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REACHING THE HEART OF GOD

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STEPS TO THE HEART OF GOD

The Bible reveals that there are steps to the heart of God. The heart of God is the very essence of all that God is. Proverbs 4:23 says, **“Keep thy heart with all diligence; for out of it are the issues of life.”** The issues of life come from the heart. Speaking of those who do not know God, Jesus said, **“For from within, out of the heart of men, proceed evil thoughts. . .”** (Mark 7:21). The heart is “the vital center” of one’s being, emotions, and sensibilities.

The heart of God “the vital center” is the Father. Jesus said, “I do only the will of the Father.” Out of the heart, proceeds the thoughts that determine the actions a person performs. Jesus’ thoughts and Jesus’ actions always portrayed the Father. Jesus lived by the Father. He proceeded out from the Father. When Jesus left this earth He went back to the Father. The Father is the heart of God.

There are steps to reaching the heart of God. That is, there are things involved in the process of a person reaching the heart of God the Father. The first step takes place sometime after a person is born into this world. It can come in many ways. For some people it never comes and they live on this earth, die, and go to hell, never even knowing they could have gone to heaven instead, if only they had taken the time to know there was a heaven to gain and a hell to turn away from.

But for many they have taken the first step. They recognized there is a God, and we need God. For many, this comes about because someone else told them there is a God and they must in some way or other recognize that truth. Unfortunately, for many they never get to know who the true God is, and they spend their life serving the gods of this world. They live and die serving the gods of this world, go to hell for all eternity, not because they didn’t know there was a God in heaven, but because they did not search to find the one and only True God. Satan comes to steal the desire to know God from them, using false religions to accomplish his purpose.

When a person is born into this world, they are born of the flesh. That is, they are born because two other individuals of their own mind and their own choosing got involved and the woman became pregnant. A new life began in the womb of the woman, which when the time was come a child was born. The Bible calls this “born of the flesh” (John 3:6).

Every individual who is born into this world came as the result of someone else’s decision to do what they did. Unknown to mankind in general, there is a God in heaven who knows everything, even the hairs on each individual’s head. He knows the end from the beginning and nothing is hid from Him. God has a plan and a purpose for every individual who is born into this world. His plan is that none should perish and spend eternity in hell, but all should come to know Jesus Christ, His Son and have eternal life in heaven.

There is also a devil, called Satan, who operates in the heavens above the earth, on the earth, and in the minds of every individual living on this earth. The world does not know that the devil is in control of the lives of those who do not submit themselves to the control of God. Even Spirit-filled Christians are serving the devil much of the time and don’t know it. These Christians are called **“children of disobedience”** in Ephesians 2:2. Satan, the devil, operates by putting thoughts in the minds of people, “Christians as well and those who are not Christians.” The natural mind of man is subject to Satanic operations, both natural operations and spiritual operations.

Unless people in this world come to the LORD Jesus Christ and submit their will to the will of God, Satan will rule their lives by thoughts he puts in their minds. That which is born of the flesh

includes everything we came into this world with, our bodies, our minds our souls, even our spirit. It is all included as a part of the flesh.

Without the help of God in our lives, we cannot know the truth that can set us free of this operation of Satan in our minds, controlling our thoughts, and in the end controlling our lives. Only God, through His Word, can save us. Jesus is the Word of God. He was the Word in the beginning, and He is still the Word of God today. He has not changed. The Word of God has not changed, and will not change.

When a person is born into this world, they came, not of their own will, but by the will of another. Yet, God knew them, where they came from and why they came. God knows everything, and every individual that came into this world.

God knew you before you were conceived in your mothers womb. God knew you before you were born. God still knows you, no matter what you do or did. God has a plan for your life, but you will never know His plan if you don't take the time to find it out.

Many people, after they are born into this world refuse to seek the LORD and find Him, even though He is not far from anyone (Acts 17:27). Anyone can find the LORD if they will seek Him, for He is God and He is well able to reveal Himself to those who will diligently seek Him.

Satan knows what happens when people seek the LORD with all their heart, mind, soul, and strength; therefore, he does all he can to stop them from seeking the LORD and from finding Him. God only receives those who come to Him. God does not force anyone to come to Him. He searches the hearts and minds of people to see who is willing to come to Him. God helps everyone who will seek Him, and come to Him. God can do nothing for those who will not come to Him.

Satan has all sorts of ways and things to attract people to follow his deception and not come to God. He even presents himself as though he is god, deceiving many, even Spirit-filled Christians. In the last days, if it were possible, even the very elect will be deceived (Matt. 24:24). Satan uses false religions to capture the minds of many, and many follow these religious operations. Many know there is a god, but are snared by thoughts in their minds to serve false gods.

Then we have others who first started out serving other gods, then they become religious. They heard about the true God. So they joined a religious organization that told them the Bible has the answers. They were told the Bible is the one book by which they can know the true God. Some of these have their own version of the Bible. Many of them teach another way, another Jesus, another this or that, and they never come to the true knowledge of the true and living God. They live their life out on earth, go to hell and never obtain eternal life in heaven with the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. Why, they didn't take the time to find out if they were really experiencing the true and living God in their lives. Among them are many who call themselves Christians, and believe they are the true Christians, yet they never experience the true and Living God in their lives. They were sprinkled with water as an infant. They say they were baptized. Someone said a prayer over them and they believe they are children of God. It's just religion, nothing else. Because they operate from their mind, not their spirit, they let the devil hold them to their religious operations.

As we study the book of Jude, we find that many have entered into the churches, claiming themselves to be Christians and knowing the Scriptures. They find for themselves positions within the churches, and even start their own churches, denominations, etc. to promote their religious operations. These Jude writes about, saying, they do not have the Holy Spirit (Jude 1:19). They have missed the true Word of God, and have used the Bible for their purpose. Many people are deceived

by their operations, because they say they are Christians, many receive them as Christians.

There are extremes to these operations, which call themselves Christians. Some are not even born again, yet they say they are Christians. The true meaning of the word Christian is that “Christ dwells in them.” Christ dwells in all who receive Him as LORD and Savior, not in those who do not receive Him. God does not force Himself upon anyone. They must receive Jesus Christ as LORD and Savior, no one else can do it for them.

There are many false Christian churches throughout the world. And many Christian churches receive them as one of their own. Their minds have been blinded by the god of this world, and they do not discern the difference between that which is true and that which is false. This discernment is not done with the natural mind, it is a spiritual discernment, an operation of the Holy Spirit, comparing spiritual things with spiritual (1 Cor. 2:13,14).

Some of these false Christian churches are very obvious and anyone who loves the LORD will know they are false. Others are not so obvious and many are deceived in believing they are true Christian churches, because they use the Bible, and teach from it. They acknowledge that Jesus is the Son of God: He came into this world to save that which was lost: He died and rose again from the dead. They actually confess everything that true Christians confess, yet they are false and are not truly born of the Word and the Holy Spirit. They only go through the pretense and from the natural they seem to be Christians. By this they are deceived and they deceive many by their religious operations. Satan has them bound to their operations by their minds, having not the Holy Spirit (Jude 1:18,19).

In all of the previous examples of what happens to people who are born into this world, Satan has them blinded to the true gospel. They are blinded and do not know it. Many have the same Bibles as true Christians have, but they do not have revelation of the Word of God given to them by the Holy Spirit. Only the Holy Spirit can reveal the truth to anyone. No one can come to Jesus unless the Father draws them (John 6:44). The Father draws people by His Spirit. The Spirit searches the hearts of everyone, knowing what is the mind of the spirit within them. If they would truly seek to know the truth, the Spirit of God will reveal it to them.

Then we have those who somewhere along the way in life found out the truth about “how to become born again,” not by water baptism, not by infant baptism, not by the prayers of others. But by receiving Jesus Christ into their own lives “personally.” John 1:12 says, **“But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name.”** This truth from the Bible only applies to those who themselves receive Jesus. It does not apply to those who someone else did it for them. Therefore, they ask the LORD Jesus Christ to come into their lives and became their LORD and Savior, and He does. They become born again of the Word and the Spirit. They become “children of God.” They receive the Word of God. It’s not religion, it’s a new birth into the family of God. Before they are born again, they lived like the world lives. They loved the world and the things in the world.

Yet there are some who will ask, “how do I know if I have truly been born again, at one time I said a sinners prayer, does that mean I have been born again”? No, that does not mean you have been born again, a sinners prayer is for those who recognize they have sinned and they ask for forgiveness. There was a Pharisee, and a publican that went up to pray. The publican **“smote upon his breast, saying, God be merciful to me a sinner”** (Luke 18:10-14). That was a sinners prayer, but the publican did not get born again saying that prayer. Yet, he was forgiven, the LORD tells us.

When a person is truly born again the Bible tells us they have a witness within themselves (1 John 5:10) Romans 8:15 tells us, **“we receive the Spirit of adoption, whereby we cry, Abba, Father.”** Galatians 4:6 says, **“And because ye are sons, God hath sent forth the Spirit of his Son into your hearts, crying, Abba, Father.”** The word “Abba” is an Aramaic word carried over into the Greek. It is considered a personal name “designating a personal relationship.” Galatians 4:7 then explains, **“Wherefore thou art no more a servant, but a son; and if a son, then an heir of God through Christ.”** God becomes our personal “Father.” Our new created spirit cries out to God our Father “Abba, Father.” We may not realize that our spirit is crying out to God as our Father, but we do have a witness in our spirit that we are born again.

Being these are still in this world, where Satan is the god of this world, he comes to steal the Word from them (Mark 4:15). Unfortunately, many of these, after a while go back to the world and again, live like the rest of the world. They do not continue to go on with the LORD.

When these believe the Word of God concerning eternal life, they believe there is a God in heaven. They believe Jesus is the Son of God. They receive the Word of God concerning eternal life. Once this happens they love the Word of God. They become interested in what the Bible says. They read the Word of God, and become a part of the church. They have fellowship with those who are born again. Their life changes from the ways of the world to the Word of God. This is commonly known as the Baptist type Christians. They love the Word of God, but that is as far as they go. Once they reach this step their whole life changes. Their future is in the Word of God.

Many never go any further with God than that. Some even turn back to their old life style and stop reading the Word of God. They stop going to church. Satan has taken the Word from them, and they become unfruitful.

They live their life out on this earth believing they are in the perfect will of God. Unknown to them is the truth that Jesus spoke to Nicodemus in John, Chapter three. In verse three Jesus said, **“Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God.”** Just being born again is not all there is to it. Those who are not born again cannot see, “that is understand the reign of God.” Therefore, what Jesus was talking about is the reign of God, which no one can understand unless they are first born again. Then in John 3:5 Jesus said, **“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.”** Even after understanding the reign of God, they still need to enter into the reign of God. Yet, unless they are born again of the water and the Spirit, they cannot enter into the reign of God.

Jesus didn’t stop there, He continued to explain, first, you must be born again. That is a positive statement, no exceptions. But, Jesus went on to say, those who are born again of the Spirit will be like the wind. **“The wind bloweth where it listeth, and thou hearest the sound thereof, but canst not tell whence it cometh, and whither it goeth: so is every one that is born of the Spirit”** (John 3:8). Jesus is not talking about the Holy Spirit, He is talking about those who are born of the Spirit.

So, those who go no further than to become born again, those who do not enter into the reign of God are not in the perfect will of God. They have only taken one step closer to the perfect will of God. There is a lot more involved.

When we decide what we will do and where we will go, we are walking after the flesh and not after the Spirit. Galatians 5:17 says, **“the flesh lusteth against the Spirit, and the Spirit**

against the flesh: and these are contrary the one to the other: so that ye cannot do the things that ye would.” In the kingdom of God, we cannot do our own will. We cannot walk after the flesh. We must do the will of God the Father, and we must walk after the Spirit.

Yet, just being born again is not enough. For that is only receiving Jesus Christ into our lives. We must also receive the Holy Spirit in His fulness. That is, we must be baptized in the Holy Spirit (Mark 16:17, Matt. 3:11, Luke 11:13, Acts 1:4,5,8, 8:14-17, 19:2).

For some who are born again, they see the need for the Holy Spirit in their lives. They desire to have the Holy Spirit working in their lives. They seek and receive the Baptism in the Holy Spirit with the evidence of speaking in tongues. It's like a new life again. They still love the Word of God. They still enjoy their times studying and reading the Word of God. They still enjoy fellowship with other Christians over that of fellowship with those who are not Christians.

But there is a greater desire, that is “communion with the Holy Spirit.” Before this they did all their praying in the natural. They prayed from their mind, speaking those things which concerned them. Once they have taken this step and received the baptism in the Holy Spirit, there is a desire to pray in the Spirit. They love speaking in other tongues as the Holy Spirit gives them utterance. They now have two ways of praying, with their understanding and with their spirit, “praying in the Spirit.”

