

# Your Mind, Will, and Emotions

*Now may the God of peace Himself sanctify you completely; and may your whole spirit, soul, and body be preserved blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. —1 Thessalonians 5:23*

Paul talks about the fact that you have three parts to you: spirit, soul, and body. The spirit part of you is the part that is born-again and becomes a new creature in Christ. Your soul also has three parts which are your mind, will, and emotions. When I went to Heaven, I left my body on the operating table and looked back to see it lying lifeless on the table. I had not disconnected from who I was just because I lost my body. I was still Kevin. I still had feelings, thoughts, and emotions that I had while in my body on earth, but they were all redeemed. I still had emotions and reasoning capabilities because I noticed that I had no fear. I could move around the room because I had a spirit body even though I saw my physical body on the operating table.

I could remember certain things about myself, and I remembered and saw things that were on the earth, but yet, I was in the other realm at that point. The unredeemed part of my soul did not come with me when I found myself outside of my body. In some supernatural way, God instantly sanctified my mind, will, and emotions that came with my spirit. I was a spirit with a soul, but I was not in my body.

You must understand that sometimes God's voice is clouded or obscured in your spirit because your mind, will, and emotions get involved. Your soulish nature can clutter things up and cause what is in your spirit to be unclear. You have to understand that when it comes to hearing the voice of God, your mind, will, and emotions must come under subjection to your spirit and the Holy Spirit, otherwise hearing God will remain difficult for you. That's why I am going into more detail in this chapter regarding the soulish realm. Once you deal with the soulish realm in your life, hearing God will become much, much easier for you as you learn to yield the Spirit.

## **Connecting to the Perfect Will of God**

*And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God. —Romans 12:2*

We all want to know the will of God for our lives. We do not just want the acceptable will, but we want to walk in the perfect will of God. To do that, we need to hear from God, and the apostle Paul gives us some very important instructions to help us. Paul said we cannot allow ourselves to be conformed to this world, but we must be

separate. We cannot allow the world to form us into what it wants us to be. Even though God wants us to be separate from the world, there are people and systems in place that try to control us, so we find ourselves in a struggle. But Paul tells us to refuse being conformed to this world but be transformed by the renewing of our minds. We renew our minds by the Spirit of God, the Word of God, and the will of God.

When you renew your mind, it helps you to prove what is the acceptable and perfect will of God for your life. You might feel rejected by the world, but at the same time that you feel rejected, God has accepted you. God loves you. He has chosen you, and He causes you to triumph. God is saying you are more than a conqueror (see Romans 8:37). You renew your mind by using the filter of what God says about you. In other words, do not let yourself feel rejected because you know it is not true. Your emotions can lie to you, and your mind can build a case against you that is not true because it is not what God says about you.

When I was in Heaven with Jesus, I saw that there was a part of me that resisted God and was in rebellion; it had to do with my will and my emotions. I saw that things like this had to be dealt with if you want to hear God's voice loud and clear and know that you are in God's perfect will all the time. There is a part of you that is not redeemed, and I saw that when I went to the other side, there was a part of me that did not come with me. However, my will, thoughts, and emotions that were completely redeemed and submitted to God did come with me.

*When I was a child, I spoke and thought and reasoned as child. But when I grew up, I put away with childish things.*

Paul talked about the maturity of a Christian to the Corinthians, and he said that even spiritually you do not want to remain a child but become spiritually mature. Your soul will need to be developed to become mature so that your spirit can side with your whole being and not just your inner man. Your inner man or spirit is born-again and all set; it knows the will of God and hears God's voice. The problem is the unredeemed parts of your soul (mind, will, and emotions) obscure your spirit's ability to hear God's voice clearly.

While I was out of my body, I saw that my soul was wrapped around my spirit from my face down to my chest area, and it was influenced by the world. I saw that my spirit was born again, and it was influenced by the Kingdom of God. My spirit knew no defeat, and it did not doubt or fear. It knew God's perfect will, but my soul did not know all those things. The unbelief and fear came from my emotions and my reasoning capabilities. I realized how people, including myself, sabotage their daily lives by their thinking and emotions.

