

THE REVELATION OF GOD'S LOVE



**Mining the Immeasurable Treasures of the
Human Spirit**

... a ground breaking insight into the spirit realm

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Human Spirit**

Olives A. C. Obi



KRAFT BOOKS LIMITED

Published by

Kraft Books Limited

6A Polytechnic Road, Sango, Ibadan
Box 22084, University of Ibadan Post Office
Ibadan, Oyo State, Nigeria

☎ +234(0)803 348 2474, +234(0)805 129 1191
+234(0)803 350 9421, +234 (0)905 723 9357
E-mail: kraftbooks@yahoo.com;
kraftbookslimited@gmail.com
Website: www.kraftbookslimited.com

© Olives A. C. Obi, 2021
08033169979, 08054068499

First published 2021

ISBN 978-978-918-677-8

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First printing, March 2021

DEDICATION

This book is dedicated to the memory of Pastor Onyiba N. Ogbuoji (1946-2014).

CONTENTS

<i>Dedication</i>	v
<i>Prologue</i>	x
 Chapter One	
Preamble: Spirit Soul Body	1
 Chapter Two	
New Birth [Redemption. Justification]	16
 Chapter Three	
Scriptural Grounds that Support Justification	25
 Chapter Four	
The Conundrum	40
 Chapter Five	
Mining the Treasure [The Revelation: Quickening Process]	48
 Chapter Six	
Companions of the R-Q Process (Thoughts. Confessions)	66
 Chapter Seven	
The Facilitators of the R-Q Process [The Word of God. Faith and Belief. Prayer and Fasting]	80
 Chapter Eight	
Practical Applications of the R-Q Process	103
 Chapter Nine	
Hindrances to the R-Q Process	

[Sin Principle. The Flesh]	124
----------------------------------	-----

Chapter Ten

Overcoming the Hindrances to the R-Q Process [Mind Renewal . Heart Transformation . Will Surrender]	134
---	-----

Chapter Eleven

The Result of Overcoming the Hindrances	145
---	-----

Epilogue

The Doctrine of Eternal Security	151
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*For God so **loved** the world that He gave His only
begotten Son that whosoever believeth in Him should...
have **Everlasting life***

—John 3:16

PROLOGUE

For a start, I would say with all humility that this work came to me through several astounding revelations and much reasoning. As a result, the contents thereof would only benefit the reader greatly if he would also, before he commences to read, humbly ask God to grant him the understanding of the revelations contained in this book and even much more than he did for me!

I do not have any illusion that this volume will completely resolve the puzzles many Christians go through but that they are able to realize a little part of the vast inheritance that God's word verily promised them. This lapse often leaves the believers with an innate gnawing misgiving towards God. Some believers truly believe that God had blessed them but that the blessings are shut in within the indwelling Holy Spirit. But for their experience of lack and other frustrations, they believe He is hoarding the blessings.

They agonize over these experiences although, they may not openly acknowledge it. They also speculate on God's love for them and are full of scepticism concerning the whole spiritual endeavour. They may feel abandoned, uncared for and frustrated. They constantly wonder if the walk with God is worth their while and if God is real to His word.

This state of mind is a veritable fishing ground for the devil who attacks and dilutes the believers' commitment towards God. This is one major reason for the poor response towards evangelism. Why tell others to join what one is dismayed of? They muse within themselves. Those that aggressively evangelize only do so because they were schooled that evangelism is a sure bet to breakthroughs.

Consequently, this book was written with the purpose of

nullifying these prohibiting wrong notions in the believers mind and try to clearly put forward God's case: that He truly and deeply loves His people which is proven and confirmed by the twin gifts of Jesus, His only begotten son, who had to give His life to save mankind, and, the Holy Spirit, who abides within the believer. God should actually be the one rightly agonizing that His children are not receiving all their inheritance and therefore, not at the best He has purposed for them.

I believe that God has sent me to be of service to the body of Christ by the way of establishing the fact of His abiding love in the hearts and minds of the believers. This is to be achieved by facilitating the believers understanding of God's ways and not His acts only. God's ways are found in the spiritual and physical laws He had established through His wisdom, so as to prosper His pleasure and purposes.

Secondly, this book intends to throw more light into the vast predominant body of knowledge that are circulating among believers presently. The penetrating insight contained in this volume, I believe, lines up with the prophecy in the book of Daniel, which says that many shall run to and fro and knowledge shall increase in the end times.¹

For instance many a believer are often left bewildered when a preacher insists that God had already answered their prayers, all they have to do is believe and receive it. They are often left in a dilemma between two opinions: to believe that God has heard and is presently sending help from Heaven or that God has sent the blessing already but it is held up somewhere. Well, the truth is that both are correct. The believer only needed to be put through appropriately. God has already, out of His abounding love, sent help from Heaven the day one truly believed and became born-again or born-anew. The blessing is not somewhere out there but right in the believers' spirit man, though it is in a spiritual state.²

Another puzzle the believers grapple with is when they are told that they are 'carrying much on their inside'. They are often left second guessing on where exactly on their inside the blessings are lodged. Incidentally, that popular cliché is referring

to the vast, inestimable spiritual resources and virtues, brimming inside the newly recreated spirit man. At new birth, God literally emptied Himself into the believers' recreated spiritman-meaning that wherever the believer goes, he moves around as a 'god'³. He is not a mere man any longer neither should he fall as one of the princes of this earth.⁴

Nevertheless, the believer would need to acquire the knowledge of how to dig up the tremendous treasure lodged in his spiritman by converting these spiritual treasures into physical blessings, through any of the many avenues God had designed, of which one of the most profound and efficient is the Revelation – Quickening process. Exploiting these blessings, that is, successfully converting these spiritual blessings into physical blessings, will lead to an effectual fruitful spiritual walk on earth for the believer.

But if he fails to do so, he will fall back into relying on his natural guile and dependencies which will be much to his loss and dismay. The devil is very much delighted when believers walk in the ignorance of the knowledge that they have been immensely blessed already, especially when they despair and begin to blame God for their failure at not being able to realize their spiritual blessings.

In conclusion, I shall hopefully say that this book, with its peerless contents, will push to unimaginable heights those who sincerely receive its contents because of its liberating impact. While the sincere inquirer might feel eternally grateful to God, he should not stop there. He should delve into further study, meditation and prayer, so as to improve on this book for the benefit of the kingdom.

Olives A.C. Obi

CHAPTER

1



PREAMBLE (SPIRIT. SOUL. BODY)

Man was created by God as a spirit being which possesses a soul and inhabits a body. The spirit was formed in man when God breathed into his body which was moulded out of the dust of the ground. This Breath (*Râuwach* in Hebrew and *Pnuema* in Greek) is what became the spirit of the man and that is his real self. His body was moulded out of the ground, that is why the first man was called Adam (*Adamah* in Hebrew), which refers to the fact that, he was derived or sourced from the earth.

And the Lord God formed man of the dust of the ground and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life and man became a living soul (Gen 2:7).

The soul (*nephesh* in Hebrew) on the other hand was formed at the fusion of the spirit and the body. Adam became fully conscious of himself and therefore began to 'live' when his soul was formed - 'he became a living soul'.

Because of the way man was created, he is both corporeal or material because of his body and non-corporeal or immaterial because of his spirit. The soul of a man is partly corporeal and partly non-corporeal because it was formed from,

and it closely relates with both parts of the human nature. The soul is that part of man which connects the spirit and the body. The spirit and the body do not relate with each other directly, they only do so through the soul.

At a glance, it may seem that the spirit and the soul are synonymous. In fact, the scripture tends to use them interchangeably but they are widely apart both in function and constitution. They are very different though closely related.

THE SPIRITMAN

The human spirit or the spiritman is the innermost and the highest expression of the human nature. It is that which is of the greatest value in man. It is the pre-eminent part of the man. The spirit is what animates the human nature; it is the source of life that vitalises the being. The spiritman is the part of man that bears God's image and the source of everything we regard as good: peace, harmony, love, wisdom, compassion, joy, etc.

It is through the human spirit that man has the ability to have intimate relationship with God. Most of the time God relates with man through the human spirit. When God looks at man, or while He addresses the man, He is referring to man's spirit. In the original design, before the fall, the human spirit relates deeply with God¹. From God, man draws inspiration, strength and direction through the communion of his spiritman with God.

FACULTIES OF THE SPIRITMAN

While relating with God and with the soul, the spirit exhibits certain faculties or functions and also manifests certain spiritual senses or perceptions that it possess. These faculties are:

COMMUNION

Through this faculty, the spirit could have and enjoy fellowship with God. The fellowship could be prayer, worship and meditation, etc.²

CONSCIENCE

This is the faculty of judgement or moral consciousness which assists man in distinguishing right from wrong. It does not waver in its judgements and resolutions³. These Judgements are derived from values or norms, i.e. informal understandings that govern behaviour of members of a society. However, when one becomes a believer, the standards of the word of God will be incorporated into the believer's mores that eventually influences his judgements.

INTUITION

This is the ability the spirit possesses that enables it to know things and relay same to man's conscious awareness without rational reasoning or physical observation. Through this ability, the spiritman perceives occurrences in the spirit realm. The ability to perceive danger without physical evidence is a very good example. Women are especially endowed with this intuitive faculty. God gave them that primarily for the purpose of protecting their young ones, including the foetus in the womb.

THE SPIRITUAL SENSES OF THE SPIRITMAN

This intuitive faculty of the human spirit (that is the ability to receive information from the spirit realm) involves or are expressed through certain spiritual senses or perceptions. These are:

- a. **Spiritual eye:** This spiritual sense operates through visions and dreams.⁴
- b. **Spiritual ear:** This sense operates through the hearing of words audibly but without physical presence. It is especially useful in the area of direction.⁵
- c. **Spiritual nose:** This sense operates by the perceiving of the presence of foul spirits. Some demons possess peculiar foul odours e.g. the witchcraft spirit ⁶. Even the presence of the Holy Spirit could be thus perceived. He has sweet smell of the rose!⁷

- d. **Spiritual feelings:** Through this sense or perception, the spirit man relays information to the soul about what is going on in the spirit realm through keen-edged feelings. For instance, the certainty of an impending danger without physical facts.⁸
- e. **Spiritual mind:** This spiritual sense helps to bring about inspired ideas, especially when one is in a tight corner. It is the source of much wisdom for supernatural breakthrough. It is also where all the information secured from God is stored and could be retrieved.⁹

We should note that all communication between God and man is channelled through the human spirit but until the spirit successfully transmits the information to the soul, whatever God is communicating to man will be of no use. Everything received by the spirit is relayed to the mind for analysis and when accepted, is passed to the body for action.

The human spirit is not omniscient like God, knowing all things but it knows everything about the person.¹⁰ It doesn't know much about others but it plays the role of monitoring and subsequently relaying warnings or information as we relate with others. It is just like the sim card of the cell phone which contains all the information about the bearer but not that of the next person with same network provider. It is customised information wise.

'DEAD' SPIRITMAN

However, the spirit of all men born into this world is regarded as 'dead' by God.¹¹ The death of the human spirit is akin to the separation of things that ought to be united. Fundamentally, it is separation from God, an estrangement and alienation from the life of God and hope of the living God; a kind of hostility towards God.¹² It is in this sense that everyman is born dead in the spirit.

However, when the human spirit died to God, it became alive

to the devil and the sin principle.¹³ When God spoke of the spirit dying, He meant the lack of the presence of the life giving Spirit. The lack of the presence of the life of God in the spirit man gave rise to the presence of corruption (or the Sin Principle which is principally the spirit of lawlessness). The presence of corruption or decay is what is called spiritual death.

If we say that we have no sin (principle or standard), we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins (the acts prompted by the sin principle), he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. If we say that we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us 1 John 1:8-10. (additions mine).

Though the human spirit is regarded as dead because of the above reasons, it did not fizzle out of its existence. It only 'died' towards God. It is still very much around and could even be active in some persons. That is why the fallen man could still dream and experience extra sensory perceptions.¹⁴

However, the spirit of the unbeliever is more responsive to the negative supernatural. Anybody in this world that develops his spiritual awareness towards the devil becomes a willing tool in his hands, e.g. the occultists and the witches.

CONSCIENCE NOT ENFEEBLED

The 'dead' status of the human spirit meant that the function of intuition and communion of the human spirit became grossly diminished because the human spirit became devoid of the presence of God. But, the faculty of conscience was not enfeebled like the other two because the conscience was designed to directly relate with the soul of the man while the other two were designed primarily to relate with God.

In fact, the function of the conscience actually became keener in the fallen man because that is the only essence of God left. It is like a man who lost his sight, the hearing perception will become heightened to compensate. So is the conscience of

the unbeliever until he deliberately sears it through constant disregard to its signals, and, or leaning towards philosophies and beliefs that tend to ignore God's righteous demands.¹⁵ But, the whole function of the human spirit is awakened when fellowship with God is restored.

THE SOUL

The soul is the result of the union between pre-existent spirit and a temporal body. Therefore, it has corporeal or material (the brain) and non-corporeal or immaterial parts. The brain is part of the soul but also it is part of the visible tangible part of the body, while the mind incorporates the non-corporeal transcendent world of thoughts, imaginations, attitudes, beliefs, etc. The brain is the physical organ most associated with consciousness but the mind is not confined to the brain.

The soul is what bestows self-consciousness and it is central to personhood. The soul is the essence that rules behaviour. The soul consisted of the **will**, **mind** and **emotion**, through which it could manifest psychological functions like thinking, memory, creativity etc. With the mind; feeling, loving, fears, passions, etc. With the emotion; exercises free will, resolves, purposes etc. With the will; This function of free will with the soul no other creature manifests. However, it is the spirit not the soul that is the highest component of the human nature. The soul is considered to be of a middle dimension in human beings, though it could manifest remarkable howbeit limited god-like qualities.

THE HEART

The soul is the part of man that houses the **heart**. That is essentially the reason why the soul and the heart are used interchangeably in scripture. Heart means the core, innermost or inwardness, thus, it is the innermost part of the soul. The heart is the part of the soul that is closest to the spiritman. That is why it is the most corrupted after the fall. The heart cuts across the three parts of the soul hence the scripture ascribes to

the heart attributes of the mind,¹⁶ emotion¹⁷ and will.¹⁸

THE SOUL'S DUAL WORLD

The soul is the medium through which the spirit expresses itself. The soul in turn expresses itself through the body. It is meant to be dependent and serve as a vessel to establish the designs of the spiritual world over the physical environment. That is why the soul should be both corporeal and incorporeal. Because it is incorporeal, it can exist without a physical body or outside of the body. Even after the body had experienced death, it is still able to think.

This immortality of the soul is because of its nature and not its function. The soul is specially endowed to rule the body. The soul receives information both from spirit realm, through the spirit man and from the physical environment, through senses of the body. These impulses come to the consciousness in the form of thoughts, and, or imaginations, i.e. mental pictures.

THE GEAR SYSTEM

The soul could decide to accept, reject or keep the information for later use. If the mind function of the soul receives any information and accepts it after analysis, it will relay its conclusions to the emotions, which gets excited, generating passions there from. Passions in turn empowers the will to drive into fruition the decisions and conclusions of the mind.

It is much like the gear system in a machine which alters the direction, speed or output as it transmits power from source to the other machine parts. The emotion connects the mind to the will. The forces of desire generated in the mind are given a spiralling strength, when the emotion is stirred and delivered to the will to create the drive or resolve to act. That is why if a matter is not clear to the mind or the mind is undecided, the emotion remains unaffected. Consequently, no resolution or drive ensues in the will, therefore, no action is taken. The emotion serves to gear up or down the level of fervour it delivers

to the will. Thus, the emotion sways the resolutions or resolves in the will to be either strong or feeble.

CLEARING HOUSE

At the original creation, the soul is neither good nor bad. The soul can be attracted towards the spiritual or the material realm. Thus, the mind is the 'battlefield' between good and evil. That is why the scripture admonished that we should gird our mind with all diligence.¹⁹

The soul is the 'clearing house' for the spirit and the body and reserves the capacity to decide which way to take. It can decide to overrule any of them but becomes subservient to any of the two once it chooses to obey. It is through this freedom of choice that the soul exercises free will and for which reason it will be judged. The mind determines to a great extent how well one flows in the supernatural, Paul prayed that the mind of his convert be not taken over by the devil.²⁰

THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN THE SOUL AND SPIRIT

The spirit and the soul, though closely related to each other, are widely apart in their differences. Both of them make up the immaterial or the non-corporeal part of the human nature. Both the spirit and the soul share immortality. In the redeemed man, the spirit is incorruptible but the soul is corruptible. This is because the soul has link with the physical and non-physical world. The soul is both physical and non-physical. The spirit, however, is the deepest part of human nature created by God to contact and receive Him.

SPIRIT AND SOUL USED INTERCHANGEABLY

The scripture sometimes appears to use the word *spirit* and *soul* interchangeably.²¹ But in Hebrew 4:12, it is very clear that there is a dividing line between the spirit and the soul.

For the word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any two edged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart. (Heb 4:12)

Because of this, theologians are divided on how many parts man is exactly made of. Some opine that man is made up of only two parts: soul and body. They believe that the soul and spirit are absolutely united. They are called the Dichotomists. There are scriptures that clearly hint at the separation between the soul and the spirit.²² Therefore, many others believe that man is made up of spirit, soul and body. These are called the Trichotomists.

Personally, I think the reason the scripture sometimes refers to the non-corporal parts of the soul as spirit is because they are closely related and often interact intimately with each other. It is the same way the term, flesh (sarx in Greek) or the sin nature is often used interchangeably with the ordinary physical body (soma in Greek). This is not far-fetched. The flesh or sin nature works hand in hand with the impulses of the physical body. On a closer look, personal pronouns are employed to denote the spirit, soul or body. A good student of the Bible should take time to find out which part of our human nature is being referred to.

CLARIFICATIONS

As earlier noted, scripture seems to use the term spirit and soul interchangeably. The reason the Bible uses different words or concepts interchangeably is because in the spirit realm, time and space does not exist. So, if one event or concept devolves into another, both are deemed interchangeable. The lack of space and time means that these events are seen as taking place concurrently. For example, if a concept first took place in the spiritman before continuing in the soul for the idea to fully evolve and manifest, it is deemed to have taken place concurrently in the spiritman and the soul. Thus, for two individuals (i.e. Bible writers) peering into the spirit realm, one could report that the event took place entirely in the spiritman

and another say that the same took place entirely in the soul-both are right. But for those in the 3-dimensional plane, they would take note of the different parts of the concept that took place in the spirit and soul respectively and the time it did. Because in the 3 dimensional plane, time and space or distance counts.

Therefore, to fully understand the course of any Biblical concept, the reader must breakdown the events into its constituent parts and accurately breaks each part in the territory it took place. Failure to do this, there will be confusion in the church of God and it may seem like the Bible is contradictory or even confusing. A good example is in Ez.36:25-27:

Then I will sprinkle clean water upon you, and ye shall be clean: from all your filthiness, and from all your idols, will I cleanse you. A new heart also will I give you, and a new spirit will I put within you: and I will take away the stony heart out of your flesh, and I will give you an heart of flesh.

In reality, the spiritman and the heart or soul renewal takes place differently but here both are deemed to take place at the same time.

The term poor spirit (Matt5:3), broken spirit (Ps51:17), contrite spirit (Isa57:15), fervent spirit (Rm12:11 ASV), cool spirit (Pro17:27 Amp), gentle spirit (Gal6:1), one spirit (Phil1:27 ASV), etc. are actually referring to the non-corporeal part of our soul which is related to our spirit man. For clarification, 'one' spirit is alluding to unity, 'gentle' spirit to being compassionate and not brash when dealing with the weaker brethren.

'Poor' spirit talks of a humble disposition of one that does not think highly of himself. A 'broken' spirit refers to one who trembles greatly after sinning. The part of us that executes these qualities is undoubtedly the soul. Anywhere the scripture alludes to an act of our will or thoughtfulness, it is referring to our non-corporeal parts but more specifically, it is our soul that does such things.

It must be noted that our spirit lies beneath the realm of our consciousness that is way beyond the reach of our conscious will and resolves. So, the spirit cannot be steered or controlled from the soul. Besides, the spirit is superior to the soul, it only acts at its own bidding and that's only briefly. The importance of the difference between the spirit and soul as two distinct entities will become manifest as we progress in this book.

THE BODY

The human body comprised of the entire physical structure of the human being. It is composed of about 100 trillion cells, 206 bones, 600 muscles and 22 internal organs. These organs include the immune, circulatory, respiratory, skeletal, excretory, digestive, nervous system, etc. The nervous system comprised of the spinal cord and the brain which are connected to the senses of the body via a collection of nerve fibres. The brain, which is also a part of the soul weighs about 1.5kg.

PHYSICAL SENSES

The body interacts with the external environment, from which it gleans information or sensory stimuli through the senses. The senses are the capacities which man and other organisms possess that enable them to garner data for perception. The nervous system has a specific sensory system that is reserved for each sense. Traditionally, there is a 'five senses' model which is credited to Aristotle. These are sight (Vision), hearing (Audition), taste (Gustation), smell (Olfaction) and touch (Somatosensation).

However, in modern times, scientists have identified the ability by the body to detect several other stimuli, these include temperature sense (Thermoception), which is the ability to sense heat and cold; kinaesthetic sense (Proprioception), the ability to tell where one's body part is relative to the other body parts. This sense is one of the things the police officers in developed societies test when they pull over someone who they think is

drunk driving.

The 'close your eyes and touch your nose' test is testing this sense. It is with this sense that one could scratch the foot without looking to see the position of the hand relative to the foot. There are also the pain sense (Nioception), balance sense (Equilibroception) etc. However, what constitutes a sense is a matter of some debate leading to difficulties in finding what exactly a distinct sense is. The sight is probably the most developed sense in humans followed by hearing.

PERCEPTION

Perception of the physical environment through the senses could be defined as the arrangement, classification and analysis of the information coming into the mind (soul) through the senses in order to understand and describe the environment. All perceptions involve the senses and the nervous system. That is why the senses are regarded by the ancients as the 'windows of the soul'.

The information or sensation received by any of the body senses is transferred to the brain through the nervous system. Now, the mind (brain) receives and interprets the sensory information based on the prior knowledge, values, beliefs and the person's personality already programmed into it.

That is, in order for the mind to interpret and categorize or classify the incoming information from the body senses, there must have been a prior storage of information to associate the incoming information with it and successfully name it. That is why if there was no prior storage of a particular information or where the memory is blanked out or the mind demented, the incoming information cannot be correctly interpreted; the person will exhibit ignorance.

This filtering and classification process is called **perception**. The filtering is necessary because the mind receives a lot of chaotic, constantly changing sensory information from the environment than it can process. So it has to filter things out

and organize the remaining sensations it received into patterns and categories. It is this filtering and categorization that illustrates the difference between ordinary sensation from the body senses and perception.

It is the brain's correlation of this sensory information, which is called perception that creates the knowledge we have about our surroundings. That is why it is said that without concepts (thoughts) our perceptions are empty and without perceptions (intentions), our thoughts are blind. This perception commences immediately one is born and can form an idea.

This is the reason education is of prime importance. It greatly aids in the categorizing and storage of information for easy retrieval and for the formation of perception of fresh incoming sensations. That is why the sages said that 'education is not the learning of facts but the training of the mind to think'...'it is not a preparation for life but education is life itself.' Spiritually speaking, the prior spiritual mind-set or spiritual state of the soul greatly influences how it labels and categorizes the information or sensation streaming into the mind from either the spiritman or the body senses.

IN SUMMARY

Man is made up of spirit, soul and body.

It is the spirit of man that bears the 'image and likeness' of God and with it, man communes with God deeply.

However, the spirit of everybody born into this world is seen as 'dead' by God. This is because it lacks the presence of God in it, instead, it carries the presence of the corrupt sin principle.

Because of the above reason, man is no longer able to communicate with God as He originally designed.

The soul of man was formed at the point the spirit from

God was infused into the body which was moulded out of the ground. The soul therefore possesses physical and non-physical characteristics.

It is the soul that bestows on man the sense of personality through its three constituent parts namely, mind, will, and emotion.

The heart is the innermost part of the soul and it also bears the nature of the three constituent parts of the soul.

The soul is the medium through which the spirit expresses itself. The soul is actually designed to depend on the spirit to receive information.

The body, through the senses, also feeds the soul with information it gathered from the physical environment.

These information from the body becomes perception in the soul when they are analysed and interpreted by the soul based on prior experiences and beliefs the soul has stored in its memory.

ENDNOTES

- ¹ Gen 3:8-9
- ² Jn 4:24, 1Cor 4:15-16, Lk 1:47
- ³ Rom 2:15
- ⁴ Acts 2:17, 9:10, Mt 1:20, 2:12-13
- ⁵ Rev 1:10, Acts 9:4, Lk 3:22
- ⁶ Mk 9:25
- ⁷ Ecc 2:1
- ⁸ Mt 26:38, Mk 14:33, Jn 6:14-16
- ⁹ 1Cor 2:16
- ¹⁰ 1Cor 2:11
- ¹² Rm8:6-7
- ¹³ 1John 1:8, Job 15:16, Rm 8:2]
- ¹⁴ Job 33:14-17, Gen 40,41
- ¹⁵ 1Tim 4:21

- ¹⁶ Mt 12:34, Jn 13:2, Rm 2:15, Est 6:6, Jer 9:14, Deu 4:9, Job 38:26
- ¹⁷ Ps 105:23, Ecc 2:10, Jn 16:6, Eze 27:31, Gen 42:28
- ¹⁸ Acts 11:23, Heb 4:12, Eph 6:6
- ¹⁹ Pro 4:23, 20:27
- ²⁰ 2Cor 11:7
- ²¹ Mt 10:28, Lk 1:46-47, 1Cor 5:3-5, 7:34, Rm 1:9,2:29, Jer 31:33, Eze 36:25-27
- ²² Rm 8:16, Heb 4:12, 1Thess 5:23

CHAPTER

2



THE NEW BIRTH (REDEMPTION. JUSTIFICATION)

The new birth or new life occurs or begins in the believers' spirit man. Whenever anybody believes and receives Jesus as Lord and personal Saviour, as a means of reconciliation with God, He supernaturally gifts the believer with a new recreated spirit man. It is within this recreated spirit man that the promised everlasting life resides.¹

Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that believeth in me hath everlasting life. I am that bread of life (John 6:47-48).

EVERLASTING LIFE

This Everlasting life or **Eternal life** is not a destination one arrives at when he exits this earth. Everlasting life is a kind of life or a life with peculiar qualities. There are many kinds of life in existence, for example, microbial life, plant life, animal life, human life, etc. This eternal life is the God kind of life. This brand of life is eternal and it is not affected by the limitations of time. It endures not only during the term of the believer's natural life but also through endless ages of eternity.

Eternal life (**Zoe** in Greek) means but not limited to, that

principle of life which expresses all of the highest and best which Christ is and which He gives to the believer.² In a nutshell, it is the highest blessedness of the creature.

God, while demonstrating His profound love, employed the act of **Redemption**, wherein He judicially pardoned the sins of those that believed in the finished works of Christ on the cross. At the same time, He proceeded, through the act of **Justification**, to impute or credit to the believer the perfect righteousness of God, and through that, eternal life.³ In this regard, not only is the believer absolved from the guilt and power of sin but he is at the same moment advanced to dignity, the position of the 'son of God'.⁴ It is like Joseph, who while in Egypt, after being released from prison, not only did he walk away a free man but was at the same time made the lord of the kingdom.

