

The Call to Holy Living

Growing to Maturity (by Dan Juster)

Chapter 3

Section A – The World, Flesh & the Devil

Brent Brooks

Brent@BHSDallas.org

www.thewaytowalk.org



The World, the Flesh, & the Devil

- *“Do not love the world or anything in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him. For everything in the world --- the cravings of sinful man, the lust of his eyes and the boasting of what he has and does --- comes not from the Father but from the world. The world and its desires pass away, but the man who does the will of G-D lives forever.” 1 John 2:15-17*

The Flesh

- The “flesh” is “the old man,” or the person activated by the old selfish nature.
- Our physical body and its desires are a source of fleshly temptation.
- The flesh includes the totality of sinful patterns developed in our old life.



HaSatan = The Adversary

- The “Devil” is our Adversary
- He & his hosts of demons attempt to *intensify* the temptations of the world and bring believers into bondage.



Overcoming the World, Flesh & *HaSatan*

➤ Repentance (t'shuvah)

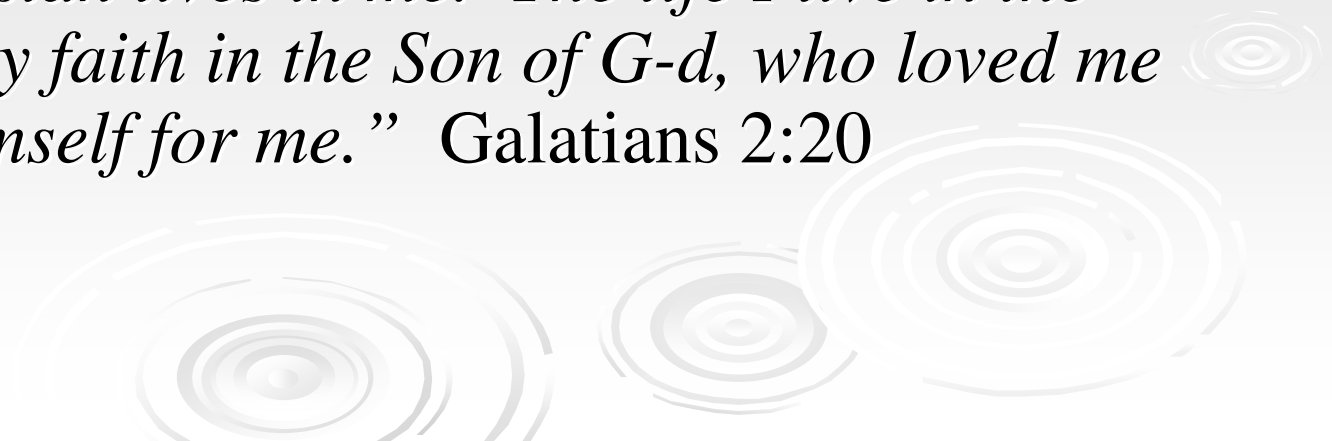
- Consciously turn from sin
- Agree with G-d that we have sinned
- Ask His forgiveness
- Renounce the sin, and take back the ground in the Name of Yeshua



Overcoming the World, Flesh & *HaSatan*

- Declare the Word of G-d against temptation
 - Follow Yeshua's example – in the wilderness
 - Declare the Truth to be true!
 - *The power of life and death are in the tongue.*
 - *The Word of G-d is living and true!*

- *“I have been crucified with Messiah and I no longer live, but Messiah lives in me. The life I live in the body, I live by faith in the Son of G-d, who loved me and gave Himself for me.” Galatians 2:20*



Our New Nature

“...So as far as your former way of life is concerned, you must strip off your old nature, because your old nature is thoroughly rotted by its deceptive desires; and you must let your spirits and minds keep being renewed, and cloth yourselves with the new nature created to be godly, which expresses itself in the righteousness and holiness that flow from the truth.” Ephesians 4:22-24



Be Watchful

- Satan's deception often appeals to our pride, causing us to think we are stronger than we really are.
- Therefore, by the power of the Ruach HaKodesh, walk in humility and...
- Don't put yourself in positions of unnecessary temptation.
- "Flee youthful lusts."



