

1. Last week I continued teaching Gal 5:18 by way of the *Doctrine of the Three Classes of Men*.

2. Before continuing, I want to give you opportunity to use 1Jo 1:9 as may be necessary and to pray for those injured yesterday in the cowardly shooting of six of our Jewish friends.

2.1 For warnings about Anti-Semitism see my *Doctrine of Anti-Semitism* which can be found on the internet in the 9-26/18, Esther lesson. We should always be Pro-Semitic if we are to receive the blessings promised in Gen 12:3.

Gen 12:3 And I will bless them that bless thee, and curse him that curseth thee: and in thee shall all families of the earth be blessed.

3. Here is an expanded translation of Gal 5:15-17.

Expanded Translation

Gal 5:15 Now my brothers and sisters in Christ if you reject the command to love one another but instead, you keep on hating and speaking ill against one another, such conduct will no doubt end up destroying the entire church.

Gal 5:16 Clearly, if you rebound when necessary and consistently take in the Word of God, you will not carry out the desires of the flesh.

Gal 5:17 For the flesh desires what is contrary to the Spirit, and the Spirit what is contrary to the flesh. They are in conflict with each other, so that you are not necessarily, to do whatever you want.

4. I want to review some of that learned and begin new material at point on page two.

5. The three classifications of men are: Natural-the unbeliever, Carnal-the loser believer and Spiritual-the winner believer.

6. Let's review what we have learned about the natural and carnal man.

6.1 "But the natural man receiveth not the things [the revealed or deep things] of the Spirit of God: for they are foolishness unto him: neither can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned."

6.2 If called upon to formulate a doctrinal statement, the unsaved man will naturally formulate a "new theology" which is so "re-stated" as to omit the real meaning of the cross with its unfolding of the "deep things of God." The cross, as a substitutionary sacrifice for sin, is "foolishness" unto him.

6.3 Human wisdom cannot help him, for "the world by wisdom knew not God."

6.4 A trained mind may or may not assist in learning; but apart from the presence of the indwelling Teacher, a trained mind avails nothing in coming to know the spiritual meaning of the revealed things of God.

6.5 The "natural man," with all his learning and sincerity, will find nothing but "foolishness" in the things which are revealed by the Spirit. Recall John Wesley's and perhaps Charles Wesley's predicament.

6.5.1 John Wesley famously, or perhaps infamously announced he preached for some 13 years before accepting Christ as his Savior. It is also thought by many that his brother Charles suffered failure as a preacher for similar reasons-a fear of death. Both men were influential in the founding and early growth of the Methodist Church.

6.6 When an unregenerate teacher openly rejects the vital saving truths of God's Word, those truths will be discredited. This is the colossal blunder of many students in universities, colleges, seminaries and denominations today.

6.7 The ability to receive and know the things of God is not attained through the schools, for many who are unlearned possess it while many who are learned do not possess it. It is an ability which is born of the indwelling Spirit.

7. The Carnal Man

NIV

1Co 3:1 Brothers, I could not address you as spiritual but as worldly -- mere infants in Christ.

1Co 3:2 I gave you milk, not solid food, for you were not yet ready for it. Indeed, you are still not ready.

1Co 3:3 You are still worldly. For since there is jealousy and quarreling among you, are you not worldly? Are you not acting like mere men?

Heb 5:12 For when for the time ye ought to be teachers, ye have need that one teach you again which be the first principles of the oracles of God; and are become such as have need of milk, and not of strong meat.

Heb 5:13 For every one that useth milk is unskilful in the word of righteousness: for he is a babe.

Heb 5:14 But strong meat belongeth to them that are of full age, even those who by reason of use have their senses exercised to discern both good and evil.

7.1 Some Christians, thus, are said to be "carnal" and can receive only the milk of the Word, in contrast to strong meat.