THE REDEMPTION PROCESS (being born-again)

This redemptive act is practically achieved by the Holy Spirit as He deploys the salvation grace in full force through the agency of the word of God or **Rhema**. Rhema could be described as an 'utterance' or a 'thing' said. It could also mean a verse or portion of scripture that the Holy Spirit illumines for application to a current situation or a need for direction.⁵

When the word (Rhema) is preached under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit and received and accepted by the mind, it will generate conviction in the emotion. The emotion when stirred, urges or drives the will to yield to the claims of Christ as the Lord and Saviour. The standard scripture used to lead sinners to the Lord is 'if thou confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus...thou shall be saved.'⁶ The act of speaking out or confessing is driven by the will; one could choose to keep quiet. So confession could conveniently serve as a proof of the consent of the will.

It should be pointed out that God cannot do anything in any human without the assent of the person's will. This signifies that mere answer to altar calls without conviction in the emotion only means that the new birth process never got under

way because it is the emotion that drives the will into the act of truly yielding to Christ. Since the will was not yielded and considering that the Holy Spirit cannot violate any man's will, the act of new birth is only presumed upon.

In other words, if one confesses one's sins, it meant that the heart has believed and accepted the claims of the gospel. Confession places us into the orbit of salvation which in turn grants us the gift of righteousness because the spoken word initiates the practical process that produces salvation or put in another way, alters the present status of the spiritman. This is how 'thou shall be saved' becomes a reality.

DIVIDING ASUNDER WITH LOGOS

After the confession, the 'thou shall be saved' aspect is practically realized this way: The yielding of the will immediately grants the Holy Spirit the authorization to move in and begin the work of salvation in the spirit man where He deploys the salvation grace. Immediately after the yielding of the will, the Holy Spirit takes the word or **logos** in Greek, to the dividing line between the spirit and the soul.⁷

Logos is defined as the principle of divine reason which is active in the creation and continuous structuring of the cosmos and in recreating the divine plan of salvation to man⁸ that is the divine wisdom that drives and directs the creation of the universe and the salvation of man aptly enunciated in Proverbs 3:19. Because the logos is living and active, operative, effective and full of power, it could successfully severe the soul from the old spirit man which is infected and saturated with the sin principle, thereby 'dividing them asunder'. This action allows the Holy Spirit to move to the next critical phase of the new birth process.

THE QUICKENING OR RECREATING OF THE SPIRITMAN

In this phase, the Holy Spirit hereupon quickens or engrafts the disassociated spirit man with the word of God or Logos - who is also referred to as the quickening Spirit.⁹ This action instantaneously recreates the spiritman.¹⁰

But God, who is rich in mercy, for his great love wherewith he loved us, Even when we were dead in sins, hath quickened us together with Christ (Eph 2:4-5).

The presence of the word in the spiritman at once drives away the sin principle and restores intimate fellowship between it and the Godhead. That is the reason the scripture said that we were born-again by the 'living incorruptible seed.'

Being born again, not of corruptible seed but of incorruptible, by the word of God, which liveth and abideth forever (1 Peter 1:23).

The word or logos as a living seed has the power to germinate, spring up and assert or impart its own peculiar vitality and provide divine power. That is how it quickens or animates everything it is planted in. Therefore, it is the logos when ingrained in the spiritman that restores fellowship between the spiritman and the Godhead. The scripture also corroborates this by declaring that the believers are saved by the 'word of truth'.

Of his own will begat he us with the word of truth, that we should be a kind of firstfruits of his creatures...(James 1:8).

This is the pathway by which the **new life** is granted the human spirit by the life giving Spirit.¹¹ This is how the old man and the body of sin is done away with¹² and all things became new.¹³ Because the Holy Spirit is the one that mid-wifed the entire new birth process, the believer is said to be born of the Spirit.¹⁴ Accordingly, it is because our spiritman is implanted with Logos that we are said to be 'in Christ'.¹⁵ So, we are in Christ only through our spirit man.

This meant that the sundered or dissociated soul remained unregenerate at new birth. The rebirth and advancement granted the believer at new birth, through justification, only occurred in the spiritman. The soul would need another route for its own regeneration.

THE JUSTIFICATION PROCESS

The act of justification was also practically realised in much the same way. The spiritman that was impregnated with the logos immediately acquires eternal life because the logos or the word of God is life¹⁶ and eternal.¹⁷ So, the logos is actually the eternal life the believer received in his spiritman at new birth¹⁸. By this gracious act of justification, Jesus, the word of God,¹⁹ is practically birthed, through the power of the Holy Spirit, in the spiritman of the believer, thereby elevating the believer's spiritman to become endowed with the same nature as Jesus.

This is how the believer received the authority to be called the 'son of God.'²⁰ Sons are known to possess the same gene as their progenitors. That is also why the least believer in the kingdom of God is greater than John the Baptist, the greatest Old Testament figure, because the New Testament believer received a human spirit of a much higher calibre.

It is because of justification, which is receiving a spirit man bearing the nature of Jesus, that we received the veritable **Gift of Righteousness**.²⁵ This gift of righteousness is not merely a cloak the believer puts on but it is the blessedness of a new human spirit which the believer is gifted with. That which mandates him to aim to live like God, that is, to manifest His glory and be all that God intends him to be!

THE WORD BECAME FLESH

The incorporation of the logos into the human spirit should not astound anybody, after all, the Holy Spirit imparted the Word into the womb of virgin Mary, thereafter, the word became flesh.²¹ It should be remembered that God promised through

prophet Jeremiah that He will abolish the old covenant and institute a new covenant, wherein He would place the word of God in the inward parts and write it in the heart of every believer.²²

Therefore, the new created human spirit of the believer is not just a repository for the indwelling Holy Spirit. It is much more than that; it is a treasure trove, a store house, a reservoir of immense spiritual resources. It is because the spiritman is saturated with the word that all the promises of God are lodged in the spirit man.²³

So, we could easily see that Jesus did not only gave of Himself when he shed His blood to redeem us but having loved His own, He loved them to the uttermost²⁴ as He also gave the fullness of Himself towards justifying the believer.

SCRIPTURE, A REFLECTION OF THE SPIRITMAN

Lastly, it is because the spiritman is laden with the word that the believer is said to be 'carrying God on the inside'. This God kind of life in the spirit man was what was revealed supernaturally to the Bible authors. What is in the scripture is the revealed nature of God. That nature of God we read on the pages of the Bible is what He gave the believer in his spirit man.

This is the reason the new recreated spiritman is a reflection of the word of God that we read on the pages of the Bible. Jesus said, "the words I speak are spirit and life."²⁶ Therefore, the word of God the believer reads on the pages of the Bible is not meant for his spiritman, no, not at all! His spirit is already full of the word. It is meant for the soul, for its regeneration or renewal (we shall deal with this subject later).

THE ROLE OF THE HOLY SPIRIT IN NEW BIRTH

The Holy Spirit is the edifier, builder, healer, giver of life, the quickener, comforter, teacher, creator, divine lover and the TRUTH. The Holy Spirit initiates, midwives, superintends and sustains the entire new birth process. He begins the process by

putting further asunder the division between the soul and the spirit and afterwards, He quickened the spirit man with the logos. At new birth, the believer receives the fullness of the Spirit just as Jesus received. God does not give His Spirit by measure²⁷ All the gifts and fruits of the Spirit are thus lodged in the believer's new recreated spirit man, thereby, endowing the spirit man with unprecedented spiritual resources.

QUESTION

A question that could arise is this: if the believer received the fullness of God's Spirit at new birth because He does not give His Spirit by measure, how come the scripture talked of being filled or being full of the Holy Spirit as though the fullness of the indwelling Holy Spirit in the believer's spiritman is fragmented and not a continuum?²⁸

Being filled or being full of the Holy Spirit does not mean that the believer received fresh inputs of the Holy Spirit from Heaven as if the being filled with the Holy spirit is like the accumulation of a collectable or the receiving of something that drips in. Rather, it means that the Holy Spirit stirred the believer's spirit to a greater degree. This will instigate a higher momentum of the quickening of the soul by the human spirit (more on this very important subject later).

At the same time, the Holy Spirit increases the sense of a growth in the spiritual sensitivity, and, a deepening of the spiritual awareness in the soul. It might be safe to say that all spiritual growth is in the soul.

Being full of power simply means being full of the empowerment grace which drives the quickening of the soul by the spiritman (more on this later). It is the only grace that is given extemporaneously (i.e. discreetly at any given moment) when the believer prays. Nonetheless, this peculiar grace is given at varying degrees. Anyway, the activities of the Holy Spirit could be diminished in any believer to the point of quenching them.

IN SUMMARY

The new birth occurred in the believer's spiritman. Therefore, the promised everlasting life and other spiritual blessings are lodged only within the spiritman and not in the soul.

Everlasting life is not a destination but a quality or a type of life, i.e. God's kind of life. This gift of everlasting life to the believer came to him through the twin process of redemption and justification.

The spiritman is justified by the Holy Spirit through the process of quickening or engrafting with the Logos or the Word, thus, causing it to bear the same nature as Jesus.

It is because of this quickening of the spiritman with logos that the believer is called the 'son of God'. Also, the believer is described as 'carrying God on his inside'. Lastly, because the spiritman of the believer is presently incorporated with logos, or the word, the believer's spiritman thus becomes a reflection of the scripture.

ENDNOTES

- ¹ Jn 3:16, 6:47
- ² Jn14:6, 1Jn1:2
- ³ Rm 4:25, 3:24, 1Cor 6:11
- ⁴ Jon1:12
- ⁵ Mt 4:4, Jn 6:63, Rm 16:17, Jn 15:7, Eph 5:25-26, 6:17
- ⁶ Rm 10:9;
- ⁷ Heb 4:12, 5:25-26, 6:17
- ⁸ Heb 4:12, 1 Pet 1:23, Lk 8:11, Jn 1:1
- ⁹ 1Cor 15:45;
- ¹⁰ Eph 2:1,5; Col 2:13; 1Tim 6:13; Jon 5:21
- ¹¹ 1Cor 15:45(NLT);
- ¹² Rm 6:6, Col 2:11;
- ¹³ 2Cor 5:17
- ¹⁴ Jn3:6, Gal4:29;

24 ■ *The Revelation of God's Love*

- ¹⁵ Rm 8:1; 1Cor 15:22; 2Cor 5
- ¹⁶ John 6:63
- ¹⁷ 1Pet. 1:25
- ¹⁸ 1Jn 5:20, Rm 6:23, Jn10:28, 6:54,17:23
- ¹⁹ Jn 1:1;
- ²⁰ Jn 1;12;
- ²¹ Jn 1:14;
- ²² Jer 31:31-33;
- ²³ Eph 1:3;
- ²⁴ Jn 13:1;
- ²⁵ Rm 5:17;
- ²⁶ Jn 6:63
- ²⁷ Jn 3:34;
- ²⁸ Acts 7:55, 4:8,31; Lk4:1

CHAPTER

3



SCRIPTURAL GROUNDS THAT SUPPORT JUSTIFICATION

A. DIRECT SCRIPTURAL PROOFS THAT REVEAL THE WEIGHTY ENDOWMENTS OF THE NEW RECREATED HUMAN SPIRIT

The foundation of the New Testament doctrine is that through the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ, the believer received God on the inside of him, in his spirit. This profound and an astounding show of love by God can only offer practical benefits if the believer were to have a broad understanding of its import. The scripture also confirms:

That in the ages to come He might shew the exceeding riches of His grace in His kindness toward us through Christ Jesus (Eph 2:7).

The new recreated spiritman that came to the believer due to God's gracious act of redemption and justification is an exact copy of Christ's Spirit. The following scriptures will help to amplify this mind blowing proposition.

1. *Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are*

become new (2 Cor 5:17).

For a start, if any man be in Christ, old things have passed away (in his spirit man but not is his soul) and all things have become new. That means a qualitatively new and different spirit man has been gifted the believer

2. *But as many as received him, to them gave He power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name: Which were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God* (John 1:12-14).

We know that whosoever is born of God sinneth not; but he that is begotten of God keepeth himself, and that wicked one toucheth him not (1Jn 5:18)

To be born (of God) is same as to be begotten (of God) (both are the same Greek word Gennao). To beget is different from being created. A man could create his exact image in a sculpture made of wood or stone but he can only beget his own child with whom he shares the same gene or DNA. God created Adam's spirit which is inferior to His but in the New Testament, God begot the spirit of the believer which thereupon carries His exact DNA.

3. *And of his fullness have all we received, and grace for grace* (Jn 1:16).

Of His fullness we have received.¹ Fullness means something that was put in to fill up, like fullness of time or fullness of the earth. Both denoting complete and abounding abundantly respectively. Because of His fullness in the believer, we became complete in Him.

4. *For he whom God hath sent speaketh the words of God: for God giveth not the Spirit by measure unto him* (Jn3:34).

As a proof of the above attestation, God does not give

His Spirit by measure. What we received was a full measure of Christ.

5. *Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who hath blessed us with all spiritual blessings in heavenly places in Christ* (Eph 1:3).

All the 'spiritual blessings' in the heavenly places (or the spirit realm) now dwells in the believers spirit man.

6. *Even when we were dead in sins, hath quickened us together with Christ, (by grace ye are saved); And hath raised us up together, and made us sit together in heavenly places in Christ Jesus* (Eph 2:5-6).

We are sitted together with Christ in the heavenly places (please take notice that it is not Heaven, the abode of God but the spirit realm). This means that in the spirit realm, we are ranked as equal with Christ. We are seated with Christ on an equivalent seat of equal authority!

7. *According as his divine power hath given unto us all things that pertain unto life and godliness, through the knowledge of him that hath called us to glory and virtue: Whereby are given unto us exceeding great and precious promises: that by these ye might be partakers of the divine nature...* (2Pet1:3-4).

God's divine power that is now in the believer's spiritman gives the believer access to all that pertains to life (Zoe) and godliness. This means that the believer's spiritman is enriched with all of God's resources and potentials.

8. *Herein is our love made perfect, that we may have boldness in the day of judgment: because as He is, so are we in this world...* (1Jn4:17).

As He (God) is, so are we in this world. This is not a figurative proposition at all, it is factual. The believer's spirit man, due to the presence of logos in it, is the exact copy of Christ's Spirit, just as Christ is the exact

copy of God.²This knowledge is intended by God to encourage the believer to have boldness and confidence concerning his eternal salvation.

9. *Beloved, let us love one another: for love is of God; and every one that loveth is born of God, and knoweth God. He that loveth not knoweth not God; for God is love (1Jn4:7-8,12-16).*

The scripture asserts that the believer could model the same agape love –which is God's highest attribute – the Father had for Jesus. That is only because the believer is born of or begotten of God. Therefore, he has same nature as God.

10. *But the anointing which ye have received of him abideth in you, and ye need not that any man teach you: but as the same anointing teacheth you of all things, and is truth, and is no lie, and even as it hath taught you, ye shall abide in him (1 Jn 2:27).*

All believers possess the Christ's level of anointing in their spiritman at new birth. We should always remember that God does not give His Spirit by measure.

11. *For who hath known the mind of the Lord, that he may instruct him? But we have the mind of Christ... (1 Cor 2:16).*

Just in the same measure the believer possesses the mind of Christ in his spirit man. This is the wisdom that Christ operated with while on earth.

THE HUMAN SPIRIT IS FULL AND COMPLETE

Besides all these is the really intriguing fact that Jesus gave the believer the capacity to manifest His glory, in his spiritman because the believer, in truth, received all of His fullness.

And the glory which thou gavest me I have given them... John 17:22

Paul validates this fact in Rom 8:29 by stating that God chose

the believer to be like His Son so that Jesus will be the 'firstborn among many brethren.' In this way, the believer shares identical spiritual substance with Jesus Christ. Shared spiritual identity means being raised to heavenly dignity. The glory of God is the nature, character, honour - the very essence and the weighty splendour of God. These essences God graciously placed at the believer's disposal through Christ.

In another sense, one could rightly say that the spiritman of the believer is full of God's wisdom, love, anointing, power, authority, prosperity, blessedness, glory, just as Christ had. It is complete, unblemished, irreproachable, and perfect.

We know that whosoever is born of God sinneth not... 1 John 5:18

In the body of his flesh through death, to present you holy and unblameable and unproveable in his sight. Col 1:22

And ye are complete in Him, which is the head of all principality and power (Col 2:10).

Hence, the spiritman of a believer cannot be described as weak, impoverished, fearful, etc. These terms refers to the non-corporeal part of the believer's soul which is still in a fallen state until it is renewed after God's righteousness.

One last notable point is that all believers received the same quality of human spirit at new birth, which is constituted by same quality of spiritual blessings and that includes equal levels of anointing. There are no degrees in justification, all who believe are justified alike, the strongest as well as the weakest, no difference. The grace of God that brought salvation has appeared equally to all.³

DOES THE SPIRITMAN GROW?

If the above were to be true concerning the believers new recreated spiritman, then the question might arise: why did the scripture say that 'Jesus grew and became strong in the

spirit,⁴ which seems to point at growth.

Jesus growing in the spirit does not mean that His Spirit grew or is enlarged; it only means that His soul increasingly grew in the knowledge of the inclinations and the proceedings of His spirit. One can only grow in things, for e.g. an institution or a course of study, when one has a better knowledge or the inner workings of the institution or the course. We should bear in mind that spirits do not change in status. Jesus' soul only became increasingly aware and thereby grew correspondingly into the workings of His spirit. He grew in things pertaining to the spirit.

In the same vein, to be strong in spirit or to be spiritually strong does not mean that one's spirit became stronger. As with God, spirits do not grow bigger or are diminished.⁵ It only means that the soul became more yielded to the spiritman. The soul now having more understanding, relates with the spirit much more closely. Thereby, it becomes strong in spiritual things. Both terms were actually referring to spiritual state of the soul in relation to the spirit as previously discussed in earlier chapters.

B. ANCILLARY INSIGHTS AND EXAMPLES TO SUPPORT THE VALIDITY OF JUSTIFICATION IN OUR SPIRITMAN

Behold, what manner of love the Father has bestowed upon us that we should be called the sons of God.⁶ What brand of love God showered unto the believers that He transferred to the believer His own very gene. It is as if God cloned Himself in the believers. We that were prior sinners were not only washed of our sins and pardoned but were now also begotten as sons of God, bearing in our spiritman the fullness of God.

It must be constantly emphasized that all these lavishing of love and blessings are in a spiritual state and are lodged in our spiritman. God has blessed us believers with all spiritual blessings in the heavenly places. This gift of a new recreated spirit man is the way by which God practically accomplished the undertaking of justifying the believer.

BELIEVER'S SPIRIT SUPERIOR TO ADAM'S

The imputing of His righteousness,⁷ through justification, to the believer conferred on the believer the possibility of attaining the rank of divine godliness - God's true image and likeness, not the inferior calibre of 'image and likeness' that Adam had.

Adam, at creation, was made in the image (Tselem in Hebrew) and likeness (Bemuth in Hebrew) of God. Both Hebrew terms signify an inferior copy of something. But Jesus is the exact copy-the express image of His father.⁸ As the progenitor of the New Testament saints, Jesus bequeathed this nature of His to the believers. This is an altruistic fact.

After all the righteousness the believer received from God is much better than that of Adam and even angels. Theirs is the righteousness of creatures but, that of the believer is the righteousness of God!

For if by one man's offence death reigned by one; much more they which receive abundance of grace and of the gift of righteousness shall reign in life by one, Jesus Christ (Rom 5:17).

JESUS THE TREE OF LIFE

Perhaps Adam could have obtained eternal life and thus God's righteousness, as the New Testament believers did, if he had eaten of the **Tree of Life**. In the Garden, there were the 'tree of the knowledge of good and evil' and the 'tree of life'. The first Tree represents 'corruption' which is a step down from the status of Adam's spiritman as a bearer of an inferior 'image and likeness' of God. While the second tree if eaten is a step up or the acquisition of the true nature of God. Because in this case, life, which is the same as 'Chay' in Hebrew lexically signifies among other things: to have life, be quickened, live prosperously, live forever etc.

This tree of Life, which many claim is Jesus, could well be the original plan of God to justify mankind had Adam eaten it!

That is, it could have been the avenue - or the original justification process – God had designed for Adam to attain to the exact nature of God and hence immortality.

Thus, as Adam ate the wrong tree and fell, he lost not only what he already had which is the state of imperfect 'image and likeness' of God, he also lost the chance to be exactly like God in his spiritman. So, when Jesus died and rose, He fully paid the price for redemption and also justification. In other words, He paid the price for mankind to be restored to his original estate of possessing the inferior image and likeness of God and also what he would have had if Adam had eaten the right tree which is to be exactly like God.

GOD'S LOVE GIFT

The believer possesses a human spirit that was begotten. It was not created. To understand this better, a man could create a striking image of himself through a painting or sculpture but he can only beget his own biological child. It is a living relationship wherein they share the same DNA.

God gave us this love gift so that the believer could have a deep union with Him; God's noble plan is that the believer would walk with Him out of love and not out of duty or obligation for that will hardly inspire worship. God chose the path of love over threat or coercion because that is what will genuinely drive people towards Him. Moreover, Heaven moves and operates at the frequency of love!

This love pathway worked marvellously well in the life of King Solomon. In his earlier years, Solomon evidently loved the Lord.⁹ Love begets love. God made the love move first when He made him the King though he was only the thirteenth on the line to the throne. Moreover, his mother, Bathsheba, did not have a dignified past which is to everybody's knowledge. The love of God doled out to Solomon multiplied much love for God in Solomon's heart in his earlier years as King until foreign women turned his heart away.

THE HELPER

As if the treasure trove God deposited in our spirit man is not enough, He still went further to gift the believer another precious promise - the gift of the Holy Spirit.¹⁰ Jesus promised to give the believers another Helper or Comforter like Himself.¹¹ Paul calls this gift the 'promise of the Spirit'.¹² He went further to explain that this gift is a deposit that guarantees that God's word and God's promises to the believer, however astonishing, are true.¹³ It is a confirmation that all the spiritual blessings lodged in our spiritman are real. It is the Holy Spirit that confirms all the inherent blessedness and beneficences in our spiritman and stirs them up for the believer's benefits.

If God can gift the believer with the Holy Spirit, who resides in his spiritman, then it goes without saying that other promises are also true, which among many things include spending eternity in His presence.

Again, that the Holy Spirit indwelt the believer in his spiritman is another nail in the coffin of any doubt concerning the truth that our spirit man is superior to that of the Old Testament saints. In the case of the Old Testament saints, the Holy Spirit usually descends on them whenever He chooses to do whatsoever He desires of them. But He abides in the spiritman of the believer because He is of the same nature or genetics, speaking biologically, as that of the believer's spiritman.

Because the Holy Spirit resides right within the believer, He could enable the believer attain a deep union, or in natural terms, have an intercourse with the Godhead through the believer's spirit.¹⁴ A good example that could serve as clarification is that humans and apes may resemble but they cannot produce an offspring successfully. That is the same for horses and zebras etc. Even if they do, the offspring will be sterile. Hence, the believer's deep intimacy with the God-head lends a big weight to the fact that the believer's spiritman is of the same content with that of the God-head!

THE PARABLE OF THE LOST SON

The New Testament believer's inheritance story is quite akin to that of the younger son in the widely known parable of the lost son or prodigal son.¹⁵ In the story, a man had two sons, the younger son of the man left home immediately after requesting for and collecting his own portion of their father's inheritance. In doing so, he elected to walk away from the protective and mentoring presence of his father. Afterwards, he fell into so much odious and wretched conditions, having squandered all his inheritance.

HE CAME BACK REDEEEMED

Later, he recovered himself, repented and came back home a much better person than when he left. He came back redeemed! During the period of his travails, he was shorn of his self-centeredness and self-love. More pertinently, he came to apprehend his father's love and heart of abundance much better through the harsh way the world treated him during his travails. This meant that he came back much more transformed than when he left because whatever you see experientially will rapidly transform you.

Each step he took towards home confirms his transformation. When he spoke as he arrived, it was clear that he no longer yearns to be ambitious, he just wants to be obedient. He has become more like his father. He has grown through his travails, to know much more about wealth not just money, discipline, goodness, investing in people, astute management of resources, faithfulness and steadfastness.

WEIGHY TOKENS

Because of the young man's transformation and evident maturity, his father gave him back all that he lost, he also got much more than he had hitherto. The younger son got back a 'sandal', which is a symbol of restoration to a place of dominion over want and deprivation - a status he was in before he left,

those days most servants do not wear sandals. He was also given a special 'robe', a symbol of special affection and relationship which thereupon accords dignity, just as Jacob and pharaoh did with Joseph, and little Samuel received from Hannah, his mother. He also was given a 'ring' which symbolizes authority, the same way pharaoh bestowed one on Joseph and king Ahasuerus gave one to Mordecai. Jesus deliberately used these tokens in this parable because they have weighty symbolisms among the Jews.

ELEVATED STATUS

By inference, these tokens and their indicia would advance the younger ahead of his elder brother, who was not even deemed worthy to be invited for the unification party their father celebrated. The younger son's elevation was much to the chagrin of his elder brother who became full of recrimination and resentment against both his younger brother and their father. Clearly, the elder son is yet to attain to the knowledge of his father's love and abundance heart which knowledge his younger brother had. The young man is every inch just like the New Testament believer, who not only was restored back to fellowship with God his Father but was also advanced to a superior status than what was lost in the Garden.

Now, the revelation of the depth of the father's extensive, sweeping love and the ingeniousness and deviousness of his sons' hearts are all fully outlaid in my other book titled, *The Prodigious Son*.

THE SEED PRINCIPLE

One final ancillary proof of the New Testament believer's recreated spirit man hegemony I will discuss is the application of the **seed principle** or the **law of replication** which is prevalent universally and illustrated below:

While the earth remaineth, seedtime and harvest...shall not

cease (Gen 8:22;9:1).

This principle confirms that through justification, the New Testament believer received a spiritman which is of the same nature as that of Christ, hence, it is superior to the one lost in Adam. While referring to this law, Jesus said, 'except a corn or wheat falls to the ground and dies it abides alone but when it dies, it brings forth much fruit.'¹⁶ This law and nature reveals that the seed that died is of exact constitution or traits as the 'fruit' or the harvest it bore afterwards. That is the seed it replicated, only that it was multiplied when it came out. The quality is the same.

Jesus death, which brought salvation and His resurrection, which brought justification, is a direct application or corollary to this law or principle. Jesus, the 'seed', died and, through resurrection, He came out replicating Himself in the believers who are the 'fruits'. These fruits by the application of the above law, would be of the same nature and quality as the seed - Jesus. So, the act of justification of the believer is actually the timeless seed principle or the law of replication, which God employs ubiquitously in creation, playing out in effect.

ADDENDUM: THE PRICE JESUS PAID

The justification that placed the believer in an exalted position to receive this peculiar brand of spiritman is a gift, which was fully paid for by Jesus when He said, while on the cross, 'it is finished.'¹⁷ By which He meant, among other things that the price for mankind to be deemed worthy to receive the precious gift of righteousness and other beneficences, accruing from the new spiritman, has been paid for. It is a gift to the believer but to Jesus and the God-head, He agonisingly paid a very dear price.

