

You Can Live A W.H.O.L.E. Life!

Deut. 30:19-20

19. This day I call heaven and earth as witnesses against you that I have set before you life and death, blessings and curses. Now choose life, so that you and your children may live

20. and that you may love the LORD your God, listen to his voice, and hold fast to him. For the LORD is your life,

Romans 6:20-21 (MSG) - As long as you did what you felt like doing, ignoring God, you didn't have to bother with right thinking or right living, or right *anything* for that matter. But do you call that a free life? What did you get out of it? Nothing you're proud of now. Where did it get you? A dead end. But now that you've found you don't have to listen to sin tell you what to do, and have discovered the delight of listening to God telling you, what a surprise! A whole, healed, put-together life right now, with more and more of life on the way! Work hard for sin your whole life and your pension is death. But God's gift is *real life*, eternal life, delivered by Jesus, our Master.

Romans 7:15 - I do not understand what I do. For what I want to do I do not do, but what I hate I do.

Romans 7:18 - I know that nothing good lives in me, that is, in my sinful nature. For I have the desire to do what is good, but I cannot carry it out.

Romans 6:6-11 (MSG) - Could it be any clearer? Our old way of life was nailed to the cross with Christ, a decisive end to that sin-miserable life—no longer at sin's every beck and call! What we believe is this: If we get included in Christ's sin-conquering death, we also get included in his life-saving resurrection. We know that when Jesus was raised from the dead it was a signal of the end of death-as-the-end. Never again will death have the last word. When Jesus died, he took sin down with him, but alive he brings

God down to us. From now on, think of it this way: Sin speaks a dead language that means nothing to you; God speaks your mother tongue, and you hang on every word. You are dead to sin and alive to God. That's what Jesus did.

Romans 6:12-14 That means you must not give sin a vote in the way you conduct your lives. Don't give it the time of day. Don't even run little errands that are connected with that old way of life. Throw yourselves wholeheartedly and full-time—remember, you've been raised from the dead!—into God's way of doing things. Sin can't tell you how to live. After all, you're not living under that old tyranny any longer. You're living in the freedom of God.

Those A.N.T.s = Automatic Negative Thoughts

Matthew 5:3 - "Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven."

The Message - "You're blessed when you're at the end of your rope..."

New English - "God makes happy those who know they need him..."

New Century translation - "They are blessed who realize their spiritual poverty..."

I. The person who is poor in spirit humbly admits that they need help outside of themselves!

Proverbs 8:13 - "God hates pride and arrogance, evil behavior and perverse speech."

Proverbs 16:18 - "Pride goes before destruction, a haughty spirit before a fall."

A. It is to our own detriment when we fail to admit our failure to succeed on our own without Christ leading us!

Psalm 32:1-6

1. Blessed is he whose transgressions are forgiven, whose sins are covered.

2. Blessed is the man whose sin the LORD does not count against him and in whose spirit is no deceit.

3. When I kept silent, my bones wasted away through my groaning all day long.

4. For day and night your hand was heavy upon me; my strength was sapped as in the heat of summer. Selah

5. Then I acknowledged my sin to you and did not cover up my iniquity. I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the LORD"-- and you forgave the guilt of my sin. Selah

6. Therefore let everyone who is godly pray to you while you may be found; surely when the mighty waters rise, they will not reach him.

B. It is to our benefit when we admit to our spiritual bankruptcy!

Is. 66:2 - "This is the one I esteem: he who is humble and contrite in spirit and trembles at my word."

James 4:10 - "Humble yourselves before the Lord, and he will lift you up."

II Peter 5:6-7 "God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble. Humble yourselves under God' mighty hand, that he may lift you up in due time. Cast all your anxiety on him because he cares for you."

II. The person who is poor in spirit needs to simply and humbly ask God for help!

II Corinthians 1:9 - "We were under great pressure, far beyond our ability to endure, so that we despaired even of life. Indeed in our hearts we felt the sentence of death. But this happened that we might not rely on ourselves but on God, who raises the dead."

Acts 7:51 - "You stiff-necked people, with uncircumcised hearts and ears! You are just like your fathers: You always resist the Holy Spirit!"

Stiff-necked = Obstinate, Stubborn, Set in your own ways

John 8:44 (NASB) - You are of *your* father the devil, and you want to do the desires of your father. He was a murderer from the beginning, and does not stand in the truth because there is no truth in him. Whenever he speaks a lie, he speaks from his own *nature*, for he is a liar and the father of lies.

John 8:44 (NKJV) - You are of *your* father the devil, and the desires of your father you want to do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and does not stand in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaks a lie, he speaks from his own *resources*, for he is a liar and the father of it.

James 1:13-15

13. When tempted, no one should say, "God is tempting me." For God cannot be tempted by evil, nor does he tempt anyone;

14. but each one is tempted when, by his own evil desire, he is dragged away and enticed.

15. Then, after desire has conceived, it gives birth to sin; and sin, when it is full-grown, gives birth to death.

III. The person who is poor in spirit will humbly accept help from other people as well!

Ecclesiastes 4:9-10 - "Two people are better than one because they have a good return for their work. If one falls down, his friend can help him up. But pity the man who falls and has no one to help him up."

James 5:16-17 (MSG)- Make this your common practice: Confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you can live together whole and healed. The prayer of a person living right with God is something powerful to be reckoned with.

1. The fear of your own emotions

2. The fear of the reaction of others

I John 1:9 - "If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins, and cleanse us from all unrighteousness."

Ephesians 2:10 - "His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works."

Philippians 1:6 - "He [God] who has begun a good work in you will bring it to completion."

Walking in
Holiness
Overcoming
Life's sinful
Enticements