A whole new way of living comes into being. They still love the Word of God, but now they also love the working of the Holy Spirit in their lives. They pray and see others healed by the power of God. They pray and see great miracles happening because of their prayers. They start commanding Satan and the demons to leave and they see the results. They see the power of God manifest when people are slain in the Spirit. They start spending a lot of time praying in the Spirit, building up their most holy faith (Jude 1:20). Once they have reached this step, their whole way of living changes. They now depend upon the leading of the Holy Spirit as their Helper, Guide, Comforter, and Teacher. It's a whole new way of living, even different than the steps before. Then Satan comes to steal the Word

Being that Satan could not stop these from receiving the Holy Spirit he comes with other ways to lead them away from the perfect will of God. In Mark 4:19, Jesus said, **“And the cares of this world, and the deceitfulness of riches, and the lusts of other things entering in, choke the word, and it becometh unfruitful.”** Satan has all kinds of attractions to get their eyes off the Word, off the Holy Spirit, so he can control their lives.

That was only another step to the heart of God. There is still one more step to take to the heart of God, that is “the love of the Father.” The love of the Father comes when we no longer love the things of this world, In 1 John 2:15,16 it says,

Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world. If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him.

For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world.

When we reach the heart of God the Father, the love of the Father abides in us. The world and the things of this world have no place in our lives. God is our source for everything. We become led by the Spirit of God not by our natural minds. We know what is of God and what is not of God. The Word of God will always be our number one source to know what is of God. The witness of the Holy Spirit in our spirit will always be our second source. The Blood of Jesus will always be our

defense against all Satanic operations. Whatsoever the spirits of this world try, we have the blood of Jesus to cover us. It cleanses us from all sin as we walk in the light of the Word (1 John 1:7). On earth, we have three witnesses the Word the Holy Spirit and the Blood of Jesus. These three always agree.

When we rely totally and completely upon God in our lives, we set aside all works of the flesh, and trust in God as our source for everything (Matt. 7:22-33). God is our source, not just by natural means but also by supernatural means.

Many believe they have reached the final step, but they still hang on to “their system” of supplying their needs. Instead of looking to God, they seek others to help them supply their needs. They look for love offerings, they look for others who will give them what they need to do what they think God called them to do. They form groups, they join others in groups, they do what they see others doing, they teach what they hear others teach. In actuality, they operate from their natural mind, doing whatsoever they believe will benefit them the most. They make their plans according to the thoughts of their minds.

This is not the heart of the Father, it is actually the flesh, man, not God. When God is our source, then money, and the things of this world are not our source.

Jesus came to show us the Father. When Jesus saw a need to feed five-thousand men plus women and children on a hillside, he did not look to natural means. He raised His eyes up to heaven and prayed. Supernaturally, God multiplied the fish and the bread, and they were all filled. When we reach the heart of God, the natural things are not important, only the will of God is important and God supplies all our needs. God does not need people to do His work. People need God to do His work.

When we reach the heart of the Father, our whole life changes again. Once again, we are no longer the same, we still love the Word of God, we still love praying in the Spirit, we still seek the Leading, Guiding, Comforting, Teaching and Helping of the Holy Spirit. But our whole life changes, and the things of this world are no longer important. The only thing of importance to us is “Pleasing the Father.” We “live by faith, not by sight.” We “trust in God” not in man. Everything we do is “to please the Father.”

How many Christians have reached the heart of the Father? How many Christians have gone all the way to the Father? If you have not, I would encourage you to seek to go through the process as fast as you can. Don’t stop with just being born again. Don’t stop with just receiving the Holy Spirit and speaking in tongues. Don’t stop with just praying and seeing the power of God manifest. Go the last and final step “to the heart of God.” Reach the highest position, the same position Jesus reached as the Son of Man on this earth. Let God be your Father and you be His son or daughter. Reach into the heart of God, where the Father has total control in your life. Where you live unto God, and this world means nothing to you. Reach until you get into the fellowship of the Father the way Jesus had fellowship with God the Father. That is when the real life of God flows through you! If you study the Scriptures closely, you will find when you reach the heart of the Father, that’s when, “whatsoever you ask, it will be done unto you, that the Father may be glorified in the Son.”

When Lazarus died prematurely, Jesus, having reached the heart of the Father,

lifted up his eyes, and said, Father, I thank thee that thou hast heard me.

And I knew that thou hearest me always: but because of the people which stand by I said it, that they may believe that thou hast sent me.

And when he thus had spoken, he cried with a loud voice, Lazarus, come forth. And he that was dead came forth, bound hand and foot with graveclothes: and his face was bound about with a napkin. Jesus saith unto them, Loose him, and let him go (John 11:41-44).

When you reach the heart of the Father you know your prayers will be answered. God will always answer your prayers. Yet, Jesus said, “unless you deny yourself you cannot be My disciple.” This is not partial denial, it is complete denial. This is not partial commitment to the LORD, this is total commitment to the LORD. The LORD is the Word of God, therefore, this is 100% commitment to the Word of God. Whatever the Word of God says, we must do. We must be doers of the Word, not just hearers only. That is how you reach the heart of God the Father. As one person I know would say, if you love God, “go for it!”

THE LORD'S PLAN

The Just Shall Live by Faith

Included in the steps to the heart of God the Father is the plan of God, actually called “predestinated” (Eph. 1:5). Romans 8:29 says, God “**did predestinate us to be conformed to the image of his Son.**” The plan of God is for each individual to reach the heart of God the Father. Jesus reached the heart of God the Father in His life here on earth. Then Jesus said to those who will follow Him, “**Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that believeth on me, the works that I do shall he do also; and greater works than these shall he do; because I go unto my Father**” (John 14:12). Jesus had reached the heart of God the Father, thereby Jesus said, “**the Father that dwelleth in me, he doeth the works**” (John 14:10). When you reach the heart of the Father, He does the works from within you. It’s not us doing the works, it’s the Father doing the works by the power of the Holy Spirit within us.

The plan is laid out in the Word of God for each individual person. If we follow the Word of God in every area of our life, we will obtain that which God has planned for us. No matter what area we are concerned with, God has the answer in the Word of God, how to reach the heart of God the Father by doing what it says in the Word.

In one area we are told how to please God. Hebrews 10:38 says, “**Now the just shall live by faith: but if any man draw back, my soul shall have no pleasure in him.**” Here we can see that God has no pleasure in those who do not live by faith. Hebrews 11:1 says, “**Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen.**” Then Hebrews 11:6 says, “**But without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him.**” The plan of God to please the Father is laid out in the Word of God, we must search for it.

In Mark 11:22, Jesus said, “**Have faith in God.**” In Romans 1:17, Gal. 3:11, & Heb. 10:38 it says, “**the just shall live by faith.**” How can we have faith in God? How can we live by faith?

The only way we can have faith in God is to know that God loves us and wants to reward us for our faith in Him. God does reward those who diligently seek Him (Heb. 11:6). To seek God for something, we must have faith in God, that He will give us what we ask for. Therefore, we must believe we will receive when we ask...

Our natural mind does not want to believe that God will reward us when we ask Him. Our natural mind receives thoughts from the spirit realm that, because of our past God does not love us. Our natural mind tries to keep us from believing God, based upon the Law, or some other thing in our lives that says we are not worthy to receive from God.

That may be partly true, that is, if we were to consider the law as a basis of whether we are worthy or not. But God does not go according to our natural mind, or our thoughts. God goes according to His Word and what He did for us through Jesus Christ. God does not look at what we did, He looks at what Jesus did for us, and our faith, based upon what the Word of God says.

Christians need to understand their position in Christ Jesus. We are joint-heirs with Christ. What Jesus did, He did for us, that we could receive from the Father whatsoever we have need of. Not based upon what we did or didn’t do, but based upon what Jesus did for us. Jesus is our mediator. In 1 Timothy 2:5 it says, “**For there is one God, and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus.**” Even though we are true children of God. Even though we are born

of the Word and the Spirit, we still have a mediator between us and the Father, **“the man Christ Jesus.”**

Why do we need a mediator between us and our heavenly Father, who is our true Father? Because there is still sin in our lives (1 John 1:8,10). We still do things that are not pleasing to God (Rom. 7:15,22,23). A mediator is like a lawyer who pleads a case before a judge. A lawyer speaks to the judge on behalf of his client.

Jesus is our mediator, who speaks to the Father on our behalf. When we sin, Jesus pleads our case before the Father, based upon what He did for us on the Cross, not upon what we do or did not do. If we sin, Jesus pleads our case to the Father based upon the blood He shed for us on the Cross (1 John 2:1,2).

The Father is the one that required a blood sacrifice for the atonement of sin. Jesus was the Lamb chosen by the Father to be the sacrifice for sin. Therefore, as our mediator, Jesus speaks to the Father for us, He is our advocate before God. **“My little children, these things write I unto you, that ye sin not. And if any man sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous”** (1 John 2:1).

Acts 13:38,39 is speaking of Jesus and what He did for us on the Cross. It says,

Be it known unto you therefore, men and brethren, that through this man is preached unto you the forgiveness of sins:

And by him all that believe are justified from all things, from which ye could not be justified by the law of Moses.

Hebrews 10:1 tells us, **“the law having a shadow of good things to come, and not the very image of the things, can never with those sacrifices which they offered year by year continually make the comers thereunto perfect.”** The law could not do it for us, but in Christ Jesus we are justified from all things. The law was only a shadow of things to come. Hebrews 10:4 says, **“For it is not possible that the blood of bulls and of goats should take away sins.”** Hebrews 10:9,10, speaking of Jesus, says,

Then said he, Lo, I come to do thy will, O God. He taketh away the first, that he may establish the second.

By the which will we are sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.

Jesus came to take away sin, once for all. If we are in Christ, and believe, then we are justified from all things which the Law of Moses could not justify us, neither could the sacrifice of bulls and goats, for they were only a shadow of things to come. Both, the Law and the blood of bulls and goats were only a shadow of that which Jesus did for us on the Cross of Calvary.

Now that Jesus “has already” paid the price for us, He is at the right hand of God, making intercession for us. Hebrews 10:35,36 says,

Cast not away therefore your confidence, which hath great recompence of reward.

For ye have need of patience, that, after ye have done the will of God, ye might receive the promise.

Put your confidence in what Jesus has already done for you. Put your confidence in the Word of God, which He has given you concerning whatsoever you have need of. When you pray, believe you have received before you see any evidence. The evidence will appear after you believe, after you wait in patience, after you have done the will of God, you will receive the promise.

Hebrews 10:37 **“For yet a little while, and he that shall come will come, and will not tarry.”** We must apply our faith in what we have need of the same way we apply our faith for the second coming of Jesus. **“For yet a little while, and he that shall come will come...”** Just as surely as He will come, so will we receive whatsoever we ask in prayer, “yet a little while and it will come.” Never cast off your confidence, for it has a great recompense of reward for those who have patience and wait, holding fast their confidence. Romans 4:18-21, speaking of Abraham says,

Who against hope believed in hope, that he might become the father of many nations, according to that which was spoken, So shall thy seed be.

And being not weak in faith, he considered not his own body now dead, when he was about an hundred years old, neither yet the deadness of Sara's womb:

He staggered not at the promise of God through unbelief; but was strong in faith, giving glory to God;

And being fully persuaded that, what he had promised, he was able also to perform.

It makes no difference, even if there is no hope. For, even where there is no hope, God will perform that which He promised in His Word. Abraham believed God, **“according to that which was spoken.”** We can also believe God according to that which is written in His Word. Our faith must be based upon His Word. Hebrews 10:38,39 says,

Now the just shall live by faith: but if any man draw back, my soul shall have no pleasure in him.

But we are not of them who draw back unto perdition; but of them that believe to the saving of the soul.

We must be among those who never draw back, but believe until the end, unto the day of the return of our LORD.

Whatsoever you believe for, never draw back, never loose your confidence. Have patience and wait for the manifestation, holding fast to your confession. He that promised, is faithful, and will reward those who diligently seek Him. Hebrews 11:6 says, **“without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him.”**

“Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen” (Heb. 11:1). Therefore, Hebrews 10:22 says, **“Let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith . . .”** Let us have “full assurance,” not wavering, as Abraham was, **“fully persuaded that, what he had promised, he was able also to perform.”** Hebrews 10:23 says, **“Let us hold fast the profession of our faith without wavering; (for he is faithful that promised.)”** The word “profession” is the same as “confession,” they mean the same thing. What we profess is what we confess.

To hold fast to what we confess, includes continued confession. We continue to confess what we have confessed (not asking over and over the same thing, but being fully persuaded that we have whatsoever we asked for). Our confession is not “God will” in the future, give us whatsoever we asked for, but “God has already given” (past tense) us whatsoever we asked for. We already have it “by faith.” Faith is “the evidence” of things not seen. We don’t see it yet, but we have evidence that we “already have it.” The evidence is our faith, therefore, we do not waver. We hold fast to our confidence that “by faith,” without any other evidence “we have whatsoever we asked for.”

Again, we already have it, and the evidence we have is “our faith.” Therefore, we will never

draw back into perdition, but hold fast to our faith, which will bring forth our reward. For God will reward those who do not draw back, but hold fast to their confession. God rewards those who continually confess the Word of God over every circumstance in their lives. The Word works, if we do not waver, and do not lose confidence. But, we must hold fast to our confession until the end.