That is the reason Jesus must always be thanked, praised, worshipped and adored very generously. Every believer should acknowledge this very costly gift by yielding their life unreservedly to Jesus. Therefore, anyone in the church that

supposes to steal or thinks it fit to share in His glory, draws the anger of the God-head. This is because the price Jesus paid was dire and very costly. Even the Godhead is infinitely indebted to Him! ¹⁸

C. THE NEW TESTAMENT PROMISES

Due to the fact that the New Testament believer received a human spirit that was quickened and upgraded by the Holy Spirit employing the word of God or logos, the believer at new birth possess a human spirit that was embedded with many precious blessings. It is for this reason that most of the New Testament assertions of who the New Testament believer is and what he possess plus many of the New Testament promises are rendered in the Aorist tense.

THE AORIST TENSE

The Aorist in the classical or ancient Greek including the koine Greek, which is a common Greek dialect in which the New Testament was written, is a tense that expresses action and if in the indicative mood, it expresses past action without indicating its completion or continuation. Put in another way, the Aorist denotes a past tense of a predicate which does not contain any reference to duration or completion of the action. That is action that occurred in the past that has indefinite future effect.

This rendering in aorist is accurate because the promises had been precociously given as part of justification immediately the believer received Christ as saviour, while the effect of the promises continues into the future. The below scriptures attests to the above fact:

But as many as received Him, to them He gave the power to become^(aorist) the sons of God even to them that believed on His name (Jn 1:2).

And of His fullness have we all received^(aorist)... (Jn 1:16)

Blessed be the God and father of our Lord Jesus Christ who hath blessed^(aorist) us with all spiritual blessings in heavenly places in Christ (Eph 1:3)

...hath quickened^(aorist) us together with Christ ... and hath raised us together and made us sit ^(aorist) together in heavenly places in Christ Jesus (Eph 2:5-6)

For we are His workmanship created^(aorist) in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained^(aorist) that we should walk^(aorist) in them. (Eph 2:10)

Who His own self bare our sins in His own body in the tree, that we being dead^(aorist) to sins should live ^(aorist) into righteousness by Whose stripes we were healed^(aorist) (1Pet. 2:24)

Therefore being justified^(aorist) by faith we have peace with God. (Rm 5:1-2),

According as His divine power hath given us all things that pertain to life and godliness through the knowledge of Him that hath called^(aorist) us to glory and virtue. (2 Pet 1:3-4)

But the anointing which you has received^(aorist) of Him abideth in you...1 Jn 2:27,

All power is given^(aorist) unto Me in Heaven and in earth, go ye therefore (in this same power which you, the believer, received at new birth) and teach all nations... Mt 28:18-19 (additions mine).

IN SUMMARY

Through justification, the believer obtained a new recreated spiritman of an elevated status.

In doing this, God literally cloned Himself or put another way, imparted His exact nature in the believer's spiritman as a show of His everlasting love for His children.

The very popular 'Parable of the Lost Son' serves as a good example. The boy wasted everything he was given by his father after he left home. But when he came back, he got back all he lost. In addition, he was elevated to a higher status. This elevation was amply symbolized by the tokens he received from his father.

The 'seed principle' or the 'law of replication' is a grand proof that what the believer received in his spiritman is the same as that of Christ's – who died for the believer's redemption and resurrected for his justification.

The main reason the New Testament promises were rendered in the Aorist tense is because hitherto, the recreated spiritman of the born again believer came to him installed with many precious blessings.

ENDNOTES

- ¹ Col 2:9-10;
- ² Heb 1:3;
- ³ Tit 2:11;
- ⁴ Lk 1:80; 2:40
- ⁵ Heb 1:10-12;
- ⁶ 1Jn 3:1
- ⁷ Rm 4:11
- ⁸ Heb 1:3
- ⁹ 1Kg 3:3
- ¹⁰ Lk 11:13
- ¹¹ Jn 14:16
- ¹² Gal 3:4; Eph 1:13
- ¹³ 2Cor 5:5(NLT)
- ¹⁴ 1Jn 1:3; 1Cor1:8
- ¹⁵ Lk 15:11-32
- ¹⁶ Jn 12:24
- ¹⁷ Jn 19:30
- ¹⁸ Phil 2:9-10; Eph 1:20-22

CHAPTER

4



THE CONUNDRUM

The consternation and astonishment most believers often go through is the seeming contradiction between what the scriptures say concerning them on one hand and what they experience on the other hand. The scriptures say that the New Testament believer is supremely blessed, that he is the repository of all of God's attributes: Righteousness, power, riches, wisdom, love, goodness etc. It urges the child of God to see himself to have possessed these attributes and therefore should endeavour to manifest them. But, what he experiences in his daily walk is a life filled with lack, wretchedness, sinfulness (e.g. jealousy, anger, lust, strife etc.), debility, impotence, infirmity, defeats and even death. These things persist though he tries in his utmost to be like his Father in Heaven. The psalmist echoes this fact despairingly:

Truly God is good to Israel, even to such as are of a clean heart (that is what the scriptures say). But as for me, my feet were almost gone; my steps had well nigh slipped (because by experience I saw nothing of such good promises). For I was envious at the foolish, when I saw the prosperity of the wicked...Ps 73:1-28 (additions mine).

RECOILING FROM GOD'S PROMISES

These seeming contradictions often lead many believers to recoil from parts of scripture that has to do with promises and declarations concerning God's children. Some believers try to work their way around the promises by living in denial, while others live in disbelief as they wait for the glorious 'bye and bye' to inherit their promised possession.

Like Sarah, the child of God laughs or even scorns at God's promises and they rationalize it. 'Shall a woman as old as I am still have pleasure and give birth?'¹ Sarah scoffed at God's promise to her and so does many believers. While others, like Gideon, would be filled with scepticism and ask: if truly the people of Israel are blessed, then why are they experiencing contrary things. Why are they hiding in winepresses to thresh the wheat from a harvest blighted by marauding Midianite raiders that have ravaged the land? Why is their story different from what they read in the word of God?² The Truth is that, Israel is supremely blessed by covenant. As long as they know the terms of the covenant and keep it, they will always fan into flame the blessings contained in the covenant.

BLESSED IN THE SPIRITMAN BUT WRETCHED IN THE SOUL

The astonishment increases when the believer also acknowledges that the all-powerful Holy Spirit resides inside of them. Those excellent promises in the scripture and the fabulous descriptions of the believer's inheritance when weighed against corresponding daily experiences leaves even the dedicated believer distressed and bewildered.

Nevertheless, the Truth is that the believer is both eternally blessed and wretched at the same time when he became born again. God recreated his human spirit and poured into it all of His riches. So, yes, the believer is pre-eminently blessed! Everything he needs, all the promises of God that is required for him to manifest as a son of God has been given already.

But, the blessings are in a spiritual nature or state. All the

promises are spiritual. All are lodged in the spiritman and not in the conscious, wilful part of the believer. These enormous potentials remain useless to the believer until they are moved from the spiritman to the soul and thereafter declared into the physical environment. Failure to do this is just like one admiring himself in a mirror and afterwards, walking away, forgetting what one looked like.³

So, while the spiritman of the believer is exceptionally blessed, the other parts of the believer are not redeemed alongside the spiritman. While his human spirit had become pure and complete, the soul is still polluted. It is still smarting from the negative influence of the sin nature left on it. Therefore, because of this state of affair, the believer, at the punctiliar of new birth, is still wretched, lacking all of the abundance of Heaven.

The riddle is resolved once the believer comes to terms with this reality of his dual destiny or personality. As we earlier said, God speaks from the spirit realm where He dwells. Thus, when He looks and addresses the believer, He is referring to the believer's spiritman.

GOD DID NOT LIE

As a result, my dear God did not lie. It is only that the soul, the conscious part of the believer is still wretched, rendered so by the sin nature or flesh reigns over it.⁴ Incidentally, the destiny of the believer on earth, the colour thereof, is determined by what goes on in the soul. The soul is the agency through which he lives out his life on earth. The spirit cannot operate in the natural, it does not have contact with the body but the soul does. That is also why evil spirits are always seeking for whom to inhabit in order to manifest their odious attributes.

With this understanding that it is only the spiritman and not the soul or the body that receive the new birth, a lot of confusion is immediately cleared in the body of Christ. For example, the raging question, 'can a child of God be inhabited by demons?' Will receive a resounding 'Yes' reply. These demons could live in the body of the Christian. From there, they seek to

influence the Christian by dispatching information to the soul much like the body does. The demons do not live inside the believer's redeemed spiritman. That is impossible. However, someone can become fully possessed when the devil completely dominates his mind and then the will.

Whenever any believer fails to reconcile how the scripture calls him supremely blessed but at the same time, in his daily experiences, he is beset and embarrassed with a lifestyle well below his promised possessions of abundance in blessings and richness in character, the devil will wade in and exploit the believer's ignorance by luring the believer to think that he is not holy enough or have not prayed enough to attract God's blessings from Heaven. While entrapped in this deception, the believer becomes exasperated and resentful towards God as he tries ever harder to 'please' God without success.

It should be said loud and clear that God is not withholding the blessings due to the believer nor is He waiting for His children to please Him. He that gave the sinful world Jesus Christ as a ransom has in turn given all things to those that believe in His Son.⁵ The child of God only needs to work it out. It's already been given! Like Gideon was told, the believer must go in 'this thy might.' The believer should run on the might of the knowledge of what he has freely received from God whose other name is Love.

AS A CO-LABOURER WORK OUT YOUR SALVATION

*... Work out your own salvation with fear and trembling.
For it is God which worketh in you both to will and to do of
His good pleasure (Phil 2:12-13).*

The primary duty of the believer is to work out his salvation. For if in God's righteousness, the believer bears His exact image and likeness and then the believer's undying desire should be to work out the enormous resources in his spiritman right into his soul for the onward manifestation of the same in the physical. God has already worked and is still working in the believer's

spiritman, where He resides as the Holy Spirit, to will and do His good pleasures of seeing His children manifest His glory on earth for the praise of His Name.

If the believer would share in His glory, he should also share in His labours, the believer is a co-labourer with Christ, and he is not a robotic machine. God has exalted man as a co-creator with Him. It is here worth repeating that it is only when the believer 'works' what is in the spiritman into his soul will all those enormous spiritual virtues benefit him. Only then will he exhibit positive godly attributes and dominion which his heart yearns for, instead of defeat and embarrassment. Only then will he attract genuine attention and respect from those around him instead of scorn and ridicule. Only then will he be able to affect his generation and environment positively for God.

GOD'S MANIFOLD WISDOM

Herein is God's manifold wisdom. God literally dumped his nature with all its enormous potentials inside the believer's spiritman. He purposes that the believer will, in cooperation with Him, cause these humongous resources to be exploited and manifested everywhere His children go! The word of God spoken to the believer must be turned into flesh. This is the Christian duty of all believers which they owe God and their respective generations. At the same time, the manifold wisdom of God for bequeathing to His children the unsearchable riches of Christ will be made known to the principalities and powers in the heavenly places only when the believer works out these riches.⁶

Somebody may wonder why didn't God just bless the believer physically and put an end to all these rigmarole. Well, God is controlled by His own wisdom, which is beyond reproach. Nobody counsels Him.⁷ Paul also concurs:

In whom also we have obtained an inheritance, being predestinated according to the purpose of Him who worketh all things after the counsel of His own will. (Eph 1:11)

He has decided that mankind should be the 'god' of this earth, though I must add that he is not the 'god' of this world. The earth is God's making but the world is the corrupted cultural, economic and political systems that men developed after Adams fall. The devil is the one pulling the strings in this world; he is the prince of this world.⁸

MANKIND HOLDS SWAY ON EARTH

Jesus Himself called His children 'gods'.⁹ The reason is simple, in the book of psalms, the scripture said that the Heaven belongs to God but the earth, He has given to the children of men.¹⁰ Men were designed to hold sway on earth. God in His unimpeachable wisdom decided to make the man co-creator with Himself so as to participate in the creation process. Even in Eden, God did not physically complete the act of creation.

Adam was commissioned to tend (that is to further cultivate, grow fresh portions etc.) and keep (that is to protect, keep intruders at bay, control access etc.) the Garden. This onerous task was given to Adam in addition to his primal duty of replenishing the earth. Armed with this knowledge, believers should gear up and join God in enforcing His plans and purposes in this end-time which is to manifest God's glory as sons of God.¹¹

DESIRE

Therefore, the wholesome desire and expectations for the materialization of what God has provided through His grace when submitted to the Lordship of Jesus will supply a powerful drive that can lead to abundant living. Desire is a conscious impulse towards something that promises enjoyment or satisfaction when it is attained. It creates excitement and thereby often elicits action to obtain the goal. For that reason, desire is a vital virtue of the soul that primes and readies it to initiate the process that mines or exploits the rich resources in the spiritman.

As a matter of fact, one of the main purposes of the word of God and other spiritual resource materials is to generate in the soul godly desires and expectations for God and His beneficence, and also yearn to be able to manifest His Glory. In the succeeding chapters, I shall discuss one of the major ways the Holy Spirit aids the believer to unearth the treasure trove embedded in his spiritman and transfer the same to the soul.

IN SUMMARY

Despite the huge resources embedded in the believer's spiritman, he still experiences periods of want and downfall in his moral life.

But the true reality is that the believer is simultaneously blessed and wretched. This is because while the enormous resources, which are in a spiritual state, are lodged in the spiritman, the soul is not the same way endowed.

Incidentally, the soul, which is still rankled by the sin nature, is the decider on how the believer's life and destiny pans out in this side of eternity.

However, ignorance of this hard fact opens the door for the devil to wade in. He confuses the believer into assuming that he had not met up to the mark in prayer and holiness to attract God's blessings. Thus, making him frustrated and resentful.

What the child of God should do is to strongly desire for the physical actualization of his spiritual potentials and then 'work out his salvation'.

ENDNOTES

- ¹ Gen 18:12
- ² Jug 6:12-13
- ³ Jam 1:22-25
- ⁴ Rom 5:17
- ⁵ Rm 8:32

- ⁶ Eph 3; 8-10
- ⁷ Rm 11:33-34
- ⁸ Jn 12; 31
- ⁹ Jn 10:34-35, Ps82:6
- ¹⁰ Ps 115:16
- ¹¹ Rm 8:19

CHAPTER

5



MINING THE TREASURE [THE REVELATION – QUICKENING (R-Q) PROCESS]

REVELATION

The process of conversion of spiritual blessings into physical realities begins at the point of revelation. This process is initiated by the Holy Spirit in a soul that is made ready. A ready soul is one in whom the presence and the activities of the flesh is scaled down (we shall discuss extensively much later) and is also full of godly desires and expectations derived from what the believer learnt that God, in His Grace, has provided for His people.

Revelation is the process whereby the Holy Spirit deepens to several degrees the believer's understanding of a small fraction of the knowledge of God or an intention of Heaven for the believer at that point in time. It could also be the conveying of certain knowledge to the believer's awareness and at the same time, deepening its understanding. It is a sort of the unveiling or an uncovering of a mystery of God's being, His will or purposes, especially His redemption package.

But as it is written, Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither

have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love him. But God hath revealed them unto us by his Spirit: for the Spirit searcheth all things, yea, the deep things of God (1Cor 2:9-10).

In the Old Testament, the term 'Revelation' is used to refer to the process by which God reveals the knowledge of Himself, will and divine providence to humans. Secondly, it also refers to the resulting human knowledge about God, prophecy and other divine activities.

THE TIME OF REVELATION COMES SUDDENLY

The time of revelation may come while worshipping, reading the word of God, spiritual books or while listening to an anointed sermon, etc. Suddenly, without bidding from the believer, there might be a deepening or widening to several expanses those notions, thoughts, perspectives of God that filled the mind hitherto. Suddenly, what was a mere enthralling picture of God's wisdom and love in His creation or God's ability to do incredible things become real and enlarged manifold in the mind. The words on the pages of the Bible or in a sermon, for example, just seem to jump out and fasten itself on the mind. The believer could easily feel, in fact, almost touch it. The whole mind is enraptured in the experience.

The revelation encounter could also happen while the believer is praying, when suddenly he receives a deepened insight into a prayer point. It could also manifest through other divers ways generally referred to as rhema, which is the words spoken by a living voice or it could also be notifications or impressions from God as He uses nature or general circumstances to initiate an in-depth, augmented awareness, perceptions or consciousness that grips the attention.

THE STATE OF THE SOUL DURING THE REVELATION ENCOUNTER

These encounters could spark off animated feelings, a kind of transition into another realm. The soul is filled with passion and excitement. There will also be experiences of revelry, lack of any notion of distress, acrimony, impatience or soreness. Instead, there will be an abundance of the presence of temperance, calmness and contentment. In one word, the believer experiences a heavenly good-naturedness in the soul.

At the same time, though the soul still maintains consciousness of its environment, it will be transported into a realm where there seem to be timelessness, boundlessness, no dimensions nor limitations. These qualities describe roughly the nature of the believer's spiritman. That is how the spiritman is.

A very good illustration of the entire revelation experience is found in the book of Isaiah:

Hearken to me, ye that follow after righteousness, ye that seek the Lord: look unto the rock whence ye are hewn, and to the hole of the pit whence ye are digged. Look unto Abraham your father, and unto Sarah that bare you: for I called him alone, and blessed him, and increased him.
(Isa51:1-2)

After such deepened understandings, there and then, some spectacular elation in the soul ensued, as recorded in the very next verse:

For the Lord shall comfort Zion: he will comfort all her waste places; and he will make her wilderness like Eden, and her desert like the garden of the Lord; joy and gladness shall be found therein, thanksgiving, and the voice of melody (Isa 51:3)

Another good example,

Awake, awake, put on strength, O arm of the Lord; awake, as in the ancient days, in the generations of old. Art thou not it that hath cut Rahab, and wounded the dragon? Art thou

*not it which hath dried the sea, the waters of the great deep;
that hath made the depths of the sea a way for the ransomed
to pass over? (Isa 51:9-10)*

Again, after such expansive understanding there and then, some wondrous pleasantness will ensue in the soul in the next verse:

*Therefore the redeemed of the Lord shall return, and come
with singing unto Zion; and everlasting joy shall be upon
their head: they shall obtain gladness and joy; and sorrow
and mourning shall flee away (Isa 51:11).*

THE PURPOSE OF REVELATION

The soul enjoys such ethereal experiences or excursions because at the point of revelation, encounter the soul is effectively transformed into a spirit state. This is the real purpose of such circumstantial revelations. It is not merely to tantalize the believer with such feelings. Usually, the spirit and the soul make casual contacts but at times of revelation the soul is spinned further into the spirit orbit by the Holy Spirit.

The purpose for this is to enable the soul to synchronize and coordinate with the spiritman which houses enormous spiritual resources, at a much deeper and wider level. Both of them could now share contents more generously being more or less of same corresponding nature. The moment the soul is transformed into a spirit state is when believers often report that they 'were in the spirit.' John the beloved reported that he was 'in the spirit on the Lord's Day.'¹

The soul, as earlier said in chapter one, is designed to receive spiritual virtue and resources from the spiritman, which is a spiritual bank or reservoir. This is regardless of whether the spiritman is still of the old nature, wherein the soul collects much of the nature of the sin principle, or of the recreated new nature, where it receives spiritual virtue of the God nature.

QUICKENING

Immediately after the revelation encounter or at some other time which varies for different persons and circumstances, the Holy Spirit will take the step further and initiate the process of **Quickening**. I have heard some Christians say that their spirit is quickened. Well, the spiritman of the believer cannot be quickened because it is already very much fully complete and always in contact and dwells in the abiding presence of God, except of course, for the initial quickening it received from the Holy Spirit when it was impregnated with the logos, which transformed it into a born-again spiritman. Only the soul is quickened after encountering revelations from the Holy Spirit. To quicken is to make alive, vivify, animate, etc. or to receive a keener perception to something. Quickening could also be described as the receiving of all the power and knowledge of an Immortal. A good example of this is our Lord Jesus Christ Himself. He lived and died in a mortal body but was quickened back to life into a spiritual body by the Holy Spirit.² Without this process, our relationship with God will be limited to mere dead letters. The scriptures said that it is the spirit (not the Spirit) that quickens; the letter kills.

It is the spirit that quickeneth; the flesh profiteth nothing..
Jn 6:63

*Who also hath made us able ministers of the new testament;
not of the letter, but of the spirit: for the letter killeth, but the
spirit giveth life (or quickens). 2Cor3:6. (additions mine)*

This means that it is the human spirit that usually quickens or energizes the soul into a more complete spiritual entity. The spiritman injects the soul with spiritual seeds, thereby endowing the soul with a spiritual life, full of the potentials of God.

For the sake of emphasis and clarification, I repeat that to quicken is actually to make alive or to give life. Here, the human spirit transfers the life of God Zoe it has to the soul. The eternal life or Zoe that God gave the believer at new birth is not resident in the Holy Spirit but in the believer's human spirit. This point

is very crucial because many believers think that their human spirit is just a receptacle for the Holy Spirit to dwell in or that the entire New Testament blessedness is entrenched within the Holy Spirit. It is not so! The Holy Spirit's presence amongst other things is to superintend the entire Revelation – Quickening (R-Q) process to stir it or stop it at His bidding. The entire spiritual resources and blessings given at new birth, however, are lodged in the human spirit; this point has been previously explained.

MOOD OF THE SOUL DURING QUICKENING

Generally, the time of quickening is also characterized by a feeling of euphoria within the soul. The believer feels enraptured with torrents of splendour which floats around the soul. The believer will suddenly seem to jump unto a sea of expansive grandeur and the soul awash with pleasure and unspeakable glory.

The quickening process is a transcendental mind expanding experience. All the senses are trained on God and all fleshly tendencies like anger, jealousy, fears, earthly passions and concerns are completely suspended or temporarily expelled from the soul. The soul is emptied of guile or any iota of offence. It will only be acutely sensitive towards the purity of God.

This analogy should add weight to the above description. Just as in human physical procreation, the planting of seed by the man into the woman is often enveloped in some sheer ecstasy, so also the planting of spiritual seeds or virtue by the spiritman into the soul, for spiritual conception and procreation, it's accompanied by an unspeakable sublime splendour.

TRANSACTIONS DURING THE QUICKENING ENCOUNTER

During the fleeting moments of quickening episode, for it last only briefly, the already spiritualized soul comes into ever closer contact and mingles with the spiritman. The soul could now

jive or coordinate with the spiritman for they are now alike; they share more or less the same nature. At such times, creative spiritual virtues, corresponding to what was revealed to the soul, streams or flows into the soul from the spiritman, thereby, empowering or animating the soul.

At that instant, the soul merges with the God-head just like the spiritman often does! The soul then interlopes with the raw creative powers of God and becomes a pseudo-spirit filled with boundless creative possibilities. The soul, being merged with the pure spirit world, will then serve as a conduit for the transferring of the creative powers and potentials from the spirit realm to the physical realm.

If quickening comes immediately after the revelation encounter, the whole episode is more intense and gripping. The believer's consciousness, though not lost to the environment, because the soul operates in the spirit and physical realm, is fully absorbed. It will seem as if the whole event would last forever, though actually, it last for a brief period.

QUICKENING TRANSACTION DURING PRAYER

If the quickening encounter comes during prayer sessions, it is often characterized by an experience of a flurry of gripping impulses, flooding or cascading upwards, as it were, from the belly regions. When it reaches the mouth, the impulses will seem to urge its release in the form of inspired supernatant utterances. This experience is often accompanied by a sudden surge of spiritual energy and impetus within the believer without it being summoned wilfully. This surge will come of its own accord and ebb away at its own choosing. Of course, these quickening encounter is often preceded by a deepened insight received while praying or exhorting on a peculiar prayer point.

THE MODUS OPERANDI OF THE MIND (SOUL)

These immense spiritual virtues streaming into the soul is converted in the mind as animated thought forms and imaginations. In fact, all information entering the mind

regardless of its origin, either from the five senses of the body or the spiritual impulses from the spiritman are all converted or resolved into thoughts and imaginations in the mind.³ *While Peter thought about the vision, the Spirit said to him... Acts10:19 I saw a dream which made me afraid, and the thoughts on my bed and the visions of my head troubled me... Dan4:5*

During these moments of quickening, thought forms and imaginations, that the believer did not initiate will be cascading into the soul or the believer's consciousness.

The mind, it must be noted, is the creator of thoughts and imaginations. Whenever any information is grasped by the mind, it usually thrives in the mind as imaginations/perceptions or thoughts with a distinct body or form. That is the way God made the mind. That is why a clear mind gives a distinct body or form to the thought while a confused mind produces an indistinct thought. I must add that the thoughts formed in the mind are vaster, deeper and higher than the brain's capacity.

TRANSFER OF VIRTUE DOES NOT LEAD TO LOSS OF POTENTIAL

Very importantly, I should state that the thought forms and the imaginations developed out of the impulses from the spiritman during quickening still retains all the power potentials of the spiritual virtues. That is the process of conversion of spiritual virtues and creative resources into thoughts and imaginations does not diminish the creative abilities of those virtues.

Also, when the thought forms and imaginations are expressed as words or action, spiritual energy is released into the environment still without any loss or diminishing of potency. In this manner, creative spiritual power is moved from the spirit man where it domiciles, through the mind (or soul) as thoughts and imaginations and into the physical environment in the form of confessions, declarations, actions, etc, without any loss in creative potential.

Such energy conversion from one mode to the other without loss of potential is prevalent and active in nature and even in

science and technology. In nature, for example, energy from the sun is converted and stored as starch by the plants through a process known as photosynthesis. This starch is reconverted into energy by any living thing that consumes it.

Also, the science and technology world widely exploits this principle. For example, the transfer of sound energy from one point to another is done through telephones, microphones etc. The microphone receives sound energy from a user and converts the sound energy into electrical impulses which are transported through cables to the loudspeaker.

The cables can only transmit energy in the form of electrical impulses just as the mind does only in the form of thoughts and imaginations. When the electrical energy gets to the loudspeaker, the electrical energy is reconverted into sound energy for eventual broadcast. All these conversion and reversion processes transpire with little or no loss of the original energy potential that was issued from the user.

DURING QUICKENING, THE MIND'S CAPACITIES ARE ENHANCED

This transfer of spiritual power from the spirit realm to the physical realm is made possible because at such general times of quickening, the mind is severed from dull and insignificant activities. The soul then has an intensified concentration and sharper understanding, more precise reasoning, farther insight and broader thought capacity than usual. Any prejudice, biases, opinions about the workings of God simply ceases to exist. The mind becomes acutely incisive, demonstrating an increased ability to recognise and draw fine distinctions.

This means that those thought forms and imaginations proceeding from the spiritual virtues could be expressed in the form of words, etc with precision and exactitude. That is how the Bible writers received and wrote the scriptures and the prophets operate. It's the same thing God intends for all believers. Whatever is received from the spirit realm and is converted into thoughts and imaginations, whenever those

thoughts and imaginations are expressed by a keen mind through verbalizations, those virtues are released into the physical environment as creative powers!

