

# GOD in us

*“Is the Holy Spirit Guiding your life?”*



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*GOD in Us “Is the Holy Spirit Guiding your life?” Rev 4*

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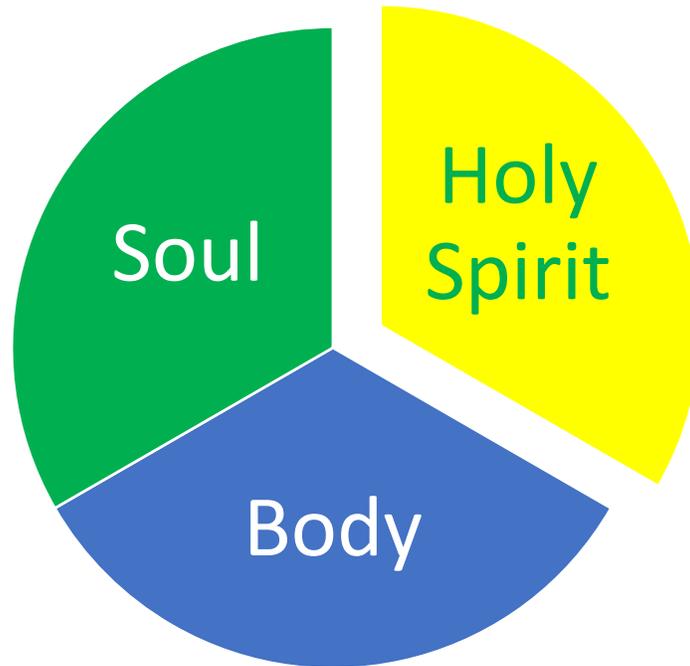
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**Resource List**

- Study Bible (ESV), Crossway
- Blackaby, Henry & Mel, Experiencing the Spirit, B&H Books, TN
- Daigle, Lauren, “*You Say*”
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- Waylon Jennings, “*Nothing Catches Jesus by Surprise*”
- Witness Lee, *The Parts of Man*, Chapter 1
- Wommack, Andrew, Body, Soul, and Spirit
-

## **We have a body, soul, and spirit.**



*1 Thessalonians 5:23, “may your whole spirit and soul and body be kept blameless...”*

My spirit was born dead, in darkness, capable only of hearing Satan's many voices. Then God's voice reached through the darkness and invited me to accept Christ's gift of the Holy Spirit to come alongside my spirit. But first I had to be willing to start over and become his servant by becoming a servant of men.

*Proverbs 20:27, “The spirit of man is the lamp of the Lord, searching all his innermost parts.”*

*Job 32:8, “it is the spirit in man, the breath of the Almighty, that makes him understand.”*

*Romans 12:1 (ESV) I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship.*

*2 Corinthians 5:17-2, “Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come. All this is from God, who through Christ reconciled us to himself and gave us the ministry of reconciliation; that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting to us the message of reconciliation. Therefore, we are ambassadors for Christ, God making his appeal through us. We implore you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.”*

*Ephesians 1:3-4, “Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, even as he chose us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and blameless before him.”*

*Ephesians 4:4-8, “There is one body and one Spirit—just as you were called to the one hope that belongs to your call—one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all. But grace was given to each one of us according to the measure of Christ's gift.”*

Hebrews 12:23 says, speaking of the church, “the spirits of just men made perfect.”

“Well, it is also a necessity that you know who you have become in your spirit. You are a new creature in your spirit (2 Cor. 5:17), and you have to reeducate your mind to think that way before the perfect will of God will be made manifest in your flesh (Rom. 12:1-2). We are more than conquerors through Christ, but we won't benefit from that truth until we convince ourselves of it, no more than a millionaire would benefit from their bank account if they didn't know it was there. This is the condition that the body of Christ has been in. We have simply been ignorant of who we are in Jesus (in our spirits) and of the rights and privileges that are ours.”

We are now, in our spirits, a totally new creation. But until we first realize this and then act on it in faith, the devil will continue to oppress us. The first step in faith is knowledge. Romans 10:14 says, “How shall they believe in him of whom they have not heard?” and verse 17 says, “So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the Word of God.” Ignorance of who we are in our spirits has made it impossible for us to act in faith accordingly.

