



THE POWER OF

GRACE

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Grace: The Power of the Gospel

Introduction

Grace is God revealing the things of the kingdom to us by the Holy Spirit. We are saved by grace. We experience the things of the kingdom by Grace.

Religion has defined basic Christian terms in such a way that Christians have lost sight of what it really means to be saved or born again. What does it mean to fall from grace, to blaspheme the Holy Spirit or to grieve the Holy Spirit?

***Hebrews 8:10** For this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, declares the Lord: I will put my laws into their minds, and write them on their hearts, and I will be their God, and they shall be my people.*

Two Covenants

The Old Covenant is ministered by the Law of Commandments and depends upon the flesh. The Bible calls it the ministration of death and condemnation. **2 Corinthians 3:6,7,9**

Because it depends upon the strength of the flesh, it is impossible to keep and everyone falls short of the glory of God.

Romans 7:18 *For I know that in me (that is, in my flesh,) dwelleth no good thing: for to will is present with me; but how to perform that which is good I find not.*

Romans 3:23 *For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God;*

The carnal mind cannot access the things of God because they can only be spiritually discerned.

1 Corinthians 2:14 *But the natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God: for they are foolishness unto him: neither can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned.*

When the law or old covenant is active, it acts as a veil that keeps us from seeing spiritual truths.

2 Corinthians 3:14 *But their minds were blinded: for until this day remaineth the same vail untaken away in the reading of the old testament; which vail is done away in Christ. 15 But even unto this day, when Moses is read, the vail is upon their heart.*

Because the first covenant kept man from accessing the things of the Spirit it was done away with and replaced with a better covenant. **2 Corinthians 3:11**

Hebrews 8:6 *But now hath he obtained a more excellent ministry, by how much also he is the mediator of a better covenant, which was established upon better promises. 7 For if that first covenant had been faultless, then should no place have been sought for the second. 8 For finding fault with them, he saith, Behold, the days come, saith the Lord, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and with the house of Judah:*

The first covenant was defective because it depended upon the strength of the flesh and worked from the outside in. The second one depends upon God who writes His laws on the heart and works from the inside out.

Hebrews 8:10 *For this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, saith the Lord; I will put my laws into their mind, and write them in their hearts: and I will be to them a God, and they shall be to me a people: 11 And they shall not teach every man his neighbour, and every man his brother, saying, Know the Lord: for all shall know me, from the least to the greatest. 12 For I will be merciful to their unrighteousness, and their sins and their iniquities will I remember no more. 13 In that he saith, A new covenant, he hath made the first old. Now that which decayeth and waxeth old is ready to vanish away.*

All intercourse with the law that held us captive, that has kept us from seeing who we were created to be, has been done away with. The Holy Spirit that prompts us to newness of life.

Romans 7:6 Amp *But now we are discharged from the Law and have terminated all intercourse with it, having died to what once restrained and held us captive. So now we serve not under [obedience to] the old code of written regulations, but [under obedience to the promptings] of the Spirit in newness [of life].*

The theme of the Gospel is about assuming our God given identity. **Genesis 1:27-28** says that we were created in the image of God and given dominion over all things. We were created to walk in God's glory.

2 Corinthians 3:16 *Nevertheless when it shall turn to the Lord, the vail shall be taken away. 17 Now the Lord is that Spirit: and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is liberty. 18 But we all, with open face beholding as in a glass the glory of the Beth Spirit of the Lord.*

We were not created to be servants, but sons and joint heirs with Christ. This is not something that we can understand in the flesh. It takes the Spirit of God to reveal it to us.

Galatians 4:4 *But when the fulness of the time was come, God sent forth his Son, made of a woman, made under the law, 5 To redeem them that were under the law, that we might receive the adoption of sons. 6 And because ye are sons, God hath sent forth the Spirit of his Son into your hearts, crying, Abba, Father. 7 Wherefore thou art no more a servant, but a son; and if a son, then an heir of God through Christ.*

You must be Born Again

The things that pertain to the kingdom cannot be discerned apart from the Spirit. **Romans 8:6, John 6:63, 2 Corinthians 2:14**

The things that pertain to the flesh and the things that pertain to the Spirit are opposite things. There is a natural body, and there is a spiritual body. They do not function the same way. **1 Corinthians 15:39-34**

1 Corinthians 15:50 *But I tell you this, brethren, flesh and blood cannot [become partakers of eternal salvation and] inherit or share in the kingdom of God; nor does the perishable (that which is decaying) inherit or share in the imperishable (the immortal).*

The natural man was not created with the capacity to understand spiritual things. Spiritual things must be spiritually conceived.

John 3:3 *Jesus answered and said unto him, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God. 4 Nicodemus saith unto him, How can a man be born when he is old? can he enter the second time into his mother's womb, and be born? 5 Jesus answered, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God. 6 *That which is born of the flesh is flesh; and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit.**

Unless you are born again (conceived in a new way) you cannot see the kingdom. You cannot see spiritual things with flesh eyes. The things of the kingdom do not come by observation. They come by revelation. Unless you are born of water and the Spirit, you cannot enter into the things of the kingdom.

You have to be born of water and the Spirit. I believe that the water is referring to the Word of God.

Ephesians 5:26 *That he might sanctify and cleanse it with the washing of water by the Word.*

The letter of the Word alone will kill you. The Word alone is not enough. Unless the Word you know has been interpreted and revealed to you by

the Spirit, you cannot understand the things of the Kingdom.

2 Corinthians 3:6 *Who also hath made us able ministers of the new testament; not of the letter, but of the spirit: for the letter killeth, but the spirit giveth life.*

When the Spirit is the source of your understanding, the veil that keeps you from seeing the true things of the kingdom will be lifted.

2 Corinthians 3:16 *Nevertheless when it shall turn to the Lord, the veil shall be taken away. 17 Now the Lord is that Spirit: and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is liberty. 18 But we all, with open face beholding as in a glass the glory of the Lord, are changed into the same image from glory to glory, even as by the Spirit of the Lord.*

You must be born again. You must be *Spiritually* conceived in order to see the things that God has both prepared for you and given to you.

2 Corinthians 2:9 *But as it is written, Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love him. 10 But God hath revealed them unto us by his Spirit: for the Spirit searcheth all things, yea, the deep things of God. 11 For what man knoweth the things of a man, save the spirit of man which is in him? even so the things of God knoweth no man, but the Spirit of God. 12 Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the spirit which is of God; that we might know the things that are freely given to us of God.*

Where is the kingdom of God? What is the kingdom of God? When do we enter into that kingdom?

Luke 17:20 *And when he was demanded of the Pharisees, when the kingdom of God should come, he answered them and said, The kingdom of God cometh not with observation: 21 Neither shall they say, Lo here! or, lo there! for, behold, the kingdom of God is within you.*

The kingdom is the spiritual realm within you where righteousness, peace and joy abide.

Romans 14:17 *For the kingdom of God is not meat and drink; but*

righteousness, and peace, and joy in the Holy Ghost.

The kingdom is within you! It is a spiritual kingdom that can only be spiritually discerned. If you want to see the kingdom, if you want to enter into the kingdom you must be born of water and of the Spirit.

