

The Nature of Man by David Cartledge



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BY DAVID CARTLEDGE

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ABOUT THE AUTHOR

David Cartledge

29th Sept 1940 – 24 Oct 2005

David Cartledge gave his life to the Lord at the age of 15 and three years later God called him to the ministry. He went to an Australian Bible College a year later (as a 19 year old) and graduated three years later. The following year he was married to Marie who stayed at his side, often sharing in the ministry work throughout his life.

For the first two years of his ministry David was an assistant pastor in Hobart, Tasmania. Then, in the following four years, David and Marie planted a Church in the relatively small country town of Devonport (also in Tasmania). After this, David pastored a Church in another small country town, Lithgow (in New South Wales).

In 1970, at the age of 30, David was called to pastor a Church in the growing city of Townsville (Queensland). In the 18 years he was there, the church saw incredible growth. David embraced the charismatic renewal, and the church was in revival! The meetings would go on until all hours of the night. At these meetings people were touched, miracles occurred and the church exploded.

As the church grew, David decided the church needed to buy land to build a larger facility so he purchased 92 acres of land on the outskirts of the city. On this property he started a Bible school and a Christian school, the first to be started by his Church denomination in Australia.

At the age of 37, David became a member of the Australian National Executive of his Church denomination and held a leadership position in this movement for 26 years.

As a leader within his Church movement, David's strategy was church planting. His determined, faith filled and systematic approach to implementing this strategy resulted in many churches being planted, initially in the state of Queensland, and then, partly as a result of his example and influence, at a national level throughout Australia.

At the age of 48, after growing the Townsville church from a few dozen to well over 1,000 people, and seeing through the building of a large auditorium, Bible College, and Christian School, David and Marie moved from Townsville to start a church with a small group of local people on the Gold Coast. Moving from such a large church (in Townsville) to start a new church would have been hard for someone who had "broken through" and overcome enormous challenges, but because God had spoken to him, he moved. It wasn't long before he had established a church on a main road close to Surface Paradise and saw it grow rapidly.

At the age of 53, the National Executive of David's Church movement asked him to become the President of the national Bible College just outside Sydney. He accepted and remained in that position for nine years. In that time he instituted many changes and improvements. He moved the College from Katoomba in the Blue Mountains to Chester Hill, much closer to the centre of Sydney. This move involved the miraculous purchase of a former large, Australian Defence Services property.

At the age of 62 David began travelling the world, inspiring churches to move into the prophetic and apostolic realm and went to be with the Lord a few years later. He had given his all and he left a legacy of a life of devotion and service to God. His wife Marie continues to serve the Lord and is a wonderful example of a mother and grandmother for the family she and David raised together as they served in ministry.



"Our movement has been deeply impacted by David Cartledge. He is truly one of our greats. What David believed in, he believed in 100 per cent. Whatever he did, he did 100 per cent. He spoke fervently about faith, and lived so fervent by faith."

Brian Houston, Hillsong, Australia

INTRODUCTION

This subject is far from being irrelevant – rather it is essential to the proper understanding of a number of other extremely important subjects. Ie. The Baptism and Gifts of the Spirit – The Fruit of the Spirit and Maturity – The Ministry of Deliverance and the place and scope of Regeneration, and Sanctification.

1. MAN'S NATURE IS TRIPARTITE.

- A. There are opposing views on this subject. One school of thought is that man is a Dichotomy – (only having 2 parts. A body and a soul/spirit. This theory teaches that the words, soul and spirit are interchangeable and refer to the same part of man).
- B. The Trichotomists believe that man is 3-fold in nature or Tripartite, having a separate Body, Soul and Spirit, and that each part has its own essential functions not being interchangeable. The Scriptures make it clear that this is so. **1 Thessalonians 5:23** which says that God intends to sanctify us ‘wholly’, tells us that the ‘whole man’ has 3 parts. Spirit, soul and body. **Hebrews 4:12** advises us that the spirit and soul can be divided though only by God’s method. Man’s philosophy unenlightened by divine revelation and built only upon human reason sees only 2 parts, - the body and the mind.
- C. Paul uses the illustration of the Temple in describing the Christian’s life – **1 Corinthians 6:19**. This would mean only one thing to the early Christians who knew that the Temple in Jerusalem (like the Tabernacle of the Old Testament) has 3 parts – The Outer Court which is parallel to the Body of man; the Holy Place, the type of the Soul; and the Most Holy Place, speaking of the Spirit of man.
- D. The Scriptures use some enlightening words in describing our make-up.
 - a) The Body is called the Outward Man – **2 Corinthians 4:16**.
 - b) The Soul is the Inner Man – **Ephesians 3:16**, Inward Man – **Romans 7:22; 2 Corinthians 4:16**; Inward Parts – **Proverbs 20:27; Job 38:36; Psalms 51:6; Psalms 5:9; Jeremiah 31:33; Luke 11:39**.
 - c) The Hidden Man of the Heart – **1 Peter 3:4**; the Hidden Part – **Psalms 51:6**; note: Truth in the Inward part but wisdom in the Hidden part.
- E. The Body is that part of Man which is World Conscious.
The Soul is Self-Conscious
The Spirit is God Conscious.

