



Sunday July 02, 2017
Emotional Wholeness And Deliverance Series
Part 1 : Problems And Causes

Man a Tri-part Being

When God breathed into man, there was something of God Himself, imparted into man.

Genesis 2:7

And the LORD God formed man of the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living being.

So every human person has the physical natural part (the body) and the non-material spiritual part (spirit and soul).

1 Thessalonians 5:23

Now may the God of peace Himself sanctify you completely; and may your whole spirit (*Greek 'pneuma'*), soul (*Greek 'psuche'*), and body be preserved blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

We are tri-part beings: spirit, soul and body.

preserved = to keep an eye upon, to guard from loss or injury

1 Thessalonians 5:23 (Message)

May God himself, the God who makes everything holy and whole, make you holy and whole, put you together—spirit, soul, and body—and keep you fit for the coming of our Master, Jesus Christ.

God desires for us to be holy and whole.

3 John 1:2

Beloved, I pray that you may prosper in all things and be in health, just as your soul (*Greek 'psuche'*) prospers.

It is legitimate prayer to pray that we prosper in all things, for us to be in good health as well as for the well-being of our soul.

In fact the well-being of our inner-person influences the well-being of our health and us doing well in all things.

The Soul

Our emotional person or soul, comprises of or mind, will and emotions and includes our thoughts, reason, imaginations, memories, and thinking patterns.



A little note here about Biblical terminology.

When we speak of the inner-person or inner-man we are referring to the spirit and soul.

The 'heart' is often used in the Bible to refer to the spirit of man. But in many places, especially in the Old Testament, the 'heart' (Hebrew words '*leb*', '*lebab*' and '*nepesh*') is used to refer to the inner-person, the inner-man, both the spirit and soul, together.

In Genesis 6:5 for example, the heart is given functions of imagination and thought, which we would typically associate with the mind

Genesis 6:5

"And God saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every imagination of the thoughts of his heart (*'leb'*) was only evil continually."

Your inner person, is the real you.

Proverbs 27:19

As in water face reflects face, So a man's heart (*'leb'*) reveals the man.

Difference between the Brain and the Soul

The brain is the physical organ. The soul, made up of the mind, will and emotions is non-material, like the spirit, but a very real part of you.

We do not see the soul under a medical scan, but it is really the soul that describes our psychological person.

The mind affects the brain and the body. We speak of 'psychosomatic' problems or problems that have their root in the psychological part of our being.

Sickness of the Soul

The soul can be sick in that there can be problems in a person's soul. We usually refer to these as 'emotional problems' or 'psychological problems'.

Here is just a small sample of emotional problems that we face: uncontrolled temper (anger), hatred, depression, controlling fears, worry, anxiety, poor self-worth, deep seated rejection, feelings of inadequacy, deep sense of failure, feelings of insecurity, suicidal tendencies, lusts, addictions, and so on.



Life's Problems Related To Problems In The Soul

A, Behavior and choices

compulsive, addictive, impulsive, repetitive, etc.

B, Emotional wellbeing

fear, anxiety, depression, hopelessness, rejection, feeling victimized, low self esteem, etc.

C, Relational problems

withdrawal, anger, dominating, controlling, manipulative, violent, hurtful, etc.

D, Life experiences

failure, debt, infidelity, divorce, etc.

E, Physical health

mind affects your body.

Proverbs 15:13

A merry heart makes a cheerful countenance, But by sorrow of the heart the spirit is broken.

Proverbs 17:22

A merry heart ('leb') does good, like medicine, But a broken spirit ('ruach') dries the bones.

CAUSES OF PROBLEMS

What causes problems we face in our soul?

Here are a few things that cause problems in our soul:

#1, Wrong Thinking, Wrong Mindsets, Wrong Believing



Satan is called the deceiver or father of lies (Revelation 12:9; 2 Corinthians 11:3; John 8:44). He is also called the accuser of the brethren (Revelation 12:10). He is called the tempter (Matthew 4:3; 1 Thessalonians 3:5). Satan goes about like a roaring lion (1 Peter 5:8) as an intimidator.