Philemon 6 says, “That the communication of thy faith may become effectual by the acknowledging of every good thing which is in you in Christ Jesus.” This verse makes it clear that your faith becomes effectual (starts working) by knowing the good things in your spirit. You could turn that verse around and not change the meaning by saying that if you don’t know what’s taken place in your spirit man, your faith won’t work.

The religious teaching that most people have received today has either taught or left the impression that there isn’t any good thing in us. We’ve been taught that the way to activate the power of God in our lives is to keep our unworthiness and weaknesses continually before us.

Hebrews 12:2 says we have to look unto Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith, but most of us have been looking at ourselves. No wonder we’ve been weary and have fainted in the battle (Heb. 12:3)! As we change our attention from our own frailty to Christ’s sufficiency and take our place in Him, our faith will be activated, and we’ll begin to live like the King’s kids that we are.” Andrew Wommack, “Who You Are in the Spirit”

We are perfect, and labeled “Saints”, when we are baptized in the Spirit. God’s Spirit replaced our own. But many of us refuse to accept that label despite God proclaiming it, because we focus our own mistakes and shortcomings. It is obvious that our thoughts and actions fall far short of perfection. Was God wrong?

We were made in the image of God, a tri part being, with a body, a soul and a spirit. Our body lives in this world. Our soul, consisting of our mind and emotions, has been taught by this world, but it does communicate with our spirit. All of a sudden, our spirit is fill with the Holy Spirit, God’s Spirit, and so perfect. Our minds can access perfection within us. God’s Perfection can begin to teach perfection to our minds, to our souls, and so cause the body to change its ways.

Our spirit being is perfect, but we need to learn from our spirit to change our ways. We are perfect, but our actions are not perfect – yet. We’ll work on it. But don’t let anyone cause you to focus on your own less than perfect actions. They do not reflect the new you, made perfect in the sight of God. Your spirit, that part of your already living in God’s presence, the part of you that remains with God when your body dies and returns to the physical world from whence it came, continues to live with God.

Perhaps we can begin to clarify the message by explaining your tri-part nature created by God. Few churches preach about this. Instead, they choose to remind you of your imperfections, just in case you forgot. Hardly uplifting. Just remember, Jesus baptized you in His Spirit. Perfection is now living inside you. Satan can't overcome God's perfection, and so can't overcome you either. Reach deep. Battle won.

*“As we change our attention from our own frailty to Christ's sufficiency and take our place in Him, our faith will be activated, and we'll begin to live like the King's kids that we are.”*

*But somebody would say, “There is none righteous, no not one” (Rom. 3:10). This scripture refers to our self-righteousness, which can never bring us into fellowship with God because “all have sinned and come short of the glory of God” (Rom. 3:23). But Jesus took our sin and became sin for us so that we might be made the righteousness of God in Him (2 Cor. 5:21). That means our new spirits. That's the part of us that is in Him. If you accept the first part of this verse, that Jesus became sin for us, then you have to accept the next part, that we received His righteousness. This is not a righteousness which is imparted in heaven. It will be perfected in heaven, spirit, soul, and glorified body. But as Ephesians 4:24 says, our spirits are now righteous and truly holy. Hebrews 12:23 says, speaking of the church, “the spirits of just men made perfect.” Andrew Wommack*

When the Holy Spirit is sent He lives along-side your spirit, lighting up the dark places of our souls. Then, your spiritual self becomes perfect in God's eyes. But, since your soul contains your mind, emotion, and self-will; formed by your input from the world, Satan's world, from what you read, see, experience, hear or think, when the Holy Spirit provides understanding of who God is and what he wants us to do, we must turn around to relearn. We keep our own free will. We have a choice both to accept the Holy Spirit AND to follow Him – or not. In church jargon borrowed from scripture, we say Repent (turn around) and be baptized in the Holy Spirit (fully accept Christ and change).

*2 Corinthians 5:17, “if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come.”*

## **Do you know who you are in spirit?**

Your body didn't change, but your soul (mind, emotion, and self-will) will change if you accept the Holy Spirit's influence. For in the spirit, you became a new species of being. There isn't an old sin nature left in you. Your self-will can't get you any closer to Christ by its own efforts, but your own new spirit can. This is not a battle for you to win with your own power. It is no use getting up in the morning and saying, “Today I won't do that anymore” only to find out, once again, that you do.

