

SOUL INJURIES

Session 1 – “It’s a Heart Issue”

Psalm 23:1-3 (KJV)

¹The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want.

²He maketh me to lie down in green pastures: he leadeth me beside the still waters.

³He restoreth my soul:

I. Two Important Terms

A. Soul – the seat of emotions and passions, the activity of the mind, the activity of the will, – *has been translated HEART in specific scriptures.*

- **NOTE:** Many confuse the Spirit and Soul
- **Our Spirit is saved – born again**
- **Our Soul is being saved**

B. Restoreth – Restore – to turn back, to return, to bring back, to reverse – to return to a former state or intention.

C. The indication from the text is:

1. That David has an issue in his soul, (injuries in his mind, his emotions, his will).
2. He needs restoration, (his soul, mind, emotions to be restored or turned back to a former state).

Things have occurred in his life that have caused him to need restoration that only God can offer.

II. What are Soul Injuries?

- A. An overlooked, unassessed wound that separates one from their “Real Self” that causes a person to feel personally defective, inadequate, or unworthy.
 - 1. It is not a physical injury; it is being wounded within.

- B. Example: Veterans returning from battle
 - 1. The findings of five VA nurses working with more than 10,000 dying veterans.
 - 2. The nurses discovered a phenomenon known as “Soul Injury.”
 - 3. This is different than PTSD – *post traumatic stress disorder*
 - 4. PTSD effects the brain – *Soul Injury* impacts a person’s being.
 - 5. Soul injury is more encompassing than the Moral injury.
 - 6. At death, these veterans revealed two barriers that caused separation from soul or their sense of being.
 - a. Unmourned loss – learning how to grieve losses.
 - b. Unforgiven guilt /shame – learning how to forgive others and themselves of what they thought they should have or should not have done.

 - 7. Once these veterans could deal with these two issues of the soul, they were able to die healed.

- C. Soul injuries come in many different forms from many different sources
 - 1. Wounds caused by parents, siblings, friends, teachers, peers, etc
 - 2. Wounds caused by circumstances: death, betrayal, divorce, rejection, abuse, etc
 - 3. Soul injuries are real
 - 4. Soul injuries require healing just as injuries of the body need to be healed.

III. David's Soul Injuries

A. Rejection

1. Rejection of his own father
2. Rejection from Saul
3. Rejection from his own Son – Absalom

B. Unforgiveness

1. His father – rejection
2. His brothers – rejection
3. His sons – Absalom and Adonijah both tried to take His kingdom
4. His co-leaders and co-workers – betrayal
5. His wife – made fun of his worship
6. Saul – continually sought to take his life

C. Past Sin/failures

1. He committed adultery with Bathsheba
2. He had Urijah murdered
3. He lied

D. Grief

1. He lost his son because of his sin (*personal blame*)
2. He lost his best friend, Jonathan
3. He lost his son Absalom

- **ALL OF THESE CAUSED INJURY TO THE SOUL OF DAVID**
- **THIS IS WHY DAVID SAID, ONLY GOD CAN RESTORE MY SOUL**

GOOD NEWS: GOD HEALS THE WOUNDED SOUL

IV. Healing for the Soul in the Ministry of Jesus

A. God is interested in our soul/heart

Psalm 147:3 (KJV) – He healeth the broken in heart, and bindeth up their wounds.

1. Here the word translated to heart has the same meaning as the word soul in Psalm 23 – Mind, will, emotions
2. The heart is broken and has wounds that need to be healed.

B. Jesus ministered to those with soul injuries

Luke 4:18 (KJV) – The Spirit of the LORD is upon me, because he hath anointed me to preach the gospel to the poor; he hath sent me to heal the brokenhearted, to preach deliverance to the captives, and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty them that are bruised,

1. The word heart here also refers to the soul in regard to it being affected in a bad way specifically in regard to the seat of affections, emotions, desires, appetites and passions.
2. Jesus came to HEAL the broken hearted – to make whole
Jesus understood that while there were many who had physical infirmities there were many others that had soul injuries. The only way to bring WHOLENESS to their life was to heal their soul/heart.

C. EXAMPLE: The man in the tombs

Luke 8:26-27 (KJV) – ²⁶And they arrived at the country of the Gadarenes, which is over against Galilee. ²⁷And when he went forth to land, there met him out of the city a certain man, which had devils long time, and ware no clothes, neither abode in any house, but in the tombs

1. Jesus encountered this man which had many devils
2. He had been in this condition for a long time
3. Satan loves to keep people bound for a long time – long term goals

4. Homeless and naked – impoverished – broken completely
nothing whole – everything missing

Luke 8:28-30 (KJV) – Luke 8:26-27 (KJV) – ²⁸When he saw Jesus, he cried out, and fell down before him, and with a loud voice said, What have I to do with thee, Jesus, thou Son of God most high? I beseech thee, torment me not. ²⁹(For he had commanded the unclean spirit to come out of the man. For oftentimes it had caught him: and he was kept bound with chains and in fetters; and he brake the bands, and was driven of the devil into the wilderness.) ³⁰And Jesus asked him, saying, What is thy name? And he said, Legion: because many devils were entered into him.

5. Many demons had entered into him.
6. He was truly demon possessed – *demon possession is real*
7. How did he become demon possessed?
8. What opened the door to the devil
9. What gave entrance to Satan
10. Where did this story begin?

While scripture does not specifically tell us the answer to these questions, we may get an answer by something recorded by Luke when explaining the miracle.

Luke 8:35 (KJV) – Then they went out to see what was done; and came to Jesus, and found the man, out of whom the devils were departed, sitting at the feet of Jesus, clothed, and in his right mind: and they were afraid.

11. He was in his right mind.
 - He was clothed
 - He was seated
 - These came as a result of being restored in mind!

 - Soul injuries are inward, overlooked wounds that separate people from their “Real Self.”

- The injuries of this man's soul caused him to forget who he was.
- The injuries of this man's soul opened him to deception from the enemy to believe many lies.
- Soul injury gave entrance to Satan so he might convince this man to become someone other than himself.
- Soul injury caused this man to ACT in a way that he would never act in himself. (I never thought I would do that)
- RESTORATION of the soul – put the man back in his right mind
- Once in his right mind – all actions changed
 - *Seated*
 - *Clothed*
 - *Thinking right – acting right!*

12. Notice the work of the evil one – *control* –

13. Notice the work of Jesus – dispossess the evil one – peace – healing – restoration

V. Conclusion

- A. Satan is the thief that comes to steal, kill and destroy
- B. Satan takes advantage of every opportunity given
- C. Soul injuries offer an opportunity for Satan to work
- D. Jesus comes to heal the broken hearted
- E. Jesus comes to bring total restoration
- F. There are not too many demons for Jesus to fail
- G. Jesus gets results no matter how great the problem
- H. God's will is healing for your life
- I. You can be made whole in your soul!
- J. The first step to healing is to believe that it is God's will for you to be healed
- K. The second step is to believe that you can be healed
- L. The third step is to take action
 - Be here for the remaining sessions
 - Take thoughts of failure and defeat captive
 - Renew your mind with God's promises for wholeness in your soul