

The Feeling of Life

Scripture Reading:

Hymn: 1119

- Rom. 8:4-6 That the righteous requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us, who do not walk according to the flesh but according to the spirit. For those who are according to the flesh mind the things of the flesh; but those who are according to the spirit, the things of the Spirit.
- Phil. 2:12-13 So then, my beloved, even as you have always obeyed, not as in my presence only but now much rather in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling.
- 1 John 2:27 And as for you, the anointing which you have received from Him abides in you, and you have no need that anyone teach you; but as His anointing teaches you concerning all things and is true and is not a lie, and even as it has taught you, abide in Him.

I. The knowledge of the feeling of life:

- A. The light of life—1 John 5:11-12; John 1:4.
- B. God has inscribed His laws on our heart—Heb. 8:10.
- C. The law of the Spirit of life—Rom. 8:2.
- D. God who operates in us—Phil. 2:13.
- E. Christ who lives in us—Gal. 2:20.
- F. The anointing within—1 John 2:27; Luke 4:18; 2 Cor. 1:21-22.

II. The source of the feeling of life:

- A. The light of life shining within us.
- B. The laws which God has written on our heart.
- C. The law of the Spirit of life manifesting its' functions within us.
- D. God who is operating within us.
- E. Christ within us, is "living".
- F. The anointing within us.

III. Our responsibilities towards the feeling of life:

- A. Walking only by the spirit, setting the mind on the spirit—Rom. 8:4-6.
- B. Caring for the feeling of life within—Rom. 8:6.
- C. Obeying with fear and trembling—Phil. 2:12.
- D. Abiding in Him as His anointing is teaching you concerning all things—1 John 2:27.

IV. The results of obeying the feeling of life:

- A. Enjoying life and peace—Rom. 8:6.
- B. Abiding in the Lord—1 John 2:27.
- C. Working out own salvation—Phil. 2:12.
- D. Accomplishing God's good pleasure—Phil. 2:12-13.

Referenced Books: *The Knowledge of Life*, Chapter 5; *The Important Topics of the Bible*, Book 2, **published in Chinese but not in English**, Lesson 21.

Excerpts from the Ministry:

The Knowledge of the Feeling of Life

The Light of Life

Since the light of life is the life of the Lord shining in us, this light gives us the feeling of life. The feeling we have from this life is what we see from the light of life. If we feel that something within us is not pleasing to the Lord, it means that what we sense or see within is not pleasing to the Lord. Therefore, what we feel within becomes our inward seeing.

God Having Inscribed His Laws on Our Heart

Since the law inscribed in our heart by God and the law of the Spirit of life are both the automatic function of God's life within us, when this function is activated within us, we have a feeling within. This feeling is the feeling of life which is a feeling produced by the functioning of the law of life. However, we do not have much feeling when we are obedient to the feeling of life. It is when we are disobedient to it, that we have a definite feeling. Just like the digestive function of our stomach. We do not have much feeling when it functions normally, but when it malfunctions, we have a severe feeling. When you go against God, that is to go against the feeling of life, that the feeling of life within you becomes especially strong. You will not have much feeling when you come to a meeting because it is according to the feeling of life. But if you go to see a movie, which is against the feeling of life, the feeling will be strongly felt by you. (*The Important Topics in the Bible*, published in Chinese but not in English, pp. 405-406.)

God Operating in Us

Since God's operation in us is an activity, it causes us to have a feeling within. When my hand touches a person's forehead, surely he can feel it. When a person is busy, he may not feel a touch by others. But when he is calm, he will feel even a slight touch. When you are busy all day long and your mind is disturbed by anxiety until even your heart becomes so tense and have no rest, you do not feel that God is operating in you. However, if you are willing to calm down, the operating of God will be revealed in your feeling and you will feel that God is operating in you. Therefore, to God, the inward operating of God is His work in us. To us, it must generate a feeling of life inside of us. If our condition is fitting, we shall have this feeling of life. (*The Important Topics of the Bible*, published in Chinese not in English, p. 406.)

Christ Living in Us

The indwelling Christ in us not only has life but also is living and is living in us by His life. He must be doing something when living inside of us, therefore, this must cause us to have a feeling within. Since this feeling is produced by His living activities, it is of life, therefore, it is the feeling of life. (*The Important Topics of the Bible*, published in Chinese not in English, p. 406.)

The Anointing Within

The anointing teaches us within through His moving. The anointing is the speaking of the Holy Spirit. This is also the enlightening of the revelation in us by the Holy Spirit. Although there are different ways of saying it, they all point to one thing, that is, the operation of the Holy Spirit within us. Since this operation is the action of the Holy Spirit within our spirit, it causes us to have a feeling of life within our spirit. Therefore, this feeling of life causes us to have a feeling within our spirit, which is what we hear from the Holy Spirit within us and what we see through the Holy Spirit.

So, we not only have life within us, we also have the feeling of life. The light of life shining within us, the law of life functioning in us, God Himself operating in us, Christ living in us, and the anointing of the Holy Spirit moving in us produce the feeling of life within us and makes the feeling of life within us always full and strong. (*The Important Topics in the Bible*, published in Chinese but not in English, p. 406.)