*Romans 6:2, “How can we who died to sin still live in it?”*

“Died to sin” is what this is all about! Your own spirit, the one you that defines who you are, the one residing with the Holy Spirit, is perfect in God's eyes. Your actions may not be perfect. Why? Because so far, you refuse to let go of your own self-will and ask God for His Will. The battle has been won for you, if you turn to your new spirit for help.

*Romans 6:3-4, “We were buried with him by baptism into death, so that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of life.”*

*John 3:3, Jesus said: “Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born again he cannot see the kingdom of God.”*

Many Christians believe that sin still abounds, and with much effort, frustration and failure they battle their old sin nature the rest of their lives. But Paul said we are dead to sin, alive with God.

But you say, “I still struggle with sin, and so do my family, friends, and church.” That may be, which is why we present this truth. Focus on your new self. Forgive your past. God has. He sees your spiritual self. **You can do no less.** *1 Corinthians 15:44-45, “It is sown a natural body; it is raised a spiritual body. If there is a natural body, there is also a spiritual body. Thus, it is written, ‘The first man Adam became a living being;’ the last Adam became a life-giving spirit.”*

Everyone who accepts the call to Christ and his gift of the Holy Spirit is a blow to the sin of living in the world. If everyone came, Satan might retreat

into his hole and stay there. *Romans 6:6, “That the body of sin might be destroyed that henceforth we should not serve sin.”*

## **It’s not just about you.**

1 John 3:9 says your spirit can’t sin. God’s acceptance is not based on your performance, but upon your changed spirit. It has been sealed. No sin can penetrate it. No matter how you perform, you can always approach God with your spirit. God is Spirit, he hears your spirit and speaks to your born-again spirit, which is perfect in God’s eyes, immediately available to you.

*1 John 3:9, “No one born of God makes a practice of sinning, for God’s seed abides in him; and he cannot keep on sinning, because he has been born of God.”*

## **The Triune God**

We believe in one God. But He has three natures: God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit. We also have three natures: our Body, Soul, and Spirit. We are in God’s image. Many of us recognize our material body, the one we feed, protect and serve. We have a soul, our immaterial parts: the mind we train and hope controls our body’s actions, our emotions which react and often take control instead, and our self-will, the one we carefully build to show the world who we are.

Experience may have taught us to ignore our spirit. My spirit got me into trouble many times. I befriended many people. None were godly, all were lost, although I didn't know it at the time. When I finally met someone who knew God, who was in touch with the Holy Spirit, they ran from my friends, couldn't be in the same room for long. I believed my friends were good, kind people. I still do. But I also knew we all felt lost, drifting, searching without an anchor in this world. That is a frightening feeling, and it can lead to many unwise decisions, actions, and reactions. Was it because we were born dead in the spirit? Materialistic? I didn't think so. We were poor and giving. Atheistic? No. I for one knew there

was a god who created the animals, plants and me. I was awed by life and honored it. I wouldn't and didn't label myself “born dead” nor would any of the hippies who filled my world. But searching? To be sure.

## **So, what is Ephesians 2:1-10 telling us?**

*"And you were dead in the trespasses and sins in which you once walked, following the course of this world, following the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that is now at work in the sons of disobedience— among whom we all once lived in the passions of our flesh, carrying out the desires of the body and the mind, and were by nature children of wrath, like the rest of mankind. But God, being rich in mercy, because of the great love with which he loved us, even when we were dead in our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ—by grace you have been saved—and raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, so that in the coming ages he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus. For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, not a result of works, so that no one may boast. For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them."*

I interpret this to mean I didn't have a clue. Passionate? To be sure, of both the body and the mind. I read many of the “great” thinkers of the ages, searching for wisdom, and found some in bits and pieces, like a puzzle I was putting together to share. We were men creating a roadmap to the meaning of life. But men can't do it. We've proved that over and over throughout the ages. What I learned from the philosophers was how to argue about what words mean. It did nothing for my soul.

Paul says Jew and Gentile alike are born in Adam's rebellion.