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*In meekness instructing those that oppose themselves; if God peradventure will give them repentance to the acknowledging of the truth. —2 Timothy 2:25 KJV*

Paul says that there are people who oppose themselves. You do not want to be like that; you do not want to oppose what God is doing in you. Jesus did not come to earth and oppose the Father, He went around doing good and healing everyone who was oppressed by the devil (see Acts 10:38). Jesus saw what the Father wanted Him to do, and He did it. He did not oppose God, and you should never oppose what God is doing in your life. When you feel separated from God, it has to do with your mind, will, and emotions. Your spirit has to fight through the soulish nature because your spirit wants to do God's will.

### **Quieting Your Soul**

*Why are you cast down, O my soul? And why are you disquieted within me? Hope in God, for I shall yet praise Him for the help of His countenance. —Psalm 42:5*

David told his soul to find hope in God when it was dis- quieted. David's spirit man was talking to his soul and telling his soul to be quiet and settle down as he encouraged himself in the Lord. Remember that you can encourage yourself in the Lord. When David faced the giant, he was speaking out of his spirit when he prophesied that Goliath was defying the armies of God. David could see that all the soldiers and even King Saul were hiding from Goliath and operating out of a spirit of fear. David said that he was going to feed Goliath to the birds that day, and he was prophesying because he was speaking from the spirit and not out of his emotions.

People today react out of their emotions and from their minds or their reasoning, and because of that, they are not engaged in the battle. They are not strong in battle like King David, and they are not confronting their giants. I saw that if I was going to be sent back from Heaven, I would have to encourage people to engage the enemy. You must be rough with the devil—not afraid to drive him out. You must stop living out of your soul realm.

I saw that most Christians live out of their souls and not out of their spirits at all. Even activities in the church which are supposed to be spiritual are coming from the soul. There is so much soul activity in the lives of believers that they do not discern when a manifestation is of the soul or of the Spirit.

What areas of your life are you being challenged in right now? God is truly helping you to understand yourself. You have your soul and spirit, and you do not want to oppose God. You do not want to oppose yourself because you are a Christian. You must connect with what God is doing in the spiritual realm, and educate your soul

with the Word of God. That is how you mature. Paul has given you the secret to overcoming your soul by not opposing yourself.

*For one who speaks in an unknown tongue does not speak to people but to God; for no one understands him or catches his meaning, but by the Spirit he speaks mysteries [secret truths, hidden things]. —1 Corinthians 14:2 AMP*

Paul said that when you pray in tongues, you are speaking mysteries or praying out secrets, and this transaction is from the spiritual realm into the physical world. Speaking in tongues will help you to overcome your soul because it fortifies, encourages, and empowers your spirit. Whatever it is you are doing in life, make sure you are praying in tongues to empower yourself in the spirit to overthrow what is not of God.

Paul is telling you that the Holy Spirit can override and bypass your soul when you speak in tongues. Your mind cannot participate because it is a spiritual transaction. However, your spirit knows what you are saying, even though it is speaking in a different language. When you pray in tongues, hidden things not obvious to your understanding but that God has already deposited in your spirit, will come forth. You do not understand what you are saying in tongues because your spirit is speaking with God and bypassing your soul. If you walk in the spirit and want to hear God's voice, remember God is a Spirit, so you must speak to Him spirit to Spirit.

Your soul—your mind, will, and emotions—will be over- ridden by what the Spirit is doing. When you use your lips to pray in tongues, you are bringing what is in the spiritual realm into this realm. When you ignite yourself by praying in tongues and your spirit is praying, there will come a point where there is an overthrow. God brings understanding up through your spirit into your mind, and you gain the understanding because you learn how to yield to the Holy Spirit.

