**SANCTIFICATION**

 ***Written by: Tommy Romans April 2016***

**II Thessalonians 2:13** – But we are bound to give thanks always to God for you, brethren beloved of the Lord, because God hath from the beginning Chosen you to Salvation through SANCTIFICATION of the Spirit and belief of the Truth.

As you read this Newsletter, ask God to reveal His mind to you – His Purpose and Will in your life! Surely the Lord has a place He wants to bring you to in Him, that He can fill you, anoint and use you to bring Him glory.

**THE MINISTRY OF THE HOLY GHOST**

The Bible calls Him (the sweet Holy Ghost) the Spirit of Truth and Holiness. Jesus said He is a teacher and reprover that will guide you into all Righteousness. The Holy Ghost’s very emblem in scripture is a clean, gentle, snow white Dove! He is so very important that you will never make it to God’s good Heaven without Him!! Let’s look at His commission and work:

Jesus could only be in one place at a time in His earthly ministry. He told His disciples – “I came to Redeem. I’m going to the Cross, they’re going to drive nails through my hands and feet and pierce my side. My blood will flow to atone for sin. Yes, I will die and

give my life for you. They’ll put me in a grave, but the grave will not hold me. I’m coming out with all power over death, Hell and the Grave. Children, I’m going back to my throne in Heaven at the right hand of my Father. It is expedient (very needful for you) that I go. I will not leave you comfortless, (will not forsake you and leave you as orphans) but I will pray to the Father and He shall give you another Comforter that He may abide with you forever, even the Spirit of Truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it seeth Him not, neither knoweth Him; but ye know Him, for He dwelleth with you and shall be in you.”

Oh what a Helper and grand Guest we have! His job is to reveal Jesus and transform us to be like Him! It is He who brings us to the saving knowledge of Christ. He brings Conviction, shows you your sinful state, how you have broken God’s laws and heart, shows you just how lost you are without Him. Thank God He touches your heart and reveals to you the Love of the Creator. Then Grace leads you to repentance and conversion.

**NOW THE WORK BEGINS**

**A WORK INSIDE AND OUT**

After the Holy Spirit of God draws you to Christ, He does not leave you – **He does not give up on you!**

You are God’s workmanship created in Christ Jesus unto good works. When the Holy Ghost enters your heart at the new birth, He Transforms you from the inside out! The work always starts inside your heart first and works its way outward! O that Blessed, happy state of fullness, joy and power the Holy Ghost wants to bring us to that will reveal God’s Divine nature and Holiness!! When you are born again, your very heart, (your spirit) experiences a new birth. You become a new creature, a new creation inside. Old things are passed away and all things become **new**. The things you use to love, you now hate and the things you use to shun, you now love and desire. Christ and the Holy Ghost has now taken up residence in your heart. You know that you are a Child of God because the Holy Ghost bears witness with your spirit that you belong to Him! And from then on, He will lead you and guide you into all Truth and righteousness. For as many as are led by the Spirit of God they are the Sons (and daughters) of God!!

If you ever doubt God’s ability to change you and make out of you a beautiful Holy vessel of praise, just look at His transforming power in creation! In the beginning this big earth was nothing but one blob of water in space. The whole planet was without form and void. There was no beauty. It was empty, useless, ugly and nothing but utter darkness was upon the face of the deep. Then the Spirit of God moved upon the face of the waters. (The Holy Ghost hovered over it in Divine Power) God said, “Let there be light” and the darkness fled away and it became day! Everything you see today – the majestic mountains, valleys of green, fields of flowers, lakes and singing brooks, blue skies and golden sunsets is the evidence of what the Spirit can do! When God speaks, the Spirit moves, He works and performs.

**THE HOLY GHOST IS MAKING UP THE**

**BRIDE OF CHRIST**

Right now the Holy Spirit is getting the Church, the Bride of Christ ready. His job is to **Sanctify** her. He is seeking to draw each of us closer to the Lord. He separates us from the world and draws us out of it. He sets us apart from things that defile the mind and body. He (the Spirit) reveals things in our life that we need to lay aside to make us more like Jesus. He is coming very soon for a Bride that is without spot, blemish or wrinkle, coming for a people who have been washed in the Blood of the Lamb and made clean. He wants His children to be Holy and adorned in the Garment of Salvation. You must listen to the Holy Ghost. He will help you prepare. He’ll speak to you what you need to do that you might stand before the Lord in Righteousness and without fault.

