

FUNCTIONS OF OUR SPIRIT

When our spirit is born again, Gods Spirit bears witness with our spirit that we are the children of God-Romans 8:16 God can only communicate with our spirit. That which enters our mind does not really help us until it gets into our spirit. The life of God has to flow into our spirit.

We have to grow up spiritually. So if we have a tiny little spirit that is not functioning, how much of God can flow into it? So if we have a tiny little spirit that is not yet talking, how much can God say to us? We can be informed with our mind; this is one of the reasons that God has to say something again and again because we are so small in spirit, it is like a baby that can only understand four words. We cannot communicate much with a two year old. We cannot get into anything like serious concepts, until there is a better level of communication.

If His Spirit can only bear witness to our spirit and our spirit is infantile, how can God communicate with us? We can sit under the best teaching in the world and we are clueless to what things are about because it is only by our spirit that we can know them.

The disciples sat in an intensive bible school with Jesus Himself and at the end of 3 and 1/2 years they didn't understand a thing. And the reason was that they had no spirit yet that was generated or regenerated (born again) that could

receive it. But it was all deposited in their memory, in the levels of the subconscious or conscious mind so that when their spirits were born again, the Holy Spirit could draw it all out and show them the things that Jesus said and then they started to understand spiritually once their spirit was born again.

When we are a babe in Christ, until we grow up we cannot be taught certain things because we are babes. There is no way of communicating because it has to come through our spirit.

Proverbs 25: ²⁸He that hath no rule over his own spirit is like a city that is broken down, and without walls.

We can get free from all sorts of demonic bondages, but because our spirit is not strong and able to retain the word of God and to rule over the soul and body, then the devil comes right back in and we are exactly where we started, we are like a city without walls. We have a divided personality(the bible calls it double minded in the Greek it literally reads 1-twice 2-soul- James 1:8 and 4:8) and until we are built up in spirit there is no way we can become permanently secure in God or permanently free from demonic interference.

Our will is directly related to our spirit in the new birth of our spirit, and until we learn how to be continually filled with the Spirit we will not have the strength in our spirit, to keep our soul in subjection to it and we become two souled. Our spirit

communing with the lord one moment, and then overcome by the lusts of the flesh the next.

It is not so much ministering to people in deliverance although it has its place, it is a very important dimension of ministry but without people being made strong in spirit we are never going to produce people who can stand in God.

Before the fall man communed with God in spirit, after the fall man died in his spirit, he lost contact with God and in that sense he died. He died in his spirit.

After regeneration man is born again in the spirit, he receives a new heart and a new spirit and God is able to live in his new spirit but it is a babe and needs developing.

The primary function, the first function of our spirit is to be able to touch God, to connect with God, to communicate with God.

God's Spirit is able to communicate with our spirit, particularly as it grows to maturity. We need to grow in our spirit so that we can receive the full impute of God's Spirit. Our spirit can receive things our soul senses are unable to receive. The Spirit teaches us with spiritual words.

All that Jesus received from the father was through his spirit being totally open and totally in tune with the Spirit of God. Otherwise he would not be a normal man and he couldn't

be our example, because it would not be a normal humanity. All that Jesus was able to receive from God he received by a highly developed spirit completely in touch with the Spirit of God.

But we have the mind of Christ. We are as capable as Jesus of receiving truth from the Father. We can see the amazing change that took place in Peter, who was hard headed before Pentecost. But afterwards he moved in a dimension of incredible spiritual perception. It was not simply bible training of the mind. It wasn't natural intellect. It was a tremendous ability that he developed in his spirit to hear from God.

The second function of the new born spirit is to rule over the soul and body, and to develop them as instruments for God's use. As a result, all of our triune man can function in true spiritual service. That means every natural gift and every natural ability and every attribute in our body and our soul is capable of serving God when it is brought under the rule of the spirit. None of it has to be tucked away as useless; it is all useful once it is under the rule of the spirit, once it has become truly spiritual. If all of our natural gifting and abilities could come into this dimension, what a mighty force we would be for God. We are not to be just a spirit where we detach ourselves from body and soul in order to be in the spirit.

The outflow of spiritual life is essentially practical. May the God of peace Himself sanctify you entirely, and may your spirit, soul and body be preserved complete-perfect, the word is for perfection, to come to maturity. And the very God of peace sanctify you wholly; and *I pray God* your whole spirit and soul and body be preserved blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. Faithful *is* he that calleth you, who also will do *it*. - 1 Thessalonians 5:23, 24

There is to be balance in working out our soul salvation with fear and trembling for it is God who works in us to will and to do of His good pleasure. We can see here the partnership. We are to work it out and God works it in. It is God who works in us, he provides the power, and we provide the willingness. And then working together we can come to maturity.

The spirit, the soul and the body are to be sanctified. Sanctified is to be set apart exclusively for the use of God. Our body and our soul can be set apart, exclusively for the use of God.

We are to present our bodies a living and a holy sacrifice, acceptable to God which is our spiritual service of worship.

