LIFE BIBLE STUDIES - LESSON ONE

MAN MADE IN THE IMAGE OF GOD

1THESSALONIANS 5:23 May God Himself, the God of peace, sanctify you through and through. May your whole spirit, soul and body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. The One who calls is faithful, and He will do it.

Paul is speaking here of the entire man.

Man is a three-part being: not two, not four, but three.

GENESIS 1:26-27 Then God said, Let us make man in our image, in our likeness, and let them rule over the fish of the sea and the birds of the air, over the livestock, over all the earth, and over all the creatures that move along the ground. So God created man in His own image, in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them.

God said, Let US make man in OUR image.

God is a three-part Being: Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

One Godhead, but three persons.

God is a spirit. He has a mind. He has a will. He has emotions.

We are like God in that sense. We are made in God's image.

GENESIS 2:7 And the Lord God formed man from the dust of the ground and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life, and man became a living being.

God formed (made, shaped) Adam's physical body.

God breathed His spirit or life, His life source, into that physical body.

JESUS WAS THE PHYSICAL MANIFESTATION OF THE INVISIBLE GOD

<u>HEBREWS 1:3</u> The Son is the radiance of God's glory, and the <u>exact representation of His Being</u>, sustaining all things by His powerful word. After He had provided purification for sins, He sat down at the right hand of the Majesty in Heaven.

JOHN 14:9 Don't you know Me Philip, even after I have been among you such a long time? ANYONE WHO HAS SEEN ME HAS SEEN THE FATHER. How can you say, Show us the Father?

Jesus came to reveal the Father.

The Son is representative of the Father God.

JOHN 16:13 But when He, the Spirit of Truth comes, He will guide you into all truth. He will not speak on His own; He will speak only what He hears, and He will tell you what is yet to come.

The Holy Spirit speaks not by Himself, but only speaks what He is told to speak.

So the Father God has the divine nature, in which even Jesus and the Holy Spirit have their source.

JESUS' GLORIFIED BODY

<u>JOHN 20:19</u> On the evening of that first day of the week, when the disciples were together, with the doors locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, Peace be with you!

The doors were locked, but Jesus came and stood in the midst of them. Did He pass through the walls?

LUKE 24: 36-39

Though He somehow appeared in the midst of them, Jesus still manifested Himself to them in a physical body.

God is spirit.

Man is made in God's image.

Everything in His universe is made out of spirit.

Everything has its existence from the spirit dimension because God spoke the worlds into existence.

Therefore, in truth the spiritual dimension, or the spiritual sphere, is more real than the physical dimension.

2 CORINTHIANS 4: 16-18

The physical things we see here are only temporary.

The spiritual things, the things which are not seen, are eternal, everlasting. They last forever. And so, man is first and primarily a spirit being.

Our real beings are our spirits, because we are made in God's image, which lives on the inside of our bodies. Most people won't find this out until they die and their spirit and soul leave their body.

Man is a spirit being.

Man possesses a soul.

Man lives in a body.

2 CORINTHIANS 5:1-10

Verse 6 - Your body is just a place to live.

Paul was looking forward to his death because he knew that when he died, the real Paul, his spirit and soul, would leave his body and Paul, the real Paul, would be with Jesus.

1 CORINTHIANS 2:9-16

God does not speak to man, nor reveal things to man through his physical being (eyes, ears).

God is a spirit.

Man is a spirit.

Their communication is spirit to spirit.

Our spirit knows what is in our heart.

God communicates with man through his spirit.

The Holy Spirit takes the thoughts of God and reveals them to us through our spirit into our heart.

<u>ROMANS 8:7</u> The sinful (carnal) mind is hostile to God. It does not submit to God's law, nor can it do so.

God does not communicate to us directly through our minds. Our carnal mind is enmity against God.

God speaks to us from our spirit through our thought life.

SPIRIT, SOUL AND BODY DEFINED

1. SPIRIT

The dimension of man that deals with the spiritual realm.

The part of man that knows God.

Communication between God and man is spirit to spirit.

2. SOUL

The dimension of man that deals with the mental realm.

Man's intellect.

The sensibilities and the will.

The part that reasons and thinks.

The soul is made up of three parts: the mind, the will, and the emotions.

3. BODY

The dimension of man that deals with the physical realm.

The house in which we live.

Think of yourself as a SPIRIT being who possesses a SOUL and lives in a BODY.

<u>2 CORINTHIANS 4:16</u> Therefore, we do not lose heart. Though outwardly we are wasting away, yet inwardly we are being renewed day by day.

The believer, in his soulical part, is being changed, and is growing into the character of Jesus Christ, even though the physical body is deteriorating.

ROMANS 7:22 For in my inner being I delight in God's law.

Paul delighted in God's law in his inner being.

Paul refers to the outward man and the inward man.

Our outward man is our physical body.

Our inward man is our spirit and soul.

THE DIVINE PLAN FOR HUMAN BEINGS AS IT APPLIES TO OPERATION AND ORDER

The SPIRIT is to function as KING.

The SOUL is to function as a	SERVANT.			
The BODY is to function as a	a SLAVE.			
	QUESTIONS - LESSON #1			
1. In view of this teaching, ex	press how you should think of yourself.	•		
2. The world's way of thinki	ng is what controls the	_ mind.		
The Spirit's way of thinking	ng should control the	mind.		
3. Lam a	nrimarily because I am made in the		of	

LIFE BIBLE STUDIES - LESSON TWO

UNION WITH GOD - REVELATION KNOWLEDGE FROM GOD

God breathed His life force into Adam's formed-from-the-clay-of-the-earth body.

Adam's body became alive.

This brought Adam's soul (his mind, will, emotions and heart) into existence.

So man had no sin, and he received revelation knowledge from the Spirit of God into his soul.

When God created Adam, God's life force flowed through Adam's spirit, soul, heart, mind and body.

Adam probably had a glowing aura around him, just as Moses' face shone from being in the presence of God.

Adam had no sin nature in his body, nor evil in his heart. Adam was created as the physical son of God on the earth. Jesus came as the second Adam.

Adam lost that union with God for mankind. Jesus put us back into the same relational position Adam was in before the transgression.

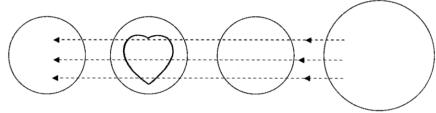
REVELATION KNOWLEDGE

Revelation knowledge is that knowledge which is given to us directly from God into our spirit by the Holy Spirit. It comes from <u>our</u> spirit into <u>our</u> hearts, and then as a thought to our minds.

<u>1 CORINTHIANS 2:10</u> But God has revealed it to us by His Spirit. The Spirit searches all things, even the deep things of God.

<u>SENSE KNOWLEDGE</u> -- Sense knowledge comes through our physical senses.

REVELATION KNOWLEDGE AND LIFE OF GOD FLOWING THROUGH ADAM



Body Soul Spirit of Adam Spirit of God COMPLETE UNITY AND ONENESS BETWEEN GOD AND ADAM WHAT HAPPENED?

SPIRITUAL DEATH

GENESIS 2:16-17 And the Lord God commanded the man, You are free to eat from any tree in the garden; but you must not eat from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, for on the day that you eat of it you will surely die.

On the day Adam partook of the fruit of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil he died spiritually, but he did not die physically.

The Hebrew word for *die* literally translates as *In dying you shall die*. Adam's spiritual death eventually brought physical death.

God said Adam would die that day.

This was not a physical death, because GENESIS 5:5 says Adam lived 930 years.

This was a spiritual death.

Spiritual death is a <u>nature</u>, a condition of existence which comes from becoming separated from God's life.

By the term spiritual death we do not mean that man ceased to be a spirit being.

Spiritual death is not a state of non-existence.

It is a condition which comes from being separated and alienated from God.

<u>LUKE 15:31-32</u> My son, the father said, you are always with me, and everything I have is yours. But we had to celebrate and be glad, because this brother of yours was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found.

Verse 32 - The brother had not been physically dead, but he had become separated, or dead, in his relationship to and with his father.

THREE KINDS OF DEATH

There are three kinds of death that are mentioned in the scriptures: physical death, spiritual death and the second death.

1. PHYSICAL DEATH

Physical death is a violent and unnatural thing.

Physical death is the separation of man's spirit and soul from his body.

God had originally created man to live forever.

EXAMPLE: The body's cells reproduce themselves; the body was created in such a way as

to never die.

JAMES 2:26 As the body without the spirit is dead, so faith without deeds is dead.

2. SPIRITUAL DEATH

Spiritual death is even more violent and unnatural to humanity than physical death.

Spiritual death is the separation of man's spirit from God.

EPHESIANS 4:18 They are darkened in their understanding and separated from the life of God, because of the ignorance that is in them due to the hardening of their hearts.

Man is separated from his life source.

SPIRITUAL LIFE = NATURE OF GOD

SPIRITUAL DEATH = NATURE OF SATAN

3. THE SECOND DEATH

The second death is an eternal separation of man from God, in a state of existence where the nature of God is no longer, and never shall be again accessible to man.

REVELATION 20:11-14

Being thrown into the Lake of Fire is the Second Death.

So Adam died spiritually, and he became separated from eternal life.

QUESTIONS - LESSON #2

1. What is the difference between revelation knowledge and sense knowledge?		
2.	How does spiritual death differ from physical death?	
	What are the three different deaths spoken of in Scripture?	
1)		
2)		
3)		
4.	Give a short explanation of each.	
1)		
2)		
3)		

LIFE BIBLE STUDIES - LESSON THREE

LOSS OF UNION WITH GOD

ETERNAL LIFE

Eternal life does not mean to live forever; that is life eternal.

Eternal life is a quality of life.

Eternal life is the God-kind of life.

In the Greek the word for this kind of life is ZOE.

Living forever is only one of the benefits of eternal life.

JOHN 3:16 ...whoever believes in Him shall not perish, but have eternal life

<u>ROMANS 6:23</u> For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Eternal Life is a gift of God.

ADAM LOST HIS UNION WITH GOD

1 CORINTHIANS 6:17 But he who unites himself with the Lord is one with Him in spirit.

If you have believed in your heart that Jesus died for your sin, and have confessed that belief with your mouth, and have invited Jesus into your heart to be Lord of your life, then you are born of the Spirit, and your spirit is in union with God's Spirit. See JOHN 3:3-6.

When the Christian sins he/she breaks fellowship with God, but his/her union with God is still intact.

When Adam sinned he broke his fellowship with God, and as a consequence lost his union with God.

Adam lost his union with God, because Jesus hadn't yet died for mankind's sins, but because Jesus has now dealt with sin on behalf of all mankind, and has eliminated the sin problem once and for all, the Christian who sins does not lose his union with God, although he breaks fellowship with God when he deliberately sins.

<u>1 JOHN 1:7-9</u> But if we walk in the light, as He is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus, his Son, purifies us from all sin. 8 If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us, 9 If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.

Adam still had communication with God, but he had lost the very nature of God (eternal life) in his spirit.

Enoch, a close descendant of Adam, had intimate communication with God to such a degree that God raptured him. This shows that man still had access to God.

GENESIS 5:21 - 24 When Enoch had lived 65 years he became the father of Methuselah. And after he became the father of Methuselah, Enoch walked with God 300 years and had other sons and daughters. Altogether, Enoch lived 365 years. Enoch walked with God; then he was no longer, because God took him away.

Adam was left with only his own ability and strength (physical senses, mind, will power and emotions) to deal with the kingdom of darkness and with the prince of the power of the air.

EPHESIANS 2: 1-3

By nature (what nature? sin nature) we were children of wrath.

Adam's spirit no longer contained the nature of God in it; but Adam's spirit was still his own life source.

JAMES 2:26 As the body without the spirit is dead, so faith without works is dead.

The Law of Genesis is that everything has life within itself and everything produces after its own kind.

GENESIS 1:11 Then God said, "Let the land produce vegetation: seed-bearing plants and trees on the land that bear fruit with seed in it, according to their various kinds." And it was so.

This Law of Genesis works the same with man.

Man didn't lose his life force.

Man lost the nature of God; this made him mortal (or "death doomed" his body).

Adam's body died 930 years later.

So the nature of Satan came into man's flesh through temptation and disobedience, in the partaking of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. The sinful nature then started to influence man's soul and control his life.

Man in general was no longer living by his spirit, but by his soul (mind, will, emotions) influenced by things around him.

Without the nature of God in their being mankind deteriorated quickly.

GENESIS 6:5 The Lord saw how great man's wickedness on the earth had become, and that the THOUGHTS OF HIS HEART was only evil all the time.

Man became progressively more controlled by the flesh.

ROMANS 3:23 For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.

The glory of God is the full manifestation of the life of God.

Man, although not in union with God, still controlled how sinful he became.

Because of his disobedience and loss of unity with God Adam lost his God-given authority in the earth, but he did not and could not give it to Satan because it was a delegated authority from God based on Adam's relationship and union with God. It was always God's authority. Adam lost <u>his</u> authority, but he couldn't give it to Satan or to anyone else.

Because of his loss of union and authority Adam now lost his anointing, power and dominion on the earth.

Adam's five physical senses were now influenced by Satan and the kingdom of darkness.

It took the nature of Satan (death) 930 years to kill Adam physically.

Man still had a free will.

GENESIS 4:7 If you do what is right, will you not be accepted? But if you do not do what is right, sin is crouching at your door, but you must master it.

Cain had the ability to master sin had he chosen to do so.

Authority is the right to use power, and Satan has not and never has had any authority to use power to force people to sin. His power works in mankind only through deception and temptation.

Cain did not, however, have the nature of God within him to help him overcome sin. <u>EPHESIANS 4:17-19</u>

VERSE 18 Sin makes you stupid; that is, it makes you unaware of spiritual truth. VERSE 19 They <u>gave</u> themselves <u>over</u> to sensuality; they had a choice in it.

2 CORINTHIANS 4:4

Man, over a period of time, influenced by Satan, became separated farther and farther from God, and his mind became more darkened to spiritual truth.

MATTHEW 6:22-23 The eye is the lamp of the body. If your eyes are good, your whole body will be full of light. But if your eyes are bad, your whole body will be full of darkness. If then the light within you is darkness, how great is that darkness.

Light represents the understanding of what life is all about. Life is in God, the Creator of all life. Everyone thinks they have light (understanding), but this is based upon their own perception of life.

No one can have the light of life except through and in Jesus Christ.

JOHN 1:1-5 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. 2 He was with God in the beginning. 3 Through Him all things were made; without Him nothing was made that has been made. 4 In Him was life, and that life was the light of men. 5 The light shines in the darkness, but the darkness has not understood it.

PSALMS 119:105 Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light for my path.

$\underline{\mathbf{DARKNESS}} = \underline{\mathbf{SATAN}}$	Man in General	$\underline{\mathbf{LIGHT} = \mathbf{GOD}}$
4		<u>'</u>

GENESIS 6: 5-8

Man's nature, however light or dark, has been passed on down through the generations.

The quality of life in the parents is passed down to their children.

Enoch, who walked with God, was a descendant of Adam.

Methuselah, who lived to be 969 years of age, was a descendant of Enoch.

Noah, the grandson of Methuselah, was a preacher of righteousness.

Nevertheless, mankind, without the nature of God, cannot overcome sin in all its forms.

ROMANS 7:14 -25

The Apostle Paul is here speaking of a time when he is unspiritual, sold as a slave to sin, and under the Law (v. 14). He is not born again through Jesus Christ, which is the answer to his problem (verses 24, 25).

That's why Jesus said to Nicodemus, "You must be horn again of the Spirit."

JOHN 3:6 Flesh gives birth to flesh, but the Spirit gives birth to spirit.

When we accept the sacrifice of Jesus we become born again of the Spirit.

<u>COLOSSIANS 2:9-10</u> For in Christ all the fullness of the deity lives in bodily form, and you have been given fullness in Christ, who is the head over every power and authority.

EPHESIANS 2:4-5 But because of his great love for us, God, who is rich in mercy, made us alive with Christ even when we were dead in our transgressions - it is by grace you have been saved.

Our spirit is pure and clean. HEBREWS 12:23

Our spirit is saved.

Our spirit has received its total salvation.

If we are born again, our spirits are the same; they have the nature of God within.

Our body is still death doomed, our soul (mind) is still darkened, but we have the nature of God in our spirits again.

JOHN 1:12-13 Yet to all who received him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God, children not born of natural descent or a husband's will, but born of God.

This is a free gift.

<u>EPHESIANS 2:8-9</u> For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith - and this not from yourselves, it is the gift of God-- not by works, so that no one can boast.

Man originally went from life to death, from the outside in.

Now the process starts to reverse itself and to go from death to life, from the inside out. The next step now is mind renewal. <u>ROMANS 12:2</u> Do not conform any longer to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind.

We must, through revelation knowledge from the spirit of God through our spirit, understand what we have and what to do with it.