That which is born of the flesh is flesh and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit. **John 3:5-6**

***1 Peter 1:23** Being born again, not of corruptible seed, but of incorruptible, by the word of God which liveth and abideth for ever. **24** For all flesh is as grass, and all the glory of man as the flower of grass. The grass withereth, and the flower thereof falleth away: **25** But the word of the Lord endureth for ever. And this is the word which by the gospel is preached unto you.*

The Power of Grace

***Ephesians 2:5** Even when we were dead in sins, hath quickened us together with Christ, [by grace you are saved.]*

***Ephesians 2:8** For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: **9** Not of works, lest any man should boast. **10** For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them.*

Quickened made alive together again in Him

Grace-The divine influence of God upon the heart and its reflection in the life therein, favor

Save to deliver, to rescue, to protect, to heal, preserve, make whole

Salvation deliverance, prosperity, victory, health, welfare

Faith persuasion, moral conviction especially that you can rely upon Christ for your salvation

Workmanship product, thing made

Salvation is the theme of the whole Bible. God wants to save us [**rescue**] from the bondage of sin and the condemnation that comes with it. God wants to save us so that we can walk in our true identity! We are sons of God, created in the image of our father, full of His power and might, destined to rule, reign and take dominion over all things. God wants us to enjoy a "God quality" life. He wants us to be prosperous, healthy and filled with victory.

God has provided everything that we need, but those provisions come as we begin to realize who we are. We are called to glory and virtue.

***2 Peter 1:3** According as his divine power has given us all things that pertain unto life and godliness, through the knowledge of him that hath called us to glory and virtue.*

How does God save us? He does it by grace. Grace is God through the Holy Spirit changing the way we think. The things of the kingdom are accessed through revelation! God reveals himself to us through the Holy Spirit. No man can come to the Father unless the Spirit draws him. Grace is God working from the inside out writing his words on our hearts.

2 Corinthians 3:3 Forasmuch as you are manifestly declared to be the epistle of Christ ministered by us, written not with ink, but with the Spirit of the living God; not in tables of stone, but in fleshy tables of the heart.

3:6 Who hath made us able ministers of the new testament; not of the letter, but of the spirit; for the letter killeth, but the spirit giveth life.

Remember, when the law is read, it is like a veil is over our eyes and we cannot see spiritual truth. The law disqualifies us and keeps us from realizing that we were created in the image of God.

2 Corinthians 3:14-15

Romans 7:14 For we know that the law is spiritual: but I am carnal, sold under sin. **15** For that which I do I allow not: for what I would, that do I not; but what I hate, that do I. **16** If then I do that which I would not, I consent unto the law that it is good. **17** Now then it is no more I that do it, but sin that dwelleth in me. **18** For I know that in me (that is, in my flesh,) dwelleth no good thing: for to will is present with me; but how to perform that which is good I find not.

God does for us what we can not do for ourselves! We are saved by grace through faith [**persuasion that we can count on him to supply everything we need**]. It is not our faith. It is his faith. He persuades us in a way that we cannot persuade ourselves. He gives us the power to believe by giving us a revelation of himself and his provision. His grace provides us with “aha moments” that gives us the ability to put our confidence in him and to believe. We are his workmanship!

When the Holy Spirit begins to write God’s law upon our hearts, it makes walking with God a delight.

Psalms 40:6 Amp Sacrifice and offering You do not desire, nor have You delight in them; You have given me the capacity to hear and obey [Your law, a more valuable service than] burnt offerings and sin offerings [which] You do not require.

Psalms 40:8 Amp I delight to do Your will, O my God; yes, Your law is within my heart. [Heb. 10:5-9.]

I believe that we don't really understand just how much power the Holy Spirit within us has. We often have more confidence in our flesh to "work" the things of God. We really don't understand that *grace* is what really causes us to will and to do of God's good pleasure! **Philippians 2:13**

A few years ago, a pastor invited us to share the discipleship program with the association of pastors that he was head of. We felt led to give him a copy of Andrew Wommack's book on "*Spirit Soul and Body.*" After he read it, he changed his mind. He told us that although he believed what he was reading about grace, he could not allow us to teach it to his association members because it would just give them a license to sin. What he was really saying is that he did not really understand the concept of grace. Grace is the power of God at work on the inside of us changing the way we think which changes the way we act. He had more confidence in his ability to keep the people walking with God through his message of fear and condemnation than he had in the power of the Holy Spirit to influence the way they think and act.

Grace is God opening our eyes to see spiritual truths through the revelation power of the Holy Spirit.

The Ministry of the Holy Spirit

The Holy Spirit is our God connection! We cannot understand spiritual things without the revelation power of the Holy Spirit.

1 Corinthians 2:14 *But the natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God: for they are foolishness unto him: neither can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned.*

The Holy Spirit makes us God Conscious. He reveals the truths concerning Jesus and the plans that he has for us to us.

John 16:13 *Howbeit when he, the Spirit of truth, is come, he will guide you into all truth: for he shall not speak of himself; but whatsoever he shall hear, that shall he speak: and he will shew you things to come. 14 He shall glorify me: for he shall receive of mine, and shall shew it unto you. 15 All things that the Father hath are mine: therefore said I, that he shall take of mine, and shall shew it unto you.*

The Holy Spirit removes the veil that keeps us from understanding Spiritual truths. We were created in the image of God. When the Holy Spirit removes the veil, we begin to see the glory of God reflected in us.

2 Corinthians 3:15 *But even unto this day, when Moses is read, the veil is upon their heart. 16 Nevertheless when it shall turn to the Lord, the veil shall be taken away. 17 Now the Lord is that Spirit: and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is liberty. 18 But we all, with open face beholding as in a glass the glory of the Lord, are changed into the same image from glory to glory, even as by the Spirit of the Lord.*

He reveals that we are sons of God and joint heirs with Christ.

Romans 8:16 *The Spirit itself beareth witness with our spirit, that we are the children of God: 17 And if children, then heirs; heirs of God, and joint-heirs with Christ; if so be that we suffer with him, that we may be also glorified together.*

The Old Covenant disqualifies us. According to it, everyone falls short of the glory of God. **Romans 3:23** The Holy Spirit reveals that we have been perfected forever. He writes God's laws on our hearts. The laws of the Spirit are not the same as the laws of the commandments. The laws of the Spirit are not about perfecting the flesh.

Hebrews 10:14 *For by one offering he hath perfected for ever them that are sanctified. 15 Whereof the Holy Ghost also is a witness to us: for after that he had said before, 16 This is the covenant that I will make with them after those days, saith the Lord, I will put my laws into their hearts, and in their minds will I write them; 17 And their sins and iniquities will I remember no more.*

The Holy Spirit never makes us sin conscious because God is not sin conscious.

The law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has made us free from the law of sin and death. **Romans 8:1-6, Romans 7:6**

The Holy Spirit reveals to us the things that have been freely given to us by God.

1 Corinthians 2:9 *But as it is written, Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love him. 10 But God hath revealed them unto us by his Spirit: for the Spirit searcheth all things, yea, the deep things of God. 11 For what man knoweth the things of a man, save the spirit of man which is in him? even so the things of God knoweth no man, but the Spirit of God. 12 Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the spirit which is of God; that we might know the things that are freely given to us of God.*

He is the comforter that relieves our anxieties and makes intercession for us. He brings the things that Jesus has spoken to us to our remembrance.

John 14:26 *But the Comforter, which is the Holy Ghost, whom the Father will send in my name, he shall teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you.*

He gives us a revelation of how much God loves us.

