The Spiritual Man

Going Deeper Growing Stronger in Our Relationship with God

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 *“Remind them of these things, charging them before the Lord not to strive about words to no profit, to the ruin of the hearers. 15 Be diligent to present yourself approved to God, a worker who does not need to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth. 16 But shun profane and idle babblings, for they will increase to more ungodliness”. 2Tim 2:14-16*

**The purpose of this study is threefold:**

1. To understand that God desires a more intimate relationship with us and this is achieved primarily through our ongoing sanctification

2. To understand the struggle between the inner man and the outer man that resists our sanctification

3. To understand the relationship between Body, Soul and Spirit and that relationship’s role in our sanctification.

This will in many ways be a somewhat technical and intellectual study. Every true student knows and understands that learning, life changing learning, rarely comes through the easy path. It requires patience diligence commitment and sacrifice. If you have a hunger for a deeper and stronger relationship with God this study is for you. I challenge you to stretch yourself and see what God will do in you. As you do, I promise you that I will do all I can to be as interesting and challenging as possible.

The class size will be restricted to approximately twelve. The restriction is to help create an environment of openness and to give opportunity for ample interaction. Each class will be approximately 1½ to 2 hours long. We will meet on Sunday evenings at Newport Church of God from 6 to 8 PM. There will be no child care provided.

This will be a six week study, here is a brief summary:

**Part 1 Understanding the Unity and Division of the Body, Soul and Spirit**

**Week 1: Spirit, Soul and Body**

 Man is a triune being. This means that he is made up of three parts. And while these three parts are in many ways independent they are also co-dependent.

Three areas of consciousness in human existence:

1. The body is the world–consciousness
2. The soul is the self-consciousness
3. The spirit is the God-consciousness

We are the Temple of the Holy Ghost. The Temple has three areas:

1. The Outer Court-Body
2. The Inner Court-Soul
3. The Holy of Holies-Spirit

**Week 2 The Spirit and the Soul—Going Deeper**

When God created all other life He simply spoke it into existence. But when He made man He made four distinctions:

 1. He made man in His image

 2. He made man superior to all other life

 3. He breathed life into man

 4. He made man a soul/being—and according to the Scripture man is the only one who God

 gave the capacity to know Him and have fellowship with Him.

The Spirit of Man is comprised of three parts:

1. Conscience
2. Intuition
3. Fellowship

The Soul of Man is comprised of three parts:

 1. Mind

 2. Will

 3. Emotion

One of our greatest struggles is between the soul and the spirit. You might think it is the body and the spirit but it is the soul and the spirit, for the soul is the controller or determiner of the body.

It was Eve’s soul that Satan appealed to:

 1. Satan engaged her mind by asking a doubting question

 2. Satan engaged her emotions by causing her to distrust God

 3. Satan engaged her will by leading her to desire that which was forbidden

**Week 3: The Fall and Redemption of Man**

Understanding the difference between Calvinism and Armenianism as it relates to the will of man. One says man can the other says man cannot.

The sufferings of Christ:

1. The sufferings of His body
2. The sufferings of His soul
3. The sufferings of His spirit

To believe that Christ took our place, my place, your place, at the whipping post of sin, in the garden of rejection, on the cross of separation, is to believe we have already been punished for our sin IN CHRIST. This, my friend, **is** eternal life—this **is** to be BORN AGAIN.

**Part 2 Understanding the Nature of Flesh and how it Relates to Salvation**

**Week 4: The Flesh and Salvation**

How does man become fleshly:

1. What is flesh?
2. How does man become flesh?
3. What is the nature of flesh?

Regeneration and what it is not:

1. Regeneration does not change the nature of the soul
2. Regeneration does not consist in an act of the soul
3. Regeneration is not the illumination of the soul

Regeneration and what it is:

1. Regeneration is an act of God
2. Regeneration is an act of God’s power
3. Regeneration is a new life

Understanding the Unregenerate Man:

1. The presence of wickedness
2. The presence of righteousness
3. Social Influences

Three Things the Flesh Cannot Do:

 1. The flesh cannot keep the law

 2. The flesh cannot subject itself to the law

 3. The flesh cannot please God

**Week 5: You Must be Born Again!**

What does it mean to be Born Again:

 1. Recognizing that there is something terribly wrong in and with your life

 2. Realizing that what is wrong is that you are a sinner

 3. Repenting of your sin and asking Jesus Christ to save you from the curse of sin

 4. Relinquishing control of your life back to God and living for His glory

Wrestling with the Flesh:

1. The *authority* of sin has been broken or nullified
2. The *voice* of sin has not been muzzled
3. The *enticement* of sin has not been diminished

Walking in Victory:

1. Faith
2. Self-denial
3. Obedience

**Week 6 Dividing the Spirit and Soul**

The Spiritual man who walks according to the Spirit:

Assents not decides

Cooperates not directs

Submits not resists

Yields not insists

Trust not doubts

Relies not self-reliant

Obeys not reasons

Faith not sight (five senses)

**Soulish Spiritual**

Arrogant Humble

 Knowledge over relationship Relationship over knowledge

Seek to reconcile the Word with experience Seek to reconcile their experiences

(their exp take priority over the Word) with the Word

Understanding is more important than faith Faith is more important than understand

Are ruled by their emotions (spirit & phy) Are ruled by their faith

Craves the attention of men Craves the approval of God

Thoughts are more on themselves than God More on God than self

Focuses on man’s intellect Focuses on man’s spirit

Anxious Patient

Pursues his will Pursues HIS will