2 PETER 1:2-4

Now we must walk or live in that newness.

This is why it is important to understand man as a three part being.

Salvation is complete deliverance from evil for the total man -- spirit, soul and body -- not just for part of man.

This salvation has been provided for us through the crucifixion of Jesus.

QUESTIONS - LESSON #3

1. Describe what eternal life is.		
. What	did Adam lose, and what changes came about in his life, as a result of sin?	
	<u></u>	
3. Wha	t is authority?	
l. Doe	s Satan have any authority? How does Satan get his power to work in	
peoj	ole's lives and in the earth?	
. Wha	at does it literally mean to be born again of the Spirit?	

LIFE BIBLE STUDIES – LESSON FOUR

TOTAL MAN AND TOTAL SALVATION

Because man is a three part being, salvation is a three step process which includes:

Justification: This deals with our spirit and is always past tense, because it became a reality in our lives when we accepted Jesus.

Sanctification: This deals with our soul, and is always present progressive tense, because it is an ongoing process of becoming more and more like Jesus.

Glorification: This is always future tense because it deals with the glorified state of our future resurrected bodies.

PART ONE - JUSTIFICATION

Justification means:

to regard as just or innocent

to be made righteous (that is, to be put into right standing with God)

to be declared not guilty

Justification deals with the salvation of our spirits.

ROMANS 3:21-31

<u>ROMANS 4:25</u> He was delivered over to death for our sins and was raised to life for (another translation states "because of") our justification.

"FOR" In Greek it means Jesus was raised to life "BECAUSE OF" our justification.

<u>ROMANS 5:1</u> Therefore, since we have been justified through faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ.

<u>HEBREWS 12:23</u> To the church of the firstborn, whose names are written in heaven. You have come to God, the judge of all men, to the spirits of righteous men made perfect.

Because Jesus took our sin on Himself and did away with it, there is nothing to stand between us and God.

<u>IICORINTHIANS 5:19</u> That God was reconciling the world to Himself in Christ, not counting men's sins against them. And he has committed to us the message of reconciliation.

When we accept the sacrifice of Jesus we become born of God through and by the Holy Spirit.

Christian mankind again has the nature of God in his spirit.

ACTS 13:32-41

Justification is in regard to our spirit man.

Our spirits are saved, born again from above.

Our spirits have the new birth.

The nature of God is in our born-again spirit.

We are justified and our spirits are made perfect.

<u>II CORINTHIANS 5:17</u> Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come!

This new birth, this new nature from God, is the same in all of us.

EPHESIANS 4:4-6 1 CORINTHIANS 12:13

I CORINTHIANS 6:17 But he who unites himself with the Lord is one with him in spirit.

We are not the same in character (our soulical area); but we are the same in nature (our spirit).

<u>COLOSSIANS 2:9-10</u> For in Christ all the fullness of the deity lives in bodily form, and you have been given fullness in Christ, who is the head over every power and authority.

The essence and nature of our spirits are the same; but our character will differ because of our souls.

We separate them for study purposes, but in life our spirit, soul and body are intertwined and united as one.

I CORINTHIANS 2:11 For who among men knows the thoughts of a man except the man's spirit within him. In the same way no one knows the thoughts of God except the Spirit of God.

If our spirits could be separated from our soul and body, without our soul and body losing their life, then our spirits would be identical.

It is our soulical man and physical man that make us different.

God is three yet one.

Our spirits are saved.

Our spirits are made perfect.

<u>HEBREWS 10: 14</u> ...because by one sacrifice He has made perfect forever those who are being made holy.

"Has made perfect forever" is past tense, and deals with our justification which is <u>forever</u>. We don't get saved again and again. We may lose fellowship when we sin, but not our justification. The spirit is made perfect; the soul is in the process of being made holy. HEBREWS 12: 22-23

QUESTIONS ON JUSTIFICATION

- 1. What does "justification" mean?
- 2. Which part of man is saved through justification?
- 3. What happens to the part of man that is saved when he is justified?

PART TWO - SANCTIFICATION

The next step in our salvation is the sanctification of our souls.

"Sanctify" means "to make holy". See ROMANS 8:29 and EPHESIANS 4: 13-15

I PETER 1:14-16

The whole key to our Christian walk is our obedience to God's word and will in our lives. Salvation has already been provided for you through the sacrifice of Jesus.

<u>PHILIPPIANS 2:12-13</u> Therefore, my dear friends, as you have always obeyed – not only in my presence, but now much more in my absence – continue to work out your salvation with fear and trembling, for it is God who works in you to will and to act according to His good purpose.

We have salvation in our spirits, but we have to will to do something with it (work it out, not work to get it) so it will effect the salvation of our souls.

We need to follow our spirits, not our fleshly desires.

The words "work out" are the translation of a Greek word which means "to carry out to the goal, or to carry to its ultimate conclusion."

EXAMPLE: Math Problem —You have all the information you need, but you have to put it all together in right order to come out with the proper answer.

You need equations, line upon line, precept upon precept.

<u>1 PETER 1: 8–9</u> Though you have not seen Him, you love Him; and even though you do not see Him now, you believe in Him, and are filled with an inexpressible and glorious joy, for you are receiving the goal of your faith, the salvation of your souls.

What is the goal of our faith, or our belief, in Jesus?

It is the salvation of our souls (mind, will, emotions).

Your soul has to become like your spirit. You need to become Christ-like.

<u>1 PETER 2: 2–3</u> says that we should grow spiritually in the salvation of our soul (mind, will, emotions) – "Like newborn babies, crave pure spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow up in your salvation, now that you have tasted that the Lord is good.

Spiritual growth is measured in the area of your soul, not your spirit.

This is the maturing of our soul, not the enlarging of your soul as your body enlarges in physical growth.

Christ in you does the work. Read <u>John 15:1–17.</u> Note verse $5 - \underline{\text{Apart}}$ from Him we can do nothing.

<u>PHILIPPIANS 2:13</u> ... for it is God who works in you to will and to act according to His good purpose.

God works in you, and gives you the ability, through His enabling grace, to change you.

God does it in you, and not you alone.

Your spirit is already like Jesus, but through studying the Word of God and being doers of God's Word, your soul will become like Jesus.

JAMES 1:21-22 Therefore, get rid of all moral filth and the evil that is so prevalent, and humbly accept the word planted in you, which can save you (KJV states, "which can save your soul"). Do not merely listen to the word, and so deceive yourselves. Do what it says.

2 THESSALONIANS 2: 13-15

Sanctifying is the work of the Spirit in our soulical area, or soulical man.

Our spirits are already saved.

Our souls (mind, will, emotions) are in the process of being saved through the efforts of our teacher, the Holy Spirit, through our belief in God's Word, and through our obedience to what the Holy Spirit reveals to us in God's Word.

This process of sanctification (making us holy as He is holy) is carried out by the Holy Spirit and is a continuous process throughout our entire lives.

Sanctification is the working out of the salvation of our souls.

The beauty of God here is that we all have different characters, refined by the love and nature of God through the Holy Spirit.

2 CORINTHIANS 3:18 and 2 CORINTHIANS 4:16

QUESTIONS ON SANCTIFICATION

- 1. What does "sanctification" mean?
- 2. Which part of man is saved through sanctification?
- 3. How does sanctification take place in our lives?
- 4. What happens during sanctification?
- 5. Do we work <u>for</u> or work <u>out</u> our sanctification? See <u>PHILIPPIANS 2:12.</u>

PART THREE - GLORIFICATION

Glorification is the third part of salvation. Glorification deals with the body of man.

Glory is the expression of holiness, as beauty is the expression of health.

The word "life" has been defined this way: "the correspondence of an inner organism with its outer environment."

Glory is the demonstrating of the quality of life. ROMANS 3:23

The Holy Spirit is referred to as the glory of God.

The Holy Spirit is a demonstration of the quality of the life of God.

Our glorification will be the final demonstration or manifestation, in our bodies, of the life of God that is in our spirits.

1 CORINTHIANS 15: 35-58

We will some day have our glorified bodies

We do not fully manifest this quality of life in our bodies now, because of sin. Our glorified bodies will show forth the quality of life that we have within our spirits now. That is, they will manifest eternal life.

At the time of the second coming of Jesus Christ we will receive our spiritual bodies, which will not be mortal (death-doomed). <u>HEBREWS 9:27-28</u>

<u>1 THESSALONIANS 4:14-17</u> This incident in the future is referred to as the rapture of the Church.

This is the last part of our salvation, because death is the last enemy to be put under Jesus' feet.

A total salvation has been provided for, but according to God's plan and His timetable. ROMANS 8: 22-24

VERSE 23 We are waiting for the redemption of our bodies.

We're waiting for Jesus to come back and set us free from this mortal flesh by giving us our immortal bodies.

This will be done in God's time and according to His plan.

VERSE 24 "*This hope*" is the hope of receiving our glorified bodies, totally redeemed from the sin nature. This will be our <u>total</u> salvation; that is, our complete and total deliverance from evil.

<u>PHILIPPIANS 3:20-21</u> But our citizenship is in heaven, and we eagerly await a Saviour from there, the Lord Jesus Christ, who, by the power that enables Him to bring everything under his control, will transform our lowly bodies so that they will be like his glorious body.

We are completely justified now, but I believe the degree to which we allow the Holy Spirit to sanctify us will have direct bearing on the degree to which we will be glorified.

1 CORINTHIANS 15: 40-42

Our resurrected bodies will have varying degrees of glory (splendor) according to the degree that we work out our soulical salvation.

<u>DANIEL 12: 2–3</u> Multitudes who sleep in the dust of the earth will awake: some to everlasting life, others to shame and everlasting contempt. Those who are wise will shine like the brightness of the heavens, and those who lead many to righteousness, like the stars for ever and ever.

1 CORINTHIANS 3: 9-17

Our works will be judged.

1 CORINTHIANS 15: 43-58

Verse 49 We are going to have a resurrected body just like Jesus has.

Verse 58 Your labour in Christ will be rewarded.

SUMMARY

Remember, our salvation is a three-part salvation, because mankind is made up of three parts: spirit, soul, and body.

The salvation of our spirit becomes past tense the instant we become born-again.

Jesus justified us.

We know we will go to heaven, but the salvation of our soul is present (ongoing) tense. We are <u>working out</u> our salvation in our mind, will and emotions.

This is an ongoing process of sanctification (becoming holy) throughout our Christian lives. There will be a heavenly crown and reward for our works.

Also, the degree of our quality of life in eternity, throughout the ages to come, will be in direct relation to the degree that we have worked out our salvation in this lifetime.

The salvation of our body is future tense.

We will receive our glorified body when Jesus returns (in the future).

QUESTIONS ON GLORIFICATION

- 1. What happens to us when we are glorified?
- 2. Why is this the last part of the process of salvation?
- 3. When does glorification take place?
- 4. To what degree will we be glorified?

<u>LIFE BIBLE STUDIES – LESSON FIVE</u>

DEFINING THE SPIRIT, SOUL AND BODY

The spirit, soul and body of man are one in the sense that they function together to make one human person. We separate them for study purposes, but in reality what affects one part of a man affects the other parts also. 3 JOHN 2 KJV indicates that the health of our body is directly connected to the spiritual condition of our soul.

<u>HEBREWS 4:12</u> For the word of God is living and active, sharper than any double-edged sword. It penetrates even to dividing soul and spirit, joints and marrow; it judges the thoughts and attitudes of the heart.

Only the word of God can tell us what spirit and soul are, and how to distinguish the difference.

PART I - HUMAN SPIRIT

1. A spiritual substance from God (spirit dimension).

<u>HEBREWS 12:9</u> Moreover, we have all had human fathers who disciplined us and we respected them for it. How much more should we submit to the Father of our spirits and live!

All life has its existence from God.

God is the Father of our spirits.

<u>ISAIAH 42:5</u> This is what God says – He who created the heavens and stretched them out, who spread out the earth and all that comes out of it, who gives breath to its people, and life to those who walk on it.

The Hebrew word for "breath" is the same as the word for "spirit".

God gives breath and life to the people on the earth.

ZECHARIAH 12:1 This is the word of the Lord concerning Israel. The Lord, who stretches out the heavens, who lays the foundation of the earth, and who forms the spirit of man within him ...

God forms the spirit of man within man.

God breathed His life force (spirit) into Adam.

GENESIS 1:26—28

Man is made in the image and likeness of God.

Mankind reproduced himself after his own likeness.

GENESIS 5:3 When Adam had lived 130 years, he had a son in his own likeness, in his own image; and he named him Seth.

2. A life source (force). In the Greek, ZOE (eternal life).

JAMES 2:26 As the body without the spirit is dead, so faith without works is dead.

The body without the spirit is dead. If your spirit leaves your body, your body decays and goes back into the earth.

<u>I JOHN 5:11-12</u> And this is the testimony: God has given us eternal life, and this life is in his Son. He who has the Son has life; he who does not have the Son of God does not have life.

God has given us our human life through Adam. God is the source of our created life force (life eternal). He has given us eternal life (our born-again spirit) through Jesus Christ.

2 CORINTHIANS 4:16-18

The things which are not seen, soul and spirit, are eternal.

Our physical body is wasting away.

Inwardly we are being renewed day by day because of our born again nature within us.

3. Man's spirit came from out of the inside of God.

GENESIS 2:7 And the Lord God formed man from the dust of the ground and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life, and man became a living being.

God breathed into Adam part of the very life of God; God's nature became Adam's motivating force.

JOHN 20:22 And with that He breathed on them and said, "Receive the Holy Spirit."

Since the apostles believed in Jesus, when Jesus breathed on them their spirits became born again. This was not the Baptism of the Holy Spirit.

As God had imparted His spirit/breath into Adam, now Jesus, having been raised from the dead, is imparting the very nature and life of God into their spirits by breathing on them.

4. Your reborn spirit is the very nature of God in you.

God's life is in you.

<u>II CORINTHIANS</u> 5:17 Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come!

This scripture deals with our spirits.

JOHN 3:5-6

You need a new spiritual birth.

When you become born again you receive God's nature in your spirit.

<u>JOHN 1:12-13</u> Yet to all who received Him, to those who believed in His name, He gave the right to become children of God – children born not of natural descent, nor of human decision or a husband's will, but born of God.

When you become born again, you become born of God, His child.

You have a new spiritual birth.

<u>COLOSSIANS</u> 2:9-10 For in Christ all the fullness of the Deity lives in bodily form, and you have been given fullness in Christ, who is the head over every power and authority.

PHILIPPIANS 4:13 I can do everything through Him who gives me strength.

You can do all things through Christ who strengthens you.

<u>I JOHN 4:4</u> You, dear children, are from God and have overcome them, because the One who is in you is greater than the one who is in the world.

The greater one lives in you.

Christ in you, the hope of glory. COLOSSIANS 1:27 KJV

God is inside you by His Spirit.

You were physically born with the nature of your parents or your earthly father.

Now, you are spiritually born with the very nature of your Heavenly Father in you.

EPHESIANS 2:1-5

The unregenerate spirit is also a life force without the nature of God in it.

You were spiritually dead (separated from God) in your natural spirit with a residue of God which was passed down from Adam.

5. Through your spirit you communicate with the Holy Spirit.

<u>ROMANS 8:15-16</u> For you did not receive a Spirit that makes you a slave again to fear, but you received the Spirit of sonship. And by Him we cry, "Abba, Father." The Spirit Himself testifies with our spirit that we are God's children.

I CORINTHIANS 2:12—14

<u>JOB 32:8</u> But it is the spirit in a man, the breath of the Almighty, that gives him understanding.

The things of God are spiritually discerned, not mentally figured out.

You fellowship with God through your spirit. You come to know God through your spirit.

<u>ROMANS 8:7-8</u> The sinful mind is hostile to God. It does not submit to God's law, nor can it do so. Those controlled by the sinful nature cannot please God.

A carnal mind is enmity against God.

6. Your spirit knows your thoughts.

1 CORINTHIANS 2: 11-12 For who among men knows the thoughts of a man except the man's spirit within him? In the same way no one knows the thoughts of God except the Spirit of God. We have not received the spirit of the world, but the Spirit who is from God, that we may understand what God has freely given us.

God knows what is in your heart through your spirit.

PROVERBS 20:27 The spirit of man is the lamp of the LORD, searching all the innermost parts of his being. (NASB)

<u>JEREMIAH 17:10</u> I the Lord search the heart and examine the mind, to reward a man according to his conduct, according to what his deeds deserve.

<u>ROMANS 8:27</u> And He who searches our hearts knows the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints in accordance with God's will.

The Father searches our hearts.

Your spirit knows your thoughts, and reveals them to God in spirit-to-spirit communication.

The Bible speaks of the spirit of man, the Spirit of God, and the spirit of the world.

The question is, who will control man as a spiritual being – the Spirit of God, or the spirit of the world?