Romans 5:5 *And hope maketh not ashamed; because the love of God is shed abroad in our hearts by the Holy Ghost which is given unto us.*

Through the Holy Spirit's ministry we abound in hope.

Romans 15:13 *Now the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, that ye may abound in hope, through the power of the Holy Ghost.*

He makes us abide in a sense of righteousness, peace and joy.

Romans 14:17 *For the kingdom of God is not meat and drink; but righteousness, and peace, and joy in the Holy Ghost.*

He builds us up and keeps us in the love of God with an expectation of receiving his mercy. He keeps us from falling and presents us faultless before the presence of God.

Jude 20 *But ye, beloved, building up yourselves on your most holy faith, praying in the Holy Ghost, 21 Keep yourselves in the love of God, looking for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ unto eternal life... 24 Now unto him that is able to keep you from falling, and to present you faultless before the presence of his glory with exceeding joy,*

He reveals the things pertaining to the Kingdom to us.

He gives us gifts of the Spirit so that he can work through us to minister the things of the kingdom to others .

2 Corinthians 3:6 Who also hath made us able ministers of the new testament, not of the letter, but of the spirit; for the letter killeth, but the spirit giveth life.

God has influenced all of us according to his grace-He has given us Gifts of the Spirit so that we can edify one another.

Ephesians 4:4-14

We have been given different gifts according to the grace that has been given us. We have been given different measures of faith

In other words, we all have different natural abilities, desires and areas of interest that have come from God so that we can minister to one another.

Romans 12:3-13

The manifestation of the Spirit has been given to every man to profit withal **[us together with everyone else.] 1 Corinthians 12:4-12** All of us working together function as the body of Christ, building up and edifying one another.

We are ministers of His Spirit. The Holy Spirit flowing through us brings life to those around us. **2 Corinthians 3:3-6**

Have you “Received” the Holy Ghost since you Believed?

*Act 19:2 He said unto them, Have ye **received** the Holy Ghost since ye believed? And they said unto him, We have not so much as heard whether there be any Holy Ghost.*

Received [Strong’s Concordance] to get hold of

Joel 2:28 And it shall come to pass afterward, that I will pour out my spirit upon all flesh;

Acts 2:38 Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost. 39 For the promise is unto you, and to your children, and to all that are afar off, even as many as the Lord our God shall call.

The Holy Spirit has been poured out on all flesh. It has been given to every one that has believed. But, have they “gotten hold of it?”

Act 19:3 And he said unto them, Unto what then were ye baptized? And they said, Unto John's baptism. 4 Then said Paul, John verily baptized with the baptism of repentance, saying unto the people, that they should believe on him which should come after him, that is, on Christ Jesus. 5 When they heard this, they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. 6 And when Paul had laid his hands upon them, the Holy Ghost came on them; and they spake with tongues, and prophesied.

Every believer has the power of God, or grace working from the inside out. But, the Holy Spirit is like my computer. Although my computer will do many things, if I do not have an understanding of those things and how they operate, It does not fully benefit me.

That is why every believer should do a thorough, personal study of the Holy Spirit. When I did that myself, I was surprised at the things that I found and at the things that I did not find. You see, I was programed to

listen to a voice that was not always the Holy Spirit and it kept me from fully experiencing the things that God had for me.

The “baptism of the Holy Spirit” is just a different aspect of the Holy Spirit that has been deposited in every believer. Although it is part of the program that comes with the package, not everyone is aware of what they have and until they become aware of it, and until they invite its use into their lives, it often lies dormant.

The purpose of the Holy Spirit is to connect us to the things of the Spirit by by-passing the natural mind that opposes the things of the Spirit. **John 3:1-5** The things of the flesh, and the things of the Spirit are not the same. It is only through the work of the Holy Spirit within us that we can understand spiritual things.

The “baptism of the Holy Spirit” takes things to a different level of trust. Speaking in tongues is foolishness to the flesh because it can’t be understood naturally. When we yield to the baptism of the Holy Spirit we give up the confidence we have in the flesh to control things.

Romans 8:6 *For to be carnally minded is death; but to be spiritually minded is life and peace. 7 Because the carnal mind is enmity against God: for it is not subject to the law of God, neither indeed can be. 8 So then they that are in the flesh cannot please God. 9 But ye are not in the flesh, but in the Spirit, if so be that the Spirit of God dwell in you.*

Have we received the Spirit since we believed? Have we really gotten a hold of the concept that God is literally working the things of the kingdom from the inside out? Do we really understand the exceeding greatness of his power in the form of the Holy Spirit at work in us? **Ephesians 1:17-20** Unless we have “*spirit inspired God movwwments*” we can not understand anything spiritual.

Blaspheming the Holy Spirit

God gives the Spirit to all who believe.

Why do so many people have no understanding of the things that the Spirit ministers? Why do they not understand how much God loves them? Why do they feel such condemnation and guilt when it is the Spirit that ministers the truth that we have been perfected forever?

It is because they have been listening to a counterfeit voice.

2 Corinthians 11:14 *And no marvel; for Satan himself is transformed into an angel of light. 15 Therefore it is no great thing if his ministers also be transformed as the ministers of righteousness; whose end shall be according to their works.*

They have been listening to a wolf in sheep's clothing.

Matthew 7:15 *Beware of false prophets, which come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ravening wolves.*

The enemy speaks to us in such a way that we believe what he is saying is coming from God.

2 Thessalonians 2:4 *Who opposeth and exalteth himself above all that is called God, or that is worshipped; so that he as God sitteth in the temple of God, shewing himself that he is God.*

The Word says that Satan sits in the temple showing himself that he is God. Where is the temple? We are the temple. He whispers lies of accusation to us and causes us to focus on the works of our hands rather than on the things that God has provided for us. He causes to become sin or law conscious. When the law is our focus, there is a veil over our eyes that keeps us from seeing the things of the kingdom.

The Holy Spirit never points to our faults. He never makes us sin conscious. He makes us God conscious. The Holy Spirit is a perfect reflection of Jesus. **John 16:13-15** Jesus does not point out our faults. He does not accuse us before the Father.

John 3:17 For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn [**point out faults, examine**] the world; but that the world through him might be saved.

The name Satan means accuser. He is the accuser and the judged. He has cleverly flipped the roles making us believe that God is the accuser and we are the focus of his judgment.

John 16;8 And when he is come, he will reprove the world of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgment: **9** Of sin, because they believe not on me; **10** Of righteousness, because I go to my Father, and ye see me no more; **11** Of judgment, because the prince of this world is judged.

John 16:7 But the LORD shall endure for ever: he hath prepared his throne for judgment.

God does not judge us according to our works. It is the work of our own hands that cause all of our problems. Satan always refers us to our works rather than to God's works.

John 3:18 He that believeth on him is not condemned: but he that believeth not is condemned already, because he hath not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God.

God judges us according to His righteousness. He created man in such a way that He himself would be man's supply.

Psalms 9:8 And he shall judge the world in righteousness, he shall minister judgment to the people in uprightness. **9** The LORD also will be a refuge for the oppressed, a refuge in times of trouble... **16** The LORD is known by the judgment which he executeth: the wicked is snared in the work of his own hands. Higgsion. Selah.

The word "judgment" has several definitions. We commonly look at the word judgment and apply the definition that says God looks at our actions and judges us accordingly. The definition, according to Strong's Concordance also means "divine law." God's divine law is that He is our supply. He covers our weakness with Himself. The word "uprightness" means "in exact conformity to the truth." The truth is, God judges us

according to His righteousness. If, however, we do not accept His provision, the work of our own hands becomes our snare.

