

The Kingdom of the Middle Ground

I am in the Tree of Life, but I am still functioning as if I am in the tree of the Knowledge of Good and Evil.

I(Satan)
Eph. 2:2-3

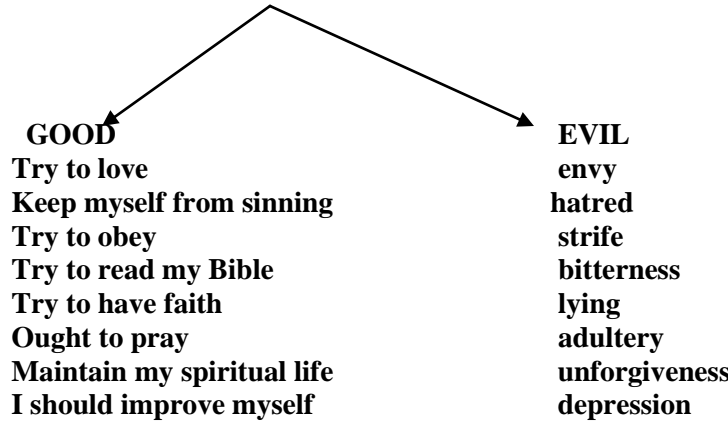
Who we were

Romans 7

Independent-self is Satan
I can do good (I alone) by
Self effort

I(Christ)
Gal. 2:20

Who we are



We Christians are in Christ, who is the tree of life, yet we still operate as if we are separate beings operating from the reality of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. We were Satan indwelt humans, and now through the Cross, we are Christ indwelt humans, but most of us Christians function as if we are self-indwelt and live by our own supposed self-sufficiencies. This quality of life expresses itself in the following patterns: “I have condemnation, because I have a self who should try to do good, but can’t. I don’t have the power to keep myself from evil, nor can I do enough good to please God. I have no inner rest. I am

threatened and often live with insecurities, and fears. I live under the 'should's and ought's' of the law. I am always trying to become better, but I am never satisfied with myself. I am a very needy self. I never have enough of Jesus' love, peace, long-suffering, because I'm trying to produce the fruits of the Spirit. I find it hard to keep everything and everybody under control, but the worst is trying to control myself. I tend to be co-dependent, I am either trying to control, or I am being controlled. I live protecting myself by staying in my own comfort zone. I don't know how to draw boundaries, and when I don't, others steamroll me into doing things that I end up hating. It is so easy for me to blame others, and not look at myself. I have Christian expectations for others and when they don't come through to what I think is right, then I get disappointed, angry and hurt. That is why I feel justified when I criticize others, being I was right. All of life is centered in on **me**, (how I feel, or what I think). I'm always comparing myself with others, and I even feel competitive with other Christians. Yet, as I analysis myself, as I so often do, I come short of the Christians that I so admire, and try to be like. I am always trying to perform my best, because I think that my performance is why God accepts me, yet, jealous, pride, tempers, lust, and fears controls me. I don't have victory over these passions, because they rule me. I'm always trying to impress

others with what I know, but when I do, I seem phony. I live in worries concerning my body, my health, my future, my finances, and my marriage, etc. I am over attached to things and people, especially my family. I have self-hatred, I am self-centered, I am self-conscious, I have false humility, or I'm trying to build myself up. I have self-pity—'old poor me, or what is wrong with me,' is my constant thinking. I always have to be right when there is an argument, I'm afraid when I am wrong, then people will find out, so I get defensive. I'm always finding a need to justify myself. I am more miserable as a Christian, than when I was a sinner. I live a lot of the time in the negative, I am sin-conscious, devil-conscious, and self-conscious. I am judgmental about others, and when others don't live up to my expectations, I cut them off--either physically, or emotionally or both. I am afraid that others won't like me, so I try to please them by doing nice things, but it doesn't work. I am always seeking more of God. I worry about my reputation--I don't want people to think I am wrong, or have done wrong. I wear a bracelet saying W.W.J.D. to remind myself of how to act, but the more I try to imitate Jesus the more I end up acting like the devil. My prayer life is more asking, than it is believing, and it seems like it doesn't go any higher than my ceiling. I am always trying to maintain my own spiritual temperature by doing good things like reading my Bible, going to

church, and praying, but it never seems to work. The more I try to conquer my passions, and tempers the more I fall into sin--that is why I call myself, a saved sinner. I feel like a victim--I often say to myself, "why did this happen to me again?" Sometimes, I feel paranoid, like most people are against me. I feel abandoned, rejected, and not loved by God. I am always trying to find my place in the Christian world--something that will make me feel good about myself. I feel guilty, but confessing my sins doesn't help. I never feel at home anywhere, at church, at my office, at school, even at in my own house. I am restless, I have fleeting peace, and I am threatened and insecure, but I try to hide it.

Does this describe your life? Or maybe, you can't identify with all of these many symptoms, but if you can identify with most, or even some of them, you are probably living in the "Kingdom of the Middle Ground."¹

Take heart, I do have good news for you, these thoughts and feelings are not who you are. Yes, it inundates your mind, and monopolizes your feelings, but praise the Lord, it is not who you really are. If you are a Christian, you are joined to Christ, and the real you is He. You are experiencing flesh pulls from Satan. He speaks to us in **first person** and lies to us concerning our true

¹ As Spirit person we can be tempted with any of these thoughts and feelings, but we live free from their domination. As we recognize that Christ, is our real life, as well as acknowledge these flesh temptations as from Satan, then acceptance and faith replaces striving and fear as the light of the truth swallows up the darkness.

See charts # 32-34.

identity. If you live in these flesh feelings, and satanic thoughts, as the Bible says, “you will die.”

You can't get out of the Kingdom of the Middle Ground until you can say by faith that “**you are dead.**” You are “dead to sin,” as well as “**dead to the law.**” Dead to sin, because Christ was made sin on your behalf (II Corinthians 5:21) therefore you were made the righteousness of Christ. You are not what you think, or feel, you are who God says about you. Romans 6:2 says that you are “dead to sin.”

You are dead to the outer law which presupposes that you have the power to overcome, and now seeing that you are powerless (because you are dead) to overcome these thoughts and feelings, the law has no hold on you. The human cannot produce the power to overcome the flesh, where the devil voice is heard, but we humans can put our faith in the one Jesus Christ, who is the power and has already overcome, the flesh, the devil, and the world. Then, the Spirit will put to death all these “Middle Ground,” lies.

We learn through the analogies of “Slaves,” and “Branches” that we never exercise any kind of **in between life** as self-operators. We experience these symptoms simply because we are living in an illusionary false kingdom. There is no such kingdom

unless we believe the lies voiced there. If we do believe the lies, it becomes a reality in us, even though it is a lie and an illusion.

We are slaves of either one (Satan/sin) or the other (righteousness/Christ), but we never, never have had a life of our own doing some good and some bad. That is the insidious lie, and a vast human delusion premeditating our minds, and therefore putting us squarely into Satan's hands.

There is "NO YOU" with an in-between life of your own. That "YOU" is Satan disguised as you, and not the new creation you joined to Christ. God is calling us to rise out of the Middle Ground and He wants to lift us up to live on the Higher Ground of Spirit reality and Spirit identity.

Published by:
Christ, Our Life Ministries
PO Box 43268
Louisville, Ky. 40253

www.theliberatingsecret.org

sylviap@theliberatingsecret.org
502-245-4581