

#29- A SELF-DESTRUCT MECHANISM

I-The Mechanism

We are going to try to describe how a pin ball machine works. Many of our readers will be able to describe the operation much better but since the operation of a pin ball machine is a perfect illustration of the self-destruct mechanism the Lord placed within everyone when we were born of normal birth, we will try. We will probably be revealing how old we are when we tell you that in our younger years, pin ball machines were so popular that you could even find them in some grocery stores. If you are not familiar with the game of pin balls, you had to first put five or ten cents into the machine. The machine would load several round steel balls in front of a plunger. You pulled the plunger against a spring and then released it quickly so the plunger hit one of the steel balls and propelled it to the top of an **elevated** board which sloped **back** toward you. The elevated board was covered with glass so you could watch the steel ball as it rolled back toward you but you could not touch it. As the ball rolled back toward you, it had to pass through an array of "bumpers" which were attached to the board. The "bumpers" were wired electrically to a score board and were sensitive to the touch. If the steel ball touched any of the "bumpers" as it progressed to the bottom, the "score" was added to the total score that was reflected at the top of the machine. The object of the game was to accumulate a higher score than the opponent you were playing.

It was not possible to cheat by raising the lower end (the end you were standing on) of the machine to cause the steel ball to roll back to the top of the board so that it could hit more bumpers as it rolled back down again and add to your score. The manufacture had installed a mechanism that would sense when the machine was tilted and a message would flash across the screen that stated, **TILT!** The pin ball machine would then shut down and it was "game over" until you put more money in the machine and began a new game.

*"¹ Then answered Zophar the Naamathite, and said, ² Therefore do my thoughts give answer to me, Even by reason of my haste that is in me. ³ I have heard the reproof which putteth me to shame; And the spirit of my understanding answereth me. ⁴ Knowest thou not this of old time, Since man was placed upon earth, ⁵ That the triumphing of the wicked **is short**, And the joy of the godless, **but for a moment?**"*

The Hebrew word that is translated "wicked" means essentially someone who is guilty or in the wrong. In other words, the wicked that is referred to in the verse above is someone who is out of fellowship with the Lord, either lost or saved. The wicked referred to above is someone who is guilty or in the wrong because they are walking according to their old sin nature. Their triumphing and joy is but for a moment.

Continuing in Job, chapter 20, we find, "⁶ Though his height mount up to the heavens, And his head reach unto the clouds; ⁷ Yet **he shall perish for ever** like his own dung: They that have seen him shall say, Where is he? ⁸ He shall fly away as a dream, and shall not be found: Yea, he shall be chased away as a vision of the night. ⁹ The eye which saw him shall see him no more; Neither shall his place any more behold him. ¹⁰ His children shall seek the favor of the poor, And his hands shall give back his wealth. ¹¹ His bones are full of his youth, But it shall lie down with him in the dust. ¹² Though wickedness be sweet in his mouth, Though he hide it under his tongue, ¹³ Though he spare it, and will not let it go, But keep it still within his mouth; ¹⁴ Yet **his food in his bowels is turned, It is the gall of asps within him.** ¹⁵ He hath swallowed down

riches, and he shall vomit them up again; **God will cast them out of his belly.** ¹⁶ He shall suck the poison of asps: The viper's tongue shall slay him. ¹⁷ **He shall not look upon the rivers, The flowing streams of honey and butter.** ¹⁸ That which he labored for shall he restore, and shall not swallow it down; According to the substance that he hath gotten, **he shall not rejoice.** ¹⁹ For he hath oppressed and forsaken the poor; He hath violently taken away a house, and he shall not build it up. ²⁰ Because he knew **no quietness within him,** He shall not save aught of that wherein he delighteth. ²¹ There was nothing left that he devoured not; Therefore **his prosperity shall not endure.** ²² **In the fulness of his sufficiency he shall be in straits:** The hand of every one that is in misery **shall come upon him.** ²³ When he is about to fill his belly, God will cast the fierceness of his wrath upon him, And will rain it upon him while he is eating. ²⁴ He shall flee from the iron weapon, And the bow of brass shall **strike him through.** ²⁵ He draweth it forth, and **it cometh out of his body;** Yea, the glittering point **cometh out of his gall: Terrors are upon him.** ²⁶ All darkness is laid up for his treasures: A fire not blown by man shall devour him; It shall consume that which is left in his tent. ²⁷ The heavens shall reveal his iniquity, And the earth shall rise up against him. ²⁸ The increase of his house shall depart; His goods shall flow away in the day of his wrath. ²⁹ **This is the portion of a wicked man from God, And the heritage appointed unto him by God."** Job 20:1-29 (American Standard Version)

