

LED BY THE SPIRIT

Filled with the Spirit and Guidance

June 14, 2015

Ro 8:14 For all who are being led by the Spirit of God, these are sons of God.
Gal 5:18 But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not under the Law.

I. God's promise of guidance:

A. To Israel

Ex 15:13 "In Your lovingkindness You have led the people whom You have redeemed; In Your strength You have guided them to Your holy habitation. (Dt 32:9-13; Ps 107:7)

B. To His people

Ps 31:3 ... For Your name's sake You will lead me and guide me. (Ps32:8; 48:14; 73:24; 78:52)

C. Prophetic promise in the New

Isa 42:16 "I will lead the blind by a way they do not know, In paths they do not know I will guide them. I will make darkness into light before them And rugged places into plains. These are the things I will do, And I will not leave them undone." (Isa 48:17; 57:18; 58:11; Lk 1:79)

D. Jesus promised to give us guidance:

Jn 10:27 "My sheep hear My voice, and I know them, and they follow Me; (Jn 10:3-4)

E. The Holy Spirit is given - so that we will -

receive guidance, hear His voice and know the Lord.

Jn 16:12-13 "I have many more things to say to you, but you cannot bear them now. 13 "But when He, the Spirit of truth, comes, He will guide you into all the truth; for He will not speak on His own initiative, but whatever He hears, He will speak; and He will disclose to you what is to come.

(Jn 14:16-24; 1 Cor 1:9; 2 Co 13:14; Phil 2:1; 1Jn 1:3; 5:20)

II. God speaks to us

Heb 1:1-2 God, after He spoke long ago to the fathers in the prophets in many portions and in many ways, 2 in these last days has spoken to us in His Son, ...

1. Through the Scriptures

Heb 4:12-13 For the word of God is living and active and sharper than any two-edged sword, and piercing as far as the division of soul and spirit, of both joints and marrow, and able to judge the thoughts and intentions of the heart. 13 And there is no creature hidden from His sight, but all things are open and laid bare to the eyes of Him with whom we have to do.

(1Pt 1:11-121; 2Pt 1:19; 2Tim 3:16; Psa 19:8; 119:105, 133; Isa 8:19-20; Ac 17:11)

2. Directly to your spirit

Rev 3:20 Behold, I stand at the door and knock; if anyone hears My voice and opens the door, I will come in to him and will dine with him, and he with Me.

1Cor 6:17 But the one who joins himself to the Lord is one spirit with Him.

Gal 4:6 Because you are sons, God has sent forth the Spirit of His Son into our hearts, crying, "Abba! Father!"

1Jn 5:10 The one who believes in the Son of God has the testimony in himself; the one who does not believe God has made Him a liar, because he has not believed in the testimony that God has given concerning His Son.

3. Through the blood of Jesus

Heb 11:4 By faith Abel offered to God a better sacrifice than Cain, through which he obtained the testimony that he was righteous, God testifying about his gifts, and through faith, though he is dead, he still speaks. (Gen 4:10)

Heb 12:18-25 the things we have (come to) in the new covenant - the voice of God

Heb 12:24 (the blood of) Jesus, which speaks better than the blood of Abel

Heb 12:25 do not refuse Him who is speaking (Heb 3:7-8, 13-15; 4:7)

4. Through dreams and visions

Joel 2:28 "It will come about after this That I will pour out My Spirit on all mankind; And your sons and daughters will prophesy, Your old men will dream dreams, Your young men will see visions.

Nu 12:6 He said, "Hear now My words: If there is a prophet among you, I, the LORD, shall make Myself known to him in a vision. I shall speak with him in a dream. (Ac 9:10-11; 10:3-6; 11:5-9)

5. Through the gifts of the Spirit

1 Co 12:4-11 the charisma of the Spirit

3 oral gifts = tongues, interpretation of tongues and the prophecy

3 revelation gifts = word of knowledge, word of wisdom and discerning of spirits

3 power gifts = gifts of healing, working of miracles and faith

6. God uses Pastors (shepherds) to guide us

Isa 40:11 Like a shepherd He will tend His flock, In His arm He will gather the lambs And carry them in His bosom; He will gently lead the nursing ewes.

