

# SOULS

Seeing Others Under the Light of the Son

Self-examination:  
See Others Under the Light of the Son

Copyright © 2017

By

Tyro Fledgling

Cover Art

Pixabay.com

Unless otherwise noted,

All scriptural quotes or references are from the King James Bible.

[www.thefledgling.org](http://www.thefledgling.org)

This work may be downloaded, copied, and distributed freely, as long as it is not used for personal gain (whether monetarily or otherwise) without the author's permission.

*And fear not them which kill the body,  
but are not able to kill the soul:  
but rather fear him  
which is able to destroy both soul and body in hell.*

Matthew 10:28



# SOULS

Seeing Others Under the Light of the Son



## INTRODUCTION

Dear Professing Christian,

Walk with me. Imagine for a moment that you suddenly find yourself encased in utter darkness. You hold out your hand but you cannot see it. A light from above clicks on. You look up. The force of the light is blinding. You turn away. Looking around, you realize you are alone.

Think of the person you most care about or the one you most despise. Perhaps it is a spouse, parent, child, or sibling. Maybe a friend, teacher, or pastor. One who has touched your life in a positive way. It could be someone you think is attractive or believe yourself madly in love with (even secretly), or one who you feel has bullied you or hurt you deeply (whether they realize it or not). An enemy or stranger you know little or nothing about will do if you prefer.

They are now present before you. With your mind, remove the physical traits that make you love, despise, or take even a slight interest in the person. Erase what makes them attractive or demeaning to you. Take away what is left. No hair, no flesh, no muscle, no bone, and no blood. What do you see? The person is still standing right there before you. Very much real and very much alive. Consider them.

Have you changed the way you think about them, seeing them this way? Do you believe that they are the same person now, even without that which makes them physically attractive or unattractive, without those things that allowed you to see expressions of like or dislike, love or hate? Absent of all surroundings, can you focus on just them as they are now?

Can you see their soul? Is it colored by their race, wrinkled with age, or proportionate to what their bodies were. Do you still find them attractive, friendly, mean, or ugly? How so, given they have no features to display such things? Perhaps it is the remembrance of their words or the tone that accompanied them. Maybe from your memory of how they made you feel every day or at some point in your life.



## A LOOK IN THE MIRROR

Now I want you to turn from them and look toward the mirror. It is just behind you. Do you see it? Strip away all your good traits in relation to the flesh. Those things that you find most attractive about yourself. Your best qualities. What is left? How do you see yourself? Are you embarrassed or appalled by the sight you see before you? Remove that which is left. Leave no hair, no flesh, no muscle, no bone, and no blood.

What now separates you from the one who previously stood before you? Turn once again and bring them back before your gaze. You see them. They see you. You are naked (fleshless) before them and God. You can no longer hide the “real” you, the “hidden” you that hides behind the flesh with your thoughts and inner person. No more do they see only what you want them to see.

Do they see that you lust after them? What of the hate you feel toward the one who you believe hates you? Does pride shatter the false humbleness you pretend to display? Is anger and bitterness now seen dripping from a soul who seemed to be full of love and kindness before? Has enmity broken through its charade of adoration toward a holy God?

Do we now see things in the spirit, once hidden by the flesh? Not of them. Of ourselves. Is our person of the spirit and soul the same person of the flesh?

In 1 Thessalonians 5:23, Paul declares man to be body, soul, and spirit.

And the very God of peace sanctify you wholly; and  
I pray God your whole spirit and soul and body be

preserved blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

By removing the body (the flesh), we have left ourselves—and those we have set before us—with only spirit and soul. What resemblance do we now bare of our precious covering? What now do we see?

The differences we see—if it is that we do see a difference between us and that one who stands before us—are twofold. (1) Whether our/their spirit is dead or alive. (2) Whether our/their soul is sealed by the Holy Spirit or not.

