

MANIFESTING AS A SON

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God did not save us for nothing. He did not save us for us to remain the same and live as if nothing happened to us at the new birth. It is God's desire to see his redeemed manifest as his sons. For this to happen, knowledge of the makeup of man and all that has happened to us in the spirit is very essential.

In this study we are going to learn how man is made, how he functions and how this knowledge will help you to manifest as the son of God in the true sense of the word.

THE MAKE OF MAN

- Man is made in the image and likeness of God – Gen1: 26.
- God is Spirit and must be worshipped in spirit and in truth - Jn.4:24
- God is a spirit, therefore man is a spirit and has a soul like God and lives in a body. (Man's body is made from the dust of the earth and must return to the dust. – Heb. 4:12; 1Thes.5:23; Gen. 3:19.
- The spirit and soul is immortal. But the body is mortal - James 2: 26
- Sometimes in the Bible, the term soul and spirit are used interchangeably, but the passages are actually talking about the spirit –1 kings 17:20 –23; Lk.8:49-56; Heb.12:23; Rev.6:9-11.
- The spirit and the soul are knit together perfectly. They are inseparable. When man dies, his spirit and soul leave the body and continue to exist as one - Ezek.32:20-21; Isa.14:9-11; Lk.16:19-31; James 2:26 – Men can recognize themselves in hell or heaven.

THE SPIRIT OF MAN

1. The spirit of man is the real person or man. He is referred to as the “hidden man of the heart”, “The inner man”. – 1Pet. 3:4; Eph. 3:16.
2. The spirit of man is also referred to as the “Heart” of man which is usually used to refer to the entire emotional nature and understanding of man. –Deut.11:13; Josh.22:5; Deut. 13:3; Jn. 4:24.
3. There are three main faculties of the spirit. They are: –
 - a. **Conscience** (discernment – Knowing right or wrong).
 - Sin kills the conscience – Rom.1:28:29.
 - Righteousness and the word of God purify the conscience - 1Tim.4:2; Titus.1:15.
 - Blood of Jesus purifies our conscience. Heb. 9:14; 10:22
 - b. **Communion with God.**
 - When sin entered into man, this communion was broken, but restored through the new birth in Christ. 1Cor. 6:17.
 - The word of God nourishes the spirit man and makes our fellowship with God more intimate – Col. 3:10.
 - c. **Intuition** (Inner witness of the spirit).
 - It is man's antenna.

- Operational gift of the Holy Spirit are received and channeled by this faculty.
- 4. The spirit of man has a voice and we can be led by this voice (small still voice).
 - You cannot understand any scriptural truth of the Bible without the understanding of spirit, soul and body.

THE SOUL OF MAN

- The soul is the self-conscious part of man. It is a trinity of Mind, Will and Emotions.

MIND

- You can't contact God through your mind. Because the mind of man deals with the natural realm –it deals with the intellectual realm. While the spirit deals with truths that may not be physically seen at the moment - Eph.4:17-18; Rom. 1:28-32; Rom. 8:5-8; 1Cor. 2:14.
- The natural mind lacks spiritual discernment.
- The natural mind can only think and reason from natural point of view.
- The natural mind is hostile toward God. Col.1:21:22.
- Your mind is a battle ground. The mind is a battle field of spiritual warfare. Satan and his evil spirit use our minds to bring deception in our spiritual lives. All the temptation we encounter is presented to us through our minds. –Gal.5:16-18.

HOW SATAN ATTACKS US THROUGH OUR MINDS.

1. He makes suggestions through our minds.
2. He uses our emotions (deep feelings) to block our reasoning power. – He usually wants us to carry out his ideas without thinking about the consequences or results of our actions.
3. He weakens our concentration power, which enables him to inject wondering ideas that only bring confusion and wild imaginations.
4. He gives dangerous and evil thoughts.
5. He uses narrow mindedness to block true knowledge.
 - Renew your mind with the word of God - Rom.12;1,2; Phil.2:5; Col.3:1,2; Phil.4;8.

