

Course 128: Understanding the Human Nature **A Global School of Ministry Teaching**

Note: Revelation is the key to living the true Kingdom life!

This course will deal with a critical issue of the ages: the way God designed man as a tridimensional being. In Genesis 2:7; 1 Thessalonians 5:24 and Hebrews 4:12, we see the basis of an important but neglected issue whose understanding will help the saint of God to live victoriously in this present life. During the course of this study, we shall explore these themes that are really interwoven:

- The Spirit of man, its source, nature and workings. What happens to it at point of death
- The soul of man. How it came into being, its' essential nature and character and what happens when man dies.
- The body of man. Where is it from, how does it function and what happens when man dies?
- How the Soul and the Body combine to be what the bible calls the flesh or carnal nature. How does this nature fight spirituality?
- How to achieve true spirituality by bringing the soul and body under the headship of the spirit man which should in turn be ruled by the Holy Spirit.

Introduction

It may be necessary to relate this course to the message on the Grand Key for 2011 which the Lord released to us on Saturday, January 1.

“For the whole of 2011 and beyond, unto the coming of the Lord, there is a Grand Key. That key is this: A Crucified self and Surrendered will! Whoever among us that will pay the price of emulating Jesus, allowing the old man to be crucified with Him and surrender the will to God completely, without any reservation is positioned for the best of God and manifestation of His Kingdom! It is impossible to seek first the Kingdom of God with the old man alive with its self will!

He who in 2011 dies to self - self will; selfishness; self-centredness and pursuit of self interest - will live out the Kingdom life in full because he/she would be an empty vessel fully occupied by Jesus Christ, expressing the fullness of His glory, presence & power! John 12:24. Let me say it again: The grand Key to outstanding success in 2011 and unto the coming of the Lord is a crucified self and surrendered will! It was so for Jesus and so shall it be for His saints! To such people God can commit all His goodness and power! “

The Critical Question

How can one have the self crucified and surrender the will to God? How can this be achieved in a practical, biblical context? To answer this question properly, we need to allow the Holy Spirit to teach us more about the human nature and how each element of our being can advertently or inadvertently affect true spirituality. Let us therefore understand the human nature in greater detail through the truth that is the word of God. We learn from the Bible that man is a three dimensional comprise spirit, soul and body. Genesis 2:7; 1 Thessalonians 5:24; Hebrews 4:12, 13

- What is The Spirit, soul and body of the human being? Where their source of being? What are their basic natures and how do they work in ordinary life? How do those inherent natures conduce to or work against true spirituality? What happens to them at point of death?

Genesis 2:7 gives us the first clue of the composite nature of the human being. On the day of creation, the Great I AM stooped down and scooped up some earth, moulded it into a human shape, as conceived in His infinite mind. That shape of raw earth was to be the body of Adam.

It was lifeless, though good looking. Then something strange happened. God breathed a portion of His awesome Spirit into the hitherto lifeless body. That was the spirit man that would dwell deep in the inner recesses of Adam. As the spirit man - quickened by the Spirit of God from where it originated -came into contact with the hitherto lifeless body, consciousness was activated and man became a living being or living, active soul.

Understanding “created n God’s image after His Likeness”

There is something we must not be too religious to miss. It is the fact that God created man in “His own image, after His likeness” Genesis 1:26. What was this likeness? Let us obtain the answers from scripture. God is a Spirit. We all know this from John 4: 24. However, religion has never taught us that God also has a soul.

- The soul of God is absolutely holy: pure and incorruptible.
- It is in His soul that God displays all the emotions which are recorded in the bible: “grieved and His heart was full of pain” (Genesis 6:5, 6); “His anger was aroused” (Numbers 11:1); “well pleased”; “concerned”, “vexed in His sore displeasure”. In Genesis 8:21 God “smelled the pleasing aroma” of Noah’s sacrifice and pronounced the ordinance of Seed time and Harvest Time.
- When James 4:5 says the Spirit of God in us is jealous over us and does not want us to love things contrary to Him, we are simply reminded that God has a soul!
- It is in the mind of God (His soul) that the Lamb was slain before the foundation of the world. Revelation 13:8.
- It was in the mind of God (His soul) that He conceived the earth and then spoke it into being Genesis 1: 1- 25.
- It was also in the soul that God desired to make man after His image and likeness and empower him with the capacity and mandate to exercise dominion over the earth. Genesis 1:26-30.
- In His soul, God saw that all He created was good and He was very pleased. Genesis 1:31
- Still on this subject, we need to debunk the myth that Jesus tolerated everything and everyone. His famed meekness was not weakness at all! While He had compassion on sinners and the vulnerable, He was firm regarding sin: it was always “go and sin no more”. In dealing with the religious hypocrites, we see a different Jesus: one who lambasted them with harsh words said in righteous indignation at their hardness of heart. Matthew 23: 1-39. He pronounced “woe” on them severally. In addition, He used various harsh words full of powerful emotion and imagery to describe them such as: “hypocrites”, “fools and blind”. In Matthew 3:10, He called them “brood of viper” who would be “cut down” like bad trees. That was His pure soul in righteous indignation at their hardened hearts!

Another truth hidden by religion is that though a Spirit, God wears a body when it pleases Him! In Genesis 11:1 – 9, God manifested physically to inspect what builders of what became the Tower of Babel were doing. In Genesis 14:18-20, God appeared in the form of Melchizedek as attested by Hebrews 7: 1-19. In Genesis 18: 1-33, we see another Theophany or bodily manifestation of God when it was time to judge the cities of Sodom and Gomorrah. Let us remember that Isaiah saw the bodily manifestation of God in Isaiah 6: 1-13.

The greatest and most profound Theophany however was the incarnation of God as Emmanuel! Matthew 1:18-25; Luke 1:26-35. In Christ Jesus, God used a body specifically prepared for that purpose to do the work of redemption (Hebrews 10:5). In that Body, God walked this earth as a man for 33 and half years. During that time, He grew in wisdom and stature and in favour with the Father and humans (Luke 2:52); He was angry with those who made the House of God a place of merchandise (John 2:13-17). He was once so hungry that He cursed a fig tree which had no fruit for its creator (Mark 11: 12-14, 20, 21). At the Cross, Jesus was so drained of fluid that He was thirsty (John 19:28). In the physical body and the soul, Jesus travailed and His soul was vexed sore at the prospect of Calvary cross until the Father assured Him that it was necessary. Matthew 26:36-46. In that physical body, God demonstrated what death is: not the end of life but a transition to the hereafter! Matthew 28:50.

In the Image & Likeness of God!

Still on this mind boggling subject of the image and likeness of God, let us consider these truths which religion has obscured for 2,000+ years, though they are plainly and simply stated in the Holy Bible!

Religion tries to help God and in the process makes Him out as a surreal entity with a big frown and club, waiting to badger us for any malfeasance. The gospels teach a God who became like us – took flesh and blood in the greatest expression of love so that He can condemn the power of sin over flesh and break the hitherto legal hold of Satan over humanity! John 3:16 makes more meaning when you combine it Hebrews 2:10 – 18; Hebrews 4: 14-16 with Hebrews 10:5-14 and Philippians 2: 5-8.

Saints, it is comforting and gratifying to note these profound truths concerning Emmanuel, the God who was made flesh to dwell among us:

- When Jesus was planted by the Holy Spirit in the womb of the Virgin Mary as Luke 1:35 attests, He was designed by the Father to be, “the brightness of His glory and the EXPRESS IMAGE OF HIS PERSON” using the words of Hebrews 1:3! This is serious! The Body which Hebrews 10:5 says was prepared for Jesus to function in was to reflect something very profound: a Theophany of appearance of God! It is no wonder Jesus told His incredulous disciple, Phillip, “He who has seen Me has seen the Father” as John 14: 7-9 records.
- Jesus resurrected not as a mere spirit like angels but in His glorified body! He was physically seen and actively interacted with His disciples after the resurrection (Matthew 28: 1-28, John 20: 1-23). The risen Jesus even conducted an intensive forty day special School of Ministry to prepare them for the out pouring of the Holy Spirit on the day of Pentecost (Acts 1: 1-8). For good effect, the risen Jesus even shared hot meals with his disciples (John 21: 1-14); Earlier in John 20: 24 – 29 He asked the doubting Thomas to touch His hands and sides to “feel the nail prints” – what a holy thought!
- It is important however to establish a hidden truth concerning what happened on the resurrection morning. When Jesus first rose from the dead, He did not allow the excited Mary or anyone else for that matter to touch Him. The question is why? Jesus needed to first ascend to the Father to show Him and the courts of heaven the triumphant Body and the sinless blood in which sin was condemned in the flesh for redemption of man! Hebrews 9:11-15, 23-28. He needed to announce to the courts of heaven that the deal was done and the way for mankind to recover the Kingdom lost by Adam was now open! Please see John 20:11-17. It was on this trip to the Third Heaven that Jesus took captivity captive as He routed all the principalities that rule in the Second Heavens and made an Open Show of them. Seeing the Blood stained hands, they fled and quaked in fear! Ephesians 4:8-10. This first happened at the Cross and after when He took away the key of death and hell with which Satan held humanity in fearful bondage! Colossians 2:14, 15.
- He is seated at the right hand of Majesty in that very resurrected body which Thomas touched (what a wonder!)– making intercession for us who are in the body of flesh and blood which is earthly! Hebrews 1:3; Hebrews 4: 14-16.
- In that glorified body, Jesus ascended on high before a crowd of people and will return again when all eyes will see Him! Acts 1:9-11; Revelations 1:7. The differences between our physical bodies and the one God uses for His purposes including that which Jesus bore while on earth are as follows:
- The Body God uses is celestial - not of this earth while the ones we bear are earthly and earth bound 1 Corinthians 15: 40, 45, 46.
- The body we bear is sin laden because of Adam’s original sin which is passed on to all humanity while that of God is pure and holy and cannot be corrupted.
- The Body we bear is perishable while that of God is eternal and imperishable. That is why The Father did not suffer the body of Christ to suffer corruption and He arose from the dead after only three days in the grave. Psalm 16:10; Acts 13:37.
- The Body God uses is supernatural, capable of manifesting everywhere, every time while the one we bear is natural, static and limited to a place at a time.
- While on the earth however, Jesus chose, as part of emptying Himself to stay in a place at a time until the resurrection. The reason was to experience fully the challenges and pressures that come on humans so that He can be a total redeemer, fit to be our High Priest in the now until the day He comes to take us away. Philippians 2: 5-9; Hebrews 2:9-18.

In these last days, necessity is laid on us to peel away every vestige of religion which covers truth. We must go to the bible with hearts like children and ask the Holy Spirit to reveal God to us! Simple child

likeness is the only way we can receive truth and respond to it in order to see the Kingdom of God and enter into it! Matthew 18: 1-4. John 3: 1- 21 records the dialogue between Jesus and the religious expert, Nicodemus, who was thick to truth because of the veil of religion which covers understanding of the things of the Kingdom!

As we prepare for the coming of the Lord, let us be open to understand that truth will liberate us from error and empower us to grow an intimate relationship with Him John 8:32, 36. It is a trite comment to say you cannot possibly enjoy an intimate relationship with a stranger. The truth God is pouring out here will cause us to know Him on a deeper level and appreciate His awesome love for us which passes all understanding and why redemption offers us the opportunity to live the life of the God of heaven on earth, without struggle because it is a new nature we receive as a gift! Ephesians 2: 1-13; Ephesians 3:14-19.

It is this intimacy process that will see saints progress from their fearful, servile mentality to become friends of Jesus and live out their earthly sons of God who are charged to “occupy” or engage in productive Kingdom business until Jesus returns. John 15:14-16; Romans 8:12-17; Galatians 3:26-29.

A religious spirit prefers to keep us away from receiving what The Word says of God. Religion thrives in darkness, ignorance and space for manipulation by Pharisees and Sadducees who claim superior knowledge and access to God. Deuteronomy 29:29 establishes a principle we should hold dear in these last days: The secret things belong to God while the revealed things (what God permitted to be written) belongs to us and our children! Understanding what the bible says of God - not the interpretations made by men of theological degrees and high intellect - will enable the redeemed to understand Him, love Him with all our hearts and prepare for the eternity He wired into our heart! Ecclesiastes 3:3.

The Unique Creature called Man

What we have received so far is designed to set the pace for what we shall be sharing in detail regarding this unique creation of God called man. We shall be seeing the fact that man is not just another creature. Man is not just a mass of muscles, body tissue, bones, flesh and blood. Man is truly a higher being, created specifically by God after His own image and likeness! We will see that this unique feature of man occasioned him to be made a tri-dimensional being that will connect with both God in heaven, yearn for and walk in the light of eternity (Ecclesiastes 3:11) and relate effectively with his environment through the body and soul which responds to what he sees, feels, hears, perceives or touches.