This is illustrated by the following:

- a) The Temple as we have already noted.
- b) Noah’s Ark with its 3 compartments.

The Lower deck – animal passions, middle ground in the Centre deck and the Upper deck with its window open to heaven.

c) Israel's Journey – Egypt – Wilderness – Canaan.

2. THE CREATION AND FALL OF MAN.

God created man in His own image as a spirit being – **Genesis 1:26; 2:6**, and intended that his spirit should –

- A. Rule over his entire being
- B. Be conscious of God
- C. Be able to commune with God as spirit to Spirit.

The temptation to Eve is a key in understanding the present state of man. It was first directed to her body – good for food – **Genesis 3**. She then noticed that it was pleasant to the eyes and to be desired to make one wise. This was an appeal to her mind instead of her spirit. Paul states in **2 Corinthians 11:3** that Eve's mind was deceived. Had she operated on the level of her spirit she would have refused knowledge and chosen life. They were not forbidden to eat of the Tree of Life.

It is from this origin of deception and confusion that mankind's unholy interest in philosophy and reason has sprung. For this purpose Paul declares that the natural mind is the enemy of God – **Romans 8:7**.

The Fall of Man produced a changed order of rule within the human personality.

- A. The Spirit became dead to God. It could no longer correspond with the environment of God and became clouded by sin – **Genesis 2:17; Ephesians 2:1**.
- B. The soul gained control, with the Mind of Reason producing a totally self-orientated being.
- C. The body now controlled by the soul instead of the spirit, descended to the level of instincts and animal passions.

In fact man is now (before regeneration) a different species than he was created to be. Instead of being spirit dominated and God oriented, he is now flesh dominated and Satan oriented – **Genesis 6:3; Psalm 51:5; cp, 1 John 3:8, 12; John 8:44.**

3. THE NEED FOR UNDERSTANDING OUR COMPOSITION

- A. To identify through and emotions – to know the origin of various feelings and ideas and thus be able to deal with them.
 - a) Satanic thought can be injected into our mind – **John 13:2; 2 Corinthians 10:5** – note v4, we do not use weapons against ourselves. **Ephesians 6:12** indicates that these are for use against wicked spirits. Note **1 John 4:1**.
 - b) There are basic human and selfish desires which need to be identified to avoid carnality.

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- c) There are Divine thoughts – **1 Peter 1:11**. Many people have been robbed of the blessings of spiritual gifts because they could not tell the difference between God's thoughts and their own.
- B. To adequately use each part for the glory of God – **1 Corinthians 6:20; John 4:24**. You can't worship God in spirit unless you know how to exercise it and to stir up the gift of God within you – **2 Timothy 1:6**.
- C. To make our spirits once again the dominant part of our lives. Many Christians continue to allow the soul life to rule and are carnal instead of spiritual – 1 Corinthians 3:1-3.

4. THE PARTS OF MAN IDENTIFIED

FLESH	BLOOD	BODY
EMOTION	WILL	SOUL
COMMUNION	INSTITUTION	SPIRIT
	CONSCIENCE	
	INTELLECT	
	BONE	

5. THE BODY

- A. Added to these 9 faculties of man there are a number of DRIVING FORCES. These are resident in the flesh oriented part of man – that is in the soul life which is impelled by the needs and desires of the body. They are 9 in number also. These 9 Driving Forces which are God given impulses to enable our life to function in proper perimeters can be perverted into opposite extremes, by indulgence or suppression.

