

Lesson 73: The Third Person of the Godhead – 4

Memory Verse: John 14:26 But the Comforter, which is the Holy Ghost, whom the Father will send in my name, he shall teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you.

V. The Holy Spirit, Our Comforter and Teacher

1. We need to pray for the Holy Spirit to be our teacher and guide. **Ephesians 6:18**

"Praying _____ with all _____ and _____ in the _____, and _____ thereunto with all _____ and supplication for _____ saints.

Jesus admonishes us to "W_____ and _____," Why? "that ye _____ into _____: the spirit indeed is willing, but the _____ is weak." **Matthew 26:41**

In the last days especially, we are warned against the subtle deceptions of Satan:

1 Timothy 4:1 "Now the _____ speaketh _____, that in the _____ times _____ shall _____ from the _____, giving heed to _____ spirits, and doctrines of _____."

1 John 4:1 "Beloved, _____ not _____ spirit, but _____ the _____ whether they are of _____: because _____ prophets are gone out into the world."

Note: "Day after day is passing into eternity, bringing us nearer to the close of probation. **As never before we must pray for the Holy Spirit to be more abundantly bestowed upon us**, and we must look for its **sanctifying influence** to come upon the workers, that those for whom they labor **may know that they have been with Jesus and have learned of Him.**" GW 288.4

"We need spiritual eyesight, that we may **see** the designs of the enemy, and as faithful watchmen **proclaim the danger**. We need power from above, that we may **understand**, as far as the human mind can, **the great themes of Christianity and their far-reaching principles.**" GW 289.1

2. In **John 7:37-39** to what did Jesus compare the Holy Spirit?

"In the last day, that great day of the _____ [of Tabernacles], Jesus stood and _____, saying, If any man _____, let him _____ unto me, and _____. He that _____ on me, as the _____ hath said, out of his _____ shall flow _____ of _____ water. (But this spake he of the _____, which they that _____ on him should _____: for the _____ was not _____ given; because that _____ was not yet _____.)"

⇒ Jesus compared the Holy Spirit to R_____ of L_____ water which would F_____ out of those who B_____ on Him and had received the H_____ S_____.

Note: "Those who are under the influence of the Spirit of God will not be fanatical, but **calm** and **steadfast**, free from extravagance in **thought, word, or deed**.

Amid the confusion of delusive doctrines,

the Spirit of God will be a guide and a shield

to those who have not resisted the evidences of truth,

silencing every other voice but that which comes from Him who is the truth." GW 289.2

"We are living in the **last days**, when **error** of a **most deceptive** character is accepted and believed, while **truth** is discarded. The Lord will hold both ministers and people **responsible** for the **light** shining

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upon them. He calls upon us to work diligently in **gathering up the jewels of truth**, and **placing them in the framework of the gospel**. In all their divine beauty they are to shine forth in the moral darkness of the world. **This cannot be accomplished without the aid of the Holy Spirit, but with this aid we can do all things**. When we are endowed with the Spirit, we take hold by faith of infinite power. There is **nothing** lost of that which comes from God. The Saviour of the world sends His **messages** to the soul, that the darkness of error may be dispelled. **The work of the Spirit is immeasurably great**. It is from this source that **power** and **efficiency** come to the worker for God." GW 289.3

3. How did the Holy Spirit work in the lives of the Ephesians? **Acts 19:18-20**

"And many that believed came, and _____, and shewed their _____. Many of them also which used _____ arts brought their _____ together, and _____ them before _____ men: and they counted the _____ of them, and found it _____ thousand pieces of _____. So _____ grew the _____ of God and _____."

Note: "When the Ephesians were **converted**, they **changed** their **habits** and **practices**. Under the **conviction** of the **Spirit of God**, they acted with **promptness**, and **laid bare all the mysteries of their witchcraft**. They came and **confessed**, and showed their deeds, and their souls were **filled with holy indignation**, because they had given such devotion to magic, and had so highly prized the books in which the rules of Satan's devising had laid down the methods whereby they might practice witchcraft. **They were determined to turn from the service of the evil one**, and they brought their costly volumes, and publicly burned them. **Thus they made manifest their sincerity in turning to God**."