*Romans 1:19-27, “...what can be known about God is plain to men, because God has shown it to them...his eternal power and divine nature, have been clearly perceived, ever since the creation of the world, in the*

*things that have been made...although they knew God, they did not honor him as God or give thanks to him...Claiming to be wise, they became fools, and exchanged the glory of the immortal God for images resembling mortal man...Therefore God gave them up in the lusts of their hearts to impurity, to the dishonoring of their bodies among themselves, because they exchanged the truth about God for a lie...*

**So, the result is there is one God, one set of rules, one forgiveness.** And no one wants to hear that. “What do you mean there is only one way!” I certainly didn’t. I wanted to invent my own. Without reading it, I decided the bible was somebody’s invention, or more likely the product of some committee that wanted to control the world, for in my world, growing up in the forties and fifties in America, the bible was thrown in my face by everyone who wanted to control me. Worse, if I didn’t agree, I was going to hell. It didn’t frighten me, it angered me.

It took me years and years to read them for myself. First, because I studied literature and so many images and references are made to it in European literature, Christian or Atheist. For example, Steinbeck's famous book, *The Grapes of Wrath*, is a reference to *Revelation 14:19 (NIV) The angel swung his sickle on the earth, gathered its grapes and threw them into the great winepress of God’s wrath.*

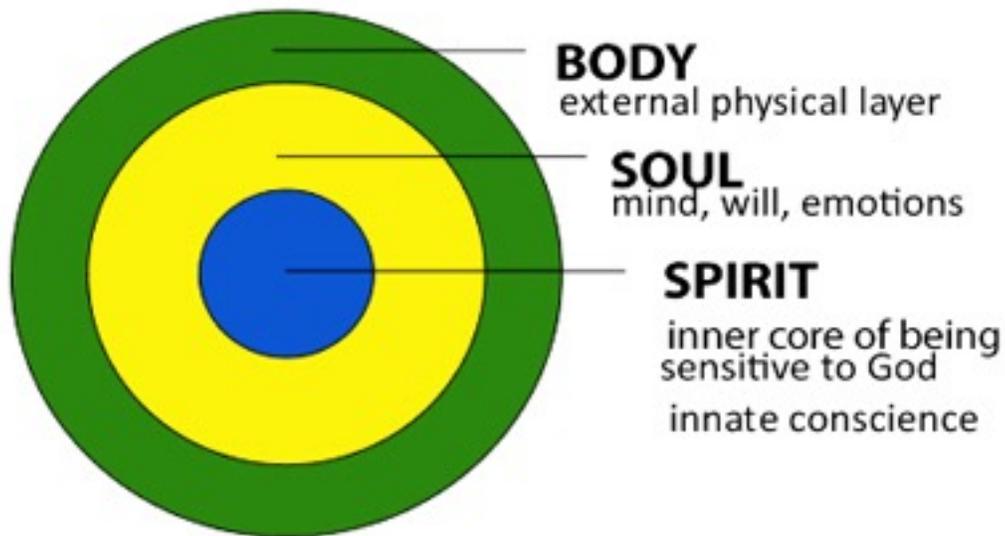
But it wasn't until I realized that the bible is a single story, not a bunch of disjointed stories by as many authors. It is the story of God's relationship with us, you and me, before and after. We are revealed to be special because God loves us. We are shown to be nothing special because we all mess up, none of us are as smart as we think we are and should be humble without God telling us to be.

## It was the Holy Spirit calling me

We are born with the ability, the inclination, to live for ourselves, to fulfill our own wants and needs first. “Me first” resounds across the kindergarten room. Somebody must teach us the acceptable limits, to share, and to give. Why do we respond?

Because we are made in the image of God.

*Genesis 2:7, “...then the Lord God formed the man of dust from the ground and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life, and the man became a living creature.*



We have a spirit. We may not be aware of it, but it is there. My mother’s favorite saying when I missed the mark was “you know better.” It wasn’t an intellectual argument. She believed everyone “knew better” but willingly chose another path, for any number of self-serving reasons.