*Now may the God of peace Himself sanctify you completely; and may your whole spirit, soul, and body be preserved blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. He who calls you is faithful, who also will do it. —1 Thessalonians 5:23-24*

Paul is speaking about the three parts of man and explains that the God of peace Himself will sanctify you. He names these three parts and says that the Spirit wants to sanctify them completely and set them apart. I believe, without a doubt, that what opposes you in this life are your mind, will, and emotions because the Holy Spirit has not been allowed to sanctify them or set them apart to redeem them. One of the most important things you can learn to do is yield to the Holy Spirit within you. Your spirit is redeemed and completely set apart, but there is work that needs to be done so that you do not oppose yourself.

## The Division of Soul and Spirit

*For the word of God is living and active and full of power [making it operative, energizing, and effective]. It is sharper than any two-edged sword, penetrating as far as the division of the soul and spirit [the completeness of a person], and of both joints and marrow [the deepest parts of our nature], exposing and judging the very thoughts and intentions of the heart. —Hebrews 4:12 AMP*

The Word of God and the Spirit of God are your answers to discerning and dividing between what your soul and Spirit are saying to you. You may not understand that you have a voice also, and you can actually hear opposing things within your- self. For example, you have feelings that go with your voice. You may feel like something is true, but it could be a falsehood. You could be lied to and believe the lie, but all the while your spirit in the deepest part of you knows what you believe is not true. That is why in these last days, the Spirit of God has to come into your life in a stronger manner to energize your spirit or inner man. The Word of God divides and cuts and separates so that you can discern the thoughts and intents of your heart from your own thoughts and feelings. Yielding to the Spirit of God and the Word of God will cause you to become a mature Christian walking in the perfect will of God.

When I was in Heaven, Jesus told me that the number one way that you can participate in the supernatural and overcome this world is by praying in the Spirit (praying in tongues) continually. I know this is controversial to some people, but Paul prayed in tongues. The Bible never says to stop praying in tongues. Since the beginning of the Christian dispensation until now, nothing has changed, and it is not over yet. The things of this age of the church have not ceased and are still in operation.

The Spirit of God supernaturally wants to pray a heavenly language through you. You need to yield to the Holy Spirit and allow your discernment to go to a higher level. I talk to people all the time, and many things they believe are incorrect. There are a lot of people who do not want to be deceived. One reason for wrong belief is a lack of understanding of God's Word. God's Word sharpens what you believe, and then the Spirit of God sides with the Word of God and manifests in power in your life.

When you pray in the Spirit, you are building up your spiritual life, and your inner man gets stronger and stronger. Then one day, an overthrow happens in your inner man. When it hap- pens, it is Satan who becomes the victim instead of you. You are no longer a victim when your mind, will, and emotions are no longer allowed to have a loud voice in your life anymore. Your mind, will, and emotions have worked against you, but they are not allowed to vote against you anymore. So many people I have met are moving in the wrong direction because they are opposing themselves.

To build up your spiritual life so you don't oppose yourself, you need to meditate on the Word of God. I recommend that you begin with ten minutes a day meditating on a small portion of Scripture. Along with this, you must pray in the Spirit, beginning with ten minutes a day. After a while, you should begin to build up from there, meditating longer as you grow more mature. Then build up yourself to where you can pray for at least one hour a day. This is how you build up yourself in the knowledge of God and renew your mind, will, and emotions.

When you pray in the Spirit, you are praying in the power of God. You are building up yourself in your most holy faith and staying in the love of God (see Jude 1:20). These two things we've talked about—meditating in the Word for ten minutes and praying in tongues for ten minutes—will help you grow and mature exponentially. Make a plan to begin with these twenty minutes each day and, eventually, add ten minutes on to it to pray for others. If you do this, you will see such a turnaround in your life. I cannot wait to see what the Lord does through you.