Turn once again toward the mirror. Examine thyself under the Light of the Word of God, [John 1] looking unto our example, Jesus Christ. [1 Peter 2:21] There is no reason to fidget, no necessity to scheme, no case to be made; thine heart, thine soul, and thine mind is set open before the One who sees who and what you really are. [Mark 12:30; 1 Samuel 16:7]

What then does the Almighty see? Has your spirit been quickened with Christ [Ephesians 2:1-7] by the Spirit [1 Peter 3:18]? Or has the removal of your flesh been like the breaking up of a whitened sepulcher, revealing that which once appeared outwardly beautiful (the flesh) is secretly filled with nothing but dead men's bones? [Matthew 23:27-28] Spiritually dead. The flesh having profited you nothing. [John 6:63] Unable to receive, love, and act out the things of God. [1 Corinthians 2:14] With the flesh, you may serve God before man, crying even "Lord, Lord." Yet, shall Christ say unto you, "I never knew thee." [Matthew 7:21-23]

If your spirit be dead, what then of your soul? The same Spirit that quickens the spirit does likewise seal the soul. For with the seal of God we have the promise of redemption (the saving of body, soul, and spirit). [Ephesians 1:13-14] Do we yet grieve Him? [Ephesians 4:30] Cast out the beam from thy own eye, lest ye be found

wanting (without repentance, faith and hope in Jesus Christ) while observing the mote in thy brother's eye. [Matthew 7:3-5; Luke 6:41-42] We are not to fear man, but God, who can cast our dead spirit and unsealed soul into hell. [Matthew 10:28]

Look again into the mirror. What do you see? Run not from the Light, but rather let it expose you for who you really are. [1 John 1-2] Does your spirit spring forth with newness of life [Romans 6:4], or does it yet remain dead in sin? What of your soul? Does the seal of the Spirit burst forth from your heart with the brightness of his glory? [2 Corinthians 1:22] Where then lies your security, your boasting, your glorying? It matters not what you think. What do you see? In what—or rather, whom—do you trust? Does your spirit and soul confirm or deny your testimony?

Even now the Spirit and the bride (the church, the body of Christ) say, “Come.” [Revelation 22:17] Why do you wait? Do you not know that *today* is the day of salvation? [2 Corinthians 6:2] The Light reveals your sin before a Holy God. [John 3:19-21] You are naked before Him. Will you not come to Christ, “the way, the truth, and the life”? [John 14:6] What does hinder you? Know ye not that you will give account of yourself before God? [Romans 14:11-12]

You may ask why I speak this way. You profess to have been born into Christ by the new birth. [2 Corinthians 5:17] Your heart is right with God [Psalm 139:23-24], with faith and repentance in thy mouth [Romans 10:9]. You acknowledge, in your flesh “dwelleth no good thing” [Romans 7:18], but trust Christ does yet live in and through you. [Galatians 2:20] For this cause, we have removed your flesh. You now stand in spirit and soul. [2 Corinthians 4:16] What seest thou?

## A LOOK AT THE FRUIT

As one quickened and sealed by the Holy Spirit, you should express these characteristics:

[Fruit of the Spirit] love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, Meekness, temperance: [Galatians 5:21-23]

Now are ye light in the Lord: walk as children of light: (For the fruit of the Spirit is in all goodness and righteousness and truth;) Proving what is acceptable unto the Lord. [Ephesians 5:8-10]

Do you see this fruit in yourself? No really, does your spirit express these toward others? *All* others or *some* others? To those who deserve it, to those who earn it, to those you feel sorry for, or to every soul that lives. Are you the keeper of the Spirit's fruit? Giving and withholding from whom you choose. Binding and loosing, as you will. By what authority, based on what principles do you judge? Do you alone deserve mercy, grace, and the Spirit of God?

## A LOOK AT THE ONE BEFORE YOU

How then do you see your neighbor before you? Look at them. Through the eyes of one who professes to be conforming daily into the image of Christ [Romans 8:29], tell me, how are you now *Seeing Others Under the Light of the Son*? How do you see souls? You have eyes to see, what do you find when you try the spirits?

Look before you. Don't be shy. What does their spirit tell you about them? [1 John 4:1-3] You cannot consider their personality, race, fleshly appearance, or whether you like them or not. It is their spirit you see before you. Are they alive or dead? Does their spirit shine with the brightness of the Holy One, or is it dead, full of darkness? Do they have eyes to see and ears to hear? [Luke 8:10] Or, have they been blinded by the god of this world? [2 Corinthians 4:4]

It does not matter who you picked to examine. Be honest. What does their spirit say about who they are underneath the flesh that the world and you see every day?

