

## A Man's Spirit Renewed

Have you ever seen a person who calls themselves a Christian doing something very unchristian and saying to yourself "how on earth can that person call him/her self a Christian?" Is that person really saved? What about a person who gives their life to Christ, goes on really well for a while and the next thing you hear is that they are back in jail? You think what is going on around here? Is anyone really saved?

Well, I want to explain something to you about salvation. If you read **Romans 10v9** it says: "*that if you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved. <sup>10</sup>For with the heart one believes unto righteousness, and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.*"

This means that if you ask Jesus into your heart and really mean it, He, Jesus, will come into your life by the power of the Holy Spirit. (**Rev 3v20**), (**Rom 8v11**)

Now the bible says that God looks on the heart, not on the outward actions of the body. What has taken place is that the person's spirit has been born again, given new life. We see this prophesied in **Ezekiel 36 v 26** "*I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit within you; I will take the heart of stone out of your flesh and give you a heart of flesh.*" **v27** *I will put My Spirit within you and cause you to walk in My statutes, and you will keep My judgments and do them.*" The unregenerate heart, as we see in **Jeremiah 17v 9** "*The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked; who can know it?*" This is the state of a mans heart before he is born again but afterwards Gods says that He will remove that old heart of stone (without feelings or convictions) and replace it with one that is soft towards God and others.

The problem of wrong actions exists because the heart fails to tell the head that the person is now a new creation in Christ. (**2 Corinthians 5 v17**) **Romans 12 v 1&2** says: *I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that you present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God, which is your reasonable service. <sup>2</sup>And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God.* A person who has lived a large part of their life serving themselves and the devil needs a lot of regenerating; God has got a lot of work to do in their life. What I have found is that, not only do we need to be born again in our spirit (heart), but, we need to be born again in our soul (mind, will and emotions). This of course is a process and can take some time but there are ways that can greatly increase the speed of this process.

### **Mans Spirit Renewed ... Continued...**

**#1**, Read your Bible every day at least one chapter, but three chapters is better. In the book of **Eph 5 v 26** the Bible says *that Christ might sanctify and cleanse you with the washing of water by the word.* In other words the Word of God is like taking a bath for the mind. **Heb 4v 12** says: *For the word of God is living and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the division of soul and spirit, and of joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart.* In other words the word of God will penetrate your thinking and convict you of the things that God does or doesn't want for you. I thank God for the years I spent in Sunday school as a child, it was like a seed planted in my heart which, when I matured, it became a harvest to me of God's word and direction for my life. Jesus tells a parable in **Luke 8v5** onwards, about a person sowing seeds into four different types of soil. The soil represents the heart of men while the seed is the word of God. It is only the soil that has been ploughed up and broken for God that produces the hundredfold return. It's the heart that has been softened with all the weeds pulled out which is a good soil for the Word of God to grow in.

**#2**, Prayer is the other important part of the Christian's walk with Christ. I was at a bikers 4 Christ meeting recently when a member read **Matthew 6 v9**: *In this manner, therefore, pray: Our Father in heaven, Hallowed be Your name. Your kingdom come. Your will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And do not lead us into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one. For Yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.*

Jesus gave this as a model prayer to His disciples to help them understand how to pray to God. He starts off with Identification, who God is, and who we are in God. We are his children and He is our father. Unfortunately father-son relationships in this country over the past fifty years have become a nonevent with up to **40%** of children in some areas living in single parent (mother) homes. Nevertheless God says that He is a loving God not an Authoritarian or overlord as most of us would have experienced in our own lives. Jesus talks about the names of God, so that we know the power of our God.

He is the God who see all (**Gen 16 v 13**), He is our Healer (**Ps 103v3**), He is our provider (**Gen 22v14**), He is our Banner (**Gen 17v15**), He is our peace (**Judges 6 v24**), He is our Strong Tower (**Ps 61v3**,

**Pro 18v10**), He is our Deliverer (**Ps18v1, Ps144v2**), our Redeemer (**Isa 48v17, Isa 63v16**), He is our guide (**Ps 32v8**), our Righteousness (**Ps 4v1**), Our intercessor (**Heb 7v25**), our Counsellor (**Isa 9v6**), He is our Propitiation. **1 John 4v10**: *In this is love, not that we loved God, but that He loved us and sent His Son to be the propitiation for our sins. <sup>11</sup>Beloved, if God so loved us, we also ought to love one another.* Propitiation means that He has provided a scapegoat to take all the punishment that we rightly deserve. Christ has reconciled us back to God by becoming the mercy seat and appeasing God of the requirements of a sin sacrifice. **2 cor 5v21***For He made Him who knew no sin to be sin for us, that we might become the righteousness of God in Him.* You could praise God for eternity just on these few scriptures. As you can see, every thing else in the prayer stems from the names of God, Forgiveness, deliverance from temptation, provision and the power of His kingdom. God wants us to live life and establish earth like it is in Heaven. Of course the earth will never be like Heaven, but we as believers can experience Heaven in our own lives. **Continued...**

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**#3** The third most important thing is Fellowship. Fellowship means spending time together as Christian friends. We need each other and were made for each other. I need the support of my brothers in Christ to encourage me and strengthen me when I feel down or experiencing difficulty in my Christian walk. I recently experienced great difficulty dealing with a problem from my past. It was something I had suppressed but not thoroughly dealt with. I knew that while I refused to seek counsel I would never be free of its oppressive hold over my life. I first discussed this with my wife and then went to my Pastor and confessed to him the problem that I was battling. After two counseling sessions and prayer, I now have the victory in this area. We must understand that “**Brotherhood**” is not a bikers invention, **it is Christ’s**. **1 John chap 1v7-9** has a lot to say about fellowshiping together with Christ. *“But if we walk in the light as He is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanses us from all sin. <sup>8</sup>If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. <sup>9</sup>If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.”*

**Heb 10v19** says: *Therefore, brethren, having boldness to enter the Holiest by the blood of Jesus, <sup>20</sup>by a new and living way which He consecrated for us, through the veil, that is, His flesh, <sup>21</sup>and having a High Priest over the house of God, <sup>22</sup>let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water. <sup>23</sup>Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for He who promised is faithful. <sup>24</sup>And let us consider one another in order to stir up love and good works, <sup>25</sup>not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as is the manner of some, but exhorting one another, and so much the more as you see the Day approaching. **1Pet 2 v17** tells us to love the brotherhood So when you are struggling, go and see your brothers and allow them to minister to your needs.*

**God Bless ya. - Don - A Biker 4 Christ.**