Let us consider the mystery of the ages that of all the planets in the vast creation of God, only one piece of real estate – the Earth – has the complete mix of physical, chemical and biological elements which can sustain human life! It was on this basis that God gave man the dominion mandate to be His vice regent on planet earth with the following specific assignments as detailed in Genesis 1: 28-29:

- Receive His blessings
- Be fruitful and multiply – procreate and fill the earth with human kind
- Subdue the earth – take charge and bring things here in under subjection
- Exercise dominion over every living thing on the land, in the sea and under the waters as the vice regent of God, acting on His behalf to make sure that all of creation fulfil their purpose.
- To eat all the things considered edible among fruits, animals, birds.
- In addition, Genesis 2:7 says man was given the responsibility of dressing and keeping the earth. To all these assignments agree Psalm 115:16 God gave man this earth as an inheritance!

The 3 Components of man

Let us now define and expand our understanding of the three components of man thus:

1. The Body: This is the part of man comprising all the bones, tissue, muscles, cells, water and entirety of physical properties which sustain the ability of the human to live on planet earth. The body of a person is activated when the sperm of a male and the egg of a female combine to conceive a human being.

That is one of the reasons God considers abortion as murder because a life and destiny is actually snuffed out when this happens. The body needs a certain quantum of nutrients and regular dose of water to stay healthy. No matter how robust, healthy and well kept the body is, the day God allows the spirit to be withdrawn, it ceases to exist. Decay sets in. The body is at best a vessel to carry the higher purpose of God in the spirit man and soul. The body can therefore be considered the earthly house in which the spirit man and soul of humans live.

2. The Spirit. The spirit of man, as we saw in Genesis 2:7 comes from the Lord. It is a Godbreathed component. Therefore it is eternal. The writer of Ecclesiastes 3:11 say God has wired eternity into the heart of humans. The spirit man is also called the “heart” of man (not the physical object which pumps blood). It is also called the “belly” or deepest recess of man. It is from here that Jesus says the Holy Spirit will flow from those who believe in Him John 7:37 – 39. The spirit and soul share some common features because both constitute the eternal part of man. Most of what we will say below apply equally to the soul realm. However, the soul differs greatly from the spirit in some other areas of life which we will consider in detail later in this download.

- It is in the spirit man that the Holy Spirit floods the light of revelation of who Jesus Christ is and what He did for us at the Cross of Calvary. It is here that conversion occurs and the translation from the Kingdom of darkness to the Kingdom of God. Colossians 1:12 – 14.
- If the spirits of all saints are nourished in sound doctrine, we will come to the true unity of the Faith and grow up into Christ in all things! Ephesians 4:1-6. Any unity that is not based on having a common understanding of what the Word of God says is suspect and may relapse into ecumenism which is pseudo-unity based on compromise and spiritual adultery! The Unity Jesus prayed for is attainable if we all go back to the plain word of God rather than the opinions and fancies of men. John 17.
- It is here that we are made alive in Christ Jesus and are seated in heavenly places with Him far above all principalities and power Ephesians 2: 1 -10, 13. What the spirit man on the inside is should determine how a person should live and his/her responses to issues of life including temptations and trials. Ephesians 4: 17-32.
- It is also here that the Holy Spirit resides and empowers the saint. It is in this realm of being that the gifts and callings of God are deposited and reside – regardless of age, gender, socio-economic status, race or ethnicity or denominational affiliation of the soul and body! Galatians 3:26-29. God therefore does not consider the walls of men before He calls or fills a vessel with His gifts and offices! God can take a hard core anti tongues Baptist and fill him/her with the Holy Spirit. The same God can take a single mother who was once a toast of the party circuit and make her an outstanding Evangelist with clear evidence of His hand upon her, in spite of objections of the religious leaders. This was the case of Mary Magdalene.
- It is in the spirit man that the spirit of Faith dwells. When the spirit “sees”, believes and possesses anything from God(as opposed to emotional yearning of anything of the soul), it is as good as a done deal! That was the case of Abraham and all the faith worthies mentioned in Hebrews chapter 11. See verses 1-3, 6, 8-19; Romans 4:17-22.
- Trauma and challenges can come to any human being at any time. However, those who overcome such challenges and survive to tell the story are those whose spirits are strong and whose souls yearn to live and overcome! You can be distressed in your soul yet strong in the spirit man. You can be compassed about with the waves of crises yet are able to function if your spirit is rightly connected to God. Jesus says that in Him the saint will have Peace and asked us to preserve even in the face of trouble! John 16:33

Food and strength for the spirit.

The main food of the spirit-man is the Word of God. The spirit man should be nurtured through regular intake of the Word of God. This nurtures Faith inside the spirit man which will come in handy at the time of need or in the day of adversity. Romans 10:17. The spirit man is also nurtured at the place of prayer. In prayer, the spirit man actually communes with the Holy Spirit within which helps it to frame the actual prayer according to the will of God, making it a creative partnership with God rather than back breaking labour. Romans 8:26, 27; 1 Corinthians 14:14. The spirit man is also nourished by encouragement. Words of exhortation seasoned with

salt have great positive impact on the spirit man because such release grace to the hearers. Colossians 4:6.

The spirit man responds to challenges because such stretches it to rise up in the dimension of faith, prayer and spiritual warfare.

A man or woman is considered dead the day the spirit is withdrawn from the body. This shows that the real owner of a physical decay and death bound body is the eternal spirit that lives deep within it! In the same vein, a diseased spirit which is corrupted by either Satan, motions of the soul or cravings of the body will succumb to such pressures over time.

The Human Soul

The Soul

As Genesis 2:7 reveals, the soul of Adam was activated when the breath of the Spirit of God encountered the lifeless body moulded from the earth. The implications of this are as follows:

1. The soul is the realm of self expression in the human nature. In other words, the individuality which makes a human being unique among all of creation is found in this very dimension of life.

2. The soul is the faculty of the human where, to use a synonym, “the you in you” can be found. In essence, concerning our life on earth, the realm where we exercise greatest exertions – whether it is to please God, please other people or please self – is made here.

3. In effect, it is in the soul that people basically “love” or hate or are apathetic to people or situations.

4. It is also in this realm that what drives people is generated, fuelled and sustained.

Whether it is drive to “succeed”, be known, set, pursue or achieve goals, this is the realm where the action is!

5. The soul is the realm of curiosity - in a never ending quest to know the unknown. It is here that man’s intrinsic capacity for research, exploration, experimentation and reaching out to the unknown is warehoused. Even in the natural, all the inventions of man – aircraft that flies over 300 people 40,000 feet above sea level; submarines which range 30,000 below sea level; the internet, face book, missiles, the nuclear bomb, etc are all products of the soul exerted to find solution to human needs. The soul is exceedingly powerful!

6. For the above reason, every religious exertion of man – tendency to seek to know, please and worship God or a god is effected from this realm.

7. The soul is the buffer between the human body (that is flesh and blood) with the eternal spirit. Its intrusion into any of these two realms will affect how they function. We will explain this issue later.

8. Let us say however that true spirituality consists of willingly giving up the latent powers of the soul so that the spirit man leads the life of the redeemed under the direct influence and leadership of the Holy Spirit. John 4: 23,24; Matthew 16:24-26; Galatians 5: 16 - 21

When God created Adam, he was blessed with an exceedingly powerful soul. His mind was so expansive that Adam was able to name all the animals created by God Genesis 2:19,20.

The reason for this feat is that Adam was perfectly aligned with God in his spirit, soul and body. Consequently he was able to know and do according to the mind of God.

How the fall of Adam & Eve happened

The fall of Adam and Eve came about when Satan activated their flesh (soul and body) to take pre-eminence over their spirit man. As soon as the soul of Eve was quickened to “break ranks” with the spirit man, it made the bad decision to desire what God forbade. That ungodly desire became so overwhelming that the word of God was overtaken and relegated to second place Genesis 3:1-6. Note that it was only after Satan had successfully compromised them and caused them to yield to his temptation that their eyes “were opened” to see the consequences of their bad choice. Shame, recrimination and separation from God followed – Genesis 3:7-13. The book of James 1: 13 – 16 gives us an understanding of how Satan causes the soul (mind

and body) to respond to temptations. Satan tried that same process on Jesus in Matthew 4: 1-11. Even till this day, nearly every temptation is based on that simple old trick of making the soul step out of line and play a leading rather than subordinate role to the spirit man. Saints are warned of the dangers of allowing the soul to lead us astray in 1 John 2:15-17.

The Components of the Soul.

This complex dimension of man has three distinct but interlocking and mutually supporting faculties.

- **The Mind.** This is the faculty responsible for thinking. This is the faculty which processes every information or signal from the environment. The mind is a very powerful tool of self preservation. It therefore tends to frame every activity within the context of self. This is the root issue in selfishness and self centeredness'. As a man thinks in his heart, so is he. The inclination of the natural heart is simply corrupt and unacceptable to God who is Love; who is selfless and who wants His children to be as He is. This mindset is at the heart of the sin question because it processes and interprets every issue in the light of self interest. Mindsets are simply the thought processes which have formed and congealed into a particular way of looking at things based on past experiences rather than the word of God.

Strong holds must be dealt with. They need to be

- repented of;
- rejected;
- pulled down and demolished by faith, using the authority of the name and power of the blood of Jesus. 2 Corinthians 10:3-6.

The problem many saints face is that after pulling down strongholds, they are start another vicious cycle of being receptive to all the things which cause them to form in the first place! The key therefore is to

- Accept what the Word says of us as new creatures in Christ 2 Corinthians 5:17
- Feed our mind with the Word of God to the degree that it is utterly renewed to have the mindset of Jesus Christ Philippians 2: 5; Philippians 4:8; Ephesians 4:23; Colossians 3:16; 2 Timothy 3:15-17.

- Live a contented lifestyle where you are not anxious for anything and under no pressure to prove anything to anyone and live within the ambit of the grace and gifts which are freely provided by Jesus. This will enable you to enjoy perfect peace in the heart as our mind is stayed on Jesus. Hebrews 13: 5,6;Philippians 4:6,7. Isaiah 26:3

- A life of praying without ceasing, walking by faith and not by sight. That way, you consciously deny your mind the capacity to lead you in life. You are thus able to give the spirit man space to hear from the Holy Spirit and be the driving faculty of life. Romans 8:5-8; 2 Corinthians 5:7

Since Adam's fall, everyone who comes into the world comes with this fallen mindset. Psalm 51:5. Education, culture and environment may grant a veneer of niceness and pleasantness but no one should be fooled! What education, upbringing and environment do with the mind is to "refine" it to be conscious of the need to appear polished and sophisticated. As we all know, this is a mere ruse which even takes people further away from God as they try to intellectualize Him.

The pseudo kingdom gospel and its variants – the emergent church movements share the same strain of a virus with the New Age movement – the tendency to intellectualize God and make Him logical. Consequently, there are strenuous efforts towards secular humanism and "doing good" in the name of advancing the Kingdom and taking mountains of society. The result is always the same:

- rejection of the infallibility of the bible;

- minimization of or rejection of the divinity of Jesus and
- negation of His Second Coming.

2 Peter 2: 1-22; 2 Peter 3:1-18; 1 John 2: 18-28; 1 John 4: 1-6; 2 John 1: 7-11; Jude verses 1-19.

• **The Will.** This is the faculty of the soul where decisions are made. It is the seat of preference. This is the place where all the things received and processed by the mind is turned into a decision. In making man after His own image and likeness, God gave every human being a will. Ultimately, this is the very basis of the bill of rights for all men to be born and live free!

The will of man is not supposed to be violated by fellow humans otherwise control will ensure which are an advanced form of witchcraft. In making their independent decisions on issues of life and spirituality, there is a clear outcome called “consequence”. In effect God has given us a will which when exercised should take away every basis for excuse and justify the basis of divine consequence when wrongly exercised.

Even God respects the will of humans. Though redemption of man was purchased at the great price of the precious blood of Jesus, God never requires His saints to impose salvation on any one, whether they reject Him or not. Jesus even graphically charged saints in Matthew 10: 12 – 15 to respect the opinion of whole families and cities concerning the gospel. Those who reject us are to be left to face the consequences of their choice. We thus learn that the gospel is to be proclaimed to all as a witness. There is nowhere in scripture that God forces humans to accept His offer of salvation!

One more thing about the will. God can forgive a sin and allow a human to live with the consequence of the sin. This was the case of Moses and why he was unable to enter the Promised Land after the matter of striking, rather than speaking to the rock which brought forth water. This was also why David’s sin with Bathsheba was forgiven but his household was polluted with the sin of immorality. This manifested first manifested in incest and peaked in the absolute immorality of Solomon with 1,000 women! The solution to consequences arising from sin is to plead for mercy and hold on to God until the petition is answered.