<u>DRIVING FORCES</u>	<u>PERVERSION</u>	<u>OPPOSITE PERVERSION</u>
a) Hunger	Gluttony	Fasting
b) Self Preservation	Fear	Recklessness
c) Acquisition	Covetousness	Prodigality
d) Reproduction	Immorality/Lust	Celibacy
e) Sleep	Laziness	Restlessness
f) Dignity	Pride	Self-Depreciation
g) Curiosity	Meddling	Indifference
h) Desire of dominion	Dictatorship	Cowardice
i) Creativity/Pleasure	Hedonism	Asceticism

The Life of unregenerate man is dominated by one or all of these drives . All sins of the flesh and soul are derivatives or perversions of these sources. Eg. God intended us to have a Dignity within limits, but this can become on one hand, Pride or Vanity, and on the other, Carelessness and Uncleanness.

- B. The physical part of man – his blood, bone and tissue, though not evil in itself is so affected by the self-orientated soul life that its needs and desires can actually add fuel to the fire. It, being loosed from the leash of the God oriented spirit, can now exercise a never intended influence upon the life. Note that in the Garden of Gethsemane, the disciples failed Jesus in his hour of greatest need, not because they refused to pray with Him. Their bodies demanded sleep. Jesus said, “the ‘spirit’ is willing but the ‘flesh’ is weak – **Matthew 26:41**.

The body is the vehicle of expression for the inner man. Hence the fact of psychosomatic illness. Eminent medical men now claim that 90% of all sickness begins in the mind i.e. the soul out of harmony with God. The corruption of the inner life of man soon expresses itself in the body – **Proverbs 23:7**.

- C. There are 5 senses of the Body through which the whole of world consciousness is relayed to the mind and spirit of man:

SIGHT

TASTE

TOUCH

HEARING

SMELL

Though these senses are good and essential, they are not the faculties through which God is understood. In fact they can be the enemies of faith because their service to the personality has been perverted from that of a servant of the spirit to the arbiter of truth. Many people – now born again, find it difficult to raise their level of faith beyond what they can see, hear and feel. The thought life of man is dominated by the signals of these senses.

- D. The Body is also the vehicle to express the various attitudes of the inner life besides sickness. Such things as Joy – Sorrow – Elation – Depression – Weariness – Vitality are only made known through the Body.
- E. The Body is often made the excuse for failure and sin. However the trouble is deeper. Many of the early Christian teachers such as Augustine, looked for perfection through ‘purification of the Sepulchre’. They felt that only with death could there be holiness of life. The physical body of Jesus did not cease him to sin and, though we realize that He did not come with a bias toward evil that is born in us – **Psalm 41:5**, yet His weariness never turned to laziness, nor His hunger to greed. He was tempted in all points as we are yet He did not sin, because His inner life was different to ours. He had an unbroken relationship with God the Father as He lived out of His spirit, perfectly controlling every faculty and part of His Body with its senses, expressions and drives. In fact today He still has a physical body – He was

resurrected in the flesh and we will be too. – The body has value to God – note 1 **Corinthians 6:13b**.

6. THE DISTINCTION BETWEEN SPIRIT AND SOUL

We will deal with the functions of each under later sections but let us note that the Scriptures indicate that soul and spirit are separable and are not interchangeable – 1 Corinthians 2:14-15 show that there is a ‘soulish’ man (the word ‘natural’ is Greek ‘psuchikas’ for soul) and a spiritual man – Genesis 2:7. God breathed into Adam the ‘breath of life’ and man became a living soul. The action of the divine breath upon the inert clay form produced a third element – a living soul. We are aware that the spirit of man is given by God. It has nothing to do with our procreative abilities – **Ecclesiastes 12:7, Numbers 16:22, Luke 23:46**. In Mary’s song of prophecy, **Luke 1:46**, there is a reference to both these parts of man. It would seem that they are doing the same thing until the tenses are observed. It is the spirit which caused the soul to magnify the Lord. The soul is that part which represents man. It is the seat of his personality and was intended to be the means whereby the spirit could exercise its influence through the body. Through the Fall of man that soul has now usurped the place of the spirit. The spirit is actually that hidden man of the heart to come to the ascendancy again, thus giving the Lord total dominion over the entire being of man, the soul or self-life must be broken, denied, crucified – **Matthew 16:24-26 & Luke 9:23-25**. (In these passages you can see that ‘self’ and ‘soul’ are synonymous).

