



The Narrow Way

THE NARROW WAY PART 3 - LIVING IN ACCORDANCE TO THE SPIRIT OR THE FLESH

In part 3 of the Narrow Way, we are going to address living in accordance to the Spirit or living in accordance to the flesh.

There is only this reality.

We don't need to complicate things by adding anything else. Either we live our lives in accordance to the Spirit or we live our lives in accordance to the flesh. We can say it this way. We either live our lives in accordance to the eternal or we live our lives in accordance to the earth or the temporal.

2 Corinthians 4:18 "while we look not at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen; for the things which are seen are temporal, but the things which are not seen are eternal."

We are all experts at living our lives in accordance with the flesh; we can do it with our eyes closed. This is our natural way of being. It comes so innately and naturally, flowing forth from us like rivers of natural water. There is no need for conscious decisions to live this way, it is our natural state and the way we live and breathe.

Living our lives in accordance to the Spirit doesn't come naturally to us at all. It is a completely foreign way of being and doing and must be discovered and learnt through the continuous revelation of Jesus Christ. We must be growing in our fellowship with the Spirit, if we are to live an ongoing and developing life in the Spirit.

Notice I said fellowship and not relationship. In part two we looked at our need to be in the first placed position of spiritual oneness or fellowship with Him, if we are to embrace the fullness of life in the Narrow Way.

A deep fellowship will lead to a deep and mature relationship with Jesus who is the Narrow Way, while it is fully possible to be in a shallow relationship with Jesus, where we



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still have a greater fellowship with our flesh, and live in accordance to it.

Talking about fellowship and a relationship with Jesus Christ and actually living out a relationship defined by fellowship in Him can be two completely different realities.

Q. So what does it mean to live your entire life in accordance to the Spirit?

In simple terms, it means to have your inner realm transformed by the living God, while at the very same time, expressing and demonstrating the tangible wisdom of Christ in and through your life. It's where you hear, see, eat, drink, believe and think in accordance to the Spirit.

Our lives become a living demonstration of the wisdom of God on earth due to the transformation of the Spirit in our inner realm. The two scriptures below testify of this living reality.

Romans 8:29 "For those whom He foreknew, He also predestined to become conformed to the image of His Son, so that He would be the firstborn among many brethren."

Ephesians 3:10 "so that the manifold wisdom of God might now be made known through the church to the rulers and the authorities in the heavenly places."

God is Spirit, so all those who worship God must worship in Spirit and Truth.

John 4:24 "God is spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth."

If we are not worshipping God in the manner I described, then it is fair to say we are not worshipping God. Our worship is in vain. In other words, our worship is utterly futile because it is not the kind of worship God has asked for.

Matthew 15:7-9 "You hypocrites, rightly did Isaiah prophesy of you: 'This people honors Me with their lips, But their heart is far away from Me. But in vain do they worship Me, Teaching as doctrines the precepts of men.'"



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Christian activity, like attending Sunday services and small groups, praying, singing, preaching, giving, serving, laying hands on the sick, sharing your faith etc. etc., are not the evidence you are a worshipper who lives in accordance to the Spirit.

All this can be accomplished in and of the flesh by a follower and a non-follower of Jesus. Obviously there is nothing wrong with any of the above expressions, but these expressions are not the evidence one is a worshipper, who knows how to worship in Spirit and Truth, proving themselves to be a worshipper the Father seeks.

Transformation of the follower is the evidence one is worshipping in Spirit and Truth and from this transformation comes the ability to demonstrate the Truth of Jesus Christ. Look at the testimony of Paul in 1 Corinthians 2:4-5.

1 Corinthians 2:4-5 “and my message and my preaching were not in persuasive words of wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power, so that your faith would not rest on the wisdom of men, but on the power of God.”

God and Paul do not want our faith to rest on man’s wisdom, which is demonic, but on God’s power to transform and enable a person to live completely different to the way they once lived.

This is what Paul is saying. His message and preaching is now in his ability to live out the way of the Spirit and power. It's in his newfound capacity in Christ to demonstrate something he never could as Saul, a man of the flesh.

Saul was all about living in accordance with the flesh, keeping the Jewish laws, rituals, ceremonies and the like, while Paul was all about living a Christlike existence. A radical different dimension and one which we must all learn to imitate.

This is what it means to live in accordance with the Spirit and not the flesh.

QUESTIONS

1. Why do we make things so complicated at times as His children?



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Q. So what does it mean to live your entire life in accordance to the Spirit?

Read out: In simple terms it means to have your inner realm transformed by the living God, while at the very same time, expressing and demonstrating the tangible wisdom of Christ in and through your life. It's where you hear, see, eat, drink, believe and think in accordance to the Spirit.

2. What are our thoughts in relation to this answer?
3. What is the opposite of worshipping in Spirit and Truth and how does this impact our ability to be transformed and demonstrate the manifold wisdom of God?
4. Why is the transformation of the follower and the ability to demonstrate the wisdom of God, the evidence one worships in Spirit and Truth?
5. Give testimony to the group of this life in Him, as a people who are these true worshippers, who have learnt what it is to worship in Spirit and Truth?

Watch the accompanying You Tube video here: <https://youtu.be/QmEakVkQmlw>