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A BALANCING ACT

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WALKING IN THE SPIRIT Experiencing the Spirit Led Life Part VII

Have you ever watched those dogs riding in the back or on top of the cab in their owner's truck? They are constantly correcting for the maneuvers of the truck. What a balancing act! Sometimes their inability to balance at the right moment costs them a skinned head or their life. Many Christians are guilty of the same fate; planting their feet in the world while trying to be balanced with the Word of God. The Word of God upon which we are to stand offers no shifting, therefore no falling. A balancing act has to be a very tiring experience. The constant motion offers no rest. The ironic thing is that I have never seen one of those aerobatic dogs with a frown on his face. His tongue is lapping in the wind, his hair is standing straight back and he thinks he has died and gone to doggie heaven. What he doesn't see or realize is the danger. The sense of danger alludes the person who is trapped by the excitement of the moment and thrilled by the rush of the hour. The Word of God states that we cannot serve both the world (mammon) and God. The Word also states that we will love one and hate the other. What a deception satan places in people's minds. A personal and deliberate walk with God offers a stable equilibrium. No more balancing acts should be the goal of every Christian. Plant your feet on the rock that never moves.

Pastor George Ferrington

What is the shortest chapter in the Bible?

Facts of the Bible

Psalm 117

What is the longest chapter in the Bible?

Psalm 119

Which chapter is in the center of the Bible?

Psalm 118

There are 594 chapters before Psalm 118.

There are 594 chapters after Psalm 118.

Add these numbers up and you get 1188.

What is the center verse of the Bible?

Psalm 118:8

Does this verse say something significant about

God's perfect will for our lives? The next time someone says they would like to find God's perfect will for their lives, and they want to be in the center of His will, just send them to the center of His Word!

Psalm 118:8 (NKJV) "It is better to trust in the Lord than

In this month's article, I will conclude this study on "Experiencing the Spirit Led Life" by looking at how man's spirit works in conjunction with the Holy Spirit in order to produce three (3) primary functions of the Spirit led life. I have found that mankind begins his "walk in the Spirit" in earnest when he comes to understand these three important functions of his inner spirit person. The first function of the Spirit led life is learning how to heed "**intuition.**" Intuition is the act of knowing or sensing, without the use of the soul's rational sense knowledge process. The spiritual advantage of intuition is that the believer gains God's perceptive insights into hidden knowledge. The second function of the Spirit led life is "**communion.**" Communion is spiritual fellowship with God and includes the sharing of thoughts and feelings with Him. I personally believe that the reestablishing of fellowship with us was one of God's highest priorities when Jesus made possible the rebirth of our human spirit. The third function of the Spirit led life is a God instructed "**conscience.**" Notice that I said "God instructed" conscience. The conscience of man is a left over from Adam and Eve. The natural conscience of man after his fall was capable of forming ideas that were not necessarily correct. Thus, the conscience could direct mankind's life in a wrong direction. An example was that it could magnify any act of mankind, and inwardly declare that act wrong, when in truth it was not a sin. This inward declaration was usually due to false teaching from someone who was trusted. The result was that the person was placed under bondage to legalism because of his conscience. This did not make the conscience bad in and of itself, it was defective in part but still was able to curtail wrong in many cases. The God instructed conscience is mankind's conscience repaired. The Word says if our heart condemns us then God is greater than our hearts. The heart of man is the medium by which the conscience forms its doctrine. In the God instructed conscience, the Holy Spirit works with our spirit person to renew our minds with the Word of God. This causes us to think properly and not allow wrong ideas into our heart. Thus our conscience is directed by God, and is able to do its full job in our lives.

