

# THE WORLD, THE FLESH & THE DEVIL - THE ENEMIES OF OUR SOUL

## SPIRIT POWER vs. SOUL POWER

How do these Enemies of our Soul Operate?

How can these Enemies be Overcome?

How are Deceptive Manifestations Possible?

What Spirit is operating in the 'Revivals' with their weird manifestations?



- Spirit, Soul & Body

- 1. The Lord God Created Man

*'And the Lord God formed man of the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living being\*.'* Genesis 2: 7

*\* a living soul*

- Body - formed of the dust of the earth
- Spirit - breath of God
- Soul - a living being (soul)
  - When the spirit and the body were joined man became a living soul
- Three separate entities

*Now may the God of peace Himself sanctify you completely; and may your whole spirit, soul, and body be preserved blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.*

*1 Thessalonians 5: 23*

- Characteristic
  - Angels - spirit
  - Animals - flesh (body)
  - Man - soul
- Relating
  - Body - relates to the external world
  - Spirit - relates to the spiritual world...the Lord God
  - Soul - the determining will
    - ❖ Bonding body and spirit - to keep them in proper relation
    - ❖ Soul in subjection to Spirit , keeping body subject to Spirit
- The Power of Adam's Soul
  - Authority and Physical Prowess
    - ❖ Ruling the Earth
    - ❖ Dominion over Every Living Thing
    - ❖ Strength
  - Brain Power and Memory
    - ❖ Naming the Animals
  - Managerial Power
    - ❖ Tending the Garden
    - ❖ Keeping the Garden

## ▪ 2. The Fall

- Man becomes 'flesh' - Genesis 6: 3  
*'And the Lord said, "My Spirit shall not strive with man forever, for **he is indeed flesh;** yet his days shall be one hundred and twenty years."* Genesis 6: 3
- The power of 'living soul' which distinguishes Adam from us is lost
  - The soul now is subject to the dominion of the flesh
  - The power in man's living soul becomes latent (hidden)
- The Soul Becomes A Commodity - Revelation 18: 11-13  
*"And the merchants of the earth will weep and mourn over her, for no one buys their 'merchandise anymore: merchandise of gold and silver, precious stones and pearls, fine linen and purple, silk and scarlet, every kind of citron wood, every kind of object of ivory, every kind of object of most precious wood, bronze, iron, and marble; and cinnamon and incense, fragrant oil and frankincense, wine and oil, fine flour and wheat, cattle and sheep, horses and chariots, and bodies **and souls of men.**"* Revelation 18: 11-13
  - Satan, and his puppet the Antichrist, wish to use the human soul as an instrument for their activities
  - Satan seeks to stir up man's soul to release its latent power as a deception for spiritual power
    - ❖ Hence the various religious practices to release man's soul power - e.g. in Buddhism, Hinduism, Taoism, Christian Science
    - ❖ Hence the Humanistic Psychology techniques to release man's soul power - e.g. Mesmerism, Hypnotism, Telepathy, Clairvoyance, etc

## ▪ 3. Born Again

- Man's need is for spiritual re-birth - John 3: 6-7; Romans 8: 2-11

*"That which is born of the flesh is flesh, and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit. Do not marvel that I said to you, 'You must be born again.'"* John 3: 6-7

*'And if Christ is in you, the body is dead because of sin, but the Spirit is life because of righteousness.'*  
*Romans 8: 10*

- Only the Lord God, through Yeshua's shed blood, and by the Holy Spirit can do this - give new life (eternal life)
  - The Believer is 'born of the Spirit' - a new God-given spirit
    - The born again spirit in the believer cannot receive another spirit - 'a Christian cannot be demon-possessed'
    - God's Spirit in man is to rule the Soul (Fruit of the Spirit) - which in turn is to rule the body (in fact, to put to death the desires of the flesh)
  - However - Satan seeks to undermine the Spirit's work in the believer by attacking the soul
    - Encouraging man's soul to rule the Spirit
    - Hence Satan's deceptions - and his big lie, as in the Garden, 'you shall be like god'
    - Satan attacks our weaknesses
      - ❖ Those coming through life experiences (e.g. rejections) - where prayer to release from its grip may be helpful
      - ❖ Those coming through rebellion (wilful sin) - where repentance, forgiveness and renouncing are necessary
  - God only works through the Spirit in man, never through his soul
    - Hence - importance of the Fruit of the Spirit...in the soul (the consciousness, personality, mind, intellect and emotions)
  - Satan cannot work through the believer's spirit (the Spirit of the Lord is in him), nor through the spirit of unbeliever's (whose spirit is dead) - he can only work through man's soul
- **Soul Power vs. Spirit Power**
    - Man's soul is Satan's working instrument through which he seeks to achieve his aims
      - Satan makes use of man's soul power to manifest his strength and his deceptions
      - Hence the psychic soul-force behind the manifestations and 'soakings' and 'slayings in the spirit'
    - It is soul power (psychic soul-force) which is at work in the so-called revivals, their false 'signs and wonders', their manifestations, and their power to transfer
    - The Spirit alone gives life - see John 6: 63, Romans 8: 2, 1 Peter 3: 18
    - Satan's lies, deceptions and counterfeit signs are at work in today's 'revivals', false teachings and false prophecies to deceive Christians into his power - they give him the ability control our soul and its latent power
      - Those who have been deceived may need prayer for release from the grip they have allowed the enemy to have over their soul

**Recommendation: Watchman Nee's books "The Latent Power of the Soul" and "The Spiritual Man"**