Clean House

- Renounce any prior involvement in the occult, or gross immorality
 - Yours
 - Your ancestors

- Put on the Armor of G-D



The Armor of G-D

- *“Finally, grow powerful in union with the L-rd, in union with his mighty strength.”* Ephesians 6:10
- Belt of Truth
- Breastplate of Righteousness
- Feet shod with the Gospel of Peace
- Shield of Faith
- Helmet of Salvation
- Sword of the Spirit

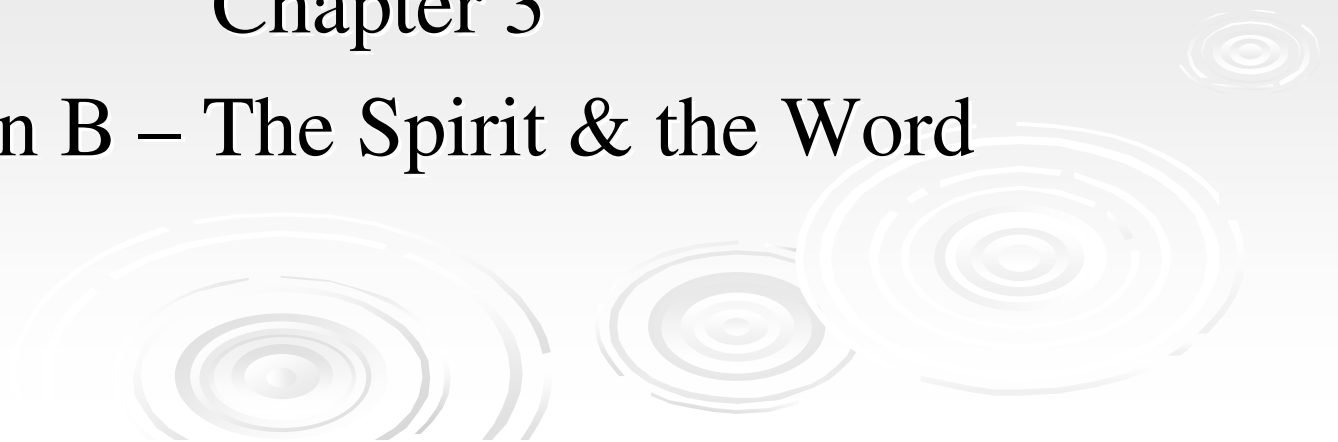


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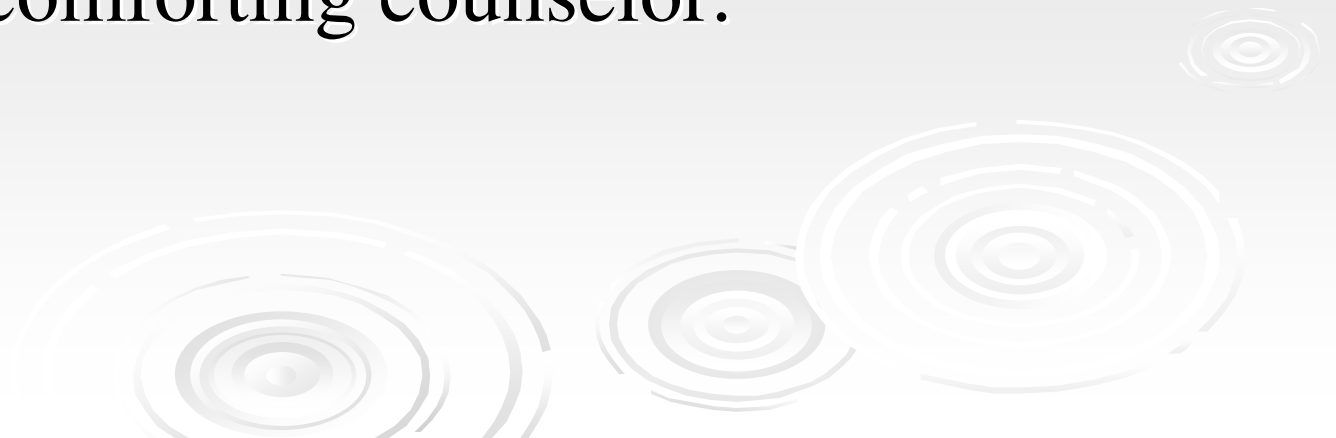
Chapter 3

Section B – The Spirit & the Word



The Ruach HaKodesh

- The Holy Spirit is the person of G-D sent by Yeshua to be our permanent companion.
- He is omnipresent.
- He is our “comforting counselor.”



The Ruach HaKodesh

- In the *Tenakh*, the Holy Spirit only came upon some kings, prophets, and cohenim.
- But Yeshua sent His Holy Spirit to indwell each believer.