7. <u>It is the born-again nature in your spirit which produces spiritual fruit in your life.</u>

GALATIANS 5:22-23 But the fruit of the spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law.

These all deal with your character. It is your spiritual nature to produce these fruits in your character.

The nature of your born-again spirit is righteousness. When we are born again the God nature within our spirits gives us the desire to do what is right.

The fruit of righteousness is peace.

<u>ISAIAH 32:17</u> The fruit of righteousness will be peace; the effect of righteousness will be quietness and confidence forever.

JOHN 15:1-8

The branches bear the fruit. You bear the fruit.

The vine nourishes and supports the branches, enabling the branches to bear fruit.

God's nature in your born-again spirit gives you the ability to produce fruit.

8. Our spirits are all the same.

<u>GALATIANS 3:28</u> There is neither Jew nor Greek, slave nor free, male nor female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus.

EPHESIANS 4:7 But to each one of us grace has been given as Christ apportioned it.

Our spirits are the same, but Jesus has given each of us grace to perform different functions in the Body of Christ.

I CORINTHIANS 6:16-17 Do you not know that he who unites himself with a prostitute is one with her in body? For it is said, "the two will be one flesh." But he who unites himself with the Lord is one with Him in spirit.

You are united with the Lord in spirit.

Our born again spirits are all the same; they are united with God, with God's very nature dwelling within.

<u>COLOSSIANS 2:9-10</u> For in Christ all the fullness of the deity lives in bodily form, and you have been given fullness in Christ, who is the head over every power and authority.

PART II - SOUL

While our spirits are all the same, it is our individual soul which makes each one of us unique and different.

With our BODY we contact the physical realm.

With our SPIRIT we contact the spiritual realm.

With our SOUL we contact the intellectual realm which includes the mind, the will and the emotions.

The soul is in the spiritual dimension.

The soul is the go-between for the body and the spirit.

The mind, will and emotions constitute the soul of man, but should be controlled by the spirit of man (his born again nature).

Mind, will and emotions flow out of the heart of man.

The heart is the seat of the soul, and the soulical life flows out of the heart.

THE HEART IS NOT THE SPIRIT

The spirit searches your heart; the spirit communicates with your heart; therefore, they cannot be the same.

JAMES 4:4-8

"Purify your hearts." Your spirit is already pure.

You have salvation in your spirit.

Your soul is what you are working on now. Your heart is part of your soul.

I JOHN 3:1-3

You don't purify your spirit.

You need to purify your mind, your will, your emotions; in short, you need to purify your soul.

Your spirit has the nature of God in it. Your spirit is born of God.

MATTHEW 12:34-35 You brood of vipers, how can you who are evil say anything good? For out of the overflow of the heart the mouth speaks. The good man brings good things out of the good stored up in him, and the evil man brings evil things out of the evil stored up in him.

Jesus referred to the heart as the storehouse of evil.

From the overflow of your heart your mouth will speak.

This is the same with people who are born again.

The evil that we speak as born-again Christians flows out of our heart, not our born-again spirit.

JAMES 3:9-14

The heart needs to be cleansed, not the spirit.

This spring is compared to your heart.

VERSE 10 This is written to born again Christians. Both good and evil can come out of our mouth.

VERSE 14 It is possible for a born again Christian to have bitter envy and selfish ambition in his heart.

MATTHEW 7:15 - 20

Jesus is also comparing the inner person of the heart to a fruit-bearing tree.

MATTHEW 12:33 Make a tree good and its fruit will be good, or make a tree bad and its fruit will be bad, for a tree is recognized by its fruit.

<u>LUKE 6:45</u> The good man brings good things out of the good stored up in his heart, and the evil man brings evil things out of the evil stored up in his heart, for out of the overflow of his heart his mouth speaks.

The expression of your soulical life flows out of your heart, which has evil stored up in it. This shows that the heart is not the spirit, because the born-again spirit has in it the very nature of God, which has no evil in it.

A man's character is the expression of his mind, will and emotions, which make up the soul of man.

Scripture confirms that the mind, will and emotions flow out of the heart.

THE MIND

Thoughts come from your heart.

MATTHEW 15: 18-19 But the things that come out of the mouth come from the heart, and these make a man 'unclean', for out of the heart come evil thoughts, murder, adultery, sexual immorality, theft, false testimony, slander.

You will speak what is in your heart.

These evil thoughts can be in your heart after you are born again, until you deal with them.

<u>LUKE 9:47</u> And Jesus, perceiving the thoughts of their heart, took a child, and set him by Him.

Jesus perceived the thoughts of their hearts.

<u>GENESIS 6:5</u> The Lord saw how great man's wickedness on the earth had become, and that every inclination of the thoughts of his heart was only evil all the time.

The inclination of the thoughts of men's hearts was evil continually.

THE WILL

<u>2 CORINTHIANS 9:7</u> Let each one do just as he has purposed in his heart; not grudgingly or under compulsion; for God loves a cheerful giver. (NASB)

You decide in your mind, but the resolve or will to carry it through comes from the heart.

<u>DANIEL 1:8</u> But Daniel purposed in his heart that he would not defile himself with the portion of the king's meat, nor with the wine which he drank: therefore, he requested of the prince of the eunuchs that he might not defile himself. KJV

Daniel purposed in his heart; he set his will.

Your will is set in your heart, and it influences your mind.

We now have a new nature in our spirit which has an influence on our heart, which in turn influences the will of our heart to live this new life through changing the attitude of our mind.

The soulical life influenced by the sin nature is referred to as the old self or old man (the person you used to be).

<u>ROMANS 6:6</u> For we know that our old self was crucified with him so that the body of sin might be rendered powerless, that we should no longer be slaves to sin.

The old self was crucified so that the sin nature would be rendered powerless.

The soulical life influenced by the born-again spirit is the new man, the new self, the new soulical being.

<u>EPHESIANS 4:23—24</u> To be made new in the attitude of your minds; and to put on the new self, created to be like God in true righteousness and holiness.

We have a new nature in our spirit, which will influence our heart to live a new life. This will move us to change the attitude of our mind.

THE EMOTIONS

JOHN 16:6,22 VERSE 6 But because I have said these things unto you, sorrow hath filled your heart. VERSE 22 And ye now therefore have sorrow: but I will see you again, and your heart shall rejoice, and your joy no man taketh from you. KJV

Sorrow, an emotion, was in their heart. Joy, an emotion, was in their heart.

<u>ROMANS 5:5</u> And hope does not disappoint us, because God has poured out His love into our hearts by the Holy Spirit, whom He has given us.

All emotions, both positive and negative, from the love of God to anger and hatred, reside in the heart of man.

<u>PROVERBS 23:7</u> For he is the kind of man who is always thinking about the cost. "Eat and drink," he says to you, but his heart is not with you.

His heart is not sincere.

You may say one thing, but only you know what is really in your heart, how you really feel about it.

4. Your body is also the dwelling place of God.

CONSCIENCE

Your conscience operates between your heart and your mind.

<u>I JOHN 3:19-20</u> This then is how we know that we belong to the truth, and how we set our hearts at rest in his presence whenever our hearts condemn us. For God is greater than our hearts, and He knows everything.

It is your heart which condemns you.

<u>ROMANS 8:33-34</u> Who will bring any charge against those whom God has chosen? It is God who justifies. Who is he that condemns? Christ Jesus, who died – more than that, who was raised to life - is at the right hand of God and is also interceding for us.

The Holy Spirit does not condemn you.

God has justified you.

Jesus intercedes for you.

Jesus did not condemn the woman caught in adultery.

PART III - BODY

1. Your body is a place for you to live.

IICORINTHIANS 5:1-6

It a piece of flesh that gives expression to the real you that lives on the inside.

Our body is our dwelling place.

2. Your body gives you corporality (quality of being material).

This gives you authority to change what goes on in this world (in the natural realm).

3. Your body contains the sin nature.

<u>ROMANS 6:12</u> Therefore, do not let sin reign in your mortal body so that you obey its evil desires.

Don't let sin boss you around.

<u>ROMANS 7:23</u> But I see another law at work in the members of my body, waging war against the law of my mind and making me a prisoner of the law of sin at work within my members.

The law of sin is in your body. The sin principle resides in your flesh.

<u>CORINTHIANS</u> 6:19—20 Do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit, who is in you, whom you have received from God? You are not your own. You were bought at a price. Therefore, honour God with your body.

Your body really belongs to God, if you're born again.

The body was created eternal.

The body became mortal through sin. Mortal means "death doomed."

Even doctors know the body reproduces its cells every seven years.

God has always had a problem with the flesh of man because the sin nature dwells in the flesh.

GENESIS 6:3 K.J.V. And the Lord said, "My Spirit shall not always strive with man, for that he also is flesh: yet his days shall be a hundred and twenty years."

GENESIS 6:12-13, 17-18 KJV GENESIS 17:11—14 KJV

God had a covenant with them in the flesh.

The Abrahamic Covenant dealt only with the body and the soul of man, not the spirit.

<u>ROMANS 2:29</u> No, a man is a Jew if he is one inwardly; and circumcision is circumcision of the heart, by the Spirit, not by the written code. Such a man's praise is not from men, but from God.

The New Covenant is a circumcision of the heart by the Spirit.

EZEKIEL 36: 25-27 I will sprinkle clean water on you, and you will be clean; I will cleanse you from all your impurities and from all your idols. I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit in you; I will remove from you your heart of stone and give you a heart of flesh. And I will put my Spirit in you and move you to follow my decrees and be careful to keep my laws.

JEREMIAH 31: 33-34.

This refers to the New Covenant which God promised to the Israelites, and it also deals with the spirit of man, not just the soul and the body.

PHILIPPIANS 3:2-12

GALATIANS 5:6 For in Christ Jesus neither circumcision nor uncircumcision has any value. The only thing that counts is faith expressing itself through love.

Faith that works through love is what's important in the New Covenant; physical circumcision accomplishes nothing.

GALATIANS 6:12-15

So it is in the New Testament that God still has a problem with the flesh.

Read the following scriptures also from the K.J.V.

<u>I JOHN 2:16</u> For everything in the world – the cravings of sinful man, the lust of his eyes and the boasting of what he has and does – comes not from the Father, but from the world.

GALATIANS 5:17,19 Verse 17 For the sinful nature desires what is contrary to the spirit, and the spirit what is contrary to the sinful nature. They are in conflict with each other, so that you do not do what you want. Verse 19 The acts of the sinful nature are obvious: sexual immorality, impurity and debauchery...

GALATIANS 6:8 The one who sows to please his sinful nature, from that nature will reap destruction; the one who sows to please the Spirit, from the Spirit will reap eternal life.

<u>EPHESIANS 2:3</u> All of us also lived among them at one time, gratifying the cravings of our sinful nature and following its desires and thoughts. Like the rest, we were by nature objects of wrath.

GALATIANS 5:16-18

Paul said, "In my flesh dwelleth no good thing."

<u>PHILIPPIANS 3:3</u> For it is we who are the circumcision, we who worship by the Spirit of God, who glory in Christ Jesus, and who put no confidence in the flesh.

Paul said, "Have no confidence in the flesh."

<u>JOHN 6:63</u> The Spirit gives life; the flesh counts for nothing. The words I have spoken to you are spirit and they are life.

There is a whole world system governed by Satan which influences our souls through the five physical senses (flesh).

If we allow ourselves to be governed by our flesh (self, bodily desires), then we become soulish Christians.

We need to be controlled by the born again spirit in us and by the Word of God, and to be led by the Holy Spirit.

EXAMPLE: Many Christians accept Christ as their Lord and Saviour with the mind (mental assent), but you never see a change in them to show that they've become born again.

They made a mental decision, but they never set their will to becoming Christ like. They've not purposed in their heart to allow Jesus to be their Lord, but only as their Saviour.

QUESTIONS – LESSON # 5

1.	Explain the basic difference between the spirit and the soul.
2.	Why are the heart and the spirit not the same?
3.	Where does condemnation come from?
4.	Why is walking in the flesh so dangerous for the born again Christian, and why must we control our flesh?

LIFE BIBLE STUDIES – LESSON SIX

DEFINING THE HEART

The heart is the source of the attitudes, motivations and character traits of a person.

HEART - figuratively the thoughts or feelings; also (by anal.) the middle, or core, of our inner being.

PROVERBS 4:23 Above all else, guard your heart, for it is the wellspring of life.

As the physical man, or outer man, has a physical heart, so the spiritual man or inner man also has a heart.

As the physical man's heart is the organ from which proceeds blood which carries life to the whole physical body, so the heart of the inner man is the centre or seat of his character, or his natural self, from which his personality and character flow; or from which his soulical life (mind, will and emotions) flows.

EXAMPLE: To love someone with all your heart.

The inner heart is the spiritual organ (as opposed to physical organ) of spiritual life (as opposed to the physical life).

The soul is the subject of that life which flows out of the heart.

The heart is the seat of the soul.

The spirit is the principle of life, the primary source of life.

The born again spirit has God's nature in it, which should be the ruling influence over our heart and our soulical life.

THE HEART IS THE CENTRE OF MAN'S RATIONAL-SPIRITUAL NATURE

ESTHER 7:5 Then the king Ahasuerus answered and said unto Esther the queen, Who is he, and where is he, that durst presume in his heart to do so? KJV

1. Where a man determines anything: for example, "presume in his heart to do so."

I CORINTHIANS 7:37 Nevertheless he that standeth steadfast in his heart, having no necessity, but hath power over his own will, and hath so decreed in his heart that he will keep his virgin, doeth well. KJV

2. When a person is strongly determined to do something, it is said that he "stands steadfast in his heart".

<u>IICORINTHIANS 9:7</u> Each man should give what he has decided in his heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.

<u>ROMANS 6:17</u> But thanks be to God that, though you used to be slaves to sin, you wholeheartedly obeyed the form of teaching to which you were entrusted.

3. Things done gladly and willingly and with a set purpose are done from the heart.

<u>I TIMOTHY 1:5</u> The goal of this command is love, which comes from a pure heart and a good conscience and a sincere faith.

4. The heart is the seat of love.

<u>LEVITICUS 19:17</u> Do not hate your brother in your heart. Rebuke your neighbour frankly so you will not share in his guilt.

5. The heart is the seat of hatred.

<u>DEUTERONOMY 29:4</u> Yet the Lord hath not given you an heart to perceive, and eyes to see, and ears to hear, unto this day. KJV

6. The heart is the seedbed of thoughts and understanding.

PROVERBS 14:10 Each heart knows its own bitterness, and no one else can share its joy.

7. Bitterness and joy come out of your heart.

<u>PROVERBS</u> 8:5 O ye simple, understand wisdom: and, ye fools, be ye of an understanding heart. KJV

<u>ISAIAH 44:18</u> They have not known nor understood: for He hath shut their eyes, that they cannot see; and their hearts, that they cannot understand. KJV

ACTS 16:14 One of those listening was a woman named Lydia, a dealer in purple cloth from the city of Thyatira, who was a worshiper of God. The Lord opened her heart to respond to Paul's message.

8. The heart understands.

<u>NEHEMIAH 5:7</u> Then I consulted with myself, (the Hebrew means "my heart consulted in me") and I rebuked the nobles, and the rulers, and said unto them, "Ye exact usury, every one of his brother. And I set a great assembly against them. KJV

9. The heart deliberates.

LUKE 2:19 But Mary treasured up all these things and pondered them in her heart. KJV

10. The heart reflects (ponders).

PROVERBS 16:9 In his heart a man plans his course, but the Lord determines his steps.

11. The heart estimates.

THE HEART IS THE SEAT FOR FEELINGS AND AFFECTIONS.

1. Joy and anguish come from your heart.

<u>ISAIAH 65:14</u> My servants will sing out of the joy of their hearts, but you will cry out from anguish of heart and wail in brokenness of spirit.

2. Pain comes out of your heart.

<u>PROVERBS 25:20</u> Like one who takes away a garment on a cold day, or like vinegar poured on soda, is one who sings songs to a heavy heart.

JOHN 16:6 But because I have said these things unto you, sorrow hath filled your heart. KJV

3. All degrees of ill will come out of the heart.

PROVERBS 23:17 Do not let your heart envy sinners, but always be zealous for the fear of the Lord.

ACTS 7:54 When they heard these things, they were cut to the heart, and they gnashed on him with their teeth. KJV

<u>JAMES 3:14</u> But if you harbour bitter envy and selfish ambition in your hearts, do not boast about it or deny the truth.

4. Dissatisfaction from anxiety is from your heart.

PROVERBS 12:25 An anxious heart weighs a man down, but a kind word cheers him up.

5. Despair comes out of the heart.

ECCLESIASTES 2:20 So my heart began to despair over all my toilsome labour under the sun.

