

OF THE HOLY SPIRIT ALL PEOPLE ARE CLASSIFIED BY **SCRIPTURES OF THE DAY**
 THEIR RELATIONSHIP TO THE HOLY SPIRIT 1 Corinthians 2:9-3:4

STUDY & REFLECTION

Each and every human being, all of mankind is classified and categorized by scripture. This classification is threefold, and each category is defined by how each person is related to and connected or not connected to the Holy Spirit. This classification not only differentiates all of mankind, but also defines the difference in the quality and maturity of the life of those who have been born-again.

Paul in this passage teaches us a profound truth: human being cannot by our deepest most profound wisdom, come to know God or the things of God. Knowing God and the things about God can only be discovered and known through our relationship to the Holy Spirit. Embracing these principles are critical as we delve into the heart of Knowing God and Walking in the Power and Knowledge of the Holy Spirit.

Take a moment to click here to read 1 Cor 2:9-13 (NIV)

The Bible, the Word of God is the ‘revelation’ of God, given to men to write down, and given to us so that we can know and walk with God. The Apostle is clear that this written word is only clearly revealed to us through the Holy Spirit that indwells the children of God.

The classes and categories of people are described in the passage:

1. The “**natural man**,” who is unregenerate, not born-again and therefore unchanged spiritually.
2. The “**carnal man**,” who is a ‘babe’ in Christ and walks or lives, “as a man.”
3. The “**spiritual man**,” who “walks in the Spirit.”

Each category is different in reference to their relationship and connection to the Holy Spirit. As it relates to those who have been born-again, this relationship will determine the growth of or lack thereof of their spiritual walk. The quality and maturity of our lives in Christ will be affected in direct relationship to our awareness of and embracing of the Holy Spirit, or our ignorance or neglect of the same.

ACTION ITEMS

Natural, Carnal, Spiritual: All of us are classified in relationship to our connection and commitment to the Holy Spirit. We will learn that as born-again believers we can change and be carnal or spiritual depending on our submission to the Holy Spirit.

Search your own heart and life. **How would you categorize yourself today?**

INVOLVING OTHERS

Share with those in your small group. Listen and gain insights from each other regarding how we are in relationship to the Spirit.

**THE PERSON POWER AND MINISTRY
OF THE HOLY SPIRIT** 'DEEP' THINGS OF GOD ARE
REVEALED BY THE HOLY SPIRIT TO CHOSEN VESSELS
AND WRITTEN IN WORDS THAT ONLY THE SPIRITUAL
DISCERN

Tuesday, December 14, 2021

SCRIPTURES OF THE DAY

[1 Corinthians 2:9](#); [1 Corinthians 3:4](#);

[2 Pet 1:20-21](#)



**STUDY &
REFLECTION**

The writers of the Bible affirm that the words of their writings were not a product of human wisdom, but Divinely revealed...and written down in words that we can understand, interpreted by the Holy Spirit.

In its original text, the Bible is a result of revelation through the Holy Spirit. We here understand that Truth travels from the Mind of God to the minds of those Divinely chosen to the hearts of those who have been born-again and are committed to walking in the Spirit. Here we see the genius of God who ordains that the transmission of His Mind flows from chosen vessels, revealed in language humans can comprehend, yet can only be 'understood' with true discernment by those committed to the Holy Spirit.

This is important to see how truth flows from God to us. It also negates the thought that Scripture and its interpretation and understanding is of a private or individual nature. It demands that all the Divine components be present as we endeavor to understand and live pleasing in the sight of God.

The 'natural man,' can hear these words and read these truths also, but they appear to him to be so much foolishness. This is because without the new birth and the illumination of the Holy Spirit, through teachers chosen and prepared by God, spiritual principles are hollow and foolish.

**ACTION
ITEMS**

Our 'natural' senses, no matter how insightful, experienced or educated, have little capacity to understand and embrace the Knowledge of God. The 'carnal' mind is almost in the same boat. Perhaps this is why the admonition of scripture, continually warns us, to *not lean to our own understanding*.

Think about how often and easy it is to ignore this principle.

**INVOLVING
OTHERS**

Have an honest discussion regarding **how we as a body discover spiritual truths, and what are the pitfalls we must learn to avoid to not fall into spiritual disinformation and error.**

**THE PERSON POWER AND MINISTRY
OF THE HOLY SPIRIT THERE'S A CONSTANT WAR
GOING ON! (THE ENEMY WITHIN!)**

Wednesday, December 15, 2021

SCRIPTURES OF THE DAY

Galatians 5:17; Romans 7:14-23



STUDY & REFLECTION Satan does all he can to make sure we never come to know God and be born of the Spirit. However, if by the grace of God we experience the New Birth, Satan does not give up. He simply wages a different war against us. When we didn't 'know God,' his task was easy. Before Christ, Satan simply overpowered us. In the words of a 20th century comedian Flip Wilson... "the devil made me do it!" Now that you have been empowered by the Holy Spirit, that is no longer possible. Now he wages what can be termed 'guerrilla warfare.'

The outward frontal attack is one we are more familiar with. But once you are Spirit-filled, the war changes. Now it's a war 'from within.'

In guerrilla warfare, our enemy doesn't fight fair. He uses disruptive, unauthorized, harassing tactics, often surprise attacks to discourage and dishearten us, so that we become fatigued and hopefully give in and give up!

Do any of the words from today's scriptures sound familiar? Take time to read them again.

Some think Paul is speaking of a life before being Spirit-filled, but I do not think so. **What is being described is clearly the conflict of "two natures."** In these passages we see the war that is constantly going on when you attempt to commit to the Spirit.

