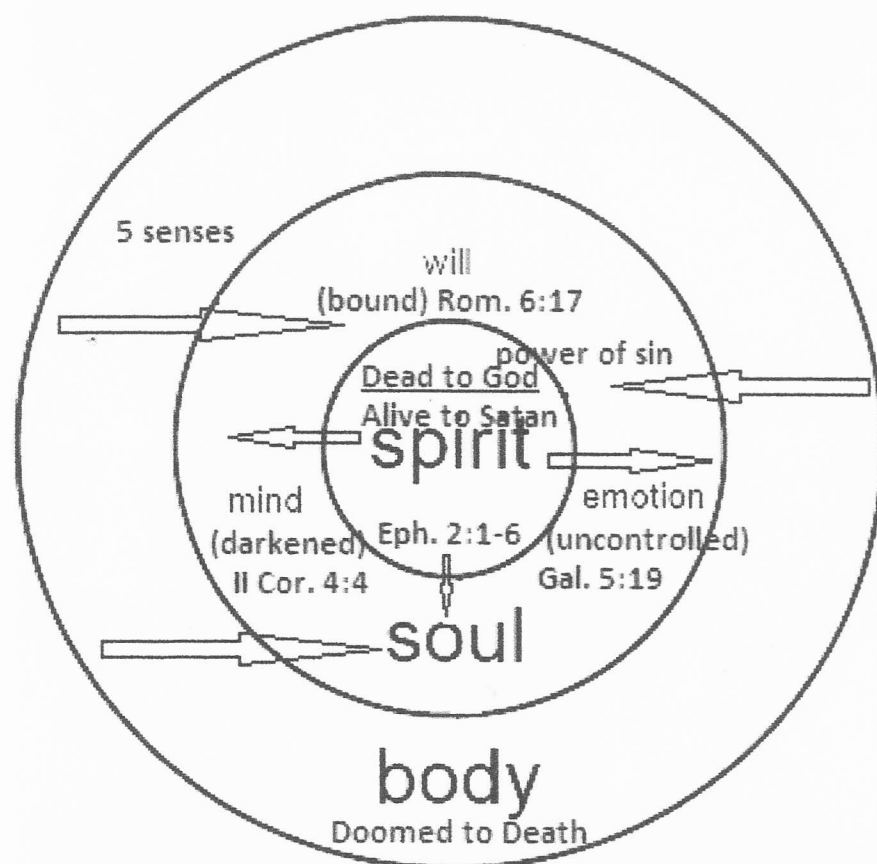


Natural Man



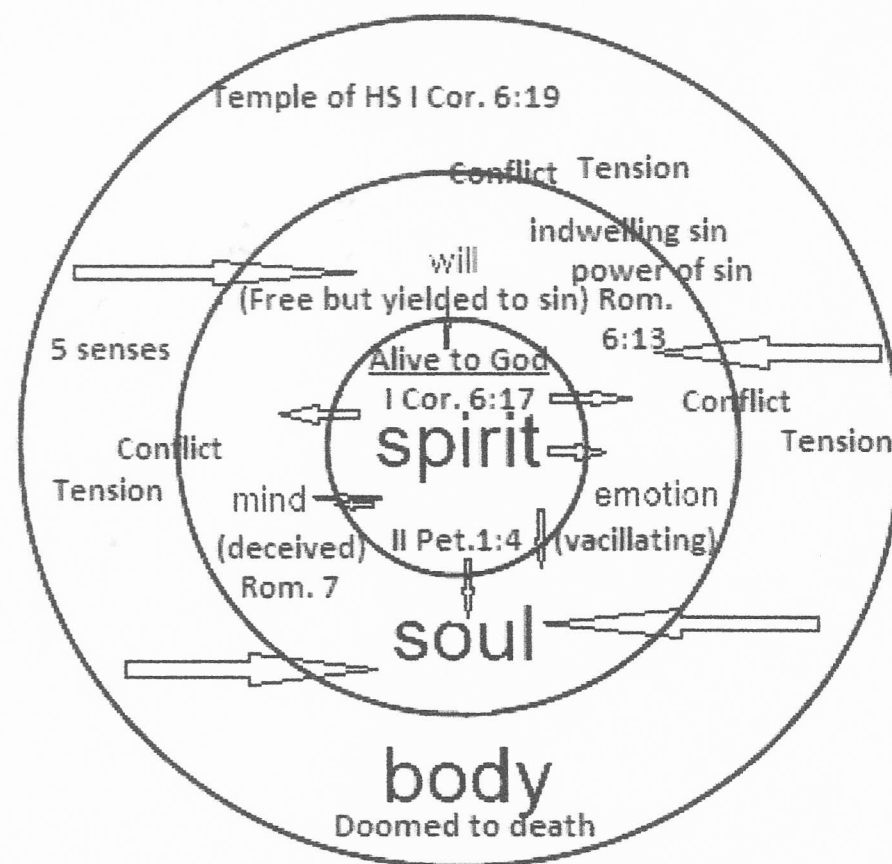
Soul (personality) under dominion of old man resulting in flesh position.
Satan and the Worldly support system has access from within and without.