• **Emotion.** This is the third faculty of the human soul. Here is the chamber in man where he responds to everything which happens in his spirit, soul or body. This involuntary reaction to what lies on the outside or what is picked up in the radar of the spirit man or soul can determine how mature, stable or complete any one is. Emotions can manifest as

- Knee jerk reactions or reflect actions arising from what is stored in the mind.

The emotion can be wholesome or wounded. Wholesome emotions are those that carry no baggage from the past. The past is properly dealt with and forgotten with therefore no current power to negatively affect decisions and reaction. Wounded emotions are those which arise from past hurts, failures, disappointments, rejections and unfulfilled aspirations,

- The emotions also include one of the basest aspects of the human persona: the ego.

This is the tendency to self exaltation and high mindedness. Any time it is “stepped on”, it reacts with pain and self preservation.

- Attitudes emanate from the emotional bank in the individuals psyche. Attitudes reveal the depth of flesh at work in an individual and will show up in unconscious ways. One may be a “good Christian” yet with a bad attitude. It simply means that while the outward exertions may be good and acceptable to men, the inward part is not sound. Right attitudes come when the mind is healed as indicated above. As a saint matures, he/she is able to honestly confront the motions of the soul, cry out in brokenness to the Lord until the fruit of the spirit become the natural response of the soul to all situations. All this time, the saint abides in Jesus allowing the motion of the soul to keep him/her humble before the Lord and people! John 15:1-8; Galatians 5:22-25

What is the Flesh?

From a biblical point of view, the flesh is the state of being where the soul and physical body are in cahoots. When these two faculties are aligned with the soul being in authority over the body, the spirit man is suppressed and functions well below par. Another biblical name for this state is “carnality”. The flesh tends to religion and religiosity and can hardly obtain victory over sin. Romans 7:1-25. Because flesh and blood cannot possess the kingdom, they who live this way are unable to make much progress in their journey of faith. A careful reading of Romans chapters 6 and 8 offer us a glimpse into the life that God wants us to live – the spirit led life!

Situating Carnality

Carnality simply means a state in which one is ruled, moved and inspired to believe and act based on what the Five carnal senses rather than what the Holy Spirit says. In effect, this is a life lived by what is SEEN, HEARD, TOUCHED/ FELT, TASTED or SMELT! Saints are designed to live by faith and thus see by the inner man, hear from the Holy Spirit and act only when prompted by Him. Carnality is the number one enemy of the spiritual walk as Romans 8:5-8 eloquently discloses. Because it seeks to worship God with a platform contrary to what He has decreed by an immutable law(to be worshipped in spirit and truth John 4:23,24), carnality or soul worship will lead anywhere but to the God of the Scriptures!

The entire pseudo-kingdom gospel can actually be classified as soul worship!

The pseudo-kingdom gospel is based on these planks:

- Minimise the person and importance of the Biblical Jesus Christ
- Exalt the position of man as the true centre of the universe. The core issues that are strenuously packaged as revelation by almost all strands of the pseudo-kingdom gospel is that the Kingdom of God is actually all about “you” the individual possessing all things on planet earth. With powerful imagery and beautiful prose, their purveyors play on something that is deep in the soul of every human being: take charge and control of your own life and destiny!
- To cap their pernicious doctrines, the pseudo-kingdom gospel basically asks you to forget about the return of Jesus and even brands such talk as “religion”. This greatest of religions specifically foisted on saints by Satan is actually an alternative gospel with an alternative Jesus who is not really Saviour, Redeemer and Lord but merely our “senior brother”.
- Because the pseudo-kingdom gospel denies the claims of the scripture and minimises the real and full identity of Jesus Christ as very God and very man, its assignment is basically to deceive as many as possible to think they are pressing into the Kingdom whereas they are pressing into the bosom of Satan! It is the religion of man. Because its adherents have rejected the real Jesus, they will miss the sound of the Trumpet – which they also minimise. In effect, adherents of the pseudo-kingdom gospel are actually preparing some who may have been saints before to receive the mark of the Beast.

The Spirit, Soul and Body can have different experiences and yet one can be whole!

Paul was in excellent spiritual condition with God. However, to prevent the revelations he received from puffing him up and becoming a snare to his spirituality, God permitted a messenger of Satan, a thorn in the flesh to torment His faithful disciple, Paul in the body. Evidently, this was a very painful experience which tasked the soul of Paul so much that he travailed in prayer, three times asking God to take it away. God reminded Paul that his real need was not to be delivered from physical pain but to lay hold of the sufficiency of grace to live above the realm of physical pain! Reading properly through the text in 2 Corinthians 12:1-10, we can see that Paul was whole – enjoying the grace arising from the Kingdom life in His spirit man (Luke 17:21, Romans 14:17-19).

Please note:

From the day of the fall, Adam began to pass on his fallen nature to all humanity through the process of procreation. That is why David said in Psalm 51:5 that he was shaped in sin and

his mother conceived him in that state. This is why Romans 3:23 says “for all have sinned and come short of the glory of God

Down the wire...

Down the Wire with Spirit, Soul and Body (1)

The spiritual life is one in which the redeemed human spirit actively leads the soul and body and in turn is led by the Holy Spirit.

As we begin to touch down on this intensely practical course, let us receive what the Lord is bring forth as the pathway to the Kingdom life which we receive on the inside and which should be manifest to all who make contact with us Luke 17:21. You do not need to tell anyone to come and see Light. This is because light is self evident especially in an environment of darkness. In the same vein, Salt is a self evident catalyst which adds value to food Matthew 5:13-16.

Nothing is amusing to Satan as the loquacious profession of people to have the Kingdom when their lives, teachings and ministry pattern and focus offer contrary evidence! The Kingdom of God is self evident in the lives of people who are fully subject to Him based on His Constitution and not the doctrines of men. An innumerable company of saints triumphant, as recorded in the Holy Writ, reveal the way the Lord wants His Kingdom citizens to live.

Apart from Jesus, no man who ever lived on planet earth to who was committed a greater revelation of the Kingdom life on earth than the former murderer of Tarsus, Paul. Paul himself exemplified the principles of the Kingdom and documents his journey of faith in great detail. In the closing chapter of this age, Satan has raised worldly men of great intellectual capacity who have turned the gospel of the Kingdom into pursuit of humanistic wisdom and the fancies of this perishing world. They of course refuse to believe that this world is perishing and down play the eternal phase of the Kingdom when Jesus will rule and reign here on earth. These men have gone after the truth of scripture with vehemence, teaching as Kingdom truths, doctrines of devils and of men.

Between the revelations God granted Paul in the epistles to the Galatians, Ephesians; Philipians and Colossians, a number of self evident truths come forth regarding how to walk in the Spirit so that the spirit man takes its rightful place as the lead of the three dimensions of man. The spirit man, in turn, is designed to be led by the Holy Spirit. When the pattern so clearly set forth in the Word is understood and applied, we will be able to worship God in Spirit and in Truth as Jesus Himself declared in John 4:23-24

Scriptural Principles for Living out the Kingdom Life – Living the spiritual life!

Satan will do anything to obfuscate the truth that the New Birth experience occurs in the spirit man. The saint still has the responsibility to yield to the Holy Spirit to work out the fullness of Christ in the realm of the soul (mind, will and emotion) and physical body!

As a matter of fact, 2 Peter 1: 5- 11 contains some pretty heavy stuff. It says the saint must exercise due diligence to add to faith, virtue, knowledge; self-control, perseverance; godliness; brotherly kindness; love. Those who lack these virtues, though they may shout from the roof top that they are in the Kingdom are said to be short sighted, blind with lives that are no better than when they were in un believing state. The Kingdom of God is not in words but in demonstration of power, starting with the power of a truly reformed life from inside out!

Unfortunately, Satan wants saints to believe a twisted version that as long as they are born again, nothing more is required of them other than to “hang in there with Jesus” or claim that they are Kingdom citizens by slogans, even with excess baggage of a life sorely in need of an

extra touch of the Cross. The favourite scripture that is used to advance this view is Romans 8:1(a) "There is now no condemnation to them who are in Christ Jesus..." Dangerous doctrine ensures whenever men twist scriptures out of context, picking and choosing what they want!

Part b that is often unquoted holds the key to the meaning of what God is saying; "who walk not according to the flesh, but according to the Spirit". In effect, Romans 8:1 sets forth a profound truth: Those who are in Christ Jesus will receive no condemnation if they live in the spirit, led by the Holy Spirit. The evidence of this will be the fact that they are no longer ruled by the flesh or carnal nature (their souls and physical bodies).

Romans 8: 1- 17 go on to expound some of the most glorious truths in the New Covenant. Verses 2 and 3 say: The Law of the Spirit of life in Christ sets us free from the law of sin and death which ruled man under the Old Covenant. In other words, what man could not attain by self effort or by the system of rituals and observances of old in trying to please God was accomplished for us when Jesus died on our behalf at the Cross and signed our Bill of Freedom with His own blood!

We must bear in mind that the epistle to the Romans was written to saints, not sinners as Romans 1:1-7 reveals. Romans 8: 4 – 9 tell us some profound truths: the liberty in Christ is reserved for saints who press on to have their carnal nature (soul + body) subjected to the authority and power of the Cross!

4That the righteousness of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit.

5For 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.

6For to be carnally minded is death; but to be spiritually minded is life and peace.

7Because the carnal mind is enmity against God: for it is not subject to the law of God, neither indeed can be.

8So then they that are in the flesh cannot please God.

9But ye are not in the flesh, but in the Spirit, if so be that the Spirit of God dwell in you. Now if any man has not the Spirit of Christ, he is none of his.

The Holy Spirit then goes ahead to make some equally strong demands on saints who yearn to walk in son ship and are ready for the day when Jesus will appear to release the glorious bodies of His faithful. They must deny their flesh (soul + body) the pre-eminence they desire. The reason is that the spirit of man is where the Holy Spirit resides right from the day of the new birth. See how it is stated in Romans 8: 12 – 17

12Therefore, brethren, we are debtors, not to the flesh, to live after the flesh.

13For 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.

14For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, they are the sons of God.

15For ye have not received the spirit of bondage again to fear; but ye have received the Spirit of adoption, whereby we cry, Abba, Father.

16The Spirit itself beareth witness with our spirit, that we are the children of God:

17And if children, then heirs; heirs of God, and joint-heirs with Christ; if so be that we suffer with him, that we may be also glorified together.

In Galatians 5:16-21, the Holy Spirit uses Paul again to set forth in clear language the dangers of the soul – led life. The downward descent of life to the state where the person who was presumably born again is no longer able to possess the Kingdom at its fullness is set out with precision. Saint, please pay attention here:

16This I say then, Walk in the Spirit, and ye shall not fulfil the lust of the flesh.

17For 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.

18But if ye be led of the Spirit, ye are not under the law.

19 Now the works of the flesh are manifest, which are these; Adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lasciviousness,

20 Idolatry, witchcraft, hatred, variance, emulations, wrath, strife, seditions, heresies,

21 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.

In the epic epistle to the Ephesians, the Holy Spirit again uses Paul to bring forth some uncomfortable truths. It is apposite to state that Ephesians is possibly one of the scriptures that Satan twists to present the doctrine of the New Plastic Cross. Satan does it by making so called Kingdom preachers to dwell on Chapters 1, 2 and possibly 3 to the exclusion of chapters 4, 5, 6. Those who prefer to believe the ensuring half truth and toy with their eternal states cannot blame God when they come face to face with eternity!

Grand Key: Sanctification of Soul!

Sanctification of the Soul: the key to the Kingdom Life

As said earlier in this teaching, the human being is made up of three distinct but congruent components – the spirit, soul and body. The soul in turn has three compartments, namely: the Mind; the will and the emotion.

The mind is made up of 1). The intellect which processes information from outside and inside the body, 2). the memory which stores information and 3). the imagination which is the creative base of the soul with capacity to “see” things that are not yet visible and plan their creation just as God does. Every invention of man is a function of the interplay of his intellect, memory and imagination! The mind conceived and created the aircraft flying 40,000 feet above sea level as well as the submarine which carries nuclear war heads 25,000 feet below sea level. The mind created such an outstanding facility as face book as well as the great medical inventions which save lives of millions world-wide.

