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SESSION 70

**SPIRIT OF LIFE MINISTRIES INTERNATIONAL
BIBLE SCHOOL SECOND EDITION
SESSION 70 – FAITH PART 9
WHAT IT MEANS TO BELIEVE WITH THE HEART PART 2**

Romans 10:10

“For with the HEART man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.”

THE HEART OF MAN

Notice particularly the words, ***“For with the heart man believeth...”*** It is with the heart that man believes. You remember in our previous sessions, we talked about the spirit or the heart of man as being the real man. Man *is* a spirit; he *has* a soul; and he *lives* in a body.

A man once preached a sermon, but it wasn't really preaching. It was an intellectual discourse. In the course of his so-called sermon, he began to poke fun at those of us who believe in old-fashioned Bible-cased, heart-felt salvation. He used the term “heart” literally and actually said that this “change of heart” would kill a person because then his blood would not flow right! He mistakenly thought that man was just mind and body. But man is more than mind and body. We must remember he is a spirit; he has a soul; and he lives in a body.

We know that man was created in the image and the likeness of God according to Genesis **1:27**. This means man is in the same class with God. Man has to be in the same class with God, otherwise he would not be able to worship God in spirit and in truth. In **John 4:24** Jesus said, ***“God is a Spirit...”*** then said ***“... They that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth.”***

We know from our last session that our spirit is not our mind. Our mind is part of our soul. The soul is comprised of our mind, our will, and our emotions. Anyone, particularly Full Gospel people, ought to know what the spirit of man is, because when you speak with tongues, you speak out of your heart or out of your spirit. So, to believe God with your heart means to believe God with your spirit, the real man, or the inner man.

HIDDEN MAN OF THE HEART

1 Peter 3:4; *“But let it be the hidden man of the HEART, in that which is not corruptible...”*

Notice the word **“heart”** again. Notice also that Peter says in **I Peter 3:4**, **“...the hidden MAN of the heart...”** Peter used the words “hidden man” because, really, the spirit or the heart is the real you. The body is not the real you; it is just the house you live in.

Remember what Paul said in **I Corinthians 9:27**, **“... I keep under my body, and [I] bring IT [the body] into subjection: lest that by any means, when I have preached to others, I myself should be a castaway.”**

If your body were the real you, Paul would have said, “I keep myself under. I bring myself under subjection.” But he said, I keep my body under. I bring it under subjection. “

The I, is the man on the inside. It is the “hidden man of the heart” mentioned in **I Peter 3:4**. The “hidden man of the heart” is called that because he is hidden to the natural man or the natural mind.

THE INWARD MAN

Romans 7:22: “22 For I delight in the law of God after the inward man.

In **Romans 7:22** the spirit of man is called the **“inward man.”** So, this inward man and the hidden man give us God’s definition of the human spirit. Remember, the real man is a spirit; he has a soul; and he lives in a body (**I Thess. 5:23**).

We contact the spiritual realm with our spirit. We contact the intellectual realm with our soul. We contact the physical realm with our physical being (body).

You cannot contact God with your mind. You cannot contact God with your body. You can only contact God with your spirit. God contacts and communicates with you through your spirit.

Certainly, you know that when you hear the Word of God preached, you hear it with your physical ears, and it goes through your natural mind before it goes into your heart or spirit. Can you remember as a sinner how the Word of God affected you on the inside, in your spirit? The Holy Spirit, through the Word, spoke to your heart or your spirit. You heard the word with your physical ears, but it affected your spirit.

That explains something for us.

I Corinthians 2:14 says, ***“But the natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God...”***

Another translation reads,

“The natural man or the natural mind understands not the things of the Spirit of God...” The rest of that verse reads, ***“...for they are foolishness unto him: neither can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned.”***

The Word of God is of the Spirit of God, and the Bible says the Word of God is foolishness to the natural mind. The reason the Word of God is foolish to the natural mind is that you don't understand the Bible with your mind. It is spiritually understood. You understand the Bible with your heart or spirit.

That is the reason you can read certain verses repeatedly and not understand the meaning. Then one day you can be reading along, and suddenly you see the truth of a particular verse of scripture, and you say, “Why didn't I ever see that before?” Well, you just then understood it with your heart.

THE REVELATION OF GOD'S WORD IN YOUR HEART

You see, you get the revelation of God's Word in your heart. (Your spirit.) That is the reason we must depend upon the Spirit of God to open and unveil the Word to us.