6. All degrees of fear come from the heart, from stark terror to reverential fear and trembling.

<u>JEREMIAH 32:40</u> And I will make an everlasting covenant with them, that I will not turn away from them, to do them good; but I will put my fear in their hearts, that they shall not depart from me. KJV

<u>DEUTERONOMY 28:28</u> The Lord shall smite thee with madness, and blindness, and astonishment of heart. KJV

PSALMS 143:4 So my spirit grows faint within me; my heart within me is dismayed.

THE HEART IS THE CENTRE OF MORAL LIFE, SO THAT ALL MORAL CONDITIONS COME OUT OF IT.

1. The highest love of God can be in your heart.

<u>PSALMS 73:26</u> My flesh and my heart may fail, but God is the strength of my heart and my portion forever.

2. Self-deifying pride can live in our heart.

EZEKIEL 28:2,5 Son of man, say to the ruler of Tyre, 'This is what the sovereign Lord says: "In the pride of your heart you say, "I am a god; I sit on the throne of a god in the heart of the seas. But you are a man and not a god, though you think you are as wise as a god."

VERSE 5 By your great skill in trading you have increased your wealth, and because of your wealth your heart has grown proud.

3. The heart can become darkened.

<u>ROMANS 1:21</u> For although they knew God, they neither glorified him as God nor gave thanks to him, but their thinking became futile and their foolish hearts were darkened.

4. The heart can be hardened.

ISAIAH 6:10 Make the heart of this people calloused; make their ears dull and close their eyes. Otherwise they might see with their eyes, hear with their ears, understand with their hearts, and turn and be healed.

<u>ISAIAH 63:17</u> Why, 0 Lord, do you make us wander from your ways and harden our hearts so we do not revere You? Return for the sake of your servants, the tribes that are your inheritance.

<u>JEREMIAH 16:12</u> But you have behaved more wickedly than your fathers. See how each of you is following the stubbornness of his evil heart instead of obeying me.

II CORINTHIANS 3:15 Even to this day when Moses is read, a veil covers their hearts.

5. All the above are concentrated in the heart as the innermost life centre of humanity.

<u>I PETER 3:</u> But let it be the hidden man of the heart, in that which is not corruptible, even the ornament of a meek and quiet spirit, which is in the sight of God of great price. K.J.V.

6. The heart is the seedbed which issues forth all that is good and evil in thoughts, words and deeds.

<u>MATTHEW 12:34</u> You brood of vipers, how can you who are evil say anything good? For out of the overflow of the heart the mouth speaks.

7. The heart is the source of evil lusts and passions.

MARK 4:15,19 And these are they by the way side, where the word is sown; but when they have heard, Satan cometh immediately, and taketh away the word that was sown in their hearts. Verse 19 and the cares of this world, and the deceitfulness of riches, and the lusts of other things entering in, choke the word, and it becometh unfruitful. KJV

<u>ROMANS 1:24</u> Therefore God gave them over in the sinful desires of their hearts to sexual impurity for the degrading of their bodies with one another.

8. The heart is the storehouse of good or evil treasure.

<u>LUKE 6:45</u> The good man brings good things out of the good stored up in his heart, and the evil man brings evil things out of the evil stored up in his heart. For out of the overflow of his heart his mouth speaks.

MATTHEW 12:35 The good man brings good things out of the good stored up in him, and the evil man brings evil things out of the evil stored up in him.

9. The heart is the place where God's law is written in us.

<u>ROMANS 2:15</u> Since they show that the requirements of the law are written on their hearts, their consciences also bearing witness, and their thoughts now accusing, now even defending them.

10. The heart is where the law of grace resides. We are declared righteous by grace, and by grace we are able to fulfill the law.

<u>ISAIAH 51:7</u> Hearken unto me, ye that know righteousness, the people in whose heart is my law; fear ye not the reproach of men, neither be ye afraid of their revilings. K.J.V.

<u>JEREMIAH 31:33</u> But this shall be the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel: "After those days," saith the Lord, "I will put my law in their inward parts, and write it in their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people." KJV

11. The heart is the seat of the conscience.

<u>HEBREWS 10:22</u> Let us draw near to God with a sincere heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled to cleanse us from a guilty conscience and having our bodies washed with pure water.

I JOHN 3:19-21

12. The heart is the growing place for God's Word.

<u>MATTHEW 13: 19</u> When anyone hears the message about the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what was sown in his heart. This is the seed sown along the path.

<u>LUKE 8:15</u> But the seed on good soil stands for those with a noble and good heart, who hear the word, retain it, and by persevering produce a crop.

13. The heart is the dwelling place of Christ in us.

EPHES1ANS 3:17 So that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith. And I pray that you, being rooted and established in love...

14. The heart is the dwelling place of the Holy Spirit.

<u>II CORINTHIANS 1:22</u> ...set His seal of ownership on us, and put His Spirit in our hearts as a deposit, guaranteeing what is to come.

15. God's peace can be in our hearts.

<u>COLOSSIANS 3:15</u> Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, since as members of one body you were called to peace. And be thankful.

16. The heart is where God's love is poured out in us.

<u>ROMANS 5:5</u> And hope does not disappoint us, because God has poured out His love into our hearts by the Holy Spirit, whom He has given us.

17. In your heart you can have close fellowship with God.

EPHESIANS 5:19 Speak to one another with psalms, hymns and spiritual songs. Sing and make music in your heart to the Lord.

SUMMARY STATEMENT

The human personality finds its \underline{SOURCE} in the spirit realm (either sin nature or nature of God), and \underline{FINDS} $\underline{EXPRESSION}$ through the soul.

ASSIGNMENT

In view of what you have learned in this lesson, define in your own words your understanding of the inner heart of man.

LIFE BIBLE STUDIES – LESSON SEVEN

FURTHER STUDY ON THE HEART

THE WORD "HEART" IN THE NEW TESTAMENT

HEART (kardia) This Greek word for heart, denoting a physical organ, does not exactly correspond to the Hebrew term for heart used in the Old Testament. By an easy transition the word (kardia) came to stand for man's entire mental and moral activity, both the rational and the emotional elements. In other words, the heart is used figuratively for the hidden springs of the personal life. (W.E. VINE)

The word heart in the New Testament sometimes speaks of vigor and a sense of physical life, as in the following scriptures.

<u>JAMES</u> 5:5 K.J.V. Ye have lived in pleasure on the earth, and been wanton; ye have nourished your hearts, as in a day of slaughter.

<u>LUKE 21:34</u> Be careful, or your hearts will be weighed down with dissipation, drunkenness and the anxieties of life, and that day will close on you unexpectedly like a trap.

Generally speaking, our heart is the centre of our being, the seedbed from which our actions and attitudes stem, whether physical, moral, spiritual or intellectual.

MARK 12:30 Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength.

The heart is where your personal life is concentrated, the organ through and out of which you live your life. Since this is so, the word "heart" is sometimes used in place of the word "soul" when concerning the individual's life. The word "heart" is also sometimes used in place of the word "spirit", the principle of life, as the spirit manifests itself through the soul.

Therefore, the heart is an organ of the soul because the soul flows out of the heart. Your heart mediates between your soul and your spirit. It is the go-between for them.

In your heart the spirit, which is the principle of life for the soul, has its seat of activity.

The heart is the basic area where the spirit communicates in order to deal with the soul.

<u>PROVERBS 20:27</u> The spirit of man is the lamp of the LORD, searching all the innermost parts of his being. (NASB)

It is the spirit that searches all the inward parts of the being (belly - K.J.V.).

Emotions of joy and sorrow are said to deal with both your heart and your soul. To see this compare <u>JOHN 14:27</u> and <u>JOHN 12:27</u>.

<u>JOHN 14:27</u> Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled, and do not be afraid.

<u>JOHN 12:27</u> K.J.V. Now is my soul troubled; and what shall I say? Father, save me from this hour: but for this cause came I into this hour.

Remember, your soul includes your mind, will and emotions.

In the New Testament the heart is described as the focal point of a person's religious life.

MATTHEW 22:37 Jesus replied: Love the Lord your God with all your HEART. and with all your soul and with all your mind

<u>LUKE 6:45</u> The good man brings good things out of the good stored up in his heart, and the evil man brings evil things out of the evil stored up in his heart. For out of the overflow of his heart his mouth speaks.

<u>II TIMOTHY 2:22</u> Flee the evil desires of youth, and pursue righteousness, faith, love and peace, along with those who call on the Lord out of a pure heart.

The heart is where the operation of grace occurs.

MATTHEW 13:19 When anyone hears the message about the Kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what was sown in his heart.

<u>LUKE 8:15</u> But the seed on good soil stands for those with a noble and good heart, who hear the word, retain it, and by persevering produce a crop.

<u>LUKE 24:32</u> They asked each other, "Were not our hearts burning within us while He talked with us on the road and opened the scriptures to us?"

ACTS 2:37 When the people heard this, they were cut to the heart, and said to Peter and the other apostles, "Brothers, what shall we do?"

ROMANS 10:9-10 That if you confess with your mouth, "Jesus is Lord," and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For it is with your heart that you believe and are justified and it is with your mouth that you confess and are saved.

As we have seen, God has access to our hearts; the opposite is also true: Satan has access to our hearts through the sin nature in our flesh.

<u>JOHN 13:2</u> K.J.V. And supper being ended, the devil having now put into the heart of Judas Iscariot, Simon's son, to betray Him ...

ACTS 5:3 Then Peter said, "Ananias, how is it that Satan has so filled your heart that you have lied to the Holy Spirit and have kept for yourself some of the money you received for the land?"

Heart in the New Testament is also used for the seat where understanding, revelation knowledge or intelligence of divine things are received.

MATTHEW 13:15 For this people's heart has become calloused; they hardly hear with their ears, and they have closed their eyes. Otherwise they might see with their eyes, hear with their ears, understand with their hearts and turn, and I would heal them.

<u>ROMANS 1:21</u> For although they knew God, they neither glorified Him as God nor gave thanks to Him, but their thinking became futile and their foolish hearts were darkened.

MARK 8:17 Aware of their discussion, Jesus asked them: "Why are you talking about having no bread? Do you still not see or understand? Are your hearts hardened?"

QUESTIONS - LESSON #7

1. Fill in the blan	ks. <u>LUKE 6:45.</u>	The good man brings good			
	_ out of the good	up in his heart. And the			
man brings evil things out of the evil stored up in his					
For out of the _	of h	is heart his			
2. True or false.	We are able to ur	derstand something with our heart. T_ F			
3 . How does Sata	an, or the influenc	e of evil. have access to our heart?			

LIFE BIBLE STUDIES – LESSON EIGHT

THE LAND OF THE HEART

LUKE 8:4-15

The seed sown in the soil is compared to the word of God sown in the heart (the land within from which spiritual fruit is produced).

God gave the land of Canaan to the Israelites. The giving was God's part. The land was theirs, but they had to possess it.

<u>Deuteronomy 1:8</u> See, I have given you this land. Go in and take possession of the land that the Lord swore He would give to your fathers - to Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, and to their descendants after them.

Principle: What is given is not automatically yours.

You have your salvation. It has been provided for you; but you must work it out into your soulical man through your heart.

The challenge of the Christian today is to possess the land within.

<u>Matthew 15:18-19</u> But the things that come out of the mouth come from the heart, and these make a man 'unclean'. For out of the heart come evil thoughts, murder, adultery, sexual immorality, theft, false testimony, slander.

Matthew 12:34-35 You brood of vipers, how can you who are evil say anything good? For out of the overflow of the heart the mouth speaks. The good man brings good things out of the good stored up in him, and the evil man brings evil things out of the evil stored up in him.

These scriptures pertain to saved and unsaved alike. James said that with our mouth we worship God and curse men.

The Bible describes human depravity as in the heart. The heart is the seedbed for evil, but it is also the area of divine influence.

Acts 15:5-11

<u>Luke 8:15</u> But the seed on good soil stands for those with a noble and good heart, who hear the word, retain it, and by persevering produce a crop.

The heart is the soil for God's Word to grow in.

<u>JAMES 4:8</u> Come near to God and He will come near to you. Wash your hands, you sinners, and purify your hearts, you double-minded.

Jesus has given us the victory!

COLOSSIANS 2:9-10, 14-15 9 For in Christ all the fullness of deity lives in bodily form, 10 and you have been given fullness in Christ, who is the head over every power and authority. He forgave us all our sins, 14 having cancelled the written code, with its regulations, that was against us and that stood opposed to us; He took it away, nailing it to the cross. 15 And having disarmed the powers and authorities, He made a public spectacle of them, triumphing over them by the cross.

ROMANS 6:22-23 But now that you have been set free from sin and have become slaves to God, the benefit you reap leads to holiness, and the result is eternal life. For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

We have to purify our hearts because our life flows out of it.

PROVERBS 4:23 Above all else, guard your heart, for it is the wellspring of life.

To possess the land within (purify your heart) is to get the evil out of your heart (storehouse) and replace it with good.

I PETER 1:16 For it is written: "Be holy, because I am holy."

Our heart is the storehouse or spiritual receptacle of everything that we have allowed to come in over our past years.

MATTHEW 15:18-19 But the things that come out of the mouth come from the heart, and these make a man 'unclean'. For out of the heart come evil thoughts, murder, adultery, sexual immorality, theft, false testimony, slander.

<u>LUKE 6:45</u> The good man brings good things out of the good stored up in his heart, and the evil man brings evil things out of the evil stored up in his heart. For out of the overflow of his heart his mouth speaks.

The spiritual heart is what the memory bank is to a computer.

Our heart is actually what psychologists call the subconscious.

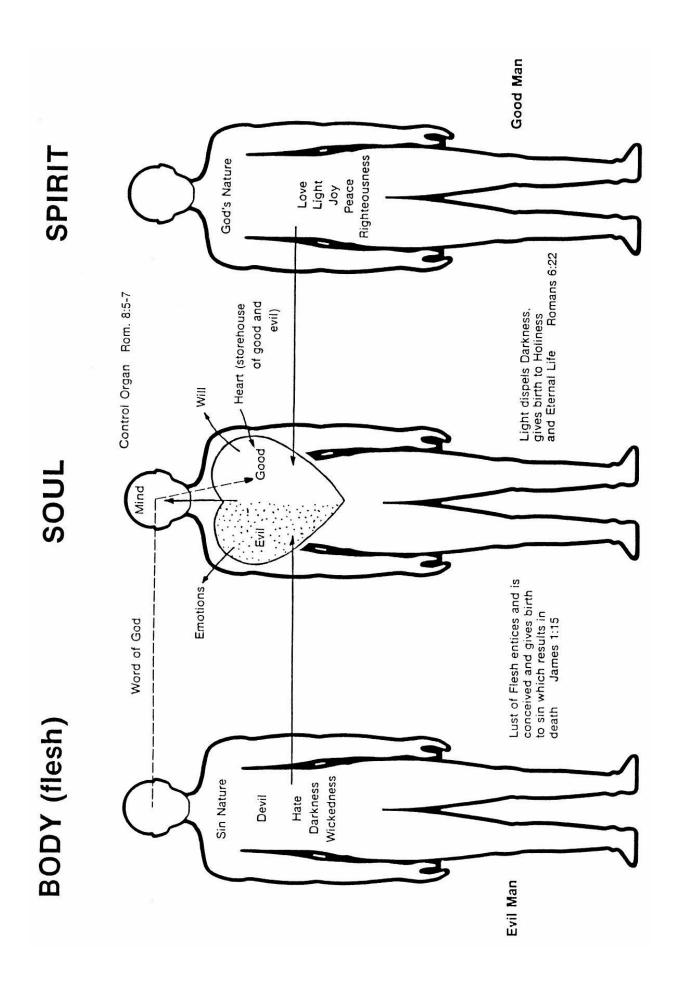
The heart/subconscious can be "programmed" by feeding words into it.

A psychological therapist will use *positive affirmations*, a systematic repetition of statements or actions, to help overcome a poor self-image or a negative behaviour. The nature of these statements or actions will be based on the underlying philosophy of the therapist.

God's method is to fill the heart with the Word of God (see <u>JOSHUA 1:8)</u> and actions based on the Word (forgiveness, walking in love, prayer, confession of the Word, study and meditation in the Word). Christian counseling and ministry must be based on God's Word.

QUESTIONS – LESSON #8

1. In the parable of the sower what were conditions, and what happens to the w one of them.	
2. What does James say we should do with	th our hearts? (See <u>JAMES 4</u>).
3. Why should we guard our hearts abov	e all else?
4. But the things that come out of the	come from the heart, and these make
a man; for out of the	come evil thoughts, murder,
adultery, sexual immorality, theft, false tes	stimony, slander.
5. Fill in the blank. Our heart is actually	what psychologists call the



LIFE BIBLE STUDIES - LESSON NINE

PURIFYING THE HEART - HOW DO WE DO THIS?

We purify the heart by putting God's Word into our heart.

EPHESIANS 5:25-27

The spiritual water, which cleanses the heart, is the word of God.

