

## THE THINGS OF THE SPIRIT

Lean Not To Your Own Understanding

- I. **There are two kinds of knowledge: Man's wisdom/the wisdom of the world is knowledge gained through the senses and reasoning without God; The wisdom of God is knowledge revealed to our spirits by The Holy Spirit-1Co2:4-My speech and my preaching was not with enticing words of man's wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power: <sup>5</sup>That your faith should not stand in the wisdom of men, but in the power of God. <sup>6</sup>Howbeit we speak wisdom among them that are perfect: yet not the wisdom of this world, nor of the princes of this world, that come to nought: <sup>7</sup>But we speak the wisdom of God in a mystery, even the hidden wisdom, which God ordained before the world unto our glory: <sup>8</sup>Which none of the princes of this world knew: for had they known it, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory. <sup>9</sup>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. <sup>10</sup>But God hath revealed them unto us by his Spirit: for the Spirit searcheth all things, yea, the deep things of God. <sup>11</sup>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. <sup>12</sup>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. <sup>13</sup>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. <sup>14</sup>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. <sup>15</sup>But he that is spiritual judgeth all things, yet he himself is judged of no man.**
- A. Wisdom of God is a mystery (hidden, not obvious to the understanding, beyond human comprehension)-Hidden from the head-1Co4:1-Mysteries of God
  - B. God reveals His wisdom/mysteries to us by His Spirit to our spirits-Rm8:16-The Spirit itself beareth witness with our spirits (10)
  - C. Holy Spirit searches the things of God and shows them to us-Jn16:15-He shall take of mine and shall show (declare) it to you (10-12)
  - D. The things of God knows no man-You can't get to the things of The Spirit with your head or apart the Holy Spirit showing them to you (11, 1Co1:21)
  - E. He was speaking about the things of the Spirit-CSB-We also speak these things, not in words taught by human wisdom, but in those taught by the Spirit, explaining spiritual things to spiritual people. (13)
  - F. Things of the spirit are spiritually discerned (known not by carnal reason but by illumination of The Spirit) as opposed to being discerned with the senses/reasoning/intellect-Go beyond natural understanding (14)
    - 1. The things of The Spirit are received with the spirit by faith-The Holy Spirit communicates with your spirit and you elevate what He says above your senses and reasoning and accept what He says to be the truth, by faith, whether it makes sense or not
  - G. Only those governed by The Spirit can judge these things-Judge by the head and you'll get it wrong; Natural man can't judge spiritual-1Co2:14-AM-He is unqualified to judge spiritual matters (15)

1. Things need to be judged by: Word, Inward witness, Fruitful-1Jn4:1-  
*Believe not every spirit...try the spirits whether they are of God*

**II. Natural man is governed by knowledge gained through his senses and reasoning-**  
**Rm8:6-AC**-*The mind of the flesh [is sense and reason without the Holy Spirit]*

- A. He will only accept what his senses and reasoning say is right and true-  
**Jr17:5**-*Cursed by the man that trusteth in man and maketh flesh his arm*
- B. Your faith can be in the wisdom of men where you trust most what you get through your senses and understanding-Walking by sight-1Co2:5
- C. Christians can live like natural men, governed by sense and reason-  
**1Co3:1**-*I, brethren, could not speak unto you as unto spiritual, but as unto carnal (governed by human nature and not by the spirit of God, low in spiritual knowledge) ...<sup>3</sup>For ye are yet carnal...and walk as men?*
- D. Much of the church lives on a human level and anything beyond sense and reason they won't accept-Living like that they can't get into the things of The Spirit because the things of The Spirit go beyond natural understanding-1Co2:14-NTFE-Someone living at the merely human level doesn't accept the things of God's spirit

**III. The things of The Spirit function outside of sense and reason (1Co2:14-They are spiritually discerned); To get into them you have to be willing to go beyond sense, reason and natural understanding**

- A. You must be willing to accept what the Holy Spirit communicates to your spirit at the expense of what sense and reason say-If you do this, you're out beyond sense, reason and natural understanding and that's where the things of The Spirit are

**IV. Your head can keep you from the things of the spirit**

- A. Natural man (governed by sense/reason) doesn't receive the things of the Spirit-Head won't allow it-1Co2:14-Accept, grant access, get, approve-WEY-Rejects-WUEST-Unregenerate man of the highest intellectual attainments does not grant access to the things of the Spirit of God
- B. The things of The Spirit are foolish to natural man-1Co2:14-NIRV-Things like that are foolish to them-NLT-It all sounds foolish to them-GNB-They seem to be nonsense-AM-Absurd and illogical-AC-Meaningless nonsense
- C. Natural man CAN'T know/understand the things of The Spirit-He won't let go of sense and reason and submit to what The Spirit of God is saying-1Co2:14-MS-No capacity for them. They seem like so much silliness. Spirit can be known only by spirit-CEB-Only be comprehended in a spiritual way

**V. Lean not to your own understanding means I'm going beyond my understanding-**  
**Pr3:5**-*Trust in the Lord with all thine heart and lean (ST-Rely-TH-Trust in) not unto thine own understanding (ST-Knowledge-TH-Discernment).<sup>6</sup>In all thy ways acknowledge him and he shall direct thy paths.<sup>7</sup>Be not wise in thine own eyes*

- A. It's easy to dismiss what you don't understand and follow the crowd-Instead of checking the Word and conforming what you believe to it