

MAN IS SELF-DESTRUCT

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It was over a week ago that the word of the Lord came to my heart that "Man is self-destruct." From the Garden of Eden, Satan sowed the seed of destruction into the human race, and that is why the second Adam had to come to the rescue. If we look into our own lives, we can see the "seed of evil." Everything that we do contrary to righteousness and the will of the Lord comes from this seed which was planted in the human race. It is the reason why Cain killed Abel; and from that early time to now, everything that is contrary to God that has happened and is happening is brought about by this seed of evil that is within us.

When the seed of righteousness comes in us, it is like light expelling the darkness. But it is only as we allow it, otherwise we will have areas where the light is not able to penetrate the darkness, and there will be areas in us where the darkness will remain.

And so we think of some of the words that the Lord gives, like, "*Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven*" (Matthew 5:16). That means that if we allow the darkness to remain in us, then men will not see the light of God. On the contrary, they will see the darkness.

"Ye are the light of the world. A city that is set on an hill cannot be hid. Neither do men light a candle, and put it under a bushel, but on a candlestick; and it giveth light unto all that are in the house. Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven." (Matthew 5:14-16)

"In him was life; and the life was the light of men. And the light shineth in darkness; and the darkness comprehended it not (could not pull down or

overcome the light." (John 1:4-5)

"There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. The same came for a witness, to bear witness of the Light, that all men through him might believe. He was not that Light, but was sent to bear witness of that Light. That was the true Light, which lighteth every man that cometh into the world." (John 1:6-9)

"But he that doeth truth cometh to the light, that his deeds may be made manifest, that they are wrought in God." (John 3:21)

So, it is saying that as Christ comes forth in us, we get rid of the darkness. We get rid of the evil as we go forth in the Lord and as the good inhabits us, but it has to inhabit us so that it is not just something that is in our minds. That is why it is so difficult sometimes for us, when we know a lot of scriptures and a lot of truth, because it is not impressed upon us that we are supposed to walk in what we know; and that is how the light expels the darkness.

We cannot allow both the darkness and the light to abide, where we are sometimes righteous and sometimes unrighteous; or where we sometimes in our daily living take leave of righteousness to do the things that are contrary to God. It is like we are making excuses to do the wrong thing, and as long as that condition remains in us we are destroying ourselves.

Nevertheless, Jesus came to set the captives free! The enemy has taken us captive and he says that we belong to him; and the only reason he says we belong to him is because we are doing his bidding. So we are his captives, until we begin to eject him from our being. We have to give him marching orders! And we have to do it by force! We have to declare our position and say to him, "You have no place in me!"

There is a battle to get rid of him that we have to be involved in from day to day! He has taken up residence in us from before we were born, and he says that he has a right! But when Jesus came into our lives, He says, "I have given them power to become Sons of God." If we, through the knowledge of the Word, do not use the power to become Sons of God, then we lose our inheritance in Him!

It is a daily battle and a daily warfare that we enter into every time we realize this situation that we are in. And the Spirit of the Lord is very diligent in showing us our weaknesses. As a matter of fact, if you are walking with the Lord, as soon as a contrary thing comes to your mind, the Spirit of the Lord is there like a good washerwoman, and He will bring forth deliverance for us. But sometimes the weaknesses that are in us, to carry

out whatever the enemy says to us, are so great that we bow to it instead of bowing to what the Spirit of the Lord is saying and wanting us to do. So we fail in that conflict. But God has not called us to be weaklings. He has given strength. In John 1:12, He says He has given us power to become Sons of God! If we are not walking as Sons of God, it is because we are failing to use the power that He has given us. It is as simple as that. It is simple, but it is great.

The Lord said, "Man is self-destruct," but because of this, He has given us life on the other side to destroy the power of the destroyer. The anointing of the Spirit will destroy the power of the destroyer, so that, although the destroyer is within us and has taken such a foothold in us, if we give way to the anointing of the Spirit He will destroy the power of the destroyer. Praise God!

This operation should be effective daily in our lives, so that as we awaken each morning we should say, "Lord, anoint me with that power, that today I will destroy the power of the destroyer." Nobody knows the extent of the power of the destroyer that is within us, but we ourselves (and, of course, God). Each individual has an awareness of that which works in his or her soul, and so we are aware of the principal areas of our battle. We know what we have to do, for it is something that will work and work until we are in the place where we become totally destroyed.

Now, the repentance and forgiveness that the Lord has given to us through His blood does not automatically destroy the power of the Adamic nature. Hear the words in John 1:12. He said, "... to as many as received him, to them gave He power to become Sons of God." If we do not use the power we cannot become Sons of God. So, to say, "Well, I repented one day ... and I am saved ... and I am coming to church," and so on, is only fooling ourselves! It is not until we begin to overcome the things that possess us and the things that set us back; the inherent nature of the soul.

As I was sitting there, the thought came to me that we here should all just think a little bit on what if Jesus should come right now? If He should walk right in here, what state would we be in? How would we appear before Him? What would He say? What would He have to say to us? Our very last thought, our very last desire, the things that we give way to--what would He have to say about them?

So, we would ask ourselves the question, "Is it well with my soul?" "Is it well with my soul?" And meetings like these are to help us to make the necessary corrections and adjustments to give us strength to move on. So, this meeting should not find us farther back than we were at the last meeting.

A lot of people would say, "I do not get much from the convention and I do not...." It is because of where we are, and where we place ourselves, because if we are looking to the Lord, then the Lord is always there to bless and to do us good. And Jesus says, "If you come together in My Name, even if there are only two of you, I am there in your midst to bless." He brought it down to two. The angel brought it down to five with Abraham before destroying Sodom. He said, "If I find five righteous, I will not destroy the city," but the angel knew there would not be five righteous, because Sodom and Gomorrah were doomed for destruction. So the Lord says, "Where two or three...." He brings it down to the smallest unit, "Where two or three are gathered in My Name, I am there to bless and to do them good." So, look at the number of us. There are many of us here, but the key there in that statement is "... gathered in My Name." "In My Name!" In whose name and nature have we come together? Have we come together in the nature of the Spirit of Christ? Have we come together in His nature, that we can receive the blessing and get rid of this seed of destruction that has been sown into humanity and that has been working to this generation?

And as we encourage the seed of Christ, for the seed of righteousness is the only thing that will destroy this great power of the destroyer that for so many years (thousands of years) it has ruled over man. God sent the Law and it could not do the work, because it was weak and because the seed of the destroyer has been so strong, because it is within our very fiber! The seed of the destroyer is so strong! He sent the Law, He sent the prophets, and it could not work. He sent Jesus, His Son, and it is going on two thousands years and we are still struggling with the power of the destroyer. Have we overcome the power of this destroyer? Or does the spirit of the destroyer still work in us to bring us to hate, envy, jealousy, malice, pride, and all sorts of wickedness and things that work in the children of men?

So, God is waiting. We are at the very end of time, and God is waiting for us to allow the Spirit of life, the law of life in Christ Jesus, to destroy the spirit of the destroyer that has robbed us all these years. Amen! Amen! Praise God!

And it will not be accomplished by complacency. We have to arise and assert ourselves by the Word and the Spirit, that we might have the victory over this power of the destroyer, that is within us and that will hinder us from accomplishing what Jesus came for. He came to set the captives free, but the captives have to be willing and ready to be set free. Amen! Amen! Praise God!