The mind is a very powerful tool of self preservation. It therefore tends to frame every activity within the context of self. This is the root issue in selfishness and self centeredness’. When the mind is applied to spiritual issues, the result can be devastating: religion, as the pseudo kingdom movement reveal clearly! When the mind engages with the emotion, a dangerous cocktail that is the spirit of anti-Christ results! Job 11:7-9 and 1 Corinthians 2: 6- 16 shows that we cannot find God through the exertions of the mind. The mind has a natural tendency to think in carnal terms while God demands death of the old man before we can serve Him acceptably. Unfortunately, Satan has successfully caused humans to attempt to serve God out of their minds and emotions rather than in their spirit-man as God desires (John 4:23,24. God demands obedience, not the exertions of our soul! This spiritual blindness leads many to try to circumvent the Holy Scriptures and invent pseudo Kingdom messages which appeal to the human reason. 2 Corinthians 4:1-6.

The Grand Key to spiritual success: Sanctification of the Soul!

Outcome of sanctification in the soul:

The sanctified soul is one which has been dethroned from leadership of the being. As the spirit man takes ascendancy as prime mover of life, it acts according to the dictates and leading of the Holy Spirit. The saint is thus able to live by faith and not by sight as he/she used to do. 2 Corinthians 5:7. These are the base outputs of the soul God wants to deal with and root out of every saint: capacity for jealousy, envy, tendency to take offence over things; easy tendency to

be hurt; disappointment when things don't work out your way; pride of life; desire to be seen; desire to be commended for doing what is normal duty and such like which negate principles of Kingdom life. The sanctified life is one where the supreme love of God takes root as well as love of fellow men. The sanctified soul, for instance, is able to love people of the opposite gender without hidden agendas and can do good out of a pure heart without seeking recognition and reciprocation! The sanctified soul will recognize the limits of your anointing and spiritual gifting and receive others so that the Body of Christ can be built up by what every joint supplies (Ephesians 4:11-16). The sanctified soul does not rebel against authority because there is a right alignment within the being! The sanctified soul knows that people and government does not own you or owe you any favour

This then is the righteousness of the Kingdom which Matthew 6:33 says that we should to seek, even as we yearn for and wait for the return of Jesus to rule and reign. In other words, the Lord calls His own to live in the present for the future! Live in the light of the eternal phase of the Kingdom giving no one and anything no cause to make you to miss the world to come! 1 Peter 2:11. Those who press into this state are able to represent Jesus before men in this present time because they are His Ambassadors to an alien world! 1 Peter 2:9-12; Matthew 5:13-16. He rules and reigns their spirit, soul and body. They have no other agenda than to be yielded vessels through which the King of Kings demonstrates His Person, Character and Power to a dying and lost world. They dare not charge any fee for anyone to receive the gifts of the Holy Spirit God freely blessed them with nor can they afford the dainties and fancies of this present world which will assuredly come to an end one day! This is the Kingdom life which does not consist of food and drink but manifested in righteousness, peace and joy in the Holy Spirit! Romans 14:17-19. Saints, in all they getting, get it! Do not be deceived by vain words of those who make the Kingdom of God a one liner and turn it into a doctrine of man!

Two facts stand out clearly:

1. It is the perfect will of God to sanctify us completely in the realm of the soul so that the natural tendency to gravitate towards or yield to sin is rooted out of the saints. This is expressed in 1 Thessalonians 5:23,24; 1 Thessalonians 4:3-8; Philippians 1:6. When that happens, our whole spirit, soul and body is preserved blameless unto the coming of the Lord Jesus. This happens when God restores our spirit man to lead the whole body. The soul with its proclivity to carnality (walking by sight, sound, touch, smell) is subjected to the spirit man which is where the Holy Spirit resides and which lives and walks by faith. God wants us to be in a state of holiness 24/7 because no one knows the hour when Jesus will return. It is the pure in heart who will hear the sound of the Trumpet and "see God" on that day as well as penetrate the spheres of first and second heaven to approach His Throne of Grace in prayer. Hebrews 12:14, 15; Psalm 15:1- 5; Psalm 24:3-6.
2. God will not impose sanctification on us. He requires our willing cooperation starting with strong yearning and quest that He do it in our souls. Sanctification thus calls for a DIVINE HUMAN PARTNERSHIP. Philippians 2:12, 13 – 16 outline our part and the consequences of receiving His touch.

Our part in the process: Yieldedness to the Holy Spirit!

2.1 We should never relax with our salvation experience or base our Kingdom life on the theories and suppositions of men. The Lord wants us to deny ourselves, take up our cross and follow Him to have the self life (also called old man or better still the soul) crucified with Him. When this sanctification experience happens as Paul describes in Galatians 2:20, we no longer live but Christ lives in and through us, manifesting and demonstrating the Kingdom life. Instant/Crisis dimension: Sanctification is a gift from God requiring however deep desire, strong prayers and faith that are released at the place of persistent prayer until the experience comes through. This is the crisis dimension of sanctification.

Progressive dimension: All through our lives, we are to allow the Holy Spirit to utilize every challenge, fire, problem to work out in us greater realms of Jesus. It is never ending because we still live in an imperfect world filled with imperfect people, even in the Kingdom. They will knowingly or unknowingly step on our toes. People have lifestyles that are at variance with ours so there will always be things that seek to irritate and agitate us.

We find this progressive sanctification on a fast track if only we heed one critical counsel found in Philippians 2:12 -15: avoid murmuring and disputations when you encounter a challenge or difficulty. Rather believe that God allowed it as an instrument of victory! Even if it was a stumbling block Satan placed to block you, believe that it will become the very pedestal on which God will place you and display His glory in us!

Joseph the son of Jacob understood this principle and turned out to be an outstanding saint who was never bitter with life, even when the turns seemed bad (Genesis 45:1-8) This lifelong dimension was also demonstrated by the outstanding vessel Paul in Philippians 3: 1-16. This is why the Holy Spirit used Paul to pen the immortal words of Romans 8:28-39 and 2 Corinthians 12:7-10. We thus never really arrive until we breath the last breathe! We are progressively wiser, more mature, more patient, more understanding of human frailties both in us and in others! This is a truly humbling thought! If there is one word which sums up our role in the entire process it is this: Yeildedness!

God is pleased when we embrace every challenge that comes our way with equanimity and prayerfully turn them over to Him in full assurance of faith that He will see us through. God wants us to trust that He will not allow any situation beyond our capacity of grace to come upon us 1 Corinthians 10:13.

Perfecting Holiness in the Body

The human body is one of the most complex yet beautifully woven works of art ever created by God! In Genesis chapter 2: 7 we see that whereas God spoke the heavens and earth into being, He uniquely created man out of the dust of the earth! There is nothing else on earth that matches the beauty of the human body. Psalm 139 captures the essence of God and the human He created. Verses 13 – 16 say: You formed my inward parts; you covered me in my mother's womb. I will praise you for I am fearfully and wonderfully made. Marvellous are your works. And that my soul knows very well. My frame was not hidden from you. When I was made in secret, and skilfully wrought in the lowest parts of the earth. Your eyes saw my substance, being yet unformed. And in your book they all were written, the days fashioned for me, when as yet there was none of them.

Here is how one internet site describes the human some parts of the human body:

- The average human brain has about 100 billion nerve cells.
- Nerve impulses to and from the brain travel as fast as 170 miles (274 km) per hour.
- Your stomach needs to produce a new layer of mucus every two weeks or it would digest itself.
- It takes the interaction of 72 different muscles to produce human speech.
- Relative to size, the strongest muscle in the body is the tongue.
- Human thigh bones are stronger than concrete.
- When you sneeze, all your bodily functions stop even your heart.
- Babies are born without knee caps. They don't appear until the child reaches 2-6 years of age.
- It takes the stomach an hour to break down cow milk.
- If you go blind in one eye you only lose about one fifth of your vision but all your sense of depth.
- The average human head weighs about 8 pounds.
- In the average lifetime, a person will walk the equivalent of 5 times around the equator.
- An average human scalp has 100,000 hairs..

- The average human blinks their eyes 6,205,000 times each year.
- The entire length of all the eyelashes shed by a human in their life is over 98 feet (30 m).
- Your skull is made up of 29 different bones.
- The average surface of the human intestine is 656 square feet (200 m).
- A healthy adult can draw in about 200 to 300 cubic inches (3.3 to 4.9 litres) of air at a single breath, but at rest only about 5% of this volume is used.
- The surface of the human skin is 6.5 square feet (2m).
- 15 million blood cells are destroyed in the human body every second.
- The most sensitive cluster of nerves is at the base of the spine.
- The human body is comprised of 80% water.
- The average human will shed 40 pounds of skin in a lifetime.
- Every year about 98% of the atoms in your body are replaced.
- The human heart creates enough pressure to squirt blood 30 feet (9 m).
- You were born with 300 bones. When you get to be an adult, you have 206.
- Human thighbones are stronger than concrete.
- There are 45 miles (72 km) of nerves in the skin of a human being.
- The average human heart will beat 3,000 million times in its lifetime and pump 48 million gallons of blood.

- Each square inch (2.5 cm) of human skin consists of 20 feet (6 m) of blood vessels.
 - During a 24-hour period, the average human will breathe 23,040 times.
 - Human blood travels 60,000 miles (96,540 km) per day on its journey through the body.
- The human body has its own kinds of cravings which may war against true spirituality. Because the physical body lives within a fallen world and corrupt environment, it is normally “pulled” towards that which catches its attention and holds its interest. Because the body is created to be a medium or vessel, it can make no interpretation of external stimuli on its own. It rather relies on the soul to interpret what it sees, hears, touches, feels and smells.

If the soul is sanctified and subject to the spirit man which in turn is subject to the Holy Spirit, it will transmit warning of danger to the physical body concerning an object of temptation. The exertion of the soul will thus prevent the body from venturing further into actual state of sin.

In 1 Corinthians 6:9 - 20, we learn that sins against the body are grievous indeed in the sight of God and can cost perpetrators access to the Kingdom of God:
 Know ye not that the unrighteous shall not inherit the kingdom of God? Be not deceived: neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor effeminate, nor abusers of themselves with mankind, Nor thieves, nor covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor extortioners, shall inherit the kingdom of God.

And such were some of you: but ye are washed, but ye are sanctified, but ye are justified in the name of the Lord Jesus, and by the Spirit of our God....Know ye not that your bodies are the members of Christ? shall I then take the members of Christ, and make [them] the members of an harlot? God forbid.

What? know ye not that he which is joined to an harlot is one body? for two, saith he, shall be one flesh. But he that is joined unto the Lord is one spirit. Flee fornication. Every sin that a man doeth is without the body; but he that committeth fornication sinneth against his own body. 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? For ye are bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God's.

Gates & Sins of the Body

Gates of the Body and Sins of the Body

One profound truth we must reflect on is the fact that on the Last Day, every one who lived and walked on earth, will be called upon to give account for what was DONE IN THE BODY! For saints, this will not be a judgement unto condemnation for purposes of eternal damnation. It will rather count for or against us concerning the rewards in the hereafter for faithfulness to God and His Kingdom in the present. On that day, all the things saints did in the secret, including our motives for getting into and running ministry; our face book and telephone conversations; how we related to brethren of the opposite gender; how faithfully we executed the Kingdom assignment for which we were redeemed will be brought to play before the Just Judge of the whole earth Mark 4:22. What Satan has successfully done is to try to deceive us with false doctrines which suggest that once you are saved, nothing you do is counted against you! This dangerous doctrine simply turns the grace of God into lasciviousness and is based on twisting of scriptures Galatians 5:13; 1 Peter 2:15,16. Let us see what these scriptures say: 2 Corinthians 5:9-11; 1 Corinthians 3: 10-17; 1 Corinthians 6:9- 20; Galatians 5:16-21; Ephesians 4: 16-32; Ephesians 5: 1-14; 2 Peter 2: 19-22; Revelations 21: 7,8; Revelation 22:11 – 15.

Gates of the Body and their besetting sins

A besetting sin is one in which a saint is prone to fall into more often than not. It is a sin which has developed a strong root because it was not identified and dealt with when the Holy Spirit revealed. Consequently, taking it out seems to be a struggle. Hebrews 12:1-3 gives us an understanding of what it is and the remedy which is “Looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith”. He is ever willing to deliver to the uttermost and keep us safe and holy, if only we will let go of self effort and commit all our lives to Him, withholding nothing and any part. 1 Thess. 5:23,24; Jude verse 24.

- Eyes - Looking at people or objects beyond what are reasonable and safe. Gazing intently at such objects causes the soul to lust after them and thus trigger negative passions and desires. This happens when a man or woman gazes either at a person, film or picture of the opposite gender. Satan, who instigated that gaze in the first place, will then throw fiery darts of suggestions which activate lustful passions for those who are weak or ignorant. The result is lust; which is sin, as Jesus explained in the sermon on the Mount in Matthew 5:27 – 30. The simplest advice to give saints is: do not allow your physical body to be put in a situation where you have to struggle to come out of it. This includes allowing visitation at unholy hours by even fiancés; starting or responding to unholy communications and walking in ignorance of your potentially harmful weaknesses. If you are a minister on mission, it is better to stay in homes of brethren than to prefer hotels (Matthew 10:11-13). If you have to stay in hotels, do not allow visitors of the opposite gender visit you alone even in the day time! Living proactively is always the key to living the clean, overcoming life! If Satan could tempt Jesus, no one in the Kingdom is immune. However, the fact that Jesus had victory on the basis of “It is written” tells us that our own victories are assured, if only we will heed wise counsel from the Word and wage effectually! 1 Corinthians 10:12, 13; Ephesians 6:10-18.