<u>I PETER 1:22</u> Now that you have purified yourselves by obeying the truth so that you have sincere love for your brothers, love one another deeply, from the heart.

To have a purified soul, you must purify your heart. This is sanctification.

We purify our hearts with the Word of God.

The seed sown in the soil is the Word of God sown in our hearts.

<u>LUKE 8:15</u> But the seed on good soil stands for those with a noble and good heart, who hear the word, retain it, and by persevering produce a crop.

Some hearts are hardened or bitter (bad soil).

We change the soil, or the attitude, of our heart through an attitude of submission to God, through prayer, and through fasting.

We fill the storehouse with truth, which is the Word of God.

EXODUS 23:27-30

Your heart will be cleansed and purified bit by bit as you grow in the Lord; it is a gradual process.

You can speed up your spiritual growth by spending a lot of time in God's Word, and by being a doer of the Word.

MATTHEW 12:43-45

God could instantly deliver us of all our problems, but if we did not build ourselves up on the Word of God, then how could we keep our deliverance?

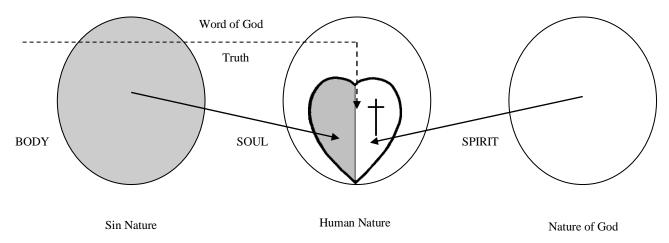
If God cleansed our heart completely upon the new birth, our heart would be empty.

If we did not immediately fill our heart with God's Word, the evil would re-enter, but it would be stronger.

JUDGES 2:10-23

God will supernaturally drive out the evil in our hearts (this is the sanctifying work of the Holy Spirit), if we will fill our hearts with His Word and walk according to His covenant of love.

ROMANS 12:12 Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.



MARK 4:14-20

The Word of God sown into a meek, humble and hungry heart and then meditated upon will produce a spiritual crop of spiritual fruit, 30, 60 or 100 fold return.

As truth comes into our heart, the Spirit of truth bears witness with our spirits.

As the Word of God is pondered on, or meditated on, then it is quickened in our heart by the Holy Spirit, and springs forth into life as we accept it as truth and act upon it. If we do not meditate on the word, it will not come alive in our hearts, and we will not be able to be doers of the word. (See <u>JOSHUA 1:8</u>).

We will have mental assent only: we will agree in our minds that the word is true, but we will continue to live out of the evil in our hearts, which is our negative emotions.

God's Word is spirit, truth, alive, powerful, and when it comes in contact with the nature of God in us, it will produce eternal life.

JOHN 4:7-14

The fountain of true life is hid with Christ. This is Christ in you, the hope of glory.

<u>COLOSSIANS 1:27</u> To them God has chosen to make known among the Gentiles the glorious riches of this mystery, which is Christ in you, the hope of glory.

The life of God has to come through your heart, by dying to self, and living to Him and for Him. See MATTHEW 16: 24-26 and GALATIANS 2:20.

The life of God can only ever be realized through opening up your heart to Him and allowing His life, in your spirit by the Holy Spirit, to flow through your heart.

PSALMS 119:105 Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light for my path.

We need to allow the light to shine in our hearts, and that will drive the darkness out.

<u>II CORINTHIANS 4:3-6</u> The light of the Gospel of Jesus (God) has shone forth in our hearts.

We sow the Word of God into our hearts because as Christians it is our hearts that need to be changed, not our spirits.

The heart is the wellspring of life (<u>PROVERBS 4:23</u> (N.I.V.); therefore, we need to put truth into it so we can bring forth living water and not bitter water.

<u>JAMES 4:8</u> Come near to God and He will come near to you. Wash your hands, you sinners, and purify your hearts, you double-minded.

<u>LUKE 6:45</u> The good man brings good things out of the good stored up in his heart, and the evil man brings evil things out of the evil stored up in his heart. For out of the overflow of his heart his mouth speaks.

From the abundance of the heart the mouth speaks.

JAMES 3:9-12

Make the tree good, and the fruit will be good.

MATTHEW 12:33-37

Put truth in the heart and truth will come out.

JAMES 1:13-16

We see that the heart is the soil for God's Word to grow and produce fruit in our lives, thereby changing our lives.

To change your life you need to change your heart.

However, the heart is also the seedbed for evil.

You need to decide what you shall produce in your heart in abundance.

MARK 7:18-22

James said, "Wash your hands and purify your hearts." Not just exterior sin, but also interior sin.

<u>PSALMS 24:3-4</u>Who may ascend the hill of the Lord? Who may stand in His holy place? He who has clean hands and a pure heart, who does not lift up his soul to an idol or swear by what is false.

You keep your hands clean, and God will purify your heart.

PSALMS 15:1-5

PSALMS 51:10-12

David wrote this psalm after his sin with Bathsheba.

MATTHEW 5:21-22,27-28

For us to allow unjustified anger or lust to operate in our hearts is sin.

This shows us that we do control what is in our hearts.

Christianity is of the heart; it is not just exterior rules and regulations.

LESSON #9 - QUESTIONS

- 1. What must we put in our heart in order to purify it?
- 2. Why is it important to meditate on the Word of God?
- 3. How do we change the soil, or attitude, of our heart to make it good soil?
- 4. What two things can we do to speed up our spiritual growth and the process of purifying our hearts?

LIFE BIBLE STUDIES - LESSON TEN

UNDERSTANDING THE INNER WORKINGS OF THE HEART

We are made in God's image. The Scripture says that both we and God have a heart.

GENESIS 8:21 The Lord smelled the pleasing aroma and said in his heart: Never again will I curse the ground because of man, even though every inclination of his heart is evil from childhood. And never again will I destroy all living creatures, as I have done.

ACTS 13:22 After removing Saul, He made David their king. He testified concerning him: I have found David son of Jesse, a man after my own heart; he will do everything I want him to do.

We are told to guard our heart because our life, both good and evil aspects, flows out of our heart.

WAYS OF GUARDING THE HEART: staying away from hearing evil (e.g. cursing, or evil music), from seeing evil (e.g. pornographic movies), from being unequally yoked with unbelievers, and by deliberately not taking offence, but forgiving from the heart.

In addition, spending time in the Word, and with the Lord in prayer, keeping the Word in our heart, and deliberately walking in love will protect and build the goodness already in our heart.

PSALMS 51:10 Create in me a pure heart, 0 God, and renew a steadfast spirit within me.

JAMES 3:1-6,7-10

If we control our mouth, we shall also be able to control our body.

Remember, from the abundance of the heart, the mouth speaks. Therefore, put Jesus, the fountain of life, into your heart.

Put God's Word in your heart in abundance, be careful to do all it says, and that is what will come out of your mouth.

PSALMS 24:1-6

<u>JAMES 4:8</u> Come near to God and He will come near to you. Wash your hands, you sinners, and purify your hearts, you double-minded.

<u>PSALMS 12:1-2</u> Help, Lord, for the godly man ceases to be, for the faithful disappear from among the sons of men. They speak falsehood to one another; with flattering lips and with a double heart they speak.

When we talk about a double-minded person we really mean a double-hearted person.

Judge your thoughts by God's word. <u>JOHN 17:17</u> Sanctify them by the truth; Your word is truth.

The emotions of your heart will influence your thinking to make decisions based on your own self-interest, even contrary to the word of God. In <u>GENESIS 3:6</u> Eve saw, or perceived, that *the fruit of the tree was also <u>desirable</u> for gaining wisdom*. Our emotions are a result of what we *perceive* to be the truth.

Your emotions can lead your heart to justify your decisions and opinions, and then you will become deceived in regard to truth.

There is a strong tendency in all of us to justify our own decisions, opinions and actions.

To deceive means to mislead by falsehood; to lead into error; to delude.

When our hearts are deceived we believe that something is true, even though it is based on something that is false (in Eve's case, Satan's word); then, when we believe that a falsehood is the truth, our (self-interested) heart will reject the truth. It cannot comprehend the truth, as a result of having accepted a falsehood. In that condition we cannot realize that we do not know the truth. That is why it is called deception.

Jesus talked about the deceitfulness of riches in explaining the parable of the sower. Because of that deception we chase after mammon, or riches, believing that they will bring fullness of life, instead of seeking the Lord, who is the source of life.

Once our hearts have been deceived by a falsehood, and we believe that a lie is the truth, we will then start to make decisions concerning life on the basis of that falsehood, and our lives will go even farther astray from truth.

Material things, and even friends, cannot change the emotional problems of our heart. Only a personal relationship with Jesus will do that. The solution to the problem of self-interest and self-deception is to be humbled and broken before the Lord, to let the Holy Spirit move on your heart, and to set your heart like flint to be meek and teachable before the Lord.

I CHRONICLES 12:33, 38 K.J.V. ... of Zebulun, such as went forth to battle, expert in war, with all instruments of war, fifty thousand which could keep rank: they were not of double heart. All these men of war, that could keep rank, came with a perfect heart to Hebron, to make David king over all Israel and all the rest also of Israel were of one heart to make David king.

They were not double-hearted, one time for David and the next time for Saul.

Double-heartedness leads to double-mindedness. These men were of one mind, one heart; they all agreed that they wanted David to be their king.

JEREMIAH 17:1-10

VERSE 1 This sin was deeply rooted in their heart.

VERSE 4 Through your own fault you will lose the inheritance I gave you."

VERSE 9 Your heart will make excuses for you.

Your own heart will deceive you into thinking you're right, even when you know what God's Word says about it.

<u>HEBREWS 4:12</u> For the word of God is living and active. Sharper than any double-edged sword, it penetrates even to dividing soul and spirit, joints and marrow; it judges the thoughts and attitudes of the heart.

God's word won't deceive you. If you are submissive and obedient to God's Word, against every other word, you will not be deceived.

<u>2 CORINTHIANS</u> 10:5 We demolish arguments and every pretension that sets itself up against the knowledge of God, and we take captive every thought to make it obedient to Christ.

<u>LUKE 6:45</u> The good man brings good things out of the good stored up in his heart, and the evil man brings evil things out of the evil stored up in his heart. For out of the overflow of his heart his mouth speaks.

We need to be of one heart, single-minded.

JAMES 3:10-12

MATTHEW 12:33 Make a tree good and its fruit will be good, or make a tree bad and its fruit will be bad, for a tree is recognized by its fruit.

We need to purify our hearts: get the evil out, and put the good in (Word of God).

If your heart is overrun with negative emotions (e.g. depression, hatred, anger) you can vehemently command them to leave you in Jesus' Name.

JEREMIAH 1:4-12

As a prophet he is to speak God's Word, rooting out, building and planting.

A. TO ROOT OUT

To root out means to tear it out by the roots.

VERSE 10 To do this we must first discern the problem (by the thoughts).

II CORINTHIANS 10:4-5 The weapons we fight with are not the weapons of the world. On the contrary they have divine power to demolish strongholds. We demolish arguments and every pretension that set itself up against the knowledge of God, and we take captive every thought to make it obedient to Christ.

B. BUILD

JUDE 20 But you, dear friends, build yourselves up in your most holy faith, and pray in the Holy Spirit.

You can build yourself up, strengthen yourself.

C. PLANT

<u>JAMES 1:21</u> Therefore, get rid of all moral filth and the evil that is so prevalent, and humbly accept the word planted in you, which can save you. (KJV - ...which is able to save your souls.)

It is the word of God, planted in your heart which is capable of saving your soul (mind, will, emotions).

JEREMIAH 1;12 The Lord said to me, 'You have seen correctly, for I am watching to see that my word is fulfilled.'

<u>PHILIPPIANS 2:12-13</u> Therefore, my dear friends, as you have always obeyed --not only in my presence, but now much more in my absence, continue to work out your salvation with fear and trembling, for it is God who works in you to will and to act according to His good purpose.

You have to obey God's word.

You need to work out (not work for) your own salvation. Remember, this verse pertains only to your soul (mind, will, emotions).

Your spirit became saved the instant you were born again. Your body will be saved when you receive your glorified body when Jesus returns to earth again.

PHILIPPIANS 3:9-16

JEREMIAH 18:1-12

VERSE 8 The disaster that would have come upon them, they had brought upon themselves.

ROMANS 2:5-9,15

God looks to the heart.

These are all spiritual laws that also work in our hearts.

We are set free from the judgment of sin, but not necessarily the consequences of sin.

Notice that it is God in you who gives you the ability to save your soul. You need only be obedient.

The heart is soil for God's Word, but also the seed bed for evil.

For holiness we need:

- 1. Hatred of Sin
- 2. Love for God
- 3. Obedience to God (which means obeying God's Word)

LESSON # 10 QUESTIONS

Fill in the blanks.		
1. Create in me a within me.	heart, O God, and	a steadfast
2. If we control our	we shall be able to co	ntrol
3. The heart is	above all things.	
4. Who will ascend into the	mountain of our God?	

5. What three things do we need for holiness?

LIFE BIBLE STUDIES – LESSON ELEVEN

THE HEART AND TEMPTATION

SEVEN STEPS IN TEMPTATION

<u>ISAIAH 59:13</u> Rebellion and treachery against the Lord, turning our backs on our God, fomenting oppression and revolt, uttering lies our hearts have conceived.

The devil doesn't make you lie.

JAMES 1:13-15 K.J.V.

1. TEMPTED - Evil thoughts - from the heart of man.

MATTHEW 15:18-19 K.J.V. But the things that come out of the mouth come from the heart, and these make a man 'unclean'. For out of the heart come evil thoughts, murder, adultery, sexual immorality, theft, false testimony, slander.

2. DRAWN AWAY - Strong imaginations.

GENESIS 6:5 K.J.V. And God saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every imagination of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually.

Thoughts from the heart cause images to come to our mind. These images, or imaginations, can draw our hearts into the area of lust.

- 3. LUST Delight in viewing (lust of the flesh).
- 4. ENTICED Weakening of the will by the lust of the flesh. Same word as 'beguile' in 2 PETER 2:14 and 'allure' in 2 PETER 2:18.

<u>2 PETER 2:14</u> K.J.V. Having eyes full of adultery, and that cannot cease from sin; beguiling unstable souls: an heart they have exercised with covetous practices; cursed children.

<u>2 PETER 2:18</u> K.J.V. For when they speak great swelling words of vanity, they allure through the lusts of the flesh, through much wantonness, those that were clean escaped from them who live in error.

- 5. LUST CONCEIVED Yielding to it.
 - SIN Given birth to after conception. Sinful act committed.

DEATH - spiritual and physical, the result of sin.

EPHESIANS 2:1-3 N.I.V. & K.J.V.

We were following the thoughts and actions of our sinful nature (the flesh K.J.V.).

<u>JAMES 1:21</u> Therefore, get rid of all moral filth and the evil that is so prevalent, and humbly accept the word planted in you, which can save you.

ACTS 5:3-4 Then Peter Said, "Ananias, how is it that satan has so filled your heart that you have lied to the Holy Spirit and have kept for yourself some of the money you received for the land? Didn't it belong to you before it was sold? And after it was sold, wasn't the money at your disposal? What made you think of doing such a thing? You have not lied to men, but to God."

The devil has access to your heart through your sin nature.

The devil planted the thought to lie in Ananias' heart.

Ananias entertained the thought and took the thought as his own.

The sin nature will fertilize an evil thought or desire in our heart; the thought or desire will conceive and give birth to sin. When it is full grown it will cause death.

Our own hearts conceives for us to lie.

JOB 15:34-35 For the company of the godless will be barren, and fire will consume the tents of those who love bribes. They conceive trouble and give birth to evil; their womb fashions deceit.

Your heart is the seedbed for evil.

<u>PSALMS 7:14</u> He who is pregnant with evil and conceives trouble gives birth to disillusionment.

This evil is generated out of your own heart.

SIN ORIGINATED IN THE HEART OF LUCIFER

EZEKIEL 28:15-17

ISAIAH 14:12-15

All sins we commit originate in our hearts.

Adam never had the knowledge of good and evil until after he sinned.

We have the knowledge of good and evil.

When we stand before God in heaven we will no longer have the sin nature in our flesh.

God will have children who will have had an experiential knowledge of evil, but who now

will never turn against Him again — they will have proved themselves faithful while living in the midst of evil. In their earthly life they will have proved themselves to be overcomers of the sin nature in their own hearts.

THINGS THAT GIVE ACCESS TO YOUR HEART

EYES — what you watch on TV, or read, goes into your heart.

MATTHEW 5:27-29

EARS - What you choose to listen to is actually being fed into your heart.

The conscious mind is the guard to your heart, so you need to filter out, by the word of God and under the guidance of the Holy Spirit, what you listen to and allow into your heart.