Hebrews 4:12 tells us that as the joints and marrow can be divided so can spirit and soul. Actually the marrow is never evident until the bones are broken, so also the spiritual man cannot come forth until the self life is broken. Note that the whole context is speaking of coming into rest spiritually. It is possible to come out of the Egypt of sin and the world and yet wander for years in the wilderness of the soul instead of going into the Promised Land of the Spiritual Man.

7. THE FUNCTION AND COMPOSITION OF THE SPIRIT

- A. The following scriptures give further evidence of the fact of the human spirit as distinct from his soul – **Galatians 5:17-17; 6:1,18; Philemon v25; Romans 8:4, 10, 16; 2 Timothy 4:22; Zechariah 12:1**.
- B. It is in the spirit of man that regeneration occurs. It is this part which was dead to God and is now born again – **John 3:6** clearly indicates that the part which is born of the Holy Spirit is the human spirit – **1 Corinthians 6:17** states that in salvation he that is joined to the Lord is one spirit. It is on this level that the miracle of conversion occurs. We are told that the Holy Spirit bears witness with our spirits that we are God’s children – **Romans 8:16**. We are never told that God communes with our soul – or is joined to our soul. God is a Spirit and we now worship Him in spirit – **John 4:24**.
- C. In this relationship God does not enter through the senses of the body or the faculties of the soul, but comes directly into our spirit and from there begins to affect our total being. In the Old Testament system of Tabernacle worship God never came in through the Outer Court and Holy Place to the Most Holy, but descended vertically directly into the Holy of Holies and from there exercised direction over all Israel.

- D. It is essential to understand this aspect to be true worshippers of God. The average Christian worships and praises God according to the dictates of his senses, reason and feelings. The spiritual man does not consult his feelings but acts according to faith. He does not wait for some external stimulus to prompt him but by a deliberate act he begins to praise God. Before long he 'feels' the blessing of God. This is what Mary experienced in **Luke 1:46-47**. She said, "My soul doth (present tense) magnify the Lord (because) my spirit hath (past tense) rejoiced". It has been said that when we worship God we start in the flesh and then get into the spirit. This is a misunderstanding of what happens. When we start to rejoice in the Lord with any feelings and by a deliberate act of choice we lift our hands, utter words of praise, sing with the spirit, dance before the Lord and show our appreciation, this is not in the flesh but in the spirit. After a time, the blessing of God flows out of our spirit (which has no emotion) into our soul which does have emotion and thus we feel God's presence. The whole basis of the activity of the spirit is faith. This is what pleases God – **Hebrews 11:6**.
- E. The spirit of man is the organ to receive God in the same way as the stomach is the organ to receive and digest food and then to disseminate its benefits to each part of the body. The spirit is the loving organ. The part of man that can respond to God on the only level that He can recognize – FAITH. Note the following verses:- **2 Timothy 4:22; 1 Corinthians 6:17; 2:12; John 4:24; Romans 8:16**.
- F. THE PARTS OF THE SPIRIT
- a) CONSCIENCE
- i. This is one of the greatest gifts God have to man for without it none could be saved. The Holy Spirit comes to reprove of sin of righteousness and judgment – **John 16:8**, but unless there was a part in unregenerate man that could respond to Him it would be utterly wasted. It is the conscience which constantly accuses of evil and leads to God – **Romans 2:15**.
 - ii. In the redeemed life the conscience is still active but now assumes a higher role, that of bearing witness to righteousness in a positive way instead of a negative way. Note the comparison of **Romans 9:1** and **8:6** and **Psalms 51:10**. **1 Corinthians 5:3** shows that illumined conscience can now exercise godly judgment in determining between exterior good and evil as well as the internal.
 - iii. The function of the conscience is to search the life in order that everything evil and irrelevant may be rooted out. **Proverbs 20:27; Acts 24:16; Hebrews 9:14; Psalm 32:2-7, AMP**.
 - iv. It is essential to have a clear conscience – **2 Timothy 1:3** – for there to be a proper reception of the voice of God. If the conscience is guilty the intuition will be faulty and the communion broken – **Hebrews 10:22; 1 John 1:5-7; 3:21**.
 - v. If the conscience is not operating on the correct level in a redeemed life, and still continues to bear witness to past evil deeds in a condemnatory sense, it can be overruled and brought into harmony with God's forgiveness – **1 John 3:20; Hebrews 9:14**.
 - vi. The conscience does not operate on a debit-credit and running balance system. It cannot subtract a bad deed from a good one and leave you with some credit in

hand. It can only register disapproval for evil and no amount of good will cancel that registration, until the Blood of Christ is applied to it. For this reason no one can be saved by good works.

