

The Flesh and Demons Part 2!

KJV 2 Corinthians 7:1 Having therefore these promises, dearly beloved, let us cleanse ourselves from all filthiness of the flesh and spirit, perfecting holiness in the fear of God.

Last week we started a discussion about **cleansing the flesh and spirit**.

There are **Three Cleansing Agents** in The Kingdom of God.

- **The Word, The Spirit and The Blood of Jesus Christ!**

1. The Word!

GWN Psalm 119:9 How can a young person keep his life (clean) pure? He can do it by holding on to (and living according to) your word.

Joh 15:3 "You are already clean because of the word which I have spoken to you.

The disciples minds were cleansed by The (**Word**) they received following Jesus.

KJV Ephesians 5:26 That he might sanctify and cleanse it with the washing of water by the word.

2. The Holy Spirit!

1 Corinthians 6:9 Don't you know that wicked people won't inherit the kingdom of God? Stop deceiving yourselves! People who continue to commit sexual sins, who worship false gods, those who commit adultery, homosexuals,

10 or thieves, those who are greedy or drunk, who use abusive language, or who rob people will not inherit the kingdom of God.

11 And such were some of you. **But you were washed, you were sanctified, you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and by the Spirit of our God.**

Tit 3:5 He saved us, not on the basis of deeds which we have done in righteousness, but according to His mercy, by the washing of regeneration and renewing by the Holy Spirit..!

3. The Blood of Jesus

Hebrews 9:14 How much more shall the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself without spot to God, purge your **conscience** (soul or life) from dead works to serve the living God?

The **Word** cleanses our **minds**, The **Spirit** cleanses our **hearts** and the **Blood of Jesus** cleanses our **lives**.

KJV Matthew 12:43-45 *When the unclean spirit is gone out of a man, he walketh through dry places, seeking rest, and findeth none.*

44 *Then he saith, I will return into my house from whence I came out; and when he is come, he findeth it empty, swept, and garnished.*

45 *Then goeth he, and taketh with himself seven other spirits more wicked than himself, and they enter in and dwell there: and the last state of that man is worse than the first. Even so shall it be also unto this wicked generation.*

The house was cleaned out, put in order but left **empty!**

The body and soul were clean but spiritually empty!

- **Empty** means it was swept clean, nothing dirty remained.

Garnished is from the Greek word *kosmeo* meaning arranged, set in order and decorated. Where we get the word *cosmetics* from.

There are many (dare I say) in the church who are fixed up and looking good on the outside with nothing of God on the inside.

We weren't created to be empty, eventually something will fill the void, the question is if you're not full of God what are you full of?

After we get cleaned out, we need to be filled with a clean spirit!

When the **unclean spirit or demon** comes back, **he** (**masculine**) finds the person **beautifully** adorned but empty inside, so he goes and gets **seven** spirits more wicked than himself to live inside the person.

Just having a physical relationship with Jesus through religious services, is not enough and demons don't mind going to church.

KJV Mark 1:23 *And there was in their synagogue a man with an unclean spirit; and he cried out,*

24 *Saying, Let us alone; what have we to do with thee, thou Jesus of Nazareth? art thou come to destroy us? I know thee who thou art, the Holy One of God.*

That unclean spirit was fine going to church until The Word was preached!

People have been serving God for years and never let The Holy Spirit come in and live in them. So, they are fleshly, carnal and weak.

Matthew 15:7 You hypocrites! Well did Isaiah prophesy of you, when he said:

*8 "This people honors me with their lips, but their heart is far from me;
9 Their worship of me is pointless, because their teachings are rules made by humans."*

A **hypocrite is an actor!** Jesus calls people actors that love to have church, but don't live by the power of The Spirit!

Remember an **actor** is someone **pretending** to be some else, no matter how good their performance, they can never be that person!

ESV Matthew 22:36 "Teacher, which is the great commandment in the Law?"

37 And he said to him, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind."

Jesus said this is the **greatest commandment of all!** Why?

Because giving God control of our **heart, soul and mind** is letting The Holy Spirit live inside us, cleansing our thoughts, will and desires.

It's allowing God to have our internal eternal self, the real you!

If the flesh is directing our thoughts, will and desires we don't love God!

Jesus said when He leaves The Father will send another just like Himself.

Jesus chose 12 disciples and poured His life into them, The Holy Spirit fell upon 120 people at once, 10 times as many as Jesus started with.

KJV Matthew 12:28 But if I cast out devils by the Spirit of God, then the kingdom of God is come unto you.

Jesus came to the **strongman's** house bound him and took his goods.

When the demons came back there was nothing in the person powerful enough to resist them, so they go and get seven more demons.

After salvation people **must** be Spirit filled in order to **not only** stay victorious over sin, but in order to advance The Kingdom of God!

We must constantly apply **The Word, The Spirit and The Blood of Jesus** to maintain and gain the victory over the forces of darkness!

Remaining **spiritual clean** can only happen when we **stay in The Word, get refilled with The Spirit and Plead The Blood.**

Staying in The Word by reading, studying and meditating on The Word daily cleanses the mind! (Psa 119:9 & Eph 5:26)

Being refilled with The Spirit by worship, prayer and thanksgiving refills us with The Spirit! (Eph 5:18 & Acts 4:31)

Pleading The Blood is applying our legal rights (**through the precious blood of Jesus**) to any situation as a defense against all wickedness.

*KJV Hebrews 9:22 And almost all things are by the law purged (**cleansed**) with blood; and without shedding of blood is no remission.*

Remission means “**sending back.**”