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Sermon by Prophet Kobus van Rensburg

HOW IMPORTANT IS YOUR BODY?

We are living in a day where people are very aware of eating right and exercising. How important is our body? We assume that the body is only flesh, but we are actually spiritual beings. It is also generally accepted that when you get older, there are things that come with age like arthritis, deafness and heart problems, but what does God's Word say about all these things. Two examples from scripture:

1. When Moses was hundred and twenty years old, his power did not diminish and his ears did not grow dull.
2. When Caleb was ninety-six, he asked for the mountains and climbed it.

OUR BODIES ARE THE TEMPLE OF THE LIVING GOD

1 Corinthians 3:16-17 (KJV) Know ye not that ye are the temple of God, and [that] the Spirit of God dwelleth in you? If any man defile the temple of God, him shall God destroy; for the temple of God is holy, which [temple] ye are.

1 Corinthians 6:19 (KJV) 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?

2 Corinthians 6:16 (KJV) And what agreement hath the temple of God with idols? for ye are the temple of the living God; as God hath said, I will dwell in them, and walk in [them]; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people.

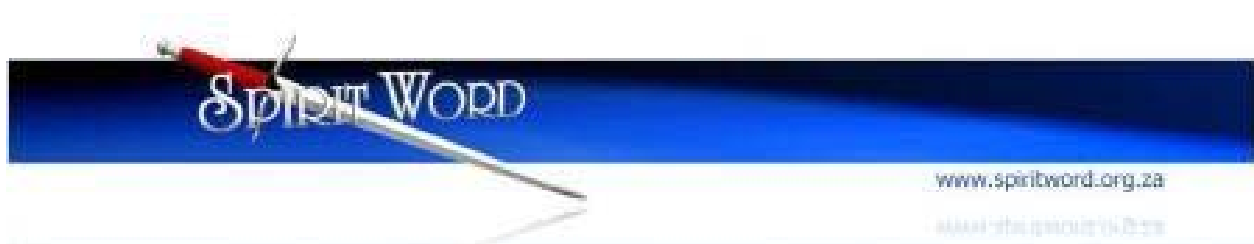
Romans 12:1 (KJV) I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, [which is] your reasonable service.

God wants your body as a living sacrifice and not a dead sacrifice. When sacrifices were brought in the temple in the Old Testament, the animals had to be slaughtered before the offer was brought, but now God wants our bodies as living sacrifices. We are the temple as well as a sacrifice in the temple. We are God's possession.

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Genesis 1:26-27 declare that God made man in His image and in His likeness and He formed them out of the dust of the earth. Man was formed in God's image, but man was still dead. It is generally accepted that when we talk about image, it is in the spiritual realm, but man did not have breath, spirit or a soul in him when God formed him in His image and likeness. The Hebrew words for image and likeness refers to physical form and not spiritual likeness. After that God breathed on man and he stood up a living soul. He looked like God when he still had no spirit or soul. Your body was made in His image, in His likeness and that should be an indication of the importance of your body.

When Adam stood up a living being, he did not walk around with crutches and neither did Eve have squint eyes. They were perfect. Sin entered and sickness came with it and we find that from Adam to Moses death reigned, from Moses to Christ the Law reigned and from Christ on, grace is reigning. The Law could not bring us back to our original form and so couldn't death. The last enemy to be conquered is death.

A BODY PREPARED FOR JESUS AS A SACRIFICE

Hebrews 10:5-10 (Amplified) Hence, when He [Christ] entered into the world, He said, Sacrifices and offerings You have not desired, but instead You have MADE READY A BODY for Me [to offer]. In burnt offerings and sin offerings You have taken no delight. Then I said, Behold, here I am, COMING TO DO YOUR WILL, O God-[to fulfill] what is written of Me in the volume of the Book. [Psalm 40:6-8]. When He said just before, You have neither desired, nor have You taken delight in sacrifices and offerings and burnt offerings and sin offerings-all of which are offered according to the Law- He then went on to say, Behold, [here] I am, coming to DO YOUR WILL. Thus He DID AWAY with and annuls THE FIRST (former) order [as a means of expiating sin] so that He might inaugurate and ESTABLISH THE SECOND (latter) order. [Psalm 40:6-8]. And in accordance with this will [of God], we have been made holy (consecrated and sanctified) through the offering made once for all of THE BODY OF JESUS CHRIST (the Anointed One).

When Jesus came into the earth, He said that a body was prepared for Him and this body's purpose was to do the will of the Father. This body was to take away the first, which was the Adamic order and to establish the second, which is Christ.