This spiritual perceptivity of the believer, working through intuition, communion and conscience, is empowered in the believer through the anointing which manifested itself in the three above functions through discernment, revelation, and guidance. The anointing assists the believer in receiving and acting with perceptive insights into hidden knowledge. In 1 John 2:20, we read, "**But you have an unction (anointing) from the Holy One, and you know all things.**" As believers we have the Holy Spirit living inside us, and the anointing comes directly from the Spirit Himself. This anointing works in the believer's spirit person assisting intuition, communion, and conscience, and thus enables us to "**know all things.**" In order for us to understand the above statement with more clarity, we will need to look at John 14:26; and 16:13, "**But the Comforter, who is the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My name, He will teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatever I have said unto you.**" 16:3, "**Nevertheless,** (Continued on Page Three)

GLORY God gave His Son Jesus, the ability to come to this earth as a human—a God, in human form. He also gave Him glory. Jesus never lost that glory during His sojourn on this earth. But He also never lost His humanity. He hungered, as we hunger, He thirsted, as we thirst. He hurt, as we hurt, but unlike us, He never stopped loving us. Even those that were involved in His death, He asked God, the Father, to forgive them because they had no idea what and who they were in the process of executing. They were doing satan’s work, and Jesus knew that, yet begged God the Father not to hold them accountable. That was glory.

Our national flag has often been referred to as “Old Glory.” That is because so many men have given their lives in defense of this flag, and what it stands for. Glory has long been given by mortal men to those who were willing to make the supreme effort. Adam is said to have walked in the cool of the evening with God. At that time, Adam was surrounded with God’s glory. He dwelled in the aura of it. In Matthew 24:30, the Bible says that the sign of the Son of Man (Jesus) will appear in the sky on the clouds of Heaven, with power and great glory.

When John the Baptist (Baptizer) baptized Jesus in the Jordan River, a power of glory came down on Jesus in the form of a dove, and through this power God spoke, and said, **“This is my beloved Son, hear ye Him.”** Again at the time when Jesus was transfigured, Peter and John saw Moses and Elijah with Jesus, and He was filled with great glory. Jesus must have told His two disciples who the other two men were because they could not have recognized them without the knowledge of Christ. When Jesus rode into Jerusalem on the foal of a donkey, the people along the way saw the glory of the Son of God, and welcomed Him into the city because they saw the glory that was around Him.

How then does all of this glory that is God’s, and Jesus’s translate into glory for us? We who have believed on Him are filled with His glory even as Jesus was. That Holy Spirit that first dwells within us at the time we are saved, will also fill us with that same glory that Jesus had. Jesus Himself said that we would do even greater things than He had done, because of that indwelling Holy Spirit. Therefore, if we do not let ourselves become involved with the spreading of God’s Word, and the telling of His truth to others, we have denied that Holy Spirit that wants to do great things. We must walk in the way that He leads. When we do we have permitted the work that God’s glory wants to fulfill. He wants His glory to be seen through us. In us.

How then, is God’s glory going to be seen in us? It is seen when we have done what the Word tells us to do. Jesus said that if we only provide a cup of water to one of His, we have done it as to Him. The vast majority of the people on this earth at this time are depressed, angry and downcast. They are sick in mind and body, and most have no one to turn to. If we but offer a word of comfort to one of these, we have let God’s glory be seen through us. If we get to tell one of these people about the love that Jesus has for them, we have let God’s glory shine through us. If we but put our arm around the shoulder of one who is downtrodden, in an act of compassion, we have let God’s glory be seen through us.

We don’t see these days, in this area, very many people who are truly hungry. But if we see one of these, and we give but one meal, or the price of something to eat, we have given as to God. Our Bible tells us that in the final days of the glory of Jesus, He will tell us that we have given water to the thirsty, that we have visited the sick, that we have given food to those that were hungry. And when we question, “Lord, when did we do all of these things for you?” He will then say, **“Inasmuch as you have done it for the least of My children, you have done it as to Me. Enter therefore into the kingdom to be with me forever.”** Startling words, but as true as the very name of Jesus. He does not want us to have a keep-it-all-for-myself attitude.