CONVERTING SPIRITUAL POTENTIALS INTO PHYSICAL REALITY

At the time of quickening, there may seem to be a further revelation and emphasis on what the believer is being told or what he received during the previous moments of revelation encounter. Further animated instructions are given dutifully. It is almost as if a teacher is preparing his student for an event or an important exam or that the believer is being readied for a critical assignment. Those thoughts and imagination are actually communicating words, impressions, nudgings, clear instructions, etc.

Once the believer takes hold of the message being communicated, he should commence to the next stage of the Revelation – Quicken(R-Q)process which is to utter, confess, declare and proclaim what has been grasped. This action releases the creative spiritual virtue that was poured into the believer's soul during the quickening encounter into the physical environment, which in turn creates the corresponding physical reality. And if the believer received a set of instructions, such tidings must be executed to detail.

Many a times, quickening process could follow immediately on the heels of the revelation encounter if during or after the revelation, there are present in the soul strong desires for manifestation of what was revealed. Expressing such desires as prayers or in worship will spark off episodes of quickening because such desires being born of the spiritman rhymes completely with the will of God and the pleasures of the Holy Spirit.

SEEMING CIRCUITOUS ROUTE

One may ask why the seemingly circuitous route taken to release the contents of the spiritman. Well, that is God's wisdom. Paul ran into this brick wall also and screamed, 'For who has known the mind of the Lord or who has been His counsellor?'⁴ There are many other ways God could choose to execute the transfer; afterall, He is Omnipotent and Omniscience. However, the R-Q process is one of most profound and impactful.

The human body was also designed to have alternative biochemical pathways to produce its needs. For example, in the production and/or the conversion of essential nutrients like protein fats or carbohydrate. So that at any time one route or pathway is compromised, the body employs another in order not to be stranded. However, the body generally uses the route that is most efficient and less time consuming.

BENEFITS OF THE REVELATION-QUICKENING(R-Q) PROCESS

The immense benefit of the R-Q process is not only that the believer obtains what is desired and expected; additionally, it makes the believer very insightful and full of understanding of spiritual concerns. This is because the often repeated R-Q process will grant the believer a huge experiential knowledge of God due to the rampant revelations of God he encounters. This ofcourse will enlarge his spiritual girth and war chest, which are very valuable tools in moments of spiritual warfare.

Secondly, since spiritual virtues are constantly being deposited on the soul, from the spiritman, during the quickening episodes, the soul will, without struggle or effort acquire a noble, winsome, affable, princely spirit (or angelic) nature. This is easily seen in the case of a river basin, which is usually more fertile and richer in nutrient than the surrounding soils, because it constantly received nutrients-filled silt deposited onto it from far off lands. Such believer, even in normal perfunctory undertakings, communicates purity, candour, courtesy and graciousness.

Thirdly, the communion between God and the believer is deepened because his soul constantly interacts with the spirit realm. The outcome is that, the believer becomes more like Christ. Unfortunately, most believers who experience the R-Q process just revel in the splendour and do nothing more with the misplaced hope that whatever God reveals to them, He will bring it to pass. Some even share those glorious moments as testimonies, while others move straight back to the flesh and brag about the supernatural revelations and concurrent experiences they've just had. These Christians are sorely missing the point. God does not intend for us to gloat in such experiences. He rather wants us to exploit it.

Such moments are very delicate in the economy of the believer's spirituality, manifestation as the son of God and destiny fulfilment. Those are the moments God is waiting for to display His manifold wisdom to principalities and powers.⁵ It is a moment which was designed to actualize physically God's design in creating man in the image of God.

WHAT TO DO DURING AND AFTER THE R-Q ENCOUNTER

Instead of wasting such precious gift of God meant for the glorification of the believer, he should instead treat the information grasped during the R-Q encounter as something of utmost importance. The first thing to do is to write down any scripture, words and/or instructions given. It's been said that inspiration becomes revelation when it is written down.⁶ He should revere the information and in fact, hug it after all, it was meant for him alone.

Secondly, he should approach the waiting period, which is the interval between the encounter and physical manifestation with expectancy through constant, deliberate musing, dwelling and meditating on what was received. He should also play back as often as possible, as one who replays or recollects an interesting scene, the entire R-Q experience.

This is really the place for effectual meditation. In fact, a deep concentrated meditation on the entire quickening experience may spark off fresh episodes of quickening (this will be discussed later in detail). To achieve and maintain concentration of thought, the believer should always look out for a secluded place to avoid any kind of distraction.

Lastly, the believer must keep confessing the words received or words that were formed to express the imagination transmitted to the soul from the spirit during the quickening episode. This unrelenting confession must be tallied with corresponding actions and/or discharging instructions received during quickening. Effectual prayer sometimes mixed with fasting should be part of the necessary action to be taken.

WORK OR ACTION

It is very important to add this obvious point. When the entire R-Q process is ended, it is pertinent that the believer should keep implementing certain things. The first thing to do, for the sake of emphasis, is to engage in constant confessions of the quickened words i.e. words given during the quickening encounter. The second is to back the confession up with corresponding action. The action to be taken could be relayed to believer during the time of quickening or after the encounter has elapsed, as a set instructions, which must be obeyed regardless of any intervening circumstances or situations. Failure to do so will leave the believer empty handed. The New Testament righteousness is hinged on obedience.

Nevertheless, if no direct instruction is given, the believer should use his God-given mind to fashion out relevant action steps to be taken which should match the confessions or ideas floated during the R-Q process. This is very paramount because ultimately, it is work (action steps) that determines what we make of the divine opportunities that come our way.

He also that is slothful in his work is brother to him that is a great waster (Prov 18:9).

“Work is an end. Through work, the believer physically participates in the creation process and fully actualizes his creative potentials. The dominion mandate God gave Adam⁷ is only finally and completely actualized through work. It was to co-create with God, to be like God, that made God to bless man and gave him the dominion mandate. This co-creating is called work. Through work, we actualized our divine destiny and purpose on earth. When we are fully enmeshed in the process of realising our divinely inspired purposes, only then do we work.” (Culled from my book, *The Law of Rain*).

Work must come at the end of every creative chain of events. It is the order of God. During the creation of the earth, the spoken words of God the Father was matched with work by the Holy Spirit. The scripture said, He, the Godhead, rested on the seventh day from all His works.⁸

DISTRACTIONS

The believer must maintain high levels of discipline and concentration of the mind at the moments of the R-Q process so that he could grasp what is being passed on to the soul. Hence, he should prohibit any distractions. The devil is often at his mean worst during the moment of the R-Q process because he understands very well the spiritual principles and processes at play. He will seek to cause distractions with even mundane or seemingly genuine things like being pressed to answer the call of nature, a crying baby needing attention, a sudden surge of pain in the body, friends and relatives calling out to you, whatever will demand your attention.

Even if the distraction involved seems legitimate and warranted, it is distraction nonetheless. It is a subtle but highly effective weapon of the devil. His aim is to force the believer to fail to pay attention to what is being passed on to his consciousness or in the extreme to lure the believer to come out of the highly spiritualized state of the soul, thereby, aborting the whole power transfer process initiated by the Holy Spirit. Therefore, the believer should keep his heart and mind with all diligence.

KNOWING TIME OF R-Q PROCESS COMMENCEMENT

Many may also ask how they could know when they are about to experience the R-Q process. The truth is that, you may never know. It is the prerogative of the Holy Spirit; this knowledge should make every believer humble and develop a dependant disposition. Nobody can instigate the R-Q process but when it does come, it will not be missed, it is so overpowering. The uncertainty of the occurrence of the R-Q process is one of the reasons every believer should always watch and pray, not only for temptations but also for when the destiny train arrives.

The eagle offers a very good example. The eagle waits not just physically but also with all its senses geared up to garner information from the environment to identify the wind with the right velocity. This means that long before the storm arrives, the eagle is already poised to mount. If not so, it could miss the flux of the storm when it arrives. The wind could well be a fleeting gust that just rushed by.

The human spirit at the prompting of the Holy Spirit can choose any time and medium of its choice to communicate with the soul. That is the reason a ready or expectant soul is priceless. These avenues could be dreams, visions, inward witness, etc. These interventions could serve as revelations. So, with the appropriate levels of thought concentration, meditation, ... on these revelations, without any distraction, the soul could be quickened. At the points of quickening, further communication between the spirit and the soul will ensue. However, this time, the communication will be in the form of words to be declared, specific instructions to be discharged. Revelation on any subject could occur once but quickening could happen several times.

THE ROLE OF THE HOLY SPIRIT IN THE R-Q PROCESS

The Holy Spirit is the One that initiates and superintends the entire R-Q process. He commences by guiding the believer to expose himself to spiritual resources like the Bible, sermons etc.

The contents of these spiritual resources are what commences the initial spiritualizing (or mind renewal) process of the soul. Then, He proceeds to actually transform the soul into a spirit entity through the revelation encounter. Afterwards, He imparts the spirit man with the empowerment grace for the quickening phase to proceed and dissipate. He is also very instrumental in helping the soul to afterwards instigate further quickening events from the same subject matter.

The R-Q process is completely at the bidding of the Holy Spirit who initiates and also sustains it. It is never instigated, never harried or even presumed upon by the believer's conscious will. Everything divine has its own timing and runs its course completely at its own will without recourse to any mortal. It is completely beyond the conscious wilful control or influence or inducement of the believer.

The process moves as the Holy Spirit moves it, that is why inspirations, divine ideas, revelations, visions etc from the spirit man bursts unto the believer's consciousness at their own timing and bidding. Not at the timing and mode of anybody's choosing. So, again, we must watch and pray not only against temptations but also to seize the moment of the movement of the Spirit and maximize it.

DO NOT BE DECEIVED

This is an extremely very important point because to do otherwise, deceiving spirits masquerading as the Holy Spirit or as the believer's human spirit will take over the believer's life, supplying false revelations and even mimic the quickening experience, especially if the believer has been substantially taken in by their deceptions. These deceiving spirits often thrive in pride and fear within the believer. They make the believer think that he is very much in control and that things happen at his bidding.

All false revelations and other supernatural mimicry is characterized by pride and fear, they make the victim think that he is someone special. As a result, he is receiving special insights.

Please, nobody is special. The devil will also fill his captives with fear that keeps them bound and subservient to the dictates of the deceiving spirits. God is love; any form of fear is a sign of imperfection. Perfect love, which typifies our God, casts out fear.⁹ Therefore, if fear envelopes the soul while any supernatural encounter is proceeding, that is a sure sign that one is on the wrong lane. This if persists, could lead to spiritual ruin with devastating consequences.

Every believer must remain humble through the realization that the spiritual experiences and the spiritual gifting we manifest is emanating from the spirit realm without our conscious wilful control or prompting. That is the way God has designed to walk with all believers. These supernatural interventions strictly obey the timetable of God on whom we wholly depend.

IN SUMMARY

The process of conversion of the spiritual resources, embedded in the spiritman, to physical blessings, begins at the point of the revelation encounter.

Revelation is the process where the Holy Spirit deepens and enlarges to several degrees the godly thoughts and imaginations in the mind of the believer.

The real purpose of the revelation encounter is for the soul to be transformed into a spirit state. It is because the soul is turned into a spirit state, that is why the believer experiences much heavenly good-naturedness during the encounter.

The soul thereafter interacts ever more deeply with the spiritman as the spiritman injects or quickens the soul with the spiritual resources it houses.

As spiritual virtues streams into the soul, they are converted into thoughts and imaginations.

These spiritual virtues that flooded the mind are to be released into the physical realm through confessions, proclamations and corresponding actions.

During and after the entire Revelation-Quickening(R-Q) process, the believer should endeavour to avoid distractions of any sort so as to fully exploit the delicate process.

ENDNOTES

- ¹ Rev 1:10
- ² 1Pet 3:18, Rm 8:11
- ³ Dan 2:28-29,4:5, Acts10:19
- ⁴ Rom 11:34
- ⁵ Eph 3:10
- ⁶ Jer 30:2
- ⁷ Gen 1:28
- ⁸ Heb 4:4, Gen 2:2
- ⁹ 1Jn 4:18

CHAPTER

6



COMPANIONS OF THE R-Q PROCESS [THOUGHTS AND CONFESSIONS]

THOUGHTS

In this chapter, I shall discuss more extensively the decisive role of thought in this whole adventure of receiving and transmitting creative spiritual virtue from the spiritman to the soul.

The ability to centralize one's thought is a major leap in Christian maturity. This is so because the mind is always encumbered with 'many servings'. Several unrelated trails of thought always bombard the mind. This is by reason of the fact that thoughts are mental impressions that continues to ebb and flow unless it is controlled. This weakness of unguided thought if not corrected have a very telling and crippling effect during the R-Q process.

Thoughts are mental processes like memory, perception, creativity, thinking, judgement, etc. The key function of attention or concentration of one's thought is to discriminate between irrelevant data which had been filtered out so as to enable the desired data to be employed for other profitable mental processes. Without focused awareness, we cannot comprehend and differentiate between the various messages

coming into the mind.

THE R-Q PROCESS IS AIDED BY KEEN MIND

The discipline of bringing the mind to bear on or wrap around the R-Q process is most essential. If it were not present, the process could run its course and dissipate without any productive end. The ability to mass one's thought on the entire encounter enables the soul to fasten its hold on the spiritualizing process without being encumbered by the flesh or the distractions of the environment.

Thought is the mind grasping a matter. Thought therefore is central in mobilizing all the resources of the soul and body to hang on the R-Q process because once the mind converts a mental impression into thought forms and/ or imaginations, the subject matter has been grasped. It is these thought forms and imaginations that drive the R-Q process.

During the R-Q process, the deepening of one's understanding, in other words, the spiritualizing of the soul is aided immensely by the thought being absorbed and the mind keen on God. During the revelation stage of the R-Q process, while the soul is being spiritualized, the wandering of the mind or other forms of distractions could successfully abort the entire R-Q process. The soul there and then will reverse back to its natural state.

In the revelation phase, thought consolidation in the form of eager or passionate desires is what as a matter of course, ushers in the quickening phase. This is not a moot point because the revelation phase may not yield the quickening phase. It is not a given. One may encounter some revelations and it stops there, the encounter may not proceed to the quickening phase. Not only during the revelation phase but also in the quickening phase, should the believer absolutely maintain the discipline of the intensification of thought because one may get to the quickening phase yet, lack of attention will mean that one may miss the quickened words to be confessed and instructions to be carried out.

DO NOT BE CARELESS

The propensity to be careless is high during the R-Q process. This is because the inflow of spiritual virtue into the soul stirs up strong emotional excitement. The whole quickening process might end and the believer is only left with goose pimples and pleasant feelings but no substance.

The believer should be particularly careful because the devil lurks around at these moments. He knows fully well the import of the R-Q process. He may initiate distractions either through the believers own thoughts, if he has not achieved a good level of thought discipline or through the surroundings by exploiting seemingly innocuous situations like a crying child or a neighbour needing attention. That is the reason why all believers should create quiet times and if possible be in a secluded place while seeking the face of God.

That also is why worshippers, while in the church, should maintain stillness and concentration, not only out of reverence for God, that is trite but also it is necessary so as to fully engage and maximize the R-Q processes which preponderantly occur in an anointed atmosphere. Appropriately maximizing these divine visitations will make attendance to church services very attractive and people to come in their numbers because members will be surpassing each other in the manifestation of the glory of God.

Some believers assume that the need to be attentive while praying or making declarations, while in the church, were merely to exhibit seriousness or to be seen to be responsible. That is wrong. There should be more noble reasons to do such things which would be to encourage and augment the R-Q Process.

Besides this, another error prevalent among church folks is that, while ministering or praying, some people have developed the habit of concentrating all their attention on mental images they wilfully formed in their mind. That is also very wrong! It is idolatry. God warned all His people not to form or make images of Him physically or mentally.¹ The correct imaginations to dwell on are the ones quickened for us during the R-Q process.

IMAGINATION

The faculty of imagining is the creative ability to form images, ideas, sensations in the mind without direct input from the senses such as seeing and hearing. Thinking proceeds 'seeing'. When the thought dwells on anything, soon, it appears in the mind's eye.² The activity of creating images in the mind is called **Imagination**. It is often said that 'knowledge is limited but imagination encircles the world'.

Any treasure in the word of God or other spiritual resources can become our reality only to the extent that it is created in the mind in the form of imaginations. The difference between the imagination of the natural and that of the spiritual is that, while the first draws from cognitive natural observations, the second draws from spiritual revelations.³

That the God ...may grant you the spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of Him. The eyes of your understanding being enlightened... Eph1:17-18

Spiritual perceptions from the spiritman enter the believer's consciousness in the form of thoughts and mental pictures or imaginations. Expressing those mental images through the exactness of chosen or inspired words (or confessions) is the fundamental factor to evoke desired worlds.

THE SUB- ATOMIC WORLD LEND THEIR WEIGHT

The role of thought in influencing and controlling primal matters, powers, energy, forces, etc was amply divulged by the field of science called, Quantum Physics. Documented scientific evidence proved that thought played a significant role in the creation of the material universe.

In the laboratory, scientists using highly sophisticated scientific equipment, found to their amazement that matter—that is everything we see around us: man, animals, trees, rivers, rocks, clothes, metallic object, air, etc, when broken down into its most basic state, is merely a **vibrating frequency of**

energy. They found out that 'matter' when broken down consists of molecules, molecules when broken down, consists of atoms and atoms when further broken down consists of sub-atomic particles generally called **Quarks**, of which more than two hundred different types have been discovered.

These Quarks which are the foundational building block of all seen and unseen nature is just pure energy. The scientists in effect discovered that, nature is made up of, and, interconnected with vibrating frequency of energy which joins together with energy of the same frequency to form what we see as tangible reality in the physical world. So 'matter' that we see and feel is a kind of slowed down vibrating energy or solidified energy.

By the way, this quantum physics lesson I am delving into is in its most simplistic level. However, for the purpose of this book, this level of knowledge will suffice.

THE OBSERVER EFFECT

Scientists discovered many astonishing properties and characteristics these sub-atomic particles possess which have a striking resemblance with the way the spirit realm operates.

The first characteristic of the quarks that rings with spiritual truth, is that scientists found out that these quarks can exist as particles or as waves but not both at the same time. Particles and waves have very widely different physical characteristics. They afterwards discovered a very intriguing principle they called the **Observer Effect**. It was revealed in the laboratories that when ATTENTION is turned on any of these quarks by the scientists, it changes its state from either wave or particles. Remember that each state manifests very different peculiar characteristics.

In other words, the energy or quarks being studied in the laboratory took a particular state of existence based on the THOUGHTS or BELIEFS of the scientist who was observing it. If that scientist expects to see waves, he did. If another comes in and while observing the same quark believed he would see particles he did. It all depends on the scientist's mode of beliefs,

thinking and perceptions. So, this energy when observed reverts or acts in proportion to the way that it is 'believed' that it will act and will provide a physical appearance based on the perception or thoughts of the thinker.

What it simply means is that, it is now proven that these sub-atomic particles do not exist with definite physical characteristics until they are 'observed' or attention is turned on them. Every particle has a range of possible physical state it can exist but it is not until the actual act of observation that it takes on definite properties.

A plain way of understanding this intriguing phenomenon is that, if one observes these particle and THINK or BELIEVE that they should be trees, they would immediately begin to manifest the physical characteristic of trees, while another observing them EXPECTS them to be birds they immediately transmute and commence to exhibit avian characteristics. Consequently, the scientist discovered that Man could change the physical state of the fundamental building blocks of nature.

MAN'S CAPABILITY TO CREATE REVEALED

This is hardly surprising to the informed believer who is aware of the fact that, Adam, our progenitor was given the exalted office of 'man' and loaded with authority.⁴

*And God blessed them, and God said unto them, be fruitful,
and replenish the earth, and subdue it: and have dominion
...Gen1:28*

Therefore, if we believers align our thoughts, with all its creative potentials, with that of God's revealed creative process, the scripture 'nothing indeed shall be impossible to him that believe,'⁵ will begin to come within grasp.

Quantum physics thus demystified the process of creation and reveals the link between conscious thought and derived manifestations. Through this science, we peer into the unseen world of sub-atomic particles by which also we begin to see the importance of consciously aligning our thoughts, emotions and

actions with the workings of God to realize His promises and stated will in our lives.

Second characteristics is that, these quarks because they form the fundamental building blocks of nature are thus very prevalent and also they interconnect with each other. This could explain why persons who are deeply in love somehow communicate with each other without words though they are far apart. Also, two people agreeing together in prayer get better results.⁶ That should be so because both are concentrating their thoughts on the same thing they desired. This conjunction of desires will enhance what they are able to glean from the spirit realm because of the increased intuitive or perceptive capacity of their souls, which in turn increases the tendency for physical manifestations.

UNCERTAINTY PRINCIPLE

A third characteristic of these quarks that resembles the spirit realm is what the scientists themselves call the '**Uncertainty Principle.**' The scientists observed that, in spite of the availability of highly sophisticated scientific equipment; nobody can successfully know the exact speed and position of a particle at the same time. The more closely one pins down one measurement, like the position, the less precise another measurement; the speed of the same particle can be measured.

The exact simultaneous knowledge of complimentary quantities of these quarks like position, energy, time, etc is simply impossible. This is very much unlike the real world where everything follows a clear cut physical laws and prediction is easy. For example, a car moving with a known uniform speed can easily be located between points A and B, at any given time. Its position at any point in time can easily be determined.

The uncertainty these quarks exhibit is very much like what obtains with the spirit realm. We cannot determine with any certainty the movements of the spirit realm. We just have to accept it that way and train ourselves to live with it by always being watchful and ready to maximize the moments the stirrings of the spirit realm occur.

Here, religion and science begins to walk together. Personally, I believe that both are not mutually exclusive but are woven together. Religion is the study of the moral nature of God or His 'image'. Science on the other hand is the study of the physical creation (God's creative wisdom and prowess) or His 'likeness'. Both offer us a full view of the image and likeness of God.⁷ After all, it's been widely acknowledged that 'all truth is God's truth'.

THOUGHTS ARE VERY WEIGHTY

What can be deduced from all of these is that, thoughts are very weighty in the supernatural realm. Thoughts possess powerful vibrations of energy, in and of itself, it is creative. The Psalmist also marvelled at this reality:

O Lord, how great are thy works! and thy thoughts are very deep Ps 92:5.

Thoughts are often broadcast into the infinite realm just like the radio frequency. Whatever one's thoughts dwell on and one believes to be true, regardless of if those beliefs are based on real or subjective truth are what determines how one's life will unfold.⁸ Because as a man thinks, so he is'.⁹ Solomon reinforced this verifiable truth:

Commit thy works unto the Lord, and thy thoughts shall be established (Prov 16:3).

So, if one does not like the scenes playing out in one's life, the only needful thing to do is to change the script that is responsible for creating them.¹⁰ If one desires to change the events, conditions and circumstances in one's life, we only need to change the thoughts, beliefs, and imaginations responsible for bringing them and making them one's reality. That is why the scripture admonished that we should guard our hearts with all diligence.¹¹

CONFESSIONS

Confession of the quickened words is what carries and launches the creative power into the infinite realm, just like God's word created the present world.

And God said, Let there be light: and there was light. Gen1:3.

Men were designed by God to be co-creators. Solomon said the power of the life and death is in the tongue.¹² Also he said that:

*A man's belly shall be satisfied with the fruit of his mouth;
and with the increase of his lips shall he be filled...* (Prov 18:20).

THE CREATIVE PROCESS BURSTS INTO A HIGHER GEAR

Thoughts and words carry equal weight in the supernatural. The creative process bursts into a higher gear when we begin to proclaim words quickened for us during the R-Q process. That is to start declaring, through words, the pictures or images that flooded into the soul from the spiritman at the point of the R-Q process. Confession is the end game of the creative process.

The scripture strongly affirms this when it said that:

For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation (Rom 10:10).

This means that with the soul, (or heart) the child of God believes or contemplates agreeable or fitting thoughts which sets the R-Q process in motion and that eventually serves to foster the proceeds of justification (which includes the gift of righteousness). With the mouth confessions or the release of quickened words are made which will lead to salvation (or Soteria in Greek – a word denoting all-encompassing material and spiritual blessings).

The soul's contact with the spiritman during the period of quickening is normally brief but the virtue collected may

sometimes, and in some cases, take hours to verbalize before it dissipates. As the believer keeps on confessing what was quickened, creative spiritual powers and energy will be repeatedly released into the realms. The confessions and declarations of the quickened virtue should be made with precise words; the believer must not prevaricate at all.

GOD NEEDS TO SPEAK ONLY ONCE

Ordinary words formulated by the soul will only end in the physical realm as mere sound or even noise but declaring words formulated out of quickened thought forms and imaginations drives all the way into the supernatural realm because these words were prompted by the spiritman. Deep calls unto the deep.¹³

Since the spiritual realm supremely controls the physical, what was declared must come to pass, it is just as if God has spoken. Yes! Just as if God has spoken. That is the way God designed the universe. Man is created and exalted as God's vice regent on earth. The scripture in Ps115:16 which says that, *The Heaven belongs to God but the earth has He given to the Children of men*, also affirms this positive statement.

Since God has immense creative powers and potentials, He only has to speak once and it comes to pass¹⁴ but we humans must need to confess those quickened words repeatedly and industriously for our words to become flesh. This is where the faith virtue from the spiritman is most needful. The faith virtue enables the soul to stay believing so as to keep confessing, we shall discuss this in detail later.

However, constant perfunctory or ordinary confessions especially of the word of God are still important and serve useful purposes, though in itself, it does not release creative powers. Such confession places the soul in a veritable spiritual sphere. It also helps to center the mind on the scriptures and on God. Centralizing the mind on the thought patterns and imaginations generated by the word of God furnishes a body and symmetry to those thoughts and imaginations.

It is clearly proven from experience that spoken words tend to concretize impressions and imaginations already formed in the mind. The vice versa is also true, imaginations and thoughts in the mind molds the words we speak and words when spoken strengthens and fastens on our minds the thoughts and imaginations. This is the reason God instructed His people that the 'the Book of the Law shall not depart from their mouths (not their hands or eyes). Afterwards, they 'shall meditate (think deeply and repeatedly) therein day and night'. Thus, they 'shall make thy way prosperous and thou shall have good success'¹⁵

CONFESSIONS GIVES A BODY TO THOUGHTS

Confessions give a body and symmetry to thoughts. This is what is called **Understanding**, until one has an understanding of a particular body of **Knowledge**, the knowledge cannot be applied. The application of knowledge is called **Wisdom**. Good levels of understanding of these thoughts, perceptions and Imagery in the mind are what pull the trigger for an imminent R-Q encounter. This is especially so if sufficient desire is also present in the soul.

So, these spiritual exercises like meditations, confessions, recitations of the word of God are of great value. Ditto for being engrossed in an intense worship while the mind is stayed on some desired promises of God. It readily progresses to the unfolding of the R-Q drama. To maximize the benefit of these spiritual disciplines, the believer must avoid distraction or half-hearted tepid efforts, rather, he should maintain a singularity of purpose and an intense mobilization of his mental and body energy.

