



The Inner Man

First Lesson.



The Inner Man Reveal

Second Lesson.



The Inner Man Revealing

**Chapter 1 Of
Release Of The
Spirit**

By Watchman Nee

What You Should Do

- Acts 17:10–11 (NASB 95)
- **10 The brethren immediately sent Paul and Silas away by night to Berea, and when they arrived, they went into the synagogue of the Jews. 11 Now these were more noble-minded than those in Thessalonica, for *they received the word with great eagerness, examining the Scriptures daily to see whether these things were so.***



One Word Of Advice

- **Context is KING!**
- **Words do NOT stand alone. Neither in English or any other language.**
- **You cannot pull a word out of a verse and understand what the author meant without its surrounding context, even the time frame it was written.**
- **When doing a Word study, look at EVERY instance it occurs in scripture to get better context.**



Opening Remarks

- **This is not behavior modification.**
- **This is not to get you to change yourself.**
- **It is not self destruction.**
- **Or a form of self abasement.**
- **You are not being asked to Pray more, Give more, Work more.**
- **Many of you already do works out of guilt and obligation, anyway.**




Opening Remarks

- **This is to learn to discern what God is already (right now, right here, right where you are sitting) doing in your life and cooperate with it.**

Philippians 2:12–13 (NASB 95)

- **12 So then, my beloved, just as you have always obeyed, not as in my presence only, but now much more in my absence, work out your salvation with fear and trembling; 13 for it is God who is at work in you, both to will and to work for *His good pleasure*.**



Philippians 2:12–13 (NASB 95)

● **For it is God who is at work in you, both to will and to work for *His good pleasure*.**

Quick Word On Watchmen Nee

- **What do you know about him?**
- **Have you heard the criticism about him, like he is Anti-Trinity?**
- **One thing he did do was encourage non-denominationalism.**
- **Which many main line churches didn't like.**

Release of the Spirit Chapter 1

- **The Importance Of Brokenness.**
- **“ANYONE who serves God will discover sooner or later that the great hindrance he has in the Lord’s work is not others, but himself. He will discover that his outward man (soul) is not in harmony with his inward man (spirit). Both tend to go toward two opposite directions from each other. He will also sense the inability of his outward man to submit to the inner control of his regenerated spirit, received through the new birth. Thus, he is rendered incapable of obeying God’s highest commands. He will quickly detect that his greatest difficulty lies in his outward man, which hinders him from using his spirit.”**

Release of the Spirit Chapter 1

- **The Importance Of Brokenness.**
- **“We must know that he who can work for God is the one whose inward man can be released. The basic difficulty of a servant of God lies in the failure of his inward man to break through his outward man. Therefore, we must recognize before God that the first difficulty to our work is not in others, but in ourselves. Our spirit seems to be wrapped in a covering which cannot easily break forth. If we have never learned how to release our inward man by breaking through the outward man, we are not able to serve. Nothing can so hinder us as this outward man.”**



Release of the Spirit Chapter 1

- **The Importance Of Brokenness.**
- **Nothing can so hinder us as this outward man.**
- **Is this true?**
- **How?**
- **Examples? King Saul.**

Release of the Spirit Chapter 1

- **The Importance Of Brokenness. 1 Samuel 10:11–12 (NASB 95)**
- **King Saul as an Example:**
- **‘11 It came about, when all who knew him previously saw that he prophesied now with the prophets, that the people said to one another, “What has happened to the son of Kish? Is Saul also among the prophets?” 12 A man there said, “Now, who is their father?” Therefore it became a proverb: “Is Saul also among the prophets?”**



Release of the Spirit Chapter 1

- **The Importance Of Brokenness. 1 Samuel 10:11–12 (NASB 95)**
- **King Saul as an Example.**
- **Disobedience Driven by Fear and Pride.**
- **Jealousy and Strife.**
- **Lack of Repentance and Spiritual Decline.**
- **You can be a ruler and be unbroken.**

Release of the Spirit Chapter 1

- **The Importance Of Brokenness.**
- **Nature Has Its Way Of Breaking.**
- **The Lord Jesus tells us in John 12: “Except the grain of wheat falling into the ground die, it abides alone; but if it die, it bears much fruit” (v. 24). Life is within the grain of wheat. But there is a shell, a very hard shell on the outside. As long as the shell is not split open, the wheat cannot sprout and grow. “Except the grain of wheat falling into the ground die....” What is this death? It is the cracking open of the shell through temperature and humidity working together in the soil. Once the shell of the husk is split open, the wheat begins to grow. So the question here is not whether life exists inside the shell, but whether the shell on the outside is cracked open.**

HARVEST →

JESUS ↓





Release of the Spirit Chapter 1

- The Importance Of Brokenness.
- Nature Has Its Way Of Breaking.
- **The question is not how thus to obtain life, but rather how to allow this life to come forth.**



Release of the Spirit Chapter 1

- **The Importance Of Brokenness.**
- **Nature Has Its Way Of Breaking.**
- **When we say ‘we need the Lord to break us,’ this is not merely a style of speaking, nor is it only a doctrine. It is most vital that the Lord breaks us. It is not that the Lord’s life cannot cover the earth, but rather we imprison His life. It is not that the Lord cannot bless the church, but that the Lord’s life is so confined within us, nothing is flowing forth. If the outward man remains unbroken, we can never be a blessing to His church. And we cannot expect the Lord to bless the Word of God through us!**

