

## **SPIRIT, SOUL AND BODY**

**(part 8)**

### The Spiritual Mind

The spiritual mind is that which is connected with the heavenly Father every moment in mutual sharing of interests and experiences, in constant companionship and friendship. This relationship happens when the mind is submissive walking in obedience to YAHWEH from the time of the new birth until death. It is true however, that the mind wanders away from the teachings of YAHWEH, but in repentance when it returns to the heavenly Father, He is faithful to forgive and to welcome it back into fellowship with Him. In "All is made new" means, his soul has a new Master; the old, the fleshly control of the mind is no more. Sadly, many believers continue in the old control of the fleshly mind and aloof to the control of the Holy Spirit.

The spiritual mind works closely in agreement with the HOLY SPIRIT. Since the carnal mind learns material things through the intellect, it takes a renewed mind to know the spiritual things of YAHWEH. The mind, being close to the spirit, it receives from the spirit and in its chain of command will affect the emotions the will and the body. We cannot comprehend the mind of YAHWEH through our unspiritual mind. The understanding of YAHWEH is with the spiritual mind; the believer who walks in the agreement with the spirit is the one who will experience the true fellowship with YAHSHUA; he will experience the continuous cleansing from the blood of YAHSHUA in his confession of sins, "If we confess our sins He is faithful to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness" (I John 1:9) and through the HOLY SPIRIT'S work of sanctification.

It takes surrendering of the mind for the HOLY SPIRIT to work in our life. It does not happen automatically; it must be in the will of the believer to want YAHWEH'S complete control of his life for him to have a spiritual mind. Paul prayed that YAHWEH would give the Ephesians (Eph. 1:17-18) "A spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of YAHWEH". A spirit of wisdom and revelation is YAHWEH making His will and Himself known to our spirit. This revelation is passed on to the mind, when it desires to know YAHWEH and walk with Him. "By having your eyes of your heart flooded with light, so that you can know and understand. . ." "The eyes of your heart" is figuratively speaking of the organ of reason – the mind. To know intuitively is to perceive in the spiritual realm; to know mentally is to know in the physical realm. The mind can only understand the spiritual things when it is in agreement with the spirit, for it does not have the spiritual ability to do so outside of the spirit's influence. As YAHSHUA said, "What is flesh is flesh, what is spirit is spirit". The believer must discern between the spiritual and the mental or fleshly in his decision making concerning the will of YAHWEH for his life. Often we take the road that seems easy and rosy, and believe it to be the way YAHWEH wants us to go, when He is leading us the way of the desert or valleys for our relationship to grow deeper with Him: of the valley, where we would come to know Him and experience Him in the most wonderful fellowship; and of the desert, where its flowers survive its heat and only there we will understand that life in the desert is bearable even for a fragile flower and it will be for us too. When the spiritual mind is in an unbroken communion with YAHWEH it will perceive the spiritual things even in the unspiritual world.

The natural mind is a nonspiritual mind and does not receive the spiritual revelations from YAHWEH; all that is spiritual is meaningless in its limitation of understanding the spiritual. However, the mind who walks in fellowship with the HOLY SPIRIT can discern, perceive all spiritual things because YAHWEH has given the believer the mind of Christ; and he holds the thoughts of His heart (I Cor. 2:14-15). In Ephesians chapter one, we read that the enlightenment of the HOLY SPIRIT brightens the mind of the believer to have understanding of the hope, the immeasurable and unlimited and surpassing greatness of YAHWEH'S power in and for us; this power is compared to that of when He exerted YAHSHUA when He raised Him from the dead and seated Him at His right hand in the heavenly (vs.19-20).

In the words of Watchman Nee, "A believer's mind is the outlet of the HOLY SPIRIT. He is not satisfied with man only believing that He is present in the human spirit. His aim is to manifest Himself through man that others too may possess Him. It is not enough that He for Him do dwell in man's spirit, He desires additionally to express Himself through it. What expresses man's spirit is the mind; should it be obstructed, the spirit shall be deprived of its means of expression, and then God's Spirit cannot flow from man's inner being to other people. We need the mind, moreover to read the meaning of our intuitive knowledge, thus opening the way for God to communicate His thought through us. If our mentality is narrow and foolish the Holy Spirit finds Himself unable to fellowship with us in the way He desires". The more spiritually minded the believer becomes, the greater the fellowship he will enjoy with the heavenly Father. When the mind sets itself on the things which are spiritual, it becomes the instrument for the HOLY SPIRIT to communicate His purpose and holiness. When there is a relationship between the mind and the spirit, joy, peace, hope, love will permeate the believer's emotions and his actions will respond with behavior that is pleasing to YAHWEH. The mind that is open to the leadership of the HOLY SPIRIT, it is the mind that is renewed daily because the HOLY SPIRIT works through those who are willing to submit to Him. When the psalmist asked YAHWEH in Psalm nineteen to keep him from his presumptuous sin and for the meditation of his heart to be acceptable to Him, he was giving YAHWEH the control of his soul- mind, will and emotions.

When the mind is indifferent to the control of the HOLY SPIRIT, it leads the flesh to sin because *thoughts are the seeds of actions*. When an evil thought is conceived, it is conceived in the mind first before it is performed by the body. All the presumptuous sins are seeds planted in the mind with consequential results. The believer must restrain and control the thoughts that invade his mind. Peter advised us to gird the mind. Think about the word gird; it means to encircle, to surround; we must surround the mind with the truth of YAHWEH to protect it against thoughts that are evil and destructive. The psalmist said, I hid Your Word in my heart, so that I will not sin against You (Psalm 119: 11). The best way to protect the mind is by hiding YAHWEH'S Words in the mind and heart, the center of our emotion and will. A heart that is filled with the Word of YAHWEH is ready to confront and fight the enemy with YAHWEH'S two edge sword.

The mind, according to Webster's Dictionary, is among other things, the seat of consciousness- the intellect in its normal state. It has the ability to store information about anything; its possibilities are infinite and man has not being able to understand completely how it works.

The master mind of the Creator behind it is our YAHWEH revealing His infinite wisdom, leaving man just wondering. But in the complexity of it there is also the need for its sanctification; a sanctified and renewed mind is the light to the body which keeps it from acting wickedly; it is a clean channel for the use of the HOLY SPIRIT. An unrenewed mind, as Watchman Nee says, is spiritually dead; it has no relationship with the spirit, it does not perceive or understand neither accepts the spiritual truth.

The mind works with the heart, the organ of emotion, to perform the will of man. The spiritual success of every believer lies on the renewing of his mind every day; it must not be ruled by the emotion, but by faith; The Word of YAHWEH says, You will keep in perfect peace those whose mind stay on You (Isaiah 26: 3). Perfect peace is the result of a mind that is in relationship with the spirit and free from worries and anxieties. Paul commands us to rid of all anxieties and allow the peace of YAHWEH be in the heart and mind (Phil. 4:6,7). The believer cries for perfect peace with his mind unready to receive His peace. As the verse above states, You will keep in perfect peace, (not just anyone) but only the one whose mind stays on Him. YAHWEH will keep in perfect peace only the mind that will remain in Him; the mind that is committed and hopes confidently in Him. When the mind frets and worries it is because it has lost its position of faith with YAHSHUA and the relationship with the spirit. Therefore it has not being able to resist the devil for him to flee. It has instead, become prey into his deceits.

Gird your mind with faith; trust and rely on YAHWEH'S promises and your mind will be secure and protected against the enemy's schemes.