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1 Corinthians 15:48-49 (KJV) As [is] the earthy, such [are] they also that are earthy: and as [is] the heavenly, such [are] they also that are heavenly. And as we have borne the image of the earthy, we shall also bear the image of the heavenly.

Christ became the second man, but the last Adam. The body that was prepared for Jesus was to be the final sacrifice. His Body was killed and became the final sacrifice; no other sacrifice can ever be made again. From the minute Jesus died a new order came into place and now there are only living sacrifices. The living sacrifices have the nature of Christ and not the nature of Adam. We do not have the Adamic nature any more, because Jesus took away the first to establish the second. He did it through the final sacrifice of His body once and for all.

John 1:14,17 (KJV) And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,) full of grace and truth. For the law was given by Moses, [but] grace and truth came by Jesus Christ.

Out of His fullness of grace we have received grace for grace. Grace was given to us to bring us to the establishment of the second man, which is Christ so that we do not have to sit with what Adam lost, but we can have what Christ gained.

Romans 8:3 (Amplified) For God has done what the LAW COULD NOT DO, [its power] being weakened by the flesh [the entire nature of man without the Holy Spirit]. Sending His own Son in the guise of SINFUL FLESH and as an OFFERING FOR SIN, [God] CONDEMNED SIN IN THE FLESH [subdued, overcame, deprived it of its power over all who ACCEPT THAT SACRIFICE], [Leviticus 7:37].

The Law could not bring us to perfection, because it was weakened by the flesh or the nature of Adam. Jesus was sent in sinful flesh and became the sacrifice. In that flesh, He condemned sin. Sickness and sin have no power any more when you accept the sacrifice of the body of Jesus Christ. Jesus came in the flesh body to do the will of the Father. Our bodies are so important that Jesus came and died in a body.

GOD BECAME FLESH



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Acts 2:29-30 (KJV) Men and brethren let me freely speak unto you of the patriarch David, that he is both dead and buried, and his sepulchre is with us unto this day. Therefore being a prophet, and knowing that God had sworn with an oath to him, that of the FRUIT OF HIS LOINS, according to the FLESH, he would raise up CHRIST to SIT ON HIS THRONE...

Out of the fruit of flesh would come, "The Christ", to sit on the throne. Christ came and sat on the throne in a fleshly body.

Romans 1:3-4 (KJV) Concerning his Son Jesus Christ our Lord, which was made of the seed of David according to the flesh; And declared to be the Son of God with power, according to the spirit of holiness, by the resurrection from the dead:

1 Timothy 3:16 (KJV) 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.

Angels did not see God before that. 1 Timothy 1:17 declares that God is the king immortal, invisible and the only wise God. God is invisible and He decided to make Himself seen and prepared Himself a body of flesh to come and dwell amongst the people and we beheld His Glory. He prepared a body for the Word to come and live in flesh. God wants to be seen. He took a body like ours, because man had a body like His in the beginning. In that body, He condemned sin and deprived sin of its power. When Christ was born, the angels said: "Peace on the earth! Goodwill to men!" God was seen of men and angels. The unseen God decided to make Himself seen and prepared a body.

HIS FLESH DID NOT SEE CORRUPTION

Acts 2:31-32 (KJV) He seeing this before spoke of the resurrection of Christ, that his soul was not left in hell, NEITHER HIS FLESH DID SEE CORRUPTION. This Jesus hath God raised up, whereof we all are witnesses.

Jesus did not die spiritually, but in the flesh. Jesus had a spirit, a soul and a body. When He died, He committed His Spirit into the hands of the Father. His Spirit therefore went to the Father, His soul went to hell and His body went to the grave. His body died, but His soul went to hell where He preached to the spirits in the prison.

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1 Peter 3:19-20 (KJV) By which also he went and preached unto the spirits in prison; Which sometime were disobedient, when once the longsuffering of God waited in the days of Noah, while the ark was a preparing, wherein few, that is, eight souls were saved by water.

In His soul He went to hell to preach to the spirits and His body did not see corruption.

Acts 2:27 (KJV) Because thou wilt not leave my soul in hell, neither wilt thou suffer thine Holy One to see corruption.

Romans 8:11 (KJV) But if the Spirit of him that raised up Jesus from the dead dwell in you, he that raised up Christ from the dead shall also quicken your mortal bodies by his Spirit that dwelleth in you.

The same Spirit that He sent to the Father that raised Him from the dead now dwells in us and He will quicken our mortal bodies. Jesus sent His Spirit to the Father and His Body went to the grave, but His soul went to hell to preach there and not to suffer there. He already suffered on the cross. When He said that it is finished, it was finished. No corruption was in his Body, because God has prepared Him a Body. That Spirit that raised that Body from the dead now dwells in us and will quicken our bodies as Jesus' Body was quickened. Jesus did not come out of the tomb with cancers and limping; He came out in perfection.