More than 100 years before Jesus was born, the then thriving Roman Empire gained control over the land of Palestine. By negotiation, deceit, and trickery. So when Jesus was born, it was into an occupied country. Most nations of that day willingly gave over control of their entire country in order to enter into the Roman Pax (Roman Peace), but not Israel. Openly or under cover, the Jews fought against their masters. But the power and the majesty of Rome was too much for them. They even schemed with the Romans when it suited their purpose. That is what happened in the death of Jesus. But the powerful Roman Empire, at a later date, would fall into disrepute at the hands of the barbarians. It is my belief that had the Romans not had any part in the death of Jesus, that this destruction would not have occurred. Or at least it would have come later in a different way. The Roman participation in the execution of Jesus brought them to ruin. Had they refused to have any part in that terrible death of our Lord, history may have been entirely different. Yes, it was prophesy. Yes, it had to happen; but satan used the might of the Roman Empire to try to destroy Jesus. The glory that was God’s, even while seeing His only begotten Son, going to His physical death, overcame that death and translated Jesus into an immortal being. That same glory will one day also change us (in a twinkling of an eye) into immortal beings. That is the promise.

God’s glory will one day take us who believe on His Son Jesus, to be with Him in a place that we do not now even know where it is. But we will know one day, and then we will see the glory that is God’s, and the promise that Jesus made before He left this earth. Let us keep our faith and continue the right path until the end. Whether it be by rapture, or our natural death when we will go to be with Him. May God bring blessings on us all.

Bro. Vic Clayton

WALKING IN THE SPIRIT

Experiencing the Spirit Led Life

(Continued from Page One)

when He, the Spirit of truth, is come, He will guide you into all truth; for He shall not speak of Himself, but whatever He shall hear, that shall He speak; and He will show you things to come."

In reading the above scripture references, we understand that the Holy Spirit working through the anointing with our spirit person caused

the believer to receive all truth in three (3) different areas. These three areas of truth that we will look at appear through intuition, communion and conscience. The first area of truth is **"historical,"** and relates to the believer's understanding of the character of history. This is supported in John 14:26, **"... brings all things to your remembrance."** Why is the historical important? Because the believer may need God's historical wisdom in assisting him in making the proper decisions relating to life's circumstances. Please hear me, the proper perspective of anything that happened yesterday is very important. Why? Because history tends to repeat itself, and if someone made a mistake yesterday I don't need to make that mistake today. I personally believe that this is why no person is spared in the Bible concerning their mistakes. The Word of God reveals all, but at the same time gives us directions for bypassing mistakes, or even recovery from the mistake if we happen to get caught in it. This knowledge and deliverance is done through the Spirit's wisdom of historical events that are interrupted through our spirit person. The next area of truth is **"doctrinal,"** and is defined as a body of principles presented for acceptance or belief, as by a Christian group. We find in John 14:26 strong support for this area of truth from the Holy Spirit when the Word reads, **"... shall teach you all things."** In the thesaurus, the word doctrine can be replaced with the word "gospel," which in English means the proclamation of redemption preached by Jesus, and the Apostles, which is the central content of the Christian revelation. The word "gospel" in the Greek text means good news or a reward for bringing the good news of Jesus Christ. So as I see it, the doctrinal issue here is **"the gospel of Jesus Christ,"** which is the living creed of the Word of God. The Holy Spirit's job is to **"teach you all things,"** as they apply to the gospel, and to make alive that gospel in our inner man, which is the central content of all Christian revelation. This would be a good place for us to ask the question, "Why is the gospel so important to the Christian, and why must it be made alive in us?" Because, in order for mankind to be able to inject spiritual truth (revealed gospel) into the solution of the natural historical perspective already received from the Holy Spirit, the gospel has to be alive in him. Please remember, God's ways are higher than man's ways, so are spiritual truths (revelation of the gospel) higher than historical perspectives (natural truths). This statement is supported by Romans 4:17, **"... even God, Who giveth life to the dead, and calleth those things which are not, as though they were."** In this life, there are many things that do not line up with the gospel, so God declares that we call those things which are not, as though they were (as the Word states). This is further borne out in Mark 11:23 Amp., **"Truly I tell you, whoever says to this mountain, be lifted up and thrown into the sea!; and does not doubt at all in his heart, but believes that what he says will take place, it will be done for him."** When a man speaks to a mountain in his life, he is calling those things that are not (natural life circumstances) as though they were (as the gospel says). We have seen how the Holy Spirit, through the functions of intuition, communion and conscience is directing us in the areas of historical and doctrinal perspectives by the anointing. We will now look at the third area of truth which is **"prophetic."** The idea of the prophetic anointing working in the believer is supported by John 16:3, when it says, **"... show you things to come."** This prophetic truth is the foretelling of events by divine inspiration. It's important that we remember that only God the Father knows all, even the future! God gives this prophetic anointing to His children primarily for guidance. The first principle of guidance through prophetic anointing is for the believer to heed Proverbs 3:5, **"Trust in the Lord with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding."** The next principle is revealed in 1 John 2:20, which tells us, **"But you have an unction (anointing) from the Holy Spirit, and you know all things."** We must believe this if we are going to operate in the prophetic anointing. The prophets of old understood this and prophesied that it would happen. In Isaiah 30:21 Amp., **"And I will bring the blind by a way that they know not; I will lead them in paths that they have not known, I will make darkness into light before them and make uneven places into a plain. These things I have determined to do (for them); and I will not leave them forsaken."** The believer today is empowered by the Holy Spirit Himself. He whispers in the ears and says to the Spirit led believer, **"I am the way, the truth and the life."** The way that we have been led, and did not know of is the spiritual path that makes **"darkness into light."** The ruff bumps and mountains of this natural life are leveled when the prophet said, **"... and make uneven places into a plain."** How? By His guidance, through the Spirit's anointing in prophetic truth.