The spirit can not perceive or understand the things of God.
I Cor. 2:14

Outcome: Domination

1 Thessalonians 5:23

Carnal Christian



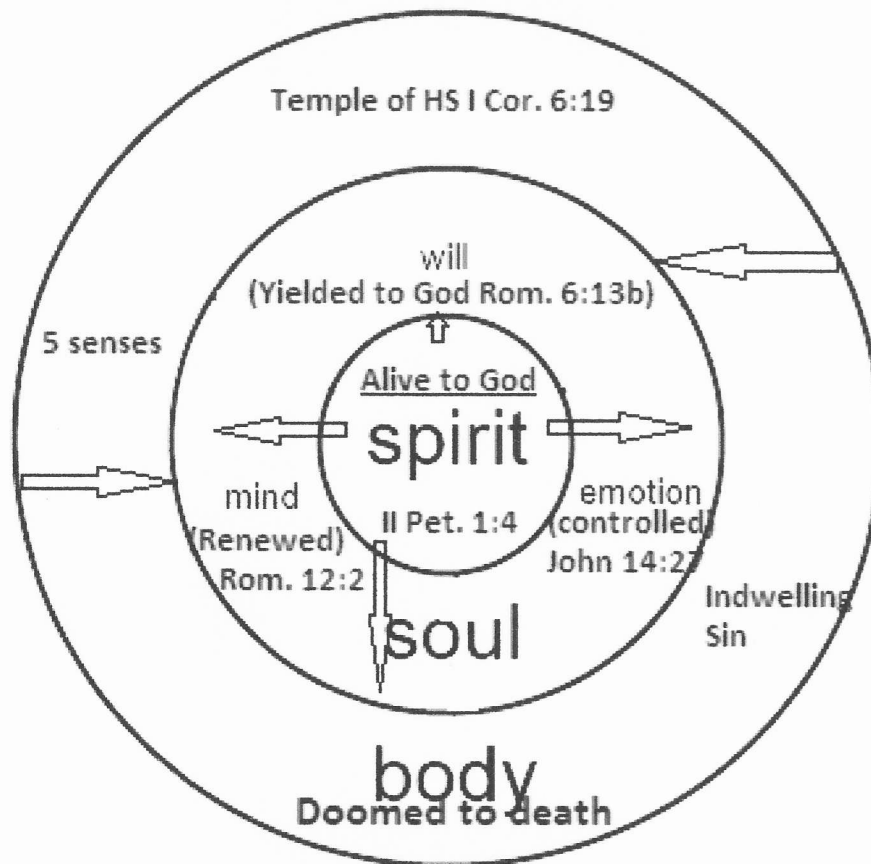
Soul (personality) under dominion of indwelling sin, flesh position
Satan has access from worldly pressures and indwelling sin.
The HS is working and living in the person and desiring the person to surrender and yield to him.