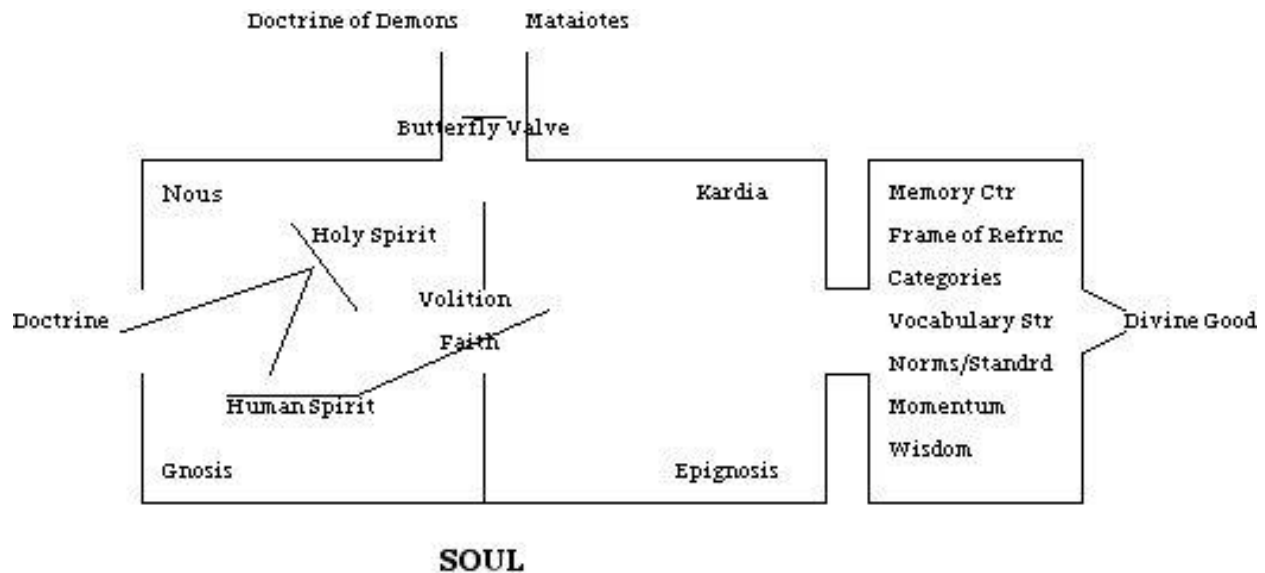
7.2 Though saved, the carnal Christians are walking "according to the course of this world." They are "carnal" because the flesh is dominating them. (Rom 6:14-15)

7.3 The "carnal" man, or "babe in Christ," is not "able to bear" the deep things of God. He is only a babe; but it is important to note that even in his carnality he is infinitely superior to the natural man and can never be compared with the utter incapacity of the "natural man."

7.4 The objectives and affections of the carnal man are centered in the same unspiritual sphere as that of the "natural" man. In contrast to such a fleshly walk, we read: "This I say then, Walk in the Spirit, and ye shall not fulfill the lust of the flesh." This is spirituality: "consistently taking in the Word of God under the filling of the Spirit."

8. The Spiritual Man

7.1 The third classification of man addressed in our passages is the spiritual man. He is proven to be all that he is said to be by one test: his ability to receive and know divine revelation.



7.2 As Paul wrote to the Corinthians: "He that is spiritual discerns all things."

8. The journey of the spiritual man can be summarized as follows:

First, there is faith alone in Christ alone.

Second, positive volition results in divine revelation.

Third, basic doctrines are presented at first and if positive volition continues, God the Holy Spirit will teach the more complex doctrines called "the deep things of God."

Fourth, the divine wisdom is hidden in the very words of God's Book; but the spiritual content of these words is understood only as the Holy Spirit is able to compare spiritual things with spiritual.

Fifth, he that is spiritual discerns all things. There is no limitation upon him in the realm of the things of God. He can "freely" receive the divine revelation and he glories in it. He discerns all things; yet he is judged and understood by no man. How could it be otherwise since he has metabolized "the mind of Christ?"

9. The Spirit is involved in revealing God to man.

2Ti 3:16 All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness,

2Ti 3:17 so that the man of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work.

10. The prophets and apostles were inspired by the Holy Spirit. It is clearly stated that Old Testament prophets received the words of the Lord by His Spirit.

