The Light - Junior Series Lesson 34

The Giver of Spiritual Gifts...the Holy Spirit The Human Spirit Houses Eternal Life



Wednesday, March 23, 2011 & Thursday, March 24 2011

Rom 8:10 "If Christ is in you, though (on the one hand) the body is dead because of sin, yet (on the other hand) the spirit is alive because of righteousness."

BEFORE YOU BEGIN

If YOU have never believed in the Lord Jesus Christ as your Savior, you have the opportunity to do so right NOW. Simply tell God the Father that you believe in His Son, Jesus Christ, who loved us so much that He came down from heaven and became a man to take our place and pay for the penalty for all the sin of all mankind. Jesus, the Savior died on the Cross for your sins and the sins of the whole world. Then Jesus was buried but He rose again and He is alive today seated at the right hand of the Father in heaven. When you make the decision to believe in Jesus in simple faith based on His work on the Cross, you are now a believer and will always be a child of God. When you die, you will spend eternity with Him in Heaven. (Acts 16:31) "Believe in the Lord Jesus Christ and you will be saved." (John 3:16) "God loved the world so much that He gave is One and only Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life."



<u>Lesson</u>

In our lesson on regeneration last week we saw this conversation that Jesus had with Nicodemus in John 3:4-7. Let's look at it again because we are going to learn the difference between that which is born of flesh and that which is born of the Spirit. "How can a man be born when he is old? He cannot enter a second time into his mother's womb and be born, can he?' (5) Jesus answered, 'Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit he cannot enter into the kingdom of God. (6) That which is born of the flesh is flesh, and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit. (7) Do not be amazed that I said to you, 'you must be born again.'" We know from our previous lessons that being "born again" means spiritual birth into the family of God.

The human soul is where human physical life lives. It is imputed to your physical body at your physical birth. The human spirit is where eternal life lives. Eternal life is imputed to your human spirit at your spiritual birth. These are parallel lives...physical and spiritual. To live with God forever, you must have both of these lives but at physical birth you only have one...physical life...you didn't have a choice in that, did you? But to have the spiritual life you must make a personal decision to receive spiritual life. If you say "yes" to the Gospel and believe in Jesus, you will have the spiritual life as well as the physical life.

At the moment of salvation...that very second you believed in Jesus...God the Holy Spirit created your human spirit. This is the second birth...this is regeneration...this is what it means to be "born again." This is where eternal life is given to you. Eternal life lives in your human spirit. It is PERMANENT!

Paul is describing the situation of the Christian now, in this world. He's setting up a contrast between the human body and the human spirit for the believer in Christ in Rom 8:9-11 & 13. "However, you are not in the flesh (physical life) but in the Spirit (spiritual life) (when you believed in Christ), if indeed the Spirit of God lives in you (and He does if you believed in Jesus and are born again spiritually). But if anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, he does not belong to Him (Jesus). (10) If Christ is in you, though the body is (spiritually) dead because of sin, yet the Spirit is alive because of righteousness (+R). (11) And if the Spirit of Him who raised Jesus from the dead lives in you, He who raised Christ Jesus from the dead

will also give (eternal) life to your physical bodies through His Spirit who lives in you." Rom 8:13 "But, as for you, you are not in the sphere of the sinful nature but in the sphere of the (Holy) Spirit, provided that the (Holy) Spirit of God is in residence in you." And the Spirit of God is definitely in you if you believe in Jesus as your Savior and "born again."



The body has the seed of physical death. In other words it is going to die eventually. You will die unless the Rapture comes first. This happened to the human race as a result of the Adam's fall into sin. Ever since that fall into sin, the body of man is in a state of death, humiliation, and weakness. The body is also the location of the old sin nature, which we received from Adam at our physical birth. Remember it is transmitted to the genes in our human bodies from our earthly fathers at that time. When Adam fell, he experienced an immediate spiritual

death (he lost his human spirit) and the seed of physical death was also implanted in him at the same time. In other words, kids, when he sinned he immediately died spiritually and then after living a full life on earth he died physically many years later. Two deaths are involved...spiritual first then the physical death we all have to face unless we go up in the Rapture. Adam handed down spiritual and physical death to all of us.