ACTION ITEMS The Bible instructs us to "in all your getting, get understanding!" Once you are Spirit-filled, the battle against Satan and evil does not end. It is fact **BEGINS!**

We must arm ourselves with the correct Mind-set. The battle you are constantly in is ordained of God. Each conflict is a test, designed us to rely on Him and His Spirit and not to our own resources and strengths.

Spend some time in prayer, thanking God for the conflict. Thank Him with the assurance that greater is He that is in you than he that is attacking you!

INVOLVING OTHERS Share with one another the battles you have been facing as you have endeavored to walk with God. Compare notes on what and how you gained victory. If you have the courage, share also when you *failed*. **Together, you will be able to wage war with victory and not allow battle-fatigue to overwhelm you.**

**THE PERSON POWER AND MINISTRY
OF THE HOLY SPIRIT THERE'S A CONSTANT WAR
GOING ON! HOW TO GAIN THE VICTORY!**

Thursday, December 16, 2021

SCRIPTURES OF THE DAY

[Galatians 5:17](#); [Romans 7:14-23](#);

[Genesis 25:21-23](#)



**STUDY &
REFLECTION**

One of the keys to understanding spiritual warfare is to understand the reason for the conflict. Consider child of God, why do you struggle? If I have been born of the Spirit, why is there such intense, seemingly non-ending conflict? The answer is the understanding of the Two Natures!

“Two natures beat within my breast, One is foul, the other is blest.
One I love, the other I hate.

THE ONE I FEED WILL DOMINATE!”

The conflict we face is because of the incompatibility of the two natures, and how much hangs in the balance....the quality of your life in Christ and the health of your soul.

When you were filled with the Spirit, it created an atmosphere of hatred, the one nature against the other. They are in the words of my first pastor Bis Holly, “like oil and water!” They are complete opposites. They cannot mix. They cannot co-exist without a fight.

In Gen 25 the Bible says that Issac’s wife Rebekah was barren and felt forsaken. Her husband who had favor with God “intreated God for her.” The result was she became pregnant, but almost immediately experienced pain and suffering. The word says she was pregnant with twins, of opposite natures. This caused the conflict. She cries, “if I am so blessed, why this constant conflict!”

Child of God, the battle is of God. Satan will not give up without a fight. He is hoping you will not realize the path to victory....**THE ONE I FEED WILL DOMINATE!**

**ACTION
ITEMS**

The spirit we inherited from Adam is unchanged and unchangeable. The test of our faith is our willingness to realize we can’t destroy the ‘old man,’ but can render him weak and harmless. Consider what things are you doing to starve the old nature? What are you doing to strengthen and develop the ‘new man?’

**INVOLVING
OTHERS**

We almost universally in the Body of Christ embrace, at least philosophically our call to win disciples. However how many of us understand and will accept the fact that we are equally called to ‘disciple one another!’ Discuss in your group how we can help each other to overcome the ‘old nature.’

**THE PERSON POWER AND MINISTRY
OF THE HOLY SPIRIT ESCAPE FROM CARNALITY:
FEED THE SPIRIT, NOT THE FLESH**

Friday, December 17, 2021

SCRIPTURES OF THE DAY

Romans 8:1-9; 2 Corinthians 10:3-6



STUDY & REFLECTION The fact of the matter is we who have been born-again are assuredly “**MORE THAN CONQUERORS!**” (Rom 8:37)

Yet as we honestly evaluate our life in Christ, this experience of overwhelming victory is far from automatic. Too often we see in our lives the obvious workings of the old nature and too many expressions and manifestations of the life we lived BC, before Christ. What is going on? How do we honestly deal with this experience?

We must learn how to overcome, relying on the Holy Spirit. We must learn to trust in His ways and His power. We are often defeated because we are used to handling things our own way. To grow and overcome, we must affirm and confess what the Word clearly presents to us. This is how we overcome in our walk of faith. Although we live in a ‘fleshy’ house, we refuse to continue to rely on the flesh in our fight.

2 Cor 10:3-6: For though we walk in the flesh, we do not war after the flesh: (For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal, but mighty through God to the pulling down of strong holds;) Casting down imaginations, and every high thing that exalteth itself against the knowledge of God, and bringing into captivity every thought to the obedience of Christ; And having in a readiness to revenge all disobedience, when your obedience is fulfilled.
(KJV)

Paul reaffirms this in Rom 8. The growth path of the child on God who desires to mature and prosper must be one we all are unfamiliar with. All of our lives we have learned to rely on ourselves, using our gifts, abilities and talents. **Now we must learn how to identify and utilize the powerful resources and weapons that are available to all who have been born of the Holy Spirit.**

ACTION ITEMS Remembering that His ways are not our ways, and His thoughts are not our thoughts consider the quality of your life in Christ. See if you can identify when you have done things your way and when you have relied on the ways of the Spirit. Can you identify times of success and failure and align them with using fleshly means vs using the weapons of the Spirit!?

INVOLVING OTHERS Sharing honestly and with transparency is one of the best ways to grow and mature in Christ. See how honest you can be in sharing and comparing success and failure in your various conflicts with our common enemy.

This week we have taken you on a long but important journey. We have discovered that without being born-again, we have no chance against a sinister enemy.

We have learned that as children of God, born of the Holy Spirit, we must guard against and avoid the easy pitfall of becoming and living carnal lives, neglecting or ignoring the Holy Spirit.

We have dealt with the reason for our spiritual conflict and learned that we are more than conquerors and destined to win as we rely on HIM.

Use today to reflect on these things, thanking God for His grace and patience toward us and the heritage and legacy of victory that is ours IN THE SPIRIT!

SHALOM!