

## **EARTHLY MAN, SPIRITUAL MAN**

*1Co. 15:45 So it is written: "The first man Adam became a living being"; [Gen. 2:7] the last Adam, a life-giving spirit.*

*1Co. 15:46 The spiritual did not come first, but the natural, and after that the spiritual.*

*1Co. 15:47 The first man was of the dust of the earth, the second man from heaven.*

*1Co. 15:49 And just as we have borne the likeness of the earthly man, so shall we bear the likeness of the man from heaven.*

There are two types of Adam or mankind: the earthly or fleshly man and the man from heaven who is a spiritual man. Every mankind begins as an earthly man or first Adam and has the potential to transform to the spiritual man—the last Adam.

*Ge. 3:22 And the LORD God said, "The man has now become like one of us, knowing good and evil. He must not be allowed to reach out his hand and take also from the tree of life and eat, and live forever."*

*Ge. 3:23 So the LORD God banished him from the Garden of Eden to work the ground from which he had been taken.*

Our great ancestor, Adam, wasted his potential to become a spiritual man when he accepted the fruit from Satan. As a result of Adam's trespass, he and his descendants were barred from the tree of life. Continual eating of the fruit of the tree of life makes a person to live forever.

Jesus started as an earthly man. Because he was not a descendant of Adam, he was not barred from the tree of life. He rejected the fruit of Satan and therefore qualified to eat the fruit of the tree of life. Continual eating of the fruit of the tree of life transformed him into a spiritual (immortal) man. He is now a life-giving spirit; he can give eternal life to a mortal man.

We that are now earthly humans also have the potential to transform to spiritual beings. Jesus made it possible for us by dying for us. The potential to transform to spiritual man only exists for those in Christ. Those in Adam are forever barred from the tree of life.

### **From Earthly Man To Spiritual Man**

How does a person born into the lineage of Adam move into Christ? The person must be born again.

*Jn. 3:5 Jesus answered, "I tell you the truth, no-one can enter the kingdom of God unless he is born of water and the Spirit.*

*Jn. 3:6 Flesh gives birth to flesh, but the Spirit gives birth to spirit.*

Being born again simply means the Holy Spirit of God birthing a spirit being within an earthly man. Jesus said that a person needs to be born of both water and the Spirit in order to belong to the kingdom of heaven. In the early Church, being born of water was clearly understood to imply water baptism. Some modern church groups are of the opinion that being born of water refers to hearing messages from a pastor or preacher. Of course, hearing and accepting the gospel of Jesus is a precondition for water baptism.

The opinion in some churches that water baptism is not necessary may be borne out of the fact that most people who want to be born again were baptized in some other churches when they were babies and some churches believe that water baptism should not be done more than once. But Acts 19:1-7 counteracts that position. If the water baptism did not lead on to being born of the Spirit, then it is actually null and void.

*Ro. 6:3 Or don't you know that all of us who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death?*

*Ro. 6:4 We were therefore buried with him through baptism into death in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may live a new life.*

Water baptism in the name of Jesus Christ is not as trivial as many people think. It is actually a ceremony that connects the person involved with the death of Jesus Christ and hence the blood of Jesus. Even if a person receives the Holy Spirit before water baptism, it is still necessary to be baptized in water. However, water baptism that does not lead on to receiving the Holy Spirit is null and void.

*Lk. 11:13 If you then, though you are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father in heaven give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!"*

There are two ways in which a person can be born of the Spirit. One way is for the person involved to continue to ask God for the gift of the Spirit. The other way is for a person who has grown in the spirit to lay hand on the person that wants to receive and prayerfully transfer the Holy Spirit. This second way is based on Jesus' promise that if anyone believes in him, out of the person's belly shall flow streams of living water (Jn. 7:38).

### **Eating the Fruit of the Tree of Life**

Just as the earthly man begins life as a smallish, weak and fragile entity, the spirit man also begins its existence as a smallish, weak and fragile entity. And just as the earthly man grows by feeding, the spiritual man also grows by feeding on the fruit of the tree of life. The spiritual man can grow much faster than the earthly man.