RETURNING THE SOUL TO A SPIRIT STATE

After the R-Q encounters, the mind have the capacity to retain in the memory the details of the encounters. The mind stores the words, imagery, sets of instruction that streamed into the soul. Long afterwards, the details of the R-Q process could still

be called up from the memory - From experience, memories are recalled faster with the speaking in tongues. When that is done with the appropriate levels of desire and concentration of thought on the previously quickened thoughts or imaginations, the soul could be returned to a spirit state again, especially if the believer is engaged in an impassioned prayer or worship.

Fresh experiences of quickening could ensue as the spiritualized soul makes fresh intimate contact with the spiritman which will lead to a fresh flow of spiritual virtue from the spiritman into the soul. However, care must be taken as we engage in this transaction. It must be done with utmost reverence to God because the believer, at his own bidding, is initiating and, as it were, calling up the 'glory of God'.

For the disciplined believer, the often repetition of the entire R-Q process, especially if the timing is yielded to the Holy Spirit, could only mean their soaring far above their contemporaries in the faith. This is because the more the believer longs for and gains a repeat of the R-Q process, the more he gains a deeper understanding of what was quickened: words, instructions, etc. The more he confesses them, the more it concretizes in the soul and becomes his possession never to be lost to satanic predators.

When a soul is thoroughly drilled in righteousness and the mind profoundly renewed, the constant practice of self-inducing the R-Q process could lead up to the point where all the believer would need do to receive spiritual virtues from his spirit man into his soul is for the believer to exercise the faith, which has already saturated his soul at this point in time and without prevaricating, firmly demand that the needed virtue should spring up into his soul and it would! This ability is most useful in daily living as the believer seeks from God wisdom, direction, prayer points, discernment and solutions to besetting life's challenges.

IN SUMMARY

THOUGHT

Concentration of the thought is a decisive factor in shifting

latent creative spiritual resources from the spiritman to the soul.

The R-Q process proceeds at some point in the form of thoughts and imaginations. If there is a distraction in the mind, the R-Q process may run its course without any productive end.

Also, thought consolidation in the form of intense desire drives the R-Q process from the revelation to the quickening phase.

The essential role of thought is amplified by the sub-atomic world. It was discovered that the state a particular sub-atomic particle – which are the building blocks of nature – will exist is determined by the thoughts or expectations of any scientist that OBSERVES or experiments with it.

CONFESSIONS

Confession of the thoughts and imaginations that flooded into the soul during the quickening phase is what releases the creative spiritual power into the physical realm.

But the confession of ordinary words formulated by the soul will not produce any result because those words, even if they are scripture, do not possess creative powers.

However, this type of confession is still necessary because it places the soul in a veritable spiritual environment which will aid in the spiritualizing of soul.

ENDNOTES

- ¹ Deu 4:15-19
- ² 1Chr 29:18
- ³ Eph 1:17-18
- ⁴ Gen 1:28
- ⁵ Mk 9:23
- ⁶ Mt 18:19
- ⁷ Gen 1:26
- ⁸ Isa 65:2; Pro16:3

- ⁹ Pro 23:7
- ¹⁰ Ps 119:59
- ¹¹ Pro 4:23
- ¹² Pro 18:21
- ¹³ Ps 42:7
- ¹⁴ Ps 62:11, Gen 1:3-28

CHAPTER

7



THE FACILITATORS OF THE R-Q PROCESS [THE WORD OF GOD.FAITH AND BELIEF. PRAYER AND FASTING]

THE WORD OF GOD

The word of God is the pre-eminent agency for preparing the soul to be spiritually ready and primed for the revelation encounter. It is also the most employed medium the spirit uses to quicken the soul. That is, most of the time, virtues flow into the soul in the form of scriptures which should be repeatedly verbalized.

The word of God is the major machinery for the transformation and renewal of the mind,¹ spiritual growth,² living a life of faith,³ spiritual warfare,⁴ attaining to an increasing knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ⁵ etc. The word of God is sure, right, pure, clean, perfect and eternal.⁶

THE WORD OF GOD IS A MIRROR OF OUR SPIRITMAN

The word of God is the revelation of God to man of Himself, His being, moral will and redemption purposes. As we read the

Bible, we are actually reading our autobiography because it is exactly a reflection of the contents of our spiritman. Jesus said, 'the words I speak are spirit'.⁷ To confirm this, Jesus revealed to us that the scripture is actually speaking about Him.⁸ So, if our human spirit is the exact replica of Jesus, as already earlier proved, then also the scripture is a true mirror of the human spirit. On the pages of the Bible, the word of God is mere printed letters but within our spiritman, the word of God becomes a profound endowment of immense proportions.

I hasten to add that the word of God we read from the Bible does not build or even affect our spiritman. Our spirit itself is the word. It is always full of God and complete lacking in nothing. The word is for the soul, for the purpose of spiritualizing it.

Also, as already pointed out, mere confessing or quoting of the word of God garnered from the Bible, especially if believed on and put into practice, is very beneficial to the soul. It helps to dislodge the flesh from the soul. However, believers often assume that those confessions and quotations transmit spiritual power. It does not! The quotations are mere letter that emanated from the soul. It is only when the words are inspired by the Holy Spirit or even much more, when the words are quickened for us, are the confessions become very impactful.

SCRIPTURES WERE INSPIRED

The scriptures were written by men inspired by God.⁹ Men of old prophesied and wrote as they were moved by the Holy Spirit. Their quickened souls received words, moving imagery, deepened understandings, and insights, which formed and provoked the words they wrote. God did not suspend their senses while the process of writing the scripture was going on nor did He dictate the words to them.

If it was so, the refreshing variations in the Bible from author to author will be absent. Rather, their souls received revelation and quickening through the Holy Spirit which poured out as words on the pages of the Bible. Inspiration has been defined

as the operation of the Holy Spirit which renders a speaker or writer infallible in the communication of truth, whether previously known or not.

God's intention for giving us His word is for what happened to the scripture writers to be repeated in the believer, however, in reverse proceeding. When the believer reads the Bible, the letters develop the exact thought patterns and perspectives the Bible author had while writing, though theirs were in a much higher animated level because it was quickened. The Holy Spirit thereafter employs these thoughts and imaginations in the believer's mind to generate revelations and eventual quickening in the believer. It is only when the scripture is quickened in the believer that he actually receives the spirit of the word or the power in the word.

Through this shrewd and proficient avenue, the accurate knowledge and power of God is effectively reproduced in multitudes, instead of God having to grant a direct revelation of Himself to each individual, which may be impossible because most people may never attain the level of spiritual heights of the Bible writers.

CREATIVE POWER IN THE SPOKEN

The thought patterns and imaginations generated by the word of God are not about the believer drooling about possessing the things he yearns for. Instead, it is the imaginations of the immensity of the causality of all things, His infinite potentialities, the grandiosity of His powers and the sublime wisdom behind it all. We can also add to the list the magnificence of God's nature in His benevolence and loving-kindness, the endearing allure and the delightful comeliness thereof - In summary, gaining insights into the beatific visions of God.

Again, I should emphasize that these mental activities do not fill the believer with imaginations of cars and houses that could be theirs; instead, it is the sanctified and pure notions of God's capabilities to create or generate those things without difficulty. We should mark that the whole gamut of spiritual

exercises is to create a strong desire for God - the Progenitor of all things - and for the materialization, not of things but the glory of God which includes all of God's moral nature and power.

The Holy Spirit spiritualizes the soul through revelations, that is, the thoughts and imaginations in the mind are suddenly deepened - in a moment, the grave and in-depth implications and essence of those imaginations and thoughts is offered the believer. This process of revelation spins the soul into a spiritual entity, thereby making it possible for the soul and the spirit to interact and collaborate ever more intimately.

This relationship between the spiritman and the soul only means that spiritual virtues corresponding to what was revealed to the soul will cascade into the soul. This is what is referred to as the quickening phase. It is this creative spiritual virtue from the spiritman which could take the form of words that renders the believer powerful when he releases such words through confessions and actions. This is how the creative power in the spoken word evolves and becomes a reality. Apostle Peter alluded to this fact when he counseled that:

If any man speak, let him speak as the oracles of God -(1 Peter 4:11).

I must always repeat that the whole course of action should never be manipulated; it will be futile and even hazardous. The operation of the revelation and quickening is ever always under the control and superintendence of the Holy Spirit through the human spirit. The major purpose of this book is for the reader to be knowledgeable and thereby amply cooperate with the Holy Spirit for greater effectiveness in the realization of hidden potentials, because as Solomon advised:

*Using a dull axe requires great strength, so sharpen the blade.
That's the value of wisdom; it helps you succeed* (Eccl 10:10)
NLT.

A QUESTION

A question like this could arise: if the ordinary perfunctory confession or quotation of scripture does not release the power of God. Why did our Lord say that men would be judged for every careless word they speak?¹⁰ To address this question we should point out that what the Lord admonished is very different from what we discussed previously.

Careless words that men speak emanate from their hearts. For out of the abundance of the heart, the mouth speaks.¹¹ The heart is the seat of thought, passion, moral values and motivations. The heart is mostly corrupt, therefore, God will judge it. The careless words are mere expressions of the contents of the heart. Also, discover that Jesus categorized it as 'careless words,' because it was not directed or designed to produce anything tangible, it just sticks out of the soul. The words we discussed are those declared for the intention to releasing the power and glory of God in our lives and environments and it springs from the spirit man.

IN SUMMARY

WORD OF GOD

The word of God is the most employed agency both for the spiritualizing and the quickening of the soul.

The scripture that the believer reads on pages of the Bible does not impact the spiritman because it is full of the Word already. It was quickened back to life with the Word.

The major function of the word of God in the soul is to override contrary thoughts and imaginations in the soul induced by the flesh with godly ones, which the Holy Spirit will afterwards employ to generate revelations.

The enormous power in the word is realized only when the word becomes the medium with which the soul is quickened during the R-Q process. It is in confessing those quickened words that power is released.

PRAYER

This section is by no means intended to be an extensive discourse on prayer and fasting. It is added to further entrench in the reader the workings of the gifts that came through justification. Until the gifts are worked out, the believer remains ordinary. He will not manifest the glory of God, Heaven is thereby short changed.

Effectual prayer in the believer is possible only after the accurate understanding that it is not apt to ask God to throw things down from Heaven, since He has already given His children all things that pertain to life and godliness.¹² All the believer will need to do is to convert such profound latent spiritual blessings into physical reality to meet his needs and also positively affect his destiny.

THE PURPOSE OF PRAYER

Prayer serves many very important purposes that could lead to victorious living. However, I shall limit the discourse on prayer to its essential role in the Revelation-Quickening process. The primary function of prayer is for the believer to have fellowship with God and enjoy the privilege of exercising his authority and power in Christ.¹³

Prayer should be the lifeblood of any true believer. A prayed up soul is truly God centered and thereby is keenly aware of its spiritual bearings and abilities. Prayer - short or long - however, most times, lengthy prayer is needful, serves to down grade the vice-like hold of the flesh on the soul. As the believer toils in prayer, his soul becomes increasingly severed from the devil induced fleshly distractions from his surroundings.

This state of affairs aids the soul to achieve the extremely very beneficial trait of concentrating the mind resources on God. Prayer also provides the soul with the capacity to shift desires towards the realm of the will of God and away from carnal impulses. Because of the intractable and tenacious nature of the flesh like its progenitor, the devil, it will serve the

believers well to cultivate the discipline of dueling long in prayer.

THE PRIMED SOUL

Therefore, prayer aids the soul to be in the best possible state intended by the Holy Spirit - that is, dependence on God instead of reliance on self which is induced by the flesh. The flesh introduces in the soul such oddities like self-dependence, aloofness towards spiritual realities and even hostility towards God. Prayer destroys this rogue element in the soul.

Prayer also takes the soul back to its Maker and through that, returns the soul to the original design of God for it, which is to serve as a conduit to channel the immense spiritual wealth in the spirit man unto the physical realm. On the contrary, the soul suffused and soaked with the flesh is often self-indulgent, complacent and easily overwhelmed by environmental distractions cum worldly concerns. This is the perfect state of a soul that will never experience the stirrings of the Holy Spirit.

The heightened concentration of the faculties of the soul on God duly sharpens and concretizes in the soul the thoughts, imaginations and perceptions gleaned from the word of God and other godly sources. As the soul is progressively shorn of unnecessary fleshly interferences, it becomes primed for the imminent move of the Holy Spirit.

A primed soul is often filled with godly desires and expectations. As godly desires and expectations build up, it serves as the trigger for the revelation encounters from the Holy Spirit. It is only when our desires begin to rhyme with the intentions of heaven for us that the scripture which says that whatsoever thing you desire when you pray, you shall have them,¹⁴ begins to seem plausible.

GRACE

The final and the most essential factor prayer secures for the believer is to receive **Grace** from Heaven. When the believer

prays, grace is almost about all heaven gives extemporaneously i.e. per time, on the spur of the moment. Grace is popularly defined as the unmerited favour and mercy from God to man. It is a gift and completely not worked for. Grace is the most powerful force in the universe; it takes you to where God wants you to be. It has the power to do something that nothing else can do. Grace is the source of the whole scheme of redemption.

There are broadly two types of grace. Within these two types are many other categories of grace differentiated by their function in our lives. Only a few will be enumerated here. These two broad groups are the **Common Grace** and the **Special Grace**.

THE COMMON GRACE CATEGORY

Common grace is so named because it is bestowed to all mankind. Its benefits are experienced by all without discrimination. For e.g. the sun shines on everyone good or bad¹⁵ within this common grace is the **Prevenient Grace**. This grace is what stirs up in man the desire to know God and the gospel. It is what helps our hearts to respond to the gospel.¹⁶ It empowers us to respond to God's invitation to come into relationship with Him. God takes the initiative, He actively seeks us, we did not need to plead for His love and mercy.¹⁷

The next within this category is the **Salvation Grace**. God through Christ paid a ransom for everyone who will receive the gift of salvation.¹⁸ Salvation grace saves us from the penalty of sin. Were it not for this grace, no one would have experienced salvation, simply because salvation is completely the work of God that requires no human input.¹⁹

THE SPECIAL GRACE CATEGORY

The other group is the Special Grace. It is so called because it is shared by a special group of people. The first in this group is the **Sanctifying Grace**. After we have been saved, this grace gets to work to sanctify us. Sanctification helps the soul achieve a

status beyond its natural abilities. Also, it enables the soul to commune with the spiritual realm. This grace when given, is permanent unless it is forfeited through continuous lifestyle of sin and disobedience.²⁰

The next in this category is the **Giving Grace**,²¹ this grace gives the believer the power to give freely, cheerfully and with joy. It helps him to overcome man's basic pervasive nature of selfishness. This grace also gives the ability to give sincerely out of love without hesitating. Jesus manifested this gift extravagantly when, out of His awesome love for mankind, He stripped Himself of His riches, so that through His poverty, the believer might become rich.²² Paul described this grace as an unspeakable, indescribable free gift.²³

The next category is the most essential for the purpose of this book. It is called the **Empowerment or Enablement or Actual Grace**. It is a multi-functional grace meant to take the believer to where God want him to be. God is not only content with saving us alone but He also wants us to be like His Son and partake in His divine nature for the furtherance of the kingdom here and now. It is the grace that connects the believer to the plans and purposes of God - A factor that is very essential for high productivity. This grace is not permanent; it is transient, brief and momentary. It does not live in the soul, it acts from the outside. This grace brings us to the point of total union with the Lord so that we can produce good works. The connection between the kingdom service and grace was made explicit by the author of Hebrews:

Wherefore we receiving a kingdom which cannot be moved, let us have grace, whereby we may serve God acceptably with reverence and godly fear (Heb12:28)

The last in this category is the **Sustaining Grace**. It is this grace that keeps the believer in the state of grace. It helps the believer to overcome hopelessness so that he does not give up²⁴ and keeps the believer being saved,²⁵ as stated below:

By whom also we have access by faith into this grace wherein

we stand, and rejoice in hope of the glory of God...Rom 5:2

It works mainly by enlightening the human mind to the purposes and the infallibility of God which strengthens the believers will,²⁶ so that he can seek out and keep the sanctifying grace. All of these functions of grace means that it is God who takes the initiative and implies the great importance of God's action on behalf of the believer.

THE ESSENTIAL ROLE OF THE EMPOWERMENT GRACE

We have previously established that when a soul is primed enough, the Holy Spirit will instigate the Revelation-Quickening episode. Nonetheless, this event is augmented and influenced by the Empowerment or Actual grace. This grace is the sovereign act of God that determines the extent to which the entire process will proceed. It controls how much of the spiritual virtue that will surge into the soul. This is entirely unsurprising because as already observed, it is the grace of God that enables the believer, in spite of human weakness to become whatever God desires for him. Without His grace, nothing will be accomplished.

This sovereign intervention of God is very justifiable; it will be untenable for God to trust mere mortals, even if they are believers, with the enormous powers and potentials resident in the spiritman. Remember that great mountains can be moved by faith as tiny as a mustard seed. God who knows what is in man could not entirely commit those considerable creative resources into man's unregulated employment.

THIS GRACE ACCOUNTS FOR THE DIFFERENCE IN GIFTINGS

This grace is released by God circumstantially, as when needed. As previously articulated, it is brief, transient and does not reside in the human soul but is given from 'Above'. Different volumes of the grace are given for different individuals and in different circumstances. It is this grace that accounts for the difference

in the operation and the manifestation of God's abilities and giftings in the body of Christ. The logic for this disparity may not be known exhaustively. It could be because of the type of assignment, the yeildedness of the believer, divine timing, etc.

GROWING IN THIS GRACE

In all categories of the special grace, possessing knowledge is the route by which the believer grows in them. However, while the other grace requires only the increasing knowledge of God and His son, the empowerment grace in addition, requires that we must possess an acute understanding of one's calling in life. Like Paul, all believers must ask, 'what do you want me to do Lord?'²⁷ God's grace is directed where His glory is faced. He only sponsors what is within His economy for the believer.

Do we still wonder why some believers are experiencing a seeming easy ride to the top being borne, as it were, on the wings of the eagle? Paul and David knew exactly what their mission for God is and they stuck to it. Paul screamed, 'I am not disobedient to the heavenly vision',²⁸ while David perceived that God made him king and established him because of God's people.²⁹ There are many great men of God in contemporary times who also knew their calling and are sticking to it irrespective of human opinions. Through this understanding of their calling, they are posting astounding results that defy human permutations.

The entire possibility of the creative potential will not be allowed; the believer who is not walking in strict tandem with the master even if he has endeavored to fulfill the precondition for the spiritual power transfer. Two cannot walk together except they agree. Besides, God jealously guards the release of this particular grace.

The knowledge of the inside workings of the Revelation-Quickening process and the realization that all one needs to demonstrate ones sonship is already lying safely inside of us and not in a distant heaven fills one with comfort and hope. It offers a strong clue that God's love and help is not far after all.

To apprehend the fact that all the believer needs for a successful, fruitful walk is already inside of him only means that he is now fully set and charged to experience lift in destiny.

After the empowerment or actual grace is through with its course, the Sustaining grace will take over the act of enlightening the mind for the purpose of strengthening the believer's will. The believer is sustained, despite overriding adverse situations, to see the entire creative process through to physical fruition according to divine will.

FASTING

Fasting is generally regarded as times believers voluntarily abstain from food and drink in order to focus on God in prayer. It is seen as a time to go deeper in the believer's prayer life and fellowship with God. Fasting should not be only lack of food but also a time to take the eyes off worldly distractions and concentrate on God. Hence, when we fast, we are demonstrating to God that we are serious in our relationship with Him. Also, that we really meant business in the adventure of desiring to manifest His glory.

THE GREAT UTILITY OF FASTING

One major function of fasting is that, it encourages humility. David very well articulated this when he said, 'I humbled my soul with fasting.'³¹ The soul is humbled when the usual assuring impulses of well-being from the body is cut off and replaced with a frightening feedback from the body that the life-nourishing food is in deficiency. This scenario forces the soul to realize that it is not self-sufficient after all.

Faced with no alternative, the soul begins to seek help from its maker as it clings to dear life. The lid over the lie that man shall live by bread alone is lifted, which forces the deceptive carnal nature to diminish its influence on the soul. This means of acknowledging, through fasting, that we need the creator to really live, creates a fresh panting after God - which is the

predisposition of genuine humility.

As the carnal nature is fleshed out in the soul because the soul is now humbled through fasting, sensitivity to spiritual perception and understanding increases. Also, grace, which is about the only thing the believer receives from heaven when he prays, is downloaded faster and more extensively. It is this grace that powers the transfer of resources from the spiritman to the soul.

However, it must be emphasized that the scripture never specifically commanded that we must fast despite its very many benefits. God does not answer because we fasted. He clearly promised to hear us, fasting or not, if we pray according to His will.³² Again, fasting is not a way of manipulating God into doing whatever the believer desires. God can never give us what He did not provide in His grace. Neither should believers use fasting as an avenue for dieting or punishing the body. Rather, fasting should only serve as a means of obliging the believer to focus and rely on God, only then does fasting become a precursor for the spiritualizing process that proceeds to R-Q encounter.

IN SUMMARY

PRAYER

The beginning of employing the benefits of prayer in the R-Q process is to realize that the believer should not ask God for things He had already provided through justification.

The major role of prayer in the R-Q process is to help in loosening the stranglehold of the flesh on the soul.

Through prayer the believer also obtains the priceless gift of **grace**, which is about the only factor the believer receives when he prays.

The empowerment grace is the most relevant in the R-Q process because it facilitates the actual transfer of the

spiritual resources from the spiritman to the soul.

FASTING

The great utility of fasting in the R-Q process is to enable the soul attain a humble disposition. A humble soul is very dependent on God and also very sensitive to the Holy Spirit.

The grace received during prayer is downloaded faster and more extensively during fasting.

FAITH & BELIEF

The application of faith is very central to the full actualization and conclusion of the Revelation -Quickening process. We should always remember that 'being like Christ' is the sole aim of Justification. This purpose is actualized by the Holy Spirit through the R-Q process.

To discuss the instrumentality of faith in the entire R-Q process, we must at the beginning differentiate **Faith** from **Belief**. Faith & belief have been used interchangeably just like holiness and righteousness, spirit and soul, flesh and body etc. but, they are hardly the same though they are interconnected. The presence or practice of one could lead to the other but they all very different concepts.

BELIEF

Belief is not same as faith. Believing in God's ability or His willingness to act is not faith. There is a huge difference between the faith of man in God, which is belief and the faith of God in man, which is faith and it is a deposit from God - a deposit operating through us.³³ One is always able to believe in anything with one's mind after making resolutions in the will. So, belief is an action process that takes place in the soul.

MENTAL STRUGGLES

The Bible enjoins us to believe in God by accepting intellectually what it says about God and His intended relationship with the believers. It is not enough to read the word of God, we have to also believe what the Bible says as against the traditions and ethos we picked from the world for the soul to be fully ready to inflame the R-Q process. This believing is a precursor to faith but it is not faith. We can believe God for something and yet not be able to actualize it. Belief is only a condition of the mind augmented by our will. While believing God for anything, we rely a lot on our mental effort which makes believers struggle a lot. Because of this, it is a near impossibility to believe without doubting, simply because believing occurs in the mind which is a realm of imperfection.

Doubt is a proof of our finiteness and mortality. Doubtlessness only happens when faith from the spirit is present in the soul. There is faith in believe but faith is much more than our mental efforts and positive affirmations. Trust is not faith either because faith does not need the constant mental struggles to drive away doubt and unbelief through constant positive affirmations like trust and belief does.

Most often, the R-Q process is initiated by the Holy Spirit when we come to the end of our mental struggles and we allow God to take over.

FAITH

But faith is a spiritual virtue. It is part of the spiritual resources for example, the fruit of the spirit lodged in our spiritman at new birth. That is why faith is a gift.

For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God (Eph 2:8).

Jesus is the author of faith, meaning that faith originates from Him.³⁴ Faith therefore is an attribute of God which He bequeathed to the believer,³⁵ through His grace, which gives the

believer the capacity to operate in the supernatural as God does. Faith is not a creative force all by itself; however, it plays a pivotal role in the entire R-Q process wherein the things desired become the things realized.

Faith is the tangible force that assists in bringing things desired to fruition. Real spiritual faith will always produce results without fail because such faith emanates from a realm where nothing is impossible,³⁸ with faith, all things are possible. However, it is only such all things God has designed in His grace for the furtherance of His will that is covered.

ALL BELIEVERS POSSESS EQUAL AMOUNT OF FAITH

For I say, through the grace given unto me, to every man that is among you, not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think; but to think soberly, according as God hath dealt to every man the measure of faith. Rom 12:3
(Underlining is for emphasis)

God has given all believers 'the' measure of faith. This means that all believers have equal amount of faith at new birth.³⁶ Note that it is not 'a' measure of faith but 'the' measure of faith. That is why Jesus said that you can still move mountains even if you have faith as small as a mustard seed.³⁷ So, the differing results believers obtain from the exercise of faith and belief is not due to any difference in the volume of faith anybody possesses. The Lord often spoke of what He had given us as if it is our own when we manifest it.

THE SOURCE AND FUNCTION OF FAITH

Faith is produced in the soul after the Holy Spirit initiates the R-Q process. During quickening, spiritual virtues flood the soul from the spiritman. A part of the spiritual virtues that flows into the soul is the faith virtue. Faith accompanies other virtues that are dispensed into the soul.

Whenever faith arrives at the soul from the spiritman, it

provides the soul with a marked serenity, settledness, unruffledness and assuredness which yields a deep overwhelming consciousness that 'it is done.' This consciousness is what impels corresponding action. I should hasten to add here that action does not produce faith because faith can only spring from the spiritman. It is presumption to think that by taking certain actions, one could produce faith or that action is equivalent to faith. All of such actions are soul driven but faith is derived from the Spirit.

Faith virtue is very invaluable in the R-Q adventure. As faith floods the soul, confessions or proclamations of quickened words is sustained until what is desired according to the will of God is actualized.³⁹ Without the soul being sustained with a deep conscious settledness that what is desired must be actualized - which the faith virtue affords it - the soul or mind may buckle and begin to contradict itself due to pressure from external circumstances.

At such times the soul will be enamoured by the flesh thus allowing doubt, which works in the realm of the soul, to arise. Our mind is designed to generate thoughts and imaginations harnessed from information gathered from the spirit realm and the seen world. The devil operates from these physical realms and he angles desperately to influence what goes on in the mind.

EVIDENCE OF THINGS NOT SEEN

Thoughts and imaginations directly affect our emotions which in turn influences our words or actions. When doubt arises, the mind would be forced to make wrong statements and confessions because doubt usually upsets the settled serenity the soul obtains if faith were to be present in it. These wrong statements and confessions may actually suspend or even abort the creative process if had been set in motion.

Faith from the spiritman sustains the appropriate thought and imagination in the mind irrespective or regardless of the information bombarding the mind from the environment and surroundings. Faith therefore is of immense value as it enables

the mind to keep focused on the unseen world through the peculiar thoughts and imaginations it generates. When the mind is thus preoccupied with the appropriate thoughts and imaginations, it induces the right confessions or declarations and their matching actions or 'works of faith'. The words or confessions and actions are what is known as the 'evidence of things not seen'.

Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen (Heb 11:1).

The reason the words or confessions and the action taken in faith are regarded as the 'evidence of things not seen' is because faith, being of the spirit realm, imparts the spirit nature to the soul. In the spirit realm, everything is a punctiliar i.e. a point in time; reality in that realm is not described as 'will be' or 'has been'. Reality is always in the present.