THE WILL

The WILL is the ability to make decisions and choices. It is a faculty of the soul.

- Our will should be to do the will of God at all times in all situation and circumstances - Ps. 40:8; Ps.143:10; Eph.6:6; 1Thes. 5:18; Mt.7:21; Jn.5:30.
- Our will should not be self-centered, but God-centered - Prov.3:5,6.
- Be filled with the knowledge of God's will. And his will is the word of God –Col. 1:9-12; Col.3:16.

EMOTIONS

This faculty helps us to express our feelings and attitudes like anger, fear, sorrow, joy or pain.

- It is the way we express or handle our emotions that makes them bad or good.
- One Mark of spiritual maturity is how well one is able to handle his emotional life.
- When we let emotions get out of control or govern our spiritual life, then we become carnal.
- We can control our emotions by giving it to the Holy Spirit, and exercising discipline - Gal.5:16.
- Our emotional life can sometimes, if allowed, overcome our spirit and our senses to the point that we become slaves to our feelings and desires. (This is where most of us live). The only remedy is to walk in the Spirit of God.
- We have to be careful the way we interpret our feelings, because Satan uses our feelings many times to bring down our faith – pull us down from the spiritual realm. (Faith is the spiritual realm). He uses feelings to put doubts in us. The word of God is truth, and we must believe it not our feelings.

HOW SATAN CAN USE OUR EMOTIONS

1. By giving us false interpretation of our emotions to sidetrack us, e.g. make you feel guilty for something you shouldn't or interpret your physical weakness as an illness.
2. By taking advantage of our negative emotions like anger, that are supposed to be creative, and turning them into hatred and bitterness toward God, others or self.
3. By making us trust our emotions rather than God's word. – Jn. 17:17.
 - A Holy Spirit controlled emotions produces, love, joy (gladness), peace, patience (an even temper, forbearance), kindness, goodness (benevolence), faithfulness; gentleness (meekness, humility), self control (self restraint, continence) - Gal.5: 22,23(Amp.); Prov.25:28.

THE BODY OF MAN

- The body is the visible part of man that God formed out of dust that most return to dust. Gen.3:19.
- It is the house of the spirit and soul of man.
- It is made of five senses to enable him perceive and communicate with the world around him. These sense are – Hearing, feeling, seeing, tasting and smelling.
- Your body is not you. You live in it.
- When you grow old, it is your body that grows old not the real you. Your spirit never grows old - Col.3:10
- Our bodies are the temple of the Holy spirit of God -1Cor.3:16,17.
- Our body, spirit and soul have been bought with a price –1Cor.6:20.
- Our bodies should be taken good care of.
- It should be used to glorify God.
- We should be careful what we do with our body and what we take into our body lest we defile and destroy the temple of God.
- We should submit our bodies with all its members to God - Rom.12:1,2.

- We must not yield to the desires and cravings of our bodies, if we do; the Bible says we are living in the flesh – Rom. 8:5-8; Gal.5:19-21.
- Death does not mean ceasing to exist. But spirit separating from the body. –Rev.6:9.
- The spirit man lives forever.
- Our bodies will be redeemed at the resurrection. – Rom.8:23; 1Cor.15:51-56.
- We have been bought spirit, soul and body. But only the spirit of man has been saved, our soul is saved by renewal of the mind with the word of God; and our body will be saved when Jesus comes again - James 1:21; Eph. 1:13.
- The Holy Spirit is a guarantee of the redemption of our bodies to possess heaven.

