Daily Dose of Power Pastor Sherry Gregory August 23 Part 2

## Thriving in Jesus as Savior AND Jesus as Lord

Yesterday I made a key statement that the Lord desires for me to emphasize: "still with Jesus' New Birth in my spirit yet it had become 'minimized' inside of me." I also transparently stated that I was finally "forced, due to negative circumstances to make a quality, no turning back decision to start new again and this time to go all in! The choices that I had made in my past forced me to come to the reality that I needed Jesus as my LORD and not just my Savior." James 1:21 (AMPC) "So get rid of all uncleanness and the rampant outgrowth of wickedness, and in a humble (gentle, modest) spirit receive and welcome the Word which implanted and rooted [in your hearts] contains the power to save your souls."

There was a song years ago that was titled "Jesus Take the Wheel". That's what happened to me in a sense when Jesus' New Birth helped me to turn my life back around. I also emphasized that "there is a stark difference when one realizes that it is not just a 'religious decision' but a lifestyle change! And let me add- 'from the inside out!"

At this point of my testimony, I must be obedient to the Lord and point out that God did not cause the negative circumstances, to "teach me a lesson" in my life- but my bad choices did that. God's mercy allowed me to choose the right way, and I thank God that I did! But it would have always remained my choice! I thank God that because of the New Birth, I refused to allow those negative things to override me and take me over! At the point that I made the decision of "no turning back", I heard the small ("minimized") spirit speaking to me in the midst of the negative situations, and I chose to go the right way instead of the wrong way. James

2:26 (NKJV) <sup>26</sup> For as the body without the spirit is dead, so faith without works is dead also. Faith

Works are taking God's Word (which has power in and of itself to cause itself to come to pass) and making it a practical reality in your life! I still had an ember burning and all it took to light up the fire in me from HIM was to blow on that ember and re-ignite it!

There is a visual skit that my husband, Pastor Robert Gregory and I have shown in teaching about the truth of the growing of a person's faith and the influence of the well-built, born-again spirit on the body and the soul of the believer. Imagine three people at the front of a room. One represents God's Word, one person represents the voice of the flesh, and one represents the voice of the soul (mind, will and emotions). The flesh begins to speak about being sick or hurting, the soul believes the flesh, which reinforces the sickness to become greater. But even though the person's spirit is small and sounds tiny, it in the background is all the while quoting Isaiah 53: 5, "By His stripes I have been healed!" The body and the soul are in agreement, so their voices drown out the sound of the small baby spirit. But, as the person reads the scripture that is a covenant promise from God about the stripes of Jesus healing them, their soul and body begin to hear the voice of God's Word, and the body and soul begin to realize that the spirit is speaking the truth. That energizes the body and the soul to actually receive the Word of Healing! The sickness flees and the body is made well!!!! Speaking the Word causes the born-again spirit to dominate!

Jesus taught the disciples about the growing of their faith, and James spoke by the unction of Holy Spirit that our faith is dead if the Word is not acted upon (without corresponding action or works). There is a limit to this, but God's mercy is immense and oh so patient with us if we keep moving toward growing in Him. Sometimes we can even experience exponential growth of our spirits, and we become established and fixed so much to the point that we are not moved regardless of the wind and the waves around us! Jesus referred to "little faith" when referring to the disciples in the storm, and large faith when speaking about the centurion and how he trusted Jesus' Word alone to heal his beloved servant.

Matthew 8:26 (AMPC) "And He said to them, Why are you timid and afraid, O you of little faith? Then He got up and rebuked the winds and the sea, and there was a great and wonderful calm ([ a]a perfect peaceableness)."

<u>Luke 7:7-10</u> (AMPC) "Neither did I consider myself worthy to come to You. But [just] speak a word, and my servant boy will be healed. 8 For I also am a man [daily] subject to authority, with soldiers under me. And I say to one, Go, and he goes; and to another, Come, and he comes; and to my bond servant, Do this, and he does it.

9 Now when Jesus heard this, He marveled at him, and He turned and said to the crowd that followed Him, I tell you, not even in [all] Israel have I found such great faith [as this]. 10 And when the messengers who had been sent returned to the house, they found the bond servant [a]who had been ill quite well again."

Matthew 7:24-27 (AMPC) "So everyone who hears these words of Mine and acts upon them [obeying them] will be like a [al]sensible (prudent, practical, wise) man who built his house upon the rock. <sup>25</sup> And the rain fell and the floods came and the winds blew and beat against that house; yet it did not fall, because it had been founded on the rock. <sup>26</sup> And everyone who hears these words of Mine and does not do them will be like a stupid (foolish) man who built his house upon the sand. <sup>27</sup> And the rain fell and the floods came and the winds blew and beat against that house, and it fell—and great *and* complete was the fall of it."

Read the Word of Life today, meditate on it, cause it to become rooted and grounded in you so that you are stable and fixed when the storms of life blow with what seems like torrential winds and waves! Lean on the Rock that is higher than you, speak with Him, commune with Him often, and be secure in God's Will for you and that He desires for you to have and experience the Covenant promises today, now and always!

You are HIS, HE IS your Rock and He Loves you, yesterday, today and forever! I call you BLESSED!

**Pastor Sherry Gregory**