

*"For if ye live after the flesh, ye shall die (be separated from God): but if ye through the Spirit do mortify (kill) the deeds of the body, ye shall live (be united with God)." **Romans 8:13 KJV***



The sea sponge abides in the ocean and the ocean abides in it. The coconut floats in the ocean, but the ocean is not in it. The ocean gives life to the sponge, but would rot the coconut. To be alive IN the ocean, a coconut would have to transform into a sponge. Death is the absence of

life. *ōGod is a Spirití and the Spirit is Life. In the beginning was the Wordí and the Word was God. In Him was Life; and the Life was the light of men.ö* When the soul and spirit leave the body, we pronounce the body dead. Like an ocean, God is omnipresent (everywhere at once) in His creation. Everything is IN Him, but He is not IN everything. It is the abiding, indwelling presence of the soul and spirit that quickens, gives life to, the body and it is the abiding, indwelling presence of God that quickens, gives life to, men. There is no eternal life outside of the abiding, indwelling presence of the eternal God. God's abiding presence brings man's spirit to life by virtue of His indwelling. His eternal existence grants eternal life to man. Once sealed by God through faith; *ōFaith cometh byí the Word of God (the Word IS God). If ANY man be in Christ, he is a NEW creature.ö* The spirit of man is transformed by the Spirit of Truth, abiding in him. How does God abide IN us? Through Truth, His Word. *ōThy WORD have I hid in mine heart (mind, soul) that I might not sin against Thee. Let this MIND (God's Word) be IN you.ö* Faith believes God and obeys His Word. God does not coerce, but the consequences of your choice are predetermined AND plainly given. *ōThe soul that sinneth it shall die (be without God).ö* This new birth creates enmity between a man's body and spirit. Man can either obey his body or the Spirit of Truth. *ōMeditate therein (think on God's Word) day and night.ö* Just as you chose to believe and call on the Lord for salvation, you must daily choose which will master your deeds; sin or righteousness. God will not be loved by mandate, but by choice. He reveals Himself through His creation, His Word, and His presence. His Word in our thoughts is the Truth that verifies His existence to our soul and gives us a lively hope in His promises. God works outside the realm of the physical world and His presence is only known by those who believe in Him through faith in His Word: Faith that produces actions of obedience contrary to natural instincts. God communicates with our spirit, not our body. *ōGod is a Spirit: and they that worship Him must worship Him in SPIRIT and in Truth. The natural man (unbelievers) receiveth not the things of the Spirit of Godí because they are spiritually discerned.ö* You must know Truth and to know it you must know God's written Word. Math makes no sense to the unlearned and Truth confuses those unfamiliar with its Author. If you don't know and meditate in God's Word, you'll never HEAR God's Voice!

It's through the Spirit men know Truth,
And hear the Mighty Voice of God,
That binds the flesh and sets souls loose,
From weary lives and earthly sod. ~CGP

You must open your heart to God's Word and embrace, through faith, its Truth. Are you a sponge, alive in and with God, or a coconut that simply floats in God's goodness to the shores of eternal Hell without God?

"But without faith it is impossible to please Him: for he that cometh to God must believe that He is, AND that He is a rewarder of them that DILIGENTLY seek Him." Hebrews 11:6 KJV