

Control of Self

KJV Galatians 5:22-24 But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith,

23 Meekness, temperance: against such there is no law.

24 And they that are Christ's have crucified the flesh with the affections and lusts.

Self-control is a fruit of the spirit, a result of allowing The Holy Spirit to work in and through our lives. Giving us the power to crucify our flesh.

We have to crucify our own flesh, no one can do it for us!

Fruit is the product of growth, the natural consequence of a continuous healthy life in Christ.

Fruit is the result of growth; as long as we continue growing in a healthy manner, we will bear fruit.

Self is one's own person, consisting of spirit, soul and body!

Control is to exercise rule, mastery and regulate!

Self-control being in control of our spiritual, emotional and natural life!

Being in control of our **natural life** is ruling over the flesh and reducing the amount of corruption it releases into the world.

The Bible calls the works of the flesh sexual immorality, impurity, sensuality, idolatry etc. (Gal 5:19-21) these all corrupt society!

The soul consists of the mind, will and emotions!

Being in control of our **soul life** is regulating our personality, our will, desires, intellect, ideas and judgment.

KJV Genesis 2:7 And the LORD God formed man of the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living soul.

We could also say the soul is a combination of God's Spirit and God's earth and is both heavenly and earthly.

The spirit of a person is their true self!

Job 33:4 "The Spirit of God has made me, And the breath of the Almighty gives me life.

Being in control of our **spiritual life** is mastering our spirit and the eternal life God gave us, our anointings, gifts and callings.

KJV Proverbs 17:22 A merry heart (mind) doeth good like a medicine: but a broken spirit drieth the bones.

What we allow in our minds effects our spirit and eventually our lives.

KJV Proverbs 18:14 The spirit of a man will sustain his infirmity; but a wounded spirit who can bear?

When we have the proper mastery of our spirit, we can use it to heal the rest of our being!

Our spirit filled and anointed by The Holy Spirit can heal our physical bodies, our souls with emotional problems and traumas or whatever.

Self-Control then is the proper managing of one's self (spirit, soul and body) for the glory of God.

Throughout history people to learned to manage, control and regulate their soul and bodies.

- People have mastered their minds for centuries producing great works of art, music and technology.
- People have mastered their bodies for centuries accomplishing great physical feats in architecture, athletics and fashion.

Yet how many people has history recorded who mastered their spirits (controlled their spirits) and produced great works of love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control?

KJV 1 Corinthians 9:25 And every man that striveth for the mastery is temperate in all things. Now they do it to obtain a corruptible crown; but we an incorruptible.

Paul says anyone who enters an athletic contest with the desire to win must first **master** themselves, go into strict training and is **temperate (controls)** all things.

KJV Philippians 2:12 Wherefore, my beloved, as ye have always obeyed, not as in my presence only, but now much more in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling.

❖ **It's time we learn mastery of self!**

KJV Proverbs 25:28 He that hath no rule over his own spirit is like a city that is broken down, and without walls.

The most valuable part of a person, is their heart (spirit)!

- Mastering the **heart (spirit)** is the key to exercising great power!

KJV Proverbs 4:23 Keep thy heart (master & protect your spirit/soul mind) with all diligence; for out of it are the issues of life.

As we see an escalation of wickedness in the world, as people **master** evil they are excelling in new ways to commit crimes.

It's time for the believers to **develop self-control** and **master** ourselves so we can easily walk in the power of God!

KJV Philippians 2:13 For it is God which worketh in you both to will and to do of his good pleasure.

God works in us by His Spirit increasing our capacity to contain Him!

As we continually yield to The LORD He empowers us to do His will!

KJV 2 Corinthians 4:7 But we have this treasure in earthen vessels, that the excellency of the power may be of God, and not of us.

There's a treasure in the spirit of children of God, treasure contains **many** valuable things.

We are walking, talking, living, breathing treasuries of God's power, we contain all kinds of powers!

A **treasury** is *a room or storehouse for the future.*

We have power to spare because God gave us powers for now and the future.

....the powers of the world to come..! (Heb 6:5b)

This treasure produces **powers** within us (**Anointings, The fruit and gifts of The Holy Spirit**).

We must discipline ourselves so we can **master** these powers because they are needed **now and the world to come!**