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## The Mirror of the Word

There was a man by the name of Henry Molaison, who was born on February 26, 1926. He was known as one of the most medically studied men in history. He lived to be 82 years of age. His health condition was studied because it was quite unusual in its time. He was above average in his intelligence, but he suffered with a type of amnesia where he really had no continuity from minute to minute, hour to hour, day to day. If you talked to him in the afternoon and said, "Have you had lunch?," he would say, "I don't know" or, "I guess so", but he would not remember what he had had. And if you asked, "What was your last meal?," he wouldn't know what it was. This poor man's condition would cause him to forget minute by minute. His nickname was "the man that forgets".

Every Christian struggles with a similar type of amnesia, except it is the spiritual kind. Sadly, most never overcome it. They live their lives constantly forgetting whom God made them when they were born again. The battle of the flesh versus the spirit began at salvation, and continues until our mortal bodies fall off of us. Everyday we are torn between two worlds, the natural and the spiritual, and many believers settle for a life dictated by their old man, and never get to walk daily in who God has made them.

The natural man and its mind are always in strife with your spirit man, and will constantly push you to listen to its wisdom. When we are first born again, the only proof we have of who we truly are comes from the Word of God. We hear the promises of God and get excited, but then soon after we begin to doubt that those promises are for us. And this is where the dividing line comes; will we continue to stand on the Word or will we allow ourselves to listen to our natural mind and seek evidence that we are worthy of the blessings of God.

James 1:23-25 says, *"For if anyone is a hearer of the word and not a doer, he is like a man observing his natural face in a mirror; for he observes himself, goes away, and immediately forgets what kind of man he was. But he who looks into the perfect law of liberty and continues in it, and is not a forgetful hearer but a doer of the work, this one will be blessed in what he does."*

I heard a great evangelist say one time that there was a need for teachers of the Word in his services, because multitudes of people were receiving incredible miracles in his services, and yet many of them would contact his ministry in the following days and weeks because they would lose the healing. The enemy would come and steal the Word out of their hearts, and they would begin to doubt their worth to hold onto what God gave them.

I see churches full of people striving to gain God's acceptance and love because they don't truly know that He loves them already. Many seek experiences, as an affirmation of His love towards them, because they don't realize the depths of His love towards them each moment of the day. They struggle with this spiritual amnesia and constantly seek reminders of who they are because they have never come to a place of realization that they are complete in Him.

Some are driven to seek spiritual experiences in a deep desire to prove to themselves that He loves them. Some are so afraid of rejection that they are driven to sacrifice their lives with busyness in His name as a quest to prove to God that they are worthy of His love. I believe in both spiritual experiences and in sacrificing our

lives for Him but never to gain His approval, nor His love. These are to be the fruit from the knowledge of the great love that we already have from Him.

I suffered from spiritual amnesia, and for years wondered if I was worthy of God's love, always seeking for proof to calm my unbelief. Since I have overcome it, I wake up every day with confidence of His love for me, and I go to sleep each night with peace in my heart towards who God has made me. Even on the days I don't feel productive, or don't act perfect, I still walk in peace with Him, because I overcame spiritual amnesia and you can too.

The answer is in 1 Corinthians 13:11-12, *"When I was a child, I spoke as a child, I understood as a child, I thought as a child; but when I became a man, I put away childish things. For now we see in a mirror; dimly, but then face to face. Now I know in part, but then I shall know just as I also am known."* If you look at your life through a natural mirror you will only see the natural evidence of every struggle and every weakness in your life, however, God has given us a better mirror, a mirror that reflects the real you - the spiritual you. This mirror of the Word of God is the only place you can see yourself the way that God sees you.

The best advice I could give anyone is to read the Word of God everyday, and trust it even if all the circumstances you can see appear as evidence that you are failing, and every thought and emotion screams at you that you are unworthy. Remember - these are from your natural mind and the natural mirror. By looking into the mirror of the Word you can remind yourself who you are each day. Some days the only hope I can find comes from the Words of God and nowhere else. The natural man will continually strive to pull us out of belief. However, as the Word becomes part of us, then we will stop forgetting so quickly who we really are. You are who God says you are!

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