. Why? He fulfilled the law through obedience. He was living under the law of love. He was a mature spiritual being, and there was no law that could dominate Him. They could not kill Him, He said, if He did not lay His life down and it be permitted of His Father (Jn. 10:18). Life’s circumstances could not in any way destroy His confidence in God.

My friends, there is a place of living in the spirit where we



too can become so mature that none of the laws of this world can dominate us. The law of sin and death will no longer dominate you. For if you are crucified with Christ, you will be also raised with Him (Ro. 6:6-8).

Did you know the laws of economy could not work against Jesus? When it was time to pay the taxes, He went down and caught a fish (Mt. 17:27). As we walk in the spirit, we have a God called Jehovah Jireh. He is our provider. The cruse of oil will not fail when you are about Father's business and your spirit man is filled (1 K. 17:14). Now, this is not unconditional. You can put two born again believers side by side, under the same situation with famine going on in the world, and one of them will die of starvation, and the other will reach into a bag and pull out a piece of bread. For those walking in the spirit, that gallon of milk will not run out. When you have eight ounces in the jug, and fill up an eight ounce glass, then when you put the jug down, it has eight ounces in it still, praise God! This is our hope. These are His promises, and a man walking in the spirit will expect nothing less.

This same mature man will not faint even if the milk does fail, for the eternal Word gives eternal hope and faith for eternal promises. But you see, the man who sows to the flesh and begins to believe the laws of the world above the promises of God will be governed by the circumstances. He will judge God by what he sees. His temporal satisfaction will dictate his current relationship, and he will serve God only as his flesh is provided for. This man will then starve like the rest.

Walk in the spirit. These promises are not received automatically.

### *Mortifying the Flesh*

We find out then that we have to come to the place of mortifying the flesh. We must kill this flesh, get it under control, and put it where it belongs. How do you do it? Romans 8:13 reads, "...if ye live after the flesh, ye shall die...." Paul is writing to the

Christians at Rome. He is telling them that they are going to go be with the Lord soon. We are all going to be with the Lord too pretty soon, praise God! But as long as we are here, we might as well live in victory. So, he says that when you are living after the flesh you are going to die. Paul continues, *"...but if ye, through the spirit do mortify the deeds of the body, ye shall live."* So how are you going to get your body under control? You will do it through your spirit - not the Holy Spirit, but the spirit of man. In verse two of the same chapter, Paul was talking about us living under a new law: *"For the law of the spirit of life in Christ Jesus hath made me free from the law of sin and death."* Verses four and five go on to say, *"That the righteousness of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not after the flesh, but after the spirit. For they that are after the flesh do mind the things of the flesh; but they that are after the spirit the things of the spirit."* Again, this is not comparing the flesh of man to the Spirit of God. This Scripture is comparing the reborn spirit of man, the new creation, the Christ-likeness within us, to our unregenerate flesh.

# Chapter VI

## *One with Jesus*

II Corinthians 5:17 tells us that when we were born again, we became a new creature—old things passed away, and all things became new. Colossians 3:10 says that we “...*have put on the new man* (the spirit man has come back to life), *which is renewed in knowledge after the image of him that created him.*” Do you know what this is telling us? This is telling us that the new born man, that new created being inside of you is the same image as your Creator, the Lord Jesus. When you are born again, you are re-created into the image of the Lord Jesus Christ. And the Spirit of God has come to live within your spirit, and the two have been made one. We can understand Romans more fully now by seeing the fact that we are spiritual beings created in the very image of the Lord Jesus Christ. Ephesians 4:24 says that this new man, “...*is created in righteousness and true holiness.*” The new man is one with Jesus, for those who are joined to Jesus are made one spirit with Him (1 Co. 6:17). We are bone of His bone; we are flesh of His flesh. We are made partakers of the divine nature (2 Pe. 1:4). That spirit man is capable of doing everything that Jesus ever did! In John 14:12, Jesus says, “*Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that believeth on me, the works that I do shall he do also; and greater works than these shall he do; because I go unto my Father.*” That spirit man is looked upon by the Spirit of God with the same love, compassion, and communion that Jesus the Christ and the Holy Spirit had. That spirit within you is one spirit with Jesus Christ, and everything that the Holy Spirit did in Jesus, He is doing in you. Those of us then who are spiritually minded are receiving life and peace (Ro. 8:6).

