

Session 2: Worship in Spirit & Truth



RECAP OF SESSION 1

- Worship is a Natural Instinct. It's an attitude of the heart.
- We are created for the purpose of worship.
- Worship is our highest destiny as believers.
- Worship is an extreme form of Love. It comes from the Spirit.
- Adam – Kingly call/Priestly Call/Prophetic call
- Sin distanced Adam from God.
- After that, God called individuals – Noah, Abraham, Jacob, Moses.
- Then He chose the nation of Israel.
- He dwelt with them in the Sanctuary.
- Gave them commandments.
- Led them through Priests, Kings and Prophets until Jesus.
- Jesus – Worship in Spirit and in Truth -
- Ultimate Restoration – Royal Priesthood and a Holy Nation.

WORSHIP IN SPIRIT & IN TRUTH

1 Thessalonians 5:23 *“And the God of peace Himself sanctify you wholly, and may your spirit and soul and body be preserved complete, without blame, at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.”*

The 3 Parts of Man

SPIRIT

The **spirit** of a man is the **inmost part of him, possessing God-consciousness** that we may connect with God.” We connect with God in the **spiritual realm**.

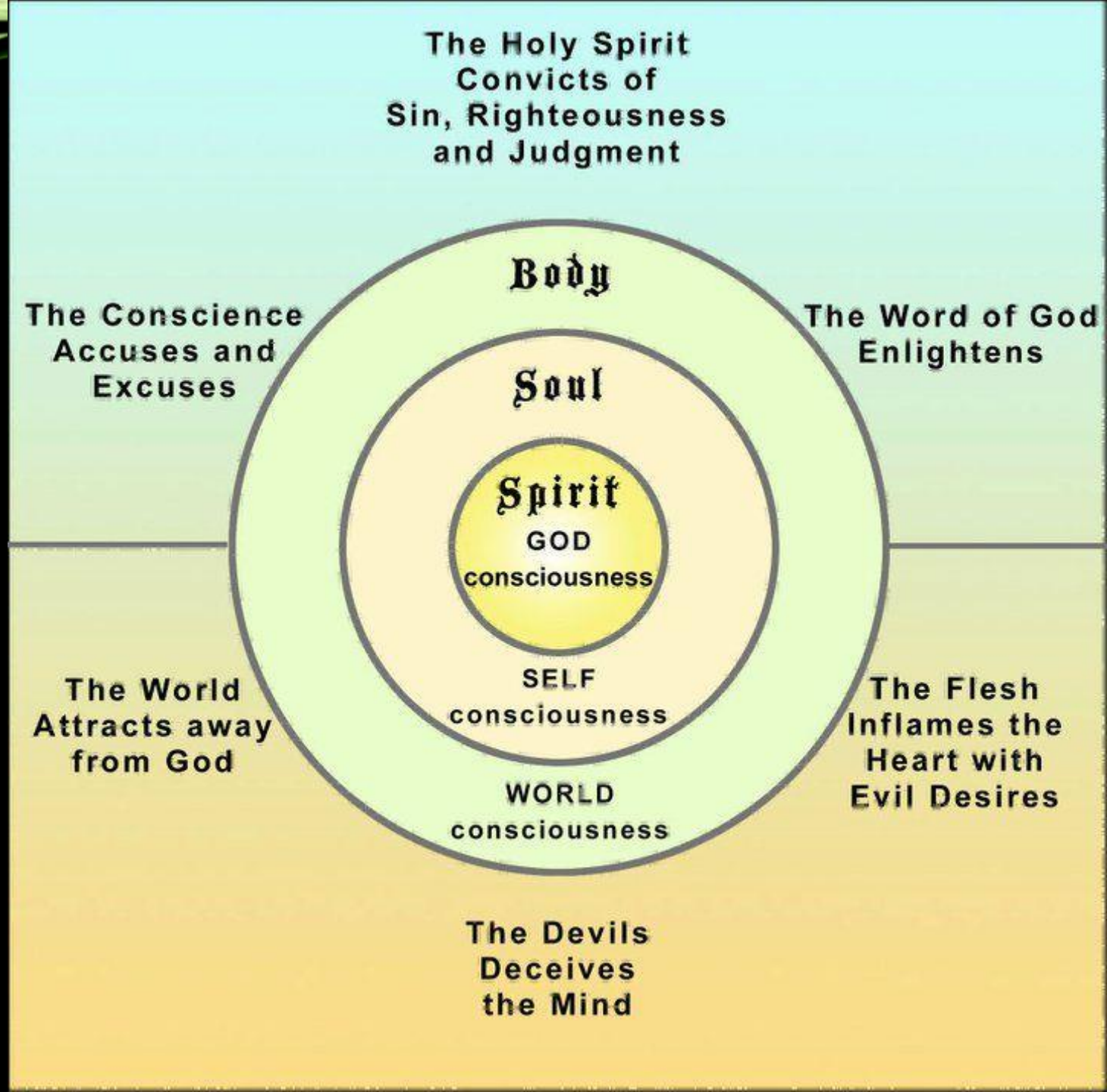
SOUL

“The soul is our very self a **medium between our spirit and our body**, possessing **self-consciousness**, that we may have our personality.” Our soul perceives things in the psychological realm

