

Make Your Calling and Election Sure

Samuel H. Nodal

Therefore, brothers and sisters, **be all the more diligent to make certain about His calling and choice of you; for as long as you practice these things, you will never stumble:** (2 Pet. 1:10)

We are the product of our decisions (Don't Blame GOD). This goes for entire nations as well. In simple terms, the person or nation who worships the Lord and follows His will, will be blessed, and the person or nation that rejects the Lord and His will (or is a fake), will be cursed! It's that simple, the Lord cannot be mocked! (Gal. 6:7,8). The Lord is all powerful and GOOD, God must destroy evil or it will continue to spread all over the earth. In Noah's day, the Church was reduced to 8 people.

A prudent man foreseeth the evil, and hideth himself: but the simple pass on, and are punished. (Prov. 22:3) and (Prov. 27:12)

A scorner seeketh wisdom, and findeth it not: but knowledge is easy unto him that understandeth. Go from the presence of a foolish man, when thou perceivest not in him the lips of knowledge. The wisdom of the prudent is to understand his way: but the folly of fools is deceit. (Prov. 14:6-8)

Our Faith Has To Be More Than Theology

One can memorize the Bible cover to cover and never meet its Author personally. This kind of faith will not save you. Theology without the Spirit's revelation is religion. The purpose of the Word is to promote understanding and reveal the person of Jesus in your heart not your head. Words are essential because that's how we communicate with God and each other. We communicate and understand each other through words. The Bible means nothing if you do not develop a personal friendship with Christ through the Holy Spirit. Jesus must reveal Himself to you in Spirit and Truth.

We Live By Faith Through the SPIRIT of GOD

Who also hath made us able ministers of the new testament; **not of the letter, but of the spirit: for the letter killeth, but the spirit giveth life.** (2 Cor. 3:6)

"It is the SPIRIT of GOD that gives Spiritual Life!"

We Live Unto GOD through His Spirit (SPIRIT to spirit)

Knowing God is not the same as knowing about God. When you really know God your life will change radically. Jesus will become real to you! Your desire will be to live Holy, worship in Spirit and Truth, obey his Holy Word with all your heart. Yes, the Word is our guide, and is how we understand God, but the Word has no power to transform you into His image. Only the Spirit of God can do that. Your desire will be toward Jesus and His Word when the Holy Spirit dwells in you.

But we all, with open face beholding as in a glass the glory of the Lord, **are changed into the same image from glory to glory, even as by the Spirit of the Lord.** (2 Cor. 3:18)

Forasmuch as **ye are manifestly declared to be the epistle of Christ ministered by us, written not with ink, but with the Spirit of the living God; not in tables of stone, but in fleshy tables of the heart.** (2 Cor. 3:3)

But ye are not in the flesh, **but in the Spirit, if so be that the Spirit of God dwell in you.** Now **if any man have not the Spirit of Christ, he is none of his.** **And if Christ be in you, the body is dead because of sin; but the Spirit is life because of righteousness.** But **if the Spirit of him that raised up Jesus from the dead dwell in you, he that raised up Christ from the dead shall also quicken your mortal bodies by his Spirit that dwelleth in you.** (Rom. 8:9-11)

But **the anointing which ye have received of him abideth in you, and ye need not that any man teach you: but as the same anointing teacheth you of all things, and is truth,** and is no lie, and even as it hath taught you, **ye shall abide in him.** (1 John 2:27)

O foolish Galatians, who hath bewitched you, that ye should not obey the truth, before whose eyes Jesus Christ hath been evidently set forth, crucified among you? **This only would I learn of you, Received ye the Spirit by the works of the law, or by the hearing of faith? Are ye so foolish? having begun in the Spirit, are ye now made perfect by the flesh? Have ye suffered so many things in vain?** if it be yet in vain. **He therefore that ministereth to you the Spirit, and worketh miracles among you, doeth he it by the works of the law, or by the hearing of faith?** (Gal. 3:1-5)

I do not frustrate the grace of God: **for if righteousness come by the law,** **then Christ is dead in vain.** (Gal. 2:21)

How Do We Know We Have Received the HOLY SPIRIT?