The quickened words spoken and the corresponding actions taken are only representing things that already exist in the spirit realm although not yet manifested in the physical. The delay in manifestation is only the time span needed to convert what are already in the spirit realm into 3 dimensional realities. That is why confessions and actions induced by faith are the evidence of things (that are in the spirit realm already) hoped for and the substance of things (that are existing in the spirit realm already but) not yet seen physically.

THE SUB- ATOMIC WORLD ONCE MORE LENDS ITS WEIGHT

These same characteristics of the spirit realm scientist found the sub-atomic world possesses also. They found out that all reality or matter, that we see or do not see, that which ever existed were made fundamentally of vibrating energy which is connected with each other to form an unbroken interconnected energy matrix or soup. This means that reality is a continuum. Therefore, the notion of past, present and future, they concluded, seems not to exist. Time is not a flowing stream

that passes by. Time like space actually has neither beginning nor end; it is continuum. It is only in the 3 dimensional planes that time exists as linear. This is to enable the mind lay hold on reality.

Scientists were able to prove that time is only an illusion. They found out that when they paired two sub-atomic particles A and B, through what they call 'Quantum Entanglement,' and later separate them from one end of the earth to the other, if you excite particle A, particle B which is a great distance away will react exactly the same way particle A does and at the same time! The transfer of state between particle A and B takes place at a speed of not less than 10,000 times the speed of light, which means instantly. For any object travelling at the speed of light, and more, time ceases to exist.

In the spirit realm also, time and distance is not a barrier. A good instance is when, as reported by Apostle John, Jesus healed the son of a certain nobleman. He had requested that Jesus come down to his house but rather, Jesus preferred to pronounce the child healed there and then. When the man got home and inquired, he realized that the child was healed the previous day exactly the same hour that Jesus said, 'thy son lives.'⁴⁰

WHAT DO WE BELIEVE

Since faith is a gift that does not demand our active mental effort or willpower, believers should occupy themselves with their believe system more so as the exercise of belief is a staging post for the occurrence of the R-Q process. These system of belief should include;

- ❖ He must believe and accept that he has a spiritman.⁴¹
- ❖ Believe that this spiritman is from God and at new birth, it consists of the fullness of God and all His blessedness.⁴²
- ❖ Very importantly, he should believe that the constituent of the spiritman is known from the

scripture just as we know about God: His nature, attributes, disposition, prowess etc. from the scripture. Because the spiritman is created in the exact image of Him that made it.⁴³ As He is, so are we in this world.⁴⁴ So, if we accept that what the scripture says about God is true then we must also believe and accept that to be true for our spiritman.

- ❖ Believing the above meant that the believer accepts that all the blessings and promises of God are lodged in the spiritman, inside of the believer and no longer in heaven.
- ❖ We must believe the above facts to be true and then begin to strongly desire that what we found in the scripture, which we now know to be domiciled in our spiritman, could be ours in reality.
- ❖ These beliefs should encourage certain disciplines in the believer. For example, the believer should always deliberately dispose the soul in a spiritual environment like the word of God, church services, personal prayers and worship, spiritual books, knowing fully well that it is the pathway to power and virtue exchange.

Also, the believer should be willing to confess, proclaim and declare constantly the words that was quickened for him and believe them as things that must occur in the physical. Such confessions should always be matched with appropriate corresponding actions.

To believe the above facts and allow the mental picture it produces to dwell in our mind will certainly lead to the exercise of great faith. Although faith is of equal volume in the spiritman, however, the manifestation of faith after it floods the soul differs. That is, faith is allowed to vent its full influence in the soul of the believer at different levels. These levels or layers could be grouped as;

TESTING OF FAITH & BELIEF

The seeming delay by the Holy Spirit before the R-Q process is inflamed in the believer is meant to test his believe, his level of faithfulness, to know if the believer will remain humble and dependent after the manifestation of His glory through the believer. The testing of faith is also very crucial because it encourages the believer's faith to grow, whereby increasing levels of faith is allowed to successfully dwell and manifest in the soul.⁵⁰

IN SUMMARY

It is pertinent to note that 'belief' and 'faith' are widely different elements even though they correlate.

Belief is a condition of the mind which is attained through the believer's willful effort. Therefore, it occurs only in the soul and volume of its presence differs greatly for different believers.

On the other hand, faith is part of the blessings of justification that came as a gift to the believer. Therefore, faith resides in the spiritman. It is given in equal amount to all believers.

Faith is part of the spiritual virtues that floods the soul from the spiritman during quickening.

Though faith virtue is not creative all by itself, nevertheless, the incomparable benefit of faith is that it generates peculiar thoughts and imaginations when it is present in the soul.

These peculiar thoughts and imaginations offer the soul with a certain striking calmness and confidence which in turn produces the resolve that what is being confessed 'is done'.

It is this resolve that prompts corresponding action. Without

the resolution, the believer might be forced to suspend those actions that produce the desired results because of pressure from the flesh.

ENDNOTES

- ¹ Rm. 12:1-2
- ² 1Pet. 2:1-3
- ³ Rm 10:17
- ⁴ Eph. 6:11
- ⁵ 2Pet. 3:18
- ⁶ Psalm 19:7-10
- ⁷ Jn. 6:63
- ⁸ Jn. 5:39
- ⁹ 2Pet.1:21, 2Tim.3:16
- ¹⁰ Mt.12:36
- ¹¹ Mt. 12:34, Lk.6:45
- ¹² 2Pet 1:3
- ¹³ Lk. 9:1, 1Thess. 1:5, Eph. 3:20
- ¹⁴ Mk.11:24
- ¹⁵ Mt. 5:45
- ¹⁶ 2Thess.2:13-14, 2Tim.1:9, Rom.8:28-30
- ¹⁷ Jn.4:10,14, Rm5:6-8, Eph2:4,8-9
- ¹⁸ Eph 2:8
- ¹⁹ Rom3:24-25, Tit 2:11
- ²⁰ Acts20:32, 1Cor6:11, 1Thess4:3
- ²¹ 2Cor9:6-15
- ²² 2Cor8:9
- ²³ 2Cor9:15
- ²⁴ 2Thess2:16, Rom5:2,Tit3:7
- ²⁵ Heb7:24b-25,4:16
- ²⁶ 2Tim2:1,Heb4:16
- ²⁷ Acts9:6
- ²⁸ Acts26:19
- ²⁹ 2Sam 5:12
- ³⁰ Ps 32:9
- ³¹ Ps 35:13,Ezr 8:21
- ³² 1Jn 5:14
- ³³ Eph 2:8; Mk 11:22-23

- 34 Heb 12:2
- 35 1Cor 4:7, Jon. 3:27
- 36 2Pet 1:1
- 37 Mt 17:20
- 38 Mk 10:27, Jer. 32:17
- 39 Rm 15:13
- 40 Jn 4:49-53
- 41 1Thess 5:2
- 42 Jn 1:16
- 43 Col 3:10
- 44 1Jn 4:17

- 46 Lk 8:13
- 47 Rm 4:19
- 48 Mt 8:10, 15:28
- 49 Jon 2:21-22, Col.2:20
- 50 Jam1:2-4, 1Pet1:5-7, Heb10:37-38
- 51 1Jon 4:1

CHAPTER

8



PRACTICAL APPLICATIONS OF THE R-Q PROCESS

THE INTERCESSORY AND WARFARE PRAYER

Intercessory and warfare prayer sessions are some of the best periods for the exploitation of the quickening process because that is the moment pure raw spiritual powers are released for the discomfiture of enemy forces. Power is not necessarily released when we are sweating and praying aloud. That is not to say that praying aloud is wrong, it is not. In fact, it is needful in warfare prayer. For example, it helps to bolster boldness but one thing should not be mistaken for the other.

Quickening is prompted during the sessions especially if the Holy Spirit is superintending the whole effort. The prayer points if adroitly derived from scripture under the influence of the Holy Spirit, usually produces insight. It should be kept in mind that insight is a close neighbour to revelation. The soul impregnated with insights under an atmosphere of intense prayer will be jolted into a spirit state which will cause the quickening episode to ensue.

MOMENTS OF QUICKENING

When Quickening arrives, the believers will witness a massive release of spiritual energy and an upsurge in verbalizations. The intensity and earnestness of the prayer will duly escalate. This happened to the disciples while they prayed together at a certain time:

...And when they had prayed, the place was shaken where they were assembled together; and they were all filled with the Holy Ghost...Acts 4:31

In some cases, the quickening episode may be accompanied by the stretching and the squeezing of the lower abdominal muscles or the loin-though this is not a rule. It is the verbalizations that releases the power into the environment. Ofcourse, the whole course of activities should not be induced or conjured or else it will be an exercise in self-delusion that produces nothing.

DELIVERANCE SESSIONS

For those involved in deliverances, it is essential that they do not suppose that they must labour and sweat for lengthy periods before they successfully cast out devils. They should bear in mind that those devils have been placed under the feet of the believer. All authority in heaven and earth is at the disposal of the believer.¹ What need be done for quick results is to seek to release quickened words of power and authority into the realms and watch amazingly as demons shriek and check out in obedience with little prompting and persuasion.

MOMENTS OF QUICKENING

The deliverance minister should always be a prayed up soul. In that case, quickening could come when the minister and his team engages in fervent praise and worship combined with the sharing of insights from the word of God prior to the actual deliverance session. The Quickening episode when it arrives is characterized by a high propensity in words of command,

coursing out from the deliverance minister.

The moment is also marked by a penetrating discerning of the characteristic features and idiosyncrasies of the inhabiting demons which are usually accompanied by the receiving of very clear instructions of what should be done. The faith display and confidence level in the soul will be sky high, dwarfing all pretensions and manipulations of the devils.

For the experienced deliverance minister, his job could be wrapped up more efficiently when he learns to exploit the quickening process. This could be accomplished as the minister calls up from his memory imaginations of the experiences of the previous episodes of exaggerated move of the Holy Spirit. As the minister concentrates his thoughts firmly on the called up imagination, while engaging in intense praise and worship, fresh episodes of quickening could erupt.

However, the minister should note that each deliverance case demands peculiar words of command. Therefore, he should not presume and use the words of command that he extracted from previous quickening experiences. Instead, the minister should worshipfully wait for fresh words of command that is apt for the case at hand.¹

HEALINGS AND MIRACLES

Miracle workers and healing evangelists accomplish immeasurable good as they exploit the principles of the R-Q process while praying for individuals or congregations, through making quickened declarations or pronouncements. They do so by habitually calling up with their memory past or recent encounters with God that ushered them into the range of ministering with power. They afterwards, thanks to the high level of discipline they have achieved in their minds, concentrate all their thought powers or strength on those previously quickened imaginations in spite of the fuss around them.

The high concentration of thought on a previously quickened imagination rapidly spiritualizes their soul. Howbeit, it must be added that these classes of ministers are all basically very

prayerful and worshipful. A spiritualized soul will trigger off fresh quickening episodes with its fresh words of authority, commands and instructions. It is the precise declarations of currently quickened words backed by a soul engraced with faith, which flooded from the spiritman that yields those astounding results.

NO NEW LEVELS OF ANOINTING

Ministers often appear to many as beings of a different species but in reality they are very much like all other believers. Whatever they have in their spiritman, from whence the creative powers emanated, is same for all believers. At new birth, every believer obtained the same level of anointing. What is given is once for all and it is complete. There is no new level of anointing given anybody afterwards. These categories of ministers have only developed a working knowledge of how to work the anointing up to their soul and how to walk closely with the empowerment grace; the knowledge that they paid great price to obtain and maintain.

PRODUCING THE FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT

It is very essential that we discuss this topic as it will reinforce or highlight the fact that the R-Q process utilization is all encompassing. It is the chief way through which the Holy Spirit operates in the life of believers. The major aim for the presence of the Holy Spirit in the believer is to configure the believer to be like Christ: In His moral nature and likeness. To attain to the image of Christ or be godly is simply to bear in our souls the **Fruit of the Spirit**. Developing the fruit of the Spirit is a sure mark of our progress in sanctification, the physical manifestation of a believer's transformed life and his progressive walk with the Holy Spirit.

HOW THE FRUIT BEARING IS PROVOKED

The fruit of the Spirit has been misinterpreted as the characteristic that believers should somehow manufacture in their lives. Those who try to bear the fruit of the Spirit in their lives through their human effort make a sad work of it. They toil and labour and turn leaves and make many changes but their labour is in vain because they are beginning at the wrong ends. It is a wrong end because no amount of human toil or gritty determination can produce any ennobling spiritual fruit.

It is called a 'fruit' which means it is the natural result of spiritual growth, and 'of the Spirit' which immediately explains who causes the growth. The point is that, it is only the Holy Spirit that can conceive and bear the fruit of the Holy Spirit in our souls. The believers should bear the fruit from the inside out.

The fruit is formed in the believer's soul, from whence it becomes evident to the outside world through the active work of the Holy Spirit. He provokes the process of fruit bearing by primarily employing the word of God and through some other challenging circumstances He conceives. He commences the process of fruit bearing by initiating the desires for the fruit. The Holy Spirit achieves this by impressing upon believers, as he reads or hears the word, that fruit bearing is part of the believer's heritage and responsibility - The water mark of a fruitful walk with Him. It is what makes Christianity attractive. He may also use the believer's failings and consequent embarrassment in peculiar situations to propel him to desire to be a better Christian and show forth a more endearing Christian testimony.

THE REVELATION - QUICKENING EXPERIENCE DURING FRUIT BEARING

As the believer learns about what pleases God, the burden to display Christian maturity and obtain moral victories increases, the desire to be more like the master overwhelms him. The Holy Spirit thereafter initiates the revelation episode at the time of

His choosing, most often through the word of God.

During the revelation episode, the beauty and adorable nature of the particular fruit being revealed to the believer is placed alongside the disgusting vileness and loathsomeness of the corresponding sin nature in the soul of the believer. For example, the beneficent fruit of self-control will be placed besides a loathsome moral failure. This encounter(s) will gravely increase the desire in the believer for the materialization of the fruit. Such moral progress can only come after the revelation of the truth to the soul.

The Quickening process generally flares at this juncture. This is especially so if the believer is involved in a lot of praying with fasting and possesses a relentless drive to be 'more like Him,' or put in another way, for the soul to be more like the spirit of the believer because the human spirit bears the same resemblance like Christ. When quickening takes place afterwards, spiritual virtues corresponding to the 'fruit' will cascade into the soul. It is at this stage that many believers report experiencing divine encounters and visitations that changed their lives.

ACTION IS THE BOSS

As the spiritual virtue from the spiritman nestles in the soul, it will become saturated with the enablement grace. The emotions are stirred and the will is mobilized to put into action what was instructed at the moment of quickening. In the case of fruit bearing or possessing the 'image of God', action is the most critical step after quickening; unlike in the area of the releasing of God's creative power or possessing the 'likeness of God' where confession is the boss.

For the fruit to be entrenched or ingrained firmly in the soul of the believer and become part of the matrix of the soul, the believer must deliberately repeat actions urged by the Holy Spirit which He sends to the believer in the form of instructions. The believer himself may also take the initiative by taking action steps which he deems right at any given moment because he

has been instructed in the ways of the Lord. For example, he may decide to henceforth submit meekly to superior authority. Peter counseled that much:

And beside this, giving all diligence, add to your faith virtue; and to virtue knowledge; And to knowledge temperance; and to temperance patience; and to patience godliness; And to godliness brotherly kindness; and to brotherly kindness charity. For if these things be in you, and abound, they make you that ye shall neither be barren nor unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ 2 Peter 1:5-8 (underline added for emphasis).

THE CHARACTER OF THE GENUINE FRUIT

This is how any of the wholesome fruit of the Spirit is spawned into the soul of the believer by the power of the Holy Spirit. Fruits developed in the soul this way, with the aid of the Holy Spirit, who superintends the virtue transfer, is enabling, edifying and graceful because such fruit flows out of a restful sated soul. What you have on the inside is what you give on the outside. The soul is restful because it did not labour or strive to achieve its new status. The fruit is effortlessly and candidly lived out.

Strikingly, the soul does not draw attention to itself which is what makes it very endearing. The believer is unassuming because he had hitherto believed that righteousness was placed by God - as a gift - in his spirit man without any effort from him. The believer's graceful disposition is borne out of his immense gratitude to God as he observes the praise-worthy character he evinces with little exertion.

He feels indebted to God for making it possible for him to attain to such glorious level of Christian virtuousness, which is way beyond his natural inclination. The joy in the believer is amplified because the successful manifestation of the fruit of the Spirit in his soul means the diminishing of the influence of the old man, who is a renowned taskmaster and slave driver.

THE NATURE OF THE FALSE FRUIT

On the flip side, the attempt by some believers to mimic or force themselves to live the new life out of sheer human willpower, without the soul being engraced with spiritual virtues and enablement will surely result in the believer experiencing tremendous weights and burdens. The whole endeavour will be suffocating and disconcerting because there will be too much struggles. Such group of Christians will also easily suffer condemnation with a consequent lack of joy. But Jesus invites all to:

Come unto Me, all ye that labour (to be godly through religious self-effort) and (thereby become, or) are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Matt 11:28-30 (additions mine).

This inner unsettledness drives these Christians to possess a harsh and mean disposition towards others. This malaise is often accompanied with a condescending and a critical disposition. Because of this, the whole 'fruit bearing' adventure will be mired in resentment and aversion towards the believer.

Of course, because the flesh is the cheerleader in this hypocritical practice, pride will not come in short supply as the soul will seek to attract attention to itself. They afterwards, if this error proceeds, develop an innate, though often denied, indignation and resentment and towards God, who they erroneously concluded is too demanding and exerting. By the way, the pretended 'fruit' will not last because it is born of the flesh; it is only what is born of God that endures. At moments when the believer's will power, the driving force of this error and falsity is compromised, the Christian will find himself falling headlong into the same fault. Their practice of any of the fruit will be superficial and hypocritical. This is one of the main fountains of false religion.

THE ILLUSTRIOUS EXAMPLE OF JESUS IN FRUIT BEARING

Our Lord Jesus amply demonstrated not only the power of God

but also the moral nature of God. There is hardly anywhere His moral nature shone forth more than during those grave moments of His passion. Jesus was able to preeminently manifest all the nine fruit of the spirit during those heady moments.

This mind boggling display of the glory of God by Jesus via the parade of the fruit of the spirit clearly validated the fact that the manifestation of the fruit of the spirit is a nature that is attained to and not through the exercise of willpower. Otherwise, under that harrowing pitiless crucifixion, which even marred His visage, no man could have endured to exhibit such beneficent features like Jesus did.

We must take note that it is the believer's responsibility to develop, with the aid of the Holy Spirit and exhibit the fruit, thus, we should stop blaming others for our character lapses. Jesus did not falter under that most exacting situation neither should we. These fruit are:

Love: He gave His life as a ransom. He accepted to die that others might live.⁴

Joy: He joyfully endured the cross because He saw the glory that will come after His travails.⁵

Peace: He was inwardly calm hence He knew when all the scriptures pertaining to Him was fulfilled.⁶

Longsuffering: He endured the entire gruesome passion without backing off nor did He falter in His confessions.⁷

Gentleness: He was very considerate even in His pains. For example He spared a thought for His mother showing concern for her welfare.⁸

Faithfulness: He was faithful to God His Father. He made the appropriate good confessions despite His travails. He was yielded & meek,⁹ He did not grumble,¹⁰ He only desired the will of His Father to be done.¹¹

Kindness: He was kind to the robber who was crucified with Him. He promised the robber Paradise.¹²

Goodness: He asked the Father to forgive His traducers and tormentors.¹³

Self-control: He resisted attempts to give in to fleshy passions and needs. For example, He refused to drink the wine that was mingled with gall though He was very thirsty.¹⁴ This drink was usually given to dull the excruciating pains of those suffering under crucifixion. He elected to endure the full weight of the very painful crucifixion. Secondly, He did not talk back in anger when He was falsely accused and mocked.¹⁵

PROCURING THE BELIEVER'S FINANCIAL HERITAGE

I am aware that the practical application of the R-Q process will not be complete without a discourse on the subject of finances. There are many believers who consider finance as very essential in the voyage of fruitfulness. However, I will not be able to discuss this very important topic extensively in this book. The work was done in another book titled, 'The Law of Rain' written by me. The book comprehensively examined the origin, manifestation and cure of poverty. Also included is how to maximize godly opportunities.

To briefly discuss this subject in the light of the insight we have received thus far, we shall start by remarking that the beginning of godly financial breakthrough for any believer begins with the acquisition of an inspired idea - a divine idea. That is the reason for the popular cliché, 'there is no shortage of money but only shortage of ideas.' Divinely inspired ideas are mostly all that God gives the believer for His financial overflow. Divine ideas accompanied by creative power and faith virtues floods the soul during the R-Q process. That is why the scripture said that God gives power to get wealth.¹⁶ He does not give physical finances.

DESIRE

The R-Q process is kindled only after the soul is appropriately primed to appreciable levels. For a start, there must be sufficient degree of desire in the soul. Desire is an integral part of the entire creation-manifestation process. Wholesome desire of what God has provided in His grace is a powerful force that can lead to abundant living. Also, godly desire is a proof that the believer is very willing to abide by and in the Lord and within the rules for godly prosperity.

Desire literally devours doubt and unbelief as their natural predator. Where desire abounds, doubt and unbelief flees. A soul shorn of doubt and unbelief is a delightful soil for the spiritualizing process to thrive. Strong desires generate strong torrents of imaginations and patterns of thinking that is a fertile ground for the Holy Spirit to act.

Secondly, strong desires dispel poverty mentality and the fear of wealth acquisition which are tools the flesh employs to keep the soul from receiving inputs from the spirit realm and flourish in God's goodness. That soul would be characterized by double mindedness and will be ruled by impulses from the five senses and the environment –the territory fully super abounding with the archenemy, the devil. As pointed out earlier, a flesh-soaked soul cannot be inflamed with revelations from the Holy Spirit.

GREED

Greed is one evil the believer must expunge from the soul for the R-Q process to sprout. Greed is idolatry. Avarice - greed for financial acquisitions - is a sign that one does not trust God but feels the need to be one's own providence. It puts God off very quickly because it undermines God's legitimate control over every area of our lives.

A greedy fellow makes money an end instead of a means to an end. Money is desired as the source of his confidence and security so he will try his utmost to protect what he acquired. He will not yield the money at the disposal of God who allowed

him to have the money in the first place for His own good purposes. Therefore, if greed is prevalent in the soul, the Holy Spirit will not act.

He that is greedy of gain troubleth his own house ... (and it) taketh away the life of the owners thereof Prov 15:27 & 1:19 (additions mine).

THE PROCEDURE TO MAXIMIZE THE R-Q PROCESS

If all things are in place, the revelation phase, often but not always, will come in the shape of a sudden experience of a widened expanse of the notion that the God Almighty is the creator of plenteousness and abundance, in fact, superabundance! Every inkling of lack, austerity, meagerness that once characterized the believer's thoughts and imaginations suddenly looks absurd, ridiculous and out of place. That is why the scripture say that:

The thoughts of the diligent tend only to plenteousness ... Prov 21:5

The quickening phase ensues when quickened ideas stream into the soul. The believer should do himself the favour of retaining the information or idea by any means possible, for that is the key to his breakthrough. He should write down what he got because most times, such inspired ideas come as a flash but they are worth a zillion! He should muse and meditate on the idea constantly from whence he would receive further understanding, insights and instructions. Through meditation, the believer will egress from possessing mere knowledge to acquiring deepened understanding.¹⁷

But his delight is in the law of the Lord; and in His law doth he meditate day and night. And he shall be like a tree planted by the rivers of water, that bringeth forth his fruit in his season; his leaf also shall not wither; and whatsoever he doeth shall prosper (Ps 1:2-3).

Then of course there should be constant, unrelenting confessions, telling and retelling to himself and/or any relevant group of what was received during the R-Q encounters. The confession should also involve making precise declarations and affirmations of the amount needed or required out of the kingdom account which replaces the confessions the believer should have made repeatedly where it to be that he was seeking for the manifestation of creative power. Instead of living beggarly, the believer should assume his authority by decreeing that what was quickened for him, which could be a scripture, be fulfilled.

In the matters of finances, the believers should replace carrying out instructions that would have been received during the quickening phase with deliberate plan developed around the ideas that was received at the quickening phase. That is because most of the time, the believer will not receive precise instructions on how to actualize the divine idea. This is very crucial because wealth creation is not entirely a spiritual endeavor.

DEVELOP A FINANCIAL PLAN

Money is more of a physical stuff. There are laws of money that must be complied with for the full actualization of desires. Again, this is the reason the scripture said that God gives power and wisdom to make wealth but not money itself.

Money is actually the creation of man, who is God's janitor on earth. Money is the product of the collective will of mankind which was intended to be used as a medium of exchange and a convenient means of calibrating the value of goods and services. That is the reason money is partly influenced by the spirit realm and partly controlled by the physical realm. Man who created the money system is spirit controlled but the financial system itself is mostly physical.

Because of this, the believer must put in place certain financial platforms that would enable him obtain his desires and confessions. He should start with being financially literate through reading books, magazines, etc and at the same time

he should especially seek counsel from those that has succeeded in the area of his choosing. In one statement, he should gather relevant information to keep abreast with facts. He should not assume. Assumption is the lowest level of knowledge. It brings only ruin and dismay.

Very importantly, the believer should create, depending on the divine idea, a means of exchanging his goods services or talent for financial rewards. Money travels only along the pathway of exchange and profit. The believer must bring something into the market place. People are willing to part with their money only at the promise of profit.

In real life, inspiration must be coupled with perspiration for any divine idea to be fully actualized. This is even truer in the area of financial acquisition. The believer must develop the appropriate habits of self-discipline, self-mastery, etc amidst the beneficial habit of hard work. As an example, Joseph deployed the gift of discernment to void prison incarceration but the gift of practical wisdom and hard work to become a highly successful prime minister in Egypt.

GOD'S KINGDOM ECONOMY

Of utmost importance is the constant practice of the ever-abiding principle of sowing and reaping. This principle launches any believer practicing it into the realm of the God's kingdom economy. Jesus briefly described the kingdom economy this way:

Then He said to His disciples, Therefore I say to you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat; nor about the body, what you will put on... or what you should drink, nor have an anxious mind ... But seek the kingdom of God, and all these things shall be added to you. Do not fear, little flock, for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom. Sell what you have and give alms; provide yourselves money bags which do not grow old, a treasure in the heavens that does not fail, where no thief approaches nor moth destroys. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also (Luke

12:22-34NKJV).

He said that believers should not parade their worry and concern as the unbelievers do because it is the Father's good pleasure to give the believers the kingdom benefits and proceeds. It is God's delight to offer His children the blessings of the kingdom. Through this scripture, Jesus revealed to the believers that there is what is called **Money bags** or **Treasure in heavens** that are theirs to inherit. Please, observe that it was not called Heaven - God's dwelling place - but 'heavens' referring to the spirit realm (Ezek 1:1). This I simply called **spiritual financial accounts**.