<u>ROMANS 10:17</u> Consequently, faith comes from hearing the message, and the message is heard through the word of Christ.

MOUTH - let no corrupt communication come out of your mouth. What comes out of the heart defiles the man.

PSALMS 141:3 Set a guard over my mouth, O Lord; keep watch over the door of my lips.

These are the gates to your heart. Put a guard on them.

THOUGHTS — Let no root of bitterness spring up in your heart through your thoughts.

Keep your heart pure and sensitive. Walk in the spirit, and not the flesh.

<u>HEBREWS 12:15</u> See to it that no one misses the grace of God and that no bitter root grows up to cause trouble and defile many.

EMOTIONS - control your emotions according to the Word of God. (See <u>GALATIANS</u> 5:22-23).

SIN NATURE - is still in our flesh, even after we're born again.

<u>ROMANS</u> 7:23 But I see another law at work in the members of my body, waging war against the law of my mind and making me a prisoner of the law of sin at work within my members.

ROMANS 6:11 In the same way, count yourselves dead to sin but alive to God in Christ Jesus.

GALATIANS 5:19-21 - Lust of the Flesh.

WE HAVE THE VERY NATURE OF GOD IN OUR SPIRITS

JOHN 3:3-5

<u>II CORINTHIANS 5:17</u> Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come!

<u>JOHN 1:12-13</u> Yet to all who received Him, to those who believed in His name, He gave the right to become children of God – children not born of natural descent, nor of human decision or a husband's will, but born of God.

THE FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT

GALATIANS 5:22-23 But the fruit of the spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law.

GALATIANS 5:24-25 Those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the sinful nature with its passions and desires. Since we live by the Spirit, let us keep in step with the Spirit.

We bear this fruit when we have put our sinful nature to death.

It is up to us what we allow to function through us; whether good or evil, we are in control.

The devil can't force us to do anything.

The battle between following God or satan is within yourself.

GALATIANS 5:16-17 So I say, live by the spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the sinful nature. For the sinful nature desires what is contrary to the spirit, and the spirit what is contrary to the sinful nature. They are in conflict with each other, so that you do not do what you want.

The sin nature in your body is exactly the opposite of God's nature in your spirit.

You have your free will whether to follow your born again spirit and God's Word, or the sin nature in your body and the evil inclinations in your heart.

Self - who we have been in the past, influenced by the sin nature (devil) in our body, is the biggest problem of the Christian.

Old Self is who we are in our heart.

The devil's nature (selfishness and lust) is in our flesh.

The sinful nature in our flesh automatically acts upon and influences our heart, and the weakest area in our heart, or character, will be the focus of greatest influence by the sinful nature.

<u>REVELATION 3:20</u> Here I am! I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in and eat with him, and he with Me.

The door Jesus is knocking on is the door to our heart.

EPHESIANS 3:17 So that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith ...

Christ wants to come and dwell as Lord in our hearts.

GENESIS 4:6-7 Then the Lord said to Cain, "Why are you angry? Why is your face downcast? If you do what is right, will you not be accepted? But if you do not do what is right, sin is crouching at your door; it desires to have you, but you must master it.

Sin is crouching at the door of our heart.

<u>LUKE 8:11-12</u> This is the meaning of the parable: the seed is the word of God. Those along the path are the ones who hear, and then the devil comes and takes away the word from their hearts, so that they cannot believe and be saved.

The devil has access to our hearts.

That sin nature will react, if we allow it to, with the weakest point of our character, or the greatest evil in our heart.

Pressure does not cause a crack; it reveals a weak point. It doesn't make a crack; it just reveals where it is.

Compare MATTHEW 15:19 to GALATIANS 5:19

<u>MATTHEW 15:19</u> For out of the heart come evil thoughts, murder, adultery, sexual immorality, theft, false testimony, slander.

Evil thoughts come out of your heart, not your mind.

GALATIANS 5:19 The acts of the sinful nature are obvious: sexual immorality, impurity and debauchery;

The "acts of the sinful nature" are the works of the flesh. They are the same as the evil thoughts of the heart.

<u>JEREMIAH 17:1</u> Judah's sin is engraved with an iron tool, inscribed with a flint point, on the tablets of their hearts and on the horns of their altars."

Judah's sin was a big sin, one you don't soon forget.

You can see the struggle to overcome sin without the nature of God in your spirit.

That has always been the problem, which was not dealt with until the crucifixion of Jesus. He defeated the devil and sin. (See <u>HEBREWS 2:14</u>).

The sin nature that caused the sin has access to our hearts.

COLOSSIANS 2:8 -15

Our beliefs must be based on Jesus and what He accomplished on the cross. Through Christ in us we have victory over every evil, including the sin tendency in our heart.

Everything we need to get victory over sin we have been given in Jesus.

2 PETER 1:3-4

Circumcision of your heart is purposing in your heart not to live in your flesh nature.

<u>ROMANS 2:29</u> No, a man is a Jew if he is one inwardly; and circumcision is circumcision of the heart, by the Spirit, not by the written code. Such a man's praise is not from men, but from God.

LESSON # 11 – QUESTIONS

1. List the seven steps in temptation. i)				
ii)	iii)			
iv)	v)			
vi)	vii)			
2. List six things that giv	e access to the heart.			
i)	ii)			
iii)	iv)			
v)	vi)			

3. What kind of circumcision should we have under the New Testament?

LIFE BIBLE STUDIES - LESSON TWELVE

UNDERSTANDING THE CONSCIENCE

Conscience is the faculty by which distinctions are made between moral right and moral wrong.

Conscience is in the soul of man, and operates out of the heart to the mind.

The issues of life flow out of our heart.

Our conscience, which is a controlling factor in our lives, also flows out of our heart.

I JOHN 3:19 -22

VERSE 20 shows us that it is our hearts that condemn us.

Therefore, our conscience works between our heart and our mind; our conscience relays condemnation to our mind from our heart.

Our conscience also gives us self-assurance when we've done something good.

God does not condemn us; we condemn ourselves.

Because Jesus really paid the price for all your sins, God cannot condemn you.

For God to condemn you for a sin He would be saying that Jesus' sacrifice wasn't sufficient.

Conviction is realization of wrongdoing. Condemnation is passing sentence of punishment for that wrongdoing.

If our conscience is seared, then we will have no realization of our wrongdoing, but as the Holy Spirit quickens a scripture or a personal word (rhema) to our heart, then our heart will bring conviction (realization of wrongdoing) to our mind.

If our character is to be judgmental and critical, or has suffered great rejection, then our own heart will condemn us.

ROMANS 8:1 and ROMANS 8:28-39

VERSE 34 is a question.

Our own hearts will condemn us; others may condemn us; but God does not condemn us. Jesus died, is risen, and is interceding for us. Jesus has justified us.

JOB 27:6 I will maintain my righteousness and never let go of it; my conscience will not reproach me as long as I live. (N.I.V.) The K.J.V. says, My heart shall not reproach me so long as I live.

Conscience is the consciousness, or knowing, that a proposed act is either conformable or not to one's idea of right and wrong, revealing itself in a feeling of responsibility.

Conscience is the judgment and power of feeling, as it is related to moral truth. Conscience implies a moral sense to discern both good and evil.

HEBREWS 5:12-14

Your conscience, even the unsaved person's, is influenced by a divine law in man (God's law written on all hearts), the existence of which, its claims and judgments, are removed from God's subjective control.

Conscience is described as a feeling of responsibility more or less strong.

Conscience is your feelings in line with what you think is right.

The meat of the Word is for the spiritually mature who by constant use of God's Word have trained themselves to distinguish good from evil.

These are mature Christians who have purified their conscience, or purged their conscience from dead works. Their conscience is no longer seared.

Their senses have been morally trained.

VERSE 13 says that anyone who does not have a good conscience (sensitive, purged) is an infant and has not been acquainted with the teaching about righteousness (the difference between being good or evil).

There is a direct relationship between greater revelation and living right. Sin makes you blind (stupid).

We see, therefore, that our conscience is exercised to purity by constant reference to moral truth (Word of God) and acting in accordance with that truth (being a doer of God's Word).

Our born again spirits all have the nature of righteousness (Nature of God) in them.

If our conscience was directly from our spirits, then our consciences would all be the same.

But the conscience of each born again Christian is different, depending on how it has been trained in accordance with what is right and wrong, and how much of God's truth (God's Word) concerning right and wrong has been put into his heart.

As the Word of God is planted into our hearts and acted upon, our conscience becomes more sensitive to moral truth.

Adam had a conscience, but it did not affect him at first because all he knew was truth.

Adam had not yet experienced evil. Therefore, his conscience did not affect him.

It was only after he sinned that his conscience bothered him, and he tried to hide in the garden from the presence of truth.

Therefore, your conscience is not the voice of God.

Your conscience is the voice of your own heart convicting and/or condemning you.

However, your conscience is influenced by your born again nature.

God does not directly control your conscience.

If a man knows his doing to be in harmony with God's law, his conscience is good.

<u>ACTS 23:1</u> Paul looked straight at the Sanhedrin and said, 'My brother, I have fulfilled my duty to God in all good conscience to this day'.

<u>I TIMOTHY 1:5</u> The goal of this command is love, which comes from a pure heart and a good conscience and a sincere faith.

If you have a pure heart, you will have a good conscience and a sincere faith.

If your heart condemns you, you won't have a good conscience concerning that issue in your life, but the born again nature of God in your spirit will still be able to influence the other areas of your life.

<u>I TIMOTHY 1:19</u> ... holding on to faith and a good conscience. Some have rejected these and so have shipwrecked their faith.

If conscience were of the spirit, and you rejected a good conscience, then the nature of your born again spirit would have no effect on your life whatsoever.

Our spirits are not the variable here.

Our spirits are all born again of God.

It is always what is in our hearts that is the variable here.

The conscience should always be controlled by the born again spirit, but this will only happen if the heart is sensitive to the move of the spirit and not the sin nature.

ROMANS 9:1 I speak the truth in Christ - I am not lying, my conscience confirms it in the Holy Spirit.

Paul's spirit bore him witness that he wasn't lying.

<u>II CORINTHIANS 1:12</u> Now this is our boast: our conscience testifies that we have conducted ourselves in the world, and especially in our relations with you, in the holiness and sincerity that are from God. We have done so not according to worldly wisdom, but according to God's grace.

Our conscience testifies that we've done it the right way.

A good conscience is one that is in harmony with God's law.

HEBREWS 13:18 Pray for us. We are sure that we have a clear conscience and desire to live honorable in every way.

We are to be sure that we have a clear conscience.

Our conscience becomes seared when we do a wrong thing so often it doesn't even bother us any more. At that point we have become self-deceived concerning the wrong thing we are doing.

<u>I TIMOTHY 4:1-2</u> The Spirit clearly says that in later times some will abandon the faith and follow deceiving spirits and things taught by demons. Such teachings come through hypocritical liars, whose consciences have been seared as with a hot iron.

<u>I PETER 3:16,21</u> 16 Keeping a clear conscience, so that those who speak maliciously against your good behavior in Christ may be ashamed of their slander.

21 And this water symbolizes baptism. That baptism that now saves you also--not the removal of dirt from the body, but the pledge of a good conscience toward God. It saves you by the resurrection of Jesus Christ.

We are to keep our conscience clear between us and God. Your conscience should be pure, clean and void of offense.

<u>I TIMOTHY</u> 3:9 They must keep hold of the deep truths of the faith with a clear conscience.

You are to have a pure conscience. (See <u>COLOSSIANS 3:15</u>)

<u>II TIMOTHY 1:3</u> I thank God, whom I serve, as my forefathers did, with a clear conscience, as night and day I constantly remember you in my prayers.

Paul had a pure (clear) conscience just as his forefathers had.

If a person's doing is evil, so also is his conscience, inasmuch as it is consciousness of such evil.

<u>HEBREWS 10:22</u> Let us draw near to God with a sincere heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled to cleanse us from a guilty conscience and having our bodies washed with pure water.

We have had our hearts sprinkled with the blood of Jesus to cleanse us from a guilty conscience, because He has justified us and declared us righteous.

<u>HEBREWS 10:1-2</u> The law is only a shadow of the good things that are coming--not the realities themselves. For this reason it can never, by the same sacrifices repeated endlessly year after year, make perfect those who draw near to worship. If it could, would they not have stopped being offered? For the worshipers would have been cleansed once for all, and would no longer have felt guilty for their sins.

Under the Old Covenant sacrificial system the people were conscious of their sins; the sacrifices reminded them of their sins.

Under the New Covenant we are aware of our sins, but they have been paid for by Jesus and forgiven us by God, who also promises to forget we even committed them.

<u>TITUS 1:15 -16</u> To the pure, all things are pure, but to those who are corrupted and do not believe, nothing is pure. In fact, both their minds and consciences are corrupted.

They claim to know God, but by their actions they deny Him. They are detestable, disobedient and unfit for doing anything good.

<u>I CORINTHIANS 8:7</u> But now everyone know this. Some people are still so accustomed to idols that when they eat such food they think of it as having been sacrificed to an idol, and since their conscience is weak, it is defiled.

When we were first saved, our consciences were seared in certain areas, until truth from God's Word came into our hearts.

Paul lays down the law that a man should follow his own conscience, even though it be weak; otherwise, moral personality would be destroyed.

<u>I CORINTHIANS 8:10</u> For if anyone with a weak conscience sees you who have this knowledge eating in an idol's temple, won't he be emboldened to eat what has been sacrificed to idols?

Again, conviction is realization of wrongdoing which comes through the faculty of the conscience.

<u>JOHN 8:9 K.J.V.</u> And they which heard it, being convicted by their own conscience, went out one by one, beginning at the eldest, even unto the last: and Jesus was left alone, and the woman standing in the midst.

What is the first step to repentance? Realization of wrongdoing within our heart.

ROMANS 1:21 -31; 2:5

The foolish hearts of unrighteous and ungodly men became darkened.

<u>COLOSSIANS 2:13</u> When you were dead in your sins and in the uncircumcision of your sinful nature, (K.J.V. your flesh) God made you alive with Christ. He forgave us all our sins.

You, before you were born again, were dead in your sins and the uncircumcision of your flesh. (K.J.V.).

ACTS 2:37 When the people heard this, they were cut to the heart and said to Peter and the other apostles, "Brothers, what shall we do?"

ROMANS 2:12-15

Conscience here is shown to be in the heart.

It is when we break the law (God's moral standard) that our conscience convicts us.

The Gentiles show the law written on their heart.

When the Gentiles break the law they know they have done wrong in their hearts, and their conscience bears witness to the fact that they broke the law.

Their own heart either condemns or justifies them.

<u>HEBREWS 10:16</u> This is the covenant I will make with them after that time, says the Lord. I will put my laws in their hearts, and I will write them on their minds.

God put His law in their hearts.

JAMES 2:8-11

We are convicted by the law which is written on our hearts. Therefore, our conscience operates between our heart and our mind.

AND NOT OF THE SPIRIT

Even though we are saved and have the same righteous nature, our consciences are different, because our hearts are different.

ROMANS 14:1-23

We see here that conscience is related to a man's faith, or belief, concerning what is right and wrong.

Faith is also of the heart.

VERSE 3 We are commanded not to judge one another. Christians are to love one another.

VERSE 14 If you believe something is wrong and you do it, then you have sinned, whether or not it is wrong in the eyes of God or of others.

If you are not convinced that what you are doing is proper, then your conscience will bother you. If your conscience convicts you, then to you it is sin.

If a man believes in his heart that something is wrong and he does it, then his conscience will bother him.

But if a Christian brother does not believe that it is wrong, to him it isn't, and his conscience will not bother him.

His mind has been renewed to the fact that it isn't wrong. So then, two Christians can do the same thing.

Yet, one's conscience will bother him, and before God it is sin.

The other's conscience won't bother him, because he knows before God that it isn't sin.

So we see that we have one God, and the same moral standard for all, but the variable again is within the heart.

If it wasn't morally wrong, neither Christian should be convicted by his conscience, if it came from the spirit (God's Nature of Righteousness).

I CORINTHIANS 8:6-13

Your conscience will grow stronger through mind renewal, by God's Word being planted and meditated on in your heart.

<u>I CORINTHIANS 10:23 -32</u>

Conscience is in the heart, in the area of the soul of man, but should be influenced by our spirits.

Everything should be motivated out of love, the born again righteous nature within us, and the Word of God coming into our hearts.

VERSE 32 We are not to cause even an unbeliever to stumble.

Eating food sacrificed to an idol, in the presence of an unbeliever who feels it is wrong for a Christian to do so, would be showing disrespect to your God, and would hurt the unsaved person's conscience.

1. What is conscience?
2. Explain the difference between conviction and condemnation.
3. Why does God not condemn us?
4. Where does condemnation come from?
5. How does a conscience become seared?