The natural man hears through his conscience according to his flesh. The Holy Spirit does not work through our conscience. The conscience is subject to circumstances and emotions. Our conscience is subject to both success, and condemnation. Our conscience can condemn us when God is not condemning us.

1 John 3:20 *For if our heart condemn us, God is greater than our heart, and knoweth all things. 21 Beloved, if our heart condemn us not, then have we confidence toward God.*

When we are feeling condemned, it causes us to lose our confidence in God. This in turn affects how we receive from God.

Hebrews 10:35 *Cast not away therefore your confidence, which hath great recompence of reward.*

The word recompence according to Strong's Concordance means payment in like kind. We can apply this concept to "*blaspheming the Holy Spirit!*"

In Mark chapter 3 Jesus cast out a devil. The Pharisees accused Him saying, "You cast out Satan by Satan." **Mark 3:22-23**

Jesus responded with the following:

Mark 3:24 *And if a kingdom be divided against itself, that kingdom cannot stand. 25 And if a house be divided against itself, that house cannot stand.*

A kingdom or a house becomes divided against itself when it becomes double minded. **James 1:8**

26 *And if Satan rise up against himself, and be divided, he cannot stand, but hath an end.*

If Satan opposed himself, he would not be able to stand. How can you divide Satan's house? By speaking the opposite that he speaks.

27 No man can enter into a strong man's house, and spoil his goods, except he will first bind the strong man; and then he will spoil his house.

How do you bind the strong man? By bringing in division and causing him to become divided in opinion. How do you divide Satan and make him ineffective? You do it by speaking the opposite that he is speaking to you. How do you divide God's house? You do it by agreeing with the adversary when the Holy Spirit speaks to you.

28 Verily I say unto you, All sins shall be forgiven unto the sons of men, and blasphemies wherewith soever they shall blaspheme: 29 But he that shall blaspheme against the Holy Ghost hath never forgiveness, but is in danger of eternal damnation:

What does blasphemy mean? It means to misrepresent someone by speaking the opposite about them. It means to slander one's good character. You can speak blasphemies about men and it will be forgiven. But you cannot speak blasphemies when the Holy Spirit speaks to you. You will never have forgiveness. The word forgiveness means "freedom or liberty." In fact, it says that when you *blaspheme the Holy Ghost* you are in danger of "eternal damnation." *That word damnation means accusation or condemnation.*

It is not God that condemns us. It is not the Holy Ghost that accuses us. But if we continually disagree with what the Spirit is ministering to us by speaking the opposite, we divide God's house. We frustrate **[nullify]** the grace of God. **Galatians 2:21**

We will never be free from condemnation and guilt if we continue to do this. Why are so many Christians riddled with guilt and condemnation? It is because they continually rehearse the words that the enemy speaks to them rather than the words the Holy Spirit is speaking to them.

We have to learn to tell the difference between the voice of the Spirit and the voice of the enemy. When the enemy comes against us, we can cripple his efforts by saying what God says about the situation rather than what the enemy is saying.

Babes in Christ are those that have never learned to discern the difference between good [**the voice of the Holy Spirit**] and evil [**the voice of the enemy.**] Not only do we need to learn to tell the difference between the two voices, we need to exercise what God says rather than what the enemy says. We need to become skillful in righteousness and exercise it!

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

Unless we learn to quit dividing God's house by blaspheming [**speaking the opposite**] the Holy Spirit, we will never be free from condemnation and guilt. Is condemnation coming from God? No! It is coming from the enemy.

***2 Timothy 2:25** In meekness instructing those that oppose themselves; if God peradventure will give them repentance to the acknowledging of the truth; **26** And that they may recover themselves out of the snare of the devil, who are taken captive by him at his will.*

What is it that the Holy Spirit ministers? We have been perfected forever! God is not sin conscious.

***Hebrews 10:14** For by one offering he hath perfected for ever them that are sanctified. **15** Whereof the Holy Ghost also is a witness to us: for after that he had said before, **16** This is the covenant that I will make with them after those days, saith the Lord, I will put my laws into their hearts, and in their minds will I write them; **17** And their sins and iniquities will I remember no more.*

Grieving the Holy Spirit

Ephesians 4:29 *Let no corrupt communication proceed out of your mouth, but that which is good to the use of edifying, that it may minister grace unto the hearers. 30 And grieve [distress, place in heaviness, cause to be sad] not the holy Spirit of God, whereby ye are sealed unto the day of redemption.*

The Holy Spirit makes us God conscious, always making us aware of the power of God that dwells within us. When we grieve the Holy Spirit, we are yielding to the voice of the enemy who makes us self or sin conscious.

Corrupt communication involves speaking anything that does not acknowledge the power of God that resides within us. Instead of looking at a person or situation with the fact that there is a powerful God that resides within, ready to bring deliverance, we look at what we see and assess it as though God is not involved. We grieve the Holy Spirit when we say things that are opposite of what the Spirit would say. Our strength lies within the fact that God is our supply. We need to keep that always in mind. The enemy wants to separate us from our source because it is then that we are weak.

Ephesians 4:17 *This I say therefore, and testify in the Lord, that ye henceforth walk not as other Gentiles walk, in the vanity of their mind, 18 Having the understanding darkened, being alienated from the life of God through the ignorance that is in them, because of the blindness of their heart:*

We need to always speak in such a manner that we are acknowledging the fact that we have a savior.

Ephesians 4:24 *And that ye put on the new man, which after God is created in righteousness and true holiness. 25 Wherefore putting away lying, speak every man truth with his neighbour: for we are members one of another.*

Not only do we need to speak with this in mind for ourselves, but also we need to speak with this in mind when we assess our fellow Christian brothers.

29 *Let no corrupt communication proceed out of your mouth, but that which is good to the use of edifying, that it may minister grace [favor, pleasure, joy] unto the hearers.*

31 *Let all bitterness, and wrath, and anger, and clamour, and evil speaking, be put away from you, with all malice:*

32 *And be ye kind one to another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God for Christ's sake hath forgiven you.*

God wants us to view those we come in contact with the power of the cross in mind.

1 Corinthians 1:2 *For I determined not to know any thing among you, save Jesus Christ, and him crucified. 3 And I was with you in weakness, and in fear, and in much trembling. 4 And my speech and my preaching was not with enticing words of man's wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power: 5 That your faith should not stand in the wisdom of men, but in the power of God.*

We need to focus on the new creature.

2 Corinthians 5:16 *Wherefore henceforth know we no man after the flesh: yea, though we have known Christ after the flesh, yet now henceforth know we him no more. 17 Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.*

Falling from Grace

***Galatians 5:4** Christ is become of no effect unto you, whosoever of you are justified by the law; ye are fallen from grace.*

Fallen driven out of one's course, to become inefficient, fail
Grace the divine influence upon the heart, and its reflection in the life; favor

When we begin to resort to self righteousness or the keeping of the law to provide us with a sense of righteousness, we oppose the influence that the Spirit of God through the work of the Holy Spirit has upon our heart that can truly bring us to a sense of righteousness through the finished work of the cross.

We are no longer depending upon His divine power that has provided us with everything that pertains to life and godliness. **(2 Peter 1:3)** We are depending upon self effort. When we depend upon self effort, we negate or frustrate the grace of God.