The LORD gives us faith. It's a gift from God. Ephesians 2:8 says, **“For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God.”** Grace and faith are both gifts from God. We must receive these gifts from God and make use of them in order to profit from them. Grace is given to everyone. Forgiveness of sins is for everyone (1 John 2:2). Yet, the only ones who will benefit are those who receive them as gifts from God. We cannot inherit the promises by works. They are ours by grace, but must be received by faith.

God dwells in Christians, and the Word of God dwells in us. In Romans 10:8 it says, **“But what saith it? The word is nigh thee, even in thy mouth, and in thy heart: that is, the word of faith, which we preach.”** The Word of God is already in us, it's even in our mouth and in our heart. Our problem is not that we do not have faith. It is not that we do not have the Word of God. Our problem is, we are not speaking the Word out of our mouth.

Romans 10:9,10 explains where our problem with faith is; it says,

That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved.

For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.

The problem is the confessing. We do not receive that which is ours by faith, because we are not confessing that which is already in our heart and in our mouth; that is, “the Word of Faith.” Faith, without confession, becomes dead faith. We have faith, but we do not receive because we fail to confess that which God has already put in our heart and in our mouth.

The key to strong faith is “speaking out of our mouth” the Word of Faith that is already in our heart and in our mouth (Rom. 10:8-10). We believe in our heart and confess with our mouth. The two most important things about faith that cause things to manifest are “believing and confessing.”

Another important thing about faith is patience. Faith and patience work together. James 1:3,4 says,

Knowing this, that the trying of your faith worketh patience.

But let patience have her perfect work, that ye may be perfect and entire, wanting nothing.

Strong faith always endures until the manifestation comes. It takes patience to stand in faith. It's wonderful that there are sometimes “instant manifestations” to faith. But, too often we expect instant manifestations when God never promised instant manifestations. In most cases, the Bible uses the phrase “shall be, or shall come.” The word “shall” indicates future tense, some time in the future. Many times Christians only need to stand in faith for about three days, and then they will see evidence of their faith working. Not always a completion of that which they believed for, but at least some manifestation.

It takes patience to stand in faith, not wavering until the manifestation comes. Never waver, continue to praise and thank the LORD for whatsoever you ask “according to His Word.” It will come to pass, if you do not waver.

There is more than just the faith area. That is, you cannot reach the faith area without doing

other things in the Word of God. For example, you cannot reach the faith walk without receiving your faith from the Word of God, for Romans 10:17 says, **“So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.”** If we don’t hear the Word of God we will not have the faith to live by.

The Counterfeit

In each step of the way to the heart of the Father, Satan has a counterfeit operation. Many have fallen to the snare of the devil. Don’t be taken in by the counterfeit. In each step to the heart of the Father you will see the counterfeit. The counterfeit says, “I have another way. You can do it another way”! The serpent was saying to Eve in the garden of Eden, “you can do it another way,” “just eat of the tree of knowledge of good and evil and you will become as gods,” **“For God doth know that in the day ye eat thereof, then your eyes shall be opened, and ye shall be as gods, knowing good and evil”** (Gen. 3:5). That was the counterfeit, the plan of God was, **“But of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, thou shalt not eat of it: for in the day that thou eatest thereof thou shalt surely die”** (Gen. 2:17). God has a plan, Satan has a counterfeit for God’s plan.

God has a plan for marriage, and Satan has a counterfeit. God laid out His plan starting in Genesis 2:18,24. Then throughout the Bible, God has revealed His plan for marriage. Satan comes around with his counterfeit plan. Many within the churches have taken the counterfeit plan for marriage rather than God’s plan.

God has a plan for worshiping Him and serving Him. In Exodus 7:16, the LORD had told Moses to speak to Pharaoh, **“And thou shalt say unto him, The LORD God of the Hebrews hath sent me unto thee, saying, Let my people go, that they may serve me in the wilderness.”** After ten plagues, and some time in journeying into the wilderness to a mountain in Sinai, the children of Israel were gathered at the foot of the mountain. Moses went up into the mountain and was gone for forty days. While Moses was up in the mountain, the children of Israel took of their gold and made a golden calf. There they sacrificed to the golden calf, “counterfeit worship,” worshiping a false god. Satan has many other false gods to worship, rather than the true God of this creation.

After Solomon died, ten tribes were given to Jeroboam, and two to Rehoboam. While Jeroboam was king over the ten tribes, he made two calves, and put one in Bethel and the other in Dan (1 Kings 12:28,29). Then he said, **“It is too much for you to go up to Jerusalem: behold thy gods, O Israel, which brought thee up out of the land of Egypt.”** In 2 Chronicles it says, **“And he ordained him priests for the high places, and for the devils, and for the calves which he had made”** (2 Chron. 11:15). The counterfeit will always have another way to serve God, by serving other gods.

The last two steps is where Satan makes his greatest attack. He has multitudes of Christians going around saying, “God told me!” Don’t be too quick to listen to them. This is mostly of the flesh, especially when they speak of worldly things. God speaks to you from your inner being, not your mind. Always know the Truth, which comes by the Word of God. Jesus said,

If ye continue in my word, then are ye my disciples indeed;

And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free (John 8:31,32).

The Word of God will always set you free. Any other way will not set you free, but instead could be a snare and a trap unto those who go without the Word first in everything. The Word must

come first, then the Holy Spirit will confirm the Word. God confirms everything to you from your spirit, not from the minds of others. You will know the Truth from your spirit, not from what others say. The Word must always come first!

One of the greatest weapons the devil has is the thoughts he puts in the minds of those who have been born again into the body of Christ, and have received the Holy Spirit. These are the ones Satan uses when he has failed to stop us in the previous attempts. Many fall into this trap of the devil, and many cannot turn back. Hebrews 6:4-6 speaks especially of those who go beyond the Word of God, and get involved in operating from their mind, doing whatsoever they believe is to their advantage. They go so far, there is no return for them. The Spirit of God gives them up, and they cannot repent. Hebrews 6:4-6 is very clear, and should not be misunderstood by anyone born of the Spirit. But, in 2 Thessalonians, chapter two, is a greater revelation of these times in which we are living. It is not easily understood, for the translations of the Scriptures are not clear, even though the original Greek is clear. Satan has come into the high places in the churches, as though he is god. He has used many who the churches think are great men and women of God, and deceived multitudes. It is very clear, this is not speaking of one person, called the son of perdition (2 Thess. 2:3). But it speaks of many who raise themselves up in the churches as though they are God. But their end is, **“God shall send them strong delusion, that they should believe a lie”** (2 Thess. 2:11). Notice it says, **“send them,”** and **“that they.”** This is not speaking of one individual person. It is speaking of many sons of perdition, raising themselves up as though they are God. Reference to this is in Isaiah 14:13, and many other places throughout the Bible.

Wherever Satan can get an opportunity to operate through the minds of Spirit-filled Christians he will work through them to deceive many. Do not follow his operations. We have the Word of God, the Holy Spirit, and the Blood of Jesus as our three witnesses on earth. With these three we can overcome every work of the devil. But we must learn to walk after the Spirit of God, not the mind of the flesh. We must bring every thought into subjection to the Word of God (2 Cor. 10:5). When we do that, the Holy Spirit will confirm the Word of God from within our spirit, and we will know the truth and the truth will set us free.

Our natural mind is the devils territory, this is where he does all he can. Our minds must be renewed on the Word of God that we know every attempt of the devil to deceive us. We walk after the Holy Spirit, and we use our natural mind to bring ourselves into agreement with the Word of God. We agree with the Word of God, not with the circumstances, not with the ways of the world, not with the ways of men, but with the ways of God as it is written in the Word of God. Those who let spiritual experiences and spiritual manifestations come before the written Word of God will be deceived. Many have fallen into this trap of the devil. Don't be deceived by the thoughts of your mind. Bring every thought into agreement with the written Word of God. Then the Holy Spirit will be able to Teach, Guide, Lead, Comfort, and Help you in every area of your life. If you do not put the Word of God first, the Holy Spirit has nothing to work with in your life.

When Christians believe they can do their own will, they miss God completely, and become tools of the devil. You cannot do the will of the flesh and serve God at the same time. See Galatians 6:7,8. It is not possible, to serve God with your mind. You must serve God with your spirit, and be led by the Holy Spirit in agreement with the written Word of God. Unless you deny yourself, you cannot be a disciple of Jesus.

This whole creation is the LORD'S creation. He created everything, including those things

which are not seen with the natural eyes (John 1:3, Col. 1:14-16). If we do not make Jesus LORD in our lives, Satan will have power to do his will in our lives. We do not have the power to control our lives. We must rely upon the power of the Holy Spirit working through the Word of God to control whatever we do on this earth.

There is no other way to the heart of God the Father then by the working of the Holy Spirit in our lives. John 4:24 tells us, **“God is a Spirit: and they that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth.”** We must worship God from our spirit by the power of the Holy Spirit within us. Any other way will fail, and Satan will have an advantage in our lives. The word “worship” means, “give the best we have to the one we love the most.” It’s not just singing praises from our mind, it’s giving God our all; spirit, soul, and body completely, not holding anything back.

CANCER IN THE BODY OF CHRIST

There was a time when I was attending a church, that a woman was given the opportunity to give her testimony. She said, it took years for her to get to know the love of God the Father. Once she knew the love of the Father her whole life changed. She never had to concern herself about anything any more.

That's a wonderful statement, and many were impressed by her testimony. The only thing about it was she really didn't get to know God the Father at all. She learned how to live the way the world lives and let others supply all her needs. That's not God, that's the flesh!

Satan has taken what the LORD created and turned it for his glory. Christians have followed the leading of the spirits of this world and think they are following the Holy Spirit. Cancer has come into the churches, mainly because Christians have not done what the Word of God told them to do. They have not **"tried the spirits if they be of God"** (1 John 4:1). For the most part, they don't even know how to try the spirits. Many go around looking for the antichrist spirit, when the apostle John already told them there are many antichrist spirits in the world, there was at that time and there still are today. The apostle didn't say there was "only one antichrist spirit." John didn't say, just try the spirits if they be the antichrist spirit. He said, "try all the spirits," if they be of God.

To try the spirits, we must judge which spirit is operating. Jesus said in John 8:15,16,

Ye judge after the flesh; I judge no man.

And yet if I judge, my judgment is true: for I am not alone, but I and the Father that sent me.

Jesus did not say we should not try the spirits. He said, when men judge others they judge after the flesh, that is not what God told us to do. Jesus then told us how to judge. That is, all judgement must be true, it must be in agreement with the Father. It must be in agreement with the Word, the Spirit, and the Blood; the three witnesses we have on earth.

The Holy Spirit had Paul write in 1 Corinthians 5:3 **"For I verily, as absent in body, but present in spirit, have judged already, as though I were present, concerning him that hath so done this deed."** The apostle Paul "judged the man." If Christians are not to judge another, why did Paul judge that man? Then the apostle Paul said in 1 Corinthians 5:12 **"For what have I to do to judge them also that are without? do not ye judge them that are within?"**

Are we to judge or are we not to judge? Are we to try the spirits or are we not to try the spirits? In the New Covenant we are not to judge or try the spirits to condemn those who are a part of the body of Christ, but we are to try the spirits if they be of God? We are to judge, "righteous judgement," based upon what we hear from God from within our spirit, not what our mind tells us. We must first be in agreement with the Word, the Spirit, and the Blood before we make a judgement upon another brother or sister in the LORD. We are not to judge to condemn, but to try the spirits to restore those who have gone astray, or who are taken in a fault. Galatians 6:1 says, **"Brethren, if a man be overtaken in a fault, ye which are spiritual, restore such an one in the spirit of meekness; considering thyself, lest thou also be tempted."**

Because Satan has infiltrated the churches with his false doctrines, Christians have not tried the spirits "if they be of God"? Now, cancer has spread throughout the churches, eating away at the very heart of the body. Look at the Scriptures, see that which is of God and that which is not!

Today, multitudes of Christians are running around “living off the labors of others, saying, it’s God”! That is a lying spirit, it’s a work of the devil! That is cancer in the churches. If Christians would study their Bibles, from Genesis 1:1 through Revelation 22:21, they would know that which is of God and that which is of the devil. They would also know that which is of man, and not of God. Christians are deceived because of a lack of knowledge of the Word of God. They follow lying spirits and become just like them, “baby lying spirits” who grow into “giant lying spirits,” so to say. They believe a lie unto their own damnation. They become cancer in the churches, that in the end the LORD must cut out, that the whole body is not destroyed.

The LORD does not cut out cancer the way man cuts out cancer. The LORD turns them over to the devil (2 Cor. 5:5), to a reprobate mind (Rom. 1:26,28), sending them a strong delusion that they believe a lie unto their own damnation (2 Thes. 2:11,12). The LORD has put Christians in charge on this earth to “restore people, and destroy the works of the devil,” and where the churches fail, the LORD sends the devil to destroy, that the whole body is not consumed by the cancer.

If the LORD gives someone a talent and they do not use it for His glory, He takes it away and gives it to another (Matt. 25:24-29). At the same time, the one who did not use it to His glory could be cast out into utter darkness (Matt. 25:30), (or possibly turned over to the devil for destruction of the flesh). How long will the churches let cancer eat away at the very life of the body?