## A LOOK AT THE DEAD SPIRIT/UNSEALED SOUL

A dead, dark spirit means the person is spiritually dead, even though they are physically live. No matter how hard we try, we cannot imagine, trick, or force a dead spirit alive. It is impossible without a greater power than ourselves. [Matthew 19:25-26; Mark 10:26-27; Luke 18:26-27] We will only deceive ourselves if we claim to hear the Word of God, yet follow it not. [James 1:22] The dead spirit, thus the dead person, cannot exhibit the true fruit of the Spirit (as mentioned above). They may express a form of the fruit in hypocrisy, while in the flesh, but you have removed the flesh, their ability to pretend.

The Sword of the Spirit, which is the Word of God, “is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any twoedged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart.” [Ephesians 6:17; Hebrews 4:12] Do you wield such a sword? Perhaps instead, it has remained sheathed or collecting dust on your mantle. Maybe it has once cut you, so you have put it away. Or has it made the person before you feel uncomfortable or angry, thus you have done away with it?

Are you adorned with the “armour of God”: [Ephesians 6:10-18]

- Loins girt about with truth;
- Breastplate of righteousness;
- Feet shod with the preparation of the gospel of peace;
- Shield of faith (to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked);
- Helmet of salvation;
- Sword of the Spirit (the word of God);
- Praying always (with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit);
- Watching (with all perseverance and supplication for all saints).

Put then on the mind of Christ, [1 Corinthians 2] that you may be a light, by the indwelling of the Light, to your fellow neighbor set before you. [Philippians 2:1-16] In love, in mercy, with a desire placed in you by the Spirit at the quickening of your spirit and the sealing of your soul, do you run with haste, as did Philip, [Acts 8:26-39] to share the gospel [1 Corinthians 15:1-8] with the soul(s) bound for hell? Shall that soul before you perish while you enter eternal life? God has said, "if thou dost not speak to warn the wicked from his way, that wicked man shall die in his iniquity; but his blood will I require at thine hand." [Ezekiel 33]

If the spirit be dead, the soul is thus unsealed and shall be cast "into everlasting fire, prepared for the devil and his angels." [Matthew 25:41] Look at them. Are you ready to face God (holy and just), having said or done nothing to share the gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ with them? How many times was it shared with you, by how many persons? Did you somehow merit it? [Romans 3:10-20]

The Lord God has said, "I have no pleasure in the death of the wicked; but that the wicked turn from his way and live." [Ezekiel 33:11] Is this mind in you, which was also in Christ Jesus? [Philippians 2:1-11]

And Jesus answered him, The first of all the commandments is, Hear, O Israel; The Lord our God is one Lord: And thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind, and with all thy strength: this is the first commandment. And the second is like, namely this, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself. There is none other commandment greater than these. [Mark 12:29-31]

Here are two reasons that we should spend our lives living for God and sharing the gospel with every man, woman, boy, and girl. We

are to (1) love God with all that we are (heart, soul, mind, and strength) and (2) love every person as ourselves. Even [y]our enemies. [Matthew 5:43-48; Luke 6:27-38] “For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved.” [Romans 10:13]

“How then shall they call on him in whom they have not believed? and how shall they believe in him of whom they have not heard? and how shall they hear without a preacher?” [Romans 10:14]

To *preach* is to pronounce, to proclaim. You do not have to be a pastor to proclaim the good news. “Sanctify the Lord God in your hearts: and be ready always to give an answer to every man that asketh you a reason of the hope that is in you with meekness and fear.” [1 Peter 3:15]

“Can the blind lead the blind? shall they not both fall into the ditch?” [Luke 6:39-42] Be the light. [Philippians 2:14-16] Lead people to the *narrow way*. [Matthew 7:12-14] If one does realize there is no light in them, then quickly run to the Light [John 8:12; John 12:46], lest you be “cast out into outer darkness: there shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth.” [Matthew 8:12]

### The Roman’s Road

(Merely one way in a host of many to share the gospel with others.)

- Romans 3:23 All have sinned
- Romans 3:10 There is none righteous
- Romans 5:12 Death entered the world by sin
- Romans 6:23 Death by sin; eternal life by Christ
- Romans 5:8 Christ died for sinners
- Romans 10:9-10 Believe and confess
- Romans 10:13 Call on the name of the Lord
- Romans 10:17 Faith by hearing Word of God

Do not ignore nor minimize the importance of repentance. [Luke 13:3; Luke 15:7; Luke 15:10]



## A LOOK AT THE QUICKENED SPIRIT/SEALED SOUL

We have examined ourselves under the Light, comparing ourselves to the very standard of God: Jesus Christ. We have also seen the lost soul before us. What then of that soul who does stand in our gaze both quickened and sealed? Shall we discuss that truth which we may have scarcely acknowledged before?