LIFE BIBLE STUDIES – LESSON THIRTEEN

CONTENTS OF THE HEART

This last chapter has been added to the book as an afterthought, to complete the basic understanding of the human heart. Through psychology we understand that the negative qualities of our character are derived from three main root problems. These root problems are rejection, rebellion, and pride. Negative character traits automatically develop within our hearts as a result of these root problems. This additional chapter concerning the problems of life, although short, will help to give us a basic understanding of the problems in the spiritual heart of man, and how to deal with them.

THE HEART

The heart is the fertile soil for the roots of rejection, rebellion and pride to grow in.

ROOT OF REJECTION

Every child born into the world has a spiritual heart in which will be stored all the positive and negative effects of all that child's experiences through life. Whatever the effects of those experiences are, they are what will control that child for the rest of her/his life. We truly are products of our past environment. Every child needs the proper proportion of love and discipline from both parents, or their emotional maturity will become distorted. This is why God has instituted the marriage covenant.

If the child does not receive enough love, then the root of rejection will enter into their heart and begin to grow.

The fruits of rejection are loneliness, timidity, shyness, self-pity, fantasy, lust, insecurity, negative self-image, self-rejection, self-hatred, fear of rejection, jealousy, envy, depression and suicide.

Remember, the heart is like soil, and whatever is sown in there will grow. It does not just remain as an isolated incident. The individual will start to feel and react out of the negative fruit of rejection, thereby causing the rejection to grow. He will develop a fear of more rejection, shut others out of his life and become more timid and shy. Loneliness will develop into self-pity, insecurity, jealousy and envy. People who have suffered rejection may put up walls and shut people out of their lives rather than risk being hurt again. The thoughts of negative self-image and depression will continually plague their mind, and eventually control the person as they lose desire and perspective of life and become totally passive or rebellious, depending on their nature.

As this rejection increases, it is hard for the individual to receive love and have a meaningful relationship with others, including God. Everything he hears gets filtered through this rejection and takes on a negative connotation because he can only hear and see everything from the perspective of rejection in his heart. Such people end up with a love vacuum in their heart and may try to fill it through physical love, which becomes lust. They

may also try to fill that vacuum with material things or careers, becoming workaholics, to gain the acceptance their heart craves.

They have such a self-centered need that they are trying to fulfill, that they cannot regularly give of themselves to others. They view life from the perspective of the rejection in their own hearts, and over-react in a negative manner to much of what is said to them. If they are passive, and do not fight back, then eventually depression takes over, which could lead to suicide.

STEPS OUT OF REJECTION

- 1. Forgive those who have rejected you. MATTHEW 18:21-35
- 2. Release all rejection to Christ. **ISAIAH** 15:3
- 3. Accept the fact you are accepted in the beloved. **EPHESIANS 1:6**
- 4. Find your identity in Christ. (New Creation II COR1NTHIANS 5:17)
- 5. Accept yourself by forgiving yourself of the past.
- 6. Live the sacrificial life of love for others so you can experience God's love for you. You will have to live it by faith, not by feelings. <u>JOHN 14:21-23</u>

ROOT OF REBELLION

Man was created in the image of God and was to be in a divine relationship with Him. Through sin, rebellion became the nature of man and divine fellowship was broken.

Rebellion is like the sin of divination, and arrogance like the evil of idolatry. <u>I SAMUEL</u> <u>15:23 NIV</u>

The fruits of rebellion are hatred, violence, murder, bitterness, unforgiveness, control, possessiveness, witchcraft, self-will, unteachableness, pride, self-delusion, self-deception, perversion.

Rebellion can be the result of rejection. It is the individual's way of fighting back emotionally from rejection, if he is not a passive person. Rebellion can also stem from pride or bitterness.

If the emotional hurt is not forgiven, it can turn to resentment, which turns to bitterness, then hatred, with rebellion being the final result.

Rebellion refuses any form of authority, even refusing the Lordship of Jesus, and results in the flesh ruling over the person.

STEPS OUT OF REBELLION

- 1. Repentance and forgiving of others. MATTHEW 18:21-35
- 2. Fasting, prayer, and humility before God and others. JAMES 4:7-10
- 3. Meditate scriptures on love, servanthood and dying to self. PHILIPPIANS 2:1-11
- 4. Consider others better than yourself. ROMANS 12:9
- 5. With God's help, do acts of love for those who cause anger to rise within you. MATTHEW 5:43-4

ROOT OF PRIDE

The sin of the whole universe from all time, and all the wickedness that has ever been on the face of the earth, started in the heart of one being named Lucifer. His heart was lifted up, and pride entered in, because of his beauty and wisdom. But pride corrupted his wisdom, and instead of staying in submission to God, his attitude became "I WILL".

The fruits of pride are perfectionism, self-exaltation, selfishness, insensitivity, judgmentalism, critical attitude, unforgiveness, self-righteousness, religiosity, competition, self-will, ambitiousness, bitterness, anger, self-deception, hatred, unbelief and possessiveness.

When we think of prideful people we have only to be reminded of the Pharisees. They were perfectionists at keeping the laws, and thus missed the grace of God through Jesus Christ. They became religious legalists and made the Word of God of no effect, because there was no power in rules to change a life. They crossed over land and sea to make a single convert, but made him twice the son of hell that he was before. Legalism and keeping law caused the convert to become self-righteous and self-deceived, so he was even farther from seeing his need for Jesus and the new Birth. Because of their perfectionism they looked down on others and were very critical. They said their prayers, and did things in such a way as to attract attention to themselves and not God. They were very competitive, and could not stand Jesus' success with the people. They were self-centered and hard-hearted, with no compassion or mercy. They were the greatest opposition to the message of the Gospel that God had given for their benefit.

Pride is a root that can never be satisfied. Constant striving with God and man brings a spirit of competition that will absorb life, and keep one from functioning in his calling and role in life.

STEPS OUT OF PRIDE

- 1. Ask God to show you the deception of pride.
- 2. Repentance, fasting and prayer.
- 3. Humble yourself, or God will humble you. JAMES 4:6-10
- 4. Be willing to be honest about yourself, and be in submission and accountable to others. HEBREWS 13:17; ROMANS 13:2
- 5. Don't think of yourself more highly than you should. <u>PHILLIPIANS 2:1-11;</u> ROMANS 12:16
- 6. Change the motivation of life from self-centredness and pride to sacrificial love and servanthood. <u>ROMANS 13:8</u>

The root of every sin and evil is pride. The root of all virtue is humility. Pride will push us up. Rejection will push us down. We must be free from both, and let God exalt us.

IN CONCLUSION

The answer to every problem in life is Jesus Christ. Through the New Birth He has given us all things that pertain to life and godliness. Greater is He that is in us than he that is in the world. We must overcome and gain the victory that He has already given us, through living the love walk by faith.

Jesus taught the principles of life in His 'Sermon on the Mount'. He said that the Ten Commandments went beyond the legalistic exterior standard of the Pharisees, and included the thoughts and motivations of the heart. (See <u>MATTHEW 5:21-22</u> and <u>MATTHEW 5:27-28</u>). Love fulfills the Law, and the solution to evil in the heart of man is the Love Walk.

Jesus said, *Love your enemies*. Pray for those that persecute you. Go the extra mile. Turn the other cheek. MATTHEW 5:38-45.

These are all the things we would normally not want to do, because of the selfish desires and emotional needs within our hearts.

This is a sacrificial love, living beyond ourselves for the good of others. Jesus said, *If you love those who love you, what benefit is that to you?* (MATTHEW 5:46-48). If we do that, we are only living out of our good feelings, out of what is in our hearts already, and we cannot change our hearts and our life that way. We must live beyond our souls and live according to our spirits, the New Creation, if we want to grow out of rejection, rebellion and pride. That's exactly what we must do, once we have dealt with the root cause of the problem. We must grow out of it.

We are who we are because of how we reacted to negative things that happened to us in the past. Little by little, through each experience of life, we grew into the person we are.

Now that we have His life in us, and the Fruit of the Spirit, we are instructed by Jesus to react in a positive, sacrificial way to the negative things that people would do to us. It is then, and only then, that His love, which He has put in our spirits, starts to come into our hearts, and little by little changes us into His character. <u>II CORINTHIANS 3:17-18;</u> II CORINTHIANS 4:16-18.

The Apostle Paul states in <u>I CORINTHIANS 13:1-7</u> that if we don't have love, then we are nothing, we have nothing, and we gain nothing. As we practice and grow in agape love, and it takes the ascendancy in our hearts, then the negative things will leave. Paul states that love is patient, is not easily angered, is not jealous or envious, is not rude or self-seeking. So the key to all of life is to live a life of agape love in obedience to the Lordship of Jesus, and out of a love relationship with Him and the Father God. We live this life from a position of victory in Jesus, and out of the power of a new life, and our mind renewed as to who we are as a New Creation.

There is no power in the law, or in legalism, to overcome the flesh and the negative issues in our hearts. Paul said the only thing that counts is a New Creation. We do this by His grace and through our faith, with the help and guidance of the Holy Spirit, as we spend time meditating in His word.

1. ASSIGNMENT

Discern the areas in your own heart concerning rejection, rebellion, or pride, and deal with them according to the instructions in this chapter.

APPENDIX "A" - ANSWERS

ANSWERS – LESSON # 1

- 1. I think of myself as a <u>SPIRIT BEING</u> first. I <u>AM</u> a spirit. I <u>HAVE</u> a soul. I <u>LIVE</u> in a body.
- 2. The world's way of thinking is what controls the <u>carnal</u> mind. The Spirit's way of thinking should control the spiritual mind.
- 3. I am a spirit being primarily, because I am made in the image of God.

ANSWERS – LESSON #2

- 1. Revelation knowledge is that knowledge which is given to us directly from God into our spirit by the Holy Spirit. It comes from our spirit into our heart as a thought to our minds. Sense knowledge comes through our physical senses.
- 2. Physical death is the separation of our physical body from our spirit and soul. Spiritual death is the separation of man's spirit from God.
- 3. Three different deaths in the Scripture are 1) Physical Death 2) Spiritual Death
 - 3) The Second Death.
- 4. 1) Physical Death is the separation of man's spirit and soul from his body.
 - 2) Spiritual Death is the separation of man's spirit from God.
 - 3) The Second Death is an eternal separation of man's spirit from God, in a state of Existence where the nature of God is no longer accessible to man, will never again be accessible to him.

ANSWERS – LESSON #3

- 1. Eternal life is the quality of life as God has life. It is the God-kind of life. It is not just living forever that is called life eternal. Eternal life is a quality of life given from God as a gift to born again believers.
- 2. Adam lost his union with God. He lost eternal life in his spirit when he separated himself from God through sin. He also lost his authority in the earth, which had been delegated to him by God. Because He lost his union with God and his authority Adam now additionally lost his anointing, power and dominion on the earth.
- 3. Authority is the right to use power.
- 4. Satan does not have any authority. He gets his power to work in the lives of men in the earth through deception and temptation.

To be born again of the Spirit means to be born out of spiritual death (separation from the life of God) into eternal life. It means having eternal life in our spirit being. This life is imparted into our spirits by the Holy Spirit when we accept Jesus Christ as Saviour and Lord.

ANSWERS – LESSON #4

JUSTIFICATION

"Justification" means to regard as just or innocent; to be made righteous; to be declared not guilty.

Justification deals with the spirit of man.

Our spirits were born again, quickened, made alive, by the Holy Spirit with the very nature of God.

SANCTIFICATION

"Sanctification" means to make holy.

Sanctification deals with the soul of man.

Sanctification is an ongoing process that lasts the rest of our lives. It is done by the Holy Spirit as we are obedient to do what the word of God tells us.

In the process of sanctification we are changed from glory to glory into the character of Jesus. We could also say that our soul is in the process of becoming like our spirit.

We work out (not for) our salvation. See PHILIPPIANS 2:12.

GLORIFICATION

We receive our spiritual bodies.

This is the last part of salvation because death is the last enemy to be put under Jesus' feet.

Glorification happens at the first resurrection when Jesus comes for His Church. This is called *The Rapture of the Church*.

We will be glorified in the degree to which we have worked out our salvation.

ANSWERS – LESSON #5

The spirit is our life source from God, but the soul is our own individual character, made up of our mind, will and emotions.

The born again spirit has in it the nature of God, which is pure. The heart has evil in it, as well as good, and must be purified.

3. Our (own) heart condemns us.

The sinful nature is in our flesh, and it is centered on self. It tends to separate us from the life of God which is in our spirits, and it divides our heart away from God.

ASSIGNMENT – LESSON #6

In view of what you have learned in this lesson, express in your own words your understanding of the spiritual heart of man.

ANSWERS – LESSON #7

<u>LUKE 6:45</u> The good man brings good <u>things</u> out of the good <u>stored</u> up in his heart, and the evil man brings evil things out of the evil stored up in his <u>heart</u>. For out of the <u>overflow</u> of his heart his <u>mouth</u> <u>speaks</u>.

We are able to understand something with our heart. TRUE.

Satan, or the influence of evil, has access to our hearts through the sinful nature in our flesh.

ANSWERS – LESSON #8

The <u>hardened heart</u> does not allow the word to enter, and the devil steals the word. The <u>shallow-soil heart</u>, which indicates a lack of depth (character), does not allow the word to get deeply rooted, and in time of testing the word is simply abandoned. The <u>weed-choked</u> heart grows to some degree, but does not produce full fruit; the fruit is prevented from coming to full growth (ripeness), because it is choked out by the cares of this world, the deceitfulness of riches, and desires for other things. The <u>good and patient</u> heart produces fruit to varying degrees, depending on the individual's heart desire for Jesus.

James tells us, "purify your hearts, you double-minded."

3. We should guard our hearts above all else, for our life flows, or issues forth, out of our heart.

But the things that come out of the <u>mouth</u> come out from the heart, and these make a man <u>'unclean'</u>. For out of the heart come <u>evil</u> thoughts, murder, adultery, sexual immorality, theft, false testimony, slander.

Our heart is actually what psychologists call the sub-conscious mind.

ANSWERS – LESSON #9

- 1. It is the word of God.
- 2. It is important to meditate in God's Word so that the Holy Spirit can reveal the word, giving us understanding, and make it come alive in our hearts. Then we will have the desire and ability to be doers of the word. See PHILIPPIANS 2:13. We change the soil, or attitude, of our heart, to make it good soil, through fasting and prayer in order to humble ourselves before God.

Let us put the word into our hearts, and make ourselves to be doers of the word, no matter what, in every circumstance of our lives. Set your face (heart) like flint to live by the Word of God, in meditating in it constantly and in doing it at all times.

ANSWERS – LESSON #10

Create in me a <u>clean</u> heart, O God, and <u>renew</u> a steadfast <u>spirit</u> within me. If we control our <u>tongue</u>, we shall be able to control <u>our whole body</u>. The heart is <u>deceitful</u> above all things.

ANSWERS - LESSON #11

- 1. Seven Steps in Temptation i) Tempted by <u>evil thoughts from the heart</u> ii) Drawn Away by <u>strong imaginations</u> iii) <u>Lustful delight</u> in the heart iv) <u>Enticed</u> -- Lust of the flesh <u>weakens the will</u> v) <u>Yield</u> to lust which <u>conceives sin</u> vi) <u>Sin is given birth</u>. Sinful <u>act is committed</u> vii) <u>Death</u>, spiritual and physical
- 2. Six Things That Give Access To The Heart i) Ears What <u>you choose</u> to hear ii) Mouth -- <u>Corrupt</u> communication iii) Thoughts iv) Emotions v) The <u>Sin Nature</u> vi) Eyes –What <u>you allow</u> yourself to watch
- 3. Under the New Testament we should seek Circumcision of the Heart.

ANSWERS – LESSON # 12

- 1. Conscience is the faculty by which distinctions are made between moral right and moral wrong.
- 2. Conviction is the realization of wrongdoing. Condemnation is passing sentence of punishment for that wrongdoing.

APPENDIX "B" - FORGIVENESS BRINGS RELEASE

Many Christians are being tormented by the enemy because of unforgiveness in their lives. Unforgiveness gives the enemy a legal right and he moves in to oppress and torment. Bitterness is the result of unforgiveness; bitterness is a seedbed of every evil work. The devil respects no Christian if he walks in unforgiveness.

<u>Luke 6:37</u> Release and you shall be released. Forgiveness is the key to release bitterness from one's heart.

1. FORGIVENESS

Apoluo means:

To set free, to liberate one from a thing. <u>Luke 13:12</u> Woman thou art loosed from thine infirmity. To let go, to release as if you were a captive. <u>Matthew 18:27</u> Then the lord of that servant loosed him and forgave him the debt. Used of divorce. <u>Matthew 1:19</u> Was minded to put her away.

Aphiami:

To cancel, remit, pardon. Matthew 18:27 The lord of that slave forgave him the debt.