There is a plan laid out in the Word of God for those who are called to the ministry, “to supply their needs.” It is not to be abused or misused. There is a plan laid out in the Word of God for marriage, it is not to be abused or misused. There is a plan laid out in the Word of God for everyone, it is not to be abused or misused! There is no plan of God for “cancer in the church,” it doesn’t belong in the churches.

Tithes and offerings are God’s plans, not man’s. God’s plan works when it is not abused or misused. When man abuses and misuses tithes and offerings they are operating in the flesh, and Satan has control of the operation, that’s cancer in the churches. Whatever man does, that is not the plan of God, it is an operation of the flesh, whether in the churches or not. Satan is the god of this world and he controls the thoughts of people who do not bring their thoughts into agreement with the Word of God.

If a Christian does not tithe, they rob God (Mal. 3:8). While they are robbing God they are serving the devil, no if, ands, or buts about it. Satan is in control of every person’s mind that does not tithe. Those who abuse or misuse the tithe are letting the devil have a place in their lives, he becomes their master (Rom. 6:16). You cannot reach the heart of God the Father while Satan has control of your mind in the area of tithes and offerings. You may think what you are doing is ok, but it could lead you right to the gates of hell!

The LORD is over this creation, not man, and not the devil. Without the LORD you can do nothing, except serve the devil. When someone serves the devil, he becomes their master (Rom. 6:16). You must eliminate the works of the devil in your life if you want to reach the heart of God the Father.

The churches have accepted cancer in the marriages, not looking to the Word of God as it’s answer to what the LORD ordained. In Genesis 2:20, the LORD spoke of marriage, saying the wife should be the husband’s help meet (that is, helper in everything the husband has been called to do). Then, throughout the Scriptures the LORD’S plan for marriage is explained. There is no place in the Scripture for husbands and wives to be anything less than what the Word of God declares.

Satan has brought into the churches “man’s ideas,” worldly customs, and has made man a slave to the woman. That is cancer in the church, it is Satanic, to say the least. Those who practice such, are serving the devil... Many churches are under the control of women who are disobedient to their husbands, saying “it is of God!” Many husbands have not taken the responsibilities given them by the LORD and become the head of the household. That is Satanic, to say the least!

As the serpent used Eve to cause Adam to submit to the devil, he continues to use women to cause those within the churches to submit to his tactics. Not all women are being used of the devil, and not all men are being used of the devil. But, because the church has not tried the spirits if they be of God, and let false manifestations have freedom within the churches, Satan is in control of much of what is happening. Cancer has set in the churches and many do not recognize it. Many leaders in the churches enjoy the works of the flesh more that the works of God. They embrace the false manifestations, because they are the main avenue to their operations. Some churches are built upon false operations from the bottom up. Satan has freedom to do whatsoever he desires, and cancer takes over. Multitudes are lead astray by the false operations, the cancer that has come into operation within the churches.

We must not forget Galatians 6:7,8, which says,

Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap.

For he that soweth to his flesh shall of the flesh reap corruption; but he that soweth to the Spirit shall of the Spirit reap life everlasting.

When the Word of God is not followed, Satan has an advantage, and cancer comes into the churches. There is only one way to become free of this cancer. That is, submit to the Word of God and let the Holy Spirit work a work within the body of Christ.

Wherever the Holy Spirit has freedom to work, He will bring each individual into agreement with the Word of God. The Holy Spirit will not work outside of the Word of God. He will always be in agreement with the Word of God, for He is One with the Word (1 John 5:7).

Jesus is the Word (John 1:1). Jesus is the Truth (John 14:6). The Holy Spirit will always lead an individual in the Truth. Speaking of the work of the Holy Spirit in an individuals life, 1 John 2:27 says, **“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.”** To become free of cancer in the churches we must abide in the Holy Spirit. It says, **“ye shall abide in him.”** Those who do not abide in the anointing may be deceived. The Holy Spirit is our Teacher, and He will teach us all truth, and no lies.

We will never reach the heart of God the Father without the help of the Holy Spirit. It is not possible, and it cannot be done without the Holy Spirit. Those who become a part of the cancer in the churches may not have the Holy Spirit as their helper, and another spirit may manifest...

Remember King Saul? After the Holy Spirit left him an evil spirit came upon him (1 Sam. 16:14). Much of what King Saul did was under the influence of that evil spirit. Yet, even after the evil spirit come upon him, the Spirit of God still came upon him and he prophesied... (1 Sam. 19:23,24). We must try the spirits if they be of God. We must judge the prophecies if they be of God. Just because someone prophesies that does not mean it is “always” God speaking... Try the spirits... Those who were at one time anointed by God to prophesy can still prophesy. BUT, don’t be deceived

by spiritual operations, they are not all of God. Try the spirits if they be of God (1 John 4:1).

There are many within the churches today, going around teaching what they received while fasting or praying in the Spirit. Yet, what they are teaching does not agree with the written Word of God. When it does not agree with the Word, the Spirit, and the Blood, be aware, there could be something wrong to say the least.

Now the Word of God does teach that fasting is a good thing, and should be done. Fasting brings the natural flesh under subjection, and causes the brain to become more sensitive to spiritual things. This it does, and this is not necessary bad. If it were bad, then Jesus would not have said, after He is gone His disciples would fast.

Satan knows what the Bible teaches, and he directs his spirits to bring his manifestations when a person fasts. By this, Christians receive dreams, visions, and hear voices while fasting. Not all these dreams, visions, and voices are from God.

When those who are fasting receive some information, no matter how it comes, by dreams, visions, voices, or whatever, the Word of God still says, “bring every thought into subjection to the knowledge of God” (2 Cor. 10:5), which is revealed in the written Word of God. We cannot bypass the written Word of God to bring forth some revelation, no matter how it comes. Every revelation we receive while fasting must be brought into subjection to the written Word of God. If it is not, great error can occur, and many can be led astray by the spirits of this world.

The same applies to praying in the Spirit. We are told to pray in the Spirit. Ephesians 6:18 says, **“Praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit.”** Jude 1:20 says, **“But ye, beloved, building up yourselves on your most holy faith, praying in the Holy Ghost.”** In 1 Corinthians 14:2 it says, **“For he that speaketh in an unknown tongue speaketh not unto men, but unto God: for no man understandeth him; howbeit in the spirit he speaketh mysteries.”**

Praying in the Spirit opens up the avenue for the Holy Spirit to reveal things to us. He reveals things to us that were mysteries to us before we received them. These mysteries revealed to us become very important in our lives. We need revelation of mysteries from the Holy Spirit.

The Holy Spirit knows everything, the things of man, the things of the devil, and the things of God. He is able to reveal whatsoever He desires to us. He will reveal mysteries to us as we pray in the Spirit.

That does not mean “everything we receive” while praying in the Spirit comes from God. We can receive information from the wrong spirit realm while praying in the Spirit. I noticed one person who believed she was beyond deception because she prayed so much in the Spirit. She seemed to think “everything she received was from God.” I said to her, “not everything you pick up in the spirit realm is from God”! She looked at me in astonishment and said, “why do you think that?” I said, “because Satan can also show you things while you are fasting and praying. Then I reminded her of Jesus. He was in the wilderness for forty days, while fasting and praying the devil spoke to Him. The devil quoted Scripture to Jesus. If the devil can speak to Jesus while He is fasting and praying, why do you think he cannot reveal things to you also?”

Some Christians get so high-minded that they think they are above the Word of God, and whatsoever they see in visions, dreams, and hear in voices comes from God. It wasn't that way with Jesus and it isn't that way with Spirit-filled Christians either. We must bring every thought, every vision, every dream, every voice in line with the written Word of God. If it cannot be proven by the written Word of God, we need to be extremely careful what we tell others.

Satan is the god of this world (2 Cor. 4:4). The Greek word for god is “theos,” meaning “having divine powers.” Divine powers are supernatural powers to operate in the spiritual realm. That means Satan has similar divine powers to those of God. Satan can give Christians supernatural visions, dreams, and speak with an audible voice.

Christians who do not follow the instructions in the Word of God, **“try the spirits if they be of God”** (1 John 4:1), and **“prove all things, hold fast to that which is good”** (1 Thess. 5:21), can get into great error. The Holy Spirit knows everything. Therefore, we must bring everything in line with the Word, the Spirit, and the Blood (1 John 5:8).

TRYING THE SPIRITS

In trying the spirits we are told in 1 John 4:2, **“Hereby know ye the Spirit of God: Every spirit that confesseth that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh is of God.”** This is the first spirit we should try, is the person born again? Do they have a witness within themselves that Jesus Christ is come in their flesh, and present “in them” at this very time? (1 John 4:4, 5:10, etc.). After establishing whether they are a child of God or not, then continue to try the spirits if they be of God. For many Christians have many other spirits operating in their lives, and they need to be set free!

In trying the spirits, we are to listen to the confession of the people the spirits are operating in. It could be the Holy Spirit, or it could be other spirits. Whenever it is the Holy Spirit operating in a persons life their confession will be in line with the Word of God on the subject they are speaking of.

Whatever the subject is, we must be familiar with the Word of God in order to try the spirits. If we do not know the Word of God the Holy Spirit will have nothing to bare witness to. We could be operating in presumption. We cannot try the spirits without the help of the Holy Spirit. We must use the three witnesses on earth that were given by God, **“the Spirit, the Word, and the Blood”** (1 John 5:9). We must try the spirits for the purpose of restoring any Christian who has been overtaken in a fault (Gal. 6:1).

In trying the spirits there are a number of things that must be taken into consideration; that is, so that we do not put condemnation upon Christians, but rather restore them. Listen to the tone of their voice. They have a normal tone of voice which varies from individual to individual, but you will know if the tone of their voice is normal or not. Many times when evil spirits manifest the persons voice will not be normal.

Be aware of their attitude while speaking to them. Their attitude reveals if they have another spirit in control or not. The Holy Spirit will come with an attitude of peace, love, and an eagerness to hear what you say. If their attitude is “why do you question me?” Or, who do you think you are speaking to me on this subject? Or, why do you want to put condemnation upon me? Or any other type of rejection to your asking questions of them, there is another spirit in operation, not the Holy Spirit.

Be aware of your own attitude when you approach another person to try the spirits. If your attitude is not to help the person and to restore those who are taken in a fault, then you also have another spirit operating in your life. The Holy Spirit will only work with those whose attitude is in accordance to the Word of God.

If your attitude is not right, the Holy Spirit will not help you in trying the spirits. If you think you could not have another spirit operating in your life, you have already been deceived yourself, and you could be under the influence of other spirits. Religious spirits love to operate in the lives of Christians. Religious spirits come to condemn not to restore.

We must know if the Holy Spirit is working with us when we try the Spirits. If the Holy Spirit is not working with us, then we should not continue to try the spirits, but rather leave the person and the subject alone. Don’t continue any conversation when the Holy Spirit is not working with you.

How do you know if the Holy Spirit is working with you? The Holy Spirit operates in peace

among Christians. He is the one in control of the kingdom of God on earth. The kingdom of God on earth is **“righteousness, and peace, and joy in the Holy Ghost”** (Rom. 14:17). If the person you are talking to does not respond favorably to your questions, the Holy Spirit is not working and you need to stop before you became a hindrance to the Holy Spirit. He may want to use someone else to speak to that individual, or He may have other plans for what He is doing in that individual's life. The Holy Spirit must be in control, not you.

The attitude of the person's response must be in line with the written Word of God. When James and John come to Jesus, saying, **“wilt thou that we command fire to come down from heaven, and consume them, even as Elias did?”** (Luke 9:54). Jesus, **“rebuked them, and said, Ye know not what manner of spirit ye are of”** (Luke 9:55). Jesus then explained why He rebuked them, saying, **“For the Son of man is not come to destroy men's lives, but to save them”** (Luke 9:56). These were Jesus' disciples, but another spirit was operating in them, that is, putting thoughts in their minds. Under the New Covenant we are not sent to destroy people's lives, but to save them.

To save someone means to “deliver or protect them.” The meaning of salvation is “deliverance and protection.” To be saved is to be delivered and protected. When the LORD saved Noah and his family, He delivered them and protected them. Peter says, “they were saved” (1 Peter 3:20). The Word of God never changes, people in the Old Testament were saved and people in the New Testament are saved. Acts 2:47 says, **“the Lord added to the church daily such as should be saved.”** Christians need to be saved, that is “delivered and protected.” There are many spirits operating within the churches. The Holy Spirit is here to save Christians from the works of the devil. Therefore, the purpose of the Holy Spirit among Christians is “deliverance and protection, not destruction.”

When you reach the heart of God the Father you will find that His desire is to “Save,” not destroy. Look at what Jesus read from the book of Isaiah in Luke 4:18,19,

The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he hath anointed me to preach the gospel to the poor; he hath sent me to heal the brokenhearted, to preach deliverance to the captives, and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty them that are bruised, To preach the acceptable year of the Lord.