There are two sure ways of knowing. One is, the Holy Spirit will give witness to your spirit. And Two, you will hate the evil things (sin) you used to do. You no longer want to live your life in the flesh (the old man) but now your desire is to live a holy sanctified life to honor God the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

The Spirit itself beareth witness with our spirit, that we are the children of God:

And if children, then heirs; heirs of God, and joint-heirs with Christ; if so be that we suffer with him, **that we may be also glorified together.** (Rom. 8:16,17)

For they that are after the flesh do mind the things of the flesh; but they that are after 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, neither indeed can be. So then they that are in the flesh cannot please God. But ye are not in the flesh, but in the Spirit, if so be that the Spirit of God dwell in you. Now if any man have not the Spirit of Christ, he is none of his. (Rom. 8:5-9)

Therefore, brethren, we are debtors, not to the flesh, to live after the flesh. **For if ye live after the flesh, ye shall die: but if ye through the Spirit do mortify the deeds of the body, ye shall live. For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, they are the sons of God.** (Rom. 8:12-14)

What is the difference between a Religious Person and a Godly Holy Spirit filled Person? A religious person tries to live Holy through his own power and self will which he can never do because self will cannot defeat the world, the flesh, and the devil. Only the SPIRIT of GOD can do that! Another great problem we have is when we confuse the Holy Spirit with the voice of another spirit. This has been a great problem in mostly the Pentecostal Church (and other Churches as well)! Satan has managed to deceive a great portion of the Pentecostal Church with false prophecies and gifts that caused Godly men and women to reject the power of the Spirit! The True Pentecostal Church has been the greatest blessing God has ever given His Church. The gifts of the Spirit have been given to us to gather in the end time harvest. More people have been won to the Lord by the Pentecost movement than any other movement in History. This is a proven fact, go study it for yourself. I will not dwell on it here, but study the movements of God throughout History (Azusa Street, Maria Woodworth-Etter, Smith Wigglesworth, John G. Lake, Lester Sumrall, and many many others).

Paul Soon Realized His Carnal Nature was an Enemy of the Holy Spirit

For we know that the law is spiritual: but I am carnal, sold under sin. For that which I do I allow not: for what I would, that do I not; but what I hate, that do I. If then I do that which I would not, I consent unto the law that it is good. Now then it is no more I that do it, but sin that dwelleth in me. For I know that in me (that is, in my flesh,) dwelleth no good thing: for to will is present with me; but how to perform that which is good I find not. **For the good that I would I do not: but the evil which I would not, that I do.** **Now if I do that I would not, it is no more I that do it, but sin that dwelleth in me.** **I find then a law, that, when I would do good, evil is present with me. For I delight in the law of God after the inward man: But I see another law in my members, warring against the law of my mind, and bringing me into captivity to the law of sin which is in my members. O wretched man that I am! who shall deliver me from the body of this death? I thank God through Jesus Christ our Lord. So then with the mind I myself serve the law of God; but with the flesh the law of sin.** (Rom. 7:14-25)

For the flesh lusteth against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh: and these are contrary the one to the other: so that ye cannot do the things that ye would.

(Gal. 5:17)

How Do We Receive the HOLY SPIRIT?

Humble yourself before God and confess you are a Sinner. Then believe what Jesus did on the Cross for you. God the Father sent His Only Son Jesus to die on a Bloody Roman Cross for all of humanity's sin. We receive the Holy Spirit by the BLOOD of JESUS!

And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, **even so must the Son of man be lifted up: That whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have eternal life.** **For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.** **For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be saved. He that believeth on him is not condemned: but he that believeth not is condemned already, because he hath not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God. And this is the condemnation, that light is come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil.**

(John 3:14-19)

For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus hath made me free from the law of sin and death. For what the law could not do, in that it was weak through the flesh, God sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, and for sin, condemned sin in the flesh: That the righteousness of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit. (Rom. 8:2-4)

How much worse punishment, do you think, will be deserved by the one who has trampled underfoot the Son of God, and has profaned the blood of the covenant by which he was sanctified, and has outraged the Spirit of grace? (Heb. 10:29) ESVS

For the life of the body is in its blood. I have given you the blood on the altar to purify you, making you right with the LORD. It is the blood, given in exchange for a life, that makes purification possible. (Lev. 17:11) NLT

God Speaks to our spirit Not the soul

*God speaks to our spirit **not the soul**. Unless the soul is trained to receive a True Word from the Spirit which is united to your spirit, it will be subject to deception by the world, the flesh, or the devil. All Truth comes from the Word into our spirit by the Holy Spirit which is then processed by the Soul which tells the body what action to take (good or evil). Without the Holy Spirit you can read the Word all day long and not understand its correct meaning!*

Howbeit when he, the Spirit of truth, is come, he will guide you into all truth: for he shall not speak of himself; but whatsoever he shall hear, that shall he speak: and he will shew you things to come. He shall glorify me: for he shall receive of mine, and shall shew it unto you. (John 16:13,14)

Jesus answered, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God. That which is born of the flesh is flesh; and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit. (John 3:5,6)

For what man knoweth the things of a man, save the spirit of man which is in him? even so the things of God knoweth no man, but the Spirit of God. Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the spirit which is of God; that we might know the things that are freely given to us of God. Which things also we speak, not in the words which man's wisdom teacheth, but which the Holy Ghost teacheth; comparing spiritual things with spiritual.

