Wisdom
Knowledge
Understanding
Part 1

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Introduction

In Proverbs 2:6 it says, “For the LORD giveth wisdom: out of his mouth cometh knowledge and understanding.” The LORD is God with the Father and the Holy Spirit. God has “all” wisdom, knowledge, and understanding.

To obtain unto eternal life in heaven, Christians must have wisdom, knowledge, and understanding. To get this wisdom, knowledge, and understanding it must come from the LORD.

The Devil does not have wisdom, knowledge, and understanding. Wisdom was given to Lucifer, but he corrupted it and sealed it up (Ezek. 28:12,17). Therefore, Satan caused his own destruction, and eternal place in hell.

Christians need to understand that God gives to those who obey Him everything they have. All good things came from God, and God has given unto each one all the good things that they have. Whether it is wisdom, knowledge, or understanding.

In the beginning all things came from God. God gives us life, and breath (Gen. 2:7, Job 12:10, 33:4). Satan tries to take away and destroy all that we have.

Speaking of those who are born again into the Body of Christ, the written Word of God says in 1 John 2:6, “He that saith he abideth in him ought himself also so to walk, even as he walked.” This verse is speaking first of abiding in Christ. Then it is speaking of walking as Jesus walked.

Many say they are born again Christians “in Christ.” But, where is the evidence of their new birth in Christ? In 1 John 2:6 it is speaking of the evidence that a person is truly born again and “abiding in Christ.” Therefore, many may have been born again, but they may not be “abiding in Christ.” If they are “abiding in Christ,” you should see the evidence in their lives.

The word “Christ’ means “the anointed One.” If someone is truly born again, they are in Christ (the Anointed One). If they are truly in Christ, there should be some evidence. That evidence is, they should be “walking as Jesus walked” (1 John 2:6).

Why are they not walking as Jesus walked? It is because of Satan, who is “the god of this world” (2 Cor. 4:4). Satan has knowledge of good and evil. But Satan does not have wisdom, and understanding. All Satan has is the knowledge of good and evil.

When Adam and Eve ate of the tree of knowledge of good and evil, they received the knowledge of good and evil from the devil. God always had the knowledge of good and evil (Gen. 3:22). God permitted Lucifer, now called Satan the devil, to have the knowledge of good and evil.

Satan uses the knowledge of good and evil to control people. Satan does not have wisdom, or understanding. If he did, he would not have crucified the LORD of Glory. In 1 Corinthians 2:7,8, it says, “But we speak the wisdom of God in a mystery, even the hidden wisdom, which God ordained before the world unto our glory...Which none of the princes of this world knew: for had they known it, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory.”

Wisdom and understanding only come from God, and the LORD Jesus Christ. The only way to get wisdom and understanding is to first receive it from “the Word of God.” Jesus is “the living Word of God” (John 1:1-3, Heb. 4:12). The LORD gives us wisdom and understanding (Prov. 2:6). Unless we receive Jesus Christ as LORD and Savor, we will not have wisdom and understanding. All we will have is the knowledge of good and evil.

Many people will spend eternity in hell with the devil and his followers, simply because “they
never were born again.” Some have been born again, but they may still spend eternity in hell, “because they did not abide in Christ” (1 John 2:6). Others may spend eternity in hell because “they would not obey the LORD.” In Hebrews 5:9, speaking of Jesus Christ, it says, “And being made perfect, he became the author of eternal salvation unto all them that obey him.”

Everyone needs wisdom, knowledge, and understanding. These three come from God. Jesus Christ, being the express image of God, gives to those who come to Him and obey Him, “wisdom, knowledge and understanding.” Jesus is the Word of God manifest in the flesh (John 1:14). God has also given us His Word in the inspired written Word, called the Bible.

Studying and obeying the written Word of God, helps us receive wisdom, knowledge, and understanding. We receive this wisdom, knowledge and understanding by the inspiration of the Holy Spirit. In 1 John 2:27 it 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.”