The Release Of The Spirit

- **Chapter 1. The importance of Brokenness.**
- **Nee emphasizes that God's purpose is to break the outer man through trials, discipline, and surrender to His will. This breaking is not destruction but a process to remove the barriers of self-reliance and fleshly strength, allowing the spirit to shine forth. He uses the biblical analogy of the alabaster box (Mark 14:3), which must be broken to release the precious ointment, to illustrate that the spirit's fragrance is released only when the outer man is broken.**

The Release Of The Spirit

- Next the Alabaster Box.
- **The Bible speaks of “ alabaster vial of very costly perfume of pure spikenard” (Mark 14:3). God purposely used this term “pure” in His Word to show that it is truly spiritual. But if the alabaster box is not broken, the pure spikenard will not flow forth.**

The Release Of The Spirit

- Next the Alabaster Box.
- **Strange to say, many are still treasuring the alabaster box, thinking that its value exceeds that of the ointment. Many think that their outward man is more precious than their inward man. This becomes the problem confronting the church. One will treasure his cleverness, thinking he is quite important. Another will treasure his own emotions, esteeming himself to be more advanced than other people. Others highly regard themselves, because they feel they are better than others, their eloquence surpasses that of others, or their quickness of action and exactness of judgment are superior, and so forth.**

The Release Of The Spirit

- **Next the Alabaster Box.**
- **However, we are not antique collectors. Nor are we “vase” admirers. We should be those who desire to smell only the fragrance of the ointment. Without the breaking of the outward, the inward fragrance will not come forth. Hence, not only do we individually have no flowing out, but also the church has no living way. Why then should we hold our outward man to be so precious, especially if the outward only contains the fragrance, instead of releasing the fragrance? The Holy Spirit has not ceased working.**



The Release Of The Spirit

- Next the Alabaster Box.
- **He makes sure one event after another and one difficulty after another come to us.**

A man with glasses and a grey vest over a striped shirt is speaking. He is in a workshop where pottery is being made. In the background, two other men are working with clay. The scene is brightly lit, and the workshop has a rustic feel with wooden shelves and various pottery items.

Alabaster Jars and Anointing Oils

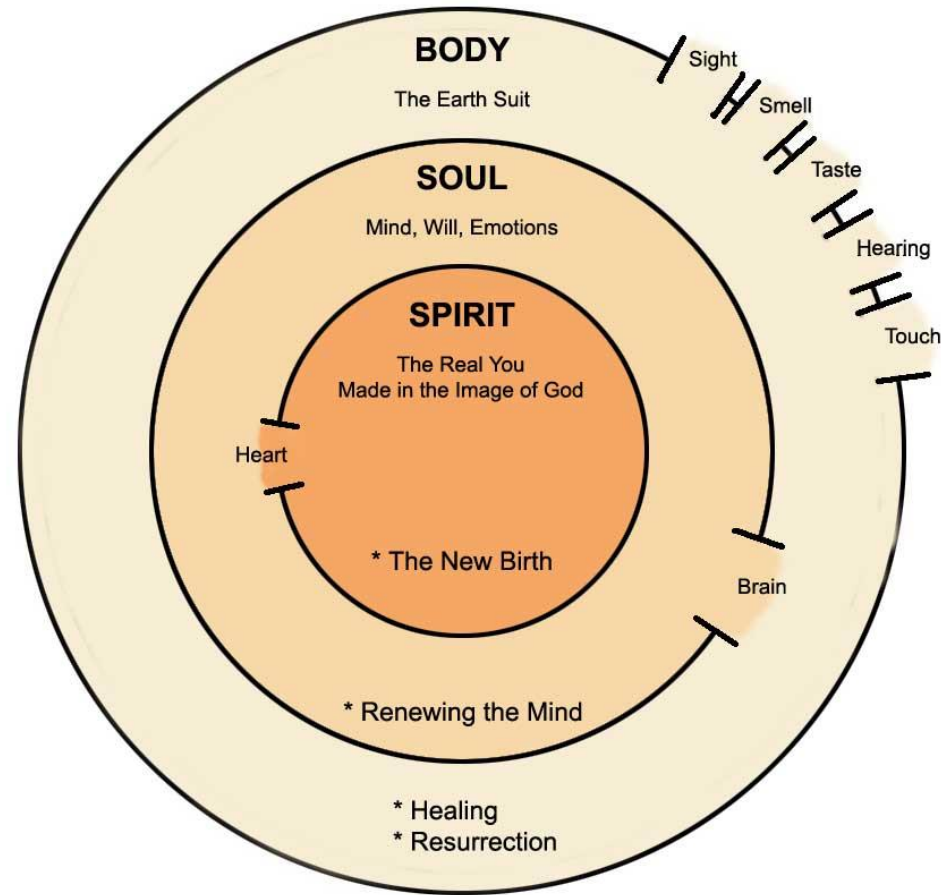
One woman's act of worship

The Release Of The Spirit

- **“God does not give us overcoming life; He gives us life as we overcome. The victory is not in the soul but in the spirit; for it is the Spirit of God who works in us to will and to do His good pleasure.”**
- **– The Normal Christian Life (1938)**
- **— Watchman Nee**



Body Equals Outermost Man
Soul Equals Outer Man
Spirit Equals Inner (Inward) Man





The Inner Man Revealing

Ephesians 1:18-19a (NASB 95)

I pray that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened, so that you will know what is the hope of His calling, what are the riches of the glory of His inheritance in the saints, and what is the surpassing greatness of His power toward us who believe.