

TEACHING ON HOW TO BE LED BY THE HOLY SPIRIT BY PASTOR JOHN DANIEL 26-12-95

The most ignored person in our life and in the church is the Lord Holy Spirit. The functions of the Holy Spirit (John 16:12-15)

- (1) The Holy Spirit is a person like God the Father and God the Son.
- (2) The Holy Spirit is the resident personal representative of the God Head and the Lord Jesus Christ on earth now. So we must give Him honour as we give God the Father and God the Son.
- (3) The Holy Spirit is the Sole Administrator of wealth of the God Head (see John 16:15; ICor.12:4-6)
- (4) Everything that the Holy Spirit does is to glorify the Lord Jesus Christ. Therefore once we stop or cease to glorify the Lord Jesus, the Holy Spirit withdraws. He is not a partaker in anything that does not glorify the Lord Jesus Christ. He is grieved when this happens and He withdraws.

There are two important roles the Holy Spirit plays in our lives.

- (1) Through the Holy Spirit, we become children of God. See (John 3:5-8). At this stage of becoming children of God, we are just babies.
- (2) The Holy Spirit also helps us to grow to maturity in Christ Jesus (Rom.8:14). This is a sign of maturity. We have to be continually led by the Spirit of God everyday, hour and minute. This is how we are to live as matured sons of God. The tragedy in the church today is that uncountable people with the Spirit of God have not known what the Holy Spirit means and so they never achieve maturity. They remain retarded not because the provision is not there. It is there but they have not availed themselves to be led. This is the only way you can ever come to spiritual maturity as a true son of God, by being regularly and continually led by the Holy Spirit.

John 14:16-17 :- The key word in the verses mentioned in this scripture is Another. This word (another) who is a person was leaving and He is emphasizing that another person is coming. In John 16:7, Christ says that it is to our advantage that He (Christ) went away that the Comforter would come.

... because He (the Comforter) will live inside us and work inside, He will help us to mortify the deeds of the flesh (Gal.5:16).

NOTE: That in all these quotations, Christ refers to the Holy Spirit as **He** i.e. **a Person**.

Yes, He is a Person. But there are some things the Holy Spirit is not. And they are: -

- (1) He is not an impersonal influence, meaning that **He** is not influenced by personal feelings or not referring to any particular person.
- (2) He is not a theological extraction i.e. formation of a serial theories about the nature of God and of foundation of religious belief. For instance what is obtained in Bible Colleges.
- (3) He is not a system whereby you work and time your programmes.
- (4) He is not a set of rules whereby rules and regulations are set or mapped out.
- (5) He is not an ecclesiastical hierarchy which means an organization of clergy men with grades of authority from lowest to highest.
- (6) He is not a sentence near the end of the apostles' time. Meaning that the Holy Spirit did not end with the apostles only.

The nineteenth century church is trying to find a system so safe that they would not have to rely on the Holy Spirit. There is no such system, etc. that can take the place of the Holy Spirit. He (the Holy Spirit) is indispensable and therefore we must cultivate or develop a personal relationship with Him (the Holy Spirit).

Primary requirement for such a relationship is same as in any other relationship. That is mutual or friendly sensitivity. That is the most essential feature needed to develop/cultivate an honest relationship.

II Cor.3:17 says, the Holy Spirit is Lord. Now let's look at it this way:

- (1) Jesus is Lord over the church
- (2) Holy Spirit is Lord inside the church. And the Lordship of Jesus Christ over the church is no more different from the Lordship of the Holy Spirit in the church. To the extent that we allow the Holy Spirit to be Lord in the church, to that extent we allow the Lord Jesus to be Lord over the church

Mutual sensitivity is required between us and the Holy Spirit. He is a very gentle Spirit. He is a still gentle voice (whisper). He is very sensitive. He will not push. He will only tap you gently. We owe Him total submission for when we submit to the Holy Spirit, we have submitted to our Lord Jesus and God the Father.

OPENING OF THE MINISTRY OF JESUS

John 1:29-34 :- Christ is here introduced as (1) The Lamb of God (2) One who baptizes in the Holy Ghost (3) The Son of God.