(Isa 63:11-14; Jer 3:15; 23:3-4; Ezek 34:12-13; Ps 78:52-54; Hos 11:3-4)

God's guidance likened to that of a shepherd

Ps 23:1-3 The LORD is my shepherd, I shall not want. 2 He makes me lie down in green pastures; He leads me beside quiet waters. 3 He restores my soul; He guides me in the paths of righteousness For His name's sake.

Jn 10:3 "To him the doorkeeper opens, and the sheep hear his voice, and he calls his own sheep by name and leads them out.

7. God uses Elders and Leaders to guide us in the church;

Eph 4:11-13; 2Ti 2:24-26

8. God uses parents to guide us

(Gen 18:19; Pr 4:11-13; 6:20-23; 13:1; 22:6; Eph 6:4)

9. God uses other godly people to guide us

Col 3:16 Let the word of Christ richly dwell within you, with all wisdom teaching and admonishing one another with psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with thankfulness in your hearts to God. (Phil 2:1-2; 1Jn 1:3; Job 31:18; Pr 16:23; Dan 5:12-17)

10. Sometimes God will use a fleece or something like that.

Gideon is led by a fleece (Jdg 6:36-40).

Eliezer (Abraham's servant) prays for God to confirm His will by ... (Gen 24:12-27).

Casting of lots (1Sam 14:36-42; Pr 60:33; Jonah 1:7; Ac 1:26)

The Urim and the Thummim (Ex 28:29-30; Nu 27:21; 1Sam 28:6)

11. Sometimes God will use angels

(Ac 5:19; 8:26).

12. Circumstances

"It came about," used 185X in NASU.

Abraham

Gen 11:31 Abraham is with his father, on the way to the land of Canaan, when his father dies.

Terah took Abram his son, and Lot the son of Haran, his grandson, and Sarai his daughter-in-law, his son Abram's wife; and they went out together from Ur of the Chaldeans in order to enter the land of Canaan; and they went as far as Haran, and settled there. 32 The days of Terah were two hundred and five years; and Terah died in Haran.

Gen 12:1 God speaks to him to continue his journey, and be led to the land He will show him.

Now the LORD said to Abram, "Go forth from your country, and from your relatives and from your father's house, to the land which I will show you;

Gen 12:10 he goes to Egypt because of a severe famine in the land

God arranges circumstances to deal with Abraham's fear -

"It came about," (Gen 11:2; 12:11, 14; 14:1; 15:17; 19:29; 20:13; 21:22).

Gen 13 Abraham and Lot go their separate ways because of circumstances.

Gen 14:1-16 Abraham goes to war because (circumstance) Lot was a captive of war.

Gen 14:17-24 Abraham tithes because he meets Melchizedek - "priest of God Most High"

Nehemiah

Ne 1:11 - he has the position of being the cupbearer to the king

Ne 1:1-3 - he hears a report about the condition of Jerusalem

Ne 1:4-11 - he mourns and prays for the opportunity to speak to the king

Ne 2:1-2 - "It came about," the king inquires of his sadness

Ne 2:3-8 - his request to the king

The Apostle Paul goes to Macedonia

Ac 16:6-10 They passed through the Phrygian and Galatian region, having been forbidden by the Holy Spirit to speak the word in Asia; 7 and after they came to Mysia, they were trying to go into Bithynia, and the Spirit of Jesus did not permit them; 8 and passing by Mysia, they came down to Troas. 9 A vision appeared to Paul in the night: a man of Macedonia was standing and appealing to him, and saying, "Come over to Macedonia and help us." 10 When he had seen the vision, immediately we sought to go into Macedonia, concluding that God had called us to preach the gospel to them.

III. Some suggestions:

1. Keep a journal of what the Lord is saying to you.
2. Take notes when listening to God's Word being preached.
3. Have a pad by your bed and write down your dreams.
4. Pay attention - to prophetic words, etc.