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"This portion of history has been written **for our admonition**, upon whom the **ends** of the world are come." ... YI, November 16, 1893 par. 3

4. How is it possible for those who choose to serve God to overcome? **1 John 4:4**

"Ye are of God, little children, and have _____ them: because _____ is he that is _____ you, than he that is in the _____."

? Who is it that is _____ you that makes it possible for you to overcome? **Eph. 3:17**

"That _____ may dwell in your hearts by _____; that ye, being rooted and grounded in _____."

⇒ When Christ is "in" you, you become rooted and grounded in _____.

? How does this love affect your life? **1 John 4:7**

"Beloved, let us _____ one another: for love is of _____; and every one that loveth is _____ of God, and knoweth God."

1 John 4:12 "No man hath seen God at any time. If we _____ one another, God _____ in us, and his _____ is perfected _____ us."

⇒ When God dwells in us and His love is in our hearts, it shows that we are **B**_____ of God – we have become His children, or are born again.

? What power does this give to those who are born again? **1 John 5:4**

"For whatsoever is _____ of God _____ the world: and this is the _____ that overcometh the world, even our _____."

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? What makes it possible for us to have this experience? It is F _____.

Christ dwells in your heart by _____.

Through _____ you may have the victory that overcomes the world.

How does faith make this experience possible?

Before you can be **born** again, you, your selfish self, must "**die**". So Paul tells us in

Galatians 2:20: "I am _____ with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet _____ I, but _____ liveth in me: and the life which I _____ live in the flesh I live by the _____ of the Son of God, who _____ me, and gave himself for me."

⇒ So in order for **C** _____ with His love to **D** _____ in our heart by **F** _____, the old selfish self must be **C** _____ so that we can be **B** _____ of God. Then our **L** _____ that we live will be lived by the **F** _____ of Jesus.

? What will we choose when Jesus is dwelling in our heart? **Romans 6:12,13**

"Let _____ sin therefore _____ in your mortal body, that ye should _____ it in the lusts thereof. Neither _____ ye your members as instruments of _____ unto sin: but _____ yourselves unto _____, as those that are _____ from the dead, and your members as instruments of _____ unto God."

⇒ We will choose to **Y** _____ ourselves to **G** _____ and so we will also choose to use our **M** _____ [our eyes, our ears, our tongues, our hands, and our feet, etc.] as instruments of **R** _____ instead of using them as instruments of **U** _____.

? What power does Satan have over us to get us to sin when we keep choosing to live by faith and to yield ourselves to God? **1 John 5:18**

"We know that whosoever is _____ of God sinneth _____; but he that is begotten of God _____ himself, and that _____ one _____ him _____."

⇒ As long as we keep choosing to have Jesus dwell in our hearts, Satan has _____ power to get us to **S** _____. We will be safe from him as long as we **K** _____ ourselves **Y** _____ to God.

? When we keep Jesus by choosing Him to dwell in our hearts, what are we promised?

1 John 5:11,12 "And this is the _____ [promise], that God hath given to us _____ life, and this life is _____ his _____. He that _____ the Son hath _____; and he that _____ the _____ of God hath _____ life."

Note: "Those who **surrender their will and their way to God**, doing as did Abraham in keeping the way of the Lord, will be guided into safe paths. Their **prayers** will go up **continually** to God for help, and **holy angels** will be on their side, working through them, **that they shall not be overcome of the evil one.**"

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5. When the Ephesians chose to yield themselves to God, what did they do that showed that they were not going to yield their members to Satan to be used in unrighteousness any more? **Acts 19:19** "Many of them also which used curious arts brought their _____ together, and _____ them before all men: and they counted the price of them, and found it _____ thousand pieces of _____."

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? How does this apply to us now, in our time?

"I would ask the young who have been connected with the truth,

Have you burned your magical books?

We do not charge you with the evil that had bound the Ephesians, or claim that you have practiced magic, and dealt in the arts of sorcery in the same way as they have.

We do not say that you have followed the mysteries of necromancy, or held communion with evil spirits.

But are you not in communion with the author of all evil,
with the deviser of all these mysteries and hellish arts?

Do you not listen to the **suggestions** of him who is the god of this world,
the prince of the power of the air?

Have you not submitted to his falsehoods, and yielded yourselves
as his **agents** to work that which was in harmony with your life **before** conversion?

