

Dynamics of Spiritual Growth

By: Joseph Ho



prophet3333@yahoo.com ; Joseph@thelionscepter.com



www.thelionscepter.com



@[@thelionscepter](https://www.instagram.com/thelionscepter)

Although spiritual hunger and need are prime prerequisite for light and understanding, The Holy Spirit will never give forth its precious treasure of spiritual truth without any deep experience and at no cost either. The Holy Spirit does not reveal the truth for deeper life without us meaning business with Jesus. The modern teaching of consecration, which is tantamount to the consecration of the “old man” seeks to bypass the death to self, and thus leads to frustration and failure. The inners struggle to be good for Jesus is actually inversely contradictory to the works of the Holy Spirit. When we accept Jesus as our Saviour, we are actually being justified by faith. Thus, the road ahead is the sanctification works of the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit already has the redemptive work of Jesus in mind from the Father God and he seeks to bring us into a deeper revelation of our self.

Many who came to accept Christ expects immediate release from their troubles. Well, this is not always so, some are healed immediately from terminal disease, but others have to face the reconditioning of the mind, and so have to go through extensive periods of restoration, a prolonged walk in the desert with God. Some have been possessed by unclean spirits through unconscious acts of inviting them into our soul without truly understanding these dangerous acts of wickedness. For example, smoking is a not a habit,

it's a spiritual act of inviting the spirit of nicotine into our bodies. Anything that makes us a slave has us in bondage to it and naturally anything that causes bondage has a spirit in it.

The redemptive work in such a form will be slow, very slow indeed. It could take many years before a new man can birth from the old man. The Holy Spirit does not force anyone to do good since it only encourages, it guides; but it does not force. Naturally, how fast the sinner can be transformed will depend on how much trust and believe he has on the sanctification works of the Holy One. Note that I say beliefs, not faith. Believing is the act of accepting something as truthful. Faith is exercising confidence in something which you believe in. So, faith needs to come into your soul for you to exercise trust with confidence. By your own effort you cannot produce faith. God has to give us faith. The bible says faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word or voice of God.

Similarly, we as Christians should never force anyone to be religious or spiritual; it has to be the works of God through the timing of the Holy Spirit. God does not need our help; he needs our co-operations. The Holy Spirit will lead us into a desert walk, where we will be stripped of everything in our old life that produces pride, strength, arrogance and things which we have acquired that is not of God; namely Sin. Sin has its value for it is a good immediate substitute for a temporal relief from a cruel unloving world. Yes, Sin has value, if it were not why then does all men fall into Sin when testing comes. Sin provides false love, temporal wealth, pleasure from pain, and gives a short duration of relief from our daily woes. Each one of us being created by God has a perfect life waiting for us for which we were made. We do not need to be envious of anyone who is doing better than us, God looks at eternity or our entire life while we look at this present moment. As God is the author of our faith, he is also the author of our life. Everything that we needed, God can provide, he can give you a new life. The past life which you have lived are all created by your own intelligence, your manipulation, your ungodly alliance with men of power, your monopoly of your network through unfair means. Thus, all your wealth and position which is attained now is but made of sand, no strong foundation were formed out of solid rock. When the time comes that your main support is removed, all your castles will come crumbling down like a house of cards.

Unless all that you owned is established by God; then your wealth shall be maintain, and your position be secured, for if God is for us who can be against us. Unless the Lord God builds your house, you will labour in vain. Unless all that you have are approved by

God, you shall lose them all, since you did not move in the will of the one who owns the entire world. What you gain is temporal and not for long you'll lose it all. Everything we owned must be blessed by God for it to last a lifetime. Everything in it belongs to him who created all things. The will of God may not be your own personal plans in your life and so when you come to him, he will have to remake you into what he originally made you to be. The further you have strayed from him, the longer it will take to set you back into his will. So, there could be a longer U turn from your present route. To repent, therefore means to turn from your wicked ways.

Therefore, instead of wanting to move faster now on the same platform, God may have to remove all that is within you and refill in you his original plans for you in your life. These may not be sins or bad habits, but could be bad health, a change in career, a return of stolen wealth through a bad deal you have made, as he needs to empty you of all ill-gotten wealth or it can be taking you out of a very bad abusive relationship. This sanctification journey, is not what most newly saved Christian like to see, they want instant release from the troubles which they themselves have created over a long period of time. Most hardcore drug addicts know this to be a painful truth. The spiritual bondage of a drug addict is far stronger than that of a normal cigarette smoker. In this kind of bondage, a spiritual deliverance is required to be freed from such oppression. Not only that, a complete social ecosystem of the drug addict's life style must be eliminated, else he will fall back into the same habit again.

All sinful acts require repentance and restitution. When David sinned against Uriah the Hittite, murdered him and took his wife. David had to pay for it with his three sons and one daughter who was rape by his own brother. In killing one man, David lost three sons. Although God has accepted David's confession of sin, he still had to face restitution for that one lost man that he murdered. Although God is a God of miracles, he however is a good teacher and so he has to write the new laws into your hearts. God punishes you, so you will know what it means to walk away from his will and get into serious trouble; because you thought you could live godless life. God chastise all his sons, there are no exceptions. The final end of all evil men according to the bible is eternal damnation, according to Psalm 73 of Asaph.