But the natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God: for they are foolishness unto him: neither can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned. But he that is spiritual judgeth all things, yet he himself is judged of no man. For who hath known the mind of the Lord, that he may instruct him? But we have the mind of Christ. (1 Cor. 2:11-16)

He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches; To him that overcometh will I give to eat of the tree of life, which is in the midst of the paradise of God. (Rev. 2:7) “*all 7 churches have this same message*”

The Holy Spirit Reveals Jesus to the Believer

The Third Person of the God-Head is the Only One that can reveal Jesus to you. Jesus is seated at the Right hand of the Father in Heaven right now. There is no way to communicate with Him without the Holy Spirit. The Spirit of God is on Earth and in you, God cannot get any closer than that. Angels don't have that privilege!

What? know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost 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)

Know ye not that ye are the temple of God, and that the Spirit of God dwelleth in you? If any man defile the temple of God, him shall God destroy; for the temple of God is holy, which temple ye are. (1 Cor. 3:16,17)

At that day ye shall know that I am in my Father, and ye in me, and I in you.
(John 14:20)

*Paul's Only Desire and Purpose in Life was to Fellowship with GOD:
(to know Jesus and the power of His Resurrection)*

But what things were gain to me, those I counted loss for Christ. Yea doubtless, and I count all things but loss for the excellency of the knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord: for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and do count them but dung, that I may win Christ, And be found in him, not having mine own righteousness, which is of the law, but that which is through the faith of Christ, the righteousness which is of God by faith:

That I may know him, and the power of his resurrection, and the fellowship of his sufferings, being made conformable unto his death; If by any means I might attain unto the resurrection of the dead. (Phil. 3:7-11)

Paul imitated Jesus by the Power of the Holy Spirit. Paul loved Jesus even on to death. Paul's faith was unwavering, he always pleased Jesus through the Holy Spirit. Likewise, a Christians duty in this race is to please God like Jesus pleased His Father.

Behold my servant, whom I have chosen; my beloved, in whom my soul is well pleased: I will put my spirit upon him, and he shall shew judgment to the Gentiles.

(Matt. 12:18)

And he that sent me is with me: the Father hath not left me alone; for I do always those things that please him. (John 8:29)

Paul understood he had an earthly race to run, in which he would receive a crown and eternal Glory from Jesus Himself at the Judgment seat of Christ. All our work done on Earth is not in vain, we will receive eternal rewards. And God's rewards are great and eternal!

Brethren, I count not myself to have apprehended: but this one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before, I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus. Let us therefore, as many as be perfect, be thus minded: and if in any thing ye be otherwise minded, God shall reveal even this unto you. Nevertheless, whereto we have already attained, **let us walk by the same rule, let us mind the same thing. Brethren, be followers together of me, and mark them which walk so as ye have us for an ensample. (For many walk, of whom I have told you often, and now tell you even weeping, that they are the enemies of the cross of Christ: Whose end is destruction, whose God is their belly, and whose glory is in their shame, who mind earthly things.) For our conversation is in heaven; from whence also we look for the Saviour, the Lord Jesus Christ:** (Phil. 3:13-20)

*Paul's entire race was to be like Jesus and go for the eternal Crown of Gold. There is no greater prize than Jesus Himself. Paul said; I want to know Him and the Power of His Resurrection! Paul's **fellowship** was with GOD Himself (Father, Son, and Holy Spirit).*

That which we have seen and heard declare we unto you, that ye also may have fellowship with us: and truly our fellowship is with the Father, and with his Son Jesus Christ. (1 John 1:3)

If we say that we have fellowship with him, and walk in darkness, we lie, and do not the truth: But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin.

(1 John 1:6,7)

Jesus Came to Save the World Not Condemn it; but most will not come to the Light

That was the true Light, which lighteth every man that cometh into the world. He was in the world, and the world was made by him, and the world knew him not. He came unto his own, and his own received him not. But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name: Which were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God. (John 1:9-13)

And hereby we do know that we know him, if we keep his commandments. He that saith, I know him, and keepeth not his commandments, is a liar, and the truth is not in him. But whoso keepeth his word, in him verily is the love of God perfected: hereby know we that we are in him. He that saith he abideth in him ought himself also so to walk, even as he walked. (1 John 2:3-6)

