

Body of Man

And the Lord said, My spirit shall not always strive with man, for that he also is flesh: yet his days shall be an hundred and twenty years. Genesis 6:3

Purpose: Temple of God, Earthen Vessel

God made all the creatures of the air, land, water, and man from the dust of the earth. He made the animals to give habitation to the planet just as He dressed it with vegetation. God put His Spirit within man and breathed a soul into the body He had formed giving him a conscience. This is the creation of man before the following generations were born of the flesh.

In the conception of man, we have two components: Adam and Christ. Adam is our soul, and Christ our spirit. *And so it is written, the first Adam was made a living soul; the last Adam was made a quickening spirit.* 1 Corinthians 15:45 We are from the seed of Adam, and his sin is upon man throughout all generations as we are born with a sin nature and into a sin environment. Man does not choose to be born of flesh, but we do choose to be born of the spirit in Christ.

God designed the body of man for two purposes; first, to be the home of the spirit person we are in His likeness; and second, to be His temple on earth, a vessel for the accomplishment of His Kingdom work through our physical presence. *But the Lord said unto him, Go thy way: for he is a chosen vessel unto me, to bear my name before the Gentiles, and kings, and the children of Israel.* Acts 9:15 Whether in the Old or New Testaments, God has His chosen people to be vessels for the fulfillment of His plan. Today, those in Christ who are faithful to His Word are His people.

We accept being born-again as adding another dimension to life which is salvation. When we make the transition from sinner to saint, we agree with Christ that our body becomes the temple of the Holy Spirit just as a brick and mortar house is a tangible place of residency. *Know ye not that ye are the temple of God, and that the Spirit of God dwelleth in you? If any man defile the temple of God, him shall God destroy; for the temple of God is holy, which temple ye are.* 1 Corinthians 3:16-17 We are responsible for the wellbeing of the temple.

Our spirit and soul coexist within the framework of our body with only one in charge, and it should always be the spirit of man guided by the Spirit of Truth. *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.* Romans 12:1 Before Christ, the temple of God was

a geographic landmark, a location with an altar that only the appointed priest could enter. In Christ, we are the temple. *That every one of you should know how to possess his vessel in sanctification and honour.* Thessalonians 4:4

The flesh cannot perform independently. It makes no decision and has no opinion but requires direction from either the soul, or the spirit. *For I know that in me (that is, in my flesh), dwelleth no good thing: for to will is present with me; but how to perform that which is good I find not. For the good that I would I do not: but the evil which I would not, that I do. Now if I do that I would not, it is no more I that do it, but sin that dwelt in me.* Romans 7:18-20 *Whichever leads, the body will oblige. I thank God through Jesus Christ our Lord. So then with the mind I myself serve the law of God; but with the flesh the law of sin.* Romans 7:18-20 Commonly, we rely on the senses and the body will respond and express through our thoughts and emotions.

We are on earth for a season and a reason, a time and a purpose. When we fail to realize the significance of presenting our body as God's vessel, we can miss our opportunity in servitude to His Kingdom. *If a man therefore purge himself from these, he shall be a vessel unto honor, sanctified, and meet for the master's use, and prepared unto every good work.* 2 Timothy 2:21

God has a plan for everyone's life whether we live it or not, for it has been established at the foundation. We see only the forgiveness of sins and salvation without pursuance of the duty we have when we ask to be reborn in spirit. *Wherefore come out from among them, and be ye separate, saith the Lord, and touch not the unclean thing; and I will receive you. And will be a Father unto you, and ye shall be my sons and daughters, saith the Lord Almighty.* 2 Corinthians 6:17-18 God has done His part, and now we have a role in the relationship that reunites us to the Kingdom of Heaven.

We should live believing in the things we do not see to be more real than what our senses tell us for truth and power is in the spirit, not in the visible. *For the invisible things of him from the creation of the world are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even his eternal power and Godhead; so that they are without excuse: Because that, when they knew God, they glorified him not as God, neither were thankful; but became vain in their imaginations, and their foolish heart was darkened. Professing themselves to be wise, they became fools, And changed the glory of the uncorruptible God into an image made like to corruptible man, and to birds, and fourfooted beasts, and creeping things. Wherefore God also gave them up to uncleanness through the lusts of their own hearts, to dishonour their own bodies between themselves: Who changed the truth of God into a lie, and worshipped and served the creature more than the Creator; who is blessed for ever. Amen.* Romans 1:20-25

Needs, wants, and desires have already been met for those who walk in stewardship to God's Kingdom. There is nothing we cannot ask that our Father has not already provided. *Therefore I say unto you, Take no thought for your life, what ye shall eat, or what ye shall drink; nor yet for your body, what ye shall put on. Is not the life more than meat, and the body than raiment?* Matthew 6:25 As the Father has supplied, we must petition in wisdom and have faith to receive.

Our desire should be to live a life in Christ whereby all things are sufficient for all we do in His name, for there is no greater achievement than to succeed in God's plan. There will come a time when we will stand before Christ to give account of our earthen work and surely we want to hear Him say, "Well done, my child."

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For: Spirit Strong Living

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