As I close this teaching, I would like to remind you of what Paul said in 1 Corinthians 2:12, **"Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit which is of God; that we might know the things that are freely given to us of God."** Exactly what has been given to us? In summation, I would have to say, **"THE ABILITY TO WALK IN THE SPIRIT AND TO KNOW THE THINGS THAT ARE FREELY GIVEN TO US BY GOD."**

Gene R. Brown
Associate Pastor



THE YIELDING

“For if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live.” The Word says that the Spirit intercedes for us with groanings that cannot be uttered. There must be a time in everyone’s life when they come to the conclusion that God is Who He says He is. Either that or we have believed in vain. I have found it very difficult to keep from handling things on my own. Even though I believe and confess, and know through and through that God knows what is best for me.

With that in mind, knowing with all the knowledge I have at this present time that God is greater in me than my ability to do wrong. We still have the problem with this old nature. I mean it’s not going to leave. It’s here with us for the long haul. I have given some deep thought to this and there is no question about it; we cannot tame this old nature. So then, my only alternative is to let God perform in me what He promised. My first step is to set my mind on thinking on God’s Word. Then the Father will take what I have purposely willed to Him, which is my desire to seek and serve Him with all my might. Then He will begin to build the character of Jesus Christ in me. I believe He will not only give me knowledge, but He will allow me to see people and situations through His eyes. This will ultimately bring about two things. First, it will deepen and enhance my relationship with my Father through His Son, Jesus Christ. Next, it will suffocate the thoughts and desires of the flesh. It is my hope and my greatest desire that while I am yet in this body, that the Father will reveal true fellowship to me. When our greatest desire in our hearts is for our God, then I’m sure He will be aware of it. When all we desire is Him, our lives will change. Not only that, but our time with Him will be richer and deeper than ever before.

The Father knows we cannot spend every waking moment thinking on Him. But when we turn and focus on Him with that being the greatest desire of our hearts, then our outlook on life will be different. Things that used to bother us will become so trivial that they won’t even be worth our giving them thought. We will be locked into God in such a way that we maintain focus on Him. I believe when this happens, we will be able to understand just a little better about how the Father sees things.

May you be blessed,
Bro. Neal Emfinger, Jr.

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