

SURRENDER

One of the most crucial errors in the King James Version is the tendency to use the word “life” where the word “soul” should be utilized. The reason this error is “crucial” is that it disguises one of the very important Truths in the Bible.

Take, for example, John 12:25, where Jesus is recorded in the King James Version as saying: “He that loveth his life shall lose it, and he that hateth his life in this world shall keep it unto life eternal.”

This is a nonsensical expression, because it is incorrectly translated.

Now look at the same verse in the more accurate Concordant Literal New Testament translation: “He who is fond of his soul is destroying it, and he who is hating his soul in this world, shall be guarding it for life eternal.”

Well ok, we now have the correct translation, but what are we to make of such a statement? To hate our very own soul? Why would He say such a thing?

To understand how this can not only be, but is also a supremely important Truth in the Bible, we need to look at some related verses, and discuss them.

1) Matthew 23:9: (Jesus speaking): “And call no man your father upon the earth: for One is your Father, which is in heaven.”

2) Romans 7:22,23: (Paul writing): For I delight in the law of God in the inner man: (23) But I see another law in my members warring against the law of my mind, and bringing me into captivity to the law of sin which is in my members.

3) Luke 10:22: (Jesus speaking): “...and no man knoweth who the Son is, but the Father; and who the Father is but the Son, and he to who the Son will reveal Him”.

4) Galatians 1:11,12 and 15,16: (Paul writing): But I certify you brethren, that the gospel preached of me is not after man. (12) For I neither received it from man, nor was I taught it, but by the revelation of Jesus Christ. (15) But when it pleased God, who separated me from my mother’s womb, and called me by His grace, (16) To reveal His Son in me....”

5) 1Corinthians 6:17: (Paul writing): But he that is joined unto the Lord is *One Spirit.*”

DISCUSSION OF THE ABOVE VERSES

1) Matthew 23:9, where Jesus said to call no man on earth your father. This simple remark addresses the whole human dilemma, and that is that we mistake our false soulish identity with our correct *Spiritual* identity. What percentage of people since the time of Jesus do you suppose have lived and died on this earth not knowing they are Spiritual Beings, One with the Father, rather than just the human identity that they grew up with?

2) Romans 7:22,23, where Paul is lamenting that , try as he might, finds himself fighting the law of sin that is in his members. Paul here is struggling with the classic war between the Spirit and the soulish realm, where the devil and the principle of good and evil operate. Every truly born-again person must go through this, and it can be a hellish experience. Now can you see how Jesus could make the statement that we are to hate our very own soul?

3) Luke 10:22, where Jesus says that He will reveal the Father to whom He will. This is really when a person is given eternal life, when they are given the *revelation* that their true identity is not their soul, but rather their Spirit, and that their Spirit is One with the Almighty. This is a very personal moment that is between the individual and God, and
no man can teach it to another. It is a Divine gift, the most precious gift God can bestow upon a human being.

4) Galatians 1:16, where Paul said that God revealed His Son in him. This is when Paul was given what is properly called the “Revelation Jesus Christ”, just like the name of the last book of the Bible.

5) 1 Corinthians 6:17, where Paul says that he is joined to the Lord is One Spirit. Here Paul is explaining to the Corinthians what he knows by now, that he is a *Spirit being*,
and that he is One with Christ and the Father.

To understand what I mean by “surrender”, we must first realize that Jesus was totally dependant on the Father, and that God wants us to be the same way.

Look at these statements Jesus made in the Gospel of John:

John 5:19: “Verily verily I say unto you, the Son can do nothing of Himself...”

John 5:30: “I can of My own self do nothing....”

John 14:10: “...but the Father that dwelleth in Me, He doeth the works.”

So the Father was doing everything through Jesus.

Now look at what Jesus said concerning the relationship between us and Him in John 15:5: “I am the vine, ye are the branches: He that abideth in Me, and I in him, the same bringeth forth much fruit: for without Me you can do nothing.”

You see, Christ is literally our Life, and He gives it to us when we are given the Revelation of Jesus Christ, when we know that we are *Spiritual beings, One with Christ and the Father.*

But even now God’s work in us is not complete, and this is when surrender comes in. In order to experience the Kingdom of God while on earth, we must learn to completely surrender our soulish identity, and identify only with the Spirit that we know we are. This is in a very real sense a “death”, and except for the physical suffering, is not all that unlike what Jesus experienced at the cross. We are actually laying down our human identity (“call no man on earth your father”), in order to live our lives totally controlled by the Spirit.

This is when we are a son of God (“For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, they are the sons of God.” Romans 8:14), and this(not heaven after we die) is the Kingdom of God that Jesus and Paul spoke so frequently about.

The final Scripture I want to discuss is one that has perplexed humans for centuries, and it is John 14:12, where Jesus said:

“Verily, verily, I say unto you, he that believeth in Me, the works that I do shall he do also, and greater works than these shall he do; because I go unto my Father.”

I used to think that maybe He meant the sons of God mentioned in Romans 8:19 would be revealed to the world and bring reconciliation to the entire human race, and this would be considered a greater work than raising the dead and calming the seas, etc.

Because what was I supposed to think? Haven’t there been many people over the centuries who have believed in Him, that didn’t raise the dead, etc?

But now I am beginning to believe that in this age, the Kingdom age, that there will be a group of chosen people (see Matthew 22:14; Mark 13:20; John 15:16; Acts 9:15; and Revelation 17:14) who will have completely divorced themselves from their soulish identity, and also realize that, just like Jesus, that they can do nothing of themselves. Then maybe we really see greater works than what Jesus did.

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