The spirit is willing, and the flesh is weak (see Matthew 26:41). Remember that the power that raised Jesus from the dead is dwelling in you (see Romans 8:11), and that power is in your spirit. Your soul—your mind, will, and emotions—will need to be turned and changed. But there is an overthrow that will happen. Your spirit will get so strong it stands up and boldly starts to speak. That is when your soul has to step back and be submissive, and that is what you want. You need to pray in the Spirit, meditate on the Word of God, and not let your mind or emotions bother you; this takes discipline. Then you will be hearing God's voice and submitting to the perfect will of God for your life.

## A Story

When you pray in the Spirit, your inner man or human spirit will be ignited and built up (see Jude 20). This will cause you to discern that part of you. As you meditate on the Word of God, that process will cause a division between your soul and your spirit, and you will be able to discern more accurately the will of God. I found that the author of Hebrews can be a great help in hearing God's voice. Listen to what he says: *"For the word of God is alive and powerful. It is sharper than the sharpest two-edged sword, cutting between soul and spirit, between joint and marrow. It exposes our innermost thoughts and desires"* (Hebrews 4:12 NLT).

When I am thinking about entering into a relationship with someone, the Holy Spirit will help me understand God's will for the situation. For instance, when I was dating, I felt that I was supposed to wait for the right person. I was continually discerning in my heart as a relationship progressed as to whether the person was the one I was to marry. Finally, I was led by the Spirit of God to my wife, and we were married in a

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short amount of time. I was glad I waited, and we have been married now for over 27 years at the time of this book being published.

Make sure to let your spiritual life develop by the reading of the Word of God and praying in the Spirit. This will make such a difference when you need to hear the voice of God in a particular situation.

### **Psalm 34:17-20**

When the righteous cry for help, the Lord hears and delivers them out of all their troubles. The Lord is near to the brokenhearted and saves the crushed in spirit. Many are the afflictions of the righteous, but the Lord delivers him out of them all. He keeps all his bones; not one of them is broken.

1. When the righteous cry for help
2. the Lord hears and delivers them out of all their troubles
3. The Lord is near to the brokenhearted and saves the crushed in spirit
4. Many are the afflictions of the righteous
5. but the Lord delivers him out of them all
6. He keeps all his bones; not one of them is broken

### **John 15:18**

If the world hates you, know that it has hated me before it hated you.

1. If the world hates you,
2. know that it has hated me before it hated you.

### **1 Peter 2:4**

As you come to him, a living stone rejected by men but in the sight of God chosen and precious,

1. As you come to him, a living stone rejected by men
2. but in the sight of God chosen and precious

### **Psalm 27:10**

For my father and my mother have forsaken me, but the Lord will take me in.

1. For my father and my mother have forsaken me
2. but the Lord will take me in

### **2 Corinthians 12:9**

But he said to me, “My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness.” Therefore I will boast all the more gladly of my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may rest upon me.

1. But he said to me, “My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness.”
2. Therefore I will boast all the more gladly of my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may rest upon me.

### **Psalm 94:14**

For the Lord will not forsake his people; he will not abandon his heritage

1. For the Lord will not forsake his people
2. he will not abandon his heritage

### **Isaiah 53:3**

He was despised and rejected by men; a man of sorrows, and acquainted with grief; and as one from whom men hide their faces he was despised, and we esteemed him not.

1. He was despised and rejected by men; a man of sorrows
2. and acquainted with grief
3. and as one from whom men hide their faces he was despised, and we esteemed him not

### **John 1:11**

He came to his own, and his own people did not receive him.

1. He came to his own
2. his own people did not receive him

### **1 Peter 5:7**

Casting all your anxieties on him, because he cares for you.

1. Casting all your anxieties on him

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2. because he cares for you

### **Luke 10:16**

“The one who hears you hears me, and the one who rejects you rejects me, and the one who rejects me rejects him who sent me.”

1. The one who hears you hears me
2. the one who rejects you rejects me
3. the one who rejects me rejects him who sent me

### **Psalm 118:22**

The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone.