The Holy Spirit's power to Change Lives

“I will sprinkle clean water on you, and you will be clean;

I will cleanse you from all your uncleanness and from all your idols.

I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit inside you;

I will take the stony heart out of your flesh and give you a heart of flesh.

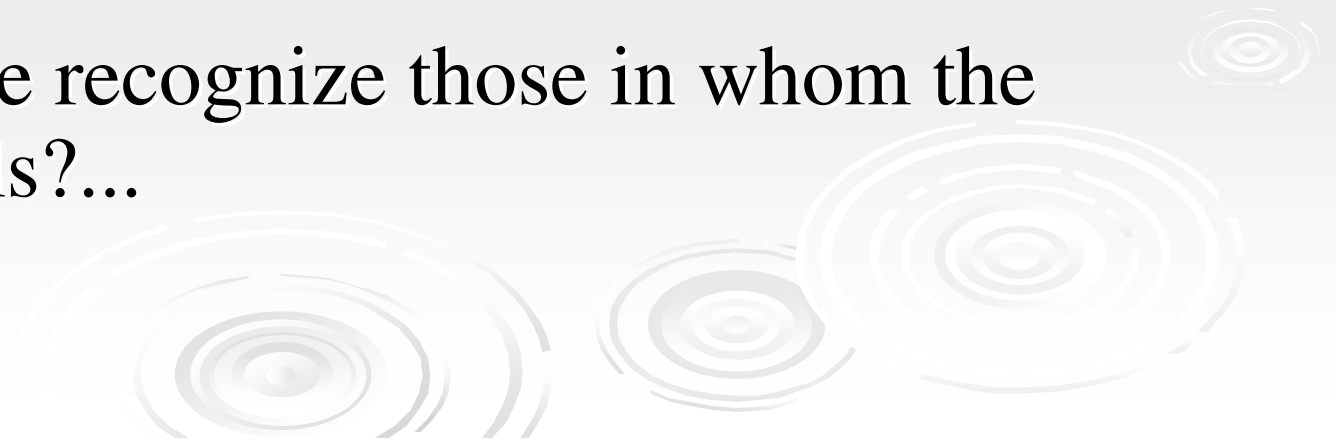
I will put my Spirit inside you and cause you to live by my laws, respect my rulings and obey them.”

Ezekiel 36:25-27



The Holy Spirit

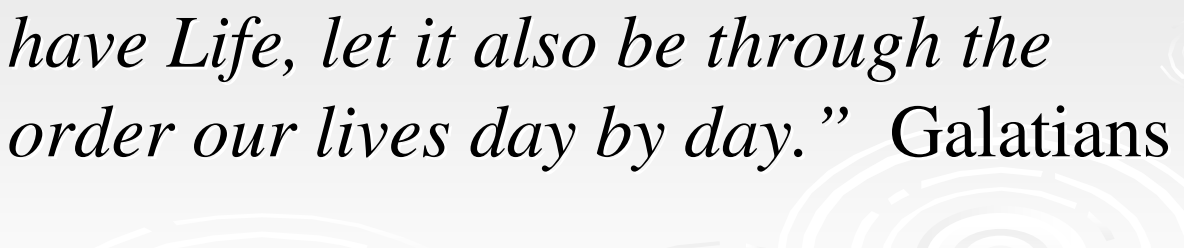
- Is available to you once you become a believer and are immersed.
- Immersion in the mikveh as a new believer is symbolic of dying in your own flesh, but resurrecting as *a new creation with the same resurrection power G-D used to raise Yeshua from the dead.*
- How can we recognize those in whom the Spirit dwells?...