Have you not given yourselves up to be Satan's agents, and **in a broader sense,**
are you not holding intercourse with fallen angels, and **learning lessons** from them
in the art of **deceiving your own soul** and the souls of others?" YI, Nov. 16, 1893 par. 5

We should check our own lives and see if we are yielding our members to God or to Satan.

We could be in C _____ with Satan in some way.

We could be listening to his S _____.

We could be submitting to his F _____.

We could be yielding ourselves to be Satan's A _____ by living in harmony
with the life before C _____.

We could be learning L _____ from F _____ angels in the art of D _____
our O _____ soul and the souls of O _____ by thinking that we are all right
when we are really yielding our members to Satan.

Through **books** Satan has power to enter our **mind** and change our **thinking**, so this is
one area that we should carefully check.

"**What about the magical books?** What have you been **reading**?

How have you been employing your **time**?

Have you been seeking to study the sacred oracles

in order that you may hear the **voice of God** speaking to you out of his word?

The world is deluged with books which sow the seeds of **skepticism, infidelity,** and **atheism,**
and to a larger or less degree you have been **learning your lessons from these books,**
and **they are magical books.**

They put God **out** of the mind, and **separate** the soul from the true Shepherd.

The volumes you have read have been **devised** by the agents of Satan to **bewitch** the mind
with **theories** formed in the synagogue of Satan,
to show you how you may serve the evil one with satanic dignity.

How **numerous** are the books of **infidel tendencies,**
which are **calculated** to **unsettle** the mind through **specious** doubts!

Satan has breathed his **poisonous** breath upon them, and a **deadly, spiritual malaria**
affects the soul that reads them.

What a mass of fictitious reading is there in the world, to fill the mind with **fancies** and **follies,**
thus **creating a disrelish for the words of truth and righteousness!**

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The mind is thus unfitted for solemn thought, for patient, persevering investigation of the Scriptures, which is the guide book by which you are to be directed to the paradise of God."

Much is written in regard to gaining earthly treasure,

as though the wealth of this world would buy us a passport into heaven.

What volumes of history have been written, filled with the daring, presumptuous achievements of men whose lives do not throw one glimmer of light upon the pathway that leads to the better country!

How many books are there concerning war and bloodshed, which mislead the youth!

As they read, Satan stands at their side to inspire them with the spirit of the warrior of whom they read, and their blood becomes heated in their veins, and they are stirred up to do cruel actions.

How numerous are immoral books, which lead to unholy desires, and fire the passions of the heart, and lead away from all that is pure and holy! YI, November 16, 1893 par. 6,7

? What kinds of books are harmful to the mind?

- ①. Books that sow the seeds of S _____, i _____, and A _____.
- ②. Books of i _____ sentiments.
- ③. Books that are F _____.
- ④. Books that focus on gaining E _____ treasure as if that were everything.
- ⑤. Books of H _____ which are filled with the presumptuous A _____ of men.
- ⑥. Books filled with W _____ and B _____.
- ⑦. Books that are i _____.

? What problems do these kinds of books cause us?

Put the number of the kind of book that causes each problem in front of the problem.

- _____ a. They put God _____ of the mind, and S _____ the soul from the true Shepherd.
- _____ b. They have been devised by the agents of Satan to B _____ the mind with T _____ formed in the synagogue of Satan, to show _____ how you may serve the E _____ one.
- _____ c. They are calculated to U _____ the mind through specious D _____!
- _____ d. A deadly S _____ malaria affects the S _____.
- _____ e. They fill the mind with F _____ and F _____, and create a D _____ [or dislike] for the words of T _____ and R _____!
- _____ f. They make us think that the W _____ of this world would B _____ us a passport into H _____.
- _____ g. These books do _____ throw one glimmer of L _____ upon the pathway that leads to the B _____ country!
- _____ h. They M _____ the youth because as they read, S _____ stands there to i _____ them with the spirit of the W _____ of whom they read, and they are stirred up to do C _____ actions.

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_____ i. They lead to **U**_____ desires, and fire the **P**_____ of the heart,
and lead away from all that is **P**_____ and **H**_____!

? Are any of these things going to prepare you for heaven? **YES** **NO**

? Then will reading these kinds of books prepare you for heaven? **YES** **NO**

"You have had **your magical books**, in which the very **scenes** and **pictures**
were **inspired by him who was once an exalted angel** in the courts of heaven.

