

Devotional Thoughts :: Lose Your Soul-Life to Find True Life

Lose Your Soul-Life to Find True Life - posted by rainydaygirl, on: 2010/12/30 15:34

“Then Jesus said to His disciples, ‘If anyone desires to come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow Me. For whoever desires to save his soul-life will lose it, and whoever loses his soul-life for My sake will find it.’” (Matt. 16:24-25). To lose our soul-life means losing our soul-life as the initiator, decision-maker, and definer of how we feel or what we want! In these verses the Lord is saying, “Lose setting your mind on the things of men. Lose it! Take Me! Lose yourself; do not find yourself. When you lose yourself to find Me, then you will find yourself in a proper way.” For the church to be in the reality of Christ, we need many experiences of starting to do something out of ourselves and then stopping ourselves by calling on the Lord. By this we bring our being back to Christ. We sink back into our mingled spirit. We stop ourselves from initiating, thinking, acting, deliberating, feeling, and reacting, and bring ourselves back to Christ as our Source. At that point, we lose our soul-life. The more we lose our soul-life, the more satan comes out of our system, and the more satan cannot destroy the church through our undealt-with mind and opinion. When Peter took the initiative to rebuke the Lord concerning His going to the cross, the Lord looked at him and said, “Get behind Me, satan!” That means satan was in Peter’s system. He was occupying Peter’s soul. Satan will be ejected out of our system if day by day and hour by hour we do not initiate anything, but lose our soul-life to find it in Christ. When the self initiates things, satan is unrestrained in his attack on the church. We must all learn not to initiate! Do not live! Do not reason with your flesh and opinions and desires! Just say, “Lord, You are the Christ, the Son of the living God!” Then, like Peter, we will learn to eject satan out of our system, and our independent, undealt-with self will not be satan’s door into your personal life and the church.

To lose myself completely...this is so challenging to me.

rdg

Re: Lose Your Soul-Life to Find True Life - posted by UntoBabes (), on: 2010/12/30 16:06

I like this article, but I hope it is not trying to do away with the literal translation that implies the willingness to literally lose our physical lives (die) for Jesus sake.

The word for "life" PSUCHE means "breath", also occurred in Matthew 20:28 and means "to die", not to merely give His soul life.

Even as the Son of man came not to be served, but to serve, and to give his life "PSUCHE" a ransom for many.

Re: - posted by rainydaygirl, on: 2010/12/30 22:52

Quote:
 -----I like this article, but I hope it is not trying to do away with the literal translation that implies the willingness to literally lose our physical lives (die) for Jesus sake.

I did not get that at all from what I read in this article.
 rdg

Edit: thought some more on this and what I come away with from this article is the need for us to be willing to die to self in everything! Jesus is now Lord of my life, I must be willing, submissive and obedient to Him in every tiny part of my life.

This means that I don't get up and start the day as if it were my own, it means I seek HIM first! It means as believers we don't run ahead thinking we know the plan, we come before HIM and wait to be given our orders!! HIS will, HIS life being poured out daily through us.

Re: Lose Your Soul-Life to Find True Life, on: 2010/12/31 7:01

I was brought up under borrowings from Nee's writing about losing one's 'soul life', and I didn't get it. I brought me into a lot of bondage until Psa 23:3 'He restoreth my soul' dawned on me, and, that there are verses in the New Testament which support that Christ came to save 'souls'.

Then, I saw that my soul is indeed important to Him, and that was a great relief! I think I did some spiritual damage to myself by constantly refusing my 'soul' expression. I began to see that it is SIN which corrupts the soul and makes it unfit for God's presence, and that's why Jesus was willing to die.

The word 'redeem', means to 'buy back'. It doesn't matter what condition the thing is in when it is redeemed back into the care of its original owner. Once it is his (His) again, it can be restored to its original glory.

There is, also, the NATURAL life (eating, drinking, marriage, work etc) which may be purified by His life in us, and which we are exhorted to conduct in moderation, not making our liberty from the law and from sin an excuse for excesses or abstentions, which do not glorify God.