Disney agreed, and illustrated Pinocchio's spiritual conscience as Jiminy Cricket:

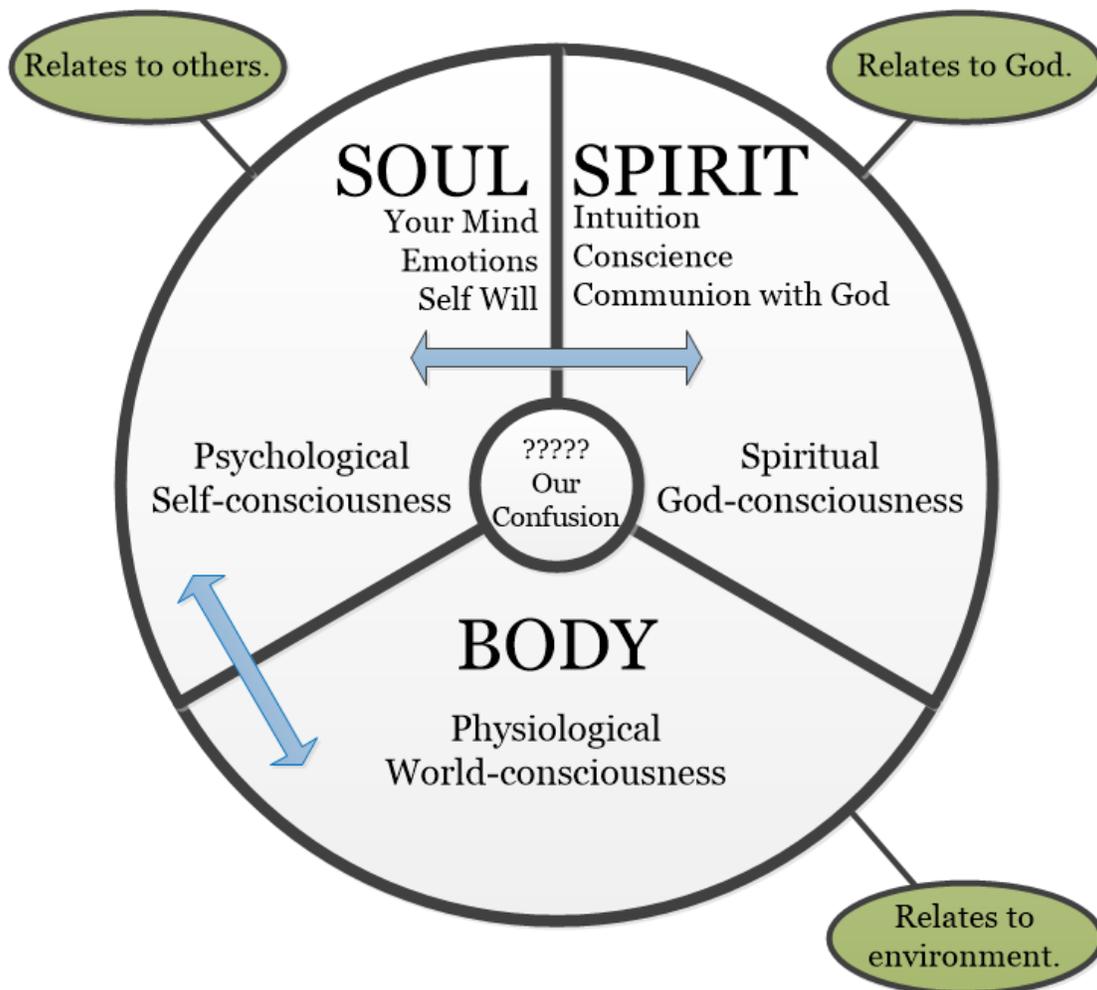


**"A conscience is that still small voice that people won't listen to."**  
(J. Cricket)

Your spirit consists of your conscience, intuition, and communion with God.

John 4:23-24, "...True worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father is seeking such people to worship him. **God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth.**"

James 2:26, "The body apart from the spirit is dead."



## **So why did I take so long?**

Because I wasn't listening to the right spiritual voice. Satan has a million spiritual voices, and we can hear them too. Some of us prefer his voice because it feeds our own self-identity. It fits the world we live in because Satan is the Prince of this world. It is his domain.

*1 Corinthians 2:14, “The natural person does not accept the things of the Spirit of God, for they are folly to him, and he is not able to understand them because they are spiritually discerned.”*

But some who are called by the Holy Spirit, whose spiritual discernment is opened, here:

*1 Corinthians 2:11-13, “For who knows a person's thoughts except the spirit of that person, which is in him? “So also no one comprehends the thoughts of God except the Spirit of God. 12 Now we have received not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit who is from God, that we might understand the things freely given us by God. 13 And we impart this in words not taught by human wisdom but taught by the Spirit, interpreting spiritual truths to those who are spiritual.”*

These are things for us to think about, pray about, learn about. My only goal is to convince you that you have a living spirit. It is you, the part that becomes one with God when your physical life ends. If your spirit remains separated from God, it remains separated after physical life is over.