***Galatians 2:21** I do not frustrate the grace of God: for if righteousness come by the law, then Christ is dead in vain.*

Frustrate neutralize or set aside

***Galatians 3:3** Are ye so foolish? having begun in the Spirit, are ye now made perfect by the flesh?*

Does "falling from grace" according to Galatians 5:4 mean that we have lost our eternal position in Christ? No. Our position as a son of God does not depend on us. Falling from grace simply means that we are not being led by the Holy Spirit, but are instead depending upon our natural understanding. We "*lay aside*" the things of the New Covenant and go back to performance according to the Old Covenant.

***Galatians 5:1** Stand fast therefore in the liberty wherewith Christ hath made us free, and be not entangled again with the yoke of bondage.*

Discernment belongs to God

Have you ever wondered why the scriptures seem so hard to understand, and why one scripture often seems to contradict another, or why Jesus deliberately spoke to the Pharisees in parables **[Matthew 13:15]** so that they could not hear or understand? What prompted Jesus to speak to his own disciples in proverbs with hidden meanings? **[John 16:25]**

When Joseph was asked to interpret the dream for Pharaoh that no one else could interpret, Joseph said, "Do not interpretations belong to God?" **[Genesis 40:8]** When the disciples asked Jesus to tell them when the kingdom of Israel would be restored, Jesus answered, "It is not for you to know the times or seasons, which the Father hath put in his own power."**[Acts 1:7]**

1 Corinthians 2 says that the natural man cannot discern spiritual things because they can only be spiritually discerned. The scriptures were not designed to be understood intellectually. Without the "quickenings" interaction of the Holy Spirit to bring spiritual revelation to us, our hearts are hardened **[lacking in spiritual perception.]**

Why did God tell Adam and Eve not to eat of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil? It was because God created them to walk with Him in relationship. God's part in the relationship is to supply spiritual understanding. The things of the flesh and the things of the Spirit are two opposite things. **1 Corinthians 15:44-50** Without His part, they had no spiritual sight. Eve was tempted to partake of a knowledge base that was not hers to partake of.

***Genesis 3:6** And when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was pleasant to the eyes, and a tree to be desired to make one wise, she took of the fruit thereof, and did eat, and gave also unto her husband with her; and he did eat.*

Eve became a partaker of that which God said would bring spiritual death when she became convinced that being able to discern spiritual things without God's help would be good for her. However, once she lost sight of her dependency upon God to supply spiritual discernment, she was no longer able to tell the difference between good **[that which is of God and**

is incorruptible] and evil [that which is of the flesh and is corruptible.]

Proverbs 14:12 There is a way which seemeth right unto a man, but the end thereof are the ways of death.

The Pharisees interpreted the scriptures by the letter according to their natural understanding and they completely failed to comprehend the true message of the gospel. [Matthew 12:7] When the gospel is interpreted through religion rather than revelation it brings death rather than life. [2 Corinthians 3:6]

Spiritual things can only be spiritually discerned.

That is why John 3:1-5 says we must be born again. The flesh has no power to see into, or to enter into the kingdom of God. It is a spiritual kingdom that cannot be perceived without the quickening power of the Holy Spirit. We have to be spiritually conceived in order to understand the things of God.

God created us to walk with him in relationship. If the natural man could receive the *things of the Spirit* without God's help, there would be no need for relationship. We enter into the things of the kingdom that bring life through him. He is the door. Entering in by any other way opens the door for the thief to bring destruction. John 10:1-10

John 10:7 Then said Jesus unto them again, Verily, verily, I say unto you, I am the door of the sheep. 8 All that ever came before me are thieves and robbers: but the sheep did not hear them. 9 I am the door: by me if any man enter in, he shall be saved, and shall go in and out, and find pasture. 10 The thief cometh not, but for to steal, and to kill, and to destroy: I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly.

In Acts 1:8 right after Jesus said that the power to discern belongs to God, Jesus said, "You will receive power [to discern] when the Holy Ghost comes upon you. It was through the work of Jesus that man's spiritual connection with God [that Adam and Eve lost] was restored.

Be Bold

Matthew 10:27 *What I tell you in darkness, that speak ye in light: and what ye hear in the ear, that preach ye upon the housetops.*

This directly connects to a Word from God that I was recently given: *Uncharted territory. God is going to give you revelations you have not heard before. It is first for you, but God will quickly open doors for you to share it with others. Do not be afraid and do not hold back! He will cause people to listen. You may even wonder yourself through your natural understanding if this could be God! Don't analyze it in the natural because that will be your worst enemy. Just know that what you are hearing is God.*

Matthew 10:25 *It is enough for the disciple that he be as his master, and the servant as his lord. If they have called the master of the house Beelzebub, how much more shall they call them of his household?*

The Religious leaders of the day came against Jesus and called him Beelzebub. They accused him of blasphemy. Even today religious people (me included) have a pre-conceived concept what the Gospel is saying. God reveals truths that completely go the opposite direction of what religion has trained to believe. That rocks people's boats. Sometimes that is hard because the ones you respect may come against you.

It is only as we are bold enough to share the God given revelations that the wall of religion begins to crumble. We can't share what we think people want us to say-we have to say what God says to us. When others hear something new their first reaction is to shut down that new thing because they do not have a revelation of it. God gives us revelation for our own personal lives. What he reveals to you or me becomes our seed to sow to those around us as the Spirit leads.

The thing that we have to be careful of is that what we hear from others is only a seed. It does not become bread until we ourselves get our own personal revelation of it. Traditions get started when we quickly embrace what someone else has shared without getting it spiritually or by revelation ourselves.

We need to be careful not to be too quick to judge someone else's

revelation.

Romans 14:4 *Who art thou that judgest another man's servant? to his own master he standeth or falleth. Yea, he shall be holden up: for God is able to make him stand.*

We have made the kingdom about correcting one another. The kingdom is about allowing the Holy Spirit the freedom to minister to each person individually. When that becomes our focus God protects us from receiving false doctrine, both the one who hears it from another, and the one who spoke it.

Romans 14:10 *But why dost thou judge thy brother? or why dost thou set at nought thy brother? for we shall all stand before the judgment seat of Christ. 11 For it is written, As I live, saith the Lord, every knee shall bow to me, and every tongue shall confess to God. 12 So then every one of us shall give account of himself to God. 13 Let us not therefore judge one another any more: but judge this rather, that no man put a stumblingblock or an occasion to fall in his brother's way.*

It is only as we allow the Spirit to be our personal God connection that any of us truly enter into the things of the kingdom.

Romans 14:17 *For the kingdom of God is not meat and drink; but righteousness, and peace, and joy in the Holy Ghost.*

Do you really believe that you can rely on the Holy Spirit to reveal truth to you even though what you hear may cross the lines of tradition and what others have told you to think? Those you respect may come against you but the Holy Spirit has to be the source of your truth. Most of us trust other people more than we do the God within us.

Matthew 10:32 *Whosoever therefore shall confess [to acknowledge belief or faith in] me before men, him will I confess also before my Father which is in heaven. 33 But whosoever shall deny me before men, him will I also deny before my Father which is in heaven. 34 Think not that I am come to send peace on earth: I came not to send peace, but a sword. 35 For I am come to set a man at variance against his father, and the daughter against her mother, and the daughter in law against her mother in law. 36 And a*

man's foes shall be they of his own household.