b) COMMUNION

- i. This faculty of the spirit is absolutely basic to man. This is one of the reasons why God created man. In the Garden of Eden God communed daily with man – **Genesis 3:8**. **John 4:24** makes it plain that God must be worshipped in spirit. There is a level of relationship out of this faculty of communion where God and man can be totally one – where pure and actual love can flow between them.
- ii. It is out of this part of the spirit that we ‘pray in the spirit’. Much ordinary prayer originates in the mind and is unsatisfactory to God because of its self oriented characteristic. Praying in the spirit is to allow that redeemed organ of man to respond directly to God under the anointing of the Holy Spirit and praying in tongues. In this way the mind of man cannot interfere with the pure desire of the cleansed human spirit. Note:- **Ephesians 6:8; 1 Corinthians 14:14-15; Luke 1:47; Philippians 3:3.**
- iii. As noted previously a clear conscience is essential to complete communion with God. Though we are encouraged to approach boldly it is always on the basis of a cleansed heart – **Hebrews 10:22.**

c) INTUITION

- i. There are two kinds of knowledge - sense knowledge, which comes to us through our mind from the information fed in by the 5 senses. Then there is revelation knowledge. It has nothing to do with the mind at all. This is the knowledge which comes directly from God through our communion with Him. Guidance, understanding of spiritual truth and spiritual gifts all have their rise in this part of the spirit. It was by this impartation from God that Peter realized who Jesus really was – **Matthew 16:15-17.**
- ii. Everything we know of God must be of this order. Knowledge of God derived in any other way than by His personal revelation is mere philosophy and is but a human concept or idea of God instead of real knowledge. **1 Corinthians 1:21** – “the world by wisdom knew not God” – hence all the world religions. **Job 11:7.** Not the difference between earthly and heavenly wisdom – **James 3:16-17.**
- iii. It is important to activate and use this faculty intelligently. Many Christians miss the voice of God to them because although they feel the ‘promptings’ of God, they do not know how to understand them. In times like this the mind must become the servant of the spirit and receive direction from the enlightened and inspired faculty of intuition, instead of assuming that such thoughts are irrelevant or nonsense. Though there is a possibility of error here, those walking in the spirit will have their conscience bear witness to the truth – **Romans 9:1.** The following scriptures indicate the fact of divine revelation to the human spirit – **1 Corinthians 2:9-11; Mark 2:8; 8:12; John 11:33, RSV; 1 John 2:27; Galatians 1:12; Ephesians 1:17-18; 2 Corinthians 3:6.** The relationship between God and man as indicated by **1 Corinthians 6:17** is very similar to the human marriage relationship. There is fellowship and love. There has to be a clear

conscience and trust between the partners. And there is always a certain intuition between married couples as well.

8. DEALING WITH THE SOUL.

It is impossible within the limited scope of a study such as this to present all the material necessary to gain a thorough understanding of the Nature of Man. We are confining ourselves to a very general outline. The interested student will profit from the experience of other teachers such as Watchman Nee in 'The Spiritual Man' or Witness Lee in 'The Economy of God', and T. Austin Sparkes 'What is Man' etc.