Then look also what it says in Acts 10:38, **“How God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Ghost and with power: who went about doing good, and healing all that were oppressed of the devil; for God was with him.”** This tells us, the heart of the Father is **“to preach the gospel to the poor; to heal the brokenhearted, to preach deliverance to the captives, and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty them that are bruised, to preach the acceptable year of the Lord.”** The heart of the Father is to save, not to destroy.

Satan comes to destroy, not to save. He uses counterfeit operations within the churches to destroy. In effect, he says, “you can do it another way, different than what the Word of God teaches.” Satan has another plan, whereby he goes against the Word of God to operate his plan. The Bible teaches that the Word of God will set you free, whereas Satan will put you into bondage to say the least.

Whenever someone is taken in a fault by the snare of the devil, it will take the Word of God to set them free. Many look for other means of setting someone free, but the Word of God is the sure way. Jesus said,

If ye continue in my word, then are ye my disciples indeed;

And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free (John 8:31,32).

Jesus is the Word of God (John 1:1). He is **“the Way, the Truth, and the Life”** (John 14:6). He is the Son of God. Jesus said in John 8:36, **“If the Son therefore shall make you free, ye shall be free indeed.”** It takes the Son of God, Who is the Word of God to set someone free of the works of the devil.

THE SPIRITS OF THIS WORLD

In 1 Corinthians 2:12 it says, **“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.”** All evil spirits are under the one spirit called Satan, the devil. Therefore, they are all included in this verse. Here they are spoken of in comparison to the Holy Spirit, which is the Spirit of God. The Spirit of God will make known to us all things that are freely given to us by God. The spirits of this world will do the opposite to say the least.

Satan, the spirit of the world, operates through his spirits. His spirits operate in various forms and manners. The most frequent way they operate is through the minds of people. They inject thoughts in the minds of people. Our natural mind is a part of our living soul, which is a part of the natural man of the flesh.

The reason the flesh is contrary to the Holy Spirit (Gal. 5:17), is because the thoughts of our minds come from these spirits of this world. That also, is the reason we are told to bring every thought into subjection unto Christ in 2 Corinthians 10:5. Every thought that is not in agreement with the Word of God came originally from one or more of these spirits of the world. Whenever our thoughts do not agree with the Word of God there is a connection to Satan himself. Satan sinned from the beginning, and he is the father of lies (1 John 3:8, John 8:44). A lie is anything that does not agree with the Truth, which is also the Word of God. The Truth and the Word of God are One. They always agree.

The Holy Spirit is only One Spirit, not many spirits as the spirits of this world. Therefore, whatsoever the Holy Spirit does will always agree, whether He is working with two individuals or many individuals. The Holy Spirit is well able to bring two-thousand people into agreement at the same time. He has no problem in giving the same information to two-thousand people at one time. Neither does He have a problem giving two individual people the same information at the same time. He does not need to depend upon another spirit to do His thing. The Holy Spirit does His job Himself, He doesn't need the help of other spirits. There is never any confusion caused by the Holy Spirit (1 Cor. 14:33). The information is given directly from a persons spirit, not from the airways. He works from within our spirit, and does not need anything else to transmit His message to us. Whatever information the Holy Spirit gives us will be in agreement with the Word of God, for the Holy Spirit and the Word of God are One (1 John 5:7).

Whenever two or more people do not agree, there is an operation of the spirits of this world. They are the cause of confusion, not the Holy Spirit. They are the ones behind all strife, divisions, envy, etc. These are the spirits that operate in the lives of Christians and cause them to become disobedient to God (Eph. 2:2). They are the spirits that cause all kinds of operations which do not agree with the Word of God. They cause people to do things which are not normal to human thinking.

The Holy Spirit knows every person alive on earth today, and He knows what is the mind of the spirit of every person within the family of God. He searches the hearts of Christians and knows what is on their mind at all times (Rom. 8:27). Whereas the spirits of this world are limited by their abilities. Lying spirits usually operate in the area of lies, whereas familiar spirits usually operate in connection with one individual, knowing their past and present situation. They also have the ability to speak audibly in the same tone of voice as the person they are familiar with, such as the witch of

Endo who brought forth the voice of Samuel (1 Sam. 28:7-20). Lying spirits can operate in more than one person (1 Kings 22:22).

Christians are to blame for letting the spirits of this world operate through them. Thoughts come to Christians minds from these spirits of this world, and they speak them out of their mouth, not bringing every thought under subjection to Christ. Peter spoke out against the Words of Jesus in Matthew 16:22. It says, Jesus **“turned, and said unto Peter, Get thee behind me, Satan: thou art an offence unto me: for thou savourest not the things that be of God, but those that be of men.”** The words Peter spoke came from thoughts put in Peter’s mind by Satan. In Luke 9:54-56, the words James and John spoke to Jesus came from the spirits of this world.

The spirits of this world can operate alone, by themselves in one individual, or there can be many spirits operating in one individual, such as a legion of demons in Mark 5.

The spirits of this world try to justify going against the Word of God. They change the Word of God only enough to make it sound like it is ok to do whatsoever they want you to do. They changed the Word of God only a slight bit, when they spoke to Eve in the garden of Eden. They know things man does not know and they know how to convince people they are right in what they are doing. When the serpent spoke to Eve in the garden of Eden, he said to her, **“For God doth know that in the day ye eat thereof, then your eyes shall be opened, and ye shall be as gods, knowing good and evil”** (Gen. 3:5). The serpent knew what he was talking about (Gen. 3:22). The serpent knew her eyes would be opened and she would know good and evil. The serpent knew things that evidently Eve did not know. The serpent had a spirit that has been around for many years, and was familiar with what God said and did right from the beginning.

These spirits of this world operate according to the Word of God concerning the operation of spirits. They are not new to this creation, they’ve been around a long time. It is possible they were in hell when Jesus defeated the devil and took the keys to hell and death away from the devil (Col. 2:15, Rev. 1:18).

The spirits of this world have one purpose in mind, that is to control people’s lives by injecting thoughts into their minds and then continuously repeating those thoughts until they get the person to do whatsoever they desire. They don’t stop until you stop them. They don’t quit until you put an end to their operations. If you don’t stop them they will control what you do about the thoughts they put in your mind.

The Bible uses the illustration of seed planting and harvesting when speaking of these spirits. In Galatians 6:7,8, it says,

Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap.

For he that soweth to his flesh shall of the flesh reap corruption; but he that soweth to the Spirit shall of the Spirit reap life everlasting.

The thoughts we permit to stay in our mind will grow. They are like seeds planted in soil. They grow up and cover a lot of ground. They reproduce “after their kind,” and more seeds produce more plants. So it is with the thoughts the spirits of this world put in Christians minds. If they are not put to death, annulated, completely destroyed right from the beginning they will mature and reproduce more thoughts, even worse than the first thoughts. They will lead to a mind which cannot control itself, and Christians will come under their power “which is the powers of darkness.” These spirits of this world will have control and the Christians will no longer have control of their mind.

Christians who have permitted these spirits of this world to operate by not casting down and bring into subjection every thought that exalts itself against the Word of God, will be overtaken by these spirits. These spirits are more powerful than human beings, that is why the Son of God come into this world to save those who were overtaken by these spirits. Before Jesus came and defeated the devil, everyone was under the control of these spirits. Ephesians 2:2 says, **“Wherein in time past ye walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that now worketh in the children of disobedience.”**

Only the LORD Jesus Christ, Who is the Word of God, can set us free. We must submit to the Word of God, so that the Holy Spirit can enforce the Word and set us free. There is no other way, and no other name under heaven whereby we can be saved (Acts 4:12). Unless we have a covenant with God, with the LORD Jesus Christ as the mediator, we cannot be saved from the works of these spirits of this world. Ephesians 2:12 says, **“That at that time ye were without Christ, being aliens from the commonwealth of Israel, and strangers from the covenants of promise, having no hope, and without God in the world.”** This was before we became born again of the Word and the Spirit. Now, that we are born again of the Word and the Spirit, Ephesians 4:13 says, **“But now in Christ Jesus ye who sometimes were far off are made nigh by the blood of Christ.”**

We must recognize the works of these spirits of this world and apply the Word, and the Blood of Jesus, even to the using of the Name of Jesus against them; that the Holy Spirit can drive them out. They must be driven out of our minds, and out of our lives if we are to be free. James 4:7 says, **“Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you.”**

Christians cannot reach the heart of God the Father while these spirits of this world are permitted to operate in their minds. The minds of those who reach the heart of God must be sowing to the Spirit, not to the flesh (Gal. 6:8). If we sow to the Spirit, that is, keep our minds upon the things of God, we will reap eternal life. We will be walking after the Spirit and not after the flesh.

Remember, if we permit the thoughts of this life, of this world, and things of this world to remain in our minds, we are sowing to the flesh. When we sow to the flesh, the love of the Father is not in us. In 1 John 2:15 says, **“Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world. If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him.”** The spirits of this world will do all they can to prevent the love of the Father from abiding in us. The love of the Father will destroy all works of darkness. When we reach the heart of the Father, all demonic activity will be brought to a standstill.

TRYING THE SPIRITS IN OUR LIVES

How do we try the spirits in our own lives? Attitudes reveal spirits. What is our attitude? If we are a born again Christian, then we are born of the Word and the Holy Spirit. In 1 Peter 1:23 it says, **“Being born again, not of corruptible seed, but of incorruptible, by the word of God, which liveth and abideth for ever.”** In our new birth we are born of incorruptible seed, which is the Word of God. If we consider the terminology used here it uses the example of planting a seed. A seed should reproduce **“after it’s kind”** (Gen. 1:12). If the Word of God is the seed of our new birth, we should grow and mature in accordance with the Word of God.

We know from John 1:1,14, etc. that Jesus is the Word of God. When we see Jesus we should see the Word of God. When we see the Word of God, we should see Jesus. Jesus’ life and the Word of God should be alike. Because they are the same, Jesus and His Word are One. Whatsoever Jesus said, is the Word of God. If we are born again of the Word of God, then we are born again of Jesus.

Jesus is called the Second Adam (1 Cor. 15:47). We were in the first Adam (1 Cor. 15:45). Now we are born again in the Second Adam. We are translated from the first Adam to the Second Adam. We were in the flesh and now we are in the Spirit (Rom. 8:9).

Being born again of the Word (Jesus) we should “grow up,” that is, mature to become like Jesus in everything we do. In Romans 8:29 it says, **“For whom he did foreknow, he also did predestinate to be conformed to the image of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brethren.”** The LORD’S intention for Christians is that they be conformed to the image of Jesus (1 Cor. 15:49). His image is also the image of the Father (Heb. 1:3). Therefore, being born again of incorruptible seed, which is the Word of God, we should grow up manifesting the Word of God in our lives.

Jesus said in John 14:12, **“Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that believeth on me, the works that I do shall he do also; and greater works than these shall he do; because I go unto my Father.”** The words “you and he” are singular, not plural. That means Jesus was speaking of each person individually, not of the whole body of Christ corporately. We are to be the fruit of Jesus, of His works, and we are to produce more fruit, even greater fruit than what Jesus produced.

How will we ever accomplish that which Jesus said we should do? It can only be done the same way Jesus did it. It was not Jesus doing the Works, but His Father in Him did the works (John 14:10). Being the incorruptible Word of God is the seed, for it to grow it must be watered and nourished until maturity. How can it be watered and nourished? It’s done by continuously feeding it upon the written Word of God, and watered by the Holy Spirit giving us revelation of the Word. The Word of God is spiritual, just like God is spirit (John 4:24). By feeding upon the same kind of seed, the seed should reproduce after it’s kind.

Now, we are not only born again of the incorruptible Word of God, but we are also born again of the Spirit, which is the Holy Spirit. Being that the Holy Spirit is a part of our new birth, we must have the Holy Spirit working in our lives to reproduce fruit “after it’s kind.” Therefore, without revelation of the Word of God by the Holy Spirit, comparing spiritual things with spiritual, we will not mature in the spirit. The things of God are not naturally discerned, but spiritually discerned by the work of the Holy Spirit within us. In 1 Corinthians 2:12-14 it says,

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.

Which things also we speak, not in the words which man's wisdom teacheth, but which the Holy Ghost teacheth; comparing spiritual things with spiritual.

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 natural man referred to here is also called the outward man, the old man, which is the man of the flesh. The spiritual man is the inward man, the new creature in Christ, which is able to receive spiritual discernment from the Holy Spirit within us.

Now, how do we “try the spirits” in our own lives? We compare our lives with the Word of God. Are we living according to the Word of God, or are we still living according to the world system, the old man of the flesh? We still have the flesh, the old man with us daily. Are we discerning the difference between the old man and the new creature in Christ? Do we know the difference between our head and our spirit? Can we tell when we receive information in our mind, if it came from our mind or from our spirit? If not, then we are not growing in Christ, and we will not reach maturity in the LORD.

A seed must grow if it is to produce fruit. The fruit must mature before it is ripe and ready to bare more fruit. For us to mature and bring forth much fruit, we must be growing into the likeness and image of Jesus, the Word of God. If we do not try the spirits that try to control our lives, we will not know what spirit we are serving, or receiving information from. We must receive our information from the Holy Spirit, not the spirits of this world.