He **had** knowledge; he **possessed** wisdom high and deep.

Long was he in **connection** with God, and was **trained** in the school of Christ.

He **had** a masterly mind, a **powerful** intellect, and **yet he apostatized**,
and **now his one aim is to lead men** in various ways, according to their gifts,
to array themselves **against** God, that he may **counteract**

the influence of the Spirit of God on human hearts." YI, Nov. 16, 1893 par. 8

? Who inspires these books? **God** **OR** **Satan**

? What is his one aim? He wants to L_____ everyone to set himself A_____ God
and to work against the i_____ of the S_____ of God on human hearts.

So S_____ wants people to actually work against the H_____ S_____ and that's why
he fills the world with B_____, DVD's and many other things to get people to join him in
this work.

? I would ask, **Shall the magical books be burned up?** ...

In the **associations of the vain, the proud, the mirthful**,

Satan presides, and is the chief mover in scenes of gayety. **He is there in disguise.**

Witchcraft is going on around us on every hand,

and the **world** and the **church** are **under the influence** of one

who will lead them to do things they **never** dreamed of doing. ...

The apostle asks the Galatians, "Who hath **bewitched** you, that ye should not **obey** the **truth**?" [Gal. 3:1]

Every man, woman, and child **that is not under the control of the Spirit of God**,

is under the influence of Satan's sorcery,

and by his words and example, he will lead others away from the path of truth.

YI, November 16, 1893 par. 9,10

? Where does Satan take charge?

In the associations of the **V**_____, the **P**_____, and the **M**_____ [silly]

? How does he show up?

He is there in **D**_____ – He is hiding himself under the excitement and mirth.

? When he gets us under his influence what is it called? **W**_____.

? Where do we find his influence of Satan? In the **W**_____ and in the **C**_____.

? What can his influence lead us to do? Things we never **D**_____ of doing. In
other words, he leads us to do things much worse than we once thought we would ever do.

? What is our only way to keep from being under Satan's influence?

We must choose to be always under the **C**_____ of the **S**_____ of _____.

? When we allow ourselves to come under the influence of Satan, what will we do?

We **L**_____ others away from the path of **T**_____ by our **W**_____ and **E**_____.

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? What happens when we really do yield ourselves to Christ and our old self is crucified?

When the transforming grace of Christ is upon the heart,
a **righteous indignation** will take possession of the soul
because the sinner has **so long neglected**
the **great salvation** that God has **provided** for him.

He will then surrender himself, body, soul, and spirit to God,
and will **withdraw** from companionship with Satan, through the grace given him of God.

He will, like the Ephesians, denounce sorcery, and will **cut the last thread that binds him to Satan**.

He will leave the banner of the prince of darkness,
and **will come under** the bloodstained banner of Prince Emmanuel.

He will burn the magical books. YI, November 16, 1893 par. 10

⇒ We will have a righteous **i** _____ to think that we have **N** _____
the great salvation which God has **P** _____ for us for such a long time.

Why didn't we yield to Him sooner???

⇒ We will gladly **S** _____ all of ourselves – body, soul, and spirit – to _____.

⇒ We will **C** _____ off and **W** _____ ourselves from all **C** _____ with Satan.

⇒ We will change sides in the Great Controversy and will no longer be under Satan's
B _____, influencing others by our words and example to leave the path of truth,
and we will come out and **decidedly** place ourselves under the **B** _____ of Jesus

⇒ We will **B** _____ our **M** _____ books – we will get rid of **anything**
that influences our mind with Satan's thoughts and ways.

6. How will we come into this kind of experience? Jesus says in **Revelation 3:20**:

"Behold, I stand at the _____ [of your heart], and _____: [Do you hear the knock?]
if any man _____ my voice, and _____ the door, [Will you open the door? What is His
promise if you do?] I will _____ in to him, and will sup _____ him, and he _____ me."
Matthew 5:6 "Blessed are they which do _____ and _____ after
_____ : for they shall be _____."

? When a child is hungry, what does he do? He **A** _____ his parents for **F** _____.

? Are you hungry for righteousness, spiritual food? What does Jesus say we may do?

Luke 11:9 "And I say unto you, _____, and it shall be _____ you; _____, and ye
shall _____; _____, and it shall be _____ unto you."

? What is His promise to those that ask, seek, and knock?