HIS SPIRIT UPON ALL FLESH

Acts 2:32-33 (KJV) This Jesus hath God raised up, whereof we all are witnesses. Therefore being by the right hand of God exalted, and having received of the Father the PROMISE OF THE HOLY GHOST, he hath shed forth this, which you now see and hear.

Acts 2:16-17(a) (KJV) But THIS IS THAT which was spoken by the prophet Joel; And it shall come to pass in the last days, says God, I will POUR OUT OF MY SPIRIT upon all flesh...



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God wants His Spirit upon your flesh. Do you think that God will put His Spirit upon your flesh if your body was not important? Do you think that God will raise Jesus from the dead to give Him a promise of the Spirit and to pour out that Spirit not in you, but upon you if your body was not important? He also gave the Spirit in you to quicken your mortal body. When He poured out His Spirit on the day of Pentecost, the people that saw them were amazed to see them speaking in tongues, because the Spirit was poured out upon their flesh as it was promised and Peter proclaimed; "This is that!", which indicated that the Holy Spirit that was poured out upon their flesh.

HIS SPIRIT UPON US BREAKS THE YOKES OF BONDAGE

Isaiah 10:27 (KJV) And it shall come to pass in THAT DAY, that his burden shall be taken away from off thy shoulder, and his yoke from off thy neck, and the yoke shall be destroyed because of the ANOINTING.

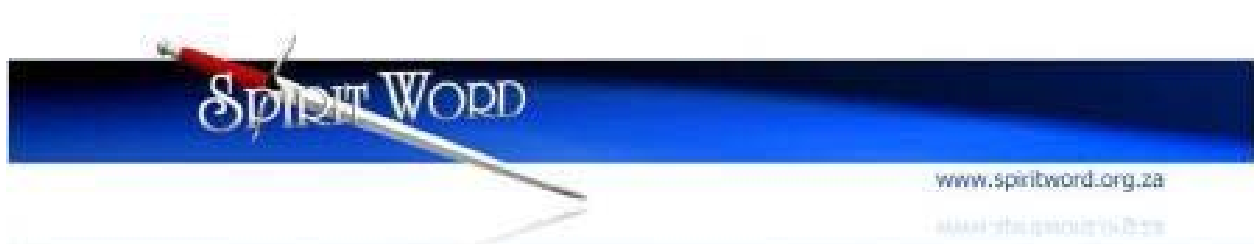
That day, is the day when God poured out His Spirit upon all flesh. If you feel depressed and are under burdens and yokes, know that is the reason why the Spirit came. The day of the appearing of the Spirit will come upon all flesh and the burdens will be destroyed. The Spirit upon you is the Anointing and that is the Christ or the Messiah Anointing. It is like the ointment rubbed upon all flesh; something that comes upon you. The anointing is there to set you free, because your body is important to God. He wants to indwell your body, because your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit. Your body is not the temple of nicotine or drugs or medicine or dirty habits and evil thoughts or alcohol. You must come to a place where you know just how important your body is. Jesus came and took on the body of flesh to show us that His Body would be the final sacrifice and when you accept the sacrifice the same Spirit will quicken your mortal bodies.

BODY, SOUL AND SPIRIT

Isaiah 53:5 (KJV) But He was WOUNDED FOR OUR TRANSGRESSIONS, he was BRUISED FOR OUR INIQUITIES: the CHASTISEMENT OF OUR PEACE was upon him; and WITH HIS STRIPES WE ARE HEALED.

When they nailed Jesus to the cross, He became the final sacrifice so that our spirits, souls and bodies could be set free. We accept the blood of Jesus to wash us from our sins and then we are born again, but there is much more.

* He set our spirits free by being wounded for our transgressions.



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* He set our souls free by being chastised for our peace.

* He set our bodies free by receiving the stripes.

We are supposed to be free in our bodies, souls and spirits. Jesus paid a full complete price. When you say that Jesus must cleanse you and wash you and take your sins away, your spirit is free. We must accept the same sacrifice for our bodies. With His stripes our bodies are healed. Why do you want to die to be healthy? He died on this earth to give you a healthy body on this earth. If you accept the one part of the sacrifice, why do you want to die to get the rest? God wants a living sacrifice and not a dead one.

In that day the anointing will destroy that yoke that is upon you and if you struggle to accept that sacrifice, He helps us by pouring out His Spirit upon our flesh to make sure that the yoke will be destroyed. The Holy Spirit was not poured out in order for you to only speak in tongues. The Spirit is also there to destroy the yokes of bondage that are in and upon your body. God wants you to be free.