When we observe their light (knowing it springs forth from the Father of lights [James 1:17] within them), do we find that they shine brighter or that we do not really shine at all?

This is no time to act pious (religiously holy). Biblically speaking, it is quite a foolish thing to compare ourselves to one another to determine the “brighter” or “better” Christian. [2 Corinthians 10:12] However, we often times do. Perhaps quite frequently. Although, seldom is it to prove we are the worse.

Is the person before you a Christian? You have already made your decision—having previously judged them—so do not shy away from the verdict now. They will never know your thoughts unless you tell them. How have you set them in *light* of yourself? Do you still see them in spirit and soul, or have you reapplied their flesh to make your decision?

Let us make this a bit easier. Pick out someone you believe to be the best Christian example you can think of. Do not pretend to be spiritually elite and pick Jesus Christ. Choose someone you personally know or have known within your lifetime: a sinner, saved by grace.

You now have them there before you. What makes them a model Christian in your eyes? Is it their words, deeds, or both? How do you perceive the expression on their face or their thoughts toward you right now?

What if they were to walk up to you and point out:

- A deficiency in your Christian walk.
- A sin in your life.
- A concern that you are not saved.

How would you respond? How have you responded in the past? Remember, you can see the Holy Spirit has quickened their spirit and sealed their soul. This means they have repented of sin and put faith in Jesus Christ; thus making them your brother or sister in Christ, a member of the body of Christ. One you are to love.

*A deficiency in your Christian walk.*

This could simply be something you did not know you should be doing or perhaps you are unaware of something you should possibly refrain from doing. This would not be classified as actual sin, but just as important as the choice to do or not do for the sake of our brothers and sisters; so that one does not cause them to stumble in the faith. [Romans 14]

*A sin in your life.*

This would indeed be sin. Whether open before all or in private, this person knows of your transgression(s) against the law of God. [1 John 3:4]

*A concern that you are not saved.*

This might come as a shock if you already believe you are a Christian. What (about you, whether in word or deed) would keep another Christian—or lost person—from recognizing your new birth? [2 Corinthians 5:17; Ephesians 4:24; Colossians 3:1-17]

Scripture tells us examine ourselves first, [Matthew 7:1-5] before judging our brother or sister in Christ. However, this does not

mean we should not judge at all. We are to “judge righteous judgment” [John 7:24] in “judging all things,” by testing every spirit. [1 John 4:1-6] A saved person has the mind of Christ, the Spirit of God within them. [1 Corinthians 2:6-16]

So, when our brother or sister comes to us, in the spirit of love [Matthew 18:15], truly desiring to draw us to (or back to) God through repentance and faith [Galatians 5:22-28], we should fight against our flesh [Galatians 5:19-21] instead of becoming stiff-necked, resisting the Holy Spirit. [Acts 7:51; Ephesians 4:30-32]

## A LOOK AT WHERE TO GO FROM HERE

Most claim to like things *black and white*.

2. (of a situation or debate) involving clearly defined opposing principles or issues.

<https://en.oxforddictionaries.com>

In the spirit realm, we have exactly that. We do not exist in a grayish mix of “hope our good outweighs our bad.” Our spirit/soul is either dead and black (full of darkness, without Christ) or alive and white (full of light, cleansed by Christ). [Matthew 6:22-24]

We are not talking about skin color here; for we have already removed the flesh and the color of our flesh is not what proves we are a Christian or not. The Jews are olive skinned and many hated Christ. Jesus came as a Jew, thus olive, and was very much sinless, the Son of God. The perfect “race” will be ALL those who have repented of sin and been born again, with a quickened spirit, sealed soul, and glorified body by the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

We must stop viewing ourselves as better than we are, and refrain from judging others to be worse than they are (may be). If a person is unsaved, they can’t help but think, act, and speak lost. It is we who profess to know Christ, indwelt by the Holy Spirit, who should shine forth as a light (because of the Light within).

In doing so, we are to be “conformed to the image of Christ,” [Romans 8:29] remembering it is only by grace that we have been forgiven and (should) have a desire to walk in God’s “good works” daily [Ephesians 2:8-10].

As a *good* person, we should desire for good to befall all persons. Therefore, as a Christian, how much more should we be

witnessing to the lost soul and encouraging our fellow believers? There is no question as to “What should we be doing?” but rather “Are we doing what we should be doing?”

