

DOCTRINE FOR THE REAL WORLD _ PART 2

THE SPIRITUAL THINGS THAT AFFECT YOUR LIFE

*“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.”*

~ 1 Corinthians 2:11

1. The Real World

- a. Last week → 1) The real world is physical AND spiritual. 2) Everyone has a doctrine.
- b. Everyone believes, from Jim Carrey, Lady Gaga, Bill Gates, LeBron James, Trump/Clinton
- c. Philosophers (and people) ask: 1) who am I, 2) how do I know, 3) what is most important, 4) what should I do/what will happen? ← Acts 17:22-31, Eph 2:2
- d. The Bible gives truth from God about spiritual things, but what are spiritual things?

2. What is Spiritual

- a. The existence of the soul stares us in the face, while we use wrong instruments to find it
 - i. We are not merely a pattern of cells, molecules, elements with electrical spark.
 - ii. The problem with science = not what it says about physics, but what it cannot
 - iii. Where does life, intellect, cognition, imagination, true emotion, soul come from?
- b. Spirit ~*def.* – An immaterial intelligent substance in which thinking, knowing, doubting, sentiment, moral, perception, attitude, desire, disposition of mind, power of moving exist
 - i. *Ex.* Gender identity, abortion, abuse, honor, fulfillment, sanity, reason, AI
- c. Soul - ~*def.* The spiritual, rational, immortal substance in man; personal being, center of our mind, understanding, intellect, essence, life, courage, fire, heart, affection, appetite; the true self—Gen 2:7, Job 27:3,33:4, Pro 20:27, John 6:63, Heb 4:12
- d. Our spirit is common to all man given from God; your soul is personal and uniquely yours
- e. Man has a spirit, man is a living soul – Christ made a life giving spirit – 1 Cor 15:45-46

3. Spiritual Problems

- a. The world zealously pursues what they think most benefits (profit, good), why?
- b. Social sciences study souls – Psychology, economics, government, sociology, noetics
- c. Fulfillment occurs not only with body, but soul and spirit – 1 Thess 5:23
- d. Unfulfillment, dissatisfaction, anxiety, depression, fear, worry, boredom, turmoil, guilt, pride, emptiness, hopeless, vanity; the need for peace, relationship, purpose, accomplish, love, success, understanding - Our soul and spirits drive our very life!
- e. Everyone seeks to satisfy the spiritual part of their lives. The issue – how, with what?

4. The Bible and Spiritual Things

- a. Breaking natural laws results in death, injury, pain to the body; so with spirit, truth, & sin
- b. Sin = contrary to God; walking not in the Spirit, unrighteous, seeking fulfill elsewhere
- c. The Bible speaks about feeding the soul – Matt 4:4, Isa 55:2, Jer 15:16
 - i. It is not a mystical/emotional/flesh thing “feel the spirit”, “feel his power”, no.
- d. The Bible helps you to discern flesh (dead spirit)/Holy Spirit - Gal 5:19-22
- e. We need a quickened (made alive), regenerated, restored spirit – Titus 3:5
- f. We have all spiritual blessings (benefits, advantages, gifts) in Christ - Eph 1:3
- g. Our inner man needs quickened, strengthened, and guarded – Eph 2:5, 3:16
- h. We can do all things through CHRIST which strengthens us in the spirit!– Phil 4:4-13