- Ears – The fact that the ear is permanently open reveals that it is a potentially dangerous gate and also a potentially useful one. Even Jesus warned us to mind what we hear! Mark 4:24. The plan of God is that we are swift to hear but slow to speak. What this means is that what we hear should be processed against the backdrop of Philippians 4:8 to determine if it deserves further attention or be taken off our consciousness. The redeemed of the Lord have an awesome capacity to live out these precepts because they are inscribed in our hearts. What the Lord is looking for is our yeildedness and submission to His Lordship over all aspect of our lives including our responses to what we hear. In effect, he or she who would act on what is

heard without first hearing from the Lord concerning what to do in response is displaying carnality which is simply to be ruled by what the natural senses suggest. James 1:19.

- Nose – It is through the nose that we perceive and smell odours. What is perceived through the nostrils can trigger off the soul to interpret. As the soul interprets the odour, it can take over the body and respond to fiery darts or suggestions of the wicked one. There are men and women who have been destabilized by the scent of perfumes worn by people of the opposite gender. Knowing this truth, Satan instigates manufacturers to produce perfumes which emit powerful scents that are intended to “trap and kill” their victims! Whether you are male or female, allow the Holy Spirit to work through your conscience to question the motive behind the particular brand of perfume, body spray or cologne/after shave you use. Is there any seductive disposition behind your preference?

- Skin – The skin is a gate to the body, containing so many nerves which are capable of triggering emotions when used or touched wrongly at the wrong places. It is dangerous for saints to use their fingers to touch people of the same or opposite genders in regions of the body considered sensitive. This is because the nerves can convey messages whose interpretation can lead to sin.

- Mouth /Tongue - The mouth is a gate the enemy tries to use to get saints into a whole bunch of troubles including but not limited to:

- Lying; exaggerating; Ephesians 4:25;

- boasting; hypocrisy; venting pride; talking down on the less privileged;

- Venting anger in the soul; expressing wrath; clamour; swearing; cursing; Ephesians 4:26; 31; James 3: 1-16

- Evil speech that does not glorify God including lewd remarks; sexual advances; Ephesians 4:29;

- Expressing racist, ethnic and gender chauvinism;

- Displaying greed and lack of moderation in eating food and drinking alcohol; smoking harmful substances such as cigarette/cigars. Philippians 4:5; Eph. 5:17,18.

- The Fingers – In the age of the internet and computers, the fingers are extensively used to express all the sins of the tongue including lying, boasting, seduction. In a contemporary sense, the fingers now represent “feet that run to do evil” Proverbs 1:16

- Feet – Most sins have involved a movement from the place of safety to a place of attraction from immoral pleasure; financial gratification; or indulgence in alcohol or other substances.

- Sexual Organs – Though the enemy may activate the soul to lust after what is not given to the individual saint, necessity behoves us to know by the Spirit to submit to the Lord our mortal bodies, obey His Word and keep our vessels pure from adultery (sexual relations involving a married person outside the spouse) and fornication (sexual relations involving single people) 1 Corinthians 6: 9-11, 13-20; Ephesians 4:17-22; Colossians 3:1-6; 1 Thessalonians 4:3-8; 2 Timothy 2:22. That one is engaged and will wed in Church the very next hour does not give a saint any excuse to get involved in sexual activity! The sexual organs have been put in place by God for procreation (Genesis 1:28) and legitimate pleasure in the context of godly marriage (Genesis 2:24,25; 1 Corinthians 7: 1-9

If the soul is un sanctified, its interpretation of what the body makes contact with will trigger negative motions which deconstruct the body further and makes it progress towards sin. Instead of taking responsibility and crying to God for mercy, some people are prone to give excuses when they drag their physical bodies down to sins of various types. Some even blame God while others are quick to blame Satan. Here is what James 1:13 – 15 says to such situations: 13Let no man say when he is tempted, I am tempted of God: for God cannot be tempted with evil, neither tempteth he any man: 14But every man is tempted, when he is drawn away of his own lust, and enticed. 15Then when lust hath conceived, it bringeth forth sin: and sin, when it is finished, bringeth forth death.

Way out for the Body

Way Out: Constant Consciousness of the Holy Temple of God!

God wants us to be constantly conscious that our body is His holy Temple! It is not just a mass of water, tissue, muscles, bones, skin and nerves, but the very sanctuary in which the God of the whole universe resides by His Spirit! 1 Corinthians 6:19,20. With this constant consciousness, we will discern when the enemy seeks to cause us to abuse, tamper with, alter or indeed engage in any other activity which can destabilize this temple and cause the Holy Spirit to be grieved, quenched or caused to leave. Wilful sins and those which abuse the body top the list of what can cause the Holy Spirit to leave a Christian Hebrews 6:1-8; Hebrews 10:26-31,38,39; Ephesians 4:30-32; 1 Thess. 5:19

Two abuses that are particularly ignored include lack of contentment and acceptance of how God made you to be. You are uniquely designed by an intelligent God to deliver the purpose He had in creating you! Psalm 139:13-18; Ephesians 1:3-6. When you engage in deliberate rejection of who He made you to be and seek an alteration of your colour, shape, hair to conform to a sinner who is modelling what appeals to your eyes, you better watch it! Likewise, when through excessive eating and indulgence in food, drinks and pleasures, you pile up excess body mass or destroy vital organs, is it not evident that one is abusing the body, God's temple?

Many saints today are sick and dying before time because of indiscipline in what they eat or drink. The same is true of saints who disregard the word of God to engage of their reproductive organs in illicit sexual activities. The human body can be sound 24/7 if the simple ordinance of God concerning healthy living is adhered to. The physical body can be made holy and thus fulfil its assignment as temple of the Holy Spirit and the inner man (the spirit and soul). Instead of sloaneering, saints must learn how to nourish the body to soundness.

Though he lived in the Old dispensation, Job demonstrated how the spirit and soul can keep the body away from sin in the book of Job 31:1 "I have made a covenant with my eyes; why should I look on a woman?"

From what has been said so far, saints can keep their vessels pure and in a sanctified state by these definite steps:

1. Present the body as a living sacrifice to God to be holy and acceptable to Him – Romans 12:1
2. Live on the basis of true conversion of the spirit man and its translation from darkness and conveyance into the Kingdom of God. Colossians 1:12 – 14; Acts 3:19
3. Elevate pursuit of the Kingdom of God above all else to the degree that they rather deny the body any illicit pleasure or die than miss the Kingdom to come. Matthew 6:25 – 34; Matthew

16:24-26. As you seek first the Kingdom of God never allow the needs of your soul (emotional satisfaction for instance) and your body (pleasures, food, drink, shelter) take your eyes off the grand prize! 1 Corinthians 9: 24-27. Live daily in the light of eternity and consciousness that in a single moment of time, mortality will be swallowed up in immortality with the appearance of Jesus Christ! Let the zeal of the Lord and His Kingdom consume you so much so that you do not give place!

4. Abstain from every appearance of sin and flee from situations which can compromise spirituality and encourage sin in the physical body. This includes sexual immorality of every type including masturbation, hetero or homo sexual activities; harmful and impure communication involving use of seductive clothes, language and communication. Saints must avoid using social networking sites like face book, you Tube and MySpace to seek emotional satisfaction from people of the opposite gender, including mentors, spiritual parents and their coverings. God has planted in every saint a conscience which warns clearly whenever a relationship with any human, either of the same or opposite gender is unhealthy and potentially destructive. It is important that saints act as soon as the amber light is up! Romans 1:18-32; 1 Corinthians 6:18; Galatians 5: 16-19; 1 Thessalonians 5:22; 2 Timothy 19-22; Revelation 21:8.

5. Study and meditate on the word of God and allow the Holy Spirit to use it to renew your mind. What used to be fun before when seen in the light of the Word will be recognized as sin. Let the clean culture and lifestyle of the Kingdom take root in you. Matthew 5, 6, 7.

6. Be filled with the Holy Spirit and walk in His fullness in you! Let Him take over your entire being. Let Him guide you in all decisions. Give Him right of way to make your conscience lively and response to every alert as to the things, people or relationships which can endanger your soul. Ephesians 5: 18-21.

7. Walk in genuine agape love. True love will enable you to escape the snares of fleshly passions. John 13: 34,35; 1 Corinthians 13: 1-13; Ephesians 5: 1-7; 1 Timothy 5:1,2.

You can never succeed in ministry on a sustainable basis if you do not understand your flesh(soul and body) and bring both under subjection to your spirit man which in turn should be under the total leadership and empowerment of the Holy Spirit!

Every great preacher who fell by the wayside or made shipwreck of ministry suffered from the flesh gone burst in one way or the other.

When Satan tempted Eve and Adam, it was essentially to realign their soul and body away from the rightful order that God set them. The moment the soul of Eve and her physical body made the value decision over and above her spirit man to believe the lie of Satan, the fall was a foregone conclusion.

As it was with Adam and Eve, so shall it be with everyone who rejects or mocks the divine invitation to bring the Old man to be crucified with Christ! As our perfect example, Jesus overcame Satan when He was tempted with the same set of issues as Eve after the Baptism of John.

Religion then is simply the process of trying to find and please God with the soul (Mind, Will and Emotion) and physical body which combine to be called the flesh or carnal nature. Unfortunately, the Kingdom of God is as yet entirely a spiritual one and those who worship God must do so in spirit and in truth!

If there is one truth you need in order to be rightly aligned with God 24/7, it is found in the truth God is downloading to us in GSoM Course 128!

From the day of the fall, Adam began to pass on his fallen nature to all humanity through the process of procreation. That is why David said in Psalm 51 that he was shaped in sin and his mother conceived him in that state. This is why Romans 3:23 says "for all have sinned and

come short of the glory of God". When a saint is born again, his/her spirit man undergoes an instantaneous change 2 Corinthians 5:17. It is the responsibility of the saint to dwell in the Word and yield to the Holy Spirit to sanctify the soul and body and preserve it as such. This cannot be achieved by self effort but by appropriate response to the internal work of the Holy Spirit. Philippians 1:6; Philippians 2:12,13.

Many saints today are sick and dying before time because of indiscipline in what they eat or drink. The same is true of saints who disregard the word of God to engage of their reproductive organs in illicit sexual activities. The human body can be sound 24/7 if the simple ordinance of God concerning healthy living is adhered to. The physical body can be made holy and thus fulfil its assignment as temple of the Holy Spirit and the inner man (the spirit and soul). Instead of sloganeering, saints must learn how to nourish the body to soundness.

The Spirit, Soul and Body can have different experiences and yet one can be whole! Paul was in excellent spiritual condition with God. However, to prevent the revelations he received from puffing him up and becoming a snare to his spirituality, God permitted a messenger of Satan, a thorn in the flesh to torment His faithful disciple, Paul in the body. Evidently, this was a very painful experience which tasked the soul of Paul so much that he travailed in prayer, three times asking God to take it away. God reminded Paul that his real need was not to be delivered from physical pain but to lay hold of the sufficiency of grace to live above the realm of physical pain! Reading properly through the text in 2 Corinthians 12:1-10, we can see that Paul was whole – enjoying the grace arising from the Kingdom life in His spirit man (Luke 17:21, Romans 14:17-19).

Spirit, Soul & Body, an Epilogue (1)

Spirit, Soul and body: An Epilogue

As we bring the curtain down on this vast course, we trust that God will put in a word or two which will wrap up what we have learned so far.

It is all about worshipping God in spirit and in truth as Jesus commanded in John 4:23,24. As we saw in Genesis 2:7; 1 Thessalonians 5:23 and Hebrews 4:12, man is a tri-dimensional being created in the image of God and in His likeness.

New Birth: instant and in the spirit man!

The New Birth is received in an instant of time. It is cataclysmic with the definite outcome of a transition of the spirit man from darkness to light and from subjection to the kingdom of darkness to conveyance into the Kingdom of God. You can hear the Word for years, months or days but you can be saved in just one instant of time. When that happens, you are a new creation. Your yesterday is gone! You are forgiven! From a sinner, you transition to become a saint. These self evident truths are articulated in John 3:3, 16; 2 Corinthians 5:17; Ephesians 2:1-6; Colossians 1: 12-14, 21-22.