If you are searching for meaning in this life, or a goal, ask the Holy Spirit, and He will put you touch with God the Father. It can be a two-way conversation, between you and Christ. There is nothing significant that you can accomplish under your own power. And anything that God asks you to do He will give you His power to accomplish. Not more, not less. Go back and read the story of Moses.

The following scriptures focus on the spirit of men and the Spirit of God.

## **The Holy Spirit Scriptures**

1. *Genesis 1:26-27, “Let us make man in our image, after our likeness...God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them.*
2. *Genesis 2:7, “...then the Lord God formed the man of dust from the ground and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life, and the man became a living creature.*
3. *Proverbs 20:27, “The spirit of man is the lamp of the Lord...”*
4. *Matthew 22:37, “And he said to him, “You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the first commandment. And the second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself.”*
5. *Matthew 26:40-41, “And he came to the disciples and found them sleeping. And he said to Peter, ‘So, could you not watch with me one hour? Watch and pray that you may not enter temptation. The spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak.’”*
6. *John 3:5-8, “Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God. 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’... So, it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit.”*
7. *John 4:23-26, “But the hour is coming, and is here when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father is seeking such people to worship him. These things I have spoken to you while I am still with you. But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, he will teach you.”*
8. *John 4:24, “God is Spirit; those who worship must worship in spirit and truth.”*

9. *John 6:63, “And Jesus said, “It is the Spirit who gives life; the flesh is no help at all. The words that I have spoken to you are spirit and life. But there are some of you who do not believe.”*
10. *John 14:15-17, “If you love me, you will keep my commandments. And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Helper, to be with you forever; the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him, for he dwells with you and will be in you.”*
11. *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 set their minds on the things of the Spirit. For to set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace. For the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God, for it does not submit to God's law; indeed, it cannot. Those who are in the flesh cannot please God.”*
12. *Romans 8:9-11, “You, however, are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if in fact, the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. But if Christ is in you, although the body is dead because of sin, the Spirit is life because of righteousness. If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ Jesus from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through his Spirit who lives in you.*
13. *Romans 8:16, “The Spirit himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God.”*
14. *Romans 8:26, “Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness. For we do not know what to pray for as we ought, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us with groanings too deep for words.”*
15. *Romans 9:1, “I am speaking the truth in Christ...my conscience bears me witness in the Holy Spirit.”*

16. *Romans 12:2, “Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.”*
17. *1 Corinthians 2:10-13, “These things God has revealed to us through the Spirit. For the Spirit searches everything, even the depths of God. For who knows a person's thoughts except the spirit of that person, which is in him? No one comprehends the thoughts of God except the Spirit of God. Now we have received not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit who is from God, that we might understand the things freely given us by God. And we impart this in words not taught by human wisdom but taught by the Spirit, interpreting spiritual truths to those who are spiritual.”*
18. *1 Corinthians 2:14-16, “The natural person does not accept the things of the Spirit of God, for they are folly to him, and he is not able to understand them because they are spiritually discerned. The spiritual person judges all things but is himself judged by no one. For who has understood the mind of the Lord to instruct him?’ But we have the mind of Christ.”*
19. *1 Corinthians 6:17, “But he who is joined(to the exclusion of others) to the Lord becomes one spirit with him.”*
20. *1 Corinthians 15:44-45, “It is sown a natural body; it is raised a spiritual body. If there is a natural body, there is also a spiritual body. Thus, it is written, ‘The first man Adam became a living being;’ the last Adam became a life-giving spirit.”*
21. *2 Corinthians 5:17, “Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, is a new creation.”*
22. *Galatians 5:16-25, “But I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the flesh. For the desires of the flesh are against the Spirit, and the desires of the Spirit are against the flesh, for these*

*are opposed to each other, to keep you from doing the things you want to do... But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control; ...And those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. If we live by the Spirit, let us also keep in step with the Spirit.”*

