



How things fit together in the Kingdom

Understanding Our True ‘Self’

(This document includes points from the article “The World Within” by Jonathan Welton)¹

When we come into the Kingdom, our Spirit is regenerated back to where it was in Adam and Ezer² before The Fall. This is our spiritual rebirth,ⁱ or what Jesus also referred to as being “born from above”³.ⁱⁱ This regeneration of our spirit brought us back into the lifeⁱⁱⁱ that we were created to have – the one that Adam lost for all humanity.^{iv}

Some say we’ve also been given a new heart, by appealing to an OT prophecy.^v However, observation of the life of believers, including myself, shows this to be a false assumption. You see, even when we’ve been “reborn”, we’ve still lived according to our selfish desires and with a hard heart, exactly what our “rebirth” was to eliminate.^{vi} Our own soulishness, woundedness and unrighteous activity, are testimony to our heart being unregenerated.

Why does that happen? Isn’t ‘God’⁴ capable enough to free us from that, like he has with our spirit?

The answers are numerous, but a few major ones will suffice. **Firstly**, we have autonomy to decide what we do with our lives in every area. These decisions have consequences,^{vii} both in the natural realm and the spiritual realm. This is why we’ve been advised^{viii} that we have the ability to become re-entangled with the world (and the world system) and become corrupted by them. That, in itself, suggests that we aren’t given an incorruptible new heart, *per se*.

Secondly, and just as important, we have become involved in religion and walked its way, instead of the way of the Spirit (the way of the Kingdom). Religion taught us to follow rules and regulations, and to conduct our lives in line with its teachings. These teachings, of course, were human instigations, not things of the Kingdom, and they caused us to be deviated from the path of true sonship.

What we failed to understand is that the regeneration of our heart, soul and mind is dependent on processes of change and maturity. Our mind needs to be gradually renewed^{ix}, while our inner being is being renewed on a continual basis, but only if we allow it to be changed.^x This is why we undergo constant molding and shaping by Father, which matures us^{xi} and changes our hearts.^{xii} But again, that’s only if we let him.

NOTE: There would be no need for Paul to write letters to 1st century believers that contained lots of correction^{xiii} if our regeneration included a perfect, new heart. (Our King also highlighted instances of aberrant behaviour and belief in the churches of Asia Minor.)^{xiv} It’s obvious from what we read then, that we have to work at changing, as our base nature⁵ is still active,^{xv} because we still live in a ‘fallen’ body and live in a ‘fallen’ world. This is why there’s a battle between our spirit and our base nature in every one of us.^{xvi}

The **third** answer to the question follows on from all that. This point relates to our identity and our ‘self’⁶

1 – Jonathan Welton (12-4-2022) “The World Within” [distributed e-newsletter]

2 – “5-Revealing Ezer” canberraforerunners.org/wp-content/uploads/2013/03/05-Revealing-Ezer.pdf

3 – The Greek *anouthen* means ‘again’, but also ‘from above’. (SEE: James 1:17 – “every good and perfect gift comes *anouthen* [from above])
Jesus is therefore saying, “Heaven must regenerate you”.

4 – ‘God’: I use this term in inverted commas because ‘God’ is the generic term people use, while I don’t any more. I have an intimate relationship with the members of the Trinity, so I refer to them by name out of relationship. Out of my oneness with them, I also refer to them as The Trinity.

5 – “The Flesh: Our Human Base Nature” canberraforerunners.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/05/The-Flesh-Our-Human-Base-Nature.pdf

6 – en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Self

(i.e. our self image).

“The self-concept is a general term used to refer to how someone thinks about, evaluates or perceives themselves. To be aware of oneself is to have a concept of oneself.”⁷

We instinctively create our personal ‘self’ (a persona⁸), because there’s a driving desire inside us to know who we are. Without that knowledge, we’re unsettled and cannot move forward in control of our life and destiny. For example: At the age of 16, I decided to become a ‘self-made man’. Up until then, I was my parent’s son, meaning that I didn’t have a persona that was uniquely myself. That’s why I decided to forge for myself an identity that was purely mine and not my parents’, one that would set me apart in the world as an individual, and one that others noticed. This was my attempt at creating my ‘self’ and my identity.