The anointing is the Holy Spirit, which is also “Christ in us.” Christ is “the Anointed One.” Jesus was anointed with the Holy Spirit (Luke 4:19; Acts 10:38). Being in Christ, we have the anointing within us. Yet, without the Holy Spirit the anointing is powerless. It takes the Holy Spirit to cause the Word of God to manifest in our lives.
Get Wisdom, Knowledge, & Understanding

In Proverbs 4:7 it says, “Wisdom is the principal thing; therefore get wisdom: and with all thy getting get understanding.” Wisdom only comes from the LORD. In Proverbs, Chapter Eight, it is speaking of the LORD calling Himself “Wisdom.” Without the LORD we cannot get wisdom. Without the LORD we cannot get understanding.

No matter how we try to get wisdom and understanding, if we do not get it from the LORD, we will not have true wisdom and understanding. In James 1:5 it says, “If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him.”

Knowledge comes by studying and meditating upon the written Word. Jesus was called the Word of God in the beginning (John 1:1,2). The Word of God became flesh (John 1:14). Jesus is still the Word of God, Who came into this world as JESUS, the Son of God and the Son of Man. The Word became “the Living Word,” that gives life to everyone who will believe “the Word of God.” Without knowledge and understanding given to us by the LORD, even Christians will not understand the written Word of God. Many Christians do not understand the new birth in Christ Jesus. They have been believing the teachings of men, and have been deceived by “the knowledge of good and evil.”

For a better understanding of the new birth get the Mini-Books, “A New Creature,” by Merle E. Koepke. There are a number of parts to this series. They are available free, by downloading them from our Web sites listed on the first page of this Mini-Book.

No one will understand the Truth of the Word of God unless it is given to them by the LORD and the Holy Spirit. The LORD sent the Holy Spirit to teach us all things. Jesus said in John 6:45, “It is written in the prophets, And they shall be all taught of God...” It is by the anointing of the Holy Spirit that we can be taught all things. 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.”

All Scripture is prophetic. It is written by men who received it by the inspiration of the Holy Spirit (2 Tim. 3:16; 2 Peter 1:20,21). The prophetic Word of God must be discerned by the Holy Spirit in order to be understood. Understanding the written Word of God can only come by a work of the Holy Spirit in the minds of those who will submit themselves to the leading of the Holy Spirit. This is spoken of in 1 Corinthians 2:9-14. It says, “But as it is written, Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love him...But God hath revealed them unto us by his Spirit: for the Spirit searcheth all things, yea, the deep things of God...For what man knoweth the things of a man, save the spirit of man which is in him? even so the things of God knoweth no man, but the Spirit of God...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 written Word of God must be spiritually discerned by the Holy Spirit. If what men think they know did not come by the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, it is not of God. It is only “knowledge of good and evil.”

By the knowledge of good and evil, many Spirit-filled Christians have taught things that are not true. Even though they used the written Word of God as a source of their reference, if they did not receive it from the Holy Spirit it is not of God. It is deception, caused by the spirits of this world (1 Cor. 2:8,12).

Knowledge alone will not benefit anyone. It takes the wisdom of God, and the understanding of spiritual things to obtain the truth from the written Word of God.

Satan knows what is written in the inspired Word of God. In James 2:19, it says, “Thou believest that there is one God; thou doest well: the devils also believe, and tremble.” In Matthew 4:6, the Devil said to Jesus, “If thou be the Son of God, cast thyself down: for it is written...” The Devil quoted the Word of God from Psalm 91:11,12. The Devil knew what was written, but the Devil only had the “knowledge of good and evil.” The Devil did not have wisdom and understanding.

Just because someone comes quoting the written Word of God to you, that does not mean they are being led by the Holy Spirit. There are false operations of the Spirit today, just as there always was from the beginning of time in the garden of Eden. In Genesis 3:1-5 the serpent knew what the LORD God had told Adam and Eve. But the serpent did not have wisdom and understanding of what the LORD God said. By changing what was first spoken in Genesis 2:16,17, the serpent deceived Eve and she ate of the tree of knowledge of good and evil.