Everyone that has been born again has the same Holy Spirit. There are not “super stars” within the body of Christ. We all have the same capacity to hear God. We just don’t always believe that.

1John 2:27 *But the anointing which ye have received of him abideth in you, and ye need not that any man teach you: but as the same anointing teacheth you of all things, and is truth, and is no lie, and even as it hath taught you, ye shall abide in him.*

1John 2:27 Message *But they're no match for what is embedded deeply within you--Christ's anointing, no less! You don't need any of their so-called teaching. Christ's anointing teaches you the truth on everything you need to know about yourself and him, uncontaminated by a single lie. Live deeply in what you were taught.*

God is a Consuming Fire

Many Christians are living very frustrated lives because they have unknowingly mixed the Old Covenant principles with the New Covenant principles. The Old Covenant was weak because it was founded upon the ability of man to measure up to God's standards of expectations *according to the law of commandments*. It produced judgment and condemnation. It was a failure formula. It did not work for those who lived under it in the Old Testament and it will not work any better for us if we try to live under it now.

God replaced the Old Covenant with a better covenant because He understood man's weakness in his flesh. It is not based upon man's ability to conform. It is based upon God's ability to deliver. It causes man to become conscious of the power of God rather than the weakness of man. It reveals God as a God of mercy and compassion. The law of commandments has been replaced with the law of love.

John 15:8 *Herein is my Father glorified, that ye bear much fruit; so shall ye be my disciples. 9 As the Father hath loved me, so have I loved you: continue ye in my love. 10 If ye keep my commandments, ye shall abide in my love; even as I have kept my Father's commandments, and abide in his love. 11 These things have I spoken unto you, that my joy might remain in you, and that your joy might be full. 12 This is my commandment, That ye love one another, as I have loved you.*

How did we become a mixture? We interpreted scriptures through the letter of the Word, rather than through the Spirit of the Word. We listened to the doctrines of men who were ministers of the letter rather than ministers of the Spirit. There are plenty of scriptures that seem to portray God as a God of vengeance and judgment. Short of getting a revelation concerning those scriptures, we will continue to receive a mixed message.

One of the concepts that I have been meditating on for some time is the fact that the scriptures call God a God of consuming fire. We read those scriptures and immediately think about God being a God of judgment who is out to destroy those who do not conform. After studying those

scriptures I gained some insight that I believe is worth sharing because it caused me to look at things in a completely different manner.

***Hebrews 12:27** And this word, Yet once more, signifieth the removing of those things that are shaken, as of things that are made, that those things which cannot be shaken may remain. **28** Wherefore we receiving a kingdom which cannot be moved, let us have grace, whereby we may serve God acceptably with reverence and godly fear: **29** For our God is a consuming fire.*

Strong's Concordance definitions:

Shaken: to waver, that is, agitate, rock, topple, destroy; to disturb

Moved: shaken

Grace: divine influence upon the heart and its reflection in the life, favor

Consuming: to do away with completely

Fire: fire lightning, illumination

What are the things that are going to be removed? Everything that can be shaken. What is he referring to? To get the answer to this question we need to read the chapter.

***Hebrews 12:1** Wherefore seeing we also are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which doth so easily beset [**Strong's** thwart-to oppose successfully] us, and let us run with patience the race that is set before us, **2** Looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith; who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God.*

What is the weight that is opposing us, that is opposing God? Our opposition comes when we look to ourselves or to the strength of our flesh rather than to Jesus. In other words, when we resort back to the Old Covenant way of doing things in the flesh, it opposes the work of Jesus and thus the work of God.

God is a consuming fire! Our first impression is that God will destroy those that oppose him. It almost takes us back to a "law" mentality that causes us to shrink back from God in fear. It causes us to think of hell fire

and damnation and the consequences that God will bring our way if we don't conform.

By doing a simple word study and relating relevant scriptures, a whole different picture and application begins to emerge. The word "consuming" means to totally do away with, and the word "fire" means to illuminate. What is it that God wants to illuminate and what does He want to do away with? Does He do away with those things literally with fire, or does fire refer to something else?

Jeremiah 23:29 *Is not my word like as a fire? saith the LORD; and like a hammer that breaketh the rock in pieces? 30 Therefore, behold, I am against the prophets, saith the LORD, that steal my words every one from his neighbour. 31 Behold, I am against the prophets, saith the LORD, that use their tongues, and say, He saith. 32 Behold, I am against them that prophesy false dreams, saith the LORD, and do tell them, and cause my people to err by their lies, and by their lightness; yet I sent them not, nor commanded them: therefore they shall not profit this people at all, saith the LORD.*

Jeremiah 23:29 Is not my word a consuming fire that breaks [**disperse, scatter, retire**]. . . The rock [**stronghold, fortress-**] in pieces.

AMP *Is not My word like fire [that consumes all that cannot endure the test]? says the Lord, and like a hammer that breaks in pieces the rock [of most stubborn resistance]?*

V 26-27 What is the stronghold? What is it that consumes the stronghold?

V 30-32 I am against those that cause my people to err by lies

2 Corinthians 10:1-4 "Casting down imaginations, and every high thing that exalts itself against the knowledge of God," that is the battle! How do we overcome in the battle? Not through carnal weapons, but through the power of God that pulls down the strongholds or lies that come against us.

God's Word is the fire. It is the one thing that can separate the truth that sets us free from the errors of deception that seek to destroy us.

Going back to Hebrews: How do we receive a kingdom, which cannot be moved?

***Hebrews 12:28** Wherefore we receiving a kingdom which cannot be moved, let us have grace, whereby we may serve God acceptably with reverence and godly fear*

Let us have grace. What is grace? From the definition, grace is the divine influence of God upon men's hearts and its reflection in their lives. In other words, God influences our thinking and that changes our lives. How does He influence our thinking? He does it all through the Holy Spirit.

1 Corinthians 2:14 Without the Holy spirit we can't perceive spiritual things.

2 Corinthians 3:6 The Spirit gives the Word life in a manner that set us free. The letter of the Word without the interpreting power of the Holy Spirit will produce spiritual death.

John 16:13 The Holy Spirit guides us into all truth.

***1 Peter 1:23** Being born again, not of corruptible seed, but of incorruptible, by the word of God, which liveth and abideth for ever. **24** For all flesh is as grass, and all the glory of man as the flower of grass. The grass withereth, and the flower thereof falleth away: **25** But the word of the Lord endureth for ever. And this is the word which by the gospel is preached unto you.*

Only the "Spirit inspired" Word of God is incorruptible. It will stand the test. It will not be shaken. It will endure forever. Everything else is corruptible and will not stand but will instead fall away!

When we look to Jesus and the things that He accomplished for us on the cross, nothing can beset us. **Hebrews 12:1-2** Nothing can be shaken. We serve God acceptably when we receive grace **Hebrews 12:28**. In other words, when what we know about God is inspired by the Spirit, we will be receiving a kingdom which cannot be moved. Things won't be frustrating because we will not be walking with God according to a mixture of the flesh and the Spirit.