Jesus Christ as Lamb of God means (1) Purity: pure without sin; (2) Meekness: despised, rejected, abased, cast down, humiliated, etc.; (3) Sacrifice: A life laid down to be sacrificed. These are the three attributes that attract the Holy Spirit. He is looking for the lamb's nature, that purity, that meekness, and that life laid down, to settle in and remain. If He sees these qualities, He will come and dwell permanently. If He doesn't see them or

He does not approve of arrogance, self-seeking or

You can have these quantities when you have separated yourself unto Him without the Camp. See (Heb.13:12). And you are baptized into His body by the blood of Jesus, with the spirit energizing the blood.

Luke 4:17-21 :- That the entire ministry of Jesus is to preach the gospel to the poor, to heal the broken hearted, to preach deliverance to the captives, and the recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty them that are bruised or (them that are in bondage) and this was based on the anointing of the Holy Spirit. The New Testament never recorded a single sermon He (Jesus) preached, or a single miracle. He performed until the Holy Spirit came upon Him. He was totally dependent on the Holy Spirit. And He was our pattern. He had emptied Himself like us and took the form of a servant, the likeness of a man. But when the Holy Spirit came upon Him, then the power and the purposes of God were released through Him by the Holy Spirit. It should be the same with us.

Acts 10:38: - The whole ministry of Jesus came out of the anointing of the Holy Spirit. Once the Holy Spirit came upon Him, He was released to minister to the needs of humanity. Prior to the coming of the Holy Spirit, He (Jesus) neither preached nor ministered to humanity.

THINGS THAT ATTRACT AND GRIEVE THE HOLY SPIRIT

- (1) THINGS THAT GRIEVE HIM: - Unwholesome words, bitterness, wrath, anger, clamour and slander. All these are contrary to the nature of the Lamb.
- (2) THINGS THAT ATTRACT HIM: - Some of the things that attract the Dove (Holy Spirit) are: kindness, tender heartedness, mutual forgiveness.

When He does not find the Lamb's nature, He cannot abide. The key to having the abiding presence of the Holy Spirit with us is to develop the nature of the Lamb.

NAMES OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

The names of the Holy Spirit are job descriptions for every believer.

- (1) The Spirit which means the breathe or exhortation (John 20:22). He is that Spirit that is called the out breathing of God. His innermost life is going forth in a personal form to quicken. He is invisible. He is like the wind. And the wind is irresistible.
- (2) He is called the Spirit of God (ICor.3:16)
- (3) He is called the Spirit of the Lord (Isa.11:2)
- (4) He is called the Spirit of the Lord God (Isa.61:1-3)
- (5) He is called the Spirit of the living God. He makes God a living reality in our personal experience, instead of a mere intellectual concept (IICor.3:3)

- He is called the Spirit of Christ because He is the gift of the Father (John 14:26). He reveals Christ in us (John 16:14). He forms Christ in us. And He forms Christ in us.
- (7) He is the Spirit of the Son of God (Gal.4:6). It is the Spirit of the Son of God who testifies our sonship. He produces the seed of sonship in us.
 - (8) He is the Spirit of Jesus Christ.
 - (9) He is called the Holy Spirit because He is Holy (Luke 11:13)
 - (10) He is the Spirit of promise because He is the promise of the Father to the Son.
 - (11) He is the Spirit of Holiness. And He causes us to live holy.
 - (12) He is the Spirit of judgment (Isa.4:4). He judges sin (John 16:8).
 - (13) He is the Spirit of burning (Isa.4:4)
 - (14) He is the Spirit of truth. He is the only one that can tell us truth about God and the Lord Jesus Christ (John 16:13).
 - (15) He is called the Anointer (I John 2:27). He anoints us with power.
 - (16) He is called the Comforter (John 16:7). He comforts us in the replacement of Jesus Christ.
 - (17) He is called the Helper (Rom.8:26). He helpeth our infirmities (weakness). He gives us power to do things.
 - (18) He is the Counsellor (Isa.9:6).
 - (19) He is called the Intercessor because He helps us to intercede according to the will of God (Rom.8:27). NOTE: The Holy Spirit does not speak in tongues, but gives us utterance to speak in tongues. (acts 2:4)
 - (20) He is our Advocate (I John 2:1)
 - (21) He is the Standby. He stands by us always to help us and confirm every word we speak.
 - (22) He is the Strengthenener.