Do we (you) spend so much (or so little) time judging a person’s outward appearance that it keeps us (you) from making the effort to search into their soul and spirit? Do we not look different to others (both physically and/or spiritually)? Have we not likewise hurt others and even offended God by our sin(s)? Do we somehow deserve better than other sinners or saints?

We (you) should not be focusing so much on judging persons to determine their condemnation or even justice, but rather as to how we (you) can help point them to Christ so that they may likewise experience the mercy and grace of God through the Saviour. [Romans 12:9-21]

Have we not been given such by those who know (and have known) us? Did they not pray for us, encourage us, forbear and speak to us in love, that we might be joined to the body as we were adopted in and grow in Christ? [Ephesians 4:11-16; Romans 8:12-17] I would imagine they were not all pastors and teachers, yet were indeed followers of Christ just as we should be.

Take a look at the cover. How do you see yourself? Are you *bigger* than those on your left and right, living in a grayish world, seeing yourself as better than some, yet maybe (a little) worse than others? Do you take an honest inward look at yourself and acknowledge that you are most likely full of darkness because you have never repented and put faith in Christ? Do you confess to be cleansed by the blood of the Saviour, even if you don’t feel you are as good or faithful as you should be?

What are you going to do about it? Not making a decision is making a decision. Trust in someone *better* than yourself: Christ.

## A LOOK THROUGH POEMS

Take the man or woman you pass on the street.  
Perhaps the little boy or girl you meet.  
What do you see when you pass them by?  
Do you focus on their flesh or look them in the eye?

The broken child who knows nothing of love from a parent.  
The shattered spouse whose sorrow is so very transparent.  
Perhaps the arrogant, prideful boaster.  
The lazy or pathological, known as a freeloader.  
One held in bondage to bitterness and hate.  
Suffocating by depression, finding no way of escape.  
One trapped in a body that heeds not their command.  
Sickened with disease or deformity, not how they planned.  
A murderer, adulteress, a liar and cheat.  
A religious hypocrite, whether pastor or priest.  
The racist, bigot, or hardnosed Pharisee.  
The fornicator, antitheist, or humanist devotee.  
The rich and powerful, having it all it seems.  
The homeless so poor, unable to afford dreams.

The list could go on, but this should suffice.  
How do we see souls through the eyes of Christ?  
He came not for the righteous, but for sinners he came.  
That be the lost, unsaved, blind and deaf, spiritually lame.

07/08/2017

## SOULS

A lonely girl walks alone, so far away from home.  
In the shadows of the lights, she's a walker of the night.  
Searching for the souls that come her way.  
There he stands, the desperate man.  
With a life within his grip, with a cursing hatred lip.  
Waiting for the souls that he may slay.  
The teenagers on their way, new discoveries every day.  
Rebelling from authority, falling from morality.  
So quickly are their souls led astray.  
Parents forget their job, police can't control the mobs.  
Children running to and fro, no one knows which way to go.  
The souls themselves are filled with much dismay.

Then shines in a glorious Light, through the power of His might.  
From the darkness gives them sight, by the blood of Jesus Christ.  
Souls are made alive by His ray.  
If we want the world to change, hearts must be rearranged.  
Put our faith in Christ alone, the Word of God read in the home.  
Our souls can live for God if we pray.  
Standing firm on what is true, always desiring His will to do.  
Never wavering but pressing on, praising God in our songs.  
Our souls shall not faultier, fail, or sway.  
If we truly trust in Christ, we will obey and do what's right.  
Study that we may know, the precious Word that we may grow.  
And show it to the souls that come our way.

Come to Him today! Believe on Him with faith!  
Trust and obey! He will save you by His grace!

08/05/2003

A FINAL LOOK

Being born in Adam, we see the world and all that is through the eyes of the flesh. However, once we have been born into Christ, awakened to a spiritual heart and mind, eyes and ears, we should no longer be so shallow. We have the ability (through the Spirit) to consider the deeper aspects of a person, their spirit and soul. What is it telling us about them? Maybe they need the mercy and grace of God, found in repentance and faith in Christ through the sharing of the gospel. Perhaps they need reassurance and encouragement, found in the peace of God, through the love shown by the body of believers.

Tell me:

How do you see souls?

Now that you see them, what do you plan to do about it?

Make a Commitment:

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---