II-Our Personal Computer

We carry on our shoulders the most powerful computer that has ever been conceived and I am told that the average person uses only about ten percent of its storage capacity during their lifetime. If our brain cells **have not** been destroyed that we used for storage, everything that we have learned and everything that has happened to us is still stored on our brain. Yes, as long as the brain cells have not been destroyed because of disease or injury, THE INFORMATION WE STORED ON THEM IS STILL THERE. If you cannot remember some of the information right now, you just cannot go back to the brain cell where you filed that information. Your filing system has messed up, not your storage system. Sometimes we are not able to go to the brain cell where the information is stored. That is why, out of the blue, we are stimulated to remember something we have not thought about in years. Our brain not only records everything that happens to us but also records how we felt when it happened. That's one reason why, when we recall an embarrassing incident that happened to us in the past, we feel embarrassed again.

When each of us is in the womb, the Lord programs the brain of a person who is born of normal birth to carry on the life processes. For instance, how many breaths have you taken in the last hour? How many times has your heart expanded and contracted in the last hour in order to pump blood throughout your body? Our point is, our brain is programmed to carry on some life processes without us having to accomplish them through conscious thought.

In addition, the brain of a person who is born of normal birth is also programmed with a self-destruct mechanism. We have just read the self-destruct mechanism described in the verses printed above (Job 20:1-29). What we find described in the verses above is how **the brain** of a person who is out of fellowship with the Holy Spirit of God **will destroy their own material body.** They could have lost that fellowship when they committed the next sin after they reached the age the Lord held them accountable for their sins. When that happens, they will remain out of fellowship until they repent of their sins and ask Jesus Christ to pay their sin debt by His death on Calvary's cross. " ¹⁶ For so greatly did God love the world that He gave His only Son, that

everyone who trusts in Him may not perish but may have the Life of Ages. ¹⁷ For God did not send His Son into the world to judge the world, but that the world might be saved through Him. ¹⁸ He who trusts in Him does not come up for judgement. He who does not trust has already received sentence, because he has not his trust resting on the name of **(the authority of)** God's only Son." John 3:16-18 (Weymouth New Testament)

III-Only Our Spiritual Body Is Saved

As we shared in the previous Bible lesson (#28), after a person goes to the Lord in prayer, repents of their sins and asks Jesus Christ to pay their sin debt, every sin they have committed is forgiven and forgotten. At that moment, our spiritual body is restored to e-t-e-r-n-a-l fellowship with God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit. Our spiritual body is then sealed by the Holy Spirit and Lucifer (Satan) can never communicate with our spiritual body again. Lucifer can never tempt our spiritual body again and our spiritual body can never sin again. That's why our spiritual body can never lose its salvation.

⁹ "Whoever has been born of God does not sin, for His seed remains in him; and he cannot sin, because he has been born of God." 1 John 3:9 (New King James Version)

¹⁸ "We know that whosoever is born of God sinneth not; but he that is begotten of God keepeth himself, and that wicked one toucheth him not." 1 John 5:18 (King James Version)