Had Eve obeyed the LORD God according to what was revealed in Genesis 2:16,17, she would not have been deceived by the serpent. If Christians will do what is written in the New Covenant, they will not be deceived by the spirits of this world.

According to Hebrews 5:9, eternal salvation is obtained by obeying the LORD. It says, “And being made perfect, he became the author of eternal salvation unto all them that obey him” (Heb. 5:9).
Deception

Anytime a person operates according to their own understanding, they will be deceived. In Proverbs 3:5,6, it says, “Trust in the LORD with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding...In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths.”

Many have tried to understand the written Word of God by their intellectual knowledge. Many have used English translations of the Bible to gain knowledge of the Word of God.

This will not always work. There are many errors in English translations of the Bible. Only the inspired written Word of God will reveal the truth. Therefore, it is important that Christians are “taught by God” and not by men, who think they are someone, whosoever they think they are. Unless we are taught by God, we will easily be deceived. The Holy Spirit is God, and He has been sent into this world to teach us all things. Jesus said in John 16:13,14, “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...He shall glorify me: for he shall receive of mine, and shall shew it unto you.”

Some of the greatest error has come through those who have a true anointing from the Holy Spirit. This true anointing is called “the earnest of our inheritance” in Ephesians 1:13,14. This is speaking of receiving the Baptism in the Holy Spirit after we were born again into the body of Christ.

The earnest of our inheritance is only the ability to do things by the anointing of the Holy Spirit within us. By the anointing of the Holy Spirit upon an individual, they can do what they have been anointed to do. But, that does not mean if they have an anointing to heal the sick, they also have the anointing to teach whatsoever they want to teach. The anointing to heal the sick is not the same anointing as the anointing to teach.

Every member of the body of Christ has been called to do something. No one is called to do nothing. The body of Christ is made up of many members, and all are a part of the same body of Christ. Each one is given an opportunity to do the will of God in their lives according to the good pleasure of God, not according to the will of man.

The greatest deception in the body of Christ comes by those who have an anointing to do what they have been called to do. But, then they try to do the will of God according to their own understanding and they become servants of the Devil by “the knowledge of good and evil.”

These are spoken of in Hebrews 5:12-14, which says, “For when for the time ye ought to be teachers, ye have need that one teach you again which be the first principles of the oracles of God; and are become such as have need of milk, and not of strong meat...For every one that useth milk is unskilful in the word of righteousness: for he is a babe...But strong meat belongeth to them that are of full age, even those who by reason of use have their senses exercised to discern both good and evil.” Until someone is taught the first principles of God, they are not ready to teach others. They must first have understanding of the first principles of God, before they go about teaching others.

In Hebrews 6:1,2 it says, “Therefore leaving the principles of the doctrine of Christ, let us go on unto perfection; not laying again the foundation of repentance from dead works, and of faith toward God...Of the doctrine of baptisms, and of laying on of hands, and of resurrection of the dead, and of eternal judgment.”

Many do not understand, “the foundation of repentance from dead works, and of faith
toward God...Of the doctrine of baptisms, and of laying on of hands, and of resurrection of the dead, and of eternal judgment.” The teachings of men have made the Word of God of none-effect among many Christians today.

The “foundation of repentance from dead works,” includes, “Trust in the LORD with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding...In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths,” (Prov. 3:5,6).

Many do not understand what it means by “faith toward God” (Heb. 6:2). Multitudes are teaching their idea of faith, which is simply, “faith in how to get others to serve them” quoting the Scriptures without understanding. They have built up denominations, ministries, etc. by their ability to control others, by miss quoting the Scriptures without understanding.

Christians need wisdom, knowledge, and understanding from the Holy Spirit. Christians need to be taught by the Holy Spirit, not by men operating from their natural minds.

The beginning of Wisdom is the end of trying to do the will of God by your own ability and understanding. The beginning of Wisdom is complete surrender to the LORD Jesus Christ, everything you are and everything you have. Not holding anything back for yourself.