How do we know if we are receiving from the Holy Spirit and not other spirits? The Holy Spirit will “always” bare witness to the Word of God. He will never go contrary to the Word of God. The flesh will go contrary to the Word of God, therefore we cannot do the will of the flesh. Galatians 5:17 says, **“For the flesh lusteth against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh: and these are contrary the one to the other: so that ye cannot do the things that ye would.”**You cannot do your own will!

Our mind and our old man want to do the things that we used to do before we were born again of the Word and the Spirit. Therefore, the apostle Paul said,

Therefore, brethren, we are debtors, not to the flesh, to live after the flesh.

For if ye live after the flesh, ye shall die: but if ye through the Spirit do mortify the deeds of the body, ye shall live (Rom. 8:12,13).

We must mortify the deeds of the body, and of the mind. Bring every thought into obedience to the anointing within us. If we do not do our part, the Holy Spirit cannot help us. If we listen to other spirits we will not hear clearly from the Holy Spirit within us.

We must accept the whole New Covenant, complete. Not just pick and choose that which we want and neglect the remaining parts. All the details of the New Covenant are explained in the New Testament of our Bibles. If we pick and choose which ones we want and those that we don't want, the spirits of this world will get in control of our lives.

There are some Christians who have picked and chosen their view of Salvation. They say they are saved. Then they go about the New Testament, picking and choosing that which they do or do not want to accept. They say “speaking in tongues is not for this time, it's passed away.” They pick their version of saved and reject “speaking in tongues.” When they reject speaking in tongues they cut themselves off from the help of the Holy Spirit. The anointing of the Holy Spirit is not

present. Yes, if they are born again they do have the Holy Spirit within them. But, the anointing they need is not present. The anointing comes by the Holy Spirit in many ways. The anointing comes as the Spirit wills, not as we go and pick and choose what we will do and what we will not do. We will never reach the heart of God the Father if we go throughout the New Testament picking and choosing that which we want.

There are those who do not believe in divine healing, so they pick and choose based upon what they want to believe. They listen to others who talk about doctors, medical insurance, medications, etc. and choose not to believe in divine healing from the LORD.

Jesus went about the villages healing every manner of sickness and disease. He was doing the Father's will. He had reached the Father's heart and God moved through Jesus in the healing of the sick. We cannot reach the Father's heart if we pick and choose only part of the will of God. Divine healing is a part of the New Covenant, if we do not choose divine healing we will never reach the Father's heart.

Those who pick and choose only that which they desire are still in the flesh. In the flesh we cannot please God. The Flesh is contrary to the Spirit, therefore we cannot pick and choose that which we want to believe, we must believe the whole and complete New Testament, for it is our covenant with God. The Father is not pleased with those who do their own will. Jesus said, we must deny ourselves in order to be one of His disciples. Self-denial is not picking and choosing.

Then there are those who say they want to do the will of God the Father, but they only want to go a certain percentage of the way. They do not want to make a 100% commitment, only a partial commitment. They want to operate in the spiritual things, but they do not want to take time in the Word. When they do get into the Word it is not to let the Holy Spirit reveal something to them, it is to prove what they believe is what they think it says.

This area is one of Satan's greatest snares. Satan knows the written Word, but he does not have revelation of what it says. Therefore, he uses all sorts of ways to get Spirit-filled Christians to believe something other than what the revelation of the Word would reveal. The Old Testament is one area where Satan gets Spirit-filled Christians messed up in spiritual things. God worked with Old Testament people through prophets. He used visions and dreams, and natural things to reveal spiritual things. That was Old Covenant, and Satan has brought much of that into the churches.

In the Old Testament the people did not have the Holy Spirit the way we have in the New Covenant. Therefore, the people needed the prophets to tell them what God said to do. The New Covenant is not that way. In the New Covenant every born again Child of God that desires to do the will of God the Father will have the Holy Spirit dwelling in them. He will become their personal teacher giving them information on what they should do. In 1 John 2:27 it tells us, **“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.”** Those who have the anointing abiding in them do not need any prophet to tell them what to do. Read 1 John 2:27 over and over until you understand what it is saying. Those who do not abide in the anointing that abides in them, will not know the truth, but instead will believe a lie. No one will reach the heart of God the Father unless they do the Father's will.

How do we know the truth when someone comes to us, saying, God told me to come and tell you so and so? If you are abiding in the Word of God and the anointing is abiding in you, and you

are abiding in Him, you will know the truth and will not be taken in by the snare of the devil. It's abiding "in the words of men" and not in "the Word of God and the anointing within us" that gives place for the false operations of Satan.

Try the spirits within you to know if they are of God! There are many Christians who are not following God, but are following another spirit. They think it is God, but the Word of God will reveal if it is of God or not. If your spirit is following God, it will leave you with peace inside. The kingdom of God will be in operation within you. **"For the kingdom of God is not meat and drink; but righteousness, and peace, and joy in the Holy Ghost"** (Rom. 14:17). Where there is no peace, the Spirit of God is not leading you. When the Spirit of God leads there will be peace, for He is called the Spirit of peace.

When another spirit is leading there is sometimes a compelling or forceful type of leading. There is a sensing of "I have to do something right now, otherwise I will never have another chance."

Many times, the Holy Spirit within your spirit will reveal what you intend to do is not right according to the Word of God. Yet, in your mind there seems to be an urge to do it anyway, and do it now! That is another spirit, not of God. Anytime there is a knowing that what you plan to do is not right, or you do not have complete peace about it, it is not of God. The Holy Spirit is trying to alert you before you do what is not right.

Your human spirit, that is born again of the Word and the Holy Spirit, is sensitive to the Word of God. It knows what is of God and what is not of God. It's like a balancing scale, there is total peace on one side and unrest on the other side. When the scale dips to the wrong side, you have an uneasiness in your spirit. When it dips to the right side you have total peace in your spirit.

You can override the working of the Holy Spirit within you so often that He will not alert you when you are not following Him. Once this happens, the only way to get Him back to alerting you when you need Him is to REPENT, and get the Word of God going through your mind day and night. This you must do, He will not do it for you. YOU MUST REPENT, that is CHANGE your ways.

God loves you, but He will not force you to do His will. Satan cares about you also, therefore he will force you to follow him. Satan wants you to spend eternity with him in hell, therefore he will do all he can to help you spend eternity with him.

Religious spirits will present themselves as though they are God. They justify whatsoever you do, that you think there is nothing wrong with what you are doing. This self-justification is of the devil, and he is leading you down the road. The flesh and the Holy Spirit do not agree, they are contrary to each other (Gal. 5:17). The flesh justifies it's actions, the Holy Spirit gives you an uneasiness when you follow self-justifying spirits. This uneasiness in your spirit is alerting you of actions planned that are not of God.

Within the churches there are more operations of the flesh than there are of the Holy Spirit. Whenever anyone in the church takes advantage of another person for their own personal gain, it is the flesh to say the least. But, unfortunately, many believe it is of God, and they override their witness of the Holy Spirit until the Spirit no longer alerts them of their following another spirit. This is not good to say the least. For these same individuals become cancer in the churches, which must sometime somehow be removed that the whole body does not become cancerous. This type of cancer in the churches spreads rapidly. It grows to enormous size and eats away at every Christian that does not recognize its operations. The churches become its prey, and the poor widow is left in poverty, while the cancer spreads throughout the churches. The cancer eating cells become "fat cats," living

like kings, while the widows give their last penny. This cancer usually begins in the leadership of the churches and devours the homes of those who work for a living according to the Word of God. The Bible does say “the labor is worthy of his reward,” but it also teaches that they which abuse and misuse the tithes will give an account to the LORD for their actions.

This cancer, which seems to begin in the leadership of the churches gets into body of Christ. The Word of God says, “**For even when we were with you, this we commanded you, that if any would not work, neither should he eat**” (2Thess. 3:10). Many Christians believe they have a right to expect others to support them that they do not need to work. That is of the flesh, the devil is behind it. It is contrary to the Spirit of God, it is contrary to the Word of God, it is cancer in the churches. Yet, many have over ridden their conscience and the leading of the Holy Spirit within them and have followed these lying spirits so long they think they are doing nothing wrong.

It’s interesting what Jesus said about these, for they are an offence in the church. In Matthew 13:41,42, Jesus said these will be taken out of the kingdom of God, and shall be cast into a furnace of fire; there shall be wailing and gnashing of teeth. Now Jesus would not have said that if it was not true. This is not a good position to be in, especially, when we think of being taken out of the kingdom of God, and spending eternity in a furnace of fire where there is wailing and gnashing of teeth. Wouldn’t it be better to be a doer of the Word for a few years than to be cast out of the kingdom of God for disobedience?

Many times, Jesus use the words, “there shall be wailing and gnashing of teeth.” each time He was speaking of those in the kingdom of God who shall be cast out.

What can help those who are following a wrong spirit? It takes the Word of God to set them free! They must abide in the Word and the Word must abide in them, then they will be free, for the Son shall set them free! (John 8:31,32,35) It’s sad that many have been deceived, and many leaders in the churches are among the goats and not the sheep (Matt. 26:31-46). The LORD uses the goats in His kingdom. They are leaders in the churches, but in the end the goats will be cast out.

Even though we see this happening all around us within the churches, Christians should not be discouraged. Jesus said in the last days the deception will be so great that if it were possible even the very elect would be deceived. But we don’t have to be deceived. Each of us, individually have the same opportunity to reach the heart of God the Father. We can do it, individually, by “doing only that which pleases the Father,” like Jesus did (John 8:29).

If you stay sensitive to the leading of the Spirit of God within you, you will not be lead astray. The Word of God will be more important to you than anything in this world, and you will inherit eternal life in heaven. If you follow other spirits, they will lead you to the gates of hell. There is nothing on this earth that you can take with you, it will all remain after you leave. It is better to let go of the things of this world now, than let them take you to the gates of hell. Don’t follow men, for men are liars, follow the leading and guiding of the Holy Spirit. He always, leads according to the written Word of God.

There are many Christians today, living off the works of others, thinking it is God blessing them. Isn’t it sad, how Satan deceives so many, not knowing the leading of the Holy Spirit, but rather following other spirits. When we do not try the spirits if they be of God, we will easily be deceived.

The Word of God never fails. The Holy Spirit never leads anyone outside of the Word of God. If we try the spirits we will know if they are of God! Any spirit that does not follow the Word of God, is not of God!

TEACHINGS OF MEN DOCTRINES OF DEVILS

We cannot reach the heart of God following the teachings of men or the doctrines of devils. If a teaching is of God it will agree with the complete Bible, but not always according to the Old Covenant. For the New Covenant is different than the Old Covenant. The New Covenant is a better covenant, based upon better promises (Heb. 8:6). The Old Covenant had a fault (that does not mean God made a mistake - it means man could not obtain what God had planned for him under the Old Covenant). The Old Covenant was necessary for God to use to bring in the New Covenant. But now that we have a New and better Covenant, the old one is passed away (Heb. 8:13).

Many teachings of men and doctrines of devils come from the Old Covenant, or Old Testament. Be aware of these teachings and doctrines, they are not for today. Among the teachings of men comes “another gospel” (Gal. 1:6-12). The gospel that Paul preached is the same gospel that Jesus preached. Only, Jesus said,

I have yet many things to say unto you, but ye cannot bear them now.

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 (John 16:12,13).

The Holy Spirit used the apostle Paul, Peter, John, and others to write the New Covenant, which included things Jesus did not teach. None of what the other writers of the New Testament wrote will disagree with what Jesus said and did.

There are people today, in the ministry that have spoken forth Truth and there a people today in the ministry that have spoken forth lies. We must continue in the Words of Jesus and in the words of the remaining parts of the New Testament, otherwise we also could be deceived.

There is a book by Mary K. Baxter, “A Divine Revelation of Hell” that can give us more insight in what hell is like and who goes there. In one instance it is written, there was a preacher of the gospel, who was faithful to the LORD for years. Many of those who he ministered to are still faithful to the LORD. But, he was overtaken in a fault, “the lusts of the flesh, the deceitfulness of riches” (pg. 72). Now, he is spending eternity in hell.

Some Christians say, “I don’t like reading that book it causes fear to come upon me.” Then they say, “fear is of the devil, therefore I refuse to read the book.” Yet, look what Jesus said in Matthew 10:28, **“fear not them which kill the body, but are not able to kill the soul: but rather fear him which is able to destroy both soul and body in hell.”** According to this there should be a fear of hell in Christians, not that they should fear hell itself, but they should fear Him that is able to cast them into hell. If you study that verse carefully, Jesus is not saying fear the devil, the devil is not the one that can cast a Christian into hell. God is the One that can cast a Christian into hell. Not, because He wants to but because He has no choice if Christians do not do what God tells them to do. God has given us His Word. If we do not do according to His Word, He must do what He said in His Word.

God has no choice but to cast those whose names are not written in the book of life, **“into a lake of fire and brimstone, where the beast and the false prophet are, and shall be tormented day and night for ever and ever”** (Rev. 20:10,15). God can take way, or **“out of the book of life”** the names of those who do not obey His Word (Rev. 3:5, 22:19).