There are three important results which only the Holy Spirit can produce in us. There is no other agent, no other power, no other person who can do for us what the Holy Spirit can do. He is absolutely unique. If we do not receive Him, there is no one else from whom we can receive what we need.

Zechariah 4:6: - God ruled out might and power as avenues through which He can achieve what He wants.

Might :- means that which you have by your nature like talent, ability and strength.

Power :- means that which you can achieve like education, wealth/finance, social influence, etc.

God says neither power nor might can do what He wants done. There is only one agent who can do what He wants alone. That agent is the Holy Spirit.

II Tim.1:7 :- The three things the Holy Spirit produces in us are :

- (1) Power (Acts 1:8) :- What the apostles received is a supernatural power, not military or intellectual. The whole message of the gospel is supernatural. As soon as the Holy Spirit descended upon the apostles, they received a power not from the earth, but from above. And then they were able to go ministering to humanity.

power as imparted by the holy Spirit is a different power
1. This power (spiritual power) that exalts Jesus Christ
produces miracles, convicts men and women of sin, of righteousness and of
judgment, writes God's laws in our hearts, and brings them into a totally new way
of life.

- (2) Love (Rom.5:5) :- The love of God has been poured out into our hearts by the Holy Spirit. Not some love, but all His love. We don't ask for more love but are to release the love already in us. To ask for more love is in a way a statement of unbelief because it has all been released. God does not pour out His love in bits. There is no stinginess with God. God pours out the whole of His Spirits, and the whole of His love into our hearts. Our problem is not that we don't have enough here, but that we don't yield to the love we have.
- (3) Sound mind or second judgment : Evaluating things as God evaluates ó the greatest realistic today on earth is the holy Spirit. He is never sentimental (emotional) or having to do with feelings, never impressed by the external, always sees right to the heart of every situation, every person, every problem, and He tells us the exact truth about it. If there is a generation that wants people to tell it like it is, only the Holy Spirit can do that. He never exaggerates (stretch or describe beyond the truth), He gives it to you as it is, it's up to you to respond.
Rom.12:2 :- Our minds have to be renewed so that we can have this kind of judgment. The renewing agent is the Holy Spirit.
Eph.4:23 :- It is not psychology, not education, that renews the mind, but the supernatural operation of the Spirit of God renews our minds. God renews from within, religion works from without i.e. outside (self righteousness).
When we think different i.e. (contrary to the word of God) we live different. Our part is to yield to the Holy Spirit in every part of our lives.
To sum up, the Holy Spirit came to do what no other power on earth can do i.e. to impact in us power, love and sound mind.

THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE HOLY SPIRIT AND THE WORD OF GOD (JESUS CHRIST)

There is always harmony between the Spirit and the Word. They are never in disagreement. There is total intimacy and complete harmony between them. E.g. By the word of the Lord were the heavens made, and all the host of them by the breath of His mouth. (Hebrew word for breathe is spirit). So the whole creation originally came into being by two agents ó The Word of God (Jesus) and the Spirit of God. They operate together in perfect harmony, neither operates independently. And it is true in our lives today. God's results are achieved in us by His words and His Spirit working together.

Gen.1:2-3 :- There we see the Spirit of God was moving or hovering over the surface of dark waters. It is interesting to see that the first specific person of the God-Head mentioned in the scripture is the Holy Spirit. Then God said let there be light, and there was light. God's word went forth and light appeared, but it was not without the Spirit of

our lives.

oved to prepare the way for the Word of God. Then
roduced creation. This is precisely how God operates in

The Author II Tim.3:16 :- Inspired by God means literally inbreathed by God. The word breathe is directly related to Spirit. Spirit is Numa in Greek language and breathe is Nustas in Greek language. Both of them are exactly from the same root. This is telling us that the Holy Spirit is the author of all scriptures. No matter who was the human writer, the Holy Spirit was the one who gave the word, who breathed it into the writer so that the authority behind the scripture is the Holy Spirit.