God is not looking for those who want all that they think the Bible says is theirs and not giving their all (spirit, soul, body, and heart to the LORD Jesus Christ). God is not pleased in those who want to hold back part for themselves, and give only that which they can get along without.

Complete surrender is not to, “stop doing what you know to do and sit back waiting for God to do something.” That is ignorance gone to seed. Complete surrender starts with knowing the Word of God, then doing what the Word of God says to do.

Jesus is “the Word of God,” which was manifest in the flesh (John 1:1,2,14). Until Christians know the Truth, which is revealed in the Gospels, they will be deceived by the enemy, working through those who also do not know the Truth. Those who teach, without receiving their information by the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, are deceived.

The beginning of wisdom comes by a revelation of the Holy Spirit of what is written in the Scriptures. Therefore, the beginning for every individual is the new birth, into the Body of Christ. To Nicodemus, Jesus said, “Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God” (John 3:3). Nicodemus was a learned man, a ruler of the Jews. Nicodemus was under the High Priest, along with many other members of the Sanhedrin.

With all the knowledge that Nicodemus had, he did not understand spiritual things. No one can understand spiritual things unless they are first born again and then receive it from the Holy Spirit.

Jesus also said to Nicodemus, “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...that which is born of the flesh is flesh; and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit...Marvel not that I said unto thee, Ye must be born again” (John 3:5-7).

Jesus was not talking about liquid water, or water baptism in John 3:5. Oh, how sad it is that so many have been deceived by the teachings of men operating by their own understanding and intellect.

The Scriptures are very clear. The New Birth must by an experience whereby one is born again of “the Word of God” 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
The Word of God is “the Seed,” of the new birth. Therefore, in John 3:5, the apostle John used the Greek word “hudor” symbolically, not literally. No one can become born again without the Word of God.

Those who do not receive Jesus Christ (Who is the living Word of God), as their LORD and Savior, are not truly born again.

Again, by not understanding the Scriptures, and not receiving their information from the Holy Spirit many have been deceived by what Jesus was saying in John 6:51-65. Jesus said, “I am the living bread which came down from heaven: if any man eat of this bread, he shall live for ever: and the bread that I will give is my flesh, which I will give for the life of the world” (John 6:51).

In John 6:53, it says, “Then Jesus said unto them, Verily, verily, I say unto you, Except ye eat the flesh of the Son of man, and drink his blood, ye have no life in you.” Jesus was not talking about his liquid blood or his physical body. Jesus was not talking about drinking wine and eating unleavened bread in remembrance of His death and resurrection. Many have taught many things along that line. That is not what Jesus was talking about at all.

What Jesus was truly talking about is first receiving a new spiritual birth, born of the Word of God and the Holy Spirit. Then, continuing to live “by the Word of God.” The Word of God (which is Jesus Christ, Himself), is the source of eternal life of everyone who is truly born again (John 1:4).

Jesus said to the Devil in Matthew 4:4, “It is written, Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God.” Those who are truly born again must continue to live by the Word of God. Eternal life is in Christ Jesus. Outside of Jesus, there is no eternal life for man.

Jesus is the beginning of a new creation of man, born of the Word and the Spirit, having everlasting life in the spiritual realm. All who are in Christ, must continue to live by the Word of God, not by the words of men or the doctrines and teachings of men or demons.

The New Creature in Christ is born of the Seed of Christ, which is the Word of God (1 Peter 1:23). To continue to live in the spiritual realm as a new creature in Christ, we must continue to live by eating and drinking the Word of God.

The Holy Spirit is the one that brings us into the Body of Christ. The Holy Spirit is the earnest of the Spirit which can keep us from being deceived by the enemy.

Without the Holy Spirit, no one can become born again. It says in John 1:13, “Which were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God.” The new birth is a work of God in the lives of those who will receive Jesus Christ as LORD and Savior. For Christians to continue in Christ, they need the Holy Spirit working in their lives daily. They must receive the living Word of God daily, to continue to live. If they depart from the faith, and ignore the Holy Spirit, they could die spiritually.