Anyone can be deceived, Spirit-filled Christians as well. Those with large ministries and those who are unknown. Satan has ways to deceive many, he is not a respecter of persons, he'll deceive whosoever he can.

We must continue in the Words of Jesus and the Word of God daily, to know the difference between that which is of God and that which is not. Reaching the heart of the Father is the best way to stay clear of deception.

Many have been used by God, in great and powerful manifestations of the gifts of the Spirit. Then, Satan comes with his false operations and they do not resist the devil. They start operating in the false right along with the True. This is not good to say the least. The false operations of the spirits will lead many into the depths of hell for eternity. Try the Spirits if they be of God, reject those that are not of God. Hell is not a good place to spend eternity.

Some of the great ministries today have given heed to false doctrines, and think nothing of it. They do not check out the Scriptures to see if they agree or disagree with the Word of God. This is not good to say the least, for by their teachings they lead many into hell.

For instance, it is said there is a teaching of "the age of accountability." Some time ago a woman murdered her young children so they would go to heaven before they reached the age of accountability. Is this of God? You judge, for if you teach this doctrine you may have to give an account for it. God has only one way of salvation and that way is explained in detail in the New Covenant. Any other way is questionable to say the least. No one will reach the heart of God the Father by teaching doctrines which can cause another person to go to hell when they die. The heart of the Father is that none are lost.

There are many teachings among the Christian churches today that are very questionable when you study the New Testament. It would be well to **"Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth"** (2 Tim. 2:15). Men pleasers will find themselves in great error to say the least.

THE WORD IS THE WAY

The way to the heart of the Father is to follow the Word of God. Jesus is the Word of God. John 1:1 says, **“In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.”** In 1 John 5:7 it says, **“For there are three that bear record in heaven, the Father, the Word, and the Holy Ghost: and these three are one.”** In Revelation 19:13, it says, **“And he was clothed with a vesture dipped in blood: and his name is called The Word of God.”** These verses are speaking of Jesus as the Word of God. There are many other verses throughout the Scriptures that teach the same; “Jesus is the Word of God.”

Jesus reached the heart of God the Father. By doing so, Jesus said, *“it was the Father in Him doing the works”* (John 14:10). In 2 Corinthians 5:19 says, *“it was God in Christ, reconciling the world unto Himself.”* Now, the Word of God tells us, God has given Christians the same responsibilities and the same ability to do the same things Jesus did. Study the Scriptures and see if it is not so! Jesus said in Matthew 7:21, **“Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven.”** How are we going to do the will of the Father? How will we reach the heart of God?

Throughout the Bible we see certain verses that tell us what to do and what not to do. Then we must make a choice what we will do and what we will not do based upon the Word of God. The Old Testament lays the foundation for the New Testament. In the Old Testament it tells us such things as,

For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the LORD.

For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts (Isa. 55:8,9).

Proverbs 3:5 says, **“Trust in the LORD with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding.”** Proverbs 14:12 says, **“There is a way which seemeth right unto a man, but the end thereof are the ways of death.”** There are many other verses in the Old Testament that tell us what to do about our thoughts, and our ways. Then we go over into the New Covenant, which is our covenant with God. In Galatians 5:17 it says, **“For the flesh lusteth against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh: and these are contrary the one to the other: so that ye cannot do the things that ye would.”** Galatians 6:8 says, **“he that soweth to his flesh shall of the flesh reap corruption; but he that soweth to the Spirit shall of the Spirit reap life everlasting.”**

Wherever we look concerning walking after the flesh it tells us, it will result in corruption. At the same time, if we walk after the Holy Spirit we will reap life everlasting. Which one will we choose? Romans 8:14 says, **“For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, they are the sons of God.”** Jesus chose to walk after the Spirit, will we do what Jesus did?

What is sad is that there are many in the churches that know how to be led by the Holy Spirit, but are letting other spirits work in their lives. Then there are those who do not know how to be led by the Holy Spirit and go about teaching others how to follow them while other spirits have control. This is not good to say the least. Yet, the way to be led by the Holy Spirit is very plainly revealed in the New Testament.

Jesus taught how to be led by the Spirit, by His example. The epistles teach how to be led by the Holy Spirit in their writings. We have the example of Jesus and the writings of the epistles. What

more do we need? What we need is an understanding of what the Bible says, and has been saying from the beginning. Hosea 4:6 says, **“My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge: because thou hast rejected knowledge, I will also reject thee, that thou shalt be no priest to me: seeing thou hast forgotten the law of thy God, I will also forget thy children.”** Many Christians quote the first part, but forget the last part. The reason they lack knowledge is because they reject knowledge and follow others, rather than the LORD. The LORD is the Word, if we reject the Word we reject the LORD!

I have learned some things from experience. I sometimes wonder why other Christians do not have the same experiences I have concerning the working of the Holy Spirit in my life.

One of the things I experience in my life is, ever so often, without any previous intention upon my part, without me doing anything that would cause it, I receive within myself words, just phrases or parts of verses of Scripture. A little here and a little there. Isaiah 28:9,10 says,

Whom shall he teach knowledge? and whom shall he make to understand doctrine? them that are weaned from the milk, and drawn from the breasts.

For precept must be upon precept, precept upon precept; line upon line, line upon line; here a little, and there a little:

These seem to always line up with the written Word of God. As they are searched out in the Scriptures, they always agree with the Word of God from Genesis through Revelation. There also seems to be a progression to the way they come, that is, they seem to tie together one after the other.

Let me give you an example: One day while I was working, concentrating on what I was doing, from my spirit came this, “the wind blows where it listeth, and you hear the sound thereof.” I knew this is in John 3:8. I thought it was referring to the Holy Spirit, that is what I heard preached so many times. I knew that there must be something about that verse of Scripture that the LORD wanted me to see. So I went and looked it up to see what it said. In looking it up, I noticed it wasn’t talking about the Holy Spirit as I had been told by others, but what it said was, **“The wind bloweth where it listeth, and thou hearest the sound thereof, but canst not tell whence it cometh, and whither it goeth: so is every one that is born of the Spirit.”** Here it says Jesus was talking about those who are born of the Spirit. All along, Jesus was speaking to Nicodemus about those who are born again. He didn’t change the subject, but continued to speak about those who are born again and enter into the kingdom of God. A long time ago I had noticed that John 3:3 and 3:5 both indicate that a person must “first” be born again “before” they can enter into the kingdom of God. But now I noticed that Jesus said those who are born again should become such as they which do not decide for themselves what they will do and when they will do it. That decision is not theirs to make, but the Holy Spirit is to decide that for them.

I was reminded of Paul and those with him in Acts 16. It says,

Now when they had gone throughout Phrygia and the region of Galatia, and were forbidden of the Holy Ghost to preach the word in Asia,

After they were come to Mysia, they assayed to go into Bithynia: but the Spirit suffered them not.

Paul and those with him had all kinds of ideas of what they should do and where they should go. But the Holy Spirit said, No! Paul did not go where they wanted to go, but instead continued on his journey passing Mysia and came down to Toras (Acts 16:8). While Paul was waiting on the LORD, in the night he had a vision. That vision was the direction the Holy Spirit wanted Paul to

take.

Peter also found out that what he believed in his natural mind and what the Holy Spirit wanted was two different things. In Acts 10, while Peter was at Simon the tanners house, his thinking was that the gospel was to be preached to the Jews only and not to the Gentiles. First God showed him, while in a trance that the Gentiles also should be saved. Still not understanding, the Holy Spirit spoke to Peter and told him to go with the men to Cornelius' house. Peter obeyed the Holy Spirit and found out that upon the Gentiles also God was pouring out His Spirit (Acts 10:44).

Those who are born again of the Spirit will no longer make their own decisions as to where they will go and what they will do. The Holy Spirit will make those decisions for them.

Another day, as I was working these words came to me, "Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven." I knew that was Matthew 7:21, but I didn't know why that came to me. So I looked up Matthew 7:21-24. There I discovered that what I had thought Jesus was saying was not what I thought. Many have taught on this verse and the ones follow, but never did I hear anyone teach what I found out.

I noticed that Jesus didn't change the subject from Matthew 7:13 all the way through Matthew 7:27. He was still speaking of the same thing. There is a strait and narrow way that leads to eternal life in heaven. That way, does not have anything to do with the works we do on earth, per say. That is, we can prophecy, cast out devils, and do many wonderful works, and they will not get us into the kingdom of heaven. It's not the works we did that counts, it's "did we do the will of the Father?" Only they that do the will of the Father will enter into the kingdom of heaven. Our ideas, and our plans are not always the LORD'S ideas and the LORD'S plans.

Our plans are not His plans. Our ways are not His ways. Our thoughts are not His thoughts. It's time to stay in the Word, that the Word remains in us, that we will know what is the will of God for our lives at any and all times.

These revelations continued to come to me, sometimes two or three times a week. Then, one day while I was working, these words came to me, "we will not have this man to reign over us." It took some time to find that in the Scriptures. I had an idea it was in one of the parables that Jesus taught, but I did not know which one. Then I found it in Luke 19, the parable of the pounds. If we study this parable closely, we will find it is also speaking of us today, "in the body of Christ."

Jesus is the LORD over this creation. All things were created by Him and for Him, nothing was created without Him (John 1:3, Col. 1:16,17). He came into this world, which was created by Him (John 1:10). He did the will of God the Father, and He gave us His Word. He said, "If you will abide in Me and My Words abide in you, you will know the truth and the truth shall make you free" (John 8:31,32,36, 15:7). The New Covenant teaches, "the just shall live by faith"! This faith, must be in the Word of God, not in the words of men.

Jesus is the Word of God. If we are to obtain all that is promised to us we must abide in the Word of God. The Word of God contains all the promises and all the obligations that go along with the promises. If we want the promises, we must also be doers of the Word and not just hearers only. The obligations are a part of the promises. We cannot go about picking and choosing the part we want and the parts we don't want. They all work together, the promises and the obligations. We must be doers of the Word, if Jesus is to reign over us. If we don't want to be doers of the Word, then we are saying "we won't have Jesus reign over us."

Jesus gave the church authority in His name. Then He was taken up into the heavens to be at the right hand of God. He said, "Occupy until I come"! In other words, do the works that I did, and do it the way I did until I return, which we call His second coming.

What is happening in the churches? Are they doing their own will, or are they doing the will of God the Father? Are we being led by the Holy Spirit or are other spirits manifesting in our midst? Who is deciding what we will do, us or the Holy Spirit? Who is being led by the Holy Spirit and who is being led by the flesh? How many are entering into the ministry with the wrong intentions? How many are operating by the power of the Holy Spirit and how many are operation by the power of the dollar bill?

Is the LORD our source, or are those who we can convince to help us do what we say God called us to do? Somewhere along the line we must decide, who will we follow and who will we serve? Will we be led by the Spirit of God or by our natural mind?

As we look around the body of Christ we see all kinds of ideas, all kinds of manifestations, all kinds of things going on. Where will it all end? Who will give an account for all this "flesh, and etc."?

We should not be discouraged by what we see all around us, all the false manifestations, etc. We can each, individually reach the heart of the Father. We can, in our own lives seek to please the Father in everything we do. As we take the Word of God and look to the Holy Spirit to help, guide, teach, and lead us, we can reach the heart of the Father. It's not what others do that effects our lives, it what we do that counts. Jesus said, "**And he that sent me is with me: the Father hath not left me alone; for I do always those things that please him**" (John 8:29). It can be the same way in our lives individually. If we will always do those things that please the Father.

Let us seek to reach the heart of the Father, where God has His way in our lives! Any other way will only lead to corruption! Only they that do the will of God the Father will enter into the kingdom of heaven (Matt. 7:21).

SATAN'S FINAL ATTACK

The devil has never changed. He is still the same old devil he was from the beginning. The Bible says, **“the devil sinneth from the beginning”** (1 John 3:8). Jesus said, **“He was a murderer from the beginning, and abode not in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaketh a lie, he speaketh of his own: for he is a liar, and the father of it”** (John 8:44).

If we search the Scriptures we will find this to be true. In the beginning there were two trees in the garden of Eden, the tree of life and the tree of knowledge of good and evil. Had man eaten of the tree of life he would have lived forever (Gen. 3:22). When a person eats of the tree of Life, they become like God, they actually become children of God and have eternal life. Adam and Eve could have eaten of the tree of Life before they ate of the tree of knowledge of good and evil. The choice was theirs, **“Of every tree of the garden thou mayest freely eat”** (Gen. 2:16)

The devil, using the serpent, came to Eve and said, **“Ye shall not surely die: For God doth know that in the day ye eat thereof, then your eyes shall be opened, and ye shall be as gods, knowing good and evil”** (Gen. 3:4,5). What the serpent actually said was, *“you can become as gods by eating of the tree of knowledge of good and evil instead of eating of the tree of Life.”* In other words, *“there is an other way you can do the will of God, you do not have to do it God's way!”*

From the time of Adam and Eve, Satan has been putting thoughts in the minds of people chosen by God to do God's will another way, not according to the Word of God. We see this throughout the Scriptures, it is very evident “it doesn't work”!