23. *Galatians 6:8, “...the one who sows to the Spirit will from the Spirit reap eternal life.”*
24. *Galatians 6:18, “The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ is with your spirit.”*
25. *Ephesians 1:13, “In him you also, when you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and believed in him, were sealed with the promised Holy Spirit.”*
26. *Ephesians 1:17, “...that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you the Spirit of wisdom and of revelation in the knowledge of him...”*
27. *Ephesians 1:3-4, “Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, even as he chose us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and blameless before him.”*
28. *Ephesians 1:13, “...when you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and believed in him, were sealed with the promised Holy Spirit...”*
29. *Ephesians 3:16-19, “...that according to the riches of his glory he may grant you to be strengthened with power through his Spirit in your inner being, so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith—that you, being rooted and grounded in love, may have strength to comprehend with all the saints what is the breadth and length and height and depth, and to know the love of Christ that*

*surpasses knowledge, that you may be filled with all the fullness of God.”*

30. *Ephesians 4:4-6, “There is one body and one Spirit—just as you were called to the one hope that belongs to your call— 5 one Lord, one faith, one baptism, 6 one God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all.”*
31. *Ephesians 4:22-24, “... put off your old self, which belongs to your former manner of life and is corrupt through deceitful desires, and to be renewed in the spirit of your minds, and to put on the new self, created after the likeness of God in true righteousness and holiness.*
32. *Ephesians 5:15-18, “Look carefully then how you walk, not as unwise but as wise, making the best use of the time because the days are evil. Therefore, do not be foolish, but understand what the will of the Lord is. And do not get drunk with wine, for that is debauchery, but be filled with the Spirit.”*
33. *Ephesians 6:17-18, “...take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God, 18 praying at all times in the Spirit, with all prayer and supplication.”*
34. *1 Thessalonians 4:7-8, “For God has not called us for impurity, but in holiness. 8 Therefore whoever disregards this, disregards not man but God, who gives his Holy Spirit to you.”*
35. *1 Thessalonians 5:23, “Now may the God of peace himself sanctify you completely and may your whole **spirit and soul and body** be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.”*
36. *Hebrews 4:12, “The word of God is living and active. Sharper than any double-edged sword, it penetrates even to **dividing soul and spirit**, joints and marrow; it judges the thoughts and attitudes of the heart.”*
37. *Hebrews 11:3, “By faith we understand that the word of God created the universe so that what is seen was not of things that are*

*visible."*

38. *James 2:16, "The body apart from the spirit is dead."*
39. *James 2:26, "For as the body apart from the spirit is dead, so also faith apart from works is dead."*
40. *James 4:17, "So whoever knows the right thing to do and fails to do it, for him it is a sin."*
41. *1 John 2.20, 27, "You have been anointed by the Holy One. . . the anointing which you received from him abides in you, and you have no need that anyone should teach you; as his anointing teaches you about everything, and is true..."*
42. *1 John 4:1-3, "Beloved, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits to see whether they are from God, for many false prophets have gone out into the world. By this, you know the Spirit of God: every spirit that confesses that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is from God, and every spirit that does not confess Jesus is not from God. This is the spirit of the antichrist, which you heard was coming and now is in the world already."*
43. *1 John 4.4, "Whoever knows God listens to us; whoever is not from God does not listen to us. By this, we know the Spirit of truth and the spirit of error."*

Your spirit is the part of you that has been forever changed. Your acceptance of Christ and reception of the Holy Spirit is helping break Satan's reign of terror called sin. Wouldn't we all be better off without sin's hold on the rest of us? Ask a friend to join us. And don't forget to pay attention to the Holy Spirit's teaching and guidance as you live this life on earth. Pray for God's Will to become your own and act on it. But beware of the spiritual voices that aren't from God. Satan broadcasts his own 24/7. So, test what you discern against scripture. Scripture and the Holy Spirit always agree. And the more you study scripture, the easier this will become. For, Faith then is not some blind belief, it is also a gift from God. You didn't truly come to trust Christ because of some logical argument. You "knew" he was God. You

knew intuitively, from your spirit.

Every Christian baptized in the Holy Spirit is perfect in God’s eyes, for the Holy Spirit now lives alongside his or her spirit. The Holy Spirit will influence his mind and emotion if they let it - if they listen and change their worldly ways. Your choice.