The Fruit of the Spirit

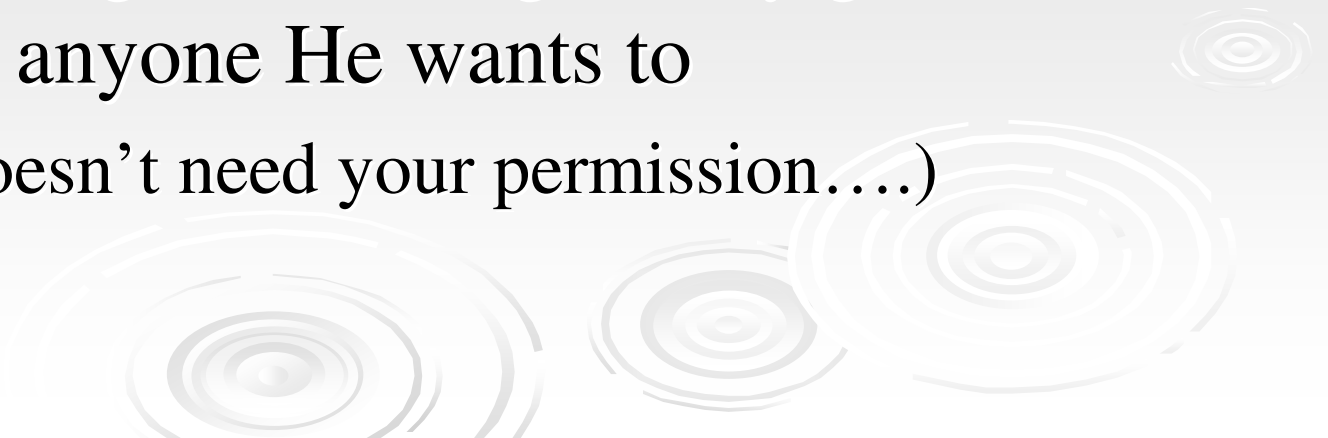
“But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, humility, self control. Nothing in the Torah stands against such things.

Moreover, those who belong to the Messiah Yeshua have put their old nature to death on the stake, along with its passions and desires. Since it is through the Spirit that we have Life, let it also be through the Spirit that we order our lives day by day.” Galatians 5:22-25



What about “the Gifts”

- Rav Shaul makes it clear that we are each given different giftings and anointings.
- No one gift is “the test” of the Holy Spirit’s presence in your life (for that, look back at the “Fruits of the Spirit”).
- G-D is sovereign, and can give any gift He wants to, to anyone He wants to
 - (and He doesn’t need your permission....)



What about Baruch HaShem Messianic Synagogue?

- What manifestations of the Spirit can I expect to see at Baruch HaShem?...
- G-D is sovereign.
- Remember, our G-D is a G-D of order, and expects His gifts to be used *only for the building up of the Body of Messiah.*



For the Common Good

- Now there are different kinds of gifts, but the same Spirit gives them. Also there are different ways of serving, but it is the same Lord being served. And there are different modes of working, but it is the same God working them all in everyone. Moreover, to each person is given the particular manifestation of the Spirit that will be for the common good. (1 Corinthians 12:4-7 cjb)