Deceptions (lies), accusations, temptations and intimidation are satan's choice weapons against the believer. These are presented to the believer in the form of thoughts, imaginations, reasoning, and arguments in the mind. Hence we must protect our minds.

The lies, accusations and intimidations we believe cripple us.

#2, Wrong Speaking, Wrong Words

Words that people speak can either bless or hurt the soul—mind, will and emotions.

Psalm 64:3

Who sharpen their tongue like a sword, And bend their bows to shoot their arrows—bitter words,

Proverbs 12:18

There is one who speaks like the piercings of a sword, But the tongue of the wise promotes health.

Proverbs 16:24

Pleasant words are like a honeycomb, Sweetness to the soul and health to the bones.

Wrong words we have spoken over ourselves, and wrong words others have spoken over us, which we have believed - can become the start of our wrong thinking, and the cause of some of our emotional problems.

We must develop the ability to receive or reject what people say.

Therefore, we need the ability to counteract and limit the impact of negative words.

Counteract negative words that people speak, with what God has already spoken about you. "I am who God says I am, I can do what God says I can do, I will become everything God has promised!"

#3, Continual Deep Seated Sin

Continual sin hurts our emotional person (1 Peter 2:11, Proverbs 5:22, Proverbs 6:32, John 8:34)



Continual deep seated sin also opens the door to demonic influence in our lives (Ephesians 4:26-27; 1 Corinthians 6:15-20)

#4, Trauma And Adverse Experiences

We are all aware that difficult circumstances, abuse, trauma and other adverse experiences in life, can hurt our emotional person.

Consider as an example how strife at home affects family members. For example, if there is continual ongoing strife between the parents, not only are the parents hurting each other, but children growing up in such an environment are affected emotionally. These children can develop, for example, deep seated hatred toward both or one of the parent(s).

What we must also understand is that carrying emotional hurts and wounds (e.g. hatred, unforgiveness, bitterness, anger, etc.) are sins and hence can become entry points for demonic influence in our lives.

Not only do we have natural causes for emotional problems. We must understand that there are demonic causes for emotional problems. So we will address these.

Remember we are not afraid of evil spirits. They are all subject to us and we have authority over them in the name of Jesus Christ. So as we talk about these, we do so without any sense of fear or alarm - but to recognize facts and address the real issues so that ultimately we can be free and enjoy wholeness in our emotional lives.

#5, Involvement In Occult And False Religions

Involvement in the occult and false religions can open the door to demonic influence in our lives (1 Corinthians 10:19-20; Deuteronomy 7:25-26; Deuteronomy 18:9-15)

For instance, there is a strong connection between occult involvement and deep seated depression.

Demons can be connected to inanimate things. Demons are associated with idols, fetishes, charms. Demons can also inhabit places, houses, rooms, etc. Hence get rid of all questionable objects. Pray and cleanse your house/home as far as you have control. Declare God's Word.



#6, Ancestral Commitments And Practices

Our fore-fathers (parents and generations preceding them) may have made commitments or engaged in practices that could have been entry points for demonic influences in the family.

When we are born again we are made brand new in our spirit and translated into God's Kingdom, but our mind and body still need to be dealt with. The mind needs to be renewed, and the flesh needs to be crucified. In other words, cleansing and consecration (deliverance) needs to take place in these areas.

Demonic attachments in the realm of the soul, body and life experiences can be passed on across generations. We need to break these and walk into the redemption that has been provided for us through the completed work of Christ on the Cross (Colossians 1:12-14; 1 Peter 1:18-20, Isaiah 28:14-18)

Evil spirits Causing Problems

In Scripture the human being is often pictured as a house. Evil spirits seek entrance (Genesis 4:7; Matthew 12:43-45) to express themselves and to find embodiment.