BODY

“The body as our **external part** is the outer organ, **possessing world-consciousness**, that we may **contact the material world using our sense organs**”

THE 3-FOLD NATURE OF MAN



THE SOUL PLAYS AN INTEGRAL PART OF THE HUMAN BEING

- For Every act every move, the soul makes the decision. And then the body or the Spirit acts accordingly.
- The soul has to decide whether to yield to the body or to the spirit. Do I yield to the desires of the flesh or to the word of God?
- Adam was created a Spiritual Body, yet in physical form. But the minute his soul yielded to the flesh, Adam lost his glory.
- At the fall, his soul became a slave to the body.
- The Spirit of man became a dormant useless power. The spirit became a struggling captive instead of being the ruling power
- Because Adam chose the flesh, His Spirit died. The Body lost completely its authority and power to the devil.
- So the attributes of the soul now belongs to the body /flesh

SO THERE IS A WAR BETWEEN THE SPIRIT OF MAN AND THE FLESHLY DESIRES

- The Born Again experience gives us the power and authority to be free from the world and say to the world, ah ha, you can't have me no more.
- When we become born-again, we begin to accustom to the spiritual side, even though our bodies are still under the domain of the world.
- As long as the flesh is crucified, we are free to operate in the spiritual realm
- God gives us the power to crucify the flesh.
- But the unbeliever is a slave to the body completely. Because he is not born again.

THE ENEMY WANTS TO DUPLICATE THE THINGS OF GOD THROUGH THE FLESH

Romans 8:5-8 *For those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who live according to the Spirit, the things of the Spirit. For to be carnally minded is death, but to be spiritually minded is life and peace. Because the carnal mind is enmity against God; for it is not subject to the law of God, nor indeed can be. So then, those who are in the flesh cannot please God.*

- So there is a fleshly wisdom and there is a spiritual wisdom.
- There is a service that glorifies in the Flesh. But we can also serve God with our Spirit.
- There is a fleshly mind and there is a spiritual mind.
- So there is worship that is of the flesh, and there is worship that is of the spirit.

Galatians 5:16 *“Walk in the Spirit so you will not gratify the desires of the flesh”*

You can't worship in the Spirit till you walk in the spirit

GOD'S INTENTION FOR HIS CHILDREN

1 Thessalonians 5:23 *"The God of peace Himself sanctify you wholly."*

- God's intention concerning us is that we would contain and express Him.
- But to express God, we need to be filled with Him.
- When we believed in Jesus Christ, we received Him and were born again, in our spirit. But He doesn't want to only fill our spirit.
- He sanctifies us by spreading into and saturating our whole being, starting from our spirit, continuing into our soul, and eventually including our body.
- Exercising our spirit is the key. The more we exercise our spirit, the more we allow the God of peace to continue spreading in us and saturating us. By being wholly filled with God in every part of our being, God can be expressed through us.

HOW TO WORSHIP IN SPIRIT & IN TRUTH?

John 4:21-24 ²¹ Jesus said to her, "Woman, believe Me, the hour is coming when you will neither on this mountain, nor in Jerusalem, worship the Father... ²³ But the hour is coming, and now is, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth; for the Father is seeking such to worship Him. ²⁴ God is Spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth."

- Worship that does not manifest itself from the heart nourished by truth is vain, empty, and inauthentic worship.
- Jesus reiterates this principle in **Matthew 15:8-9** NASB when He says, "*These people honour me with their lips, but their heart is far from me, in vain do they worship me.*"
- Worship of God is not to be confined to a single geographical location or the OT regulations.
- With the coming of Christ, all of God's children gained equal access to God through Him.
- Worship became a matter of the heart, not external actions, ceremony, seasons, forms, and locations to an experience in the heart.