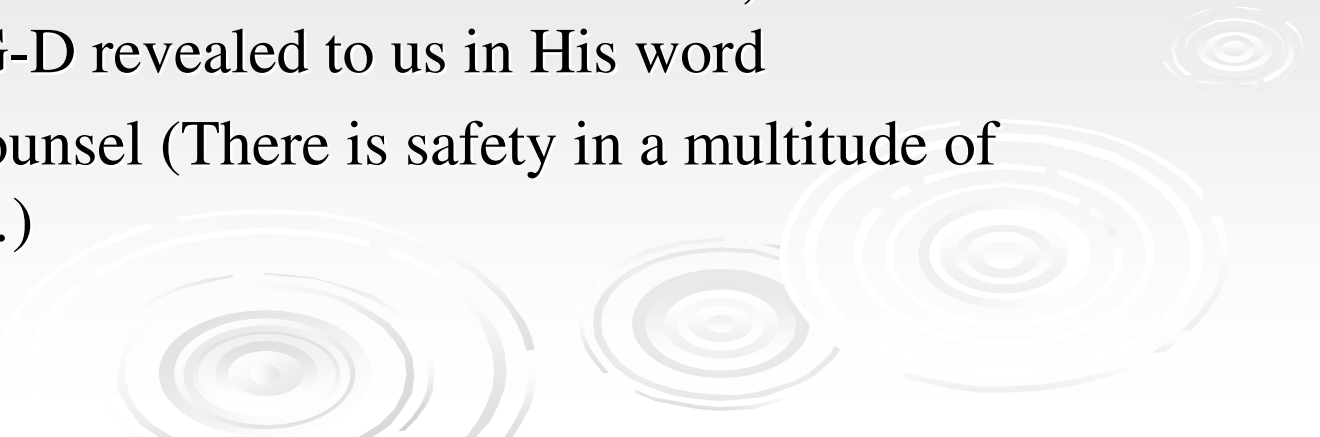


Parts of the Body

- Romans 12:3-8 cjb For I am telling every single one of you, through the grace that has been given to me, not to have exaggerated ideas about your own importance. Instead, develop a sober estimate of yourself based on the standard which God has given to each of you, namely, trust.
- (4) For just as there are many parts that compose one body, but the parts don't all have the same function; (5) so there are many of us, and in union with the Messiah we comprise one body, with each of us belonging to the others. (6) But we have gifts that differ and which are meant to be used according to the grace that has been given to us.
- If your gift is prophecy, use it to the extent of your trust; (7) if it is serving, use it to serve; if you are a teacher, use your gift in teaching; (8) if you are a counselor, use your gift to comfort and exhort; if you are someone who gives, do it simply and generously; if you are in a position of leadership, lead with diligence and zeal; if you are one who does acts of mercy, do them cheerfully.

Test the spirits

- There are many ruachim; only One *Ruach HaKodesh*
- “*Dear Friends, don’t trust every spirit. On the contrary, test the spirits to see whether they are from G-D; because many false prophets have gone out into the world.*” 1 John 4:1
- How do we test the spirits?
 - Compare what we hear with the character, instruction and wisdom of G-D revealed to us in His word
 - Seek wise counsel (There is safety in a multitude of counselors...)



Want More?

- Check out Rabbi Marty's Sermon series on "The Holy Spirit."

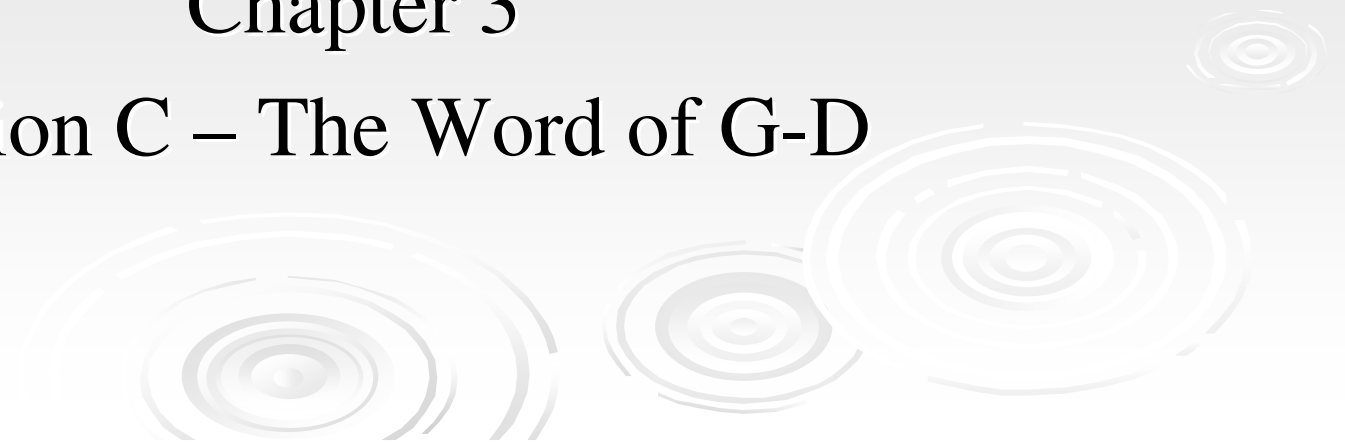


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Section C – The Word of G-D



The Word of G-D

- Written by 40 writers (or so) by the inspiration of the Holy Spirit over a span of 2000 years.
- The fulfilled prophecy of the Bible is itself evidence of its supernatural character
- Archaeological accuracy of the Bible is proven over & over.



The Word of G-D

- Yeshua Himself taught the full inspiration of the Tenakh in Mathew 5:17-18
- Matthew 5:17-18 cjb *"Don't think that I have come to abolish the Torah or the Prophets. I have come not to abolish but to complete. (18) Yes indeed! I tell you that until heaven and earth pass away, not so much as a yud or a stroke will pass from the Torah -- not until everything that must happen has happened.*
- Yeshua gave teaching authority and his anointing to his talmidim.
- The New Testament/Covenant (*B'rit Chadashah*) books are those penned by the talmidim of Yeshua, or those accepted into their circle of authority.

Read the Scriptures *daily*

- ...in order to grow
- ...for strength
- ...for wisdom
- ...to test the spirits
- ...to understand the mind and will of G-D
- ...to declare the Truth to be true

