

One fine day in 1996, a close friend of mine had reason to be *deliberately* grateful to our Lord for His mercies, and to reflect on the leading of the Holy Ghost through the *inward witness*. He had to make a rather long journey on public transit, making casual acquaintance along the way 2 young men along the way.

You know the way it is: 3 young men talking about sports, the weather, the economy. Finding someone to talk to on a 14-hour bus ride generally made time appear to pass a bit quicker. So when the bus stopped for a break to allow the passengers an opportunity to stretch their legs, visit a washroom or buy a drink, and one of the 2 young men offered my friend a tetra-packed box of apple juice, he thought they were just being nice and friendly. He could easily have done the same.

But. Something. A sense, a "distinct" (to quote him) impression, a perception, not to drink the juice. But would that not be rude? What could be wrong with drinking it? Not wanting to be rude, so he drank it. The next thing he remembered was waking up 2 days later in a police cell. He'd slept for 2 days straight! Every thing he had had been stolen. The young men had apparently injected the drink with a substance that knocked him out cold for 2 days - and the police had picked him up after they found him dumped on a street corner!

Thank God for His mercies! You will agree with me that that could have easily ended up a lot worse than it did.

Perhaps the first thing to realize about being led by the Spirit of God is: *you are led by the Spirit of God.*

Notice the Scripture does not say, "as many as are **going to be led** by the Spirit of God..."

It says as many as "are led..."

If folks will see in the Word that the Lord's leading is a fact, a reality, it will help us to walk in the Father's will. That He leads us is a *fact*. He's my Shepherd, I am His sheep and the Holy Spirit lives in me.

Personally, I don't ask Him to lead me. I thank Him for leading me by the Holy Ghost. I thank Him for I am His child and that He delights in shepherding me. I just rejoice in Romans 8:14.

Can you see that? We are children of God; therefore, we are led by His Spirit. That quickly makes a demand on you: that you be conscious of that as reality and fact.

The Spirit bears witness with our spirits. The way that the Holy Spirit leads us is through our bornagain, recreated spirits.

Somehow, we know in our hearts, in our spirits, that we are God's children. We can't pinpoint why or how but we are confident of it: we are children of God.

This knowing has been called "the inward witness". You will not find that expression in Scripture, but it has been coined to aptly describe a spiritual thought.

And no, it is not the only way that He leads us, but we can say that it is the first or basic way in which He does it because that is how we know we are His children.

We know that we are His children, because of the witness of the Spirit. We can expect that He also leads us in the same way in other areas – by that same *witness*. All of us.

He that believeth on the Son of God hath this witness in himself. I John 5:10

What then is the inward witness? It is that inner urge, nudge, compulsion or intuition, which we sense in our hearts many times.

Scripture is *full* of examples of how we know by the Spirit. The Lord Jesus as example:

Mark 2:8: "Jesus perceived in his spirit" In the NIV: "Jesus knew in His spirit..." John 13:21: "Jesus was troubled in spirit..." To "perceive" is to become aware, to know. Acts 27:10: Paul said unto them, "Sirs, I perceive that this voyage will be with hurt..." Acts 18:5: "Paul was pressed in spirit" (*KJV*).

You have to notice that the human spirit is referred to in these Scriptures. We know in our spirits, we are led through our spirits.

It does not say, "as many as are going to be led by the Spirit of God..." It says "as many as are led..." It is a fact - He leads us".

Witness with our spirits. Perceived in his spirit; troubled in spirit; pressed in spirit. In the Word our spirits are also referred to as, "the inner man", "the hidden man of the heart", "the inward man", "the heart".

Folks have questions like: "should I marry this man?", "has God called me into ministry?", "should I take this job?"

In our hearts, we perceive, we know, we're troubled or we have peace, there's an impression, a conviction, a nudge or urge. It's a green or red light, a go-ahead or stop sign in our hearts. The more we think about an issue, the more (or less) we are convinced about what to do or not do.

As we spend time in the Word and "the communion of the Holy Ghost", the sharper and clearer that perception becomes.

Some folks defeat themselves by the way they talk: "I am confused; I don't know what to do; I always make the wrong decisions". If you prayed for God's leading or intend to, you know that talking like that will get you nowhere.

It will get you confusion and a list of wrong decisions. We should say what the Word says, not what we feel. Someone says, "What's wrong with saying how you feel?" Well, can you imagine the Lord Jesus saying He's confused and clueless? I think not.

And what has He said? In John 14:16, "I will not leave you comfortless. I will send you the Holy Ghost. He will lead you. He will guide you.

I will instruct thee and teach thee in the way which thou shalt go: I will guide thee with mine eye". Psalm 32:8

Blessed, Not Cursed

Being born again through our acceptance of Jesus as our personal Lord and Savior equals an automatic and an absolutely complete redemption from all curses, generational or otherwise. We have been redeemed from the curses of the law.

They have no hold over us anymore. If they don't have any hold over us, what sense does it make then to rid ourselves of them by "breaking" of them off us? They have been broken and blotted out at salvation, so let us stop looking for them. We don't have them anymore.

The question that bears asking again is this: If we have been redeemed from all curses, why then do we need generational curses broken off us? Is God's work in Christ is not complete? If the sacrifice of Jesus on the cross and His resurrection aren't sufficient to break generational curses, then what is?

Generational curses cannot be in the life of a believer, so stop chasing shadows and delving into the devil's territory through ignorance. Stand firm in your liberty and praise God for the absolute deliverance He gave you at redemption. Jesus, through His sacrifice took the cursing option away, hence, the only option available to believers today is blessing. Remain, abound in your covenant blessing. Don't allow the devil to lord his curses over you through ignorance; don't accept that as a believer, you still have curses over you that require breaking. You have been made free in Christ.

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"Generational Curses & the Believer Faith Contenders Ministries

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the Lord cometh!