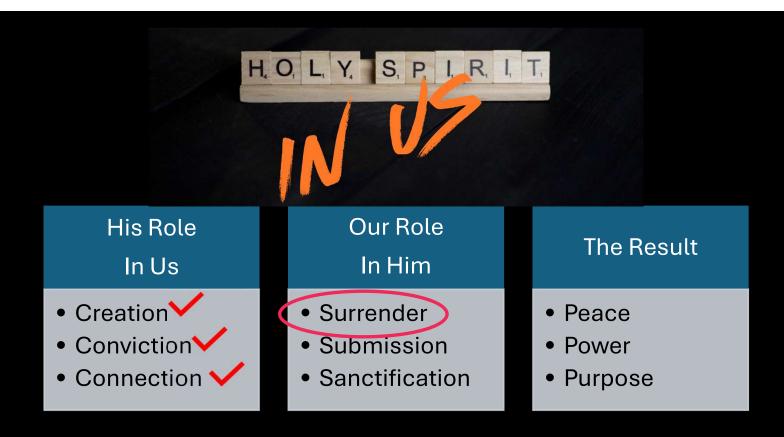
HOLLY, S.P.I.R. I.T. Surrender – Part B

Christian Church



"For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand that we should walk in them." – Eph 2:10

TO BE SAFE?



SURRENDER!

How?

This isn't "formulaic" – It's the process by which I have seen the Human Heart come to Truth

Ultimately it requires – an open heart and mind





~ C.S. Lewis, A Grief Observed

"You never know how much you really believe anything until its truth or falsehood becomes a matter of life and death to you. It is easy to say you believe a rope to be strong and sound as long as you are merely using it to cord a box. But suppose you had to hang by that rope over a precipice. Wouldn't you then first discover how much you really trusted it."



SURRENDER!

How?

STEP 1- Be Open To the Truth. Hear the Truth. Experience the Truth.

Faith comes By Hearing Hearing by? The Word!

- "How beautiful the feet of those who bring good news ... " –
- But they have to be open to the Truth. It cant be legislated -
- Either they are open minded or closed. (Holy Spirit-Convicts)
- Christ Called us to be eye-witnesses not -prosecuting attorneys.
- I can tell you the truth or I can show you the truth. By how I act.
- ...some plant some water but God gives the increase (1 Cor 3:6-9)
- We are just co-laborers with God He does the "heavy lifting".

Still Skeptical?

Challenge them 'humbly' to:

- Be Open.
- Read the Bible. The Whole Thing start in John.
- Examine it. Study it. Debunk it join our Bible Study

But ... just don't tell me what you think about it — till you've read it — or have at least seen the movie.

To Ignore it – is to drive a car 100mph – with your eyes closed.

You are going to crash and burn!



Surrender!

STEP 2- BE DESPERATE (realize death is certain) 'death and taxes'

- Sometimes Circumstances Compel us.
- A Hound of Heaven. To shake us "till we come to our senses"!

STEP 3: CONFESS: (say same as God re: self/sin/rightness/judgement)

STEP 4: REPENT: (Change your mind/heart/direction)

STEP 5: BELIEVE: Put your Faith in - Trust in - Cling to the Giver of life.





SURRENDER WHAT?





PRIDE



"Pride goes before destruction, a haughty spirit before a fall."

~ Proverbs 16:18



What are the terms of surrender?

I believe what we fear most IS – What's this going to cost me?

What are God's Terms of Surrender?
What will I Have to Give Up?
Will It - Be Worth It?

Robert E. Lee's Surrender @ Appomattox

SURRENDER!





Appomattox Court House



April 9, 1865

Army of Northern Virginia surrenders Grant and Lee meet



General Ulysses S. Grant



General Robert E. Lee



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- Lee was Outnumbered by at least 2 to 1 (113,000 to 35,000)
- Lee's Army was out of food & supplies. They faced certain death.
- With no route of escape after the fall of Petersburg, Virginia, on <u>April 2, 1865</u>, Confederate General Robert E. Lee was faced with a difficult choice: keep fighting in an increasingly <u>hopeless war</u> or surrender to <u>Ulysses S. Grant</u>.
- Lee wrote to his men that he was "compelled to yield to overwhelming numbers and resources" and that continuing combat would be a "useless sacrifice of those whose past services have endeared them to their Countrymen." The war was essentially over.

THE GILDER LEHRMAN INSTITUTE OF AMERICAN HISTORY

Horace Porter An Eyewitness - Wrote In: April 9, 1865

Then Grant looked toward Lee, and his eyes seemed to be resting on the handsome sword that hung at that officer's side. He said afterward that this set him to thinking that it would be an unnecessary humiliation to require the officers to surrender their swords, and a great hardship to deprive them of their personal baggage and horses. When Lee came to the sentence about the officers' sidearms, private horses, and baggage, he showed for the first time during the reading of the letter a slight change of countenance, and was evidently touched by this act of generosity. It was doubtless the condition mentioned to which he particularly alluded when he looked toward General Grant as he finished reading and said with some degree of warmth in his manner: "This will have a very happy effect upon my army."