The Kingdom of God has two equally significant dimensions. The first is the present which is received in our spirit man(hearts – Luke 17:21). Though physically in this world, we are not of it and are required to constantly walk in the understanding that it will pass away so our role is to allow Christ to pass through us to touch as many lives as possible as His witnesses and bring them into the Kingdom of God of which we are citizens. In effect, every saint is a citizen of the Kingdom of God (not membership of a local church!) as well as a citizen of an earthly kingdom. Our prime loyalty however is to the spiritual.

Jesus was emphatic that His Kingdom was not of this world John 18:36. God has ordained that His Kingdom - which will soon be inaugurated at the Second Coming of Jesus - will be populated not by robotic beings but by people who willingly accepted His rule and yielded to His appointed process of being whole while on earth. These are people who made the value decision to accept the testimony of scripture that the key to enjoy the best of their Father on earth and prepare to co rule with Jesus in the world to come is by dying to the self life(rule of their soul and body) so that Jesus may be all in all Matthew 16:24-26; Romans 12:1,2; Galatians 2:20; Galatians 6:14.

For the sake of His Kingdom which they yearn for, saints are to make it their priority in prayer and in practical pursuit. To demonstrate this priority, their time on earth is to be seen as a pilgrimage in the realm of time and preparation for the eternal phase of the Kingdom which is the real deal. For this reason, saints are to live in the present in the light of eternity. Matthew 6:10; Matthew 6:33; 1 Peter 2: 9-12.

For the above to happen, saints are to cooperate with the Holy Spirit who works with the Word of God and circumstances of life to reveal the state of the soul and cravings of the physical body which war against spirituality.

By yielding to the dealings of the Holy Spirit, He shows us the motions of the soul (Mind, Will and Emotion) and cravings of the Body (appetite, wrong use of the tongue, sexual drives, etc) which are contrary to the will of God for His redeemed. The process of being open to the Holy Spirit to show us what is not pleasing to our Father, what contradicts the Blood of redemption at work in the motions of the soul and body and heartily giving Him right of way to take those things off is at the heart of "working out our salvation with fear and trembling" (Philippians 3:12); Philippians 1:6; Philippians 2:12-15; 1 Peter 2:9-12. God has left us in an imperfect world full of imperfect people.

The only way we can represent Him as His Ambassadors is by embracing His internal dealings in our souls to the degree that the soul gives up leadership of our being in cahoots with the Body. When this happens, we are not ruled by what the five senses of the body suggest (see, hear, feel, smell, taste) but by what the Holy Spirit communicates to the spirit man who is enthroned to its rightful place as leader. The spirit man is the dwelling place of the Holy Spirit, is where we are born again and is where the gifts and callings of the Holy Spirit are deposited. Because of this, the Kingdom of God is ordered not according to the flesh (gender, biological age or socio-economic means) but by the quality of the spirit man Galatians 3:26-29. The question of whether a woman can be a minister or be called to any of the five fold offices is therefore a carnal old wineskin question that bears no relevance to the Kingdom of God!

Righteousness V Holiness

Take note of this truth: Righteousness or right standing with God is a gift of grace. We did not work for it nor can we earn it by effort or prayers. However, righteousness demands a robust response from he/she who God justified. That response is holiness. As 1 Peter 1:15,16 demands "Be ye holy, for I the Lord your God is holy". The Lord clearly reveals that saints have a definite part to play. That part is not to be legalistic. It is not to try to "touch not", "taste not" or "handle not" as some religious folks try to make it out. For instance in some congregations in Africa, men used to sit on one side of the aisle while women occupied the other side, including married people! These physical efforts were naively done in the name of holiness. In one denomination in Africa, brothers do not shake hands with sisters lest they fall into immorality! These are fleshly efforts that mimic holiness!

It is the Holy Spirit who uses the Word to renew our mind so that, in a real sense, it is born again! By this we mean that the Holy Spirit takes the Word of God to wash off old ideas about

life and living acquired from birth, native culture, background, education and upbringing. As He washes them off, the Holy Spirit begins to install the mind of Christ and culture of the Kingdom of God. Romans 12:1,2; Ephesians 4:23.

As the Holy Spirit does this in say a mixed congregation of African Americans, European Americans, Native Americans and Hispanics and Asian Americans, we all imperceptibly at first and clearly later begin to think the same way. We begin to see life through the lenses of Jesus and the Holy Scriptures. Our individuality gives way and Jesus becomes all in all. Unity of the Faith and a sense of true fellowship replace our former individuality and agenda driven purposes for meeting together. John 17; Ephesians 4:1-6. The power of love and unity thus combine to release the fullness of the Presence and Power of Jesus Christ. 1 Corinthians 1:10; Matthew 18:19,20.

When this renewal takes place, old mental stronghold are pulled down at the place of prayer and spiritual warfare because the Word has revealed clearly to the saint that the old way of thinking and living will lead one away from the purity and purpose of God 2 Corinthians 10:3-6. The old doubt filled life; the old carnal mind which wants to “see before believing”; the old carnal mindset which equates success with size of wardrobe, cars, houses, amount of cash in the bank and other criteria soon finds those things vain. The renewed mind understands easily that we ought to live by faith, not sight 2 Corinthians 5:7.

The new mind agrees with scripture that the Kingdom of God is not of this world and does not consist in the abundance of earthly possessions but rather that it is the righteousness, peace and joy in the Holy Ghost we enjoy from our passionate, intimate relationship with God in Christ Jesus Romans 14:17, 18. For this reason, the renewed mind leads the saint to give up life of worry and anxiety. Trust in God takes over. With that heavy encumbrance off the way, the saint is able to seek first the Kingdom of God in all situations and circumstances knowing assuredly that God is able to and will provide all that is needful for life and godliness! Matthew 6:25-34; 2 Peter 1:3. Thus, we are talking about growing in grace and in the practical knowledge of Jesus Christ 2 Peter 1:5-11; 2 Peter 3: 14-18.

Spirit, Soul & Body, an Epilogue (2)

Implication for the body

The physical body of the saint who has yielded to the sanctifying work of the Holy Spirit and the Word of God and circumstances of life can be renewed, like an eagle. By faith and in earnest prayer, the saint can receive healing and deliverance from diseases which were in the body as a result of sin before salvation. Such physical ailments such as Sexually Transmitted Diseases; barrenness caused by badly executed abortions in the days of ignorance or indeed any other ailment can be healed by the stripes and through the mercy of God. Family yokes such as curses brought by blood guiltiness (where an ancestor murdered people for instance as a robber and used the money to train his children and they all failed in life, passing that down many generations); near success syndrome, poverty, lack of favour and such besetting family lifestyles as anger, wrath, jealousy, divorce prone life and inability to settle in families can be broken.

The saint who is growing this way soon finds that there is no more arousal of his/her reproductive organs to the presence of people of the opposite gender! He or she finds that the mind is clean of the former lusts and impurities. This is holiness in action!

The saint who allows the Holy Spirit to sanctify the mortal body soon discovers the joy and power of moderation in what he/she eats or drinks. The correlation between food and health becomes self evident. More importantly, as the peace of God which passes all understanding takes hold of the soul and as the saint begins to live out the Kingdom life of righteousness,

peace and joy in the Holy Spirit (Romans 14:17,18), he /she discovers that the healthy heard does good like medicine and effectively leads to a sound mind in a sound body. This conforms with the words of 1 Timothy 4:8 that godliness is profitable in all things!

Saints, the Kingdom life is real! It is not a set of doctrines or goose bump activities we engage inside the four walls of buildings called “churches”. The church is who we are – the very temple of the Holy Spirit through which He show off THE PRESENCE and POWER OF Jesus Christ – very God, very man!

Critical issues

Because the saint is in Christ and is pressing forward in spirituality, growing in grace and under the full sovereign rule of Jesus Christ, they come under His full beneficence as their King. Nothing is impossible for them as long as such is in the will of God. This is why they pray earnestly based on the word of God. The Lord however always reserves His best for those who make Him, not blessings, their delight and who live according to His Will in every area of life including all decisions! Psalm 37: 3-7; Proverbs 3: 5-8.

More importantly, the Lord has His countenance open to those who are actively engaged in completing the mission of Jesus which is to preach the gospel of the Kingdom in all nations so that the end can come for Jesus to return and set up the eternal phase of the Kingdom Matthew 24:14; Acts 1:8. For such saints, prayer is not a physical exercise neither is it an emotional joust. It is not about imposing our wills on a complacent God, expecting Him to rubber stamp our fancies and one sided tantrums.

Prayer becomes an expression of our dependence on God as a good Father and gracious King. In prayer, we acknowledge that we come before an Omniscient, Omni Present, Omni Potent King; indeed the only true Potentate who has a will, plan and purpose for all of creation generally and us in particular. Our prayer lives become acts of spiritual midwifery where we partner with Him to birth His will for our lives, ministries, congregations, cities, nations and this generation. Matthew 6:10.

The priority of God becomes our priority! What He says for instance about the end times becomes the compass with which we evaluate world news. We no longer join the ranks of rabble rousers of the religious right or liberal left. We are in the middle, standing on the known will of God and by the Spirit, decreeing and enforcing His will and ordinance upon our nations and generation! We stand with God concerning Israel not in political agitation propaganda, but in knowing the timeline of God. Instead of shouting ourselves hoarse over what is happening in the US, Europe, China, Russia, Iran and the Middle East vis-a- vis Israel, for instance, we go to the Bible and inquire of the Holy Spirit.

The result is that we will know assuredly that the times of the gentiles are coming to an end and that the ring of fire that is tightening around Israel signifies that the end is at hand. We thus move assuredly to focus on finishing the task of the Master with every ounce of energy in us, knowing assuredly that the end is at hand and we will soon be required to account for what we did with every gift, calling, money, opportunity and indeed asset God blessed us with! We make sure we are occupying in our assigned territory, getting ready and watchful over our hearts, minds and indeed entire lives! Luke 19:10 – 28. In other words, the true saint who is truly waiting for the return of Jesus proves this by active engagement with the present, spending and being spent in executing the present status as Ambassador of the King of Kings in the court of the peoples and temporal governments to which we are assigned.

Armed with sound mind and bodies, we demonstrate by the power of the Holy Spirit at work within and through us that Jesus is indeed Lord. We do not fold our hands or escape reality into monasteries waiting for the sound of the trumpet! The trumpet sound can only be heard by

those who are occupying for Christ, not those who are lazy and timid! The parable of the wise and foolish virgins in Matthew 25 spoke of the wise as those whose lamps were full of oil with which they were at the Master's service!

The Bottom Line.

The bottom line is this: God wants us to be sanctified wholly in the realm of the spirit, soul and body! He does not want any aspect of our lives to reflect the values and principles of the adversary, Satan and the kingdom of darkness. What is inside will reflect outside. A diseased soul will make the anointing of the Holy Spirit which is received, warehoused and released from the spirit man to be of none effect because of bad behaviour. Jesus said that those who believe in Him will enjoy the privilege of being used by God to release rivers of living water from their spirit man.

How terrible it is to see a man or woman of God used mightily to heal the sick and deliver the oppressed only to display carnal propensities in the darkness of the night? Do not ever be deceived by miracles sign and wonders! Jesus said that ministers of the gospel shall be known by their fruit! Matthew 7: 15-23. By fruit the Lord means what rules the soul will manifest in what comes out of them. Is it the fruit of the spirit or the works of flesh as Galatians 5:16 -21; 22, 23 shows?

It is said that anointing without character will lead to nuisance! Many there are who after their mountain top experiences of manifesting the power of the Holy Spirit, fall in the valley of soulish passions when the flesh takes over.

Moses suffered this flip flop of spirituality and soulishness at the Mount of God and when he returned to find the people in whoredom and in a fit of anger, broke the tablets of stone which the very fingers of God had inscribed His Laws! Elijah suffered this experience too after his epic encounter with the prophets of Baal When a single threat from Jezebel sent him running scared! Their issues were written for our learning. Sanctification of our soul and body is an absolute necessity to function in a way that is well pleasing to God in spite of the high wired politics we encounter even in ministry, the snares of false brethren who lie in wait and the horde of hell's demons which have possessed men and women whose greatest satisfaction is to have the dubious distinction that they are used of Satan to cause another soldier of the cross to miss the mark!

Spirit, Soul & Body, an Epilogue (3)

Drawing the Curtains on an intensely practical course!

Saints have remained at babyhood stage for too long, drinking and desiring even more measures of spiritual milk! Many have developed itching ears open only to hear words of "encouragement". They have bought the lie that the work of kingdom ministers is to tell you what makes your soul happy! 1 Timothy 4:1. It is by this principle that many saints are in a never ending quest for happiness through what happens on the outside: more money; wage rise; better job; new clothes; visiting the theatres and eating out in expensive restaurants, vacations and even sexual promiscuity! Two dangerous doctrines are back of these lifestyles.

