

Human Wholeness (Walking in the Truth)

For the past few months we have been looking at Christian transformation as human wholeness, the purpose of which is to glorify God with every aspect of our lives. This is a work only God can do, yet we are invited to cooperate with His intent and action, to psychologically and physically affirm the truth of our new creationness.

According to I Thessalonians 5:23-24, God created us to function spiritually, psychologically, and physically. To speak of the human spirit is to speak of our habitation capacity for God (which atheistic materialism denies). It is the absence of the Spirit of God in the human spirit that leads to all our fragmentation and disintegration and ultimately to an eternal death. But, when a human being turns to Christ, believing Him to be Savior and confessing Him as Lord, God freely causes His whole and holy nature to abide in us - we are made one spirit with Him (I Cor 6:17).

We still have the soulish or psychological capacity to feel and to think and to choose. Having been conditioned to do so apart from God, our soul now needs to be "saved" (James 1:21) by the indwelling Word Himself. As we agree to be led by the Holy Spirit, our soul is increasingly tuned and turned to the Truth and we are being delivered from our damaged, diseased and deceived habit patterns of thinking, feeling and choosing.

Through our bodies, we relate to the world. Created to be instruments of His expressions for His indwelling Life, our bodies are neither evil nor to be feared. As we present every member of our bodies to God as instruments of His righteous Life (Ro 6:19; 12:1-2), we become visible expressions of the invisible nature of God in us. Together, our bodies become His Body on earth to bear personal witness to Who He is and what He is able to do.

Through it all, God is teaching us by His Truth not to give ascendancy to either soul or body, but to realize that wholeness, maturity, transformation occurs only as the Truth - what God says - has the preeminence in our lives. We know by now that neither our bodies nor our souls always tell us the truth. But, since God is Truth, He is always reliable and will never disappoint us (I Pet 2:6). The Truth Himself is able to set us free - free to live and move and have our being, without hindrance, according to our nature - according to the very Life of Christ in us.

The Sprit of Truth Himself abides in us (Jo 14:16-17; 16:13: II Jo 1:2). We may suppress the truth (Ro 1:18), exchange it for a lie (Ro 1:25), refuse to obey it (Ro 2:8) or, we may rejoice with the truth (I Co 13:6), obey the truth (I Pet 1:22), set our mind on what is true (Phil 4:8). The former is walking in the lie; the latter is walking in the truth (II Jo 1:4). We experience wholeness and wellness, completion and maturity, only when we authorize God to inform us. When we marry our chooser to the truth, the whole and holy life of Christ finds His expression in and through us... making us whole.



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GREETINGS

A few years ago, we asked if any of you would be interested in receiving our newsletter electronically in order to save paper, printing and postage costs. At that time, only a handful of you were inclined to do this, so we dropped the idea. However, a number of you have recently requested such a change.

If you would indeed prefer to no longer receive a paper copy of the newsletter, but would like to receive it electronically, please email your request to

OICnewsletter@Gmail.com

In the interest of being a little more "green" and cost efficient, we will gladly make the change. Feel free to also use this email address for physical address changes and prayer requests. However, any further correspondence with Steve is still preferred to be via phone at 386-418-0913.

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- ✝ Disaster relief teams in Japan and New Zealand
- ✝ Our church elders to know the fullness of the truth

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