This sets up conflict between the flesh and spirit.

Outcome: Defeat

1 Thessalonians 5:23

Spiritual Man



Soul (personality) under dominion of indwelling H.S.
 Satan and the worldly system continue to pressure the believer.
 The believer, yielding to the HS, resists the pressures of the
 enemy, moment by moment. James 4:7

Outcome: Deliverance

1 Thessalonians 5:23

RECONCILING THE PAST By: Victor M. Matthews

The Bible exhorts the believer to live according to the truth. When we fail to do so we suffer spiritual loss. We are told to confess and reject all sinful patterns of past behavior and not allow these to influence us today (Tit. 2:12; I Pet. 1:14,18). All neglect of such responsibility will cause repercussions in other areas of life— emotional, mental, physical, and spiritual. The apostle Paul could say *forgetting those things which are behind* (Phil. 3:13) only because he had reconciled his past (vs. 4-12).

We have all been taught error. For most of us, we were taught error in how we were treated in those early years of our life. It is vitally important that we find and reconcile these errors because sin, with its bondage, almost always finds its source and power in error. Because of this relationship of sin to error, many believers seek to confess their sin, according to I John 1:9, only to find that nothing really happens. The reason such confession does not work is that we are only confessing the fruit of our sin (the act with its bondage) and not its root (the error that produced it).

Some of the patterns of thought and action we may have received from our past may be due to errors about God (1), or ourselves (2), or about some event in our life (3). Or, perhaps we were given responsibilities beyond our ability (4), or taught wrong values (5). Many of us have adopted patterns of life that made us passive, or defensive, or negative. Some of us have developed incorrect relationships, or self-defeating ways of responding to people or life itself (6). One of the most serious errors is to accept injustice, false guilt, and hurts without putting the blame where it belongs and dealing with it.

It is helpful to go back into one's life and deal with the past on the basis of the truth. When we do so, we are seeking to honor God and obey His Word. Follow these suggestions carefully.

Ask the Lord to turn His searchlight on you and your past. Trust Him to bring to your remembrance all those times which you need to reconcile. Make a choice — before God — to be honest.

1. Write out past hurts and error.

Start with your earliest memories as a child. Write out (reject the temptation to just think about it or talk it out) — write out every time you accepted error, sinned, or were hurt. Be complete, name the people involved, state what happened, be truthful and honest, do not protect yourself or other people, and do not fantasize.

2. Evaluate the past event on the basis of the truth.

If you sinned, then confess it to God truthfully and receive His forgiveness and cleansing (I John 1:9). If you were incorrectly taught or hurt by someone, and it was their fault, then write at the end of your account "... they should not have done that to me."

3. Be angry!

For those times in which injustice was involved — it is right, even necessary, to become angry about it. God commands us to be angry at such times. (Eph. 4:26)

Find some way of expressing your anger without striking out impulsively and hurting someone or yourself. Perhaps you need to become emotional in "telling someone off" as you describe the injustice and pound something with a club. Don't look upon yourself as though you are "above" such activity. You may need to do so — if you are going to be free. This may take a good deal of time.

4. Then, forgive.

When you have finished writing out the event, and have been able to express yourself emotionally so that you are “cleaned out” and can look back on the event without deep stirrings within, then stop and completely forgive the person (Mark 11:25,26).

If you were at fault in some way, then confess that to God. This, again, will take time. Keep at it even though you may not feel any different toward the person who hurt you. **Forgiveness is an act of the will — not the emotions.**

5. Now, do these two things:

When you have finished each event, understand the error you have accepted and know how to deal with it, have confessed your own sins, and forgiven those who have sinned against you — then carefully do two things.

a. Make an affirmation.