To create this persona, this fake ‘self’, is to take our experiences, our insights and understanding, our desires for a self-concept, and we squeeze them all together to create it. This persona is the one we all cling to, so it becomes who we are. Some days our ‘self’ is “good”, but on other days our ‘self’ is “bad”, because it has followed our evil desires. We’re pleased with our “good” days, but we punish ourselves on the “bad” days, in an attempt to be better in the future. This is exactly how religion works – it punishes us by us punishing ourselves, because we don’t measure up to “the standard”. What that means is that we judge ourselves, when our King is the Judge^{xvii} of everything. It’s his ruling that matters, not our own – but we don’t ‘get that’.

As sons, any persona is a false ‘self’. It’s the one that wants to be “a good Christian” by living up to the standards set by religion. It’s the one we work on ourselves, with striving and performing, but which is only dead works,^{xviii} and totally ineffective for maturing as a son.

The true ‘self’ of a genuine son is very different. This is the one that Father is developing in us which Paul calls ‘Christ-likeness’.^{xix} This ‘self’ is our spirit and Holy Spirit, who dwells in us,^{xx} plus our changed heart and mind which have been through the process of renewing. This true ‘self’ is the result of becoming a new species^{9, xxi} one that’s different to every other living thing on Earth, including ‘regular’ humans.

This is the ‘self’ we’re meant to live out of and to ‘feed’ and sustain. It’s deep within us, in our Internal Kingdom,¹⁰ where our true sonship comes from. This ‘self’ occurs when we draw life from the King,^{xxii} it doesn’t originate from ourselves. This is the “newness of life”^{xxiii} that we’ve read about that is vibrant and fulfilling, and so much better than our old life. This is where abundant life is found.^{xxiv}

When we live out of our true ‘self’, we will flow out of our real identity as sons. We’ll no longer run around with fearful thoughts, trying to prop up our constantly failing false ‘self’ that we’ve created. We’ll let go of performing and perfectionism, and rest in the river of life^{xxv} that’s in our deeper self, the one that basks in Father’s love.^{xxvi}

Religion creates an imitation of true ‘self’ by grabbing hold of truths about our new nature in Christ which are found in the Bible. Such things as: we’re his righteousness, we’re sanctified, we’re holy, and we’re perfect. Also, we’re royalty, we’re priests, and we’re sons. However, religion attempts to live out of these, instead of them being realities and part of our true ‘self’. These truths then become a heavy burden we have to carry because we’re compelled to live up to them, rather than living out of them.

To live out of our deepest, truest ‘self’ requires us to ‘die’, long before our body dies. That death is the letting go of the false ‘self’, the ego ‘self’, the façade we’ve built for the outside world to see. We can’t live out of our true ‘self’ unless we die to the old ‘self’, “the old man”^{xxvii}.

This true ‘self’ is the one that Jesus referred to when he talked about abiding in him.^{xxviii} Abide means to

7 – “Self Concept” www.simplypsychology.org/self-concept.html

8 – The particular type of character that a person seems to have and that is often different from their real or private character. dictionary.cambridge.org/dictionary/english/persona

9 – Or *creature*

10 – “Abundant Life Comes from the Internal Kingdom”

canberraforerunners.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/12/Abundant-Life-Comes-from-the-Internal-Kingdom.pdf

“The Importance of All Needs Being Met by the Internal Kingdom”

canberraforerunners.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/07/The-Importance-of-All-Needs-Being-Met-by-the-Internal-Kingdom.pdf

‘continue in a place’ and ‘remain stable and fixed in a state’.¹¹ ‘Abide’ has ‘rest’ within it’s meaning, rather than action. There’s no performance or striving when we abide – we live there, we just “are”.