For example, just because a preacher brings forth a Bible truth, people don't necessarily understand it immediately. It is very difficult sometimes to get people to see some truths from the scriptures because they sometimes try to figure it out with their minds instead of with their spirits.

Let's look at **Mark 11:24**,

“...What things soever ye desire, when ye pray, believe that ye receive them, and ye shall have them.”

The devil will tell you immediately that this scripture doesn't mean what it says. Yet, if it doesn't, then we are saying that Jesus told a lie, and Jesus doesn't lie. The devil may tell you that this scripture doesn't mean what things soever ye desire naturally, or physically, or materially, like healing. (Which is what you need an answer to prayer for.) He may say it just means what things soever ye desire spiritually.

We may listen to the devil time and again and not receive. We may even ask a pastor what it means or someone else. Yet, a pastor may not have the answer, or doesn't even know the answer. Some pastors do not believe that healing is for everyone. In actuality, God wants you to come to this knowledge of the truth of the scripture on your own. You come to this by faith. It may even be a good thing that someone with no faith in the word of God doesn't try to "help" you because it could cause you to doubt.

As we said, the Word of God is spiritually understood. The Word is given by the inspiration of the Holy Spirit. **II Timothy 3:16-17** says, "***16 All scripture is given by inspiration (God breathed) of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness; 17 That the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works.***"

Holy men of old were moved by the Holy Spirit to write what God told them to write. Yet reading the scriptures with your mind does not give you what you need. We must receive the Word in our spirit, not the mind.

BELIEVE AND RECEIVE – THEN HAVE!

The more you teach a truth, the more folks will eventually catch on to it because we have noticed all the time in ministry as we teach on the subject of faith, that people keep catching on!

When Jesus said in **Mark 11:24**, "***...What things soever ye desire when ye pray...***" He meant just exactly what He said. He meant that the very moment you pray, receive! You are to believe you receive whatsoever things you desire the moment you pray, not later.

When the light of this scripture finally is received then you will have received it in your spirit and will ***believe first*** and then receive.

Someone said, "I don't understand that." I tell you, that you can't understand the bible with your mind. The things of the spirit are foolishness to the natural mind, and the Bible is discerned with your spirit. You must believe first that you have your petitions and then you will have them.

The Amplified Bible rendering of **Mark 11:24** reads, "***For this reason I am telling you, whatever you as for in prayer, believe – trust and be confident – that it is granted to you, and you will (get it).***"

When are you going to get what you desire? After you trust and are confident that it is already granted to you. Do you see that? Too many times we want to get what we desire first, and then believe we have it. That isn't faith. Faith believes first then receives.

GOD'S WORD IS FAITH FOOD

To believe with the heart means to believe with the spirit – the inward man. How does our spirit get faith that our intellect cannot obtain? We get it through reading and meditating on the Word. Jesus said in **Matthew 4:4**, *“...Man shall not live by bread alone but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God.”*

Jesus is speaking here of spiritual food. He is using the natural human idea – bread – to convey a spiritual thought. The Word is spirit and faith food! The Word of God is to the spirit of man what natural food is to the body of man. Our spirits become filled with assurance and confidence as we meditate in the Word.

Years ago, when I learned these concepts of faith, I prayed believing for my children when they were young, and they received healing. But now that they are grown, they must develop their own faith and use it. The same is true for each of us.

You see, the body, the physical or outward man believes in what it sees with its physical eyes, or what it hears with its physical ears, or what its physical feelings tell him. But the man on the inside – the spirit or the heart of man – believes in the Word regardless of seeing, hearing, or feeling. His believing does not depend on sense knowledge; it depends on the Word of God.

Many times, people are prayed for again and again and again about the same situation or circumstance. I am not saying that you should not come back and be prayed for the second time for healing if you need to. What I am saying is there are folks who come for prayer for the same thing time and time again and do not get their healing because they do not have faith in the Word.

In other words, if they do not see that they are healed or if they do not have some physical evidence, they won't believe they are healed and that is not what the bible teaches. They have natural human faith, but there is a difference between natural faith and heart faith. If you will believe the word of God first, the physical evidence will take care of itself. You will not have to worry about the physical evidence or a manifestation.

Our faith must be based upon what the Word of God says. So, then to believe with all our heart is to believe with our spirit. To believe with all our heart is to believe independently of our heads or of our bodies.

Proverbs 3:5: “Trust in the Lord with all thine HEART; and lean not unto thine own understanding.”

I think most folks practice this verse, but they practice it in reverse. They trust with all of their understanding and lean not to their own heart. You know the ones. You can share a truth with them, but they always have to “prove” it is right. They are leaning unto their own natural understanding.