LIFE IN ABUNDANCE, ETERNALLY

John 10:10 (Amplified) The thief comes only in order to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have and enjoy LIFE, and have it in ABUNDANCE (to the full, till it overflows).

Most people just exist. You exist when you get up in the morning just because you've got to get up and you go to bed because you know that it is time to go to bed. You are not living! Let your heart beat again! God does not want us to exist, but to live. The Gospel is about life and life more abundantly. Existing is to work till you go on pension and when you are on pension; you get the sicknesses related to old age and then you die of it. Life means not knowing what it is to be old and aged and then die. We shall not all die.

1 Corinthians 15:51 (KJV) Behold, I shew you a mystery; We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed

There is a generation that will conquer the last enemy called death. This is the people that realized the importance of the body. The life of Jesus must be made manifested in our mortal bodies. The Holy Spirit quickens our mortal bodies. The body, subject to decay, can be quickened to see no decay. When we accept the sacrifice (Romans 8:3), we get that



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which was impossible for the Law. The Law could not bring the life back that Adam lost in the Garden of Eden because of sin. Jesus came in a body so that we can get life back, life and life more abundantly.

OUR BODIES ARE THE TEMPLES OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

When Jesus came out of the desert after fasting for forty days, He stood up in the synagogue, took the scroll and read Isaiah 61:1 (KJV) The Spirit of the Lord GOD [is] upon me; because the LORD hath anointed me to preach good tidings unto the meek; he hath sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and the opening of the prison to [them that are] bound He received the Spirit because He was anointed and that made Him the Christ. He preached that the yokes could be destroyed and in that day He healed and set the people free. When He went to heaven, He said that the signs should follow them that believe. First they had to wait till they received the power from on high. When you receive the Spirit, you not only have life, but you will be able to give life. Our bodies are temples of the Holy Spirit.

Jeremiah 32:27 (KJV) Behold, I AM THE LORD, the GOD OF ALL FLESH: is there any thing too hard for me?

God is the God of all flesh and that is why He is going to pour out His Spirit upon all flesh. He wants His Spirit to stay and dwell in flesh. He wants to make our bodies a living sacrifice and a temple for Him. When the Spirit comes the yoke shall be destroyed and you cannot do anything if you are not in a body. You are of no value on this earth outside of the body. You can only reach perfection by joining the cloud of witnesses. God chose our bodies to be glorified and perfected. He wants to rejuvenate and quicken it by the Holy Spirit. We must live in our spirits, our souls and our bodies. Our bodies are carrying around the Godhead on this earth.

Colossians 2:9-10 (Amplified) For in Him THE WHOLE FULLNESS OF DEITY (the Godhead) continues to dwell IN BODILY FORM [giving complete expression of the divine nature]. And YOU ARE IN HIM, made full and having come to fullness of life [in Christ YOU TOO ARE FILLED WITH THE GODHEAD-Father, Son and Holy Spirit-and reach full spiritual stature]. And He is the Head of all rules and authority [of every angelic principality and power].

Ephesians 3:17-18 (Amplified) May CHRIST through your faith [actually] DWELL (settle down, abide, make His permanent home) IN YOUR HEARTS! May you be rooted deep in love and founded securely on love, That you may have



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the power and be strong to apprehend and grasp with all the saints [God's devoted people, the experience of that love] what is the breadth and length and height and depth [of it]...

This is speaking about the church of the LORD Jesus Christ that is formed from all the saints together. If you didn't have a body, you would have been a ghost. The body gives you the right to be on earth and makes you a person. If your body is sick, you can't go anywhere and if it is defeated, you are not living. If your body is tired, you cannot perform. If your body weakened, you cannot do your daily tasks.

Morris Cerrullo said that all truths run parallel. If it happens in the world, it will happen in the church. You may say that it must happen in the church first, but the children of the world are wiser than the children of the church. He said that if there was a breakthrough in the world, there would be a breakthrough in the church. When the world breaks through in science and space, then there are breakthroughs and movements in the church. Most of the people that got major breakthroughs in the world were Christians.

If you go to the shops and the chemists, you'll see that natural products and healthy foods are taking over. It is as if God is telling us to realize more deeply that our bodies are temples of the Holy Spirit. We care for our souls and our spirits by praying and getting the Word in us and the same way we've got to care for our bodies by eating right.

God is now looking for living sacrifices and to operate as a living sacrifice, you need your body to be in order. You need to accept the sacrifice on the cross of His body in order to be this living sacrifice.