Each one of us must seek the will of God in our lives. We must not seek the life of others, as we were made different. God in all his wisdom has our unique destiny in his hands so why should we be worried or be unhappy? As God is a good God and he has plans to prosper us but it's his plans and not harm us then why should we be worried about tomorrow? Is he the Almighty God or is he not? The problem is that most of us don't know how much he loves us and so we are worried when we sin occasionally against him and wonder if he still will honour our salvation and promised blessings. Essentially, the sins of our parents have caused us not to experience the love of God because we didn't get the love which we should have gotten when we were young. Thus, we never knew what true love is and so we don't know what the love of God looks like, therefore we don't know how to accept God's love as mentioned in the bible. Not worrying about tomorrow does not mean we do not need to plan for the activities of tomorrow; we will still need to make plans until God changes them.

This is precisely the reason why we will never come into the knowledge of our spiritual possessions through a superficial understanding of the word of God, just by reading the bible. Our Lord Jesus, so often uses natural events in order to teach the deepest spiritual truths. His explanation can be understood by the simplest of people who have experienced natural truth. Besides these things, we ourselves cannot inject spiritual appetite by force into others; we cannot compel others to be hungry. Hunger has to be developed by God and met by the works of the Holy Spirit. It is usually those who have plummeted into the depths of failure to whom GOD invariably gives the call to shepherd others. They have overcome their own failures by coming to Jesus which makes them understand the struggles of those who are in the same situation. Without a bitter experience of their own inadequacy and poverty they are quite unfitted to bear the burden of spiritual ministry.

Without a Godly encounter to lighten our ways in times of our own need, how are we to profess with confidence that God is able to answer all your needs in time of trouble. Theoretical Christianity that has no power, is not worth speaking about and those who speak without experiencing the saving grace of God is also talking without any proof of his existence. Their words will not come forth as wine from the winepress and consequently; has no conviction power to touch the hearts of many wounded people.

The journey from Egypt, a place of bondage of hard work without much rest and going into the desert, from a place of just enough and the death to self of complaining and later entering the Jordan into our promised land is a necessary journey. The journey of self-realisation of our sinful nature that still remains in us after accepting Christ is essential to spiritual growth. We must then realise we would never reach the high standards which we have set for ourselves when we first accepted Christ. Self-revelation preceded divine revelation; that is the principle of both spiritual birth and growth. We have to first face our self and know our own efforts cannot bring us into holiness with God. God has to consecrate us and make us holy. He has to first initiate this offer, for it is by invitation that you will ever come into the presence of the Almighty God of the Universe. Yet this offer will be made to those who hunger for his presence; an emptiness waiting to be filled. This is the mystery of Matthew 5:6.

Matthew 5:6 New International Version (NIV)

6 Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.

True maturity is a price to pay, it is our unquestioned resolve to meet God or die in the desert. Unfortunately, many don't know that they are in the spiritual desert even now. All of us will make this desert walk even Moses. And some may not cross the desert into the promise land as their constant grumbling may even cause God to reject them, since trust is not present. Without trust, obedience and faith, we will take a longer walk with God. It is not easy to trust something you heard from someone, so it is also not easy to trust something which you don't see or feel. Many choose to remain in reading the word and doing things by their own intelligence often equating their success to a God who has nothing to do with it; since they have excluded him from all their decision-making process. Even when God sends them message, they would reject his word and continue to do the things they love because what they have envisioned is different than what God has installed for them. Since, they all equate physical wealth to the only blessings possible with God; so, they make all decisions based on wealth scriptures to justify their own actions. Consequently, losing their true gift of peace with the God of the Universe.

These people mind only consider those works which produces profit and fame to be of value to pursue, while in God's mind, feeding the widows and saving souls are more

worthy of his calling in us. They have used the world's value in ordering their own lives and so when the will of God aligns with the world standard than they believe it is of God, but when God wants a sacrifice from them, they all run away. So, they remain in the desert as they profess that all things belong to God yet unwilling to give to the works of God; thus, they don't mature and get into the understanding of who God is. Only when you do errands on behalf of God then will you know how much God loves the poor. God teaches us by making us do his will in order to know his mind. Being led by the spirit is a far better way than church style of one man talking and all listening without the actual events to back up their teachings. These people only hear but never get to exercise the wisdom of God and so they never got any authentication of this truth. Everyone wants an instantaneous knowledge of God but they want to skip the errand doing and the giving part. God is looking for real sons and daughters who will walk with him. Unless you walk with him, you will forever be learning but never coming to the true understanding of his ways. Truth must be reinforced by actions. Jesus did not just talk; he demonstrated the kingdom of God by his deeds. He taught, he spoke, and he lived, he did the Word of God, so he is the complete embodiment of the Word of God. Now we see preachers speaking the Word of God which they never themselves practiced.