THE SPIRIT MAN

- It is the spirit man that is saved not the soul or body - 2 Cor.5:17.
- The change should be reflected in the way we live, dress and talk.
- Our external change is dependent on how much the individual believes and appropriates the spirit salvation.
- In the spirit we have the kingdom of God in us.
- Our spirit has all the virtue and nature of God - Jn.1:12.
- The spirit of the believer is completely saved and possesses the nature of God. The rest of the Christian life is renewing the mind to let the spirit dominate - Eph.1:3; Mt.8:17; 1Pet.2:24; Isa.53:5; 1Cor.6:17; 1Jn.4:17; Eph.4:24; 1Cor.2:9-16.
- In our spirit we have the power of God.
- What our body and feelings (emotions) and mind tells us is not necessarily true. The word of God is true, and the word of God says the spirit of the believer is perfect and is the nature of God - Jn.6:63.
- If your soul and body line up against your spirit, you will have what you think. But if your soul and body agrees with your spirit, the power and life in your spirit will be manifest - Prov.23:7 (KJV); Rom. 6:16; Gal.5:16-18.
- Feelings are subject to change; they can be dominated by the devil. Acts 16:25-34.
- The Christian life is acknowledging and yielding to what we have obtained in the spirit.
- It is not trying, to get something but knowing and believing in what we already have – Col. 2:2,3; Philemon 6; Eph1:15-23; Mk.16:17,18; Rom.6:10,11.
- The spirit of the believer does not fluctuate –it remains the same all the time. – Eph.4:24 – It is created in Christ Jesus to be like God in true righteousness and holiness. Therefore, as God is constant, the believer’s spirit is constant in righteousness and nature.
- It is our soul (knowledge) that is growing not our spirit. Our spirit is already complete. – 1Pet. 2:2.
- Our spirit has the mind of Christ –1Cor. 2:16, 1Jn.2:20 (know the truth).

THE OLD MAN QUESTION

We do not have an old man any longer, but it looks like we do because our mind which has the old man’s ideas and characteristics is not renewed - Rom. 6:1-14; 2Cor. 5:17; Ezek.36:25-27; 1Cor.6:17; Gal.2:20; Col 3:1-4; Gal. 5:24.

- Your spirit cannot dominate you until you renew (reprogramme) your mind.

- The renewal of your mind with the word of God affects (changes) your emotional behaviour and response to things and your WILL. –1Pet.4:1,2; 1Cor.15:30-33; 1Cor.9:27.
- The believer's spirit has been perfected - Heb.10:10-14; Eph.4:24; 1Cor.5:21, Eph.2:8,9.
- God looks on our spirit in our relationship with him - Jn. 4:24.
- When we sin, it is not our spirit that actually commits the sin, but our soul and body.
- We sin because we give in to our fleshy desires (soul & body).
- If we walk and live in the spirit, resisting and denying the fleshy desires, we will not sin.
- If we walk by faith and not by our feeling and senses, we will not sin. Gal.5:16-25 – to walk in the spirit is to walk in faith.

GUIDANCE THROUGH OUR SPIRIT

- God will guide us and lead us through our spirits by the inward witness (intuition) and inward voice - Prov.20:27; Rom.8:14.
- The more we know our spirit, the more we are conscious of our spirit, the more guidance we will receive.

PRAY IN THE SPIRIT

- When you pray in tongues, you pray out of your spirit by the, Holy spirit within you. It is your spirit praying not the Holy Spirit - Jn.7:37-39, 1Cor.14:14.
- And interpretation of tongues comes from the spirit and not from the soul (mind).
- Remember with my spirit, I contact the spiritual realm. With my soul, I contact the intellectual realm. With my body, I contact the physical realm.
- Do not let your body or soul dominate you. Let the spirit man dominate. Present your body to God. Renew your mind with the word of God and the spirit man that is born again will come out shining as the light of God.

HOW TO MAKE YOUR SPIRIT DOMINATE

1. Mediate on God's word day and night – Josh.1:8
2. Practice the word of God.
3. Give the word of God first place in your life.
4. Believe what the word of God says you are in Christ and see yourself as such.
5. Listening and obeying instantly the voice and witness of your spirit.