The principles of the New Covenant Kingdom transition us from being directed by the flesh to being directed by the Spirit through grace!
Hebrews 12:15-25

Isaiah 40:1-8

***Isaiah 40:5** And the glory of the LORD shall be revealed, and all flesh shall see it together: for the mouth of the LORD hath spoken it. **6** The voice said, Cry. And he said, What shall I cry? All flesh is grass, and all the goodness thereof is as the flower of the field: **7** The grass withereth, the flower fadeth: because the spirit of the LORD bloweth upon it: surely the people is grass. **8** The grass withereth, the flower fadeth: but the word of our God shall stand for ever*

The grass withers and the flower fades because the spirit of the Lord blows upon it. In other words, the Holy Spirit will reveal the truth of God's Word and that truth will stand forever. The same Holy Spirit will expose the error for what it is and it will be consumed or done away with because it is not based on principles that are eternal.

***Hebrews 12:27** And this word, Yet once more, signifieth the removing of those things that are shaken, as of things that are made, that those things which cannot be shaken may remain. **28** Wherefore we receiving a kingdom which cannot be moved, let us have grace, whereby we may serve God acceptably with reverence and godly fear: **29** For our God is a consuming fire.*

The word consuming means to totally do away with and the word fire means to illuminate. When the errors and lies in our thinking are illuminated, they lose their power over us. Truth exposes error and that sets us free!

***John 8:32** And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.*

John the Baptist's Words

***Luke 3:6** All flesh shall see the salvation of the Lord*

***Luke 3:9** Every tree which bringeth not forth good fruit is hewn down and cast into the fire*

***Luke 3:16** John answered, saying unto them all, I indeed baptize you with water; but one mightier than I cometh, the latchet of whose shoes I am not worthy to unloose: he shall baptize you with the Holy Ghost and with fire: **17** Whose fan is in his hand, and he will thoroughly purge his floor, and will gather the wheat into his garner; but the chaff he will burn with fire unquenchable. chaff.*

Jesus said in **John 14:16-20** that he would come to live in us in the form of the Spirit of truth.

Jesus baptizes us or fills us with the Holy Ghost and with fire. In other words, we become a new creation that is able to spiritually discern the word. The voice of the Holy Spirit gives us the ability to separate the things of the flesh [**chaff**] from the things of the Spirit.

This takes us back again to **Jeremiah 23:29** The Word [**God's Spirit revealed Word**] breaks the stronghold in pieces-separates the wheat from the chaff.

Every weapon or false word formed against God's children will be exposed and destroyed by the discerning power of the Holy Spirit.

***Isaiah 54:13** And all thy children shall be taught of the LORD; and great shall be the peace of thy children. **14** In righteousness shalt thou be established: thou shalt be far from oppression; for thou shalt not fear: and from terror; for it shall not come near thee. **15** Behold, they shall surely gather together, but not by me: whosoever shall gather together against thee shall fall for thy sake. **16** Behold, I have created the smith that bloweth the coals in the fire, and that bringeth forth an instrument for his work; and I have created the waster to destroy. **17** No weapon that is formed against thee shall prosper; and every tongue that shall rise against thee in judgment thou shalt condemn. This is the heritage of the servants of the LORD, and their righteousness is of me, saith the LORD.*

All of God's children will be taught by Him [**by grace or by the influence of the Holy Spirit**] and it will bring peace. We are established in His righteousness. Whosoever gathers together against his children shall fall- [**He is after what gathers against us-not us**] Everything that comes against us will be destroyed. Everything that is formed against us cannot

prosper.

God has created the smith [**The Holy Spirit that separates truth from error**] that blows the coals in the fire. [**Is 40:7-8**] The word [**inspired by the Spirit**] refines out anything that cannot prosper.

Every tongue that rises against us in judgment will be condemned.

The Spirit revealed Word of God is powerful. It separates the things of the soul from the things of the Spirit. That brings rest!

***Hebrews 4:9** There remaineth therefore a rest to the people of God. **10** For he that is entered into his rest, he also hath ceased from his own works, as God did from his. **11** Let us labour therefore to enter into that rest, lest any man fall after the same example of unbelief. **12** For the word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any two edged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discernor of the thoughts and intents of the heart.*

We find grace [**revelation that changes our lives**] to help us in our times of need when we boldly look to him-to the things of the New Covenant.

***Hebrews 4:16** Let us therefore come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need.*

The integrity of our Christian foundation is revealed by fire.

1 Corinthians 3:10-15 Jesus is the only foundation that we can build on. If any man build on this foundation, it shall be made manifest whether it is gold or wood hay and stubble because it shall be revealed [**take off the cover, disclose**] by fire

***Mirror 3:13** Everyone's work shall be tested in the real scrutiny of life; it shall be made apparent as in broad daylight just as gold is tested in fire; what you teach will either burn like stubble or shine like gold.*

Everything that is based on the foundation of God's Word will stand the scrutiny of the Holy Spirit. It will last forever! Everything that is not founded on God's Word will be exposed by the Holy Spirit and will be eliminated!

1 Corinthians 3:13 Every man's work shall be made manifest: for the day shall declare it, because it shall be revealed by fire; and the fire shall try **[Strong's -examine, discern]** every man's work of what sort it is. **14** If any man's work abide which he hath built thereupon, he shall receive a reward. **15** If any man's work shall be burned, he shall suffer loss: but he himself shall be saved; yet so as by fire.

The Word is the Fire that separates that which can be shaken from that which cannot be shaken. The Word preserves everything that is built correctly upon the foundation of Jesus Christ. The same Word exposes and destroys everything that is incorrectly built.

We have mixed the things of the Old Covenant with the things of the New Covenant. Those things that we have done through our own strength will be exposed for what they are. They will be eliminated. We will suffer loss! We have invested a lot of time doing things that won't stand. But, we will be spared because our eternal position is held in place by God's word, not our works.

Our salvation is based upon the integrity of God's Word and His Faithfulness. Nothing that comes against the Word of God can stand Because it is incorruptible!

1 Peter 1:2 We are the elect according to the sanctification of the Spirit. **vs4** to an incorruptible, undefiled inheritance that can not be shaken. **vs5** kept **[hemmed in, protect]** by the power of God.

Our faith is being tried **[tested, examined]** and refined. Is the Word we know based on the incorruptible truth, or is it based upon errors that will fade away? Even though it is tested, we will be found full of glory and honor at the appearing of Jesus.

1 Peter 1:6 Wherein ye greatly rejoice, though now for a season, if need be, ye are in heaviness through manifold temptations: **7** That the trial of your faith, being much more precious than of gold that perisheth, though it be tried with fire, might be found unto praise and honour and glory at the appearing of Jesus Christ:

Though our faith be tried or examined by fire-by the discerning power of the Holy Spirit-it will be found worthy of praise and honor and glory at the appearing of Jesus Christ. Everything that does not relate to what Jesus has done for us will be discarded. Then there will be no charges against us! We will shine forth as pure gold!

1 Peter 1:5 We are kept by the power of God to an inheritance that can't be corrupted

***1 Peter 1:18** Forasmuch as ye know that ye were not redeemed with corruptible things, as silver and gold, from your vain conversation received by tradition from your fathers; **19** But with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot: **20** Who verily was foreordained before the foundation of the world, but was manifest in these last times for you, **21** Who by him do believe in God, that raised him up from the dead, and gave him glory; that your faith and hope might be in God.*

Malachi 3:1-3 . . .”And he shall sit as a refiner and purifier of silver: and he shall purify the sons of Levi , and purge them as gold and silver, that they may offer unto the Lord an offering in righteousness.

God wants to purge out everything that is mixed with truth and grace.

Hebrews 10:14-17 We have been perfected forever. God no longer remembers our sins and iniquities. Whereof the Holy Spirit is a witness to us!