**YOUR BODY – A TEMPLE**

**OF THE HOLY GHOST**

**I Corinthians 6:19** – What? Know ye not that your body is the Temple of the Holy Ghost which is in you, which ye have of God, and ye are not your own? **Vs. 20** – For ye are bought with a price: Therefore glorify God in your body and in your spirit which are Gods.

God seeks for vessels that are Sanctified and meet (fit for the Masters use), those who have separated themselves from the world and its lustful entertainments. He wants to pour His Spirit into these Holy Vessels and show the world His Salvation, Holiness and Power.

**PRESENTING YOUR BODY**

I can hear the Holy Ghost crying and yearning through Paul to born again believers: > **Romans 12:1** – I beseech you (I beg, I plead with you) brethren by the mercies of God that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, Holy and acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service. **Vs 2** – And be not Conformed to this world: (Don’t let the world influence you and pull you into its mold to make you look like, dress like, act and talk like it!) But be ye Transformed by the Renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God.

**MAN IS A TRIUNE BEING**

**I Thess. 5:23** – And the very God of peace Sanctify you wholly (completely, fully); and I pray God your whole spirit, and soul, and body be preserved Blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Did you know you are a spirit, you have a soul and you live in a body? There are three parts that make up your life! Peter called your spirit the hidden man of the heart. The Holy Ghost through Paul said you have an inward man that is renewed day by day.

**YOUR HEART – SPIRIT**

Your spirit is the inward part of you that knows. It is the part of you that is aware of spiritual things, the part of you that is in contact with the spirit world. Listen close: It is in your spirit being, right in the very center of your heart is where your Will and Conscience lies. It is in this very inner being where Jesus and the Holy Ghost seek residence. When the Lord enters, He wants the Will – you see, in the Will that’s deep within your heart is where you make your choices - how you will live, what you will do, where you will go, what you desire, what you like or don’t like. **If God gets your Will, He’s got all of you**!

This is where the Holy Ghost abides. He seeks residence in the Heart.

How many of you reading this can say – I want to be willing? Lord, help me to be willing! Jesus, I know I have felt you tugging at my heart! Jesus stands at the door and knocks – will you open to Him and let Him enter? He has come to your door many times and knocked, have you felt Him? You say – yes, I know the Holy Spirit has dealt with me. He has showed me that part of my heart that I was holding back and wasn’t willing to totally surrender. I know I must! He wants all of me, wants my Will and I must give it to Him! I know I’ll never be happy until I do. The Holy Ghost cried out through the prophet Isaiah – “If ye be willing and obedient, ye shall eat the good of the Land.” Lord, I want victory in my soul! I want your joy and power. Help me make that surrender – ALL OF MY HEART!

**THE SOUL**

You might say – what is the soul? The spirit and the soul make up the inner man. Your Soul is where the seat of emotions are. It is the part of you that **feels** sadness or gladness; sorrow or joy and happiness. It is the soul that is troubled which brings tears to the eyes or it feels peace that brings a smile. Your soul will either be sad or glad but it depends upon the condition of your heart! Can you say – I want my Soul to rejoice? I want to be happy in the Lord! When the Heart is surrendered to the Lord and obedient, then the Soul will rejoice!

When the Holy Ghost gets your Heart and Will, He will begin to take you deeper in the things of God. He will deal with you, show you the things that please God and also the things that displease Him. He’ll reveal what’s acceptable and what’s not acceptable. He helps you gain ground and strength in spiritual things. The Holy Spirit within your Heart will monitor your actions, your speech and your attitudes. He will correct you and gently train you to make you more and more like Jesus, to draw you closer to Him and away from the influence of worldly things that defile and corrupt. He wants you **Sanctified.**

Deep within your spirit, (heart) is where your conscience is! When you do something wrong and displeasing to the Lord, the Holy Ghost in you will gouge you. He pricks your conscience and makes you feel bad over it! Always keep your heart tender and receptive to the voice of God. **The Holy Ghost is His voice!** So thank God children, when He corrects you! He’ll take you to Heaven if you let Him. The very best thing you have this side of eternity is your Hearts Conscience, be careful how you treat it!! **Grieve** not the Holy Spirit; **Quench** not the Spirit, the Sweet Holy Ghost!!

**WHAT IS IT THAT’S HOLDING YOU BACK?**

**NOW WE COME TO THE – (BODY)**

So now you are saved and born again. You know that the Holy Ghost abides in your heart. You want to please the Lord and serve Him but you find something standing in your way, it hinders you, you face it every day, it seeks to hold you back. What is it?