Zec 7:12 Yea, they made their hearts as an adamant stone, lest they should hear the law, and the words which the LORD of hosts hath sent in his spirit by the former prophets: therefore came a great wrath from the LORD of hosts.

Eze 2:2 And the spirit entered into me when he spake unto me, and set me upon my feet, that I heard him that spake unto me.

Neh 9:30 Yet many years didst thou forbear them, and testifiedst against them by thy spirit in thy prophets: yet would they not give ear: therefore gavest thou them into the hand of the people of the lands.

Acts 28:25 And when they agreed not among themselves, they departed, after that Paul had spoken one word, Well spake the Holy Spirit by Isaiah the prophet unto our fathers, Acts 28:26 Saying, (*Isa 6:10; 28:9-13*) Go unto this people, and say, Hearing ye shall hear, and shall not understand; and seeing ye shall see, and not perceive:

Isa 6:10 Make the heart of this people calloused; make their ears dull and close their eyes. Otherwise they might see with their eyes, hear with their ears, understand with their hearts, and turn and be healed."

Isa 28:9 "Who is it he is trying to teach? To whom is he explaining his message? To children weaned from their milk, to those just taken from the breast?

Isa 28:10 For it is: Do and do, do and do, rule on rule, rule on rule; a little here, a little there."

Isa 28:11 Very well then, with foreign lips and strange tongues God will speak to this people,
Isa 28:12 to whom he said, "This is the resting place, let the weary rest"; and, "This is the place of repose" -- but they would not listen.
Isa 28:13 So then, the word of the LORD to them will become: Do and do, do and do, rule on rule, rule on rule; a little here, a little there -- so that they will go and fall backward, be injured and snared and captured.

10.1 Compare Isa 28:10 and 11 with 1Co 14:21-22 for fulfillment of the prediction of verse eleven.

1Co 14:21 In the law it is written, With men of other tongues and other lips will I speak unto this people; and yet for all that will they not hear me, saith the Lord.
1Co 14:22 Wherefore tongues are for a sign, not to them that believe, but to them that believe not: but prophesying serveth not for them that believe not, but for them which believe.

11. In the period of the Old Testament the Spirit prepared the people of God to yearn for their redemption through the coming Messiah. He inspired Moses and the prophets to speak of the Messiah to come. He also inspired New Testament writers such as John to speak of the Messiah who always was and came to earth full of grace and truth.

Gen 3:15 And I will put enmity between thee and the woman, and between thy seed and her seed; it shall bruise thy head, and thou shalt bruise his heel.

Num 24:17 I shall see him, but not now: I shall behold him, but not nigh: there shall come a Star out of Jacob, and a Scepter shall rise out of Israel, and shall smite the corners of Moab, and destroy all the children of Sheth.

Joh 1:1 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

Joh 1:2 The same was in the beginning with God.

Joh 1:3 All things were made by him; and without him was not any thing made that was made.

Joh 1:14 And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,) full of grace and truth.

11.1 Isaiah recalled how God even after they rejected the message brought to them by the Spirit, broke down the attitude of rebellion in Israel when they refused to obey the Word of promise.

Isa 63:10 But they rebelled, and vexed his holy Spirit: therefore he was turned to be their enemy, and he fought against them.

Isa 63:11 Then he remembered the days of old, Moses, and his people, saying, Where is he that brought them up out of the sea with the shepherd of his flock? where is he that put his holy Spirit within him?

Isa 63:12 That led them by the right hand of Moses with his glorious arm, dividing the water before them, to make himself an everlasting name?

Isa 63:13 That led them through the deep, as a horse in the wilderness, that they should not stumble?

Isa 63:14 As a beast goeth down into the valley, the Spirit of the LORD caused him to rest: so didst thou lead thy people, to make thyself a glorious name.

Mic 3:8 But truly I am full of power by the spirit of the LORD, and of judgment, and of might, to declare unto Jacob his transgression, and to Israel his sin.

11.2 The Spirit taught David, the sweet singer of Israel, and through him many others, to say: "... thy spirit is good; lead me into the land of uprightness." In the Age of Israel, the Holy Spirit did not indwell believers as in the Church Age.

12. Next week we will begin new with a study of the Spirit's indwelling and filling ministry.

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