The important focus for sons is on the spirit component of our true ‘self’. Our spirit is the real “us”, it’s the one that won’t be replaced after we die, and it’s the one that’s in the likeness of the Creator. Seeing ourselves this way is a major step towards living out of our true ‘self’. Everything else is a natural, temporal¹² construct, and not worth placing importance on. This is why it’s critical that we monitor¹³ our thoughts to see if we’re living out of our true ‘self’ or not.

Jonathan Welton writes on this:

“The false self is constantly active in our thoughts, it may even appear that they are one and the same, but that would be an oversimplification. There are thoughts that are not a part of the false self, and the false self can also appear in our feelings and emotions. Yet it is a profound insight to understand that we are not our thoughts. Our mind has thoughts, but our inner being is the observer of our thoughts.

If you were to take a 24-hour period and pay attention to every single thought you had in your mind, who would be the one listening to your thoughts? You would. Which you? The “you” of your spirit, the deep inner being is the one that listens. Paul said it so clearly to the Corinthians^{xxx} ... Our spirit is the witness, the observer, the listener of our own thoughts. This observer deep within us is at peace, it is present with Jesus and the Holy Spirit, it is rooted and abiding in love, with fully-grown fruit of the Spirit. Yet our false self will be running around like a slave to fear, trying to be a good boy or girl and earn a gold star. Always proactively running thoughts through our mind and manoeuvring, manipulating and self-protecting at all costs.

By being present in our inner being, we step out of fear, out of the mindstream of the false self, and into the settled place of His presence, the unshakeable world within.^{xxx}”¹⁴

So, there you have it. The teaching we’ve received from the pulpit and from our life in the world has kept us from being our true ‘self’, and recognising our real ‘self’. Time to ditch the fake ‘self’ and live out of the Internal Kingdom as we’re meant to be living as Father’s sons.

NOTE: After writing this, I asked Father for his mind on ‘self’.

Summary

‘Self’ is a concept about how we see ourselves. It’s about the personality that we create for ourselves so we feel good about being alive and the one we desire people to identify us as. In other words, it’s the identity we create. This ‘self’ we want others to see is a fake ‘self’. Our true ‘self’ is what we are like when we’re open and honest, have no agenda and we ‘let our guard down’. Our real ‘self’ is different to both, it’s the spirit inside of us. It’s not our sonship. That’s our status in the Kingdom coming from our position in Father’s family. The true ‘self’ for sons should be the result of the life of their spirit living with Holy Spirit, which come from their Internal Kingdom.

*****Read all of what Father said to me: [HERE](#)**

Laurence

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14 – Jonathan Welton (12-4-2022) “The World Within” [distributed e-newsletter]

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- ii – John 3:3, 7 (See AMP, CJB, CEV, EHV, EXB, ISV, MSG, NASBE, NET, NRSV, YLT)
- iii – John 10:10b; 1 John 5:12
- iv – Colossians 2:13; Romans 5:12-15
- v – Ezekiel 36:26
- vi – Ephesians 2:1-3
- vii – Galatians 6:7-8
- viii – 2 Peter 2:20-22
- ix – Romans 12:2
- x – 2 Corinthians 4:16
- xi – James 1:2-4
- xii – Hebrews 12:11
- xiii – 1 Corinthians 11:18; Galatians 5:16-23; 1 Timothy 5:11-13; 2 Peter 2:12-15 (See
- xiv – Revelation 2:14-15, 19-22
- xv – Romans 8:5
- xvi – Romans 7:21-23
- xvii – Acts 10:42
- xviii – Hebrews 6:1, 9:14
- xix – 2 Corinthians 3:18; Romans 8:29, 12:2; Ephesians 4:15
- xx – Romans 8:9
- xxi – 2 Corinthians 5:17
- xxii – Galatians 2:20; Colossians 3:4
- xxiii – Romans 6:4
- xxiv – John 10:10
- xxv – Revelation 22:1 (The real symbolic meaning of the River of Life)
- xxvi – 1 John 4:18
- xxvii – Romans 6:6; Ephesians 4:22; Colossians 3:9
- xxviii – John 15:1-12 (1 John 2:24-28)
- xxix – 1 Corinthians 2:11
- xxx – Hebrews 12:28