It is the same thing people do with **James 1:19**. They practice what James tells us in verse 19, **“...let every man be swift to hear, slow to speak, slow to wrath.”** Most of us practice it in reverse. We are swift to speak and swift to wrath and slow to hear. That is not what James said.

The bible goes on to say in **Proverbs, 3:6,7**, **“In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths. BE NOT WISE IN THINE OWN EYES...”**

Don't be wise with natural human knowledge which would lead you to repudiate or to act independently of the Word of God.

FAITH CASTS DOWN HUMAN REASONINGS

The New Testament counterpart to **Proverbs 3:5-7** comes in:

II Corinthians 10:4-5

“4(For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal (fleshly), but mighty through God to the pulling down of strongholds) 5 Casting down IMAGINATIONS [or reasonings] and every high thing that exalteth itself against the knowledge of God and bringing into captivity EVERY THOUGHT to the obedience of God.”

A young man had been healed of heart disease and only weighed 89 pounds. Some called him a walking skeleton. He went back to High School after being out for quite some time. The principal called him into his office and said, “Do you think you should be coming to school? The women teachers are scared to death that you are going to fall down dead in the classroom. They have called your doctor, and he has told them, ‘Yes, that is just what he will do.’ I have

called the doctor myself and he has told me the same thing. The doctor said you are doing this by your willpower and don't have any business walking two miles to school, and that he gives you ninety days at the most to live. Do you really think you should be coming to school?"

The young man replied, "Sir, I am not up by WILLPOWER. I am up and going by faith."

The young man quoted **Mark 11:24** to the principle. He didn't argue with him about divine healing. He just talked about prayer and faith. He then continued "Sir, I believe that I have received healing for my heart and my body, and I am not walking by willpower. I am walking by faith."

The principle began to weep and said, "Son, if that is what you are doing, I won't stand in your way a minute. I don't understand it, but if you want to come to school, you just come on. I will tell these teachers and they will have to do the best they can."

Then the principal told him to take it easy. Get up out of class if he needed to. Get a drink of water if you need to. He made it so easy for this young man to fail. But he refused to give in to their words of doubt.

Every night the devil told him that he only had a few more days left. He would struggle with these lies and had to cast down the imaginations that the principal had put into his mind and the lies of the devil.

He continued to cast down these imaginations and walked by faith. He kept declaring over himself, "I am healed. The Word says I have my healing, and I believe the Word." His faith brought him the victory and he lived well into his eighties.

WALK BY THE WORD – NOT BY SIGHT OR FEELINGS

If we are to walk by faith, we must remember the Word of God is superior to everything else and anything else. The Word of God must be superior to any knowledge, whether that knowledge is yours or someone else's knowledge.

We must also remember that when we trust God with all of our hearts, there comes a quietness and a peace into our spirits. **Hebrews 4:3** says, "***For we which have believed do ENTER INTO REST.***"

For example, when God says in **Philippians 4:19**, “*...my God shall supply all your need according to his riches in glory by Christ Jesus*” then we just simply know in our spirits that everything we need will be supplied, and we do not have to worry about it! If we worry, if we have anxiety, then we are not believing. Our hearts take courage as we read the Word. As we meditate upon the Word, our assurance and confidence become deeper.

Our assurance in our spirits is independent of our human reasoning or of human knowledge. That assurance may contradict human reasoning; it may even contradict physical evidence, but to believe God with your heart means to believe apart from your body or mind anyway. God’s Word works for you, whoever you are.

Years ago, my late husband was pastoring a country Baptist Church even though he was Full Gospel. He was teaching them on faith, and it was put to the test. Our youngest daughter had fallen into a rut at school and had sprained her ankle. There was also a man in church that had put his back out and was going to need traction. My husband was going to pray for people with needs and gave an altar call for healing. I suggested to this man that he should go up for prayer. I said it would be a lot cheaper to receive from the Lord than go to the hospital and be put in traction. He replied with, “I have insurance.” He did not go forward for prayer and instead had traction. It lasted one day, and his back went out again.

He had no faith to believe, but our daughter did. When she was prayed for, she received an immediate healing. She received from her spirit while the man was trying to intellectualize that God did not heal anymore.

We must watch what we say with our mouths. Some words we should stop saying are “My fever.” “My flu.” “My lack of finances.” And other things that show you have no faith. God didn’t give you the flu and he didn’t give you an empty wallet. Often, we accept defeat and claim it as ours. We must change our words, believe God’s promises first by faith, and we will receive.