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The Spiritual Man





Synopsis

This is a complete presentation on the workings of the human spirit and soul and body. The book aims at delivering people from the tyranny of self-life with its carnality and from the domination of the passions and lusts of the flesh. It attempts to lead them to the full salvation of Christ. It is not to be taken as a manual but as a guide to true spirituality. It is recommended that this three-volume work be listened to quickly once. Then, lay it aside and wait until the Holy Spirit leads one into a certain stage of spiritual life when knowledge and understanding are needed. Turn, then to the special section of the book dealing with that particular experience for enlightenment. Thus, it will be realized that in Thy light, shall we see light (Ps. 36:9). May God use this book to help people in their journeying towards the spiritual.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

I first started reading this book with an open, but cautious, mind. As one reviewer wrote, it seemed that this book is based on only one verse, and I was a bit skeptical about it. It wasn't until I delved further into this book to discover that the one verse statement is not correct. The book is very Scriptural. The Bible many times shows the differences between the spirit and the soul, but our English translations are not always clear.1 Cor. 2:14-15 says: "But a soulish man does not receive the things of the Spirit of God... but the spiritual man discerns all things..."1 Cor. 15:44 says: "[Our body] is sown a soulish body, it is raised a spiritual body. If there is a soulish body, there is also a spiritual one."Jude 19 says: "These [mockers] are those who make divisions; they are soulish,

having no spirit."Most translations translate the word "soulish" as "natural", but in the Greek it is the adjectival form of the word "soul". There are more passages, but these are just a few to get you started. Those who have warned against this book are right to say that we should always put the Bible first, but they are not right in saying that it is un-Biblical. I recommend reading this book with an open mind, the Bible (and maybe Strong's Concordance) in hand, a prayerful heart, and discernment. This is an excellent book that will really aid you in your walk with God, teaching you to walk by the Spirit and not yield to the flesh, putting your spirit, soul, and body in the proper alignment. One should remember that Mr. Nee wrote this book in his early twenties. For those familiar with his later works, the level of maturity is slightly noticable. As he grew in faith, he refined some of his teachings later.

Watchman Nee exemplifies the believer of whom the Lord Jesus spoke "from his innermost being will flow rivers of living water." (Jn. 7:38). He was a man full of the Holy Spirit, and this book overflows with words of life inspired by the Spirit. The book is no substitute for the Scriptures, rather its a book written by one to whom the Scriptures had come alive, and who was blessed with the words to convey the quickening of his own spirit experienced within. This book will be a wonderful discovery for those who have hoped that the Bible is more than doctrine and dogma, and speaks also of a spiritual reality that can be experienced by faith in such promises as "the Spirit will guide you in all truth" and "teach you about all things." (Jn. 16:13; I Jn. 2:27.) The book is no less than a manual for those believers who have heard the inward call to the Spirit-led life, and seek to understand what this life is about and how to maintain it. Nee writes that "spiritual service means nothing other than our working by our spirit for the quickening of the spirits of others." By the power of the Holy Spirit, Nee has done a great service with this book. Many in the evangelical camp have criticized Watchman Nee. They are, for the most part, what A.W. Tozer has described as Evangelical Rationalists. The rationalists believe that divine truth is reducible to mere words and creeds. If you hold the right opinion on the stated propositions, then you have the truth. If you can recite the creed, you have the truth. Tozer compared the Evangelical Rationalists to the Pharisees of Jesus' day who searched the Scriptures, thinking that in them they had eternal life, but they did not come to Him of whom the Scriptures bore witness. C.H.

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