Confederates would be:

- 1. Paroled after surrendering their weapons & military gear.
- 2. As long as soldiers did not take up arms again, US Gov. would not prosecute.
- 3. Grant allowed Confederate officers to keep their horses & side arms.
- 4. Given Food Rations & Allowed to return home not to prison.

SURRENDER!





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General Ulysses S. Grant



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- YOU WERE OUTNUMBERED AND STARVING.
- WE DESERVED THE WORST ... (The Wages of Sin is?)
- CERTAIN DEATH NO WAY OUT.
- **BUT...** (The Free Gift of God is?) WE RECEIVE LIFE!
- BY HIS MERCY & GRACE HE MEETS OUR FAITH! (WE BELIEVE & TRUST HIM AGAIN)
- NO PRISON TIME WE RECEIVE LIFE SAVING RATIONS!
- HAD TO AGREE NOT TO FIGHT ANYMORE AND WE GET TO GO HOME!
- PRIDE WAS DEALT A FATAL BLOW!
- IT TOOK LOSS OF PRIDE TO STOP FIGHTING AND THE RESULT? WE GAIN OUR LIVES.
- GOD DOESN'T HUMILIATE US HE ALLOWS US TO KEEP OUR "DIGNITY"!



- Our faith should always guide our actions.
- ✓ If we can't reach someone with our words we can still reach them with our actions.

What must I do?

- ✓ That's not just a question for the lost but our call too –
- ✓ To Go Into all the world and see what we can do.
- ✓ You preach the good news by what you do.
- ✓ Lord when did I see you hungry/naked or cold?
- \checkmark What you did unto the least of these ... you did unto Me.

[Act 16:25-34

Peter was still Peter!

- God didn't use him because he was perfect but because he was willing to go!
- He will use us too if we are willing!
- Just show Up! Let God do the Rest.
- Take on my Yoke my burden is light!
- We often get caught up in thinking that God can't use me.
- Surrender your life to Him and watch what He will do!
- Not Two wills But One -



"... the one who comes to Me I will never cast out"

-Jesus

For I have come down from heaven, not to do My own will, but the will of Him who sent me. This is the will of Him who sent me: that I should lose none of those He has given me but should raise them up on the last day. For this is the will of my Father: that everyone who sees the Son and believes in Him will have eternal life, and I will raise him up on the last day."

The only way out is through – You can avoid the truth for only so long!

One day ready or not – You will come Face To Face With The Reality – Of Your Maker

Isaiah 45:22&23 – "Turn to me and be saved/every knee will bow and tongue confess"



SURRENDER

PAUL – "... I count all things to be loss (worthless) in view of the surpassing (superior) value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord, for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and count them but rubbish so that I may gain Christ,"-Phil 3:8

THE RICH YOUNG RULER – MEETS THE PEARL OF GREAT PRICE!



SURRENDER

IF YOU ARE THE RICH YOUNG RULER -

And Find - The Pearl of Great Price!

What would you do?



SURRENDER

"... the Kingdom of Heaven is like a merchant seeking fine pearls, and upon finding one pearl of great value, he went and sold all that he had and bought it." - Mat 13:45-46



Holy Spirit - paraklētos

- He is our Helper
- Guide
- Advocate
- Comforter
- Convictor

- Remembrancer
- Encourager
- Aider
- Counselor
- Connector

He is Our Life Saver!







His Role In Us

- Creation
- Conviction
- Connection

Our Role In Him

- Surrender
- Submission
- Sanctification

The Result

- Peace
- Power
- Purpose

<u>WHAT</u> or <u>WHO</u> ARE YOU WILLING TO SURRENDER TO GOD TODAY?

- SELF?
- ALREADY SAVED? ... YES!
- BUT IS THERE AN AREA OF YOUR LIFE YOU HAVEN'T LAID DOWN YET?

Are you Willing To Surrender It Today?
IS THERE A LOVED ONE – OR PRODIGAL YOU NEED TO SURRENDER TO GOD?

"Now this is the confidence that we have in Him, that if we ask anything according to His will, He hears us. And if we know that He hears us, whatever we ask, we know that we have the petitions that we have asked of Him. ~ 1John 5:14-15

<u>WHAT</u> or <u>WHO</u> ARE YOU WILLING TO SURRENDER TO GOD TODAY?

- SELF?
- ALREADY SAVED? ... GREAT! ... but -

Are you Willing To Surrender It Today?

 IS THERE A <u>FRIEND</u>, A <u>LOVED ONE</u> – OR <u>PRODIGA</u>L YOU WANT TO SURRENDER TO GOD TODAY?

LET'S DO THAT TODAY



- LET'S ENTER A TIME OF SILENT PRAYER AND REFLECTION
- Ask The HOLY SPIRIT whom/what HE would have you Surrender!
 - It may be several People Yourself or Things
 - When You "Have Them" in your mind Surrender Them To The Lord -
 - ACT OF FAITH (if you want) Come write those names in the Sandbox
- STAY IN PRAYER TO GOD AS YOU WRITE –
- WHEN DONE ERASE –AND SURRENDER IT TO GOD!
 - (What you've surrendered is between you and God)
- THEN COME IF YOU WANT AND THE ELDERS WILL PRAY OVER YOU.
 - (If you surrendered life to Christ for the 1st time we want to know that