The Responsibilities of the Saints to the Feeling of Life

Following the Spirit—Minding the Spirit

The feeling of life within us is from the Holy Spirit and is in our spirit. So, the first responsibility we should have toward the feeling of life is to follow it and to take care of it. When we follow and mind the spirit, we follow and take care of the feeling of life, that is, to obey the feeling of life. The most important responsibility for us is to obey the feeling of life. You need to obey at every time and concerning every matter whenever you begin to have any feeling of life. This is the most precious matter in the Christian life. In order to obey the feeling of life, you need to follow the spirit and mind the spirit. (*The Important Topics in the Bible*, published in Chinese but not in English, p. 408.)

Caring for the Feeling of Life and Peace Within

Our inward feeling of life is also a feeling of peace. When we obey it, it causes us to have the feeling of life and feeling of peace. Therefore, whenever you do not feel life but death and do not feel peace but unrest, you should stop. You must pay attention to the feeling of life and peace inside you. In order to pay attention to this, you need to mind the spirit. Only when you mind the spirit will you have life and peace. (*The Important Topics in the Bible*, published in Chinese but not in English, pp. 408-409.)

Obeying with Fear and Trembling

In order to maintain the feeling of life and not to lose it, the believers need to pay attention to and obey every feeling of life within them with fear and trembling. This is the only way for you to maintain the feeling of life within.

If the feeling of life in a believer becomes dull, it must be due to his ignoring and disobeying the feeling of life. If a believer would pay attention to, and obey the diminishing feeling of life, this feeling of life will revive and recover. The feeling of life

in us may become dull and diminishing because of our ignoring and disobeying it, however it does not die out completely and vanish. A little bit of the feeling still remains. If we would pay attention to and obey this little bit of feeling of life that remains, it recovers immediately. Therefore, to recover the feeling of life, we must pay attention to and obey it.

If the feeling of life in a believer is sharp, it must be due to his obedience to his feeling. If a believer would continue to obey this feeling, the feeling of life will become more sensitive. The more a believer obeys the feeling of life, the more the feeling of life will grow. Therefore, what can cause the feeling of life in us to grow is our obedience. (*The Important Topics in the Bible*, published in Chinese but not in English, p. 412.)

Abiding in Him according to the Teaching of the Anointing

The teaching of the anointing within us causes us to know the Lord and His life. Therefore, we must follow this teaching to abide in the Lord and to have fellowship with the Lord. To follow the teaching of the anointing is to follow the anointing of the Holy Spirit within us. Only in this way, we are able to abide in the Lord and have the fellowship of life with the Lord. (*The Important Topics in the Bible*, published in Chinese but not in English, p. 411.)

The Result of the Believers' Obedience to the Feeling of Life

Enjoying Life and Peace

The result of minding the spirit, that is to obey the feeling of life, is life and peace. Life is fullness and peace is rest. If we would mind the spirit, obey the feeling of life, then we would feel that we have the fullness and rest inside, being satisfied and having peace. Otherwise, we would have these feelings: emptiness and lack inside, something being missing, a feeling of uneasiness, something being wrong, some problem existing. In order for us to be fed in life and for our soul to be at rest, we only need to obey the feeling of life in whatever we do. Even in preaching and prayer, we need to do the same thing in order to have the Lord's presence, to have life, and peace within. The more we preach by following the feeling within, the more we become full and therefore the more we preach, and the more we have the supply. The more we pray by following the feeling within, the more we have peace and the more we pray, the more we feel the nourishment in the spirit. This type of feeling of fullness and peace is the result of obeying the feeling of life.

Abiding in the Lord

If we would live according to the teaching of the anointing, we would abide in the Lord. To abide in the Lord is to have no insulation with the Lord in spirit and to have unceasing fellowship with Him. If we would be like this, we must live according to the moving of the anointing within, that is to obey the feeling of life within given by the Holy Spirit. Only by living in the moving of the anointing and living according to the feeling of life within can we keep our fellowship with the Lord and maintain our abiding in the

Lord. Therefore, abiding in the Lord is also one of the results of obeying the feeling of life.

Working out Our Salvation

We have already obtained salvation. However, we still need to work out our salvation after we have obtained salvation. In order to work out our salvation, we need to obey the operating God within us with fear and trembling. That is to obey the feeling of life given to us by the operating God within us. If we would obey in this way, we would work out our salvation. (*The Important Topics in the Bible, in Chinese but not in English*, pp. 413-414.)

Accomplishing God's Good Pleasure

God told us to do His will and do things that are pleasing to Him. He does not only teach us with the Bible from without or lead us with the environment but He operates within us so that on the one hand, we know His will and on the other hand, He strengthens us to do what is pleasing to Him. His will and things pleasing to Him are felt by us within through His operation within us. Our obeying the feeling of life spontaneously causes us to do His will and do what is pleasing to Him. Therefore, doing God's will, accomplishing God's good pleasure, and pleasing God are all the result of obeying the feeling of life.

So we have seen that to obey the feeling of life is such an important matter! Whether it be supply and growth in life, having intimate fellowship with the Lord, working out God's salvation, expressing God Himself, or accomplishing God's good pleasure, the key is in our obeying the feeling of life. We may say that this point is needed for all spiritual matters and for everything between us and God, for us to enter the central lane and to progress forward. (*The Important Topics in the Bible, in Chinese but not in English*, pp. 415-416.)

Question:

1. Why, according to the Bible, do we have the feeling of life?
2. What are the responsibilities of the believers to the feeling of life?
3. What are the results of being obedient to the feeling of life?