This is all dependent upon receiving our daily bread (which is the Word of God), revealed to us by the Holy Spirit. Those who walk after the flesh will not receive help from the Holy Spirit. Without the help of the Holy Spirit we will easily be deceived and can lose our inheritance in eternal life.

Satan is always working in the minds and intellect of men and women to teach things that are not inspired by the Holy Spirit. Satan has not changed. He is still doing what he did in the garden of Eden with Adam and Eve. Satan sends someone with a half-truth, to deceive them and entice them
to believe a lie.

Satan has the knowledge of good and evil, and he uses it to deceive people who do not commit themselves to the Word of God and the Holy Spirit. God will not be deceived. His Word will stand forever (1 Peter 1:24,25).

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.” Corruption is the opposite of eternal life. Therefore, we must sow to the Spirit, and not to the flesh, if we are to obtain unto the resurrection of the dead.

The Holy Spirit is given freely to all who will ask. The Holy Spirit will help, guide, comfort, lead, and teach us all things, if we will obey the LORD. The Holy Spirit cannot go contrary to the Word of God. The Holy Spirit will bear a witness to the Word of God and the Blood of Jesus (1 John 5:8).

Without the Baptism in the Holy Spirit, after we are born again, it will not be easy to obtain our promised inheritance of eternal life in heaven (Eph. 1:4-14). Our inheritance is only a promise, based upon our obeying the LORD. Hebrews 5:9 says, “And being made perfect, he became the author of eternal salvation unto all them that obey him.”

God has already done His part. The New Covenant is between us and God. Therefore, we also have things we need to do to receive that which is promised to us. God has given us His written Word in the Scriptures. God has sent His Son, Jesus Christ, to take away the sin of the world.

God has made Jesus Christ the mediator of our New Covenant (1 Tim. 2:5). God has not sent any man or anyone else to take the place of Jesus Christ as our mediator. Through the Blood of the everlasting covenant, we have access to the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

God is for us, not against us (Rom. 8:31). Wherever we look in the New Covenant we will see that God has done all He can to help, guide, comfort, lead, and teach us all things pertaining to life in this world and hereafter in eternity.

Now it is all up to us, individually. Will we do what God tells us to do? Or will we follow those who are leading us in their direction to do their will?

God is a personal God. God desires to dwell in each person individually. God desires to teach each one individually. Jesus said in John 6:45, “It is written in the prophets, And they shall be all taught of God...” All means “each one individually.” Every born again Christian should be taught by God. In Isaiah 28:9-11 it 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...For with stammering lips and another tongue will he speak to this people.”

By stammering lips and another tongue it is referring to speaking in tongues. In the New Covenant, when a born again Christian receives the Baptism in the Holy Spirit they begin to speak in tongues as the Holy Spirit gives them the utterance.

It is this speaking in tongues that God is going to use to help teach Christians all things. 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.” God will teach us things we do not know, by Revealing mysteries to us that He knows but we do not
know.

This is one of the ways God is going to teach Christians, that they may know the truth and the truth will set them free of all the doctrines and teachings of men that they were being deceived by.

Those who refuse to receive the Baptism in the Holy Spirit with the evidence of speaking in tongues are refusing to do the will of God in their lives. Refusing to obey the LORD will not help anyone.

Those who refuse to study the Scriptures, that they may learn by them are refusing to obey the LORD. All disobedience to the LORD will hinder God from doing His will in their lives.

It is God’s will that everyone would come to know the LORD and be saved and delivered from anything that is not of God. To receive from God we must walk in the Light of the Word of God. In 1 John 1:5-7 it says, “This then is the message which we have heard of him, and declare unto you, that God is light, and in him is no darkness at all...If we say that we have fellowship with him, and walk in darkness, we lie, and do not the truth...But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin.”

God cannot have fellowship with darkness. God cannot help those who will not walk in the Light. God has given us a total and complete covenant. If we do not keep the covenant we have, God cannot help us.

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