

## **SPIRIT SOUL AND BODY (The Soul)**

(Part 2)

In the introduction of this study, we presented the spiritual, the psychological and the physical functions of the body entwined as one to represent the wonderful wisdom of our Yahweh in His creation of men. We will develop in this study the function of the soul.

The soul of man when submissive to the spirit, leads the body to do good things. Bless Yahweh O my soul and all that is within me bless His holy name, words of the Psalmist David from the Psalm 103 calling the soul to submit to Yahweh in praise and adoration to Him. Submission to Yahweh is the key to the success of our faith in Him - faith as it was in the beginning after Yahweh created man and breathed life into him. His soul was then controlled by the spirit and in harmony with it. But with sin, the soul became an enemy with Yahweh and rebelled against Him.

Man is unique in his individuality because his soul is not stereotyped. This individuality of the soul is very important in the field of building the body of Messiah until we all attain oneness in the faith and in the comprehension of the knowledge of the Son of Yahweh (Ephesians 4:12-14).

When a Christian is carnal or soulish, his actions differ from that of a Spirit controlled Christian in the way he dresses, in the way he does things and in the words he uses to express himself. Contrary to the spirit filled Christian, his focus is to satisfy his carnal desires. In contrast, the spirit filled Christian's desire is to know his Messiah and to be known of Him. Paul confirms this in his letter to the Romans chapter eight verse five, "For those who are according to the flesh and are controlled by its unholy desires set their minds on and pursue those things which gratify the flesh, but those who are according to the Spirit and are controlled by the desires of the Spirit set their minds on and seek those things which gratify the Spirit". The danger existent in being a carnal or soulish Christian is in the vulnerability for an open door to evil spirits to attack and torment the soul through the mind and emotions. When this happens the mind becomes under the control of the spirit of fear, which brings other spirits with him as anxiety, obsession, and mental confusion, the inability to think for self, dependence, insecurity, insomnia, depression, worries and the list goes on and on. Because the mind no longer functions in harmony and in submission to the Spirit it loses the power once given him by Yahweh in his new birth. In the despair of the torments, the carnal Christian tries to escape them through the use of drugs, instead of seeking Yahweh's healing through repentance and confession of sins to be forgiven and sanctified. He continues in bondage also to drugs with no help in sight. Before Yahshua sent out his apostles to preach the kingdom of Yahweh, He gave them power and authority over all demons, and power to cure diseases. This power and authority are given to all who professes to be a born again Christian; we are responsible to proclaim the message in season and out of season as Paul said. For that we must be spiritual Christians, walking not in agreement with the flesh, being free from the control of the outside spirits, and able to perform the will of Him Who died for us and freed us from the control of the evil one with much suffering described in Isaiah fifty-three.

Health Line Exclusive has published a list of mental health problems which are well known today; they will be discussed in the next study. These mental health problems are the results of the sins of iniquity those which have passed to us from our forefathers (genetic) or a result of non-confessed and hidden sins, which cause guilt and remorse, and bitterness rooted in unforgiveness. Mental diseases are of spiritual roots having its answers in the spiritual level. The born again Christian living in the bondage of the disease of the mind needs spiritual discernment to see the open door through fasting and prayer to have the power to shut it closed. The stone that has kept the stinking and decaying things hidden must be removed first of all, for the process of sanctification to take place in his soul-mind, emotion and will.

Diseases of the mind are serious and impairing problems to the body because soul and body cannot coexist independent from each other. Behind all mental diseases in the soul of man, there are spirits rooted; in believers and in unbelievers alike. Believe it or not, this truth remains evident in many lives.

When man loses his mental capacity and ability which is the intellectual part of the soul, then he loses his identity, his personality and in part, his soul because the three parts of the soul- the will, emotion, and intellect are knitted together; one does not work without the other and the body, will suffer too, since it depends on the mind for it to function, It does what the mind directs it to do. The health of the soul – mind, emotion and the will is very important for man to live a success earthly life.

When King Nebuchadnezzar was expressing his pride in his Babylonian Empire, God struck his mind and he became like an animal. He was driven from among men and did eat grass like oxen, and his body was wet with the dew of the heaven until his hair grew like eagles' and his nails like birds' (Daniel 4: 32, 33).

The ultimate health of the soul is possible only through the fear of Yahweh. We can only touch the soul in the physical level of the brain, the home of the mind; and the emotions in the physical level of the heart, where the feelings reside. It is in the brain where the mental problems of the soul happen, and it is in the heart, where the emotional and physical problems of the soul occur.

Man cannot live on bread alone; bread is the nourishment for the body only. He needs the Manna or the Living Bread that came from heaven, Yahshua, the Bread that feeds the soul and revives the spirit. He said, Moses did not give you the Bread from heaven, but it is My Father that gives you the true heavenly Bread; I am the Bread of Life. Man needs the Living Waters (His Holy Spirit) that Yahshua presented to the Samaritan woman. "But whoever takes a drink of the water that I will give him shall never, no never, be thirsty any more, for the water that I will give him shall become a spring of water welling up within him unto eternal life" (John 4:14). This water purifies and satisfies the soul of men. We are warned to be constantly renewed in the spirit of the mind, so that the fruit of the soul will not take control of the body as in hate, which is the prolonged anger residing in the heart, bitterness rooted in unforgiveness. In the

book, *The Spiritual Man*, Watchman Nee wrote: "The call of the cross of the Lord Jesus is to beckon us to hate our natural life, to seek opportunity to lose, not to keep it. Our Lord wants us to sacrifice self and be yielded wholly to working of His Spirit. If we are to experience afresh His true life in the power and guidance of the Holy Spirit, we must be willing to present to death every opinion, labor and thought of the soul life".