

Soul Ownership! Part 3

Involved in a "Soul Ownership" mini-series!

**There can be no greater experience with God than when we are wholly owned by Him!
When we discover what that means the possibilities become endless because "with God nothing is impossible!"**

Left off... Looking at Paul as an example of being *wholly owned*... With God he was able to face real life struggles with confidence... Nothing rhetorical or theatrical! With God he faced death and lived right thru it! God wasn't done with him so he wasn't done! With God he was at the right place at the right time for miracles to flow...

Paul was the property of God! He was the purchased possession... He was the 'doulos' of God, not his own... On one level, he was the "huios", adopted son of God... **Rom 8.14** He was a bona-fide "kleronomos," an heir of God! **Eph 4.6,7** But his life was not his own 1Cor6.19, he lived to serve Jesus **R1.19**, and he was willing to be spent doing it! **2Cor12.15** He gave up everything, endured all things and continued on because he was! Paul and the early disciples understood, loved and preached the concept!

Until we are His very own, and living for His will, we will never know the richness of life He planned for us!

A life story...

God's greatest desire for us is to know what it's like to be wholly owned and to live the life found only in Him!

The Lord is my shepherd... Is a great place to begin! "I am a wholly owned sheep... by Him!" BUT NEVER LET ANY UNDERSHEPHERD TREAT YOU LIKE A MUTTON HEAD! The metaphor is strictly... People are precious... not animals for profit, to be consumed, comfort! "I will have no wants... even though I walk thru the valley of the shadow of death..." "You, your authority and resources are my comfort..."

Being wholly owned should really free us to focus on God and do all that our Father wills for us!

Wholly owned freedoms...

When you are wholly owned it doesn't matter where God sends you!

"You are going to be bound and delivered to your enemies" and they begged him not to go. He said, "Why are you weeping for me? I am ready to go and be bound and even to die for the name of the Lord Jesus!" **Acts 21.11ff** The Lord spoke to Paul in the night, "Don't be afraid to speak up, I am with you and no man will hurt you!" **Acts 18.9,10** This was all part of God's personal plan for Paul... "The Lord said to Ananias, Go and find Saul (Paul) for he is a chosen vessel for Me... I will show him the many things he will suffer for My name's sake..." **A9.11ff** (we've read the lists: shadow's and realities of death!) And even in death, he was willing to be directed back on line!

When you are wholly owned it doesn't matter what God does w/anyone else! This is a 100% vertical issue! Makes no difference what God has called someone else to do... "Peter asks, What about John? What is your plan for him?" Jesus replied, "What is that to you? Follow Me!" **J21.21** Will you do what He asks... or butt heads? No "why do they get to?" or "How come they don't have to?"

When you are wholly owned you don't have to "exercise" your faith for "stuff," you only use it to draw nearer to Him! "There was given me a thorn in the flesh, the messenger of Satan that came to buffet me. I prayed to the Lord for this three times, that it might depart and He said, My grace is sufficient for you!" **2Cor 12.7-9**

Asides... "Thorn in the flesh," the messenger of Satan... Paul: "I was "getting hung up" in my flesh by an "angel" of Satan..." A potent adversary! A travelling antagonist in the form of man? I prayed three times,

that “it might depart;” stand down, flee, stand off... God said, “Paul, my grace: favor, benefits and gifts are enough for this!” “Angel” is always angel... important...

“Thorn in the flesh,” the messenger of Satan... Because it’s been said many times that this is an eye disease (MISAPPLICATION)... Sickness and disease is part of the blood covenant we have in Christ! Paul could easily have been sick... Maybe he had “an eye problem from the dirty dust of the times...” But he wouldn’t have called it an “angel” from Satan...

When it comes to sickness and disease we have the Cross as a covenant... And we can exercise our faith for healing... “I have this problem, and this problem, now this problem...” *ad infinitum*... Or we can approach this as an issue of being wholly owned... “I belong to the Great Shepherd, who laid down His life for the sheep...” I am broken and “simply” present myself with faith that You care for what You own... SO WHAT’S NEXT?

Instead of trying to triumph over adversity, use adversity as an opportunity to draw near to God!

“Take no anxious thoughts for things like food and clothing... (the unsaved worry about that) your heavenly Father knows what you need. Seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness He will add all things to you!” **Matt 6.31-33** When you start to feel anxiety you are too far from your intimacy with God... draw near and watch worry flee!

In the model prayer: Our Father (hijos relationship) who lives in heaven. Holy is Your name! Your kingdom come. Your will be done on earth – like it is in heaven (ownership recognition). *Give us this day our daily bread...! (Ownership provisions)*” **Matt 6.9-11**

Just like we can spend our time in periods of prayer for “things” or can spend time engaged in conversation with our Father... So we can spend our time exercising our faith for “things” or we can use our faith to draw ever nearer to our Father!

If we are engaged in deep relationship with our Father we will know we don’t have to reserve periods of time to ask Him for stuff!

Our choice!

“If we are wholly owned we don’t have to spend a lot of that regarding our lives for it is His good pleasure to give us His kingdom!”