The first is the doctrine of eternal security and "cheap grace" which says no matter what you do or how you live after salvation, nothing is imputed to you. In other words, "sin as much as you can because grace covers them ". This of course is a lie from the pit of hell. Grace may be free but it is certainly not cheap, procured as it were with the very blood and esteem of the God-Man, Jesus Christ! The Second doctrine that has led many astray is the one which subtly enthrones self as Lord. This is at the heart of the pseudo-Kingdom gospel. With this doctrine, God in effect exists to service you – make you happy. The Holy Book encourages saints to seek joy, not

happiness. Joy comes from the state of your relationship with God. Isaiah 12:3 says with joy, you shall draw from the wells of Salvation! Romans 14:17, 18 says joy in the Holy Spirit (that which has no bearing with what happens on the outside but rather what happens in the inside) is one of the sure proofs of the Kingdom that is within you Luke 17:21.

If we have true Kingdom leaders who share the heart of Abba, all saints in various congregations will be trained, equipped, activated and released to be functional parts of the local expression of the Body of Christ! Miracles become a lifestyle rather than an event that depends on the disposition of the man or woman of God. No one is a "laity". No one warms benches. Everyone is thus a minister, fulfilling the dream of Jesus to lead a Royal Priesthood. Romans 12:5-8; 1 Corinthians 12: 1- 31; Ephesians 4: 7-16; 1 Peter 2: 9-11; 1 Peter 4: 10, 11.

True Kingdom leaders thus make a deliberate effort to decrease and emulate John the Baptist who points the people to Jesus Christ. John 3: 26-36. For this to happen, true Kingdom leaders are open to the ministry of the five fold and make deliberate efforts to expose the sheep to those who have the word, gifts and anointing the flock committed to them need to be fully nourished Ephesians 4:11,12. There is no room for insecurity in them because the flock is Jesus own, not theirs! True leaders focus on teaching saints the pure word of God, not fanciful doctrines of men and encourage them to grow in grace and hear from God independently. They encourage saints to discover the gifts of God in them and proceed to tap into it. Any saint who is not receiving on a regular basis the varied inputs of the five fold will stagnate and can never be empowered or fulfilled.

Empowerment therefore shifts from the old religious paradigm of an anointed man or woman of God who swaggers into town to "perform" miracles to the process of making saints ALL what God intend them to be: an empowered people who seek intimate relationship with Him! That quest for intimate relationship with God in Jesus Christ requires a progression and growth in grace. 2 Peter 3: 14 – 18; 2 Peter 1: 5-11. That growth in grace is designed to lead to a three step transition in terms of maturity. The journey begins as a babe in Christ at the new birth. With the right ingestion of spiritual milk, the saint begins to grow. There may be struggles with a host of issues and besetting sins of the old life. With the first level of sanctification, the saint finds his/her heart more in love with God. This leads to a state of intimacy with God that is based on friendship, not legalism.

Subsequent sanctification experience deals essentially with the mindset of the saint. He/she is able to see the full import of his/her awesome position in Christ. This is the stage of son ship. Son ship drives the saint to take responsibility to be, in a sense, an effective partner with Christ in executing His authority over the environment where he or she lives. It is about making your territory too hot for Satan and his agents to operate unchallenged! In spite of this awesome privilege, the saint knows that the real deal is coming the day Jesus returns and inaugurates the full phase of the Kingdom of God. John 15:9 – 15; Romans 8:12 – 17; Galatians 3: 26 – 29; Matthew 16:19.

The whole idea is for us to live the way Jesus lived – at the behest of our Father in heaven! We dare not make decisions of our own neither dare we live anyhow. Son ship is about being responsible for securing the territory assigned to us so that the preaching of the gospel is not hindered. Let us see the example of Jesus who every saint is called upon to emulate:

John 5:30

30 I can of mine own self do nothing: as I hear, I judge: and my judgment is just; because I seek not mine own will, but the will of the Father which hath sent me.

John 6:38

38 For I came down from heaven, not to do mine own will, but the will of him that sent me.

John 12:24

24 Verily, verily, I say unto you, Except a corn of wheat fall into the ground and die, it abideth alone: but if it die, it bringeth forth much fruit.

Let us see what Jesus said is the basis of walking in the Kingdom life: Matthew 16:24-26 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.

25 For whosoever will save his life shall lose it: and whosoever will lose his life for my sake shall find it.

26 For what is a man profited, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul? or what shall a man give in exchange for his soul?

Paul the apostle was a man who so followed Jesus that he could ask saints to emulate him also (1 Corinthians 11:1). Let us see what he said is the basis of living the acceptable Kingdom life: Romans 12:1-2

I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service.

2 And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God.

Let us hope Abba Father has spoken enough to grab our attention; enough to make us allow the mirror of the word to show what the sword of the Spirit needs to cut off! Let us hope that none of us was too proud to contend with God and His Word! Let us hope every one of us is open for the Holy Spirit to use the Word we have learnt in these 13 lessons to wash off carnality in us. Let us pray that God will do a massive sanctification of saints in Europe, North America, South America, Africa, Asia, Oceania and the Islands of the Caribbean and indeed in all the 100 plus nations who are part of the Global School of Ministry so that a mighty holy army of battle ready saints will arise and shine for Him! Let us believe that saints who are fit for purpose in the final harvest will emerge from this very sanctification project.

Personal testimony

As for me, saints, I want more of Jesus to be formed in this vessel of clay. I want all of Him to show forth from my spirit through my soul and body for all to see that He is indeed alive and King! For that reason I too die daily and yield to Him so that He may continue to work in me all that He has purposed so that I can be all He meant me to be. In this pursuit, I find comfort in the words and attitude of our senior brother, Paul of Tarsus in the immortal words of Philippians 3: 1-14: I want to apprehend all for which I am apprehended by Christ Jesus! I have not arrived, yet! But I like what I have seen in these 23 years of closer walk with Him!!!

23 years ago I would worry and fret over things not working the way I expected. 15 years ago I would feel bad if any of those I lead left me in search of greener pasture. Not anymore! His grace has broken something in me. I still find some bit of irritation when people deal treacherously, lie and engage negatively with me. But I know I will get there when nothing ever irritates me at all! I know, more and more experientially, that indeed, all things work together for my good Romans 8:28-39. Knowing that truth has made me seek for and always find rest in allowing God to work out things for His glory.

I used to pray for deliverance from difficult situations as quickly as they arise. As the Lord continued to show me that some fires are of His making in order to work out His eternal purpose and deal with my soul in deeper sanctification, I no longer see Satan in all tough situations! Hallelujah, in the midst of some fires, I have asked the Lord to do and allow what seems right in His sight – as long as it brings and gives Him glory. The transformative effect of this grace He

has worked in me has produced out of this fragile, skinny middle aged purchase of His Blood, an incredible faith life and courage I cannot fathom which enables me to face oppositions of all kinds and still stand!

Saints, this is to say that whatever fire God allows to come our way is certainly not ordained to consume us but to refine, take off dross and bring forth the gold within. Saints, let us go for gold in this phase of the Kingdom! The world to come will be a piece of cake if we allow the heat of the now to do its work in the now. Who is coming with me???

Unanswered Questions

1. How did death come about?

Answer: Death came about as a result of sin. God had ordained that death would be the consequence of sin. Genesis 2:7; Romans 6:23; Hebrews 9:27. When Adam and Eve sinned, they first “died” spiritually by being separated from the life giving presence of God Genesis 3:7, 22-24. From that separation, it was only a matter of time before the body expired. From that day, ability to sin and its consequence, ability to expire in the physical body were passed on naturally to all humanity through the process of procreation.

2. Ques: What happens to the physical body at the point of death. Ecclesiastes 3:2; Ecc 12: 1-7

Answer: Physical death is said to occur when the spirit-man and soul are separated from and depart from the body. Every human on earth is appointed to die once after that the judgement follows at the appointed date God has set.

The Body – when this happens, the body becomes lifeless. No amount of money, intellect, position in life can save a human from this separation of the inner being (the real being) and the outer being or body (the house in which he lived!). The body will rapidly decompose as its water base is polluted by the un-renewed cells and deconstructing systems (80% of body mass).

3. Question: Where do the spirit and soul of the righteous go at death?

Answer: The spirit and soul of the righteous go to rest in Jesus Christ in Paradise. Some parts of Scripture call this Abraham’s Bosom Luke 16: 20-25. The spirit of the righteous goes back to God who gave it in the first place Ecclesiastes 12: 1-7. Because the soul is the realm of self expression, it will account for what was done in the body while alive and how far it influenced the spirit-man 2 Corinthians 5: 9-11. The truth is that the day a sinner makes a value decision to repent of sin and accept the propitiatory death of Jesus at the Cross of Calvary, the spirit and soul of that person has been redeemed from eternal damnation (except such a person backslides or goes into apostasy Hebrews 6:1-8; Heb 10:26-30).

Physical death for the righteous is simply a transition into a state of resting in Christ. Scriptures clearly teach that it is the first stage of reward for believing and serving God faithfully while on earth. It must be stressed that in the realm of eternity, the spirit and soul are treated as one: the inner or real man who was on pilgrimage on earth and needed a physical body to function for the span of time spent here 2 Corinthians 5:10.

4. Question: What happens to the spirit and souls of sinners, backsliders and apostates at death?

Answer: Because they rejected the propitiatory work of Jesus, those who die in their sins, including saints who backslide into a life of sin and apostates who embraced doctrines which

made the death of Jesus of none effect, at death, they stay in a place of torment waiting for the day they will be resurrected, judged and punished in the Lake of Fire and Brimstone forever and ever. Deuteronomy 24:16; Psalm 49:5-20; Ezekiel 3:19

5. What will be the critical differences between the time and place of rewards of the righteous and sinners?

Answer: The righteous start their rewards at physical death when they go to rest. Paul said that this state was better and more preferable for the average saint as it marks permanent escape from eternal damnation! It also marks the end of struggles, labouring for wages or profit, stress, crises and disappointments. It is a state of sweet rest.

- Subsequently, on the day of the Lord, those in this state will have their spirit and souls that are already redeemed, clothed with new celestial(imperishable versions) bodies 1 Corinthians 15: 35-50

- The redeemed spirit and soul and the celestial body will resurrect to meet Jesus in the air 1 Corinthians 15: 51-58; 1 Thessalonians 4:13 – 16.

- The resurrected saints will be joined by other saints who are alive in this Day of All Days; the Mother of All Days when truth of scripture will be confirmed! That Day is very near!!! 1 Thessalonians 4: 17,18. The taking away of the saints – dead and alive is what some call the “Rapture” or “catching away”. Labels are not the issue but what matters is the actual fact as described in the Scriptures.

- The reason for this development is that God did not appoint His saints to wrath on earth or in hell. Those who embrace Jesus and stick to Him in spite of trials and temptations pass from death to life and will be treated separately from the rest of humanity. God commits Himself to honour those who honoured Him while in the Body; not using their physical beings to serve Satan and sin. John 5:24 – 29; John 5:51; Romans 5: 6 – 21; Romans 6: 1-23; 1 Thessalonians 5: 1-11; Hebrews 9:27,28.

- These two sets of saints will go to the JUDGEMENT SEAT OF Jesus Christ 2 Corinthians 5:10. This is not a judgement unto destruction. No, it is rather a time for evaluating the quality and quantity of work done; how faithfully saints discharged the vision and mission committed to their trust; the motivations for projects saints embarked on. The fire of God will try every work done in His name. What was of the flesh; what was done out of strife or vanity will be consumed. 1 Corinthians 3: 10-15. The outcome of this Judgement will determine who gets what quality of rewards. The scope of territory saints will be assigned to rule over in the Millennial Reign of Jesus will be determined there. The person who will supervise the entire territory now known as the United States of America will be determined then. It may not be one of the great televangelists or Church leaders with mega congregations. It may be an unknown quantity, you!

- The Marriage Feast of the Lamb will follow Revelation 19: 1-9. This is the time when the Whole Church Triumphant will be joined to Jesus Christ as a Bride is united in a wedding with her groom!