Luke 11:10 "For _____ that asketh _____; and _____ that seeketh
_____ ; and to _____ that knocketh it shall be _____."

What object lesson does Jesus use to show us His fatherly love to us?

Luke 11:11,12 "If a _____ shall _____ bread of any of you that is a _____, will he
_____ him a _____? or if he _____ a fish, will he for a fish _____ him a _____?
Or if he shall _____ an egg, will he _____ him a _____?"

? What would be the answer to these 3 questions? **YES** **NO**

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? Then how does Jesus apply this lesson? **Luke 11:13**

"If _____ then, being _____, know how to give _____ gifts unto your _____: how _____ shall your heavenly _____ give the _____ to them that _____ him?"

⇒ When we H_____ and thirst for R_____, we are encouraged to A_____ God to give us the H_____ S_____ which will work in us to make us R_____ through the sacrifice of J_____.

Note: "At infinite cost, provision has been made that men shall reach the **perfection** of Christian character. Those who have been **privileged** to hear the truth, and have been **impressed** by the Holy Spirit to receive the Holy Scriptures as the voice of God, have **no excuse for becoming dwarfs** in the religious life. By **exercising** the ability which God has given, they are to be **daily learning**, and **daily receiving spiritual fervor and power**, which have been provided for every true believer. If we would be **growing plants** in the Lord's garden, we must have a **constant supply of spiritual life and earnestness**. Growth will then be **seen** in the **faith** and **knowledge** of our Lord Jesus Christ. There is **no half-way house** where we may throw off responsibility, and rest by the way. We are to **keep advancing heavenward**, developing a **solid** religious character. The **measure** of the Holy Spirit we receive, will be **proportioned** to the **measure** of our **desire** and **the faith exercised for it**, and the **use** we shall make of the light and knowledge that shall be given to us. **We shall be entrusted with the Holy Spirit according to our capacity to receive and our ability to impart it to others**. Christ says, 'Every one that asketh receiveth, and he that seeketh findeth.' **He who truly seeks for the precious grace of Christ, will be sure not to be disappointed**. This promise has been given to us by Him who will not deceive us. It is not stated as a maxim or a theory, but as a **fact**, as a **law of the divine government**. We can be assured that we shall receive the Holy Spirit if we individually try the experiment of testing God's word. God is true; his order is perfect. 'He that seeketh findeth; and to him that knocketh it shall be opened.' **Light and truth will shine forth according to the desire of the soul. O that all would hunger and thirst after righteousness, that they might be filled!**" RH, May 5, 1896 par. 1

7. When Jesus talked to Nicodemus about the work of the Holy Spirit on the heart, what object lesson did he use? **John 3:8** The _____. What was he trying to teach?

"The _____ bloweth where it _____, and thou _____ the sound thereof, but canst _____ tell whence it _____, and whither it _____: _____ is every one that is _____ of the _____."

Note: "Though we **cannot see** the Spirit of God, we **know** that men who have been dead in trespasses and sins, become **convicted** and **converted** under its operations.

The thoughtless and wayward become **serious**.

The hardened repent of their sins, and the faithless believe.

The gambler, the drunkard, the licentious, become **steady**, **sober**, and **pure**.

The rebellious and obstinate become **meek** and **Christlike**.

When we see these changes in the character,

we may be **assured** that the **converting power of God** has **transformed** the entire man.

We saw not the Holy Spirit, but we saw the **evidence** of its work

on the **changed character** of those who were hardened and obdurate sinners.

As the wind moves in its force upon the lofty trees and brings them down,

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so the Holy Spirit can work upon human hearts,
and no finite man can circumscribe the work of God.

The Spirit of God is **manifested in different ways upon different men.**

One under the movings of this power will **tremble** before the word of God.

His **convictions** will be so deep that a hurricane and tumult of feeling seem to rage in his heart, and his whole being is prostrate under the **convicting power of the truth.**

When the Lord speaks forgiveness to the repenting soul,

he is full of **ardor**, full of **love** to God, full of **earnestness** and **energy**,
and the **life-giving Spirit** which he has received **cannot be repressed.** ...

His soul is like the **fountain** of the great deep broken up,

and he pours forth his **thanksgiving** and **praise**, his **gratitude** and **joy**,
until the heavenly harps are tuned to notes of rejoicing.