Presenting our bodies to God is spiritual. It is spiritual worship. Don't be conformed to this world but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, so our mind can be transformed so that it becomes a tremendous vehicle for God to use,

provided that it becomes spiritual, which is all that is necessary. It means that it becomes ruled over by the spirit. All our thinking processes are delivered from carnality and become spiritual but we still continue to think and reason.

We use every faculty of our mind, but it is under the rule of the spirit so that we start to think in a totally new way. But it is still the same mind doing it, but it is being used in a totally different way by the Spirit of God, or by our spirit. It is really our spirit that uses our mind, although it is energized and enabled to do this by the Spirit of God.

1corn 6:19 do you not know that your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit. God's Spirit finds its residence in our spirit; the body is also the temple of the Holy Spirit because the body is the container for our spirit. It is not a clean spirit living in a dirty body, but the body itself becomes holy when it is sanctified by the Holy Spirit. We are to glorify God in our body. We can see how the body becomes a servant of the Lord, how the body serves God. So the second function of the human spirit is to rule over the soul and body.

The third function of the human spirit is to discern and enter into the spiritual realm and exercise authority in Jesus' name. We have to learn how to get into the spiritual realm where the real warfare is and the real realities are. *While we look not at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen:*

for the things which are seen are temporal; but the things which are not seen are eternal.-2corn 4:18

True spiritual sight sees the unseen spiritual realities in all the reality in which they really are. They are more real than anything physical, tangible and touchable. Once we begin to see things clearly then we can begin to make proper judgments.

The function of our spirit is to enable us to perceive in the spirit the real realities of the spirit realm. And discern in the spirit so that we can wage effective warfare, we can lay hold of things which God has spoken in the spirit realm; this is the dimension of faith which really works.

If our spirit is not quickened and alive and made mature there is no way that we can begin to move in any meaningful way in faith, it is a spiritual thing. And we cannot wage effective spiritual warfare because this also is totally a thing of the spirit. We cannot pray effectively unless we are in the Holy Spirit, unless we learn how to enter the spirit realm.

Once we are alive in the spirit then praying is as natural to us as it was to Jesus.

The forth function of our spirit is to be a channel for God's Spirit to work powerfully through us.

The Holy Spirit is the one who comes alongside to help. If we are waiting for the Holy Spirit to come and touch the area

we live in, he will not do it, because He comes to people not to geographical locations. If we are going to see the power of God work in our area, he has got to have a channel through us. Because this is the only way that God can righteously come and intervene in human affairs. He has to have a human channel to work through.

When He has come to us then he will convict the world of sin and righteousness and judgment, concerning sin because they don't believe on Jesus and judgment because the ruler of this world has already been judged, not the judgment at the end of the age. But the fact that Satan has already been judged. He is already conquered, defeated, and we can already exercise authority over him. When the Spirit has come to us we can demonstrate to the world that that is true.

The fourth function of our spirit is that the fullness of God's Spirit can now flow through us to bring His powerful ministry to bear upon the needs of the world and that is going to transform our society.

These are the basic functions of our spirit.

Our spirit also has gateways or doors, or senses, and many of us are familiar with at least eight of them, 1-fear of God, 2-reverance, 3-prayer, 4-faith, 5-worship, 6- hope, 7-revelation, and 8-intuition.

To understand the gateways of our spirit, we have to understand the basic functions of our spirit. The first function of our spirit is to be able to touch God, where our spirit senses the Spirit of God. This is called opening up our spirit to God, where He flows into it.

We can tune into all the attributes and abilities of God. We first of all have to learn how to tune into the fruit of the Spirit.

Galatians 5: ²² But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, ²³ Meekness, temperance: against such (of this kind or sort) there is no law.

There are nine fruits of the Spirit mentioned, but this is not an all inclusive list, it says such as. It actually says fruit not fruits. The word fruit means-the natural product of something that is alive. The fruit of the Spirit is the manifest life of God.

Jesus becomes to us whatever we need. So our spirit has the ability to tune into the attributes of God or the divine nature.

We have to learn how to open up to a particular fruit of the Spirit, where that aspect of Gods life flows into it.

In this time and space realm our soul naturally becomes troubled, a certain person may cause our soul to be troubled, we do not like there behavior. But because our spirit is alive to

God, we can tune into the love of God, where the love of God flows into our spirit, causing our soul to come under the influence of our spirit being filled with the love of God, changing the way we think or feel about a person.

We have to learn how to open our spirit to the joy of the lord, so that it continually flows into our spirit.

We have to continually open up our spirit to the peace of God, so that it continually flows into it. And then we begin to practice the fruit of the Spirit where we are continually drawing upon the life of God, so that we are able to move or walk in it.

So the basic functions of our spirit are to 1-touch or connect with God so that His life continually flows into it. 2- Be continually filled with the Spirit, so that our spirit becomes strong enough to rule over the soul and body, and to develop them as instruments for God's use. 3- The third function of our spirit is to discern and enter into the spiritual realm and exercise authority in Jesus' name. 4- The fourth function of our spirit is that the fullness of God's Spirit can now flow through us to bring His powerful ministry to the world and this is what is going to transform our society.

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