

FINDING YOUR GOD INTENDED PURPOSE IN LIFE

“LIVING BY THE HOLY SPIRIT”

In our last two lectures we looked at how we are locked into our old sinful nature, which Paul calls the flesh, and how we are totally incapable of keeping the Law of God because of the weakness of our old nature. We came to the conclusion, that living by the flesh and trying to keep the Law of God was not the way to live the Christian life, instead we are to live it by the Holy Spirit. When we believe in the Lord Jesus Christ, that is, put our trust in him as our personal saviour we are born again of the Spirit.

Listen to the words of Jesus, John 3:8, “The wind blows wherever it pleases. You hear the sound, but you cannot tell where it comes from or where it is going. So it is with everyone born of the Spirit.” Like the wind the Holy Spirit is invisible but not like the wind the Holy Spirit is a person, a divine person, he is God. The bible teaches there is one God of Three divine personalities, Father Son and Holy Spirit.

When we are born of the Spirit, the Spirit comes to live in us. 1Corinthians 6:19,20, “___your bodies are temples of the Holy Spirit, who is in you, whom you have received from God. You are not your own; you were bought at a price. Therefore honour God with your bodies.” The price was the precious blood of Jesus. The divine personality of the Holy Spirit who is an equal part of the Godhead comes into you, beside your personality, to work with you in living the Christian life. Because he is spirit and has no body he, like the wind, can be everywhere at once. Just like the wind can be blowing all around the world so the Spirit can come into hearts all around the world when they accept Jesus as their personal saviour.

Let’s remind ourselves that the Holy Spirit is God! God is “All Powerful” “God lives in Me!” So let us look at what the bible says what God the Holy Spirit can do in us. He can fill our hearts with joy. When the apostles were beaten for preaching about Jesus we read, “The apostles left the Sanhedrin (Jewish leaders) rejoicing because they had been counted worthy of suffering disgrace for the Name.” Acts 5:41 They had just been beaten and ordered not to preach about Jesus and the Holy Spirit filled their hearts with joy, joy in difficult circumstances. He can do the same for us in the difficult situations we face in life.

He can fill our minds with thoughts of the wonder and the glory of God and his Salvation. “Those who live according to the flesh have their minds set on what the flesh desires; but those who live in accordance with the Spirit have their minds set on what the Spirit desires.” Romans 8:5.

He can put to death (gives us victory over) the misdeeds of the body (the actions of our old sinful nature, the flesh) “For if you live according to the flesh you will die (spiritually) but if by the Spirit you put to death the misdeeds of the body (the old nature) you will live.” (a life of victory) Romans 8:13. “---walk by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the flesh. For the flesh desires what is contrary to the Spirit, and the Spirit what is contrary to the flesh. They are in conflict with each other----“ Galatians 5:16,17. The more we walk by the Spirit, live by the Spirit, the less we will gratify the desires of the flesh, the old sinful nature.

Ephesians 5:18 says, “Do not get drunk on wine, which leads to debauchery. Instead, be filled with the Spirit.” To walk by the Spirit, to live by the Spirit is the same as being filled by the Spirit. Getting drunk on wine is a perfect picture of someone gratifying the desires of the flesh but to be filled with the Spirit is to be lifted above that, to walk on a higher plane of victory. Instead of being stimulated by the flesh you are being stimulated and satisfied by fellowship with God.

Imagine yourself living in a house alone and you decide to ask your brother to come and live with you. He has just won a competition to find the strongest man in the world and he comes to live with you. You now have the strongest man living in the world living at your place. Every Christian has the strongest, most powerful person in the universe living in them, the Holy Spirit. Now suppose you had unruly neighbours living next door who would come into your house uninvited and take food out of your frig and eat it dropping crumbs on the floor, and just mess your house up. You try to stop them coming in but they are too strong for you. No matter how hard you try you just can't get rid of them, then suddenly you remember your brother, the strongest man in the world, is living with you now, you call out to him, he suddenly appears. The moment the neighbours see him, big, powerful and strong, standing there, they run for their lives.

Do you get the picture? If you are trying to live your Christian life by your own efforts and strength you will fail, but if you work together with the Holy Spirit, who is God, the most powerful person in the universe and all other universes you will have victory.

A CHRISTIAN SUDDENLY
REALIZES THAT GOD THE
HOLY SPIRIT, THE MOST
POWERFUL PERSON IN THE
UNIVERSE, IS LIVING IN
HIM !

OLD MOTHER
SINFUL NATURE
AND HER FAMILY
OF SELF GRATIFYING
DESIRES



**WALK IN THE SPIRIT AND YOU
WILL NOT GRATIFY THE DESIRES
OF THE OLD SINFUL NATURE.**

GALATIANS 5:16

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