*Jn. 6:53 Jesus said to them, "I tell you the truth, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood, you have no life in you.*

Some day in 2013, Jn. 6:53 came to my mind and I decided to include it in my prayers by asking God to feed me with His flesh and to give me His blood to drink. A few days after I began praying like this, I was sleeping on my bed in the night and I saw myself lying down on the same bed facing up. I was looking at the window and a woman appeared at the window looking at me. When she saw that I was awake, she moved off. I then woke from the dream and it dawned on me that the prayer of eating the flesh of God and drinking the blood of God was rattling some spiritual forces. The woman that came by my window was an evil spirit; she obviously saw that my inner being was now quite developed and awake; so, she was unable to do anything to me.

Towards the end of 2013, any person with some kind of sickness that I prayed for was healed immediately. With time, the healing power ebbed. I wasn't sure how the anointing to heal suddenly came upon me. But recently, I concluded that it has something to do with my handling of Jn. 6:53 by faith.

*Mk. 16:17 And these signs will accompany those who believe: In my name they will drive out demons; they will speak in new tongues;*

*Mk. 16:18 they will pick up snakes with their hands; and when they drink deadly poison, it will not hurt them at all; they will place their hands on sick people, and they will get well."*

The reason why the promises of Jesus Christ are not manifesting in the lives of Christians is because the promises are not for the earthly man. The promises can only be fulfilled by the

spiritual man. When a Christian is born from above, s/he receives the spiritual man in him/her. But the spiritual man is just a baby. It needs to eat the bread of life and drink living water in order to grow in stature and in strength. It is only when the spiritual man has grown in stature and strength that the promises of Jesus begin to manifest.

*2Ch. 13:11 Every morning and evening they present burnt offerings and fragrant incense to the LORD. They set out the bread on the ceremonially clean table and light the lamps on the gold lampstand every evening. We are observing the requirements of the LORD our God. But you have forsaken him.*

Just as the priests of ancient Israel ministered at the temple every morning and evening, I try to feed my inner being with the bread of life and living water, by faith, every morning and evening.

## **Forty Days and Forty Nights**

*Ge. 2:7 the LORD God formed the man from the dust of the ground and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life, and the man became a living being.*

*Ge. 2:8 Now the LORD God had planted a garden in the east, in Eden; and there he put the man he had formed.*

Shortly after God breathed into Adam the spiritual man, God put Adam in His garden. The garden had several trees or plants that nourish the earthly man and only two trees for the spiritual man. Adam was warned never to feed his spiritual man from one of the trees that happen to be Satan himself. God is the tree of life. Adam fed his inner being from the wrong tree and was barred from ever getting to the tree of life.

*Mt. 4:1 Then Jesus was led by the Spirit into the desert to be tempted by the devil.*

*Mt. 4:2 After fasting for forty days and forty nights, he was hungry.*

Shortly after Jesus received the spiritual man at the River Jordan, the Spirit drove him into the desert where he spent the next forty days. Jesus obviously spent the forty days feeding his inner being with spiritual food and spiritual drink. It was only when his inner being had developed that Satan was allowed to tempt him. Satan offered him his fruit as usual, but he rejected it.

*Mt. 4:11 Then the devil left him, and angels came and attended him.*

*Lk. 4:14 Jesus returned to Galilee in the power of the Spirit, and news about him spread through the whole countryside.*

Angels came and attended to Jesus and clothed him with great power. I have experienced the power of God operate in me. I think that the minimum time a person must feed his/her inner being before power anointing could come is forty days. Note that Jesus fasted throughout the forty days. For a person like me that does not fast, but just feeds his inner being by faith every morning and evening, it may take much longer than forty days before the anointing of power comes.

I didn't really know what I was doing in 2013. An idea came to my mind and I began to practice it. I don't know how long I practiced the faith feeding before power anointing came upon me.

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