- A. The soul of unregenerate man bears little similarity to the organ which resulted from God breathing a spirit into the inert clay form. Then it was the submissive vessel of a God oriented spirit. Through sin it became a dangerous and complex element capable of extraordinary deception, rebellion and independence, and allied to evil powers bent on the destruction of the whole person. **Jeremiah 17:9; Ephesians 2:2-3.**
- B. It is the spirit which is born again as is seen in **John 3:6. Hebrews 12⁹** – God is spirit – **John 4:24** and we are born of Him – **Acts 17:28-29.** Therefore the part that is begotten of God is spirit. The spirit is saved, the soul is being saved and the body will be saved. The Bible does not say that our souls are saved – rather the work of redemption in our spirits is constantly flowing into our soul and transforming it into the image of the Lord – **Romans 12:2.**
We are told in the New Testament that it is the purpose of God to sanctify us wholly in spirit, soul and body.
1 Thessalonians 5:23, that had NOT been accomplished at the time of Paul's prayer for the Thessalonians. **Hebrews 10:39** indicates that the saving of the soul is a result of standing steadfast in our faith – note v38. **James 1:21** is a charge to Christians to receive the Word of God which is able to save their souls. They were already saved. **1 Peter 1:9** indicates that the salvation of our soul is the end result of our faith. It is God's purpose to liberate and transform the soul of man until it becomes a true reflector of the life of Christ which is in our spirits, having no rebellion, deceitfulness or independent thought or action.
- C. The means God has designed to deal with the soul (self) life is the Cross of Christ. The basic self nature must be crucified with Christ. Paul says, "I" the 'egocentric life' is crucified – **Galatians 2:20.** It must be constantly reckoned dead – **Romans 6:11** – "reckon ye 'yourselves' to be dead". Jesus said also regarding discipleship – (which means to be disciplined – the treatment hated by the soul) that we should deny 'self' and take up the cross daily – **Matthew 16:24** – He said this in relation to the soul v26. Note the same in **Mark 8:34-37.**
- D. Parallel to this it is essential to develop a 'renewed mind' - the mind of the flesh is at enmity with God – **Romans 8:5-7.** Through the cleansing action of the Word of God it must be transformed and renewed. **2 Corinthians 4:16; Colossians 3:10; Ephesians 4:33; Romans 12:2.** It is Knowledge which renews the mind but only Revelation Knowledge. It is the Word of God illumined by the Holy Spirit which brings the mind into subjection. Note **2 Corinthians 10:4-5** cp **Hebrews 4:12.**

9. FUNCTIONS AND COMPOSITION OF THE SOUL.

A. INTELLECT

- a) Both the spirit and the soul mark man out as different from the animal creation. This is especially so of man's intellect. The ability to think, remember, compare, analyze, imagine etc., is unique. Man does not live altogether by instinct but has a God given ability to make out his own earthly destiny. Man's intellect is centered in his mind which comprises the conscious, the sub-conscious and unconscious area of thought and memory.
- b) Because it is this faculty to which Satan makes his appeal – **Genesis 3:1-5; John 13:2; Luke 8:12**, it is essential for every Christian to have a 'controlled mind' with every thought in captivity to the Knowledge of Christ.
- c) It is also essential to control the thought patterns so that this faculty is always open to understand the revelation of God from the intuition of the spirit. If it is restless and constantly engaged in the activity of the natural man in his plans and lusts it will not be able to comprehend the message of God and the human spirit will ache with frustration. Actually this is the common condition of many believers. Eventually they stifle the voice of God in their spirit and become deceived, spiritually deaf – insensitive and forgetful hearers of the Word of God – **James 1:22-25**.

B. THE WILL

- a) God had given to every man a 'free will'. We are able to choose – make decisions – and satisfy or suppress all other parts of our tripartite nature through the action of the will. It is the point of highest responsibility in our whole being. It is the helm of our life.
- b) The will is the very centre of the self life. Both the mind and the emotions feed the will but it is the will itself which controls the attitudes of the life – either by a rigid expression of control or by choosing to abdicate thus allowing mental aberration or neurosis or demonic intrusion. It is in fact the gate. **2 Timothy 1:25-26** states that and unhealthy will in an attitude of opposition leads to an actual loss of control allowing the devil to effect a capture at 'his' will. The will must therefore always be subjected to the truth – any opposition to truth is unspeakably dangerous. Note **Romans 1:25-32**.
- c) This arrogant will must be subjected to God. No-one can live the Christian life successfully whilst retaining his independence and self-control. Even Jesus in Gethsemane surrendered his will to the Father and this is the supreme example. The will once yielded through the redeemed spirit to God does not cease to exist. In fact it is strengthened – but toward righteousness. This will is the citadel of the soul and is of great value to God. Whereas it formerly was activated towards disobedience and was the denominator of all sin in our life, now God intends to use it as the instrument of obedience and thus being allied with the Spirit to produce holiness.