He has a story to tell, but not in any precise, common, methodical way.

He is a soul **ransomed** through the merits of Jesus Christ,

and **his whole being is thrilled** with the realization of the salvation of God.

Others are brought to Christ in a more gentle way.

"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.**"

You cannot see the operating agency, but you can see its effects. RH, May 5, 1896 par. 3,4

8. The Holy Spirit is constantly working upon every heart. When we are **convicted** of our own sinfulness, our selfishness and pride and wanting our own way, we can come to God and pray as did David: "Create _____ me a _____ heart, O God; and _____ a _____ spirit _____ me." **Psalm 51:10**

? What will His answer be?

Ezekiel 36:26,27 "A _____ heart also will I _____ you, and a _____ spirit will I _____ within you: and I will take _____ the _____ heart out of your flesh, and I will _____ you an heart of _____. And I will _____ my _____ within you, and _____ you to _____ in my statutes, and ye shall _____ my judgments, and _____ them."

⇒ When we ask for a N_____ heart, we must yield to Him our old H_____ full of pride and selfishness and our own ways which lead to death. This is the S_____ heart.

Jesus promises to give us a heart full of love and humility. This is the heart of F_____.

He gives us the H_____ S_____ to teach us to W_____ in His ways instead of ours.

He gives us the power to K_____ His commandments and to actually D_____ them.

Note: "The very work that Christ declared necessary in the case of Nicodemus is the very work that needs to be done. ... [We] **need to be born again**; and **how** the new birth is accomplished matters not, so long as the heart is renewed. When the prayer is sincerely offered, 'Create in me a clean heart, O God; and renew a right spirit within me,' the voice of the Lord answers, 'A new heart also will I give you, and a new spirit will I put within you: and I will take away the stony heart out of your flesh, and I will give you an heart of flesh. And I will put my Spirit within you, and cause you to walk in my statutes, and ye shall keep my judgments and do them.'

The **renewed** heart will have **no plants of selfishness** to cultivate.

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Pride will be seen in its sinfulness, and will be expelled.

It is **not** for the human clay to **find fault** with the **molding process** of the potter,
but to **submit** to be molded in any way.

Every soul must submit to the Lord before he can be made a vessel unto honor,
to be filled with the renewing, sanctifying grace of Christ." RH, May 5, 1896 par. 5

9. What did Jesus say in **Luke 10:21**? "In that hour Jesus _____ in spirit, and said, I _____ thee, O Father, _____ of heaven and earth, that thou hast _____ these things from the _____ and _____, and hast _____ them unto _____: even so, Father; for so it seemed _____ in thy sight."

? Why were these things are hidden from the wise and prudent? Isaiah 5:21

"Woe unto them that are _____ in their _____ eyes, and _____ in their _____ sight!"

⇒ They thought they were already W_____ and needed no instruction.

? What was their problem? Isaiah 29:13,14

"Wherefore the Lord said, Forasmuch as this people draw _____ me with their _____, and with their _____ do _____ me, but have _____ their _____ far from me, and their _____ toward me is _____ by the _____ of men: Therefore, behold, I will proceed to _____ a marvellous work among this people, even a marvellous work and a _____: for the _____ of their _____ men shall _____, and the _____ of their _____ men shall be _____."

Their problem was that they only **H**_____ God with their **L**_____, but in their **H**_____ they were **F**_____ from God. They were taught the precepts of **M**_____ instead of the precepts of **G**_____. And so a **C**_____ who studies the Word of God and practices it by living according to God's **P**_____ in his daily life can be wiser than those who are considered wise and learned teachers who don't **live** according to God's **P**_____.

Note: "No man, no matter how high his calling or responsibility, can fully understand the word of God, unless he practices the word in his daily life. If the truth is made practical, then he gives expression in his character to the comfort and peace of God that passeth understanding.

A child in years may be able to comprehend the meaning of the practical lessons of Christ,
when the **most learned** masters and teachers are **ignorant** of their **significance**.

Jesus answered and said, 'I thank thee, O Father, Lord of heaven and earth, that thou hast hid these things from the wise and prudent, and hast revealed them unto babes: even so, Father; for so it seemeth good in thy sight.' " RH, May 5, 1896 par. 6

10. Only those who are truly born again – whose heart has been changed by the power of the Holy Spirit – can enter the kingdom of God. How can we have this change?

