

## **Breaking the Will but not the Spirit**

*Frank L. Reed*

People are complex beings. Part of that complexity is that we possess both will and spirit. It is important that our will learns submission to authority and that our spirit is protected from injury. When the *will is unbroken* it causes problems for us and others all through our life. When the *spirit is broken* problems are caused also. The following contrasts may help to see the results as experiences impact our spirit, will, and body and thus control our lives.

The spirit of a man will sustain his infirmity; but a wounded spirit who can bear?—Pr. 18:14

### **1. Unbroken will and unbroken spirit**

Spirit - inoperative and not controlled by God or man

Will - uncontrolled and uncontrollable except by extreme measures

Body - out of control and not controllable

*Result - A self-willed life causing trouble for self and others*

### **2. Unbroken will and broken spirit**

Spirit - inoperative and not controlled by goodness

Will - not controlled by anyone or anything

Body – out of control except by extreme measures

*Result - A dangerous, defiant life, harmful to self and others.*

### **3. Broken will and broken spirit**

Spirit - crushed and floundering – unable to contact God without help

Will - crushed and unresponsive without healthy spirit to guide

Body - variously undisciplined and out of control

*Result - A troubled, painful life of sadness, unable to connect with self and others*

### **4. Broken will and unbroken spirit**

Spirit – controlled by God and holy desires

Will - controlled by God and personal discipline

Body - controlled by disciplines and holy desires

*Result - A beautiful life controlled by a sensitive spirit, an obedient will and a disciplined body*

Isaiah 61:1: The Spirit of the Lord GOD is upon me; because the LORD hath anointed me to preach good tidings unto the meek; *he hath sent me to bind up the broken hearted*, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and the opening of the prison to them that are bound...

Ezekiel 34:16: I will seek that which was lost, and bring again that which was driven away, and *will bind up that which was broken*, and will strengthen that which was sick...

God is in the ministry of healing. We need to turn to Him and His word for strength to find and to offer healing. Find healing in His Word today. Offer healing to someone today.