There are all kinds of evil spirits, each usually identified with the negative emotion they promote (e.g. spirit of hate, spirit of fear, spirit of lust, spirit of pride, spirit of jealousy, spirit of self-pity, spirit of depression/heaviness, etc.), the evil deeds they empower (spirit of lying, spirit of murder, spirit of drunkenness, spirit of adultery, spirit of uncleanness, spirit of sorcery, spirit of witchcraft, spirit of suicide, etc.), the physical conditions they cause (e.g. spirit of pain, spirit of arthritis, spirit of back problem, spirit of death, etc.) or situations they orchestrate (e.g. spirit of confusion, spirit of poverty, spirit of lack, etc.).

Demons also tend to operate in groups as we see mentioned in Matthew 12:43-45 and Mark 5:9.

Some common groups of demons found when doing ministry:
resentment, hatred, anger, murder.
self-pity, despair (hopelessness), depression, suicide.
lust, uncleanness, adultery or fornication



We use demons, unclean spirits and evil spirits in a synonymous way, as they all refer to the same kind of spirit beings. The devil or satan or lucifer is their head. The devil (satan, lucifer) who has many demons (or evil spirits or unclean spirits) under his rule.

How do evil spirits gain access:

- continual sin
- moments of weakness - entrance without permission
- dedications, consecration
- witchcraft, spells,

Difference Between Possession And Oppression

In the English language when we refer to possession, we mean full and complete control and ownership. So if a person is demon possessed, we mean the demon(s) has taken full control, possession and ownership of that individual. The demoniac in the country of the Gadarenes (Mark 5:1-5) or the servant girl a Philippi with a spirit of divination (Acts 16:16-18) are examples of individuals who seem to be fully controlled by evil spirits. A born-again believer in Jesus Christ therefore cannot be demon possessed.

Demonic oppression is demons exerting their influence in an individual causing trouble or torment in one or more areas including physical, mental, emotional, situational, etc. For the most part life goes on normally, except in areas where one or more demons are active in the life of the individual. In Jesus' ministry we see that many who came to him for healing had demons cast out of them in order to be healed (Matthew 8:16-17). Most of the people who came to Jesus for deliverance, as recorded in the Gospels were therefore oppressed of evil spirits, not necessarily possessed, as we understand it. In the New Testament we have examples of blind, dumb, deaf, back problems, and other conditions caused due to evil spirits.

In both these cases, demon possession or demon oppression, the demon(s) or evil spirit(s) need to be cast out. Sometimes demons leave quietly when expelled. However, there are times, in both conditions of possession or oppression, when demons are driven out manifestations take place, and these manifestations can look very similar. These manifestations occur because the demons don't want to let go of their occupied territory easily. They resist being cast out and hence put up resistance, argue, refuse, are stubborn, create a lot of noise, etc. We see this in Jesus ministry and other places in the New Testament.

Mark 1:26

..the unclean spirit had convulsed him and cried out with a loud voice..



Luke 4:41

And demons also came out of many, crying out and saying, "You are the Christ, the Son of God!..."

Acts 8:7

For unclean spirits, crying with a loud voice, came out of many who were possessed;...

What we need to understand is that while a born-again believer cannot be possessed, a born-again, even Spirit-filled believer can be oppressed in one or more areas. Christians can have demons inhabiting, affecting, troubling, influencing and tormenting them in their soul, their body and their life situations (family, marriage, workplace, business, etc.).

Satan And his Demons Prefer Darkness

Demons hide and don't like to be uncovered.

They don't like it when we preach and teach the truth and expose them

The worst thing they hate is for believers to know their authority in Christ and walk in that authority.

They will be most happy if you preach great impressive sermons, argue and debate about things, but leave them alone to do their work in the lives of God's people.

But light exposes darkness. We are children of light.

Ephesians 5:13

But all things that are exposed are made manifest by the light, for whatever makes manifest is light.

Some Pitfalls To Avoid

We must avoid stating that every physical, emotional, spiritual, situational, etc. problem is because of demons. There can be other reasons and we must take responsibility for our own actions.

We must avoid ignoring the work of demons, but rather depend on the Holy Spirit to recognize them and expel demons



We must avoid giving too much attention or magnifying the devil and his demons. Our Lord is infinitely greater than all the forces of darkness, and we must give our focus and attention to Him.