Make an affirmation that Satan, the Accuser, may no longer use what you have written out against you. State audibly with firmness,

“In the name of the Lord Jesus Christ, I take this event away from Satan and declare that he may not use it against me anymore.” (Eph. 4:27, 5:11, 6:14)

b. Chose to receive healing and make a statement..

“I choose to receive the healing the Lord Jesus died to provide for those who believe in Him and live according to His Word.” (Isaiah 53:5).

State audibly the following:

“Now that I have made this right with You, Heavenly Father, I receive the healing You have provided for me.”

6. Count it finished.

When you have finished your work (do not overlook the grudges you may have against God), then count it finished. When you think of a bad event in your past, then state:

“I have dealt with that truthfully and it is settled.”

When you sin today -- confess, forgive, and make the affirmations.

YOU MAY HAVE BELIEVED ERRORS ABOUT ...

- a. God — Errors that God is not good, or faithful, or that He is like our parents, or that He is not wise, loving, and powerful enough to understand and care for us and our problems.
- b. Yourself — Errors that indicate we are inferior, or worthless, or ugly, or always guilty, or a loser, or have been abandoned by God.
- c. Your guilt — Errors that we were guilty about some event when we were not, or that something happened when it didn't.
- d. Errors that caused one to have obligations too soon, and caused a loss of childhood, or deep scars between family members.
- e. Errors that made one into a workaholic, or rageaholic, or a drug addict, or an alcoholic, or a recluse, or a legalist, or frigid.
- f. Errors related to retreating from life, or manipulating people, or allowing people to manipulate us, or protecting ourselves, or overly aggressive and dominant.

FREEDOM IN CHRIST
STEP 7 — ACQUIESCENCE VS. RENUNCIATION (BLESSINGS VS. CURSES)
GENERATIONAL WORKSHEET

Scripture teaches that the sin of one generation affects future generations. Promises made by others in the family lines before us may affect future generations. (Study David and Jonathan in I Samuel 16-24.) Familiar spirits can be passed on from one generation to the next if they are not renounced. Because of this transference, we must confess not only our own sins, but also the sins of our fathers and mothers, grandparents, and great-grandparents from each family line which has been joined together in our ancestral history.

While we are not guilty of the sins of our ancestors, because of their sin, Satan may have gained access to your family. These things may control us until we renounce them. This is not to deny that many problems are transmitted genetically or acquired from an immoral atmosphere. In addition, deceived people may try to curse you, or satanic groups may try to target you. You have all the authority and protection you need in Christ to stand against such curses and assignments.

The issue of the transference of generational sins is described by Mark Bubeck in his book *The Rise of Fallen Angels* as follows:

"The Word of God hints that when demonic powers get their hooks into a person's life, a problem of transfer to succeeding generations is created. These fallen angels can control a human person only as long as that person lives. When he/she dies, the demonic powers continue to live. Seeking to continue their mission for Satan, they look to the most direct claim for their next work: this seems to be the deceased person's children, grandchildren, nieces, and nephews. Thus demonization becomes a generational problem."

Some scriptures to consider:

- *You show love to thousands but bring punishment for the fathers' sins into the laps of their children after them.* Jer. 32:18
- *I, the Lord your God, am a jealous God, punishing the children for the sin of the fathers to the third and fourth generation of those who hate me, but showing love to a thousand generations of those who love Me and keep My commandments..* Ex. 20:4, 6
- *I confess the sins we Israelites, including myself and my father's house, have committed against You.* Neh. 1:6.
- *...They stood in their places and confessed their sins and the wickedness of their fathers.* Neh. 9:2-3
- *When the crowd wanted Pilate to crucify Jesus, Pilate said, 'I am innocent of all this man's blood. It is your responsibility!' All the people answered, 'Let His blood be on us and on our children!'* Mt. 27:25
- *Understanding of generational sins is common to people. In the story of the man who was born blind, ... His disciples asked Him, 'Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?'* John 9:2
- *Do not hold against us the sins of the fathers; may Your mercy come quickly to meet us.* Psalms 79:8
- *Know therefore that the Lord your God is God; He is the faithful God, keeping His covenant of love to a thousand generations of those who love Him and keep His commands. But those who hate Him He will repay to their face by destruction; He will not be slow to repay to their face those who hate Him.* Dt. 7:8-10
- *The righteous man leads a blameless life; blessed are his children after him.* Prov. 20:7