IV-Our Material Body Is Not Saved

Was your material body born of God? Our material body was not. Our material body was born of parents who had material bodies. The body of Nicodemus was born of parents who had material bodies (John 3:1-4). At the moment of salvation our spiritual body was "born again" but our material body was not "born again". In fact, our material body was not changed one little bit. Our material body never wanted to do the will of God before our spiritual body was saved, our material body does not want to do the will of God now and our material body will never want to do the will of God as long as it has it's old sin nature. That's why our material bodies will never get out of this world alive. The apostle Paul wrote, " ¹⁴ For we know that the law is spiritual, but I am of the flesh, sold under sin. ¹⁵ For I do not understand my own actions. For I do not do what I want, but I do the very thing I hate. ¹⁶ Now if I do what I do not want, I agree with the law, that it is good. ¹⁷ So now it is no longer I who do it, but sin that dwells within me. ¹⁸ For I know that nothing good dwells in me, that is, in my flesh. For I have the desire to do what is right, but not the ability to carry it out. ¹⁹ For I do not do the good I want, but the evil I do not want is what I keep on doing. ²⁰ Now if I do what I do not want, it is no longer I who do it, but sin that dwells within me. ²¹ So I find it to be a law that when I want to do right, evil lies close at hand. ²² For I delight in the law of God, in my inner being, ²³ but I see in my members another law waging war against the law of my mind and making me captive to the law of sin that dwells in my members. ²⁴ Wretched man that I am! Who will deliver me from this body of death? ²⁵ Thanks be to God through Jesus Christ our Lord! So then, I myself serve the law of God with my mind, but with my flesh I serve the law of sin." Romans 7:14-25 (English Standard Version)

V-The Material Body Contains The Self-Destruct Mechanism

When the material body practices habitual sin without repentance, our brain releases electrical impulses down our nerves that will cause our body to begin to destroy itself (please read again, Job 20:25). One of the first things that happens is we lose joy in our life no matter

how successful we seem to be. ¹ *Do not fret because of those who are evil or be envious of those who do wrong;* ² *for like the grass they will soon wither, like green plants they will soon die away.* ³ *Trust in the LORD and do good; dwell in the land and **enjoy** safe pasture.* ⁴ **Take delight in the LORD, and he will give you the desires of your heart.** ⁵ *Commit your way to the LORD; trust in him and he will do this:* ⁶ *He will make your righteous reward shine like the dawn, your vindication like the noonday sun.* ⁷ *Be still before the LORD and wait patiently for him; do not fret when people succeed in their ways, when they carry out their wicked schemes.* ⁸ *Refrain from anger and turn from wrath; do not fret—it leads only to evil.* ⁹ *For those who are evil will be destroyed, but those who hope in the LORD will inherit the land.* ¹⁰ *A little while, and the wicked will be no more; though you look for them, they will not be found.* ¹¹ *But the meek will inherit the land and enjoy peace and prosperity.* ¹² *The wicked plot against the righteous and gnash their teeth at them;* ¹³ *but the Lord laughs at the wicked, for he knows their day is coming.* ¹⁴ *The wicked draw the sword and bend the bow to bring down the poor and needy, to slay those whose ways are upright.* ¹⁵ *But **their swords will pierce their own hearts**, and their bows will be broken.* ¹⁶ *Better the little that the righteous have than the wealth of many wicked;* ¹⁷ *for the power of the wicked will be broken, but the LORD upholds the righteous.* ¹⁸ **The blameless spend their days under the LORD's care, and their inheritance will endure forever.** ¹⁹ *In times of disaster they will not wither; **in days of famine they will enjoy plenty.*** ²⁰ *But the wicked will perish: Though the LORD's enemies are like the flowers of the field, they will be consumed, they will go up in smoke.* ²¹ *The wicked borrow and do not repay, but the righteous give generously;* ²² *those the LORD blesses will inherit the land, but those he curses will be destroyed.* ²³ **The LORD makes firm the steps of the one who delights in him;** ²⁴ *though he may stumble, he will not fall, for **the LORD upholds him with his hand.*** ²⁵ **I was young and now I am old, yet I have never seen the righteous forsaken or their children begging bread.** ²⁶ *They are always generous and lend freely; their children will be a blessing.* ²⁷ *Turn from evil and do good; then you will dwell in the land forever.* ²⁸ *For **the LORD loves the just and will not forsake his faithful ones.*** *Wrongdoers will be completely destroyed; the offspring of the wicked will perish.* ²⁹ *The righteous will inherit the land and dwell in it forever.* ³⁰ *The mouths of the righteous utter wisdom, and their tongues speak what is just.* ³¹ **The law of their God is in their hearts; their feet do not slip.** ³² *The wicked lie in wait for the righteous, intent on putting them to death;* ³³ *but **the LORD will not leave them in the power of the wicked** or let them be condemned when brought to trial.* ³⁴ *Hope in the LORD and keep his way. **He will exalt you** to inherit the land; when the wicked are destroyed, you will see it.* ³⁵ *I have seen a wicked and ruthless man flourishing like a luxuriant native tree,* ³⁶ *but he soon passed away and was no more; though I looked for him, he could not be found.* ³⁷ *Consider the blameless, observe the upright; **a future awaits those who seek peace.*** ³⁸ *But all sinners will be destroyed; there will be no future for the wicked.* ³⁹ **The salvation of the righteous comes from the LORD; he is their stronghold in time of trouble.** ⁴⁰ **The LORD helps them and delivers them; he delivers them from the wicked and saves them, because they take refuge in him.**" Psalm 37:1-40 (New International Version)