C. THE EMOTIONS

- a) The emotions of man are the seat of feelings, desires and affections. Though emotions are not wrong this is the part most often subject to excess and malpractice. This area is the closest to instinct and most people are absolutely dominated by their feelings. Since feelings can and do lie and deceive it is essential to bring the emotions into line with the re-created spirit. Emotions out of control will make the Christian totally ineffective.
- b) It is in the area of the emotion that the soul must be subjected to the life of faith. Feelings are the direct enemy of faith, and true faith will not be expressed until the feelings are exposed to the truth, and either disregarded or channeled in the right direction.

10. THE SOUL AND DEMONIC ACTIVITY.

We have noted that the soul in opposition to the truth is available to Satan – **2 Timothy 2:25-26**. The lust of Judas for money made his soul the playground of the devil – **John 13:2, 27**. We are warned to avoid fleshly lusts which “war against the soul” – **1 Peter 2:11**. This is because such lusts open the door to demonic instruction. If this were not so the warnings of **2 Corinthians 2:11** “lest Satan should get a toe hold”, and **Ephesians 4:24-27** – “don’t give place to the devil” and **1 Peter 5:7-8**, “avoid anxiety and be sober and vigilant because the devil seeks whom he may devour”, would be meaningless. Without going into this subject in greater detail we will briefly state that the teaching of the Word of God and the indications of experiences are that any projection of the self life is dangerous – a beacon to demonic powers who can then control and operate the attitude that gave entry. It is essential to keep the soul (self) life constantly reckoned dead – **Romans 6:11**, lest we be brought into bondage – **Romans 6:16**.

Unless the soul is dealt with it is a fertile ground for the activity of the enemy through self-consciousness, self-pity, anxiety, fear, inferiority complex, instability, insecurity, depression, guilt, moods, lying, profanity, paranoia, prejudice, imagination, hallucinations and delusions among other things. “Positionally God has sanctified the whole man, but experientially this is a process as practically all Holiness teachers agree. Conversion may be so powerful as to effect radical changes in many of the above areas, but all the inhabitants of the land are not driven out at once no more than they were in Joshua’s day. The mind particularly must be constantly renewed for here is the Governor of the body. In past life the Drives of the body and an over-developed Sense realm may have given rise to Demon occupation. Likewise in the area of the Soul, there may have been an invasion through indulgences, shock, and particularly if there has been any engagement in various forms of witchcraft, occultism, Spiritism etc. If any of these things are so, there may be the need of EXORCISM as well as the normal application of Sanctification through faith.

God’s will is that the Total Man be completely delivered in all areas by the various ministries and graces which he has provided so that the Whole Man is liberated to freely praise and serve the Living God”. – L. Averill.

11. THE BATTLE FOR THE MIND

Since the mind occupies an important place in the functioning of the believer as a spiritual entity, we will devote some extra attention to it.

A. The Various Possibilities of the Mind.

The mind can be double, carnal, sound, fleshly, of Christ, reprobate, corrupt, pure or blind.

We can be enemies in our mind, or weary and fainting in our mind, be vain, have a defiled mind or be ‘otherwise minded or contrary’. – **James 1:8; Romans 1:29; 8:6; 2 Timothy 1:7; Colossians 2:8; 1 Corinthians 2:16; 1 Timothy 6:5; 2 Peter 3:1; 2 Corinthians 4:4; Titus 1:5; Ephesians 4:17; Colossians 1:21.** From this we can see that the mind has a vast range of evil possibilities and tendencies.

B. Activity of the Mind.

The mind can desire evil – **Ephesians 2:3, be shaken – 2 Timothy 2:2** and be an enemy of God – **Colossians 1:21.** We are urged to love God with it – **Matthew 22:37,** keep His laws in it – **Hebrews 8:10,** gird it up – **1 Peter 1:13,** stir it up – **2 Peter 3:1,** arm oneself with the mind of Christ – **1 Peter 4:1,** keep the mind stayed on God – **Isaiah 26:3,** keep the mind – **Philippians 4:7.**

C. The Mind as a Receiver/Transmitter

The recreated spirit of man is a receiver transmitter on the vertical level – worshipping God and receiving revelation from Him. The mind acts in a parallel sense, but on the horizontal level. It can be the medium for the spirit or for the external world with its natural and Satanic stimuli.