Do not draw attention to yourself if you are ministering deliverance. All believers have been authorized to cast out evil spirits. Hence in ministering deliverance you are doing what all believers are supposed to do. To avoid getting proud or puffed up, always work as a team and make this a team effort.

Luke 10:17-20

17 Then the seventy returned with joy, saying, "Lord, even the demons are subject to us in Your name."

18 And He said to them, "I saw Satan fall like lightning from heaven."

19 Behold, I give you the authority to trample on serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy, and nothing shall by any means hurt you.

20 Nevertheless do not rejoice in this, that the spirits are subject to you, but rather rejoice because your names are written in heaven.

Do not in any way humiliate or look down on any one who manifests when experiencing deliverance. All homes big and small, need house cleaning. Just look at a person who is experiencing deliverance as someone having their house cleaned out. Celebrate, love and welcome every person who experiences deliverance, even though the process of being delivered could at times be gruesome and uncomfortable.

Do not relegate deliverance ministry to some private, backstage ministry of secondary importance. The Gospel has to be preached with healings, deliverance, signs, wonders and miracles. This is how Jesus did His ministry. This is true New Testament ministry. Everything - the preaching, teaching, healing, delivering and working miracles are all important.

Do not discard deliverance ministry just because some people do not understand it, ridicule it or even abuse it. People need help and God has commissioned His people to bring deliverance to the captives.

NEXT WEEK

Emotional Wholeness & Deliverance Series

Part 2 : Receiving Healing And Deliverance

We encourage you to please come expecting God to do powerful things amongst us as we teach next week on how to receive our healing and deliverance and we pray for people to be made whole.

MINISTRY TIME



LIFE GROUP STUDY GUIDE

Emotional Wholeness And Deliverance Series Part 1 : Problems And Causes

This is a simple guide for use in Life Group discussions. Our objective is to focus on the application of the Sunday sermon - how each one is becoming a doer of the Word and building their life on God's Holy Word. The Life Group meeting would normally last for 2 hours. Each Life Group would have up to 12-15 people.

Preparation

To prepare for the Life Group meeting, you can listen to the Sermon Key Points (sermon summary in five minutes) available in the "All Peoples Church Bangalore" mobile App or at apcwo.org. You can also review the Sunday Sermon PDF notes. Pray for the Life Group meeting and invite the work and ministry of the Holy Spirit.

Welcome

The Life Group meeting may commence with a time of prayer, worship and a fun activity.

LISTEN to God's Word

Read the following Scripture passage: 1 Thessalonians 5:23; 3 John 2

INVESTIGATE God's Word Together

Discuss these together, giving time for people to share their insights. We encourage each one individually to make notes of their personal learning during the Group study.

#1, Why would God be interested in the well-being of the soul (mind, will, emotions) ?

#2, Discuss the "Life's Problems Related To Problems In The Soul", as mentioned in the message, such as (A)Behavior and choices, (B)Emotional wellbeing, (C)Relational problems, (D)Life experiences, (E)Physical health

#3, Discuss the "Cause of Problems in Our Soul", as discussed in the message, such as (1)Wrong Thinking, Wrong Mindsets, Wrong Believing, (2)Wrong Speaking, Wrong Words, (3)Continual Deep Seated Sin, (4)Trauma And Adverse Experiences, (5)Involvement In Occult And False Religions, (6)Ancestral Commitments And Practices



If time permits, each one takes a few (3 minutes max) to share one or two main learning today and how they see themselves applying it into their specific life situations. Within the group, feel free to share areas of emotional healing that may be needed. (Keep all matters confidential). Encourage each one to participate and share.

FELLOWSHIP by sharing your life and spiritual journey

Each one takes a few (3 minutes max) to share anything from their walk with God, something God has been teaching them, a testimony of answered prayer or a specific challenge that they would like prayer for. Encourage each one to participate and share.

ENCOURAGE each other by praying and ministering to one another

Get into small groups of two or three and take turns to thank God and pray for each other in the light of what was learnt today. Listen to the Holy Spirit. Expect the gifts of the Holy Spirit to flow bringing healing, releasing miracles, prophecy, etc.

Regroup and close by thanking God together.