Wealth is only one of the many blessings which God can bestow on a person, peace, happiness in the family; health and a trouble-free sleep are all blessings of God. For, all good and perfect gifts come from the father of heavenly lights when we walk in his perfect will. Wealth can solve some of our problems but most problems cannot be solved by wealth; example broken relationship and health. No amount of wealth can mend a broken heart, nor can a rich man escape the dreadful consequences of cancer and death. Every resource that we need to do his will; he will provide. So, he is called Jehovah Jireh. If he does not give it to us; that means we would not need it to do his will at that point in time. When men of God asked for money to travel to do his will, they are actually doing their own will. Most man of God loves to travel to do something so as to feel they are in the will of God. But they don't know that being at home to take care of their wife and family is also the will of God. When there is no money to travel, stay still, God does not need you to work for him all the time, he also wants you to rest. Having a constant need to do something is also sin, God does not want workaholics he needs obedient servants. God has 7000 others whom he can call upon to do his will so you need to stay still and know that he is God. He does not need our help; he needs our co-operation. Everyone is dispensable no one is indispensable, only God himself is indispensable.

Matthew 11:30 New International Version (NIV)

30 For my yoke is easy and my burden is light.”

Psalms 127:1 New International Version (NIV)

1 Unless the LORD builds the house, the builders labour in vain.

Unless the LORD watches over the city, the guards stand watch in vain.

We need learn how to enter into his rest and God is not a hard task master as his yoke is easy his burden is light. We do not need to strive for God. After all, if he does not bless our work, we will do it in vain. We need to grow into spiritual maturity by entering his rest, which is the true perfect will of God. This is truly the spiritual dynamics of a life crucified in Christ.

Hebrews 4:10 King James Version (KJV)

10 For he that is entered into his rest, he also hath ceased from his own works, as God did from his.

Hebrews 3:18 New International Version (NIV)

18 And to whom did God swear that they would never enter his rest if not to those who disobeyed?

Hebrews 4:3 New International Version (NIV)

3 Now we who have believed enter that rest, just as God has said,

“So I declared on oath in my anger, ‘They shall never enter my rest.’”

And yet his works have been finished since the creation of the world.

Psalm 42:7 New International Version (NIV)

7 Deep calls to deep in the roar of your waterfalls; all your waves and breakers
have swept over me.

Job 12:22 New International Version (NIV)

22 He reveals the deep things of darkness and brings utter darkness into the light.

Daniel 2:22 New International Version (NIV)

22 He reveals deep and hidden things; he knows what lies in darkness,
and light dwells with him.

1 Corinthians 2:7 King James Version (KJV)

7 But we speak the wisdom of God in a mystery, even the hidden wisdom, which God
ordained before the world unto our glory:

Ephesians 3:3-4 King James Version (KJV)

3 How that by revelation he made known unto me the mystery; (as I wrote afore in few
words,

4 Whereby, when ye read, ye may understand my knowledge in the mystery of Christ)

1 Timothy 3:16 King James Version (KJV)

16 And without controversy great is the mystery of godliness: God was manifest in the flesh,
justified in the Spirit, seen of angels, preached unto the Gentiles, believed on in the world,
received up into glory.

Mark 4:11 King James Version (KJV)

11 And he said unto them, Unto you it is given to know the mystery of the kingdom of God: but unto them that are without, all these things are done in parables:

Isaiah 45:3 King James Version (KJV)

3 And I will give thee the treasures of darkness, and hidden riches of secret places, that thou mayest know that I, the LORD, which call thee by thy name, am the God of Israel.

Hosea 4:6 New International Version (NIV)

6 my people are destroyed from lack of knowledge.

“Because you have rejected knowledge, I also reject you as my priests;

because you have ignored the law of your God, I also will ignore your children.

Another factor in the spiritual dynamics that affects spiritual growth, is the knowledge that God gives to those who are waiting at his doors. Unless the Lord reveals the deep hidden mysteries, no one can have any new revelation from God. If God didn't reveal the meaning of his words in the bible to his messengers and servants, no one can imagine its true meaning and they using their own mind will start to fabricate its meaning. Thus, making myths and fairy tales from the delusion of their own minds. For the spiritual truths of God belong onto his Son, Jesus Christ and those whom he has called to receive salvation. These are true treasures, riches stored in secret places reserved only for those who will carry his message faithfully. Those who seek to be famous or popular will not be able to attain to knowledge of these revelations. It is God who chose to give understanding to those whom he predestined to be his spokesmen. The humble receives the grace to open the doors to wisdom.

Proverbs 8:34-35 New International Version (NIV)

34 Blessed are those who listen to me, watching daily at my doors, waiting at my doorway.

35 For those who find me find life and receive favour from the LORD.

Deep things are bought with sincere, honest, pain taking perseverance and much waiting on the Lord, to want to know the hidden truth, so they purchase it with much sacrifice; in the process of this pursuit; they themselves were often being transformed and sanctified.