

Sealed!

Lesson 8 – Outline

1. What God does in the spirit always remains constant and unchanging regardless of fluctuations in your performance.
2. A newly born-again believer will often become vulnerable to discouragement, doubt, and unbelief because they don't understand that the change took place in their spirit and that the rest of the Christian life is renewing their mind to believe and release what God has already put inside them.
 - A. Looking only in the physical realm, it's easy for them to conclude, "It didn't work. The Word isn't true. God didn't change me, because everything's still the same."
 - B. The devil wants to stop your witness, so he'll often throw everything he has against you as soon as you're born again.
3. Jesus became sin so you could become righteous.

“For he hath made him to be sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him” (2 Cor. 5:21).

- A. Jesus became what you were so you could become what He is.
 - B. He took your sin and gave you His righteousness.
 - C. If you believe the first half of 2 Corinthians 5:21, then you ought to believe the second half too.
 - D. God sees you as righteous and truly holy because He's looking at your spirit.
4. God is pleased with you.

“Having predestinated us unto the adoption of children by Jesus Christ to himself, according to the good pleasure of his will, To the praise of the glory of his grace, wherein he hath made us accepted in the beloved” (Eph. 1:5-6).

- A. “Accepted” is the same Greek word as “highly favored.”

“And the angel [Gabriel] came in unto her [Mary], and said, Hail, thou that art highly favoured, the Lord is with thee: blessed art thou among women” (Luke 1:28, brackets mine).

- B. As the woman who bore Christ was accepted, so are you highly favored of the Lord.
5. Once you believed, you were sealed with the Holy Spirit.

“In whom ye also trusted, after that ye heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation: in whom also after that ye believed, ye were sealed with that holy Spirit of promise” (Eph. 1:13).

- A. All the righteousness, holiness, and goodness your born-again spirit was recreated with was immediately sealed tight with the Holy Spirit.
 - B. When you were born again, your spirit was immediately encased—vacuum packed—by the Holy Spirit for the purpose of preservation.
 - C. When you fail in any area of your life after being saved, the rottenness, uncleanness, and defilement that comes to your body and soul doesn’t penetrate your spirit.
 - D. This Holy Spirit seal keeps the good in and the bad out.
6. Sin isn’t only doing something wrong by violating a command; it’s also not doing something right that you should have done.

“Therefore to him that knoweth to do good, and doeth it not, to him it is sin”
(James 4:17).

- A. According to God’s definition of sin, everyone constantly falls short.
 - B. If you don’t understand that the Holy Spirit encased your born-again spirit, your conscience will eventually give you the impression that you’ve lost the righteousness and true holiness your spirit was created in.
7. When you sin, your spirit doesn’t participate.

“Whosoever is born of God doth not commit sin; for his seed remaineth in him: and he cannot sin, because he is born of God” (1 John 3:9).

- A. You are as righteous and holy now—in your spirit—as you will ever be.
- B. No matter how you’re performing in your body and soul, you can always approach God through who you are in your born-again spirit.