SPIRITUAL FINANCIAL ACCOUNTS

I truly believe that this spiritual money bag is opened to all believers at new birth. I dare add that it is placed right inside the spiritman of the believer. From the above scripture, one could deduce that this peculiar spiritual account which is derived from God's kingdom economy has interesting characteristics. First, 'it does not grow old' meaning that the account does not get dormant due to non-use. A dormant account is the account that lacks activity for a specified number of years. This spiritual account, if the believer is aware of its existence, is always mobile, does not permit lack. It is never stagnant, always yielding its intended benefits. In many countries when an account is declared dormant, it reverts to the government which would lead to losses to the owner if he still had some money in it.

Secondly, the account 'does not fail' as a result of economic depression or recession. It must yield. Thirdly, 'thieves do not break in nor 'moths destroy,' which means that the account does not suffer loss because of human errors like government adverse policies. It simply does not respond to the fluctuations of man-made economic systems. It is only influenced by the economics of 'His riches in glory'.¹⁸ This kingdom account is completely devoid of mind-racking upheavals.

Moreover, this spiritual account is called 'money bags'

meaning that it is not a single account. It is a multiple account that furnishes every area of need in the believer's life. Whenever the believer begins to practice with wisdom and understanding, the principle of giving and receiving and learning to 'cast his bread upon many waters' he will connect to and activate every of these accounts.

GIVING AND RECEIVING

At a close look, one could see that Jesus revealed that the key to connecting to and operating this spiritual financial account is **Giving**. This is because He connected the Father's love-induced desire to lavish on His children the blessings of His kingdom with the giving of alms and the acquisition of 'money bags' in one fell swoop (vs32-33). He bunched them together. Giving connects and activates the believer's spiritual account which in turn, links him to the larger universal law of giving and receiving or sowing and reaping.¹⁹

This giving of alms involves giving to those from whom the believer does not expect to get anything financial in return. This should include the church and other philanthropic organizations, the poor and the needy. This giving should be done with the right motive and proper understanding. It should not be done to impress or curry the favour or praise of men, a group or a community. The only consideration is to participate in the kingdom economy. This means that the believer could be required to give to people or institutions that he does not feel inclined to extend favours to.

COMPARISON BETWEEN KINGDOM AND WORLDLY ECONOMY

This kingdom or heavenly economy is vastly superior to the worldly or Babylonian economy. First, it does not fail unlike the world economy that could falter and fail. For example, money failed in Egypt during the famine²¹ and during the recent global financial meltdown, of which many countries are still

smarting to recover from, money also faltered. Secondly, the financial accounts within the kingdom economy yield a hundred fold.²²

And Jesus answered and said, Verily I say unto you, There is no man that hath left house, or brethren, or sisters, or father, or mother, or wife, or children, or lands, for my sake, and the gospel's. But he shall receive an hundredfold now in this time ... (Mark 10:29-30a).

Moreso, the kingdom economy is fuelled by the 'oil of favour,' whereby you get much more than what you deserve.²³ While the world's economy is run on 'sweat'; it gives you only what you worked for. That is why the world economy is characterized by fear, forebodings, trepidations, anxiety, distress, etc. which drives its participants to be ruthless, vicious and rancorous.

In fact, in the Babylonian economy, you exchange money for an exact equivalent value in goods or services. Anytime money get less or more in value of goods or services, it sparks off a reaction, somebody will feel cheated. But in the God's kingdom economy, the principle of sowing and reaping was designed by God to give back to the believer much more than what he gave out. Therefore, the believer should as of utmost importance factor in 'giving' as part of the total physical action he needs to undertake physically and actualize the proceeds of divine ideas.

Finally, as the believer undertakes to procure his kingdom finance, he should fill his mind with the encouraging truth that prosperity is God's idea.²⁴ God initiated prosperity²⁵ and He is delighted when His children prosper.²⁶ Besides, God is a prosperous God.²⁷ Heaven is full of riches. As a matter of fact, Jesus is building a splendid place called, **New Jerusalem** whose streets are paved with crystal gold and its buildings made of precious stones and pearls for His bride, the believers.

ALTERNATIVE INSIGHT AND ILLUSTRATION: LEGAL TENDER

Another way of explaining this whole issue of being 'blessed beyond measure' is this: In the physical realm, money, which is actually a piece of paper is used as the legal tender backed by law of the governing authority. That is, it could be used to settle debt, and, or meet financial obligations. We rejoice when we receive these pieces of paper not because it can solve any of our physical needs like hunger, no one could satisfy hunger by swallowing cash; or transportation, neither could anyone hop on the piece of paper in order to move around, we rejoice because the pieces of paper is effectively used as a means of repayment or settlement of debt incurred as we purchase goods or services.

Correspondingly, the believer also has a legal tender in his spiritman. This is what Paul was alluding to when he said:

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who hath blessed us with all spiritual blessings in heavenly places in Christ (Eph 1:3).

This legal tender is the spiritual blessings lodged in the believer's spiritman at the moment of new birth. These spiritual blessings are actually divine ideas, wisdom, insights, superior knowledge, divine strength, invaluable spiritual virtue of faith and many other such creative potentials. This legal tender which is incorporated in the spiritual financial accounts is also guaranteed to meet the repayment of all the believer's debts or needs because its credibility is backed by the 'Governor of nations.'²

IT MUST BE EXCHANGED

Nevertheless, like money in the physical realm, they become useful only when exchanged. In the case of money, the exchange is done in the financial market place during the buying and selling of goods and services. For the spiritual legal tender, the

exchange is done at the level of the soul when these spiritual resources spew into the soul from the spiritman during the R-Q process, and, afterwards, the mind accurately interprets and exploits or deploys them in the natural world. Therefore, believers should stop calling upon God in desperation, the onus is upon them to simply go on to spend the legal tender already lodged in their spiritman.

IN SUMMARY

APPLYING THE R-Q PROCESS IN WARFARE PRAYER, DELIVERANCE AND HEALING SESSIONS

During intercessory prayer, deliverance and healing sessions, raw spiritual powers could be released when the R-Q process is called into play.

The revelation phase arrives during the warfare prayer and deliverance sessions while the believers ponder over prayer points derived that was inspired by the Holy Spirit or while the healing evangelist recalls and concentrates his thoughts on imaginations previously received during past quickening episodes.

If revelation occurs at the time intense prayer and worship were going on, the soul will be jolted into a spirit state. This will usher in the quickening phase.

The quickening phase often proceeds in the form of a massive upsurge in utterances and words of command which is what releases the spiritual power.

For the deliverance and healing minister, he is in addition inundated with a deepened understanding of the peculiar characteristics of the inhabiting demon and the next practical steps he should take.

PRODUCING THE FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT

The entire nine fold fruit of the Spirit are all resident in

the believer's spiritman at new birth. But, it is only when the fruit is formed in the soul does it become evident to the outside world. The R-Q process is often deployed by the Holy Spirit to achieve this.

The R-Q process is utilised when the adorable nature of a particular fruit is revealed to the believer by the Holy Spirit. He also further places that revelation alongside the vile nature of the equivalent sin nature. This act will acutely increase the desire for the fruit in the believer.

As the desire for the fruit intensify, the quickening phase will ensue by way of the soul receiving from the spiritman virtues corresponding to the fruit that was revealed.

The believer must diligently execute the instructions given during the quickening phase in order for the transferred virtues to be entrenched in the soul.

OBTAINING KINGDOM WEALTH THROUGH THE R-Q PROCESS

Strong desire to possess all that God has provided for His children is a major launch pad for the exploitation of the R-Q process in obtaining kingdom wealth.

The revelation phase often ensues in the form of a sudden deepening and the expansion of the awareness that God is a God of abundance and plenty.

While the quickening phase results when flashes of divinely inspired ideas stream into the soul from the spiritman. These ideas, the believer must write down.

Afterwards, the believer should take financially intelligent actions by putting in place financial platforms through which he seeks to actualise those ideas. He must also be prepared to work hard.

Part of the action to be taken is to engage in sowing and

reaping. This act, our Lord Jesus revealed will usher the believer into the realm of being able to operate his kingdom financial account.

ENDNOTES

- ¹ Mt 10:8, Lk 9:1,10:17, Mk 16:17
- ² Gal 5:22
- ³ Rm 5:5
- ⁴ Mt 20:28
- ⁵ Heb 12:2
- ⁶ Jn 19:28
- ⁷ 1Tim 6:13
- ⁸ Jon 19:26-27
- ⁹ Phil 2:5-11, Isa53:7
- ¹⁰ Isa 42:1-2
- ¹¹ Mt 26:42
- ¹² Lk 23:43
- ¹³ Lk 23:34
- ¹⁴ Mt 27:34
- ¹⁵ 1Pet 2:23
- ¹⁶ Deu 8:18
- ¹⁷ Ps1:2-3, 119:97-98, 18
- ¹⁸ Phil 4:19
- ¹⁹ Gen 8:22
- ²⁰ Eccl 11:1
- ²¹ Gen 47:15
- ²² Mt 19:29
- ²³ Mk 10:28-30
- ²⁴ 2Cor 9:8-11
- ²⁵ 2Cor 8:9
- ²⁶ Ps 35:27
- ²⁷ Rev 5:12, 21:15-21
- ²⁸ Ps 22:28
- ²⁹ 2Pet 1:3

CHAPTER

9



HINDRANCES TO THE R – Q PROCESS [SIN PRINCIPLE. THE FLESH]

Now, we come to a major junction in the entire discourse. In this chapter, we shall discover why this system that was well crafted by God is not functioning as He deems it should. At the outset, God created the soul without bent such that, it solely depended on the spiritman to the obtained resources and direction with which to function. However, the fall of man introduced an entirely new, heinous, controlling principle into the whole scene. This is called the **Sin Principle**,¹ which is characterized by a tenacious tendency towards seeking independence from God. The Psalmist aptly mirrored the situation with these striking words:

The fool hath said in his heart, There is no God. Corrupt are they, and have done abominable iniquity: there is none that doeth good. God looked down from heaven upon the children of men, to see if there were any that did understand, that did seek God. Every one of them is gone back: they are altogether become filthy; there is none that doeth good, no, not one (Ps 53:1-3).

THE 'SIN PRINCIPLE'

Apostle John agreed by declaring that:

If we say that we have no sin (the sin principle), we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins (of the flesh, the outcrop of the sin principle), he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. 1 John 1:8-9 (additions mine).

It is this sin principle that brought about the **sin nature** which is also called the **Flesh** (Sarx in Greek). This 'sin principle' came into play after Adam rebelled against God through disobedience. God warned Adam that he will 'die' any day he disobeyed. Adam's spiritman duly died, as God forewarned, the day he disobeyed. The 'dying' of the Adam meant that his spiritman could no longer communicate with His creator as before. His spiritman was disabled from receiving communion and nourishment from the presence of God.

In the place of the **Presence of God**, the 'sin principle' took over and thereby corrupted Adam's spiritman. The 'sin principle' replaced the presence of God in the fallen man's spirit. The spirit normally influences the soul, therefore the dead (to God but alive to Satan) spiritman pumped the same sin nature into the soul but chiefly in the heart, which is the innermost core of soul and therefore the part of the soul closest to the spiritman – the reason the heart is the most corrupt within the soul.

The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked: who can know it? (Jer.17:9)

The sin nature was also delivered into the mind which is the portion of the soul that receives information directly from the spiritman. This was how the soul collected the flesh or the sin nature from the spiritman.

DIED TO SIN

Now, when anyone becomes born-again, the believer receives a newly recreated spiritman which is now indwelt by the Holy Spirit. This meant that the old spiritman or the **old man** indwelt by the sin principle has been done away with. That is how the believer 'died to sin'.²

Knowing this, that our old man is crucified with him, that the body of sin might be destroyed, that henceforth we should not serve sin ...Rom 6:6

However, this transaction does not purport that the believer ceases to sin. He may still commit sin because the heart and the mind were not redeemed alongside the spiritman. Therefore, the heart and the mind would still need to the **sanctified** or renewed to remove the concretized strongholds and imprints the 'sin principle' left on them which could still lure the believer to sin.

What the loss of the old spiritman conveys is the cheery news that the believer could now successfully defy sin if he so strongly desires. Whereas in the past, before redemption, he could not resist sin, he may try but he will surely fail. That is why it is said that the redeemed man has been delivered from the power of sin (that is he could stop sinning compulsorily) but not from the presence of sin (that is sin still dwelt in his soul).

THE FLESH

All the 'works of the flesh' enumerated in Galatians 5:19-21 were pivoted by a soul that was corrupted by the sin nature or the flesh. The 'sin principle' like the virus replicated itself in the soul. That meant that the healthy self-consciousness of the soul is transformed into a self-dependent entity that no longer looks up to, or yields to God its creator. This self-dependent entity becomes the self-centered debauched and unprincipled 'I' of the soul. Because of this corruption, the soul loses its sense of proportion and often spins out of the orbit duly kept for it by God.

The soul thereby indulges in challenging the wholesome limits kept by God. It also rebels against God's order and authority, and chooses to spin itself into lawlessness like the devil, its benefactor. This is the source of rebellion against God's worthy intention to influence the creature He made for His good pleasure.

The corrupted 'I' of the soul also disturbs equity and disorients sensibility which affects its reasonable relationship with its fellows. This is the sources of mankind's pain on earth and the spring well of man's loss of peace. There is nothing good or wholesome the flesh offers.

THE CHARACTER OF THE FLESH

Since the flesh was induced by Satan, who instigated the fall of man, it bears the characters of Satan. It seeks to cajole, intimidate and tries to steal the freedom of the believer, forcing the soul to always do its bidding. That is why Paul cried, 'the good I would, I do not; but the evil which I would not, that I do'.³

Like the serpent, also the flesh could easily swirl into the opposite nature and becomes wily and deceptive, always hiding itself. It pretends to the believer that it is seeking his self-interests, preservation, advancement etc. so as to keep the believer in prison to do its biddings. So, the children of God usually welcome it unwittingly as a friend. But many believers are unwilling to accept what is coming from the Holy Spirit through the spiritman because it is mostly self-denying.

All works of the flesh affects the soul negatively and smothers, or in the extreme, inhibits the R-Q process. It is like soaking a match box in water, however long you strike, it will not light. Also, when sin is prevalent in a soul, it will not spark with spiritual fire. As earlier said, it is so because sin forces the soul to remain in a carnal unchaste state. In such status, it will be difficult or even impossible for the soul to receive revelations

and deepened understandings or insights about God. Thus, sin places the soul out of orbit with the Holy Spirit and denies it the possibility to be quickened and receive in flows from the spiritman.

The flesh usually operates by injecting doubt and unbelief which results in the rejection of God's purposes. It deceives the Christian as Satan deceived Adam and Eve that they could be like 'God' if they disregard God's order, only for them to become less than the 'god' that God Almighty made them. The carnal Christian, by deciding to toe the line of the flesh shall always live far below the exalted, victorious life God had planned for him.

The grand plan of Satan is to always employ the flesh to deflect the soul from seeking to rely on the spiritman and thence on God. He gathers information from the environment which he funnels to the soul through the five senses. In the soul, this information is deconstructed or deliberately misinterpreted by the flesh. The deconstructed perception arouses contrary thoughts and imaginations in the soul, thus, the soul will be effectively lured away from seeking help from God.

That is why carnal Christians are more concerned about the information gleaned from the environment than what God is saying in His word or is communicating to them directly. This is why they do not find nor walk in God's plans and purposes for their lives. At this juncture, I should add that not all fleshly tendencies are sinful. For example, fear, but every sinful act is born of the flesh. This is important because the terms 'sin' and the 'flesh' are also often used interchangeably.

DOUBLE MINDEDNESS

The factor in the soul that the devil exploits to create this doubt and unbelief is called, **Double Mindedness**. Double mindedness is the prevalent situation where the mind of the soul is not in perfect sync with the mind of the spiritman. To waver between the two minds is what is described as being **double minded**. Therefore, double mindedness is much more

than doubt; it is essentially to 'have two minds or souls'. There are many manifestations of double mindedness which includes among others, believing in God without performing the actions or works that reflect the belief. An excellent illustration is the differing attitudes of the children of Israel when duty called;

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 (1Chron 12:33).

The princes of Issachar were with Deborah and Barak. They followed Barak, rushing into the valley. But in the tribe of Reuben, there was great indecision (Judg 5:15 NLT).

SINGLE EYED

For the R-Q process to come to full steam, the mind of the soul and that of the spirit must be perfectly aligned. The mind of the spirit is scripture, so the believer must develop a spiritual mindset⁴ in his soul in order to possess the very needful single mindedness. Jesus said that, if a man's eye is single the whole body will be full of light.⁵ Singleness of eye is where the soul and spirit are focused on the same point. In such cases, there would be the abundance of 'light' or revelation encounters.

The light of the body is the eye: therefore when thine eye is single, thy whole body also is full of light; but when thine eye is evil, thy body also is full of darkness. Luke 11:34

But if one is double minded, there will be a delaying or the absence of the revelation occurrences. Revelation has been described as the deepening or expanding of godly thoughts and imaginations. As we now know, the mind thrives only in thoughts and imaginations. If the thoughts and imaginations in the mind are contrary to that of the spirit, which is double mindedness, there will be nothing to deepen, whereby the R-Q process will not proceed.

CONCENTRATION ON GOD

At the moment of revelation or quickening, the devil could also instigate double mindedness by constraining the soul to turn its attention away and thus lose its concentration on God. When this happens, the soul will return to its original natural state. In this state, it only receives information from the environment through the five senses. This will cause the soul to be divested of its spiritualized status, the spirit and the soul then will be at odds with each other which will force the power transfer course of action to be terminated.

ACCURATE CONFESSIONS

Another phase of power transfer procedure that double mindedness could have a debilitating effect against is the phase of confession. Doubt in the mind compels the believer to either make confessions without confidence in God⁶ or he will fail to make the right or accurate confessions. This also could abort the process. This is caused by fact that the faith virtue, even though already in the soul, is stifled by double mindedness.

... But let him ask in faith, nothing wavering. For he that wavereth is like a wave of the sea driven with the wind and tossed. For let not that man think that he shall receive any thing of the Lord. A double minded man is unstable in all his ways (James 1:6-8).

FEAR

Fear, however, is about the most lethal weapon the devil uses to manipulate the soul away from experiencing spiritual encounters. Nothing prohibits the spiritualizing process more effectively than fear. Fear is from the sin nature or the '**body of sin**',⁷ faith is from the spiritman. Fear is the perfect antitheses of faith.

And he said unto them, Why are ye so fearful? how is it that ye have no faith? (Mark 4:40)

Fear is the first fruit of the sin principle. It was the first to show up in the Garden. Adam said, 'when I heard your voice I was afraid'. Then God knew that Adam had sinned. Fear has a domino effect on the soul with the fear factor predominant in the soul, other sins like avarice, strife, hatred, envy will just dwell secure. If fear is preponderant in a soul, the flesh could not ask for a more conducive soil to thrive in. Most of the wisdom and motivations of the world are induced and driven by this fear (of poverty, rejection, domination, extinction, etc.)

THE SOURCE OF FEAR

Fear is the result when a soul becomes dependent on other things instead of God. Believing in God fills the soul with faith, while the same soul will be filled with fear if it turns away from God to some other falsehood. Fear forces the soul to look away from God. A soul filled with fear is afraid and cowers at every other thing except God. ⁹ This is a ruse because the soul was created to be loyal and subservient only to God. That is precisely the reason for the stern rebuke through prophet Isaiah:

And of whom hast thou been afraid or feared, that thou hast lied, and hast not remembered Me, nor laid it to thy heart? have not I held my peace even of old, and thou fearest Me not? (Isa 57:11)

THE FLESH IS DIFFICULT TO IDENTIFY

The carnal believer is yet to realize that the flesh is the enemy, moreso, he has not even been able to locate this sin nature which is prevailing in his soul. The flesh is still intricately enmeshed in his soul. It takes a major work of the sanctification grace for him to begin to identify the flesh. At this point, I should emphasize that the flesh is very much different from the soul. However, because the flesh flourishes in the soul of the carnal believer or that they are controlled by the sin nature which blooms in their souls, the carnal Christians are often referred to as 'Soulish Christians.'

Every sin the devil, through the flesh induces the believer to commit is aimed solely against his own soul, basically the believer sins against his soul. The sin anybody commits does not affect God in any one bit. He is only grieved that sin forestalls His well thought out plan, flowing from His love to bless His children. Other than that, whoever sins is on his own. God is only heartbroken at His children's prodigality by wasting such tremendous fortune.

THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN NEW TESTAMENT AND OLD TESTAMENT RIGHTEOUSNESS

The Revelation-Quickening channel designed by God for the purpose of power and virtue transfer from the spirit realm to the physical realm is the reason for the gulf between the practices of righteous in the Old Testament and New Testament - the reason why the bar seemed to be raised for the New Testament saint. In the Old Testament a man is judged to have sinned if he sleeps with a woman that is not his wife, in the New Testament, he sins if he looks at a woman lustfully.⁹ In the New Testament, sin is deemed to be committed at the level of thought and especially motive, while one only commits sin in the Old Testament when one physically breaks the law.

The reason for this disparity is because in the New Testament, one's spiritual state is very crucial. Anything that creates carnality in the soul diminishes the soul's ability to interact with the spiritman. The mere thought of any sin (e.g. fornication, lying, strife, orgies etc.) or a motivation to sin immediately renders the soul ineligible to participate in the spiritualizing process because of its carnal state. The materialization of that sin later in the body is secondary, the damage has been done.

For to be carnally minded is death; but to be spiritually minded is life and peace. Because the carnal mind is enmity against God: for it is not subject to the law of God, neither indeed can be. So then they that are in the flesh cannot please God. Rom 8:6-8

That is why the devil and his cohorts strategizes to expose the believer to all forms of worldliness. They know that once worldliness penetrates the soul, the purpose of sin, which is to render the soul carnal and fleshly, will be accomplished. Therefore, believers should guard their minds with all diligence.¹⁰

It could also be added that, in the Old Testament, the Holy Spirit was placed upon the Old Testament saint and from there, He worked directly on the soul of the Old Testament saint but in the New Testament with its better promises, the Holy Spirit's work and influence is mostly through the human spirit.

IN SUMMARY

When the sin nature or flesh is prevalent in the soul, it forces the soul to be out of sync with the Holy Spirit. The flesh achieves this by creating double mindedness or, more often, fear in the soul. This state of affairs will delay or even deny the soul the possibility of encountering the R-Q process

ENDNOTES

- ¹ 1Jon 1:8-9, Rm. 8:2
- ² Rm. 6:5-6
- ³ Rm 7:19
- ⁴ Rm 8:6
- ⁵ M 6:22
- ⁶ 1Jn 5:14
- ⁷ Rm 6:6
- ⁸ Isa 51:13
- ⁹ Mt 5:28,21-22
- ¹⁰ Pro 4:23
- ¹¹ Isa 59:21a(MSG).

CHAPTER

10



OVERCOMING THE HINDRANCES TO THE R -Q PROCESS [MIND RENEWAL . HEART TRANSFORMATION . WILL SURRENDER]

MIND RENEWAL

The believer in whom is the new spiritman, who had died to sin,¹ who is also inhabited by the Holy Spirit, is still not devoid of sin because all acts of sin emanate from the soul. There is no sin in the new spiritman. The so called 'sins of the spirit' are actually sins committed from the heart, the part of the soul closest to the spirit. The believer could still sin because the soul hitherto had been corrupted by the sinful nature that came from the old spiritman. Therefore, the soul and its heart still need to be redeemed through a second work of grace which is generally called **Sanctification**. The sanctification process eventually leads to a broken and yielded or dependent soul. Paul counseled all believers to:

Abstain from all appearance of evil. And the very God of peace sanctify you wholly ... (1 Thess 5:22-23).

FIRST AND SECOND WORK OF GRACE

There are some believers who propose that the sanctification experience is once. That is, the believer is sanctified at an instant but thereafter, would still need to grow into 'perfection'. While others believe that sanctification is a gradual process. Both are right, it depends on the perspective one views it. Our old spiritman with its inhabiting sin principle was taken away once and for all but our soul needs a gradual renewal.

The spiritman is instantly redeemed but the soul because it is of the earth 3-dimensional plane, needs time and a process to be fully fulfilled. Why the soul takes time to be redeemed or secured from the clutches of the sin nature is because it is permitted to exercise free will. The will of the spiritman after redemption and justification becomes subsumed in that of the Godhead because it now shares the same nature with the Godhead after receiving ZOE but the will of the soul still roams free. As sanctification process kicks off, the will of the soul will often be required to make the right choices and because the soul is of the earth realm, its redemption process will necessarily take place over a period of time. Therefore, the Christian must willingly make the right choices constantly to effect sanctification and do away with the sin nature in the soul.

The first work of grace that brought redemption and justification was done entirely by God through the Holy Spirit. All the believer did was to believe in the costly price Jesus paid. But this second work of grace demands a co-labouring with the Holy Spirit by the believer in order for the believer to work out his salvation. Substantially, the pathway to achieving this second level of redemption is called **Mind Renewal**.

MIND RENEWAL

Mind renewal is the beginning of practical godly living. It eventually leads to Christ being formed in us. Mind renewal is a very complicated process but it is achieved like every other great accomplishment, a bit at a time. To renew means to exchange

one thing for another, just as being born-anew means the exchange of the old spiritman for the new.²

Mind renewal entails the putting off of the old carnal thinking patterns and perspectives and putting on of godly thoughts and imaginations.

I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service. And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God (Rom 12:1-2).

Phrased another way, it is all about the soul putting on (or rather allowing the influence) of the new spiritman by consenting to be renewed after the image of the creator since the image of the creator and that of the spiritman is the same.

And have put on the new man, which is renewed in knowledge after the image of Him that created him... (Col 3:10).

This state of the soul makes it easy for the soul to put on the **mind of Christ** thereby it will no longer be double minded.

Mind renewal therefore is not just superficial. It is much more than changing our minds by getting more secular education or social awareness, rote learning or by committing certain sets of codes or canons to memory. These may be involved but it goes deeper than that. It is a change from inside out. The believer must be willing to relinquish his old thought patterns. This is truly life transforming when achieved because whatever directs our minds also directs our lives and destiny. No mind change, no life change. Where the mind goes, the man follows.³

Mind renewal is achieved by the Holy Spirit with the believer's cooperation, chiefly in two layers. It is a double decker process: outside and inside, external and internal. Externally, it involves our conscious effort of exposing our mind to God-embracing truth which is found in the Bible, faith-filled Christ centered

messages, songs, books and other digital outlets, etc. As the believer dwells on these, the Holy Spirit transforms the mind from one perspective to the other and from 'glory to glory' as the believer beholds the glory of the Lord.

Put another way, the mind is unconsciously renewed when the believer steadfastly gazes at the 'glories of the Lord' for what they really are. This occurs as he reads, studies and ponders over the word of God and the revealed truth of God from other godly sources. He should couple these practices with a lifestyle of prayer so that what is being unveiled and is unfolding becomes internalized and forms part of his daily life and worship of God. The devil of course will try to discourage these exercises from yielding the desired fruit⁴ but he should be steadfast.

The Holy Spirit does a greater work of the renewal of our mind internally by the renewing or the transforming of the heart which Paul called the the *spirit of our minds*.⁵

That ye put off concerning the former conversation the old man, which is corrupt according to the deceitful lusts; And be renewed in the spirit of your mind; And that ye put on the new man, which after God is created in righteousness and true holiness... (Eph 4:22-24).