- About the 7th year from the Trumpet Blast when saints were supernaturally lifted from both their graves (those who had died before) and from amongst human beings(for those alive), the saints will accompany Jesus Christ to claim the earth as His prized possession, purchased by His Blood of whom they are the first fruits!At the first coming, Jesus was the Lamb of God. At His Second Coming, He will be the Lion of the Tribe of Judah, in full Military Might! He will invade the earth realm, save Israel which would have been surrounded by extraordinarily large

army intent on destroying her completely. Israel would have suffered some years of intense persecution known as a time of Jacob's Trouble – the last 3 1/2 years worse than the Holocaust! The timely return of Jesus with the glorified saints will save Israel, stamp out the rebellion of mankind and usher in the start of His 1,000 year rule of on this earth with His capital at Jerusalem in modern day Israel. The events of 2010 and 2011 are all pointers to the reality that all prophecies of the end time are coming together and the times of the gentiles are coming to an end! Saints, let your lamps be in burning mode like the Wise Virgins! Be Ready 24/7; be Watchful and yet be very productive, using all the gifts, callings and opportunities before you to preach the sound gospel of the Kingdom so that many will be saved! Expand the frontiers of the gospel in your sphere of influence! Luke 19:10-28

- After Psalm 2 has been fulfilled and Jesus enthroned as Supreme Monarch of the Kingdom of God, He will assign saints to rule as Kings over various cities, districts, states, nations and regions according to the evaluation at the Judgement Seat. This will be literal, not figurative as it is in the now! Revelation 1:6; Revelations 5:9, 10. In this sense, we will fulfil the mandate of redemption as co-regents and joint-heirs of the Kingdom with Christ Romans 8: 17; 18-25.

- Saints will also be assigned to function as Priests. Revelation 1:6; Revelations 5:9, 10. As Priests, they will teach those unbelievers who are alive when these things happen, principles of the Kingdom of God.

There will be enough Priests of Jesus who will be available to teach people the ways of the Kingdom. Part of the message of the pseudo-kingdom gospel is the mixing up of this truth and appropriating it for the now! This fallacy has been proved to be mere figments of men's imagination so much so that there is not one single nation which is ruled by Kingdom principles on earth today. Yet some saints allow themselves to be deluded that we are called to "take over and rule the earth now" as an excuse to literally reject the full Kingdom Jesus is coming to inaugurate. We have the Kingdom in our hearts now. Luke 17:21. Our present realm of rule is in the spiritual dimension where we exercise the authority of the Kingdom to determine how the hearts of men and women respond to issues. A day is coming however when we will rule and reign physically. Saints, the wait will be worth it! Romans 8: 18-25.

6. What is the future of sinners, backsliders and apostates:

- Those who die in their sins have missed eternity with God without any remedy.

- Those who remain in their sins when the trumpet sounds will face 7 years of the rule of the opposite personality: the anti-Christ! The anti-Christ will unleash pain on those who claim to be saints but missed the exit of the true saints. A world ruler, he will make the possession of a chip in the right hand or fore head the linchpin of his global economic system Revelation 13: 16-18. Called the number of man, the Mark of the Beast will not be sold as a religious object! It will be packaged and presented as a need; something which will solve some fundamental problems of mankind and therefore of high functional value to make life more convenient for man. The idea is to have a true "Big Government" with an interconnected data base of all people on earth. This will solve the issue of identity theft, make crime a past sense and make life more convenient for global citizens! The Mark of the Beast as it is called comes with a price: anyone who takes it is forever condemned without any remedy! Revelation 14:9-12. His major project of destruction however is Israel and Jews everywhere. In the first 3 1/2 years of His rule, he will try to trick the Jews that he is their Saviour. His true colours will however be revealed when he insists on being worshipped as God and places the abomination of desolation on the altar of the Temple in Jerusalem. The eyes of Israel will be opened and they will rebel. For this reason, they will suffer intense persecution. Armies of some global powers will mass around to destroy Jerusalem and the people. The timely return of Jesus will frustrate his plans and he will be destroyed.

- Some backsliders and sinners who witnessed the exit of saints at the sound of the Trumpet will however brave it and be saved by martyrdom. Knowing what the bible says of those who take the Mark of the beast, they will refuse and thus be killed.

- On the actual Second Coming of Jesus, every one alive would have a chance to live sin free for 1,000 years. Faithful triumphant saints will rule over them and also teach them the ordinances of God.

- At the end of 100 years, Satan who was bound in prison would receive a limited parole. The purpose would be to see if those people who were granted a “pass” into the Kingdom of God; who experienced the righteous rule of Jesus and His co-regents and who received ministry from priests assigned by Jesus were merely playing along or genuinely received Him. Revelation 20:7- 10 shows clearly that their unregenerate hearts will respond to the solicitations to sin and rebellion of Satan!

- The Great White Throne will be the place where all the unrighteous dead of all generations including those who responded to Satan after the 1,000 year reign of Jesus will be summoned. The Books will be examined. All whose names are not in the Lamb’s Book of Life will be cast into the place of eternal torment, the Lake of Fire and Brimstone! Revelation 20: 11-15

Conclusion

The human nature with its three interrelated components – spirit, soul and body - has been given to us as an asset from God so that we can live on this physical earth to fulfil His purpose. Every single person on earth is the product of an intelligent decision and design of God. This includes children born out of wedlock and even incestuous relationships. This may sound strange but it is nevertheless true. Rahab was a common prostitute in the great city of Jericho. By saving the Jewish spies who came to her brothel, she secured her life and that of her family (Joshua 2: 1-24; Joshua 6: 21- 23). She went on to marry an Israeli and became one of the forebears of David and Jesus Christ (Ruth 4: 1-22). A young man called Pharez was the product of an incestuous relationship between Judah and his own daughter in law Tamar, disguised as a prostitute. Genesis 38: 1-29. Pharez became a forbear of Jesus Christ. Ruth was a Moabitess. Moab was the product of the incestuous relationship between Lot and his daughters who made him drunk (Genesis 18: 30 – 38). Her past notwithstanding, by her marriage to Boaz, she became a forebear of Jesus Christ.

These cases proves that God can wipe away the record of yesterday and do a new thing with anyone who is willing to receive His mercy. That mercy has been encapsulated into the redemptive work which Jesus accomplished for all humanity at the Cross of Calvary when He came to this earth as the Lamb of God who alone is qualified to take away the sins of the world. John 1:29; Hebrews 9: 28.

The grand qualification for eternity is “whoever believes”. Believing in the heart and confessing with the tongue (Romans 10: 6 – 11) is the starting point of a new life in Christ. That life calls on us to press into Him and make Him our delight. It calls for understanding that Jesus came to create a pathway for a new race that will populate the earth – the fourth race of people whose new identity is not after the old demographics of race, gender, age, soio-economic status but by one new universal bio-metric: redeemed by the blood! When any one appropriates that reality, the Kingdom of God comes into his/her heart irrespective of background Luke 17:21; Revelation 7:9,10.

The redeemed are called to a life of true liberty in Christ, the liberty that comes from giving up the old passions, ambitions and desires which war against the soul so that Jesus may be all in all. When this happens, they cease to live for this present world and its fleeting pleasures

and attractions. No, they set their sights on something far more glorious and grandiose: THE ETERNAL KINGDOM OF GOD. Living in the Kingdom of God and living for the Kingdom of God meet in the spirit, soul and body to make the things of this world grow strangely dim. The core passion becomes engagement with the very mission statement of Jesus Christ as spelt out in Luke 19:10 "To seek and to save the lost" for which He gave us the Great Commission Matthew 28:18-20; Acts 1:8.

For this reason, the redeemed of the Lord focus intently on using everything the Lord decorated them with – shape, beauty, education, spiritual gifts, physical and spiritual strength and indeed all things else to advance the Kingdom of God, knowing assuredly that God will take care of them and provide all that pertains to life and godliness for them Matthew 6:25-34; 2 Peter 1:3. The three indices of the Kingdom – righteousness, peace and joy in the Holy Spirit makes them unusual people because their satisfaction comes from connection with the Throne of Grace, not the material things their generation seek after Romans 14:17-19. In this present life, God will raise some of the redeemed to high political office. He will empower some with extraordinary wealth. He will lift up some to great heights in various areas of life. There will still be some who He has elected to use at ground zero level as ordinary people serving an extraordinary God and representing Him well even in that low estate. Those He has appointed to greatness will not achieve same by the normal process of mere men. It will be His work of grace all through so that there will be no boasting!

Knowing the terror of the Lord and the just recompense of eternal punishment which awaits those who die without Jesus, the righteous are under an impulsion and compulsion of love to do all in their ability and power to preach, teach, pray in and follow up people until Christ is fully formed in them. There is no room for indifference if you truly love the Lord and people who He created. We owe all men a duty of care to spend and be spent in the process of persuading men to receive Jesus as Lord and Saviour and thus escape the snares of eternal damnation! We have done our part by allowing the Holy Spirit to use us to download and release this deep message. Will you do your part? Will you take a stand today to believe the report of the Holy Bible rather than the fanciful ideas of men who have created their own doctrines of a pseudo kingdom with which they hunt for your pocket first and then your soul? Would you take a risk and abandon the Bible in favour of the opinion of men? You decide! Our hands are free of the blood of any one reading these messages! Please read Ezekiel 3: 1- 27 and Ezekiel 18:1-32.

The Course Assessment

In line with the revision of our study pattern, all participants in the Global School of Ministry are encouraged to take an assessment examination at the end of each course when it is still fresh. The assessment is not a dry academic examination. It is rather a mechanism to help us to achieve the following:

- Allow the Holy Spirit to use the word we have learnt to search us out and locate holes that need to be plugged in our walk with God, character and attitude to life. Psalm 26:2; Psalm 139:23, 34.
- Enable us to examine ourselves to see if we have any shortcomings in understanding of the subject matter that needs to be addressed so that we can receive help 1 Corinthians 11:28; Galatians 6:4. In effect, we use the occasion for the assessment to revise the entire course. Our subsequent performance in the assessment may necessitate a complete study of the course again.
- No one should be ashamed to repeat a course until you understand it well enough to truly impact your life. It is out of the overflow from the impacted heart that you can fulfil the mandate of 2 Timothy 2:2 to commit same to faithful people who in turn will be able to pass on the truth to others.
- In all things, let us be constantly aware that the Global School of Ministry is not an academic institution which stuffs our brains with new knowledge. It is rather a spiritual formation facility through which God is raising fit-for-purpose labourers for the end time harvest. The

structure of the School takes the form of that which Jesus had with the 12 disciples-Apostles for 3 1/2 years and the School of Ministry Paul operated in the House of Tyrannus in Ephesus for two full years – Acts 19:9, 10.

- In these dying days of the human age, God has ordained to use the internet to achieve the process of imparting sound teaching, training, equipping, activating latent callings and gifts of the Holy Spirit in saints. Those who show sufficient cause that they are in full agreement with God to be all in all in their lives and have disciplined themselves to lay hold of the grace of God poured out through the deep revelations granted to the Global School of Ministry will be recommended for ordination and support to fulfil the Great Commission not just in their localities but also across the world according to Matthew 28:18-20 and Acts 1:8.

- We believe the report of scriptures that Jesus is coming again. We believe the witness of the Holy Spirit that all the signs preceding His coming are being fulfilled before us and confirmed in detail by the news media. For that reason, we urge all saints to lay aside their self lives and ambitions. It is time to die to self and allow Jesus to be all in all. With this inside out transformation, we can seek the Kingdom of God and its righteousness with our entire beings knowing assuredly that He will surely give us all things that are needful for our well being on planet earth in the now. Matthew 16:24-26; Galatians 2:20; Matthew 6:25-34; 2 Peter 1:3 Please prayerfully revise GSoM Course 128: Understanding the Human Nature that was published on face book in 15 segments. Questions 1-5 of these questions are compulsory. Choose any 5 questions from No. 6 – 15 and answer them.

A. Compulsory Questions

1. Name and explain the three components of man as you understand from the course.
2. Name and explain the three components of the human soul
3. What is meant by the word “Carnality” or Carnal man?
4. In what way can the soul be made to function for the spirituality of the saint rather than carnality?
5. When does the spirit and soul separate from the body and what are their respective destinations for saints and those who remain in their sins at the point of death?

B. Choose any 5 questions and answer them

6. How do we guard against the attempts of the enemy to cause us to grieve the Holy Spirit by our thoughts and actions?
7. Name two instances that can cause the Holy Spirit to depart from a Christian. What scriptures refer to these?
8. What is the role of the conscience in our walk with God?
9. How can saints keep their vessels pure and holy?
10. What is the basis of walking in the kingdom life?
11. What is the role of the word of God in the process of becoming an ambassador of Christ?
12. Matthew 22: 37 says thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, soul and mind. Very little said about this, most emphasis in the body of Christ is about loving the Lord with all your heart.

In light of these series, how do you love God with all your soul and mind?

13. How do you deal with negative thoughts? How can you differentiate whether or not the thoughts are yours or just an attack?
14. What scripture tells us that our body is the temple of the Holy Spirit? Does the Holy Spirit reside in our body, spirit or soul?
15. What controls or accounts for an individual’s emotions and emotional disorders and how can we have positive emotions?