## ***To Be Carnally Minded Is Death***

Romans 8:5 says, “...*they that are after the flesh do mind the things of the flesh....*” The word “mind” used here is a verb, and it means to dwell upon, to purpose, to have your thoughts intent upon. For those who are carnally minded, carnal things are all they think about and all they can talk about. Did you know that you can tell where you are by the things you talk about? Have you talked about anything this year more than you have talked about Jesus? Your new job or whatever? Your words will tell you what your heart is doing, because out of the abundance of your heart your mouth will speak (Mt. 12:34-35). If you have a heart that is redeemed and sensitive to the richness of God’s Spirit dwelling within you, then you are going to talk about the things of God; you are going to walk the things of God. But if you sow to the flesh, you are going to reap of the flesh corruption (Ga. 6:8).

## ***To Be Spiritually Minded Is Life***

Romans 8:5-7 says, “*For they that are after the flesh do mind the things of the flesh; but they that are after the spirit (will mind) the things of the spirit. For to be carnally minded is death; but to be spiritually minded is life and peace. Because the carnal mind is enmity against God (or the enemy of God): for it (the carnal mind) is not subject to the law of God, neither indeed can be.*” Verse 8 goes on to say, “*So then they that are in the flesh cannot please God.*” Verse 9 reads, “*But ye are not in the flesh, but in the spirit, if so be that the Spirit of God dwell in you....*” He has been talking about the re-created spirit in this passage. He says that you are living as a new spiritual man if the Holy Spirit has taken up residence within your spirit. You can have confidence in your spirit, that if you will sow to the spirit, you will not fulfill the lusts of the flesh. There is no place for murder coming up inside of you, or hatred, or variance, or strife. There is no place for sedition, for envy, or any of these other sins to come up within the man whose heart is being conformed into the

image of Jesus Christ. He says that if you will yield to the Spirit of God dwelling in you, then you will never fulfill the lusts of the flesh.

### ***The Spirit of Life in Christ***

Paul continues in Romans 8:9-10, "...now if any man have not the Spirit of Christ, he is none of his. And if Christ be in you, the body is dead because of sin; but the spirit is life because of righteousness." The new man produces life, because you as a spiritual being have rights in the kingdom of God. You as a spiritual being have rights to overcome the laws of nature; you have rights to overcome the law of sin and death. You have rights to live in the new law of the spirit of life in Christ because the Spirit of Jesus is living in you. This is what he is trying to say. And it is all taking place within the spirit man.

### ***No Longer Debtors to the Flesh***

Romans 8:11 says, "*But if the Spirit of him (this is speaking of the Holy Spirit) that raised up Jesus from the dead dwell in you, he that raised up Christ from the dead shall also quicken (make alive) your mortal bodies by his Spirit that dwelleth in you.*" Verse twelve reads, "*Therefore, brethren, we are debtors, not to the flesh, to live after the flesh.*" You do not owe the lust of the flesh a second of your time. You are not a debtor to be controlled by the powers of darkness or sin; you have been quickened by the Spirit of God that is living within you. Jesus Christ paid the price. You have been redeemed from the curse of the law (Ga. 3:13). You have been made the righteousness of God in Him (Christ) (2 Co. 5:21), and, Friends, we need to start living like it. Begin to allow that new man to rise up big on the inside of you and portray the image of Jesus. We are not debtors to the flesh anymore. We have had theologians tell us for a long time that we have a dual nature; we have that old sin nature within us. There is not a sin nature in the real you if you have been born again. You have been made a partaker of the divine nature.

Remember, the body of sin has been destroyed, Romans 6:6 says. We are no longer debtors to the flesh (Ro. 8:12). We can live after the spirit, with the law of righteousness and true holiness (Ep. 4:24) evidencing itself in our lives, if we will begin to saturate this spirit man with the Word of God.

### ***Do Not Starve Your Spirit***

Do you know what will happen to your spirit man if you do not begin to feed him the Word of God? That spirit man can become an evil man, it can become deceived, it can doubt, it can be made slow to believe, it can be troubled and full of sorrow, it can be far from God, it can suffer hardness, it can err in his ways, it can become of an evil conscience (He. 4:7-15). These are some of the things that will happen to your spirit if you do not saturate yourself with the Word of God.