### **Psalm 139:13-14**

For you formed my inward parts; you knitted me together in my mother's womb. I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made. Wonderful are your works; my soul knows it very well.

1. For you formed my inward parts; you knitted me together in my mother's womb.
2. I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made.
3. Wonderful are your works; my soul knows it very well.

### **Romans 8:31**

What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us?

### **Romans 8:1**

There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus.

### **Isaiah 49:15**

“Can a woman forget her nursing child, that she should have no compassion on the son of her womb? Even these may forget, yet I will not forget you.

1. Can a woman forget her nursing child,
2. that she should have no compassion on the son of her womb?
3. Even these may forget, yet I will not forget you.

**1 Peter 5:8**

Be sober-minded; be watchful. Your adversary the devil prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour.

1. Be sober-minded
2. be watchful
3. Your adversary the devil prowls around like a roaring lion,
4. Seeking someone to devour

**Philippians 4:19**

And my God will supply every need of yours according to his riches in glory in Christ Jesus.

1. My God will supply every need of yours
2. according to his riches in glory in Christ Jesus

**Psalm 37:4**

Delight yourself in the Lord, and he will give you the desires of your heart.

1. Delight yourself in the Lord
2. He will give you the desires of your heart

**Romans 15:13**

May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope.

1. May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing
2. so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope

**Hebrews 13:5**

Keep your life free from love of money, and be content with what you have, for he has said, "I will never leave you nor forsake you.

1. Keep your life free from love of money

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2. be content with what you have
3. for he has said, "I will never leave you nor forsake you."

### **Matthew 10:34**

"Do not think that I have come to bring peace to the earth. I have not come to bring peace, but a sword.

1. Do not think that I have come to bring peace to the earth.
2. I have not come to bring peace, but a sword.

### **Jeremiah 30:17**

For I will restore health to you, and your wounds I will heal, declares the Lord, because they have called you an outcast: 'It is Zion, for whom no one cares!'

1. For I will restore health to you,
2. your wounds I will heal, declares the Lord,
3. because they have called you an outcast: 'It is Zion, for whom no one cares!'

### **Psalms 66:16-20**

Come and hear, all you who fear God, and I will tell what he has done for my soul. I cried to him with my mouth, and high praise was on my tongue. If I had cherished iniquity in my heart, the Lord would not have listened. But truly God has listened; he has attended to the voice of my prayer. Blessed be God, because he has not rejected my prayer or removed his steadfast love from me!

1. Come and hear, all you who fear God, and I will tell what he has done for my soul.
2. I cried to him with my mouth, and high praise was on my tongue.
3. If I had cherished iniquity in my heart, the Lord would not have listened.
4. But truly God has listened; he has attended to the voice of my prayer.
5. Blessed be God, because he has not rejected my prayer or removed his steadfast love from me!

### **Deuteronomy 14:2**

For you are a people holy to the Lord your God, and the Lord has chosen you to be a people for his treasured possession, out of all the peoples who are on the face of the earth.

1. For you are a people holy to the Lord your God
2. The Lord has chosen you to be a people for his treasured possession, out of all the peoples who are on the face of the earth.

**Isaiah 41:9**

You whom I took from the ends of the earth, and called from its farthest corners, saying to you, “You are my servant, I have chosen you and not cast you off”;

1. You whom I took from the ends of the earth
2. called from its farthest corners, saying to you, “You are my servant, I have chosen you and not cast you off”

**Luke 6:22-23**

“Blessed are you when people hate you and when they exclude you and revile you and spurn your name as evil, on account of the Son of Man! Rejoice in that day, and leap for joy, for behold, your reward is great in heaven; for so their fathers did to the prophets.

1. “Blessed are you when people hate you
2. and when they exclude you and revile you
3. and spurn your name as evil, on account of the Son of Man!
4. Rejoice in that day, and leap for joy, for behold, your reward is great in heaven;
5. for so their fathers did to the prophets.