## **New Testament Word Definitions** by Paul La Capria

1. **spirit** • (Koine Greek – pneúma – πνεῦμα #4151) The spirit of the natural man; indwelt by the Holy Spirit. Your Intuition & Conscience. The part of you that is in communion and/or communication with God.) #5397 נְשָׁמָה (In the Genesis account of God breathing life into man the Hebrew/Aramaic word used is Neshamah (the breath of God).
2. **soul** • (Koine Greek – psuché – ψυχή #5590) Where we derive our English word “Psyche”; the human mental process that includes intellect and emotions. Your mind. The seat of your emotions and self-will. Psychological self-consciousness. The part of you that relates to others.
3. **flesh** • (Koine Greek – sárx – σὰρξ #4561) is the muscular part that covers the bones of a human or animal body. Your physiology. The physical part of you that relates to your environment.
4. **body** • (Koine Greek – sóma – σῶμα #4983) The living body of a human being or animal. The material part of man in distinction from soul and spirit. Your physiology combined with your world consciousness. The part of you that relates to the environment. The world's imprint left on you.
5. **Spirit** • (Koine Greek – paraklétoS – παράκλητοS #3875) • The Holy Spirit. For the Christian, *Helper / Comforter / Advocate / Encourager / Counselor*. For all of mankind, *Exhorter / Will convict the world concerning sin and righteousness and jud;mit*. Is the image and likeness of God which is eternal. Part of the Triune nature of God. Part of the Godhead: God the Father • God the Son • God the Holy Spirit.
6. **heart** • (Koine Greek – kardia – καρδιά #2588) Inner self. Viewed as the innermost self, the seat of the functions of soul and spirit in the emotiona; afe. ination combo of soul and spirit.
7. **mind** • (Koine Greek – noúS – νοῦS #3563) Directing one’s inner sense to an object; as the faculty of intelligence and understanding. This is the process by which we think or reason thoughts through to

conclusion. The God-given ability of each person to think (reason). For the believer, (noús) is the organ of receiving God's thoughts, through faith.

8. **mind** • (Koine Greek – phrén – φρήν #5424) As the seat of intellectual activity; by metonymy, the intellectual activity itself (understanding, the process of thinking) rather than the brain.

## **Spiritual Growth Self-Test** by Charles Stanley

### **We know we are listening to the Spirit when:**

- Our response to sin is quick and followed by genuine repentance, and we choose not to have that in our life.
- Our spiritual battles are becoming more fierce (Satan intensifies the battle. Being saved is a done deal, but he can still do a lot of damage to the way we are perceived by the world around us, the people we hope to bring to Christ.)
- We begin to see trials and temptations as opportunities for growth. Want to meet somebody who is strong in the Lord; he or she has been tested.
- We begin to see service as an honor and not a diversion.
- We are able to view everything that comes our way as coming from God. Romans 8:28 works: “*And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose.*”
- We sense that our faith is growing stronger. We are bolder. We trust Him more, talk to Him more; our peace grows.
- We desire to spend more time in praise and worship and thanks.
- Our desire to obey becomes more intense and the attraction to the world is less.
- We are eager to share with others what Christ is doing in our life; not what He did in the past, but what He is doing now.
- We are experiencing an increasing awareness of His presence, “I’m abiding in you and you are abiding in me.” All the time, not just in study or worship.
- We guard our private time of prayer and bible reading. If you don’t understand God’s Word, you are backsliding. A closed bible doesn’t

work, no matter what your degrees, no matter how much you volunteer or give. The Word gives light into your mind of the heart of God. Your relationship with God is based on it.

- We prefer to spend time with Him above all else. The more I am in love with him the more valuable I become to other people – and the better servant I become.



*“We need to hear God’s voice for direction and peace. We need to know God hears our voice. How can we obey Christ if we don’t hear from him? If we receive all our instruction from Scripture, why did Christ ask the Father to send us the Holy Spirit? Could it be that Jesus knew the shortcomings of humans so well he knew we weren’t able to live like Christians without the Holy Spirit’s help? When we accepted Christ, the next step was to sacrifice our own will and accept God’s Will. Thus, we were “born again,” a new creature, following the instructions of the Holy Spirit who now lives within us. Our objective is to live out that promise, serving God.”*

*From Mere Christianity, by C.S. Lewis*