Did you know your biggest enemy is not the Devil? It is the **Flesh**, the unredeemed outward man with the old Adamic sinful nature. It’s called the body of sin and its carnal appetites go after lustful forbidden things. When you were converted and saved, the Blood of Jesus was applied to your heart but not your body. The great Apostle Paul said it well: I die daily, every day I crucify myself, that is – I bring my body under subjection to the Spirit of God. I delight in the Law of God after the inward man, but there’s another law in my members, warring against the law of my mind, seeking to bring me into captivity to the law of sin which is in my members. I’m in a struggle. There’s a warfare going on in me so that I cannot do the things that I would. With my mind, I serve the Law of God, but with the flesh, the law of sin. I have found that when I would do good, sin is always present with me and I must mortify, crucify the flesh with its affections and lusts. Paul was saying: My flesh is earthly, it is carnal and prone to sin. I know I’ve been born again. Christ lives in my heart and I have the Holy Ghost abiding within. But though I’ve been redeemed inwardly and the Blood of Jesus washed me clean, I still carry the old Paul everywhere I go. I must be on guard continually. I must shun this worlds ungodly influence. I must abstain from the very appearance of evil.

**THE FLESH HAS A VOICE**

Listen, we live in a world that is geared toward greed and lust, pride and covetousness of every kind. As we go about, we are constantly bombarded with sights and sounds, images and influence that give our bodies and its five senses a voice! The old carnal fleshly man will talk to you if you listen to it. It will take you away from God and into Satan’s domain of sin.

I want to say to everyone and especially the young converts who haven’t been saved very long, just because you struggle and you battle in your flesh, does not mean that you’re not saved!! Jesus told His very own disciples their spirit was willing but their flesh was weak. Thank God you feel bad when you slip – that’s the Holy Ghost that checks you. He will convict you when you fail or come short. When the flesh trips you up, then the devil comes and tells you that you are no good, you have failed, you’re not worthy, you ain’t saved, you might as well quit. NO! NO! NO! Jesus loves you dearly. Don’t you dare give up because you battle and feel weak! The enemy wants you discouraged and to quit. But the Holy Spirit says: Get alone with God, seek His face, Pray, read His Word, give up a meal or two and the Holy Ghost in you will give you overcoming power!!

**It all boils down to this: Which one is stronger – your spirit inside or your outward man? The Spirit or the Flesh?** Paul wrote to the Galatians: **5:16** – Walk in the Spirit and ye shall not fulfill the lust of the flesh. **Vs. 17** – For the Flesh lusteth (warreth) against the Spirit and the Spirit against the Flesh and these are contrary the one to the other, so that ye cannot do the things that ye would. The unredeemed flesh and the Spirit are at odds with one another. You are very much aware there is a struggle going on inside of you when you seek to live for God and do His Will. You must cast down imaginations and pull down strongholds!

**THE DOG AND THE DOVE**

**(Taken from a little booklet by Bill Burkett)**

Once upon a time there was a man who lived all alone. He was lonely and wanted entertainment – something to keep him company, so he went out and found a cute little cuddly Black Puppy and brought it home. Surely it will fill the empty spot and entertain him. Now he has something to pay attention to and occupy him. O how cute and innocent! Each day he would play with the puppy. He held it, petted it, he cuddled it, it lay on his lap and loved every bit of his attention. It seemed to fill the void in his life. He gave the puppy his time. Day by day he fed it and the puppy grew and grew. As time went by it soon grew into a big black Dog that soon marked his home and claimed it as his territory!

 Then one morning he noticed a beautiful White Dove perched on his window sill outside his window. Each morning it came and sat looking through the glass at him. It was a lovely sight – this gentle Dove brought a feeling of peace to him. One morning he opened his window and put some grains of seed on a table and invited the Dove in. It came in at his invitation. He soon fell in love with the Dove and the peace that came with it. The man decided He would keep the Dove as a pet also! O but there was trouble. The man now discovers he has a huge problem. The big black Dog is jealous of the Dove. He leaps at it, barking with angry fury as if to say – “you’re not coming in this house! I was here first. You will have to leave, I am staying.” The man tried to keep the Dove from the Dog because it lunged at it every chance it got.

 The man loved the Dove so much, he decided he’d get rid of the Dog. But he couldn’t get the big strong Dog to leave his house. He tried sweet talking it, even bribing it with morsels of meat to coax it out the door but it didn’t work. He tried force, grabbed the Dog by the collar but it growled and snapped at him. It clawed him and stiffened with resolution as if to say – you got me and I’m not leaving!!