# Chapter VII

## *Feed on God's Word*

What do we do then? How can we begin to walk in a place where we can be free from sin's power? We have seen that we can walk in the image of Jesus, being free from the flesh, but how is this accomplished? Romans 8:13-14 reads, "*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. For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, they are the sons of God.*" Now where is the Holy Spirit going to lead you? He will lead you into all truth the Scripture says in John 16:13. What is truth? John 17:17 reads, "*...thy word is truth.*" So the Holy Spirit is going to take us to the Word. The Word is going to build up our spirit, which will allow us to hear the voice of the Holy Spirit, which will allow us to be led to the Word, which will allow us to be built up. And this is how it works.

### *Life and Health to All Your Flesh*

Look at what takes place in the life of the spirit man. Proverbs 4:22 says that the Word of God is life to those who find it and is health to all their flesh. You do not get healed from the outside in. You get healed from the inside out. It has to become reality in your spirit, and then your body will react to it. This is the way it works. You see, the Bible is alive (He. 4:12), and it is called the bread of life (Jn. 6:35). Now, the spirit man, then, is the one who partakes of this bread; he is the one who needs this nutrition. The spirit man is the one who has to have the Word of God to live (De. 8:3). The book of Ephesians tell us that this spirit man is to be washed with the water by the Word (Ep. 5:26). So, we must saturate ourselves and wash ourselves in this Word, beginning to purify ourselves. Jeremiah 15:16 says, "*Thy words*

*were found, and I did eat them; and thy word was unto me the joy and rejoicing of mine heart....*” When you begin to eat the Word, it produces joy inside of your spirit man. It produces that supernatural strength that allows us to walk in victory and power. If we will eat the milk of the Word, we will grow from it (I Pe. 2:2). Everything that you are ever going to do in walking in the spirit is going to come from the Word that you put into your spirit man. Every victory that you have is going to be a victory from saturating yourself with and obeying the Word of God. There is no other way. Psalms 119:9 says that we are to cleanse our ways by taking heed to (obeying) the Word of God. The spirit man is to be washed, ordained by the Word of God, made into the image of Jesus. Here is why. Jesus is the Word. So when you put the Word into your spirit, you are putting Jesus inside of you, and your spirit man is eating Jesus’ food and will grow to be like Jesus. He is conforming us to His image through the Word of God.

### ***Draw Strength from Your Spirit***

Romans 8:16 tells us that it is the **spirit man that has communion with the Holy Spirit**. *“The Spirit itself beareth witness with our spirit, that we are the children of God.”* People can try to tell you that you are no good, they can tell you that you are living in heresy, they can tell you that you are backslidden, they can tell you that you are a nut and a fanatic, and all the while you are hearing your spirit man saying, “You are a son of God.” That is where the communion goes on — inside. All of the world can be screaming things at you, and the voice of the Holy Spirit is just talking to your spirit, letting you know that you are a child of God. You stand there in peace in the midst of life’s stress. This is what the spirit is capable of doing. That is where the communion takes place. **You do not hear from God in your mind.** *“The spirit of man is the candle of the Lord, searching all the inward parts of the belly”* (Pr. 20:27).

Proverbs 18:14 tells us that, *“The spirit of a man will sustain*



*his infirmity...*” Whenever you are feeling weak and beaten down, whether it is in the physical realm or in the realm of the soul, the spirit of man is the one who provides that strength. You may think that you cannot go one step further, but the Holy Spirit will carry you through.

For example, it is naturally impossible to do what Moses did. You cannot go for forty days without drinking water or eating food. Then how did he do it? He did it in his spirit. The law of the spirit of life in Christ Jesus has made us free from the law of sin and death (Ro. 8:2). He was living so much after the spirit that the law of sin and death no longer had any effect on his body. Starvation and dehydration could not affect him because he was living after the spirit, and the spirit helps our infirmities (Ro. 8:26). The spirit of man is where the life force flows, and that body could not have died. He could have gone for forty years without eating or drinking when he was abiding that purely in the spirit and in the presence of God. You see, the spirit helps our infirmities. That is why the Scripture says to let him that is weak say, “I am strong” (2 Co. 12:10). Why? Because we do not go by what this body is producing, but by what the spirit is capable of producing. The Greater One is living inside of us!