Scripture tells us that there is cleansing when generational sin is confessed (*Lev. 26:30-42*). So it is important for us to confess these sins. Ask the Lord to reveal to you the things you need to deal with by praying the following prayer from your heart.

Dear Heavenly Father, I thank You that I am a new creation in Christ. I desire to obey Your command to honor my mother and my father, but I also acknowledge that my heritage has not been perfect. I ask you to reveal to my mind the sins and iniquities of my ancestors in order to confess, renounce and forsake them. In Jesus' powerful Name I pray. Amen.

continued

GENERATIONAL WORKSHEET

List the areas of sin, including acts, addictions, attitudes, emotions, illnesses, etc. that you have seen in any relatives that have been repeated in yourself or your children. Check back on the Non-Christian Inventory Checklist, the Fears and Idolatry Worksheets, and Bondage (Step 6) to see any recurring problem that has affected more than one person in your family line.

DECLARATION:

I here and now reject and disown all the sins and iniquities of my ancestors, including (name them). As one who has been delivered from the power of darkness and translated into the kingdom of God's dear Son, I cancel out all demonic working that has been passed on to me from my ancestors. As one who has been crucified and raised with Jesus Christ and who sits with Him in heavenly places, I renounce all satanic assignments that are directed toward me, my family, and my ministry, and I cancel every curse that Satan and his workers have put upon me. I announce to Satan and all his forces that Christ became a curse for me (Gal. 3:13) when He died for my sins on the cross. I reject any and every way in which Satan may claim ownership of me. I belong to the Lord Jesus Christ who purchased me with His own blood. I reject all other blood sacrifices whereby Satan may claim ownership of me. I declare myself to be eternally and completely signed over and committed to the Lord Jesus Christ. By the authority I have in Jesus Christ, I now command every spiritual enemy of the Lord Jesus Christ to leave my presence. I commit myself to my Heavenly Father to do His will from this day forward.

PRAYER

Dear Heavenly Father,

I come to You as Your child purchased by the blood of the Lord Jesus Christ. You are the Lord of the universe and the Lord of my life. I submit my body to You as an instrument of righteousness, a living sacrifice, that I may glorify You in my body. I now ask You to fill me with Your Holy Spirit. I commit myself to the renewing of my mind in order to prove that your will is good, perfect and acceptable for me. All this I do in the name and authority of the Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

Remember, too the blessings to the positive side of generational obedience....*the Lord's love is with those who fear Him, and His righteousness with their children's children — with those who keep His covenant and remember to obey His precepts.* Ps. 103:17-18

Wesley Duewel tells us in his book Revival Fire: *'The holy influence of a godly person can extend over several generations even if his or her prayers are rejected by one or two generations. These prayers live on and may yet be answered in succeeding generations. Prayer is a tremendous treasure with which to endow descendants for generation after generation. David was a man of prayer. For David's sake, God blessed Israel again and again over the centuries.'*

