

SERIES: TRUE SPIRITUALITY
"EVIDENCES OF TRUE SPIRITUALITY"
ROMANS 8:1-17

INTRO: In our study on TRUE SPIRITUALITY we have noted that SPIRITUALLY SPEAKING God views the world as being made up of three categories of people: **THE NATURAL (UNSAVED); THE CARNAL (IMMATURE CHRISTIANS); THE SPIRITUAL (MATURE CHRISTIANS)**. Without a doubt the category He is pleased with is the **SPIRITUAL**. Those who are **SPIRITUAL** maintain a VERY HIGH LEVEL of SPIRITUALITY and are great servants of God, being used by Him daily AS His representatives on Earth. By the way, **UNDER WHICH CATEGORY DO YOU FALL?** In our study we have defined SPIRITUALITY AS **A GROWN-UP RELATIONSHIP WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT RESULTING IN MATURE CHRISTIAN LIVING**. When a Christian is in that category, there will be CERTAIN EVIDENCES that will automatically be produced by the HOLY SPIRIT in their lives. Today we shall look at some of those EVIDENCES.

NOTE: There are many more evidences of SPIRITUALITY than what we could discuss in this sermon but what we examine today will give us an idea of what TRUE SPIRITUALITY looks like in our lives.

SOME MATTERS OF CONSIDERATION

- 1) TRUE SPIRITUALITY is what God desires in EVERY CHRISTIAN.
- 2) TRUE SPIRITUALITY involves UNDERSTANDING THE HOLY SPIRIT.
- 3) TRUE SPIRITUALITY involves NOT OFFENDING THE HOLY SPIRIT.
- 4) TRUE SPIRITUALITY involves RESPONDING TO THE HOLY SPIRIT.
- 5) TRUE SPIRITUALITY involves FOLLOWING THE HOLY SPIRIT.
- 6) TRUE SPIRITUALITY involves EMPOWERMENT BY THE HOLY SPIRIT.

OBSERVATION: When you are SPIRITUAL, YOU know it, OTHERS know it and GOD knows it by your LIFE EVIDENCES. NO ONE IS FOOLED.

I. THE EVIDENCE OF SPIRITUAL APPLICATION - 1 JOHN 2:27

NOTE: John 14:15-18; John 16:7-11

- A. Those who are Spiritual are **TAUGHT** by the Holy Spirit - John 14:26
- B. Those who are Spiritual are **LED** by the Holy Spirit - John 16:13

II. THE EVIDENCE OF SPIRITUAL ATTITUDES - GALATIANS 5:16-23

NOTE: Galatians 5:16-23 contrasts the works of the FLESH with the fruit of the Holy Spirit. The **Spiritual Person MANIFESTS ALL THE ELEMENTS of the FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT**.

- A. Love - The Self-sacrificing service to God and Others.
- B. Joy - The Sense of well-being between God and Self.
- C. Peace - The Tranquility of mind because of a right Relationship with God.
- D. Longsuffering - The tolerance of injuries inflicted by others and the calm willingness to accept situations that are irritating or painful.
- E. Gentleness - The tender concern for others that results in treating them gently as the Lord treats us.
- F. Goodness - The moral and spiritual excellence that is known by sweetness and kindness.
- G. Faith - The loyalty and trustworthiness of a believer to God and others.
- H. Meekness - The humble and gentle attitude that is powerfully and patiently submissive in every offense while having no desire for retaliation or retribution.
- I. Temperance - The restraint of all passions and appetites that could otherwise control one's life.

"AGAINST SUCH THERE IS NO LAW"

- There is no law of mankind against such characteristics as they are good.
- There is no law of God against such characteristics as God desires them.

III. THE EVIDENCE OF SPIRITUAL ACTIONS - EPHESIANS 5:18-21

NOTE: Ephesians 5:18-21 speaks of the automatic result of those who are **FILLED (CONTROLLED) WITH THE SPIRIT** and living a life of **TRUE BIBLICAL SPIRITUALITY**.

A. The Spiritual Action of Worship - Vs. 19

1. The Public Expression ("To Yourselves")

- a. In Psalms - The Singing of the O.T. Psalms
- b. In Hymns - Songs that Exalt God the Father and the Son
- c. In Spiritual Songs - Songs of praise and testimony

d. In Making Melody - Literally means "to pluck a stringed instrument," and thus speaks of worshipping God with instruments.

2. The Private Expression ("In Your Heart to the Lord")

-Personal and Private worship of God-

B. The Spiritual Action of Thanksgiving - Vs. 20

-Spiritual Christians give thanks to God for **ALL THINGS**

C. The Spiritual Action of Submission - Vs. 21

-Spiritual Christians humbly submit to each other without argument and division **out of respect for God!**

OBSERVATION: THE SPIRITUAL CHRISTIAN AUTOMATICALLY PRODUCES THESE ACTIONS BECAUSE THE HOLY SPIRIT IS WORKING THROUGH HIM.

LESSON AND APPLICATION

- 1) These evidences of **TRUE SPIRITUALITY** are **CONSISTENTLY SEEN** by God, others and ourselves when the **HOLY SPIRIT** is in control of our lives.
- 2) These are evidences that **GOD DESIRES** in **ALL** of His children.
- 3) These evidences are not produced by our power or effort, **BUT ONLY BY THE POWER OF THE HOLY SPIRIT.**

WHAT IS SEEN IN YOUR LIFE RIGHT NOW?