

THE CHARACTER LIFE

Dominating The Flesh: The Make Up Of Man

Foundation Statement: To dominate the flesh we have to understand that we are not the flesh, the soul, or the body. We are spirit beings who are supposed to dominate the soul and body-Romans 7:23

I. The battle to dominate the flesh (Romans 7:14-8:5)

- A. 14-Carnal-He's fleshy and governed by his unrenewed nature
 - 1. In other words his body has been trained to do and desire things by his unrenewed mind and even though he's saved his life is still being governed by what that unrenewed mind has trained his body to do
 - 2. To be carnal is to be born again, but controlled by a mind not renewed
- B. 17,20-It's not him, the spirit, that is sinning
 - 1. It's the sin that remains in his soul; his way of thinking, choosing, & his way of feeling
 - a. The sin is not remaining in his spirit, he's born again
 - b. There's no sin in his physical body
 - 2. 14-AMP-Sin's controlling him through his unrenewed soul that has trained his body
- C. 18-In his flesh dwells no good thing
 - 1. Flesh-Human nature of man apart from divine influence or the unrenewed nature
 - 2. There's no good in the part of him that God hasn't had influence on yet (his soul)
- D. 21-The part of him that wants to do right is his spirit
 - 1. Evil is still present in his soul, his mind, will, and emotions; his unrenewed nature
 - 2. We can see one of the main ways already to dominate the flesh is get that unrenewed part of you renewed to the Word of God
- E. 22-When you spirit gets fed the word of God it delights
 - 1. AMP-My new nature (my spirit) delights in the word of God
- F. 23-His flesh is dominating his spirit & he can't do the things his spirit wants & his mind knows is right
 - 1. The law in his members – That law is working in his body through what his unrenewed mind has trained it to do
 - a. The law is working 1st in his soul, but through his soul the same law works in his body
 - b. His body has been trained to do certain things, by his unrenewed mind
 - c. That law is working in his body through what his unrenewed mind trained it to do
 - d. That law is working in that unrenewed soul and through the unrenewed soul it's working in his body or dictating what his body does

- e. It's not his body's fault, that's just how it was trained
- 2. That law that is working in his unrenewed soul and in his body is attacking what he knows is right in his mind
- 3. Bringing me into captivity – His spirit cannot do the things that it wants to do
 - a. His spirit is in bondage to what his flesh/unrenewed nature wants to do
 - b. Galatians 5:17 – The part of you that hasn't been influenced by God (the unrenewed soul) is going to desire against the part of you that has been influenced by God (the reborn spirit).
 - 1) Your spirit got born again so it is delighting in the Word of God and desiring to do what the Word says to do. Your soul hasn't yet been renewed so it's wanting to do what it's always done. The two are desire against one another.
- 4. His life is being governed by his unrenewed soul/nature and his spirit can't do the things that it wants to do
 - a. That unrenewed nature (the flesh) is dominating his spirit

G. The flesh is not as much the body as it is what the body has been trained to do by the unrenewed mind.
The flesh is your unrenewed mind and poorly trained body.

- 1. In the sense that now your body desires certain things, wants certain things, and does certain things because it was trained to do so through a way of thinking that wasn't in line with the Word
- 2. Naturally when the body is used to doing things a certain way and then you (the spirit) decide we're not doing it like that any more it can be uncomfortable for the body because it's used to doing things a certain way
 - a. Often times in those situations the desire of your body dominates what your spirit has decided to do & u do what the body wants rather than what the spirit wants

II. To dominate the flesh you must understand the make-up of man (1 Thessalonians 5:23)

- A. You are a spirit being
 - 1. Jn3:6-You can't be born of a spirit & come out flesh or born of flesh & come out spirit
 - a. When God wanted a flesh body to operate in the Earth, God (Spirit) needed Mary (Flesh) to give birth to Jesus (Flesh)
 - 2. John 4:24 – God is a spirit
 - a. 1 John 5:1 – If you believe that Jesus is the Christ, then you are born of God, who is a spirit, and that makes you a spirit-being
 - b. Acts 17:29 – My flesh sprung off of my natural parents, b/c that which is flesh is born of flesh, but my spirit sprung off of God b/c that which is born of spirit is spirit
 - 3. 2 Cor 5:17-When you got born-again your spirit is the part of you that became knew
 - a. Ephesians 4:24 – It as created in God's image

4. Your spirit being is the part of you that will exist forever
 - a. Your spirit is more real than your body; it's the real you

B. You (the spirit) have a soul

1. Your soul consists of your mind, will, and emotions; **Soul** (Psyche)-Mind, will, emotions; the seat of the feelings, desires, affections, aversion
 - a. Your mind is the way you think
 - b. Your will the choices you make
 - c. Your emotions how you feel
2. Your soul is not the same as your spirit (Hebrews 4:12)
 - a. NOR-The Word penetrates deeply making a distinction between the soul and spirit
3. Our understanding part of our soul (1 Corinthians 14:14)
 - a. My spirit prays, but my mind is unproductive

C. You (the spirit) live in a body

1. You're body is the suit that clothes your spirit
 - a. Your body is the suit through which you operate (Romans 6:13,19)
2. Your body is not you (Romans 12:1 – You present your bodies; Philippians 1:21-24 – I abide in my flesh; 1 Corinthians 9:27 – I buffet my body)

III. 1 of the main reasons we haven't dominated the flesh is b/c we haven't lived the revelation that I am a spirit-being, I (the spirit) have a soul, I (the spirit) live in a body

- A. My life is to be run off of the revelation (knowledge) that the Holy Spirit gives to my spirit, my spirit then tells my soul how to think, feel, and decide, my soul (mind) then tells my body what to do
- B. The day that I got born again was the day that my life stopped being run by my soul and body and started being run by my spirit (1 Thessalonians 4:4 AMP)
 1. Neither the body nor the soul is in charge in more; I (the spirit being) is in charge of my soul and my body
 - a. I (the spirit) don't take suggestions nor do I take commands from the soul or body
 - b. The chain of command is Spirit first, soul second, body last
 2. I (the spirit) under the leading of the Holy Spirit take command over my body, by taking command over my soul (mind, will, and emotions)
 - a. Whoever takes control of the soul (your spirit or your unrenewed nature) will control the body
 - b. It's not supposed to be that you know what's right in your head, but your unrenewed soul has taken over your body and it's telling your spirit what you're going to do
 3. I, the spirit (if I'm fed on the word) can tell my mind what to think & my body what to do

- a. If I (the spirit) will be diligent to stay after my soul and body I (the spirit) can train them in line with the revelation knowledge that the Holy Spirit is giving to me
 - 1) I (the spirit) is the personal trainer of my soul and body
 - b. Psalm 103-David is speaking to his soul and I (the spirit me) can do the same thing
 - c. James 3:2 – If you can control your mouth you can control your body
- C. When you don't see yourself as a spirit being who's in charge of your soul and body you won't dominate your flesh because you think you are your flesh
- 1. EX: A general won't be in charge of the privates if he thinks he's a private
 - 2. I don't have to do what this body wants
 - a. Make the distinction between your desires (the spirit) and the desires of the unrenewed soul and the wrongly trained body
 - 3. Me is the spirit me is not the body; me the spirit is going to train the soul and body
- D. The question is, "Who's in control? You or your body/unrenewed nature?"
- 1. If you don't control your body it will run you