The 'spirit' refers to the core of the mind or the heart of the mind.⁶ As earlier discussed, the heart is the core or the center of anything. These scriptures will serve as good precedents:

Blessed are the poor in spirit (a humble disposition of the heart): for theirs is the kingdom of heaven (Matt 5:3) (additions mine).

I desired Titus, and with him I sent a brother. Did Titus make a gain of you? walked we not in the same spirit (identical heart motivations)? walked we not in the same steps? -2 Cor 12:18 (additions mine).

As earlier discussed, the heart is the core or center of anything. Because the heart is at the center of the soul, it is therefore the

fountain or seat of thoughts, passion, desires, appetites, affections, purposes, endeavours etc. So externally, the mind is renewed but internally, the heart or the spirit of the mind needs to be transformed.

HARDNESS OF HEART

This transformation is necessary because the heart, after the fall of man, developed a bent, a motivation, a bearing and passion that are hostile to the absolute supremacy of God. It habitually neglects to perceive and accept the most high as the supreme being, who is worthy of knowing, praising and treasuring above all things. This discourteous bearing of the heart, this bent of heart that chooses not to acknowledge God Almighty as the Omnipotent, Omniscient creator is what the scripture refers to as **Hardness of heart**.

Unfortunately, many regard hardness of heart as stubbornness or hard headedness which is merely attitudes. Those that are still afflicted with hardness of heart are not God haters or rebellious towards God. Hardness of heart is a lot different and much deeper. To be hardened means to be cold, insensitive, unfeeling and unyielding. It is a state or disposition of the heart that cannot lean on the sufficiency of God and the spiritman.

That is why it must be transformed so that it can huddle effectively with the spiritman at desirable R-Q moments. For the soul to become truly dependent on the spiritman this hard heart must be mended by the decisive work of the Holy Spirit.

JESUS THE GREAT HEARTSURGEON

Jesus offered us a rich insight into how this operation on the heart is executed through His dealings with His disciples. Jesus used the term hardness of heart the most. He also calls it 'lack of understanding'. He purged His disciples of this prohibiting tendency in the soul through series of strategically positioned miracles and orchestrated supernatural events. It's often been said that 'Divinity does no unnecessary miracles'.

LACK OF UNDERSTANDING

He deliberately fed about five thousand men besides women and children with five loaves of bread and two small fishes⁷ in the presence of the disciples. To reinforce this forceful practical teaching about His divinity, He had to walk on water to meet His disciples whom He had earlier sent away, as they were rowing hard in a boat in the midst of a boisterous sea. The disciples were alarmed to see Jesus walk on water.⁸

Because of their consternation, the scripture remarked that *they had not understood the miracle of the loaves* (i.e. feeding thousands with a few loaves of bread) because their hearts were still hardened'.⁹ Hardness of heart dulls one's ability to perceive and understand spiritual realities and even if the person is looking at whatever God may be showing him, it will hinder the person from taking hold of it in a way that they will be able to profitably apply it.

FAILING TO REMEMBER

But Jesus patiently kept on with the task. He again deliberately fed four thousand men beside women and children with seven loaves and a few little fishes. Immediately after this mind boggling miracle, while on their way, Jesus told the disciples to beware of the *leaven of the Pharisees*. The disciples mistook that to mean that they had forgotten to take bread along with them, instead of correctly deciphering that Jesus meant the teachings of the Pharisees.

This blunder offered Jesus another opportunity to drill in the message. He pointedly rebuked them for their continuing slowness in understanding. He asked them, *how is it that you do not remember?* Twice they witnessed the feeding of several thousands of people with a few loaves of bread and each time the people were so well fed that they collected several baskets full of crumbs. One of the symptoms of hardness of heart is the inability to remember the fine details of past encounters or dealings of God.

THE CAUSE OF LACK OF REMEMBRANCE

The reason for the lack of remembrance is that they did not consider it. Whatever one considers, the heart softens towards, and whatever one fails to consider, the heart hardens to, as revealed when the scripture remarked that the disciples did not consider the miracle of the loaves⁹ to consider is to study, ponder, deliberate, examine and think upon or in one word to meditate.

A good example of the people that failed to remember past moves of God in their lives is the people of Israel in the wilderness. They repeatedly chose to forget God's previous miraculous provisions. Instead, their minds and hearts were always filled with fear and concern whenever fresh needs arises which proves to God that they are a people that are unbelieving. If they had the right heart, understanding it would be easy for them to know that the Omnipotence can easily supply. Nothing is impossible with Him.

THOU ART THE CHRIST

A pertinent point to take note of is that, after several painstaking teachings and subsequent fumbblings, Peter was able to accurately identify Jesus as the Christ through revelation. The scripture observed that from that moment, Jesus began to teach His disciples about His imminent death. That is because the revelation and confession of Peter is a proof that they have gotten a bit of the message about His greatness. Now, they have known that 'He is the Christ, the son of the living God'.¹⁰

BARRED FROM THE R-Q PROCESS

Right after His resurrection, Jesus was still at this task of rooting out the remainder of the 'hardness' in the hearts of the disciples. He again rebuked them for the hardness of their hearts because they did not believe those who had seen Him after He had risen,¹¹ they doubted the God chosen witnesses because their heart could not perceive, let alone accept that the dead can rise again!

It is because of this malaise that Christians belittle God in their hearts. Believing God for the seemingly impossible is very difficult or even inconceivable for them. With the flesh induced wrong patterns of thoughts, perceptions and imaginations churning in the soul, the spiritualizing process of the soul will be imperiled, the soul therefore will be barred from participating in the power resources transfer between the spirit and the soul. This unfortunate state of affairs will force the child of God to live well below his estate, though he is endowed with so much in his spiritman.

THE FACULTY OF MIND-RENEWED AND HEART-TRANSFORMED SOUL

Once the hard heart is broken and transformed through the systematic etching, impressing and engraving of the Omnipotence and Omniscience of God on the heart by the Holy Spirit, it becomes very easy for the soul to look up to the spiritman for it to function. It readily accepts those mental pictures, perceptions, pursuits that bear the nature of the spiritman.

The soul will no longer desire to look out for, nor seek to depend on the beguiling flesh. It becomes intensely focused on God and will ultimately secure and keep all the strengths and forces of the body and soul for God's purposes. There cannot be any achievement of the purposes of God in the life of a believer apart from an intimate and vital fellowship between the soul and the spirit

Accordingly, a believer which has attained a large measure of mind renewal will marvel at the capacity of his mind. He discovers that he is now severed from dull and insignificant activities, has an intensified thought concentration, sharper understanding, more precise judgments, farther insight, broader reasoning and hence speedier pace at work.

He can easily understand the thoughts of others and becomes more aware of the limitlessness of spiritual knowledge. He also develops the need to have an open mind to accept spiritual information, all prejudices, biases and opinions about the

workings of God is purged completely.

In addition to the above noble qualities, the believer with a transformed heart will also develop a deeper grasp of the eminence of God and a higher intensity of love for God. He persistently yearns more for the attainment of the prize of the high calling of God in Christ – which is the manifestation as sons of God. He is more discerning of the perils of sin that still lurks in the heart and is more eager to feel aversion towards it.

WILL SURRENDER

The great work of grace the Holy Spirit superintends in the life of the believer does not stop with mind renewal and heart transformation. He continues with the task to yet another level as He deploys another type of grace called the *sustaining grace*.

At this level, the will component of the soul is conformed or reconfigured so as to readily accept to execute whatever instructions the mind received from the spiritman during the quickening process and to continue executing those instructions long after the sublime encounter is gone and the soul is left to face the harsh realities of life.

YIELDED WILL

This grace is supplied to sustain the will so that the entire R-Q process is brought to full cycle. We should remember that the R-Q process is brought to physical reality through confessions and actions. A will that is not **broken** or **yielded** will not execute those confessions or actions if it deems it unpleasant or embarrassing. This yieldedness or surrender of the will to keep accepting to carry out the designs of the mind long after the excitement of quickening is over and even amidst contrary or adverse circumstances, is most times achieved by the Holy Spirit, with the cooperation of the believer, when the believer purposes to accept any providential act from the Holy Spirit, which may or may not be pleasant, as Paul did with 'the thorn in his flesh.'¹²

God's desire is to see the believer take pleasure only in His will whatever it is: sweet or bitter, gain or loss. Only those who are in harmony with God will truly comprehend God's heart. The only prayer on the lips of the surrendered believer is God's will, nothing more, nothing less, nothing else and at any cost.¹³ A surrendered will empties the soul of all flesh inspired efforts. At this point of will, surrendering the only thing left with the soul is the altruistic habit of trusting God completely which immediately ushers the believer into the fullness of God's plan. Someone said, 'we will go only as fast as our surrendered will take us.'

IN SUMMARY

Mind renewal is a process which eliminates the flesh from the soul. It entails the putting off of the old thinking patterns and perspectives while allowing only godly thoughts and imaginations to flourish.

Heart transformation, which is achieved through a continual etching, impressing and engraving of the almightiness of God on the heart, enables the soul to participate readily in the R-Q process.

The Holy Spirit also initiates the process of will surrendering which is very essential because it enables the soul to execute whatever it received during the R-Q process even if it seemed contrary or embarrassing. That is how the R-Q process is brought to a full productive end.

ENDNOTES

¹ Rm 6:11,2

² Ps119:9-11, Lk 1:74-75, Jn 17:15-17, Gal 5:17-25, 1Thess 4:3, Heb 2:11, 12:14,13:12

³ Pro 23:7

144 ■ *The Revelation of God's Love*

- ⁴ 2Cor 4:3-4
- ⁵ Eph 2:3
- ⁶ Mt 26:41, Mk 2:8, Phil 1:27, Eph 2:3
- ⁷ MT 14:17-19
- ⁸ Mt 14:24-27
- ⁹ Mk 6:52
- ¹⁰ Mt 16:16
- ¹¹ Mk 16:14
- ¹² 2Cor 12:7
- ¹³ Lk 22:42, Acts 21:14

CHAPTER

11



THE RESULT OF OVERCOMING THE HINDRANCES

LOVE . HUMILITY

In the light of the preceding insights, one can easily see that the conquest of sin in the soul cannot be through adherence to codes and rules – ‘touch not, handle not’.¹ These rules may have a semblance of spirituality but it often woefully fails to deliver from sensual indulgencies like jealousy, bitterness, deceitfulness, quarrelsomeness, lust, etc. *For by the works of the law no man shall be saved.*²

Rather, sin is dislodged from the soul by any transaction that diminishes the flourishing of the flesh in the soul. Sin is often dealt a death blow through whatever will deter the soul from wrapping around itself in self-centeredness. Self or ‘I’ is the great curse of the soul in relation to God and fellow men. It behaves as a gangster harrying the soul into thinking only of itself and seeking to fulfill only its own sensual passion.

LOVE

Love is the multi-efficient ammunition that reduces the

influence of the flesh on the soul. Nobody will get it wrong when one decides to live a life of love because love meets all of God's righteous demands. To live a life of love is to walk away from the flesh and to walk in the Spirit-that is, when the R-Q encounter is most preponderant. '*Love*', Paul said, *does no wrong to others, so love fulfills the requirements of God's law.*⁴

The true 'labour' is not to struggle to be righteous; it is to live a life of **Love** and **Humility**. The '*narrow gate*'³ is actually the highway of love. Only in the practice of love is the 'I' constrained. *For the love of Christ constraineth us...*⁵ That is the course of action through which the soul is successfully checked from lapsing back into the flesh.

When we walk in love, we will no longer work in self-centeredness. Works of the flesh have its root in self-centeredness. Hence, whenever the believer lives a lifestyle of love, he denies the flesh, which is the direct antithesis of love from manifesting. Walking in love denies the flesh and its benefactor, the devil, access to reign in our lives.

The flesh thrives in the outpouring of the corrupted 'I'. That is why it manifests in self-love, self-adulation, self-exaltation, self-aggrandizement, etc. When it could not express itself through those vices, it descends into self-pity, self-condemnation, self-flagellation, etc.

But with the advent of love in the soul, the disorderly state of the soul subsides and the soul begins to regain its orderly pattern. The different constituents that aggregate to make up the whole complex totality of the soul, undertake to return to their respective sphere of influence allotted for each.

Peace thereafter emerges in the soul. The corrupted 'I' recedes in influence and the healthy self-consciousness re-appears. The soul commences to recognize its limitations - its original design to be dependent on God and give Him a pre-eminent place. It also recognizes its interdependence and co-habitation with others.

THE PROOF OF REAL LOVE

The soul thereafter embarks on the wholesome habit of granting

the same psychological space with others, thereby, avoiding many conflicts, contentions, and therefore needless pains. No longer will there be the need to trample on others. It imposes on itself the needful, which is to be controlled and subjected to the demands for cooperation and co-existence with others.

Therefore, the conquest of the flesh is much more than simplistic abstinences. The real proof that one has conquered the flesh is to walk in love with oneself, after all, we can love others to the extent where we love our real selves.⁶ Also, we must love the Lord⁷ and finally walk in love with others. For the commandment we received is that, he who loves God must love his brother also.⁸

To walk in love with oneself is to wish oneself well, despite one's many apparent failings. When we love others, we are kind, considerate and forbearing. We exhibit a deliberate attitude of goodwill and devotion towards them. As we purpose to love the Lord, we should believe in Him: all He says He is and can do and live in the salutary fear of Him.

This kind of love we are discussing is not driven by any sensual feeling because the soul is now freed from the carnal nature. This means that the soul is freed from any self-centered encumbrances in the mind. Thus, the will is directed a right to enforce the correct choices. Unfailingly, joy and peace is the abiding result. These two virtues in turn create a nestling environment for believe and faith to thrive and flourish in the soul.⁹ Strong belief and appropriate level of godly desire, which is midwifed and shaped by love, will always yield the much to be desired R-Q process encounter.

HUMILITY

Humility is the permanent state of the truly spiritual soul. While love is equipped to conquer the flesh, humility is the mode the soul will be in when the flesh therein has been subdued. The loving heart is also the humble heart. The humble soul has learnt the virtue of keeping oneself within reasonable bounds and does

not over-reach oneself in things above one. He has accepted the created order to wit, that man was made to be subject to God's laws which is the opposite of 'lawlessness' that John the apostle calls 'sin'.

Whoever commits sin also commits lawlessness, and sin is lawlessness ... 1 John 3:4-5 (NKJV).

The soul also recognizes its deficiencies and its complete need of God to survive and succeed. The acceptance of who we are does not diminish us, instead, it grants us an innate self-worth. It is not the deprecating of one's self but the appreciating of the gift of God that made up for our defects. With all these realizations, the soul will certainly develop harmony with itself and with others -the wholesome habit that leads to a life of continuous gratitude.

When you meet a truly humble soul, he is not uncouth and a put-off, always reminding you that he is a nobody. He clearly will be cheerful, self-aware and seem to enjoy life because he does not think about himself at all. 'Humility', says C.S. Lewis, 'is not thinking less of yourselves but thinking of yourselves less.' Humility is not about debasing oneself but possessing the deposition of being indifferent about being praised or dispraised. On the contrary, false humility puts down one's self: gifts, talents, accomplishment etc. for the sake of receiving praise and adulation from others.

THE WORK OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

The essential work of the Holy Spirit in the believer is to make him humble, that is to help the believer '*set apart Christ as Lord in his heart.*'¹⁰ The whole riotous world of the carnal soul, with its unrelated motives and concerns has to be brought to focus on a single goal: dependence on God. Dependence on God is the absolute definition of true humility.

Humility develops in the soul that is stripped off the flesh due the prior decision of the believer to live a life of love, which

in other words is actually a life, lived to enforce the scripture in one's life. When humility crops up in the soul, the soul sees itself as it truly is - having nothing. The scripture says that God blesses those who are poor (unassuming) and realize their need for Him.¹¹ The soul will long to be attached to the spiritman from whom it intends to get all of God. This is the state of total dependence for the soul which is what God intended in Adam.

One sure sign that humility is firmly resident in a soul is the ease with which it manifests prompt obedience. The hinge upon which the New Testament grace by which we received the gift of righteousness revolves is obedience. In the Old Testament period, the practice of righteousness is based on the adherence to the written code but in the New Testament times, is based on obedience per time and circumstance as the believer is led by the Holy Spirit. Any time the believer fails to obey, he falls away from grace and he will no longer be able to operate in righteousness which will prohibit his being able to attract the R-Q encounter.

IN SUMMARY

Love is the multi-efficient ammunition that renders the flesh inoperative, thereby, increasing the frequency of the R-Q process occurrence.

Love accomplishes this by encouraging the soul to make God – centered choices. Such type of choices causes joy and peace to emerge in the soul. A soul filled with joy and peace believes with ease.

A believing soul full of strong desires that were moulded by love will ultimately lead the soul to be engulfed with R-Q flame.

Humility is the state in which the soul that was stripped off the flesh dwells in. A humble soul is therefore a God-dependent entity.

The above fact means that the humble soul will readily confer with the spiritman. This is the right soil for the R-Q process to germinate.

ENDNOTES

- ¹ Col 2:21
- ² Gal 2:16
- ³ Mt 7:14
- ⁴ Rm 13:10 NLT]
- ⁵ 2Cor 5:14
- ⁶ Mt 22:39
- ⁷ Mt 22:36-39
- ⁸ 1Jn 4:21
- ⁹ Rom 15:13
- ¹⁰ 1Pet 3:15 NIV,1984 edition
- ¹¹ Matt 5:3

EPILOGUE



THE DOCTRINE OF ETERNAL SECURITY (CAN A CHILD OF GOD LOSE HIS SALVATION?)

I chose to include this epilogue in this book because of the prevailing thinking which affirms that since the spiritman was created perfect, complete and sinless and cannot be defiled, the believer possessing such spirit cannot go to hell when he dies irrespective of what he did in his body because the body will perish while the spirit will go back to its maker. Though I do not pretend to know all the answer I would nevertheless make an attempt and throw in some light. I think the best way to take on this repeatedly occurring subject is to critic the strong points raised by those who believe in 'once saved always saved' (OSAS).

THE PROPOSITIONS OF OSAS

They propose and rightly so that those that believed in Jesus shall obtain eternal life¹ so salvation is eternal. Jesus gives eternal life and no one can snatch God's child out of the hands of Jesus;² The forgiveness of sins through Christ is enough to cover all our sins - past, present and future; There is nothing the believer will do that God cannot forgive.³

Unless we are living in denial, they assert, every believer sins

now and then before and after being saved because we are sinful by nature.⁴ It is arrogance to think that one cannot sin as a believer.⁵ If the doctrine of eternal salvation is not true, those sins the believers commit now and then will land them in hell. Otherwise, how much sin is too much sin? Who has the yardstick to measure the sin that is enough to send people to hell?

NO MAN SHALL BE SAVED BY WORKS

Were it not for the doctrine of eternal security, the believer shall be alternating between being saved and being condemned by the game of Russia roulette and he will not be sure he is saved. In Ephesians 2:8-9, Paul tells us clearly that our good deeds will not earn us a place in heaven and if eternal security is not true, then by necessity, the believer is once saved by his faith and his works in tow. Then, making it to heaven will be based on good works, which means that good works is part of the condition for our salvation, which is contrary to the Scripture. The doctrine of eternal security therefore is consistent with the doctrine of saved by faith alone.

Lastly, Jesus set the bar of holiness too high that no man, no believer could live up to it because of our mortality. Just as the law of Moses was meant, in part, to demonstrate to Israel how impossible it was for mortal man to obtain to the moral perfection of God. Because of this weakness of our mortality, God made a way through the forgiveness of our sins.

IT'S OUR CHOICE AFTERALL

I took time to elaborate the claims of those that believe in eternal security with their corresponding scriptures so that I do not fall into the common but odious habit of judging people without comprehensively hearing them out. For a start, it is true that God foreordained our salvation.⁶ That is, we are called according to His predetermined purpose.⁷ Our salvation therefore did not depend on our abilities but on God's ability to carry out His

pre-determined purposes. However, in spite of this foreordained plan of God, we must still at some point decide to yield. That is, we chose to accept His offer of salvation. It is very pertinent to remember that God does not interfere with people's will.

STRIVING TO THE END

So, at a glance, it may look like one may not lose his salvation since salvation is a gift that is not based on merits. It was not worked for.⁸ Also, the scripture made it clear that God is always willing to forgive us if we genuinely repent⁹ but if we take cognizance of the many scriptures which clearly state that the believer should *strive to the end*,¹⁰ which is the ultimate outcome of consistently making the right choices – that in turn is determined by the state of our minds - then we shall certainly conclude that salvation could be lost.

IT IS THE SOUL THAT SINS

Perhaps, the whole confusion will be cleared if we note that our spiritman is perfect and cannot sin - there is nothing like sin committed in the spiritman. The scripture in 2Cor7:1 was referring to sins committed by our non-corporeal soul or the heart precisely, as previously explained. Our spirit cannot sin; it lays way below and far deeper than our conscious will, command or influence for it to make our spiritman to sin.

All sins are committed in the soul which also negatively impacts the body. *The soul that sin shall die*.¹¹ It is also the soul that prospers.¹² The new creation is only in the spirit, the soul still bears scars left on it by the activities of the sinful nature. The believer may fail to yield his members to the sanctifying work of the Holy Spirit. He may consistently choose to constantly allow the sin nature to have its way in his life.

THE SPIRIT LEAVES THE BODY WITH ITS SOUL

When the body dies, the spirit leaves with its soul - its mate while on earth. However, the soul still retains its consciousness.

The proof of this is the story of Lazarus and the Richman. Another example is that of those that underwent 'out of body experience' (OBE). They reported that their consciousness was intact and when they re-entered their body, they still carried on, they did not lose their bearing or their sense of self-consciousness. Their spirit simply returned with their soul. Their soul did not die with the body. That is also why God could effectively punish someone by promising to deal heavily with his children long after the person has died.¹⁶ This is effectual because the person, wherever he is, still retains the consciousness of goings on in the earth. The cloud of witnesses is the spirits and souls of departed saints.¹⁷

GOOD WORKS IS THE FALL OUT OF JUSTIFICATION

The same act of grace¹³ that secured our justification also at same time secures our sanctification. Thus, the divine idea of justification does not lead to licentiousness.¹⁴ Good works while not being the ground for justification is the result of justification.¹⁵ For emphasis, holiness is not the cause of our being justified but it is the fall out. Just as heat is not the cause of light in the sunshine but the consequence of the sunshine.

The summary of the full benefits of justification is gifting the believer a recreated sinless human spirit because of the believer's changed status as a carrier of the righteousness of God. Therefore, at judgment, the believer will not be approved for what he got as a gift. Rather, the spirit will be judged based on the activities of its soul -its mate while on earth. Every spirit bears its own soul, it is the soul that determines the destiny of the spirit. Actually, it is the heart of the soul that is judged because it's the part that exercises free will.

THE SPIRIT WILL BE DE-QUICKENED

It should not astound anybody that a spirit endowed with so much godly qualities and constitution will be consigned to hell. Lucifer, who later became the devil and Satan, was described in the scripture with words beyond human imagination. He

was created perfect in beauty, yet, he was sentenced to hell for his gross impudence and presumption,¹⁸ the disobedient angels were not spared either. The angels that fell and those that are in God's good books were made of the same stuff. They were called the 'sons of God.'¹⁹

Therefore, God has demonstrated beyond any doubt that any of His creatures can go to hell. He is no respecter of persons. We are part of His entire creation after all. Even our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ, while He became sin, also tasted hell, howbeit temporarily, to free the captives. However, I propose that before the recreated human spirit lands in hell, it would be de-quickenened, it would be stripped off its logos content - after all, He that quickened in a jiffy can also de-quicken in a flash.

This is in harmony with the universal principle of 'reverse motion.' When an endeavour or goal is aborted, the entire process that was initiated or deployed to actualize the endeavour will be reversed. Thus, if the ultimate goal for redeeming and quickening the believer's spiritman is for it to spend eternity in God's presence, when that purpose fails, the entire quickening process will be reversed.

YEARN FOR A MESSIAH

In the Bible, God repeatedly applied that principle. He established Israel and the temple worship for the purpose of spreading the fragrance of His knowledge to all nations. This project failed as the people of Israel went deep into idol worship even profaning the temple. God aborted the entire project by sanctioning the destruction of the magnificent temple and the deportation of the entire nation of Israel.

As a corollary to the above, the redeemed spiritman was gifted the believer for the main purpose of enabling the soul to be perfected through the sanctification process. So, if the soul fails to be sanctified, the purpose is defeated. Therefore, the quickened spiritman will have to be dequickenened in turn.

Finally, the high standard of the New Testament holiness is not meant for us to see our weakness and thereafter hope that

we shall be forgiven when we fall. Rather, it is for us to see the need for the Holy Spirit, who was graciously and generously gifted to us, and therefore, look up to and depend on Him. The believer should no longer look to depend on himself.

It was for same reason that God gave the Law, so that it will lead the Israelites to yearn for a Messiah whenever they consider their repeated failings to keep up with the requirements of the law through their strength. So, any believer who ignores all the nudging and warnings from the Holy Spirit and continues with a life of sin and disobedience in his soul will definitely go to hell!

PERSONAL HOLINESS

In conclusion, it is extremely very important that the believer maintains a life of personal holiness. A lifestyle of holiness gives solid evidence that we have a saving faith in the Lord Jesus and that we are true children of God. Even more pertinently, it is what guarantees the believer's ability to operate in righteousness and exploit the full benefits of justification.

This is so because holy living reduces the dominance of the sin nature in the soul and thereby increases the likelihood for the soul to experience the Revelation-Quickening encounter. It is the unraveling of the R-Q process that yields the full manifestation and realization of God's over-reaching love for His children. This enormous outpouring of love was initiated when He gifted the believer with a recreated spiritman, endowed with every divine potential!

ENDNOTES

¹ Jon 3:16

² Jon 10:28-30

³ Rom 8:38-39, Eph 4:30, Jude 24

- 4 Rom 3:10
- 5 Jam 2:10
- 6 Eph 2:10
- 7 2Thes 2:13-14, 2Tim 1:9, Eph 1:35, 11
- 8 Eph 2:8, 2Tim 1:9
- 9 1Jon 1:9, Rm 3:24-26
- 10 Mt 24:13, Heb 3:12, 14; 10:26-30, Gal 5:19-21, Eph 5:1-5, Col 1:20-
23, Eph 4:30, 1Thess 5:19, Heb 6:4-8
- 11 Eze 18:4, 20;
- 12 3 Jn 2;
- 13 Eph 2:8, Rom. 3:24-25, 4:20-22
- 14 Rom. 6:1-7
- 15 Rom 6:14-7:6
- 16 1Kg 21:17-29, 2Kg 20:16-19
- 17 Heb 12:1, 23
- 18 Eze 28:12-19, Isa 14:12-19
- 19 Job 1:6, 38:7, Gen 6:2
- 19 Gen 24:1
- 21 Isa 41:8, Rm 4:11-12
- 22 Ecc 10:10
- 23 Mt 5:16
- 24 Tit 2:5, Rm 2:18-24
- 25 Rev 21:10-27