



Self-Examination and Self-Control

(October 19, 2012)

I was praying this morning and the Spirit of the Lord started to speak to me about self-examination.

We read in 2 Corinthians 13:5: "**Examine yourselves whether ye be in the Faith, prove your own selves.**"

The Lord has given us the task of seeing if we are in the Faith or not. **Most of the time it is easier for us as humans to see other people's faith, or lack thereof.**

Now God says, however, that we should not judge others, but rather judge our own hearts. We must focus on our own walk with God first before thinking on other people's walk with God (1 John 2:6).

In Mark 11:22, the Word tells us to **have the Faith of God**, and that we should use our faith in God, to accomplish His perfect will. **Our Faith then becomes like an instrument, for His honor and glory.** (Romans 4:19-21)

The Lord also ministered to me from another scripture in 1 Corinthians 11:28, 31, and 32. We see here the importance of judging oneself, lest one be judged. **We could also say that one should correct oneself first, instead of always trying to correct others, which of course is the task of a parent, teacher, or a leader.** (Matthew 7:1-5)

The Lord's supper offers a very powerful truth and mystery when it comes to self-examination, correction, and deliverance from demonic power. **It brings to remembrance the body and blood of Jesus, and our oneness with Him in the new covenant in His blood, that breaks the enemy's power in the life of the believer.** I have seen more people getting profoundly healed and delivered in connection to the Lord's Supper, better known as communion, than anything else.

So the Lord has created us **as speaking spirits, and has told us to hold fast to the confession of our Faith without wavering, Hebrews 10:23, with humble self-examination.**

Another truth that the Lord quickened to my heart is that He has given us self-control in Him. **For God hath not given us the spirit of fear but of power and of love and of a sound (self-controlled) mind.** (2 Timothy 1:7)

We do not only have the power to judge and correct ourselves by the Word and Spirit of God, but we also have the power and the love to control our spirits, souls, and bodies. What hinders people from self-control, most of the time, is the spirit of fear. The Lord has given us power over fear through love--**perfect love casteth out fear, and he that feareth is not made perfect in love.** (1 John 4:18)

Not only has He given us power to control our bodies, but also our minds and spirits. **Paul said that he kept his body (flesh) under** (1 Corinthians 9:27). In 2 Corinthians 10:5, he also tells us, by the Spirit of God, **to bring every thought into captivity to the obedience of Christ.** So not only are we called and able to control the life and desires of the body, but also the thoughts and imaginations of our hearts. What a wonderful Savior we serve, **Hallelujah!**

-Roger Wågsjö