TRUE WORSHIP INVOLVES THE HEART & THE HEAD

- Christian worship engages both heart and head. It necessitates true doctrine and due emotion about that doctrine. It is both an affair of the heart and an affair of the mind. “Strong affections for God rooted in truth.”
- Unless there’s a real passion for God, there is no worship in spirit.
- The tendency of worship in spirit without the Word is lawlessness.
- At the same time, worship must be “in truth,” that is, properly informed. Unless we have knowledge of the God we worship, there is no worship in truth.
- The tendency of worship in truth without the Spirit is legalism. We might be doing the right things, but if our hearts are not encountering the living God, then we miss the most important thing. Truth is a person and His name is Jesus (John 14:6)
- The more we know about God, the more we appreciate Him. The more we appreciate, the deeper our worship. The deeper our worship, the more God is glorified.
- True worship finds its goal in God and is for no other purpose
- As we love, so we worship.

ACT OF WORSHIP IS A LIFE THAT REFLECTS THE GLORY OF GOD.

- **1 Corinthians 10:31 (NASB)** *“Whether you eat or drink, or whatever you do, do all to the glory of God”*
- **Colossians 3:17 (NASB)** *“Whatever you do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks through Him to God the Father.”*
- **Philippians 1:20-21 (NASB)** *“According to my earnest expectation and hope, that I shall not be put to shame in anything, but that with all boldness, Christ shall even now, as always, be exalted in my body, whether by life or by death. For to me, to live is Christ, and to die is gain.”*

- To worship is to magnify Christ whether living or dying, showing Christ as magnificent, exalting Him in every facet of life.
- Essence of worship is an inner cherishing of Christ. This means that true worship is valuing Christ above all of life.
- The essence of worship is far and above form, it is prizing Christ above life.
- **Philippians 3:8 NASB**, *“I count all things to be loss in view of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord, for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and count them but rubbish in order that I may gain Christ.”*

CONCLUSION: TRUE WORSHIP IS A WAY OF LIFE

- First, it comes from the redeemed heart of a man or woman who has been justified before God by faith and who is trusting in the Lord Jesus Christ alone for forgiveness of sins.
- Second, true worship of God comes from a heart that desires Him alone.
- Third, true worship of God is the desire to continue to build up our knowledge of God.
- Worship can only be measured by the fruit of a transformed life.

The Old Testament was primarily a “come and see” formula. The New Testament protocol is a “go and tell” formula. While the focus was on the people of Israel in one place, worship could be structured in fixed and formal ways. But once Jesus said, “Go and make disciples of all nations,” it changed.

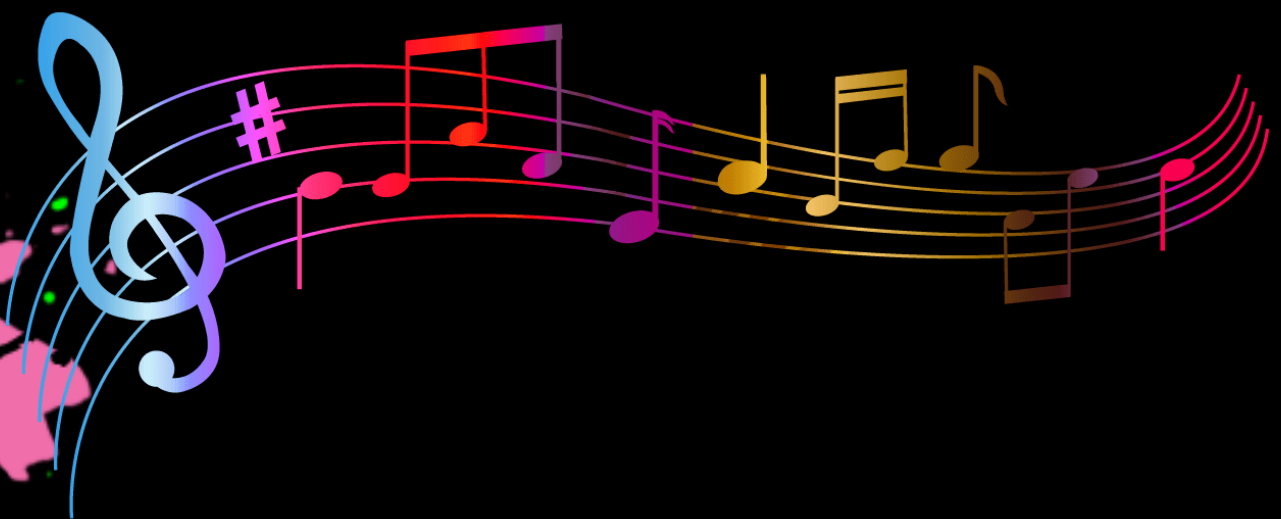


NEXT WEEK:

Living Sacrifices to God

- By Rev. Johnson V

Thank You



**FOR BEING A PART OF
BETHEL FAMILY**