By: Larry and Ruth Crossman

What Is True About Me According To the Scripture

	What I Feel or Thing About Myself	What Is True About Me According To the Scriptures=	Scripture
1	I am unworthy / unacceptable.	I am accepted / worthy.	Rom. 15:7; Ps. 139
2	I am alone.	I am never alone.	Heb. 13:5b; Rom. 8:38,39
3	I feel like a failure / inadequate.	I am adequate.	II Cor. 3:5,6; Phil. 4:13
4	I have no confidence.	I have all the boldness / confidence I need.	Prov. 3:26, 14:26, 28:1; Heb. 10:19; Eph. 3:12
5	I feel responsible for my life.	God is responsible / faithful to me.	Phil. 1:6, 2:13; II Thess. 3:3; Ps. 138:8
6	I am confused / think I am going crazy.	I have the mind of Christ.	I Cor. 2:16; II Tim. 1:7
7	I am depressed / hopeless.	I have all the hope I need.	Rom. 15:13; Ps. 16:11, 27:13, 31:24
8	I am not good enough / imperfect.	I am perfect in Christ.	Heb. 10:14; II Cor. 5:21
9	There is nothing special about me.	I have been chosen / set apart by God.	Ps. 139; I Cor. 1:30, 6:11; Eph. 1:4; Heb. 10:10, 14
10	I don't have enough.	I have no lack.	Phil. 4:19
11	I am a fearful / anxious person.	I am free from fear.	Ps. 34:4; II Tim. 1:7; I Pet. 5:7; I Jn. 4:18
12	I lack faith.	I have all the faith I need.	Rom. 12:3
13	I am a weak person.	I am strong in Christ.	Dan. 11:32; Ps. 27:34; Phil. 4:13
14	I am defeated.	I am victorious.	II Cor. 2:14; I Jn. 5:4
15	I am not very smart.	I have God's wisdom.	Prov. 2:6, 7; I Cor. 1:30
16	I am in bondage.	I am free in Christ.	Ps. 32:7; II Cor. 3:17; Jn. 8:36
17	I am miserable.	I have God's comfort.	Matt. 11:28; II Cor. 1:3, 4
18	I have no one to take care of me.	I am protected / safe.	Ps. 32:7
19	I am unloved.	I am very loved.	Jn. 15:9; Rom. 8:38, 39; Eph. 2:4, 5:1; I Jn. 3:1
20	I am unwanted / don't belong to anyone.	I have been adopted by God. I am His child.	Rom. 8:16, 17; Gal. 4:5; Eph. 1:5; I Jn. 3:2
21	I feel guilty.	I am totally forgiven / redeemed.	Ps. 103:12; Eph. 1:7; Col. 1:14
22	I am a sinner.	I have been declared holy, righteous and justified. I am a saint.	Rom. 3:24; I Cor. 1:30, 6:11; II Cor. 5:21
23	I have no strength.	I have God's power. I am indwelt with the Holy Spirit.	Acts 1:8; Eph. 1:19, 3:16; Rom. 8:9-11
24	I can't reach God.	I have direct access to God as a believer-priest.	Eph. 2:6; I Pet. 2:5
25	I feel condemned.	I am uncondemned / blameless.	Jn. 3:18; Rom. 8:1
26	There is no direction / plan.	I have been created for good works / God knows my way.	Ps. 37:23, 138:8; Jn. 10:10; Eph. 2:10
27	I feel like nothing will ever change.	I have been given a brand new life.	II Cor. 5:7
28	I am afraid of Satan.	I have authority over Satan.	Col. 1:13; Jn. 4:4; Ref. 12:11
29	Sin overpowers me.	I am dead to sin.	Rom. 6:11

THE CHRISTIAN AND HIS SELF-WORTH

By: Victor M. Matthews

INTRODUCTION

- A. We know from the Bible, as well as from science, the power of truth and error.
- B. One of the more important truths that we must know, if we are to be successful Christians, is to understand the truth about ourselves.
- C. Many of our problems failures, and sins are largely due to our misunderstanding of the kind of a person we are. One profound result of this is our lack of self-worth. We have accepted serious errors about our worth and these limit us.
- D. We cannot solve this problem by comparing ourselves with one another nor by attempting to generate good feelings about ourselves. Only through accepting what the Bible says and responding by faith can we be helped.