But for the Christian this is not the whole story. On the one hand, our human body has the seed of physical death, but on the other hand, our HUMAN SPIRIT has the seed of ETERNAL LIFE. As a Christian we are free from the slavery to the old sin nature because along with eternal life we received a new nature from God...one that is not able to sin. 1 John 3:9 "No one who is born of God will continue to sin, because God's seed (human spirit and the new nature) remains in him; he cannot go on sinning, because he has been born of God." This is wonderful, kids. If Christ is in you (and He is in you if you are born again), the spirit has the seed of eternal life implanted in your human spirit!" 1 Pet 1:23 "...for you have been born again not of seed which is perishable (can die) but imperishable (cannot die), that is, through

the living and enduring word of God." The living Word of God is Jesus who is in you. The Word of God is the mind of Jesus and it lasts forever and ever!



The Christian has been born again. His spirit has been made alive by the Holy Spirit. He is regenerated. He is free in Christ and has a choice now of

whether to live in the new nature or in the old nature. You see the seed of God is in him. The "born again" believer in the Church Age is a "partaker" or "sharer" of the divine nature. 2 Pet 1:4 "For by these He has

granted to us His precious and magnificent promises, so that by them (His promises) you may become partakers (sharers in and) of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption (evil) that is in the world by lust (from the old sin nature)." You are a new creature with a new nature that cannot sin. Live in the new nature. Make right choices. This pleases God so much.

The Christian is a person who has been born from above; he has new life. He is a new creature or species in Christ. The human spirit of man died and was removed from Adam as a result of Adam's sin at the fall; but in the believer it has been made alive again at the moment he believes in Jesus as his personal Savior. In other words, we get back the human spirit at the moment we believe in Jesus...the human spirit that Adam lost in the Garden.

That is why we are commanded in Rom 6:11 to "Even so consider yourselves to be dead to sin (old sin nature), but (eternally) alive (human spirit) to God in Christ Jesus."

And more directly in verse 13 we see this truth of this new life: Rom 6:13 "Do not present your members (parts of your body) to sin as instruments for unrighteousness, but present yourselves to God as those who have been brought from death to life, and your members to God as instruments for righteousness (to serve God in and by the filling of the Holy Spirit)." And again we see this new nature in Eph 2:4-5. "But God, being rich in mercy, because of His great love with which He loved us, (5) even when we were dead in our sins, made us alive together with Christ (by grace you have been saved)..."



The believer in Christ has been given eternal life. His body will die, but he will never die. His human spirit has eternal life in God forever and cannot die. His new nature will live forever with God in Heaven. John 11:25-26 "Jesus said to her, ' I am the resurrection and the life; he who believes in Me will live even if he dies (physically), (26) and everyone who lives and believes in Me will never die. Do you believe this?""

The soul is the residence of human life; the human spirit is the residence of eternal life. Soul life exists forever. The believer will live forever in heaven; the unbeliever will live forever in the Lake of Fire. John 3:36 "He who believes in the Son has eternal life; but he who does not obey the Son will not see life (with God in Heaven forever), but the wrath of God abides on him."

So regeneration means the creation of a human spirit for the imputation of eternal life. When you believe in Jesus as your personal Savior the Holy Spirit makes a human spirit for you where eternal life is imputed. The soul is the residence of human life; the human spirit is the residence of eternal life. At the moment of salvation, on the basis of God the Holy Spirit providing the human spirit to the believer, God the Father imputes and imparts His very own eternal life to that human spirit. That is being born again. You had physical life and now you have spiritual life. 1 John 5:11-14 "And the testimony is this, that God has given us eternal life, and this life is in His Son. (12) He who has the Son has the (eternal) life; he who does not have the Son of God does not have the (eternal) life." "The life" in this verse means eternal life with GOD forever in Heaven. Unbelievers have eternal life in the Lake of Fire.

What a great and awesome God we have, kids. Look at the plan He has made for us. He planned it in love. Jesus carried out the plan in love for us and the Holy Spirit makes us alive in Jesus and helps us live the life God made JUST FOR US! Be very thankful for your heavenly Father.

Close in prayer.

Prepared from Pastor John Farley's lesson on Thursday, November 4, 2010 Lighthouse Bible Church

