

## THE CHAMPION SPIRIT

### Identifying The Problem

**Foundation Statement:** Callings are missed, assignments are not completed, and battles are lost as a result of people giving into their flesh; marriages fail, families are destroyed, people struggle financially, and stay sick instead of receiving their healing b/c people give into the flesh. The remedy for continuing to yield to the flesh is a strong spirit.

#### I. Galatians 5:16-Walk in the spirit and not in the flesh

- A. John 6:63-What does it mean to walk in the Spirit?-To walk in the spirit means that you conduct your life in a way that agrees with the word of God
  - 1. You might have feelings and thoughts that oppose the word, but a person who walks in the spirit will conduct their life based on what the Word says in spite of those thoughts and feelings
  - 2. A walk in the flesh is a walk that's in opposition to the Word of God
    - a. God says love and you don't; God says judge not and you judge; God says tithe and you don't; God says believe and you yield to unbelief; that's the flesh
    - b. A person who walks in the flesh is constantly yielding to their feelings
  - 3. Philippians 3:14-19-Walking in the flesh reveals that your god is your feelings b/c you don't do what the Master says, but you've crowned your feelings master and do what they say
    - a. 15-Spiritually Mature believers conduct their life based on the word not feelings
    - b. 16-Conduct your life based on the Word you know, not by your feelings
    - c. 19-People who live like that are doomed
- B. John 6:63-There is no profit and nothing to be gained by yielding to the flesh and living a life that opposes the Word of God
  - 1. Your victory, your safety, your life, your inheritance, and all that God has for you will be obtained only in this walk in the spirit
    - a. Destruction awaits the person who will get in the flesh and disagree with the Word
    - b. Destruction is waiting for you in the flesh
  - 2. When you begin to walk in the flesh and oppose God's word you:
    - a. Deuteronomy 28-When a redeemed person yields to the flesh they welcome the very curse that they've been redeemed from

- b. Psalm 91:4-Grant Satan access into your life
  - 1) Ephesians 4:26-27-If you yield to your feelings/flesh, you give Satan place
- c. 1 John 5:4-You can't experience victory
  - 1) I'm healed b/c the word says it-That's walking in the spirit

## II. Locating the problem---After hearing that why would you give into the flesh?

- A. Evidence that your spirit is weak is that you keep giving into the flesh-Ezekiel 16:26-30
  - 1. 1-14-That's his plan for those who walk in the spirit
  - 2. 26-Appealing to the feelings was their worship
  - 3. 27-This lack and defeat didn't show up until they got in the flesh
  - 4. 28-They are doing these things b/c their inner man is weak
- B. When a person is constantly being moved in a direction that opposes the Word of God, because of their feelings, it is a clear sign that their spirit is weak (check spirit light)
  - 1. When you find yourself giving into the flesh that's a sign your spirit is weak and now you need to take the steps necessary to strengthen it
    - a. The picture of Christianity to most people is that we are weak vessels who are weak all the time and pray and ask god for strength; but Paul said my inner man gets stronger and stronger everyday and the weak say I'm strong
  - 2. When a person is constantly agreeing with the Word and choosing the Word in spite of their feelings it's a clear sign that their spirit is strong-Heb 4:15, Acts 20:23-24, 16:25
- C. Not being able to control your thoughts and emotions is a sign of weakness-Col 1:12
  - 1. Matt 26:53-Strength is a man who had the power to call 80,000 angels down and anytime and stop this how thing and didn't do it because his spirit was in control
  - 2. The ability to control "self" begins with controlling your thoughts and feelings and that cannot happen if your spirit is weak
  - 3. True will power is not the power of the will, but the power to control the will and the power to control your will resides in your spirit man
- D. 2 Corinthians 5:7-Walking by faith is agreeing with the Word and walking in the spirit
  - 1. There's something bigger in me than my feelings it's my spirit
  - 2. I conduct my life based on my faith in what God said (agreeing), not how I feel

## III. The Battle that must be won: Spirit vs. Flesh-What happens at this battle Spirit vs. Flesh determines who wins the war you or Satan

- A. When you got born again your spirit is made new and wants to do right-2 Cor 5:17
  - 1. Your spirit has been **recreated**, your mind has to be **renewed**, and your body has to be **retrained**
    - a. **Flesh**-Human nature of man apart from divine influenced; the unrenewed nature
    - b. When you got born again your thoughts and habits are still the same

2. Galatians 5:17-There's this part of you that has been influenced by God and then there's this other part that hasn't and they want two different things
  3. Matt 26:41-Jesus identifies the problem as the weakness of the flesh, not the devil
    - a. Prov 18:14-It's your spirit's job to support the weakness of your flesh and if you are giving into the flesh the problem is a weak spirit that can't rule over the flesh
    - b. It's the job of your spirit to make the flesh do what it doesn't want to do
- B. Inside your tri-part being there is a spiritual hierarchy
1. My Spirit is supposed to get the command from the Word of God/The Holy Spirit and tell my mind what to think and my body what to do
    - a. The life of man was never meant to be governed by his flesh/feelings/senses
    - b. We're not going to act based on how you (soul) feel, but based on what I (spirit) get from the Word of God and the Holy Spirit
  2. The reality is if those two (soul and body) govern your life, defeat is inevitable
    - a. 2 Cor 10:5-If a thought arises in your mind this is how you (spirit) deal with it
      - 1) The strengthening of the spirit triggers the renewing of the mind
    - b. 1 Cor 9:27-If habits or desires rise up in your body this is how you (spirit) deal with it
  3. Proverbs 16:32-He that rules his spirit is better than he that takes a city
    - a. **Spirit**-Agitation, temper, anger, impatience, disposition (as troubled, bitter, discontented), uncontrollable impulse, (as seat of emotion), desire, sorrow, trouble, the will
    - b. We're trying to take a city, a nation and can't even control our minds and bodies
  4. The enemy wants to keep your spirit under because if your spirit ever rises up in the grace of a Champion and begins to rule your mind and body all hope for him is gone-Galatians 5:18, Romans 7:24
    - a. Satan can't do much with a man who won't yield to the flesh & oppose the Word
- C. You can trace every defeat back to a weak spirit-Proverbs 24:10
1. There comes a moment in every battle that is going to determine whether or not you win or lose
  2. The enemy preys on the senses the realm through the mind and body
    - a. If your spirit isn't strong enough to win the battle in the mind you will lose
    - b. You don't fight with the mind, you fight in the mind with your spirit
    - c. The reason you came out of faith and didn't believe the Word is because your senses told you it wasn't working and your spirit didn't rise up and oppose that
    - d. Psalm 103, Psalm 23
  3. This is how you walk in the spirit-Romans 8:5
    - a. Where your mind goes your body will follow