I. THE CHRISTIAN HAS BEEN CREATED IN THE IMAGE AND LIKENESS OF GOD.

- *And God said, let Us make man in Our image, after Our likeness, and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth. So God created man in his own image, in the image of God created He him male and female created He them. Gen. 1:16,17*

We must begin with our creation because only here can we begin to understand ourselves. Since God is a Person of infinite perfection — to be created in His image means we are persons — of great potential and value.

To be a person means not only self-consciousness but self-determination. We have the ability to make profound far-reaching decisions. As a person we have many rights: to know, to be heard, to feel, to have an opinion, to be honored, to develop potential, to assume responsibility, to enjoy life. God treats us as persons. We may not treat ourselves as less.

The term “spiritual” would designate the kind of a person we are. We are not basically body, mind, emotion, or will. God created us to know Him, to understand spiritual truth, and perform spiritual functions. We are by creation a sacred person. We commit a profound sin when we do not develop our potential and live as though life and fulfillment were sensual.

Once we accept error about ourselves, and we all have, due to the Fall, then we almost always will use that error to interpret (misinterpret) the events, relationships, and opportunities of life — as well as our own functions. Without realizing it we bring confusion and failure into many if not all the areas of our life.

One of the clearest evidences that we do not know, accept and practice the Biblical truth of our self-worth is seen in our response to the Word of God. Too often we read the promises and say, “I can’t be like that.” Or we read the commandments and say, “I can’t do that.” When we live with such unbelief and error in our life the result is often that of confusion, discouragement and criticism.

continued

II. THE CHRISTIAN HAS BEEN AND IS LOVED BY GOD.

- *As the Father hath loved Me, so have I loved you, continue ye in My love.* John 15:9
- *...that the world may know that Thou hast sent Me, and hast loved them, as Thou has loved Me.* John 17:23

COMMENT:

To be loved by God means that He recognized us as persons, gives us our rightful place in His life, and will do what is right by us, in seeking our good, even though it involves suffering. We must accept this truth.

III. THE CHRISTIAN HAS BEEN CALLED TO LIVE IN FELLOWSHIP WITH GOD.

- *God is faithful, by whom ye were called unto the fellowship of His Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.* 1 Cor. 1:9.

COMMENT:

No greater honor could be bestowed upon us than to be invited to fellowship with God. As we do, the door is open so He can minister to us and lead us into the knowledge and practice of His will.

IV. THE CHRISTIAN HAS BEEN GIVEN DIVINE REVELATION

- *God, who at sundry times and in divers manners spake in time past unto the fathers by the prophets, hath in these last days spoken to us by His son, whom He hath appointed heir of all things, by whom also He made the worlds.* Heb. 1:13

COMMENT:

Divine revelation is the greatest possession that one could ever receive. There is nothing more powerful than the truth about God and His plan for our daily life. What profound sin we commit when we neglect and disobey the Word of God.

V. THE CHRISTIAN HAS BEEN MADE THE OBJECT OF DIVINE REDEMPTION.

- *But God commendeth His love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us. Much more then, being now justified by His blood, we shall be saved from wrath through Him.* Rom. 5:8,9

COMMENT:

The great evidence of divine love and our worth — is seen in redemption. The Christian can say with Paul, “... I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave Himself for me.” Gal. 2:20

VI. THE CHRISTIAN HAS BEEN MADE THE TEMPLE OF THE HOLY SPIRIT.

- *What? Know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit which is in you, which ye have of God, and ye are not your own? For ye are bought with a price, therefore glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God's.* 1 Cor. 6:19,20

COMMENT:

We have all read of the Old Testament tabernacle and tried to imagine what it meant when it was filled with the glory of God. Today, every believer is God's temple. He wants to manifest Himself to us and then through us.

CONCLUSION:

The only way we will know true self-worth is to accept what the Bible says about us and respond by faith and love to its message.
