

# SOP: The Independent Soul

## Operating by Soul Power

- Galatians 6:7-8
- Romans 8:3-9
- Galatians 5:16-19
- Ephesians 2:3
- **Relies on emotions to lead you**
  - Wounded hearts/raw emotions—seek self-preservation
  - Develop triggers to warn of impending pain or reminder of pain
  - Seeks stimulation rather than ability to trust in midst of a trial, waiting
- **Relies on your mind to lead you**
  - Trust is placed in education/not necessarily wisdom
  - Reasoning is favored over walking by faith
  - It is built on a series of arguments/suppositions
- **Relies on your will to lead you**
  - Cooperation is forfeited when self rules
  - Unable to sustain covenant bonds

## The soul accommodates compromise and mixture

- Kingdom parables—introduction of mixture

## Deception appeals to the Soul

- Genesis 3:6—
- When the woman saw that the tree was good for food (all trees good for food except this one—Gen 2:9
- And that it was a delight to the eyes ( all trees were pleasing to the sight-Gen 2:9)
- That the tree was desirable to make one wise ( They walked with Wisdom— only needed to ask)
- Those who walk in strength of soul think they are led by the Holy Spirit
- When we encounter strength of soul—see it as conflict with a system rather than failure of a person. (You are pressing up against the spirit of the age)

## Systems train us:

- Follow the rules
- Conform
- The Law mediates a different covenant/not with us/Churches teach grace but model Law
- **Conformation:** Pressure from the outside; a force directed toward establishing inward change. (This is the general idea behind penitentiaries). The focus of conformation is your strengths being perfected.

**Definition:** to act in accord or harmony; show compliance; to take on the same form or character. Outer adaption; adjustment; manner of formation and structure.

**Results:**

- Teaches people to respond to guilt and shame
- Gives approval based on performance
- Change in behavior usually comes from the 'influence' of the one in authority
- Encourages external behaviors rather than internal attributes.
- With conformation, there is the tendency to hide/cover up our weaknesses and deficiencies.
- Learn to walk in strength of soul (produces pride)