

## **The un-crucified self-life that will always betray friendships**

Ps 55:19-21 **God will hear and humble them, even He Who abides of old — Selah [pause, and calmly think of that] — because in them there has been no change of heart, and they do not fear, revere, and worship God.**

20 **My companion has put forth his hands against those who were at peace with him; he has broken and profaned his agreement of friendship and loyalty.** (*Living Bible version: This friend of mine betrayed me - I who was at peace with him. He broke his promises.*)

21 **The words of his mouth were smoother than cream or butter, but war was in his heart; his words were softer than oil, yet they were drawn swords** AMP

Very sadly, how often do we hear Christians speak “great swelling words” (2 Pet 2:18) of either consecration to God or of devotion and gratitude to us, only to discover a short while later that those words have been abandoned and the relationships with both God and us have been betrayed. This is the inevitable consequence of the self-life that still thrives where there is a refusal to partake of Christ’s death to it, in order to then live only to God and speak words that remain true and are not subject to change.

Let’s consider the clear and plain truth in this scripture, concerning a Testament:

Heb 9:16-17 **For where there is a testament (will), there must also of necessity be the death of the testator (will maker). For a testament is in force after men are dead, since it has no power at all while the testator lives.**

A testament represents a person’s will, albeit their last will. Now consider the parallels between a testament (a person’s last will) and a Christian’s testimony (their current will). Just as the testament is of no value while the testator is still alive (because he can keep changing it) equally the Christian’s testimony (their words) are of no value while that Christian is still alive to their sin nature or flesh (because that evil nature, which opposes God, will constantly change their testimony). Therefore, Christians who do not allow themselves to be crucified with Christ, and take up their (His) cross daily, will inevitably betray every relationship they have including their relationship with God.

In Andrew Murray’s devotional “God’s Best Secrets” for August 12 it states “All the vices of fallen angels and men have their birth and power in the Pride of self. Self is both an Atheist and an Idolater. It is an Atheist because it has rejected God; it is an Idolater because it is its own idol. On the other hand all the virtues of the heavenly life are the virtues of humility. It is humility alone that makes the un-passable gulf between heaven and hell. This is the most plain and capital truth of the Gospel, namely, that there never was, nor ever will be, but one humility in the whole world, and that is the one humility of Christ (*of whom God wants to make us partakers, through His words, so that we too may humble ourselves unto death even the death of the cross*).”

And what’s God’s remedy to the betrayers? Ps 55:19 **God will hear and humble them**

As a Christian am I living the self life or the Christ life?

What is the self life? It is a self willed life, my will being controlled by my human nature

Isa 53:6 All we like sheep have gone astray; We have turned, every one, to our own way (self will); And the LORD has laid on Jesus the (this) sin of us all.

Rom 8:5 (This is written to Christians) Those who live as their human nature tells them to, have their thoughts controlled by what human nature wants... TEV

6 The mind of the flesh (human nature), which is sense (knowledge) and (brain) AMP reasoning without the Holy Spirit, is death (to God)...all the miseries of sin...

Prov 14:12 There is a way that seems right to a person (their own way, the universal sin of humanity, self will) but its end is the way of death (to God). ESV

7 A (Christian) becomes an enemy of God when they are controlled by human nature; for they do not obey God's rule, and in fact they cannot obey it. TEV (God calls this pride, the cause of all quarrels, splits, hate, crime, war and lost salvation)

What is the Christ life? It is the Christ willed life, my will being controlled by God's Spirit

Rom 8:1-2 There is no condemnation now for those who live in union with Christ TEV Jesus. For the rule of the Holy Spirit which brings us life in union with Jesus Christ, has set me free from the rule of sin (self will) and death (to God).

Rom 8:5-10 ...Those who live as the Holy Spirit tells them to, have their thoughts controlled by what the Spirit wants (God's love pours into their hearts-Ro 5:5).

6 ...To be controlled by the Holy Spirit results in (God's love) life and peace.

9 (Written to Christians) You do not live as your human nature tells you to; TEV instead, you live as the Holy Spirit tells you to if, in fact, God's Spirit lives in you. Whoever does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to Him.

(Born again by God's word but their will is controlled by, and so belongs to, self).

10 If Christ is in you (by His Spirit) your body is dead (to God) due of sin, but NASU your spirit is alive (to God) because of (the) righteousness (of God's Spirit).

John 5:30 (Here Jesus tells us how He lived and how I am to live, and can live, as He lives in me and I live in Him by the power of the Holy Spirit) I am able to do nothing from Myself but only as I am taught by God and as I get His orders.

AMP As I hear (in My spirit) I decide as I am told to decide (by the Holy Spirit, the spiritual mind of Christ)...and My decisions are righteous, because I do not seek My own will...but only the will and pleasure of the Father Who sent Me.

John 20:21 (Jesus to us) Just as the Father has sent Me, I also send you.

Prov 3:5-6 Trust in the LORD with all your heart. Never rely on what you think you MSGE know (or understand mentally). Listen for GOD's voice (in your spirit) in /TEV everything you do, everywhere you go; and He will show you the right way.

Rom 8:14-15 Those who are led by God's Spirit (in their spirits) are God's children.

15 Because the Spirit that God gives (If I have received Him)...makes you God's TEV children, only by the Spirit's presence do we call out to God, "My Father!"  
(This is humility, the Christ life of love, faith, unity, fruit, and preservation for eternity)

How does a Christian become free of the self life to live the Christ life? The Holy Spirit

John 7:17 (The key to having the Holy Spirit) If anyone's will is to do God's will, they ESV will know (by revelation from God) whether the teaching (above) is from God...

Acts 5:32 ...The Holy Spirit who is given by God to those who (will to) obey Him. NLT

1 Pet 4:1 Since Christ suffered flesh (self willed human nature and overcame it) for us, arm yourselves also with the same mind (The Holy Spirit), for the one who has suffered flesh (sinful human nature and overcome it by the mind and power of the Holy Spirit living in their spirit) has ceased from sin (from self will),

2 Then you'll be able to live out the rest of your days free to pursue what God MSGE wants instead of being tyrannized (imprisoned) by what you want (self will).

Ezek 36:27 I will put My Spirit within you and cause you to walk in My statutes (My words), and you will keep My judgments (My words) and do them.

Gal 3:2 ...Did (or do) you receive God's Spirit by doing what the Law requires or TEV by hearing the gospel (God's promise to put His Spirit in you) and believing it?

After receiving, submitting to the Holy Spirit's control I will be led to believe I died to self

Luke 9:23 Then Jesus said to them all, "If anyone desires to come after Me, let him deny himself by taking up his cross daily, and follow Me". How do I?

Rom 6:6 We know (if my heart believes it) that our old being has been put to death with Christ on his cross, so that the power of our sinful self might be destroyed...

7 For when a person dies (with Christ) they are set free from the power of sin.  
TEV

Rom 12:1-2 My brothers and sisters, in view of God's great mercy to us I beg you  
TLB Offer yourselves (daily) as a living sacrifice to God, dedicated to his service  
/NLT and pleasing to him. This is true worship (and, how we walk in love - Eph 5:2).

2 Don't copy the (self life) of this world, but let God transform you into a new  
NLT person by changing the way you think (with His words your heart believes and His Spirit) then you will know what He wants you to do, and how good it is.