Peter touched on this in II Peter 1:20-21 :- Here we see again prophecy came from the Holy Ghost.

Prophecy is never a product of human mind or human thinking or rationalization, but always behind it (prophecy) is the power and inspiration of the Holy Spirit. None of us can approach the scripture and choose by our own interpretation or by rationalization. The only valid interpretation is the one that comes from the Holy Spirit the Author

THE PART THE HOLY SPIRIT PLAYS IN OUR PRAYER LIFE.

The Holy Spirit is the only source of effective prayer. Any prayer that does not come by the Holy Spirit is not an effective prayer, and will not accomplish anything and is not acceptable to God.

Rom.8:26-27 :- Paul points out in those verses that as sons of Adam in our fallen nature, we all have one major universal weakness. It is not a physical weakness. You could call it a weakness of understanding. It is this - that we do not know what to pray for. But even if we know what to pray for, we do not know how to pray. Paul explains that this is one of the main purposes for which God has placed the Holy Spirit within us. It is to guide us in prayer, to show us how to pray. He says that when we do not know what to pray for, the Spirit Himself intercedes for us with groanings too deep for words, sometimes no human word can express the kind of prayer that we need to pray but the Holy Spirit gives us the appropriate prayer.

The real key to a successful prayer is to allow the Holy Spirit to keep up a continual prayer meeting within us. And this can go on even when we are not praying with our minds or our mouths.

The Holy Spirit is an internal intercessor, and if we give Him liberty, He will intercede within us day and night. He also gives us power that makes prayer effective (Eph.3:20). There is no limit that we can set within our minds or understanding as to what God can do in answer to our prayers. But the effectiveness of our prayer is according to the power that works within us, it is the power within us that makes our prayer effective. What is the power? Paul makes it clear in Romans 8. Two Christians each prayed identical prayers, one gets everything he prayed for, the other gets nothing. The difference is in the power that is in the word. We are totally dependent on the Holy Spirit to guide and empower us in prayer. We need to bear in mind what Paul says in I Cor.4:20. It is not all the words we pray, but it is the power that works through these words.

We have to learn: -

with the Holy Spirit.

rit.

(3) How to yield to the Holy Spirit, and

(4) How to let Him guide us and empower us in our prayers.

FOUR EXAMPLES OF PRAYERS THE HOLY SPIRIT CAN GIVE.

- (1) Prayer based directly on God's words i.e. we take a promise of God and return it back to Him and say, Lord do what you've promised to do. For example see (I Chron.17:23, Luke 1:38). You can never pray a more powerful prayer than when the Holy Spirit gives you release to claim a word of God in your experience.
- (2) Prayer that is directly inspired. See Psalms 81:10. Sometimes we do not know what to pray so we just open our mouths and let God give us the prayer. Let Him pray through us. That is the way we may discover God's will. Sometimes when we begin to say something we never thought of praying, that is the prayer the Holy Spirit has given to us. And it is the revelation of God's will.
- (3) Supernatural Prayer. See I Cor.14:14-15.
Paul is speaking of praying in an unknown tongue, and tongue is supernatural and possible only by the power of the Holy Spirit. When Paul says I will pray with my spirit or sing with my spirit, He means I will pray words given to me by the Holy Spirit in an unknown tongue. Words that I do not understand.
- (4) Travailing Prayer. See Romans 8:28.
(This includes groanings, weepings, howlings, roarings, wailings crying, shouting). A travailing prayer is a prayer that cannot be expressed by words. It is so deep that it goes so far beyond our natural understanding that we just have to let the Holy Spirit travail through us.
Isa.66:7-9 :- It is very important to remember that in the Kingdom of God there is no birth without travail. It is just the same in the natural order. We have to learn to yield to the Holy Spirit, and let Him be effectively Lord in our prayer life. He is Lord. One of the areas we have to yield to His Lordship and trust Him in faith is in the area of our prayer life. There are other kinds of prayers too.

BE PREPARED TO BE FOOLISH

The way the Holy Spirit directs us often is totally contrary to natural reasoning or wisdom (I Cor.2:12-14).

