

Sunday, October 28, 2012

Spiritual Remedies (1)

In the previous article, we talked about the loving God the true physician. He is able to heal all our spiritual and psychological diseases with His effective medicine, delicate care for us, His life giving words, and the work of His Holy Spirit within us.

We saw some examples of serious spiritual diseases such as despair, fear, jealousy, and anger and we also showed the appropriate remedies for them. Now we continue to demonstrate other diseases and their remedies:

+ If **greed, love of money, or vain glory** begin to invade our hearts, the word of the Bible gives us the medicine that prevents and heals this serious disease as it sheds some light on the facts:

✠ *“What is your life? It is even a vapor that appears for a little time and then vanishes.”* (James 4:14)

✠ *“The form of this world is passing away.”* (Corinthian 7:31)

✠ *“Whose will those things be which you have provided?”* (Luke 12:20)

✠ *“What profit is it to a man if he gains the whole world, and loses his own soul?”* (Matthew 16:26)

✠ *“One’s life does not consist in the abundance of the things he possesses.”* (Luke 12:15)

Additionally, the Holy Scriptures give us examples of those who sought after money, fame, vain glory, and power such as **Absalom and Judas Iscariot** and how tragic their end was.

+ As to **laziness and complacency**, which seems at first to be a simple downfall, is actually one of the worst diseases. It seriously weakens man’s spiritual immunity and leaves him victim to other spiritual diseases. Grace gives us many remedies that strengthen us through **prayers and church sacraments**. These remedies such as **praise, psalms, hymns, and sermons with fervent prayers** encourage even those who are complacent and lead them to be fervently involved in worship. Additionally, when man is nourished by the **word of God** through reading or listening to sermons, his will becomes strengthened. These nourishments also uplift the person who is drowned in carelessness, awaken him, and move his heart towards repentance and worship.

+ If **the lust of the flesh** enters into one’s heart and defiles the soul, the grace of God gives us remedies that strengthen us: **Fasting, prayer, metanias, being armed by the name of Jesus, being nourished by praise and spiritual readings**. Also, the Bible gives us powerful verses that support us in our strife against this serious ailment such as:

✠ *“but as He who called you is holy, you also be holy in all your conduct, because it is written, ‘Be holy, for I am holy.’”* (1 Peter 1:15-16)

✠ *“Or do you not know that your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit who is in you, whom you have from God, and you are not your own? For you were bought at a price; therefore glorify God in your body and in your spirit, which are God’s.”* (1 Corinthians 6:19-20)

✠ *“Do you not know that you are the temple of God and that the Spirit of God dwells in you?”* (1 Corinthians 3:16)

✠ *“If you live according to the flesh you will die; but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live.”* (Romans 8:13)

✠ *“Put to death your members which are on the earth: fornication, uncleanness, passion, evil desire, and covetousness, which is idolatry.”* (Colossians 3:5)

✠ *“Always carrying about in the body the dying of the Lord Jesus, that the life of Jesus also may be manifested in our body.”* (2 Corinthians 4:10)

Over the next two articles we will continue our topic and discuss the most serious spiritual ailment that man faces which is pride. We will discuss the remedies that treat that diseases and how to immune ourselves against it. May the peace of Christ be with

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