We wholeheartedly recommend that you read the short Book of Ecclesiastes! The Book of Ecclesiastes describes how King Solomon **lost the joy of his fellowship with the Lord** and how he tried **all kinds of things** to gain back the joy that was missing in his life. After one of his failed attempts to gain the joy that comes from fellowship with the Lord, he wrote, " ²⁴ *There is*

nothing better for a man, than that he should eat and drink, and that he should make his soul enjoy good in his labour. This also I saw, that it was from the hand of God. ²⁵ For who can eat, or who else can hasten hereunto, more than I? ²⁶ For **God giveth to a man that is good in his sight** wisdom, and knowledge, and joy: but to the sinner he giveth travail, to gather and to heap up, **that he may give to him that is good before God.** This also is vanity (emptiness) and vexation of spirit." *Ecclesiastes 2:24-26 (King James Version)*

In our last Bible lesson (#28), we shared how the material body of a saved person can lose its t-e-m-p-o-r-a-l fellowship with the Lord and what we must do to get back in fellowship with Him again. But, as in Solomon case, sometimes we get out of fellowship with the Living God and then stubbornly refuse to repent of our known sins and confess them to the Lord so that we can have joy in our life again. Instead, like Solomon, we try everything else under the sun before we are willing to admit that those other thing still left an emptiness within us. If you will take time to read the Book of Ecclesiastes you will see that after trying everything he could think of, Solomon ended up stating, " ¹³ *Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter: Fear (אִירָא pronounced " yaw-ray' in English and meaning "have reverence for") God, and keep his commandments: for this is the whole duty of man.* ¹⁴ *For God shall bring every work into judgment, with every secret thing, whether it be good, or whether it be evil.*" *Ecclesiastes 12:13-14 (King James Version)*

VI-Bitter Chocolate

If we ate the ingredients such as bitter chocolate or flour or butter, they would not taste very good alone. But if we combine all the ingredients in a recipe together correctly, they make a very good chocolate cake. Events that happen in a righteous person's life, viewed by themselves, may not seem good but **the Lord promises to combine them together for our good.** " ²⁸ *Now we know that for those who love God all things are working together for good—for those, I mean, whom with deliberate purpose He has called.*" *Romans 8:28 (Weymouth New Testament)*

In Isaiah, chapter three, we find that the Lord listed the procedure He uses to take away people and things from every nation that turns away from Him. We posted a paper on our website, <http://www.bayourouge.net>, entitled "Decline Of The United States" that explains the procedure. But we wanted to remind you that right in the middle of the list, the Lord told Isaiah to tell the righteous that while all those terrible things will be happening around them, it will be good with them for they will eat the rewards of their doings. In other words, the Lord promises to combine them together for our good. We do not know how He will do it. All we know is that the Lord promised that He would combine them together for our good and He has never broken a promise. " ⁹ *The show of their countenance doth witness against them; and they declare their sin as Sodom, they hide it not. Woe unto their soul! for **they have done evil unto themselves.*** ¹⁰ ***Say ye of the righteous, that it shall be well with him; for they shall eat the fruit of their doings.*** ¹¹ *Woe unto the wicked! it shall be ill with him; for what his hands have done shall be done unto him.* ¹² *As for my people, children are their oppressors, and women rule over them. O my people, they that lead thee cause thee to err, and destroy the way of thy paths.* ¹³ *Jehovah standeth up to contend, and standeth to judge the peoples."* *Isaiah 3:9-13 (American Standard Version)*