The Holy Spirit reveals to us that we are righteous! The Holy Spirit refines us and sets us free from opposing impurities by revealing truth and error to us.

Isaiah 48:10-11 refined [**become free of impurities**] with furnace of affliction so my name wont be polluted [**dissolve, misrepresent, stain**] The word we know is being tested and refined. God is using the Holy Spirit to reveal all of our false beliefs because they are like dross that is mixed in with silver or gold. The dross keeps us from shining forth as pure gold. It keeps us from experiencing God as he really intended us to.

God is a jealous God. He has made a way to provide for us as His children. That way has to be preserved and the Holy Spirit is the instrument that he uses to do it.

We are being trained by the Word-by the Spirit inspired word to recognize the difference between the truth and error so that we can be delivered from the bondage of corruption

Romans 8:20-22 For the creature was made subject [subjected to] to vanity [that which is useless, worthless, can not produce], not willingly, but by reason of him who hath subjected the same in hope, 21 Because the creature itself also shall be delivered from the bondage of corruption into the glorious liberty of the children of God

John 16:8-11 The Holy Spirit will reveal the truth

John 16:32-33 You will have tribulation but I have overcome the World

James 1:12-17 Blessed is the man who endures temptation [**putting to proof**] It is not God who tempts us-it is the false word

James 1:18 We were conceived with the Word of truth

Satan comes to steal the word by substituting a false word, which cannot stand the test.

Satan's seed won't prosper. It will be exposed. The veil will be taken off. The fire will illuminate it. **2 Corinthians 3:15-18**

Matthew 13:24-30 The kingdom is like a man who sowed good seed in his field. God has sown Holy Spirit inspired truth in the hearts of his children. But, the enemy comes and sows tares among the wheat.

The word tares means false wheat. It looks like wheat. It grows like wheat. But, it cannot bear fruit like wheat. Satan has sown false words that have become mixed with God's incorruptible words. We have a mixed word before us. God's Word according to His plan always bears good fruit. But the enemies word is a counterfeit word that sounds good. It sounds like truth, but it shows up for what it is because it does not bear the fruit of the truth. The tares will be removed from among the wheat because they are corruptible. When this is done, only the truth will remain. We are righteous because Jesus made us righteous. Nothing that

comes against us will prosper because the truth is based on God's incorruptible Word.

We can't uproot the tares in the natural because it would disturb the wheat. The tares have to be spiritually uprooted by the consuming fire of God's word. The Spirit inspired Word brings to light the hidden things of darkness. There is coming a day at the end of the age where every hidden thing of darkness will be openly exposed for the lie that it is. It will be forever separated from the incorruptible truth.

***1 Corinthians 4:3** But with me it is a very small thing that I should be judged of you, or of man's judgment: yea, I judge not mine own self. **4** For I know nothing by myself; yet am I not hereby justified: but he that judgeth me is the Lord. **5** Therefore judge nothing before the time, until the Lord come, who both will bring to light the hidden things of darkness, and will make manifest the counsels of the hearts: and then shall every man have praise of God.*

***Hebrews 12:27** "And this word [**God's Holy Spirit inspired Word**] once more signifieth [**makes plain**] the removing of those things that are shaken, as of the things that are made, that those things which cannot be shaken may remain. **28** Wherefore we receiving a kingdom which cannot be moved, let us have grace, whereby we may serve God acceptably with reverence and godly fear: **29** For our God is a consuming [**to do away with completely**] fire **fire, lightning, illumination**].*

Everything that can be shaken will be shaken. God is a consuming fire. He reveals and preserves the truth of His Word through the revelation power of the Holy Spirit. He exposes every lie that opposes His truth. When the lie is exposed, it loses its power of opposition. It is done away with completely.

All of God's children are established in righteousness and no weapon that comes against this righteousness can prosper! The same fire [**illumination by the spirit**] that saves us, also purifies and refines us so that we will shine forth as pure gold. We are held together by the "incorruptible" Word of God. By His grace we are receiving a kingdom that cannot be moved.

Will He Give You a Serpent?

The Holy Spirit is our God connection. Apart from the quickening power of the Holy Spirit we have no way to enter into, or to experience the true things of the kingdom.

1 Corinthians 2:14 *But the natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God: for they are foolishness unto him: neither can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned.*

The Old Covenant works by man's ability to perform from the outside-in. It exposes the weakness of the flesh.

Romans 7:18 *For I know that in me (that is, in my flesh,) dwelleth no good thing: for to will is present with me; but how to perform that which is good I find not.*

The New Covenant is empowered by the Spirit of God and works from the inside-out. It brings the power of God to the forefront.

Hebrews 10:16 *This is the covenant that I will make with them after those days, saith the Lord, I will put my laws into their hearts, and in their minds will I write them;*

John 15 tells us that Jesus is the vine and we are the branches. The branch must abide in the vine in order to bear fruit. Everything that the branch needs is supplied by the vine because the vine is the source of life for the branch.

John 15:5 *I am the vine, ye are the branches: He that abideth in me, and I in him, the same bringeth forth much fruit: for without me ye can do nothing.*

Our relationship with God functions the same way. He is the source of everything we have need of.

John 15:7 *If ye abide in me, and my words abide in you, ye shall **ask** what ye will, and it shall be done unto you.*

The word ask in this verse according to Strong's Concordance means strictly *to demand what is due*. In other words, when we have the mentality that God is the source of everything we have need of, we will see those needs supplied.

Often when we find ourselves in a position of lack, our natural instinct is to place our focus on what we have done wrong to cause the lack and what we need to do in order to correct it. This brings us back to the Old Covenant mentality that can't produce! God says put your confidence in Him to supply. **Ask** and it will be given to you!

Luke 11:9 *And I say unto you, Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you. 10 For every one that asketh receiveth; and he that seeketh finds; and to him that knocketh it shall be opened. 11 If a son shall ask bread of any of you that is a father, will he give him a stone? or if he ask a fish, will he for a fish give him a serpent? 12 Or if he shall ask an egg, will he offer him a scorpion? 13 If ye then, being evil, know how to give good gifts unto your children: how much more shall your heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to them that ask him?*

The word ask here means the same thing that it meant in John 15. When you take your position as a child of God, he will supply all that you need because that is what a Father does. The Holy Spirit is your God connector and power source. *Holy Spirit, I need you to write a word on my heart that will take me past this moment of lack*. He will not give you a stone if you ask for bread. He will not give you a serpent if you ask for a fish.

I believe that this is saying that if you put all of your confidence in God, He will change things from the inside out. You can count on it! Often what we lack is the ability to even believe that we can have that much confidence in God. He supplies even the ability to believe because HE SUPPLIES EVERYTHING!

2Peter 1:3 *According as his divine power hath given unto us all things that pertain unto life and godliness, through the knowledge of him that hath called us to glory and virtue: 4 Whereby are given unto us exceeding great and precious promises: that by these ye might be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust.*

Holy Spirit, write your words on my heart. Give me the ability to believe. Give me the ability to rest in what you have promised to supply because I don't even have the ability to do that! One revelation moment from you, one word from you is what I need and I believe you will give it to me.

If you ask for bread, will He give you a stone, if you ask for a fish, will He give you a serpent, if you ask for an egg will He give you a scorpion? No! If you abide in Him and His words abide in you, you can put all of your confidence in Him. You can ask what you will and it shall be done unto you!

IT IS WHAT A FATHER DOES!