Notice that there are two sources of spirits, one from God, and one from this present world order. The one that comes from this world is not the Spirit of God, but some kind of spirit or the spirit of the devil.

The Holy Spirit is not got in the language of human wisdom. Natural reasoning and understanding, no matter how highly educated or sophisticated or developed we may be, we cannot receive the things of the Spirit of God because they are foolish. No, God is not impressed by the wisdom of this world. See I Cor.1:18-20).

I Cor.8:2 :- The kind of natural knowledge you have does not fit in with God's revelation. The first thing you have to do is to come to the end of all that natural reasoning and reliance on that your own intellect and your education. Humble and base your mind before God and acknowledge that what you have is not divine wisdom, and then the Holy Spirit will begin to impart to you divine wisdom.

There is this process of self humbling that has to take place first. I think that the people who find it hardest in this world to humble themselves before God are the intellectuals (i.e. those that have or show good reasoning power). The development of the reasoning power or intellect straightens pride in man more than any other. Wealth tends to make people proud, political power, beauty, etc. all these things tend to make people proud. But the strongest of them all is intellect. It is not that God has no wisdom, God is the Source of all true wisdom and He makes them available to His people. But God has another kind of wisdom. The key to God's wisdom is the cross. And the cross means sufferings, foolishness and weakness. The cross to the natural thinking is the sum total of God's foolishness. What could be more foolish than what God did by sending Jesus to die for us so as to release His power to save mankind. Paul says that in actual fact the cross, what happened on the cross, are the key to all wisdom and all power that comes from God.

I Cor.2:4-8 :- Human wisdom can change. This is why your faith cannot be based on it. Your faith must be based on the power of God because the power of God does not change. God's wisdom is a mystery which He ordained before creation. And the purposes of this wisdom is to bring us to His glory. The door to the secret hidden wisdom is the cross. To the natural, Paul says, the word of the cross is foolishness.

The cross is the only doorway to the secret hidden wisdom, and before you can become wise in this secret hidden wisdom, you have to become foolish in the natural wisdom. Paul says, if any man think to be wise, let him become a fool that he may be wise.

BE PREPARED TO BE WEAK

God is not impressed by human strength and power, first you have to become weak by the standard of this world. And again the key to this divine weakness that gives strength is the cross.

The cross symbolizes not only foolishness but also weaknesses and sufferings.

I Cor.1:22-29 :- God has chosen the very opposite of what men would choose by this wisdom. Why? That no flesh/man would boast or glory before God. Before God really comes into our lives and be to us all that He wants us to be, there is one thing that He has to cast down. And that thing is human pride. There are two main sources of human pride. One is wisdom, and the other is power. God has to deal with those two things first

...real revelation of God and do not accomplish the
...turn away from them. We have to be set free from them
before we can experience the real wisdom and real power of God. And for that reason,
God has chosen the unlikely people (the NOBODIES).

Several groups of Christians have decided to be really strong, really have it all together,
really do it right. But the extraordinary thing about these groups is that "God bypasses
them time after time". And He (God) finds some little group somewhere that doesn't
do much to claim on themselves, but they are open to His Holy Spirit, to His wisdom and
His power (II Cor.12:6-11). That is a tremendous revelation. For God is only fully
revealed in man's weakness. As long as man has his own strength, as long as man has it
all together, he knows what to do to bring situations under control, there is no room for
God. And God does not take the glory, but when we come to the limit of our own
strength through His grace.

Verse 9 :- Not many Christians are boasting about their weakness. A whole lot of
preachers are talking about the strengths and gifts and their accomplishments. People that
boast about their weaknesses are pretty hard to find. Paul goes with even more interesting
statements. This is a hard saying! How many of us can do this. Would you say this? Or
would I say this? This is the lesson we all have to learn sooner or later for we are really
going to experience the power of God released in our lives. And He will not release it
through human strength. It is only through human weakness.

Actually trusting in human strength brings a curse (Isa.31:1-3).

Jer.17:5 :- Man includes myself and yourself. You can not depend on your own strength
and God's strength at the same time. If you depend on your own strength, your heart has
turned away from God and you are under a curse. God's grace and mercy are aimed to
keep us from this curse and sometimes He has to do drastic things to us to do that.