Cain brought an offering to the LORD, but Cain did not do it by faith (Gen. 4:3-12). Hebrews 11:4 says, **“By faith Abel offered unto God a more excellent sacrifice than Cain, by which he obtained witness that he was righteous, God testifying of his gifts: and by it he being dead yet speaketh.”** Cain's offering was not accepted, but Abel's was. It didn't work for Cain to try to please God using another way. It only works by faith (Heb. 10:38, 11:6).

King Asa tried to serve the LORD in another way, it didn't work for him either. In 2 Chronicles 16, Asa made a league with the king of Syria (a type of the devil), and came against king Baasha because of his attempt to prevent the children of Israel from coming to Jerusalem to worship the LORD. Asa knew it was the will of God for the children of Israel to come to Jerusalem to worship at least three times a year. Therefore, King Asa tried another way to stop king Baasha from preventing the children of Israel from coming to worship at Jerusalem. He went to the king of Syria rather than to the LORD. He tried to do the will of God another way, but it didn't work. The prophet came to King Asa and said, **“For the eyes of the LORD run to and fro throughout the whole earth, to shew himself strong in the behalf of them whose heart is perfect toward him. Herein thou hast done foolishly: therefore from henceforth thou shalt have wars”** (2 Chron. 16:9). It is a foolish thing to turn from the LORD to another way. It will only end up in defeat and battles after battles, until we die. King Asa died of a disease in his feet, not turning to the LORD to heal him (2 Chron. 16:12).

King Jeroboam also, turned from the LORD and set up places of worship in Bethel and Dan. It says in 1 Kings 12:26,27,

And Jeroboam said in his heart, Now shall the kingdom return to the house of David: If this people go up to do sacrifice in the house of the LORD at Jerusalem, then shall the heart of this people turn again unto their lord, even unto Rehoboam king of Judah,

and they shall kill me, and go again to Rehoboam king of Judah.

What Jeroboam did didn't work. We cannot forsake the commandment of the LORD and do it another way! It won't work, it will cause deception and failure. All throughout the Scriptures Satan has tried to convince God's people, "you can do it another way!"

As the apostle Paul began his last journey to Jerusalem and then on to Rome, he warned his followers, **"For I know this, that after my departing shall grievous wolves enter in among you, not sparing the flock"** (Acts 20:29). In Thessalonians 2:3 the apostle Paul warned us, "in the last days many will depart from the faith." In 1 Timothy 4:1 the apostle Paul also wrote, **"Now the Spirit speaketh expressly, that in the latter times some shall depart from the faith, giving heed to seducing spirits, and doctrines of devils."**

One of Satan's greatest attempts to keep us from reaching the heart of God the Father is "the departing from the faith"! Many have given heed to this great deception and put their faith in money rather than the LORD. Many ministries have gone to almost, total reliance upon money rather than the LORD. They don't need faith anymore, they have another way, "money!"

They talk faith, but their faith is not in the LORD supplying all their needs, it's money! They use all sorts of means to obtain money to do their work. They say it is the LORD, but the Bible does not prove it to be so. Money can be like mammon in Matthew 6:24. It can be the cause of the great deception in these last days. It can cause many to depart from the faith and give heed to many other ways of serving the god of this world, thinking they are serving the LORD.

The Bible does not teach "another way"! God has a plan, and it does not include "another way." The sad part is that in 2 Thessalonians 2, it tells us it can cause many to receive a strong delusion, that they would believe a lie **"That they all might be damned who believed not the truth, but had pleasure in unrighteousness"** (2 Thess. 2:12). The end result of falling away from the faith could lead to damnation, by believing a lie, and not the truth! Faith is the answer! For, **"the just shall live by faith!"**

The Bible does not teach us to have faith in money. Or to rely upon money to do the work of the ministry. Some have gone too far with this money business and have given heed to doctrines of men. It is not good, to try another way to serve God. It is not good to look to another source for our supply of all we need. As Christians, being warned of this departing from the faith, we are told in 1 Timothy 6:5 to withdraw ourselves from those who think that gain is godliness. Worldly gain is not godliness.

Jesus taught us, saying, **"have faith in God"** (Mark. 11:22). He never taught us to have faith in money, or any other means of supplying all our needs. Take heed to the deception the devil has brought into the churches in these last days.

If we are to reach the heart of God the Father, it must be done by having faith in God! There is no other way! All other ways will fail. Only faith in God and in His Word will please God.

This attempt by Satan to stop Christians from serving God and serve him instead has brought many to disobedience. They love the works of the flesh more than the works of the Holy Spirit. Many have built up large ministries, almost world wide, saying they are serving God and others within the church should help them do what God called them to do. Yet, their ministry work is founded upon money, they need more money to do what God called them to do. I'm not speaking against having money to do what God has called us to do, but Satan has put more emphases upon money then upon the work of the Holy Spirit. He has brought teachings within the churches that are

dependant upon money, not on the work of the Holy Spirit. No one will reach the heart of God the Father by money. It won't make any difference if you gave to God all the money in the world, it won't get you to into heaven. Money is not the answer, the working of the Holy Spirit through the Word of God is the answer to the heart of God the Father.

God has a wonderful plan in His Word. The Bible contains the Word of God to His people. The New Testament is God's covenant with His people. The New Testament teaches, "the just shall live by faith"! That faith, must be in the Word of God. Jesus is the Word of God, our faith must be in Jesus!

In Hebrews 5:9, talking about Jesus, it says, "**And being made perfect, he became the author of eternal salvation unto all them that obey him.**" This eternal salvation is dependant upon "obeying Jesus"! We cannot obey Jesus without being obedient to the written Word of God. When we obey every part of the New Covenant we become obedient to the LORD. Picking and choosing which parts we will obey and which parts we will not obey will not help us.

God's plan includes obedience to the complete covenant not just the parts we like, the parts that are convenient and without obligation. God has a wonderful plan. A perfect plan for every Christian to follow. It is laid out in a written covenant called the New Testament. Jesus said to His disciples, "Come, follow Me!" Jesus led the way to the heart of God the Father, then He said, "Come, follow Me!" There is only one thing that can hold a Christian back from reaching the heart of God the Father, that is their unwillingness to become doers of the Word. If we do what Jesus said we should do, we will reach the heart of God the Father and inherit all things promised us in the New Covenant.

In every attack Satan makes against Spirit-filled Christians he gets some to fall into his snare. When these do not work for him he comes with another type of deception. Jesus spoke of the final deception that would be used before He returns in Matthew 24:11, saying, "**And many false prophets shall rise, and shall deceive many.**" A false prophet is one who prophesies falsely. They are all over the world today, prophesying lies, and deceiving many. Deception is very high in these last days. One way to identify a false prophet is to know that the person is prophesying from their mind, and not from their spirit. True prophecy comes from the spirit of a person, not from the mind. The mind is Satan's territory, the spirit of man is where God operates from (Job 32:8). A second identifying mark is if the prophecy is raising up an individual person. The Holy Spirit will not exalt an individual person, He will only exalt Jesus Christ.

Multitudes of Christians are being exalted today throughout the world. People are following after those who say they are prophets, mainly because they want to be exalted. They love being exalted above others within the churches. They love hearing how wonderful they are in the eyes of God. They flock to meetings where they can be exalted above others, or where there is someone calling themselves a prophet, who exalts people.

They call these exaltations "personal prophecies." Where individuals are personally exalted above others within the body of Christ. The Holy Spirit does not exalt one person above another within the body of Christ. Those who are led by the Holy Spirit refuse to be exalted above others. When Peter and John were used to heal the man at the gate called Beautiful in Acts, Chapter three, Peter said, "**Ye men of Israel, why marvel ye at this? or why look ye so earnestly on us, as though by our own power or holiness we had made this man to walk?**" (Acts 3:11). Peter refused to be exalted for the healing that took place. When Paul and Barnabas were about to be

exalted for the healing of a man at Lystra, they ran about the people, **“saying, Sirs, why do ye these things? We also are men of like passions with you, and preach unto you that ye should turn from these vanities unto the living God, which made heaven, and earth, and the sea, and all things that are therein”** (Acts 14:15). A true prophet will not let anyone exalt them nor will they exalt another person. Those who are led by the Holy Spirit will only exalt the LORD Jesus Christ, and none other. Satan exalts people above others that he may get them into his snare.

Even though Satan has many ways to stop Christians from reaching the heart of God, we do not have to be discouraged. The way to the Heart of the Father is to “always do only that which pleases the Father.”

REACHING THE HEART OF GOD

As we have seen the attempts of Satan to prevent us from reaching the heart of God the Father, we must also see the good side. If we look at the life of Jesus while He was here on earth we see He reached the heart of the Father. In John 8:29, it says, **“And he that sent me is with me: the Father hath not left me alone; for I do always those things that please him.”** The Father sent Jesus, and Jesus did always those things that pleased the Father.

Now we see in John 17:18 Jesus said, **“As thou hast sent me into the world, even so have I also sent them into the world.”** In John 20:21 it says, **“Then said Jesus to them again, Peace be unto you: as my Father hath sent me, even so send I you.”** By this we could say, Jesus commanded us to do as He did. In other words it’s not a choice we can make to seek the heart of God the Father or not. We are actually commanded to seek the heart of God the Father.

Jesus only did those things that pleased the Father. In Hebrews 11:6 it tells us, **“But without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him.”** If we are to please God the Father, we must do it by faith. Without faith it is impossible to please Him.

Where must we use our faith to please God the Father? We must put our faith in the Word of God concerning those things we are commanded to do. Yet, based upon what the Word of God tells us about our position in Christ, not according to our human understanding.

In John 17:14 Jesus said to the Father, **“I have given them thy word; and the world hath hated them, because they are not of the world, even as I am not of the world.”** If we are not of this world, even as He is not of this world, what should we be doing here in this world? We should be doing what Jesus commanded us to do. Jesus said in John 14:15, **“If ye love me, keep my commandments.”** His commandments include those things which He said we were to do, by the authority and power He has given us. For instance in Luke 10:19, Jesus said, **“Behold, I give unto you power to tread on serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy: and nothing shall by any means hurt you.”** God the Father was pleased when Jesus used His authority over the works of the devil. The Father will also be pleased when His children (His sons and daughters), use the authority Jesus gave them over the works of the devil.

Yet, He is not please when we seek worldly things above heavenly things. The apostle Paul wrote in Philippians 3:13,14

Brethren, I count not myself to have apprehended: but this one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before, I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus.

In our lives here on earth it is easy to get our eyes off the high calling in Christ Jesus and seek the things of this world. If we find ourselves doing that, we need to set those things behind us that cause us to waver from the high calling in Christ Jesus. In Philippians 3:18,19 it says,

(For many walk, of whom I have told you often, and now tell you even weeping, that they are the enemies of the cross of Christ:

Whose end is destruction, whose God is their belly, and whose glory is in their shame, who mind earthly things.)

Notice in verse 19, it says, those **“who mind earthly things,”** their end is destruction. This is not good for anyone who has already attained unto eternal life in Christ. In Colossians 3:1,2, it

says,

If ye then be risen with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ sitteth on the right hand of God.

Set your affection (or mind) on things above, not on things on the earth.

We should not mind earthly things, but rather set our mind on things above, heavenly things, and the authority we have here on earth in the name of Jesus, and by the power of His blood. We need to be using the name of Jesus and the power of His blood against all the works of the enemy.

God the Father is pleased when we do the works that Jesus did. It pleases the Father to see His children walking in the power and authority they have been given. We are commanded by Jesus to do these things, it's not a case of us choosing if we want to do them or not. It is commanded of us to be doers of the Word and not just hearers only.

If we are born again of the Word and the Spirit we are true children of God. If we have received the baptism in the Holy Spirit with the evidence of speaking in tongues we have the power and the authority we need to do the works that Jesus did. God is pleased with those of His children who walk in the power and anointing that Jesus walked in on this earth. God is pleased when we become doers of the Word and not just hearers only.

Always remember, no matter how we try to do our best in reaching the heart of God; it cannot be done unless it is "by faith." The Word says, "**the just shall live by faith.**" It is only by faith that we can do the works that Jesus did. It is only by faith the God is please in what we do. Faith operates by love (agape), the love of God which we receive of God in the new birth. It is also a fruit of the Spirit which manifest when Christians mature in Christ. Yet, without faith we cannot please God (Heb. 10:38, 11:6).

Love and faith are fruit of the Spirit, which you receive when we are born again of the Word and the Spirit. They manifest as we mature in Christ. If you are not in Christ; that is, if you are not born again you can become born again right now. Just say a prayer from your heart similar to following:

LORD Jesus, I want to become born again of the Word and the Spirit into the family of God. I know You are the LORD of this creation. I know You paid the price for my sins. I know You died and rose again from the dead for my justification.

LORD, forgive me of all my sins, and receive me now, as one of Your very own. I love You, LORD Jesus, and I receive You now as my LORD and Savior. Thank You, Jesus, for giving me eternal life in You. Amen.

Now, from deep within your heart, commit your life to follow Jesus and reach the heart of God the Father. All the angels will rejoice, and the Father will be pleased in you as you walk by faith, doing the will of God.