 He made a trip to the veterinarian and told him his problem and asked him what to do. The veterinarian said – “that’s simple, just get rid of the Dove.” The man went back home heart broken. The Dove had won his heart and he wanted to keep it. When the man opened his door and walked in, the big Dog was standing over the Dove. Feathers were everywhere and there was blood on the floor. This gentle sweet Dove had been wounded. The man kicked the Dog across the room and bent down and picked up the wounded Dove, took it in the other room and gently tended to it. He gave it food and set water by it and left the room and closed the door. He came back to the living room and said to the Dog – “I’ll get rid of you if it’s the last thing I do! I’d rather have this Heavenly Dove! I regret the day I brought you in here and let you have the run of my house. I have petted you, held and catered to you, let you have the run of my house, played with you and I have **fed you**……” Then the man froze with thought. He then stares down at the Dog and says – “Why didn’t I think of that before? Your days are now numbered. You expect me to pet you and feed you, but I’ve quit. I will be your master from now on!” With great confidence and a faith that rose up inside, he goes to the kitchen, gathers all the bags and cans of dog food, reaches down and scoops up the dog’s food and water bowl and throws them in the trash. He then went and spent time feeding and tending to the Dove with great care!

 The man then goes and stretches out in his recliner. The Dog circles his chair wanting attention, but he ignores it. He looks down at the strong-willed Dog and says: “Now I’m your master! You expect me to feed you but I have quit.” The next morning he sits down for breakfast and the Dog circles the table, looking up at him as if to say, “why ain’t you feeding me? Why ain’t you giving me any attention? You don’t pet me or play with me anymore!” But he ignores him. He finishes eating and slips away into the other room and feeds the Dove. The Dog keeps begging, it circles his bed at night whining for attention, to be fed and petted, but he knows he must have a made-up mind and be determined. He has resolved in his heart to keep the Dove and get rid of the Dog.

 Several days go by. Each morning he awakens with renewed confidence and peace. He fed and cared for the Dove and starved the Dog. He knew the only way he could conquer the strong demanding Dog was to starve him down to the point that he would have no more rule and control of his house, then he would put him out where he belonged! (You all feeling sorry for the Dog yet? Remember, the Dog is the outward man with its carnal, fleshly, worldly and sinful appetites!)

 The man finally lost all concern for the Dog. The Dove won his heart. Each day he fed and tended the lovely gentle Dove and starved the Dog. The day finally came and he knew it. He woke this particular morning and it seemed the sun shined in its strength. He felt total victory had come! The Dog had no more resistance left. Now with great confidence, he walked over to the weakened Dog, got hold of his collar, led him across the floor, over the threshold and out the door to the back yard where he belonged. He goes back inside. It feels like he has a new home. He goes to where he fed the Dove, opens the door and lets the Dove free. Now it has full access to his whole house and O what peace!!

 This is the key to victory, a Spiritual secret that when fully understood, will bring a longed for change in your life!! Listen, in every me there are two selves. Each of us possess two life natures. Each nature has its own personality. Each one has its likes and dislikes, which one will you feed? Every day, your body is in contact with the world around you. Your flesh is the only thing that stands between you and Heaven. Don’t forget, we live in a Godless generation with every form of evil imaginable. Amazing when you spell God backward you get D O G! There’s not much difference between the carnal man and a Dog. They go and run on impulse with their nose to the ground, get in garbage cans, fight, eat what doesn’t belong to them, mate openly without shame, mess in beautiful places and it doesn’t bother them. No wander they call bad men Dogs in this adulterous and sodomite generation. Humans with Dog natures will not be welcome in Heaven. **Rev. 22** – Blessed are they that do His commandments that they may enter in through the gates into the city, for without are Dogs. While the Redeemed are rejoicing, greedy Dogs will be yipping outside the pearly gates but will never enter. In each of us there is a Dog nature and a Dove nature. Which one of them is stronger? The Holy Ghost and Heaven tugs at your heart while the world pulls from the outside. So what am I going to do? I will starve the Dog that the Dove may get stronger. Please PRAY and God will show you all the Dog food you must get rid of then you’ll find the battle will be won. For any form of life to live, it must be fed. You feed the life you want to live and starve the life you want to die. **When you try to feed both**, it makes the struggle almost unbearable. If you don’t want the carnal life to be strong, stop feeding it! Your diet will determine your destiny. Doves don’t eat garbage, Dogs do! It will take discipline, which one do you want? ***GOD BLESS All!***