2. FORGIVENESS RELEASES THE PAIN OF THE PAST

Those who carry hurt are tied to the past. They are unable to live in the present because the bitterness of the past flows into their present relationships.

The person who carries pain is tied to people of the past. You can keep another person in their sin through unforgiveness. <u>John 20:22-23</u>

By retaining another's sin you will become like them. If you forgive, you become more like Jesus. Unforgiveness is not altered by time.

3. THE ONE WHO CARRIES THE HURT IS TORMENTED (Matthew 18:21-35).

Matthew 18:32-35 In view of all the sins we have been forgiven by God we should not hold even one sin against someone who has offended us. Forgiveness should not be just lip service, but from the heart. If anger or pain remain after forgiveness, then we must do a deliberate act of love for the one who hurt us. Then forgiveness becomes something of and from the heart. Matthew 5:38-48. Matthew 6:9-13 Deliver us from evil.

4. FORGIVENESS RELEASES GOD TO FORGIVE AND HEAL YOU AND OTHERS

Matthew 6:14-15 Mark 11:23-26

Unforgiven sin will give the devil a place

Redemption is co-extensive with forgiveness (Ephesians 1:7)

Matthew 18:18 Whatever you loose on earth

Matthew 18:19 If two of you agree

Forgiveness releases God's healing for you. Some people may need to

forgive themselves. Other people may need to forgive God.

Forgiveness is done as an act of the person's will. You choose to forgive. As you release the person, God releases the hurt, and healing takes place in you.

Become more like Jesus. FORGIVE!!!!

List relationships of the past that were bad.

Analyze to find the underlying reason.

Deal with each relationship and release the person by forgiveness.

You need to ask forgiveness from the person for your unforgiving attitude, if this has harmed them.

APPENDIX "C" - INNER HEALING – BRUISED AND HEALED

PSALM 139: 23-24 Search me, O God and see if there be any way of pain in me.

ISAIAH 61:1a He has sent me to bind up the broken hearted

1. PURPOSE OF THE MINISTRY OF INNER HEALING

The Beautification of the Bride of Christ. <u>EPHESIANS 5:27</u> That He might present to Himself the Church in all her glory, having no spot or wrinkle or any such thing; but that she should be holy and blameless

2) The Unification of the Church. <u>EPHESIANS 4:16</u> ... from whom the whole Body, being fitted and held together by that which every joint supplies, according to the proper working of each individual part, causes the growth of the body for the building of itself in love.

2. THE KEY TO INNER HEALING

Philippians 3:13 Forgetting those things which are behind

- 1) Forgiveness releases the past hurts are released, people are released, and we are released.
- 2) Allow Jesus to heal the pain from the past.
 - Jesus Christ transcends all time. HEBREWS 13:8
 - Jesus' presence coming into certain events of past time heals the pain.
 - Jesus' love received during the time takes away all rejection and loneliness from the hurt.
- 3) Inner healing does not erase out the memory of the past it does deal with and does take out the pain from that memory.

3. INNER HEALING BRINGS PEACE

<u>Romans 16:20</u> "...and the God of peace will crush Satan under your feet." Inner healing brings peace with others, with yourself, and with God.

4. INNER HEALING COMES

When the presence of the Lord is in the experience.

- Deep damage comes when one suffers alone.
- Suffering alone allows rejection, loneliness and insecurity (fear) to enter in.
- The presence of Jesus brings immediate release and healing. When the love of the Lord is in the experience.
- The person needs to see himself loved by Jesus at the time he suffered.
- Jesus' love is stronger than pain
- Healing comes when the presence and love of the Lord is put into the experience.

5. THE STEPS OF INNER HEALING

1) Listen

- Find the root problems
- Distinguish between surface and root problems. A surface problem involves one incident filled with guilt, etc. Root problems have many disturbing memories built upon the one root.

For example, one rape brings many negative emotions, and lasting pain and torment.

- 2) Releasing the past.
 - Be healed through forgiveness and by walking with Jesus through the past (Matthew 18:3).
 - Have someone pray with you (Matthew 18:19).
 - Remember, Jesus suffered for your wounds. (1 Peter 2:24).
- 3) Break the power of Satan
 - The devil's works are attached to roots. His presence and power must go.

WHEN MINISTERING INNER HEALING BE CAREFUL

- 1. Keep away from introspection
- 2. The ministry of healing is the Lord's ministry. Point the people to Jesus and the Word of God for help and for their answers.
- 3. The person needs to be strong to face the painful memories. Do not force them to do so.
- 4. Allow the Holy Spirit to lead you. You are to follow Jesus, not tell Him what to do.
- 5. Do not dig up all the junk of the past.

APPENDIX "D" - THE ROOT OF REJECTION

Man is created in the image of God. His basic needs are met through love and communication. When rejection enters, love, security, acceptance, identity and recognition are denied the person. A person can no longer love or receive love. Rejection is a deep hurt that destroys the person.

HOW REJECTION ENTERS

Parent/Child relationship:

- Before birth from an unwanted pregnancy.
- Adopted children always suffer from rejection.
- Parents who cannot communicate love.
- Parents who suffered rejection, an alcoholic parent, one who substituted the giving of things for love.
- Parents who are preoccupied, critical, requiring perfection, or set unrealistic parental goals for the child. A child unloved by a father will have difficulty building a stable relationship to God as his Heavenly Father. A child who grows up under rejection will accept rejection rather than love from God. The parental image is the model upon which the child builds his relationship with God.

In society, failure to accept certain social values brings rejection. Relationship with God.

- A man is susceptible to rejection from God because of sin. The guilt of the sin brings self-rejection.

Peer relationships cause rejection from cruel remarks, cliques, exclusion And/or lack of achievement.

Guilt causes man to be more able to receive rejection than love. Rejection is often a way of life for unsaved people.

REJECTION RESULTS IN

1) Emotional immaturity.

There is a little girl or boy that enters into every marriage. A girl who has not received a father's love will seek that love in marriage. Love, acceptance and approval are necessary for a person's emotional maturity.

No person can fill this love vacuum.

A love vacuum in marriage causes many problems. Proverbs 30:23

One reaction to a love vacuum can be that the person is worshipped, becomes the center of their spouse's life and is manipulated. The person is smothered; their spouse draws life from them.

The person who has a history of broken relationships has been trapped in a tragic circle of a love vacuum.

Goals and possessions cannot fill a love vacuum.

A person may think a successful career will give them acceptance.

They assume intellectualism will give recognition.

Extreme dedication could indicate emptiness inside an individual.

The person is totally self-centred.

Self can never be satisfied.

Only Jesus can adequately fill this love vacuum.

2. Loneliness and fear.

People will often build a wall around themselves to protect themselves from hurts. Inwardly the person is full of insecurity, loneliness, fear, self-pity and vanity.

Outwardly they either withdraw or are highly competitive. They are dominated by the fear of rejection.

3. Self-rejection.

Loss of self worth. They accept the rejection of others as indicative of their worthlessness.

They have a negative self-image. Comparing yourself to others is always a mistake.

II Corinthians 12:10

A critical person is critical of oneself and critical of other people too.

Matthew 7:3

4. Experience of a loss of self-identity

An adult seeks identity within a profession, a church, a club, etc.

Man was made in the image of God, and only in God can man find his identity. God can give a new self-image.

Teens seek their identity within their peer group.

Rejection destroys a man's self-identity.

5. Unstable relationships to God.

They tend to relate to God upon the basis of works.

One cannot enter into proper fellowship with God as long as there is rejection.

A person suffers from rejection if he or she is unable to love or receive love

STEPS OUT OF REJECTION

- 1) Forgive those who have rejected you.
- 2) Release all rejection to Christ. Isaiah 53:3, Jesus bore rejection.

God's promises are recorded in Isaiah 54:4-6 and Jeremiah 30:17

- 3) Accept the fact you are accepted in the Beloved. Ephesians 1:6
- 4) Find your identity in Christ. Who you are in Christ Jesus:
 - -Jesus' image II Corinthians 3:18
 - -God's workmanship. Ephesians 2:10
 - -You are a New Creation. II Corinthians 5:17

- 5) Accept and love yourself.
 - -By forgiving yourself for the past.
 - -By receiving the Father God's love.
- 6) Claim your freedom and receive your Inner Healing from Jesus.
- 7) Live in sacriricial love which will bring the love of God which is in your spirit into our heart and heal you from rejection. <u>JOHN 14:21-23</u>

The Prayer of Deliverance will destroy the root of rejection. Demonic powers often work in the area of rejection. With God there is no rejection. The Prayer of Deliverance will get rid of any demonic oppression but rejection has become part of our character or emotional problem of our heart and we must grow out of that through the Love Walk.

APPENDIX "E" - THE ROOT OF REBELLION

God created man in His image. A loving relationship with God was intended for mankind. Through sin rebellion became part of the nature of man and divine fellowship with God was broken. Man became separated from God.

<u>1 Samuel 15:23</u> ... for rebellion is as the sin of witchcraft and stubbornness is as iniquity and idolatry. Because you have rejected the word of the Lord, He also has rejected you from being king.

1. REBELLION ENTERS BY:

- 1. Pride which brings deception. The example of Lucifer being lifted up in pride. He rebelled against God (Isaiah 14:13-14).
- 2. Bitterness.
- 3. Rebellion comes from hurt. Hurt turns to resentment. Resentment turns into bitterness. Bitterness turns into hatred. Hatred turns into rebellion.

2. REBELLION DOES NOT SUBMIT TO AUTHORITY

Rebellion refused authority.

Man becomes his own authority through rebellion. What about you? Will you submit to God's Word?

Rebellion battles against the authority of parents and Government.

Childhood discipline is necessary for maturity and security.

Governmental authority is needed for social justice and order

Romans 13:1 Ephesians 6:1-3.

Humanism is the refusal of man to submit to God's authority.

3. REBELLION AGAINST AUTHORITY RESULTS IN THE BODY RULING OVER THE PERSON

- 1. One who rebels against authority will become a slave to his own body.
- In certain sex problems the root of rebellion sometimes goes back to parental authority.
- 2. Being turned over to the flesh is the judgment of rebellion. The body is always hostile to God (Romans 8:6-7).
- 3. The works of the flesh are the fruits grown by rebellion. They are listed in <u>Galatians</u> 5:19-21.

4. REBELLION LEADS TO WITCHCRAFT – 1 Samuel 15:23.

- i) Witchcraft is assuming the role of God, from a desire to manipulate and control people.
- ii) It can spring from a desire to revenge yourself by doing evil, and a desire to get power
- iii) Witchcraft is insubordination; a person becomes his own authority, and a person's ambition becomes his governing power.

5. <u>REBELLION AND REJECTION ARE THE TWO ROOTS THAT PRODUCE</u> SCHIZOPHRENIA (Schizein: to cleave, split. Phren: mind)

Rejection turns a person inward. Negative emotions that flow with rejection are loneliness, self-rejection, self-hatred, timidity, shyness, self-pity, insecurity, negative self-image, fear of rejection, jealousy, envy, fantasy, lust, depression -- the end result of rejection can be suicide.

Rebellion turns a person outward. Negative emotions that flow with rebellion are hatred, violence, murder, self-will, unteachableness, pride, bitterness, unforgiveness, control, possessiveness, witchcraft, self-delusion, self-deception and perversion.

6. SELF-CONTROL

PROVERBS 25:28

GALATIANS 5:23 – Fruit of the Spirit

2 PETER :5-6

TITUS 1:8 TITUS 2:2,5,6,12

There is a tolerance point where we lose our self control – <u>MATTHEW 5:38-48</u>. Keep increasing that tolerance point.

Fasting and prayer – Paul kept his body under. 1 CORINTHIANS 9:27

Meditaqte on scriptures of servanthood and humility. Practgice servanthood and humility.

Be in submission to authority even when yu think you are right and they are wrong. Be quiet and just do it.

Sacrifice for others – deliberately set your will to walk the love walk.

CONCLUSION

- 1. Schizophrenia (dual personality) revolves from one extreme to the other. The person is first withdrawn and then swings to being hostile.
- 2. The schizophrenic loses his identity and hides behind one of the other roots: either the root of rebellion or the root of rejection.
- 3. Deliverance involves treating the two roots, plus bringing the person into their identity in Christ. Jesus then becomes their covering. 1 Corinthians 6:17
- 4. Finding their identity in Christ Jesus is the key in maintaining their deliverance.

STEPS OUT OF REBELLION

- 1. Repentance and forgiving of others. MATTHEW 18:21-35
- 2. Fasting, prayer and humility before God and others. JAMES 4:7-10
- 3. Meditate scriptures on love, servanthood and dying to self. PHILIPPIANS 2:1-11
- 4. Consider others better than yourself. ROMANS 12:9
- 5. With God's help, do acts of love for those that cause anger to rise within you. MATTHEW 5:43-48

APPENDIX "F" - THE ROOT OF PRIDE

Pride is the very attitude of a man's heart that directs his life. In the fall of Lucifer, the Bible says, in <u>Ezekiel 28:17</u> Your heart was lifted up because of your beauty; you corrupted your wisdom by reason of your splendor.

<u>Isaiah 14:13-14</u> For you have said in your heart: <u>I will</u> ascend into heaven, <u>I will</u> also sit on the mount of the congregation, on the farthest side of the north <u>I will</u> ascend above the heights of the clouds, <u>I will</u> be like the Most High. Note the five "<u>I wills"</u> of pride that originated in Lucifer.

PRIDE'S ROOT IS A SPIRITUAL POWER:

<u>Isaiah 14:13-14</u> The god of this world fell through pride. <u>1 John 2:15-16</u> The world operates on a principle of pride. The root of every sin and evil is pride.

Pride has its roots within the spirit of this age. Humility is found in Jesus Christ. A person's pride needs to be changed into humility.

PERFECTIONISM is a fruit of pride:

Perfectionists are people who set up standards for themselves beyond the normal requirements. Through achieving these, the person places himself/herself above others and becomes critical of those who do not meet the same standards.

A perfectionist lacks love. They are indifferent to the needs of others, insensitive, hasty in their judgment, often use cutting words, and are very critical.

Perfectionism brings a harsh attitude towards others and oneself that brings a severity of character. Perfectionists have a very critical spirit; they are unforgiving and self-righteous, and convey a high degree of religious pride. They usually have a very poor relationship with God. They often transmit rejection to their children. The child can never feel accepted except on the basis of achievement.

Perfectionists look at God as a perfectionist. They will relate to God on the basis of their achievements. They set high standards for themselves. To them God accepts them on the basis of works. They feel they must earn God's acceptance and love. Perfectionists fill their life with efforts to please God, but they actually have very little or no relationship with God. Pride makes them think they can please God. Our relationship to/with God is never based on our efforts/works, but always on God's grace, God's unearned favour. God accepts us as we are.

3. COMPETITION is a fruit of pride.

Competition is constantly striving to excel, to be first, to be better or to be recognized. Competitive people are often selfish, self-willed, self-exalted, ambitious, and envious.

Results of competition often are:

- Enmity between men. Galatians 5:26; 6:3
- Constantly comparing oneself to other people. <u>II Corinthians 10:12</u>
- Discontentment with life and any past achievement.
- Jealousy and envy.

Pride is a root that can never be satisfied. It produces constant striving with God and man that brings a spirit of competition which will control one's life.

4. <u>UNFORGIVENESS</u> is a fruit of pride.

A prideful person becomes unforgiving, bitter, estranged, touchy, angry. Results of unforgiveness:

- Guilt and condemnation
- One cannot release others because they cannot forgive them. The person does not have God's release through God forgiveness. They do not feel nor believe that God can forgive them .
- One cannot forgive himself for the past. One cannot receive God's forgiveness.
- Blindness and deception so that a person fails to see himself as he really is, and also fails to see others as they are.
- Unforgiveness brings bitterness and hatred.

5. UNBELIEF is a fruit of pride.

Pride is independent and self-sufficient. In order to believe, one must acknowledge a need, a deficiency, a limitation. So unbelief seeks to establish its independence and sufficiency so that no one else is needed. Pride is the root of unbelief.

A person can believe God and seek man's glory. <u>John 5:44</u>. Pride desires the glory of men, whereas faith desires the glory of God.

Pride seeks to possess God's blessings by striving with God, proving one deserves it. Psalms 46:10

Faith and humility are the same root. Humility prepares a person's soul for trust. Biblical examples of faith and humility are the Centurion, "I am not worthy!" and the Gentile woman, "The dogs eat the crumbs!"

Faith will not grow from the root of pride.

6. HOW TO DESTROY THE ROOT OF PRIDE

Ask God to show you the deception of pride.

Repent for being prideful.

Release the deceptions of pride.

Change the motivation of your life from pride to love.

Humble yourself before the Lord.

The root of every sin and evil is pride. The root of all virtue is humility. Pride will push us up. Rejection will push us down. We must be free from both, and let God exalt us.