

LIVING THE ETERNAL LIFE NOW

SESSION SIX:
THE ROLE OF THE BODY IN THE
SPIRITUAL (AND UNSPIRITUAL) LIFE

1

PAUL'S EMPHASIS ON THE BODY

- “Make it my slave...” 1 Cor. 9:27
- “Submit its members...” Rom. 6:12-13
- “A living sacrifice...” Rom. 12:1
- “The body is for the Lord...and the Lord for the body.” 1 Cor. 6:13
- “Manifesting the life of Jesus...” 2 Cor. 4:11
- “The temple of the Holy Spirit.” 1 Cor. 6:19

2

WHAT IS YOUR BODY TO YOUR PERSONALITY?

- The repository of your will and character
- The point of your ‘insertion’ into your world
- Your own little ‘power pack’ to stand for or against God by how it is inclined or “ready to go.”
- The primary focus of your “kingdom rule,” from where you ‘reign.’
- Thus it is “for the Lord, and the Lord for it.”

3

HOW WE LIVE FROM OUR BODY

- The body is trained into being ready to do what is to be done. Deliberation not required. Not a bad thing.
- It is ready to respond to temptation by wrongdoing. That is its “natural” state.
- When we follow the “fallen” nature, our actions run ahead of our intentions.
- The case of Peter’s denials.

4

LIFE AS USUAL

- Our desires and feelings run from our bodies and run our lives.
- The social setting plays upon what our bodies are ready to do.
- Thus it is very difficult to suspend the habits of body and mind, to direct ourselves to what is good.

5

PUTTING THE BODY TO “DEATH”

- Mortify “the deeds of the flesh” (Rom 8:13) or “your members on the earth.” Col. 3:5
- Not as acts of righteousness.
- But to liberate the life of Christ in your body.
- This trains your body not to run into evil ahead of your good intentions.

6

STOPS THE PROCESS...

- Such training prevents
 - Thought from turning into temptation, and
 - Temptation from turning into sin.
- Be sure to understand the difference between thought of wrong-doing, temptation to wrong-doing, and wrong-doing.

7

THE BODY HABITUATED TO GOODNESS

- Making the members of your body “slaves of righteousness.” Rom. 6:13 & 22
- The habits of wrong-doing (without thinking, or thinking too late) are replaced by habits of right-doing.
- Our “mortal bodies” given divine life from the Spirit. Rom. 8:11; 2 Cor. 4:10
- Disciplines for spiritual life are needed.

8

BODY NO LONGER USED JUST TO GRATIFY DESIRE

- Not to dominate others by
force
violence
seduction
- Not for use as a pleasure factory.
- Not to be protected at all cost.
- But to be cared for for what is good.

9

TWO SUBORDINATIONS

Improper

- Body
- Soul
- Mind (Thought/Feeling)
- Spirit
- God

Proper

- God
- Spirit
- Mind (Thought/Feeling)
- Soul
- Body

10

GOD FLOWING THROUGH...

- “Living Water” from the “belly” of the believer.
John 7:38
- “A wholesome tongue is a tree of life.”
Prov. 15:4.
- Gifting by laying on of hands.
Acts 8:18
- Healing by physical contact.
Matt. 9:21, Mark 3:10, Acts 5:15

11

**Have we, through a definite act and
positioning of ourselves before God,
given our body to God,
offered it as a living sacrifice?**

**If we have not done so, it will continue to
be a barrier to living the eternal kind of
life. It will continue to be a hold-out
from God’s Kingdom.**

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