**1 Corinthians 3:16**

1. Do you not know that you are God's temple
2. God's Spirit dwells in you

**Romans 15:7**

1. Therefore welcome one another as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God.

**Leviticus 26:11**

I will make my dwelling among you, and my soul shall not abhor you.

1. I will make my dwelling among you
2. and my soul shall not abhor you

**James 2:13**

For judgment is without mercy to one who has shown no mercy. Mercy triumphs over judgment.

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1. For judgment is without mercy to one who has shown no mercy.
2. Mercy triumphs over judgment.

### **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.

1. The natural person does not accept the things of the Spirit of God
2. for they are folly to him
3. he is not able to understand them because they are spiritually discerned

### **Proverbs 16:3**

Commit your work to the Lord, and your plans will be established.

1. Commit your work to the Lord
2. your plans will be established

### **Psalms 23:1-6**

A Psalm of David. The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want. He makes me lie down in green pastures. He leads me beside still waters. He restores my soul. He leads me in paths of righteousness for his name's sake. Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me. You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; you anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows.

...

1. The Lord is my shepherd;
2. I shall not want.
3. He makes me lie down in green pastures.
4. He leads me beside still waters.
5. He restores my soul.
6. He leads me in paths of righteousness for his name's sake.
7. Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil,
8. for you are with me;
9. your rod and your staff, they comfort me.
10. You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies;
11. you anoint my head with oil;
12. my cup overflows.

**Isaiah 49:16**

Behold, I have engraved you on the palms of my hands; your walls are continually before me.

1. Behold, I have engraved you on the palms of my hands;
2. your walls are continually before me.

**Matthew 21:42**

Jesus said to them, “Have you never read in the Scriptures: ““The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone; this was the Lord's doing, and it is marvelous in our eyes’?”

1. Jesus said to them, “Have you never read in the Scriptures: ““The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone;
2. this was the Lord's doing, and it is marvelous in our eyes’?”

**1 Corinthians 6:19-20**

Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, whom you have from God? You are not your own, for you were bought with a price. So glorify God in your body.

1. Do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you,
2. whom you have from God?
3. You are not your own, for you were bought with a price.
4. So glorify God in your body.

**Psalms 41:7**

All who hate me whisper together about me; they imagine the worst for me.

1. All who hate me whisper together about me
2. they imagine the worst for me

**Isaiah 52:13**

Behold, my servant shall act wisely; he shall be high and lifted up, and shall be exalted.

1. Behold, my servant shall act wisely;

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2. he shall be high and lifted up, and shall be exalted.

### **Jeremiah 29:11**

For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope.

1. For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord,
2. plans for welfare and not for evil,
3. to give you a future and a hope.

### **1 John 1:1-10**

That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we looked upon and have touched with our hands, concerning the word of life— the life was made manifest, and we have seen it, and testify to it and proclaim to you the eternal life, which was with the Father and was made manifest to us— that which we have seen and heard we proclaim also to you, so that you too may have fellowship with us; and indeed our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son Jesus Christ. And we are writing these things so that our joy may be complete. This is the message we have heard from him and proclaim to you, that God is light, and in him is no darkness at all. ...

1. That which was from the beginning,
2. which we have heard,
3. which we have seen with our eyes,
4. which we looked upon and have touched with our hands,
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7. and we have seen it,
8. and testify to it and proclaim to you the eternal life,
9. which was with the Father and was made manifest to us— that which we have seen and heard we proclaim also to you,
10. so that you too may have fellowship with us; and indeed our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son Jesus Christ.
11. And we are writing these things so that our joy may be complete.
12. This is the message we have heard from him and proclaim to you, that God is light, and in him is no darkness at all. ...

### **Matthew 7:14**

For the gate is narrow and the way is hard that leads to life, and those who find it are few.

1. For the gate is narrow and the way is hard that leads to life,
2. and those who find it are few.