EPHESIANS 2:8-10, ABOUT THE GRACE OF GOD

- (1) Grace begins where human ability ends. As long as you are able, and you can do it by yourself and in your own strength, God's grace is not released. When you have come to the end of your ability, that is the beginning of God's grace.
- (2) God's grace is received only by faith i.e. (believing in the heart and confessing it with the mouth) you cannot earn it. The wages you receive in your job or business are not God's grace. Why? Because you sold yourself a servant to satan who is the god of this world and he pays you. God's grace is unmerited favour. You didn't do anything to get it, only because you've accepted Jesus as your Lord and Saviour, God gives you everything freely.
- (3) It leaves no room for pride. The greatest enemy of grace is our pride.
- (4) And finally all the glory goes to God and not to us. That is where the Holy Spirit comes in. He has not come to glorify us, He has not come to make us seem big or important, clear or strong, He has only come to reveal the grace and power and wisdom of Jesus in our weaknesses.

DO NOT GO BACK TO RULES

You become a child in Jesus by being born of the Holy Spirit, but you have to mature in Christ, by being led by the Holy Spirit (ref. John 21:15-18). He is not only a person, He is Lord. He requires total submission. The same submission we give to God the Father and God the Son, the same we give to Him. The hindrance that is commonest among us is legalism. That is religious legalism. And it is defined as :-

- (1) Seeking to achieve righteousness with God by keeping a set of rules. Christianity is not a set of rules. It is primarily a relationship with Jesus Christ through another person, the Holy Spirit.
- (2) Imposing requirements for righteousness which God Himself has not imposed. God has laid down in the Bible what He requires to achieve righteousness with Him and nobody, no church, no group, no one has any authority to add or remove one requirement to God's requirements. And to add even one requirement is to trespass in the area of legalism. The Holy Spirit is Lord and He will not share His Lordship with a set of rules. The New Testament continually warns us about seeking to achieve righteousness by keeping law.

Rom.3:20 :- You may say why was the law given? One main reason is that the law was given not to make us righteous but to show us that we are sinners and we need God's grace and the help of the Holy Spirit.

Rom.6:14 :- If you are under the law, sin will have dominion over you. If you want to be free from sin, you have to be under grace and not under the law.

NOTE: That both are naturally exclusive (not willing to mix with each other). You cannot be under the law and under grace at the same time. You will either be under the law or under grace, but not under both of them. The law here means any kind of human achievement, human ability, human strivings or human merit. Grace is surrendering totally to the Lord and living by His special mercy.

Gal.5:18 :- Being led by the Spirit is the only way to spiritual maturity. You cannot achieve it by being under the law. Rules have a place in life. And how do we relate to them. If rules are spiritual, and you have been made righteous by faith, that will enable you to keep the rules. But do not achieve righteousness by doing so because grace will not mix with the law. Law is for babes in the Lord, so that as a schoolmaster, it will lead them to He who is full of grace and truth (Christ). And He (Jesus) by His Spirit through the blood, will lead them to maturity and they will become sons (e.g. Matt.6::8-13 for babes; Rom.8:26-27 for matured ones).

Gal.4:22-30 :- When Isaac came, Ishmael and his mother Hagar had to leave. There is your alternative. They can never stay together i.e. (the grace and the law). Ishmael (the law) is your fleshly or human ability. There is no room for Isaac (grace) as the grace of God.

} :- This is the commonest single problem in the church today. People begin by the Spirit, they have revelation and experience of the grace of God and His power through the holy Spirit, and then they go back to rules. They are not willing to continue relying on the holy Spirit. Paul points out that going back to the law brings a curse.

Gal.3:10 :- Many Christians, individuals, denominations, groups, whether they have a name or not, churches, are under a curse. They thought it a blessing because they dishonored the Holy Spirit and have gone back to their own efforts.