- a) **2 Corinthians 10:3-5** which urges us to bring every thought into captivity indicates that this is the means of Satan’s attack. We are not v\creatures of instinct. Every temptation to which we are subjected is offered on the level of our thought life. To combat these fiery darts of the wicked one we have the shield of faith and the helmet of salvation – the helmet covers the head – repository of the brain and the organ of thought – **Ephesians 6:12-18.**
- b) It was on this level that Satan succeeded with Eve. **2 Corinthians 11:4** states that her mind was corrupted through Satan’s subtlety.
- c) Paul goes on to say in the next verse **2 Corinthians 11:4** that as Eve was deceived so we can be by wrong teaching which is directed at our minds. Philosophy and human reason are favourite weapons of Satan to side-track and confuse the mind, involving it in endless speculations. Apparent good knowledge can still be dangerous if it is sought for the wrong motives or through a wrong stimulus. Eve sought the knowledge of good and evil, but at Satan’s suggestion. – Notice the list of speculative subjects which have side-tracked many people as they have obeyed the prompting of Satan to seek into them. **Colossians 2:14-23** – ceremonialism – formalism – celibacy – ascetism – saint worship – penance.
Notice that in **1 Timothy 4:1-3,** that these same things are said to be doctrines of devils and the work of seducing spirits working through false teachers and cults. The list of **Colossians 2:18** tells us that this knowledge induces vainly puffed up fleshly

minds. This speculative debate – (note **Romans 1:29**, debate is listed as an activity of the reprobate mind under the domination of demons) is to be avoided as unprofitable and dangerous.

D. The Passive Mind vs. the Active Mind

A further dangerous state of mind is to inactivate it, blank it out and make it passive – even temporarily. This is the basis of hypnotism and spiritism. The Holy Spirit does not require a passive mind. In fact He cannot use it. His method is not to ‘take over’ man’s personality and mind but to ‘work with’ it. **Mark 16:20**. Anything which takes over is not of God. In the operation of all Divine supernatural gifts the spirit of the prophet is still subject to the prophet and can be controlled indeed must be – **1 Corinthians 14:32**.

- a) **ACTS 2**. Peter though being filled with the Spirit and speaking in tongues was conscious and could hear the mockery of the crowd prepared an answer to them.
- b) **ACTS 10**. Peter at Joppa was in a trance receiving revelation from God but could still count and argue with the Lord.
- c) **1 CORINTHIANS 14**. The persons prophesying and speaking in tongues are able to count to 3 and wait their turn or keep silent if no interpreter is present.

E. Flashing Thoughts

One of the favourite weapons of Satan is to barrage the mind with flashing thoughts coercing the person to immediate action – affording no time to think. He thus seeks to confuse and paralyze the will into irrational action. God’s guidance is never vague, confusing and compulsory. Note **James 4:17** – peaceable, gentle, easy. The warning of the Word of God is to PROVE ALL THINGS – TRY THE SPIRITS.

- F. Everything passing through the mind leaves a residue. One of Satan’s weapons is to expose the mind to material which he can later capitalize on to immobilize the soul for spiritual activity, and to lead the person into sin. As a man “thinketh” in his heart so is he. **Proverbs 23:7; Luke 11:4**.

The mind is extremely important. It can be the instrument of God or it can be the receiving organ for Satan’s mischief. No wonder that Solomon said “Keep thy heart with all diligence for out of it flow the issues of life”.

12. THE FOUR PARTS OF THE HEART.

The heart of Man is a wide term used in scripture to cover all 3 parts of the soul and at least one of the spirit.

- A. The mind is in the heart – **Matthew 9:4**
- B. The will is in the heart – **Acts 11:23; Hebrews 4:12**
- C. Emotions are in the heart – **John 16:6; 22**.
- D. Conscience is also spoken of as being in the heart – **Hebrews 10:22; 1 John 3:20**. Conscience works very closely with the mind particularly in relation to guilt complex, memory and temptation.

1 THESSALONIANS 5:23

“AND THE VERY GOD OF PEACE SANCTIFY YOU WHOLLY: AND I PRAY GOD YOUR WHOLE SPIRIT, SOUL AND BODY BE PRESERVED BLAMELESS UNTO THE COMING OF CHRIST”.