Jer.17:5 :- There are only two alternatives and they cannot mix together. (1) We can try to find our own way by the map or (2) we can be led by the Guide, the Holy Spirit. But the Holy Spirit being God, and also Lord is not going to share His Lordship with the map. He is the one that gave the map. And He knows the map far better than any one of us. He understands all the motivations and reasoning for the map. If you want to be led by the Holy Spirit, you must not be under a system of laws. You cannot achieve Holy Spirit leadership by keeping any set of rules. Lots of Christian churches today say that they are not under the law of Moses, but they have made their own set of rules. In fact, almost every denomination has its own little law.

I want to tell you that the laws of Moses which were given by God could not do it, no religious denominational law can do it either. You need to repent if you are in that condition and turn back to the Holy Spirit. And by doing this, you have to flee from anything that is visible, flee from the things of this world and stay alone in your closet for the Holy Spirit to teach and reveal the Lord Jesus to you. But this cannot be done without being under submission. Ask the Lord to reveal a righteous servant of God and submit to him.

THE GOAL TOWARDS WHICH THE HOLY SPIRIT DIRECTS US

Positive alternative to religious legalism is direct personal union with the Lord Jesus Christ.

Rom.7:1-6 :- Alternatives to religious legalism.

- (1) Biblical legalism (i.e. obeying the principles of Christ or Word of God after you have received Christ).
- (2) Personal spiritual union with the Lord Jesus through the Holy Spirit.

Under the law we are married to our carnal nature. We are compelled to rely on our own natural ability to do what God requires. There is nothing wrong with the law, the problem is in our carnal nature. We can hear the law, we can give account to it but we lack the power to carry it out because there is something in each of us, a rebel nature that is made even more rebellious than the law. But as long as our carnal nature continues to live, we cannot be married to anybody. This shows that as long as your self will is still effective, you can not walk in submission because separation and submission are spiritual marriage

al nature, as long as we live, but the message of the old man was crucified in Christ. And we are to recognize ourselves as being dead on the cross with our Lord Jesus. So when we see that our carnal nature is put to death on the cross in Christ, we are free to enter into a new marriage. If our carnal nature is still alive and we have been married to it, and we turn around and seek to marry someone else, we would have been in the position of the adulteress. But once we grasp the fact that through the death of Jesus on the cross, our carnal nature was put to death, then we are no longer bound by it. Once the carnal nature is put to death, we were released from the obligation of the law. So through the death of Jesus, we were put to death and released from the claim of the law. Now we are free to be married to another. To whom? **TO THE ONE THAT ROSE FROM THE DEAD.**

How can we be united in our marriage relationship to Him? Not through the law, but through the Spirit. The greatest single contribution of the Holy Spirit to our spiritual life is to make it possible for us to be united in a kind of marriage union with the resurrected Christ. According to whom we are married to, we will bring forth the fruit of the marriage union. If we are still married to the flesh, we will bring forth the works of the flesh as listed in Gal.5:19-21. The flesh is corrupt and whatever it brings forth is corrupt. It is evil and not acceptable to God. As long as we are married to the flesh, no matter how hard we try to do good, we would bring forth the fruits of that union with the flesh. But once we are set free from that union and get married to the Lord Jesus through the Holy Spirit, then we bring forth the fruit of the Holy Spirit which is Love. See Gal.5:22-23. When you are bringing forth that kind of fruit out of your union with the resurrected Christ, you do not need to be controlled by any law because there is no law against the fruit of the Spirit.

I Cor.6:16-17 :- There is a fleshy union and there is a spirit union. What the Holy Spirit does is to enable us to be united in Spirit with the Lord Jesus, and when we are united with Him, we will naturally not by matter of effort, bring forth the fruit of the Spirit. You see, the question is to whom are we united? Efforts will not do it. Union is the answer. This particular union with the Lord is consummated in one way through worship (PERSONAL WORSHIP). God is a Spirit, and those who worship Him must worship Him in Spirit and in truth (John 4:24). The climax of our union with Jesus in this dispensation comes in worship. When we become totally united with the Lord in worship, something happens with us that is going to release all the grace and the fruit of His Spirit, (the out-pouring of the fullness of His Spirit or Anointing). Bear in mind these two alternatives: -

- (1) United with the flesh through the law.
- (2) United by the Holy Spirit to the resurrected Christ.