2 Corinthians 3:18 "But we all, with open face _____ as in a glass the _____ [character] of the Lord, are _____ into the _____ image from _____ to glory, even as _____ the _____ of the Lord." **B**_____ the lovely character of Jesus!

Note: None of us are in danger of being too devotional,
or of possessing too much Christ-likeness of character.

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The **remedy for unlikeness to Christ**, for giving occasion for your good to be evil spoken of,
is to **live humbly**,
to **keep looking unto Jesus in prayerful watchfulness**,
until **changed into the likeness of his beautiful character**. RH, May 12, 1896 par. 2

The soul **cannot be satisfied** with forms, maxims, and traditions.

The cry of the soul must be, **give me the bread of life**;

lift up a **full cup** to my parched, spiritual nature, that I may be revived and refreshed;
but **do not intrude and interpose yourself** between me and my Redeemer.

Let me **see him as my helper**, as the man of sorrows, acquainted with grief.

Thou, O Lord, must be **my helper**.

Thou wast wounded for **my** transgressions, **bruised** for **my** iniquities,

the chastisement of thy peace was upon me, and with thy stripes I am healed." RH, 5-12-96 par.3

11. When we behold Christ, what do we see?

Acts 10:38 "How God _____ Jesus of Nazareth with the _____ and with _____: who went about _____, and _____ all that were oppressed of the devil; for _____ was with him."

1 Corinthians 15:3,4 "For I delivered unto you first of all that which I also received, how that _____ for our _____ according to the _____; And that he was _____, and that he _____ again the third day according to the _____."

1 Peter 2:22-24 "Who did _____ sin, neither was _____ found in his mouth: Who, _____ he was reviled, reviled _____; when he _____, he threatened _____; but _____ himself to _____ that judgeth righteously: Who his _____ self _____ our sins in his own _____ on the _____, that _____, being _____ to sins, should _____ unto righteousness: by whose _____ ye were _____."

Romans 8:34 "Who is he that condemneth? It is Christ that _____, yea rather, that is _____ again, who is even at the _____ hand of _____, who also maketh _____ for us."

Hebrews 7:25 "Wherefore he is _____ also to _____ them to the uttermost that _____ unto God _____ him, seeing he ever _____ to make _____ for them."

Note: "Christ was **crucified** for our sins, and was **raised** from the rent sepulcher for our justification; and he proclaims in triumph, 'I am the resurrection and the life.'

Jesus lives as our intercessor to plead before the Father.

He has **carried the sins of the whole world**, and has not made one mortal man a sin-bearer for others.

No man can bear the weight of his own sins. **The crucified One bore them all**,
and every soul **who believes** in him shall not perish, but have everlasting life.

The disciple of Christ will be **fitted by his grace for every trial and test**
as he strives for perfection of character.

By looking away from Jesus to some other one, or to something else, he may sometimes make mistakes;
but as soon as he is warned of his danger, **he again fastens his eyes upon Jesus**,
in whom his hope of eternal life is centered, and **he plants his feet in the footprints of his Lord**,
and **travels on securely**.

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He **rejoices**, saying, 'He is my **living intercessor** before God. He prays in my behalf.

He is my **advocate**, and **clothes me** with the perfection of his own righteousness.

This is all I require to enable me to bear shame and reproach for his dear name's sake.

If he **permits** me to endure persecution, **he will give me grace and the comfort of his presence**, so that **his name shall be thereby glorified.**' " RH, May 12, 1896 par. 4

12. Even though God has given us His Word, even though Jesus came down to live as a man among us and demonstrated to us the principles of the kingdom of God, there are really only a few who accept His ways and practice them in their lives. What do many people do instead? **Mark 7:13** "Making the _____ of God of none _____ through your _____, which ye have _____: and _____ such like things _____ ye."

☹ "In this age, the word of God is not considered reliable.

The word of Christ, that **cuts directly across human desires and indulgences**, and **condemns popular habits and practises**,

– the Word **which was made flesh** and dwelt among us, – **is ignored and despised.**

The **teachings** and **example** of Christ are not made the **criterion**

for the life of the **professed** follower of Christ.

Many who name the name of Christ are **walking in the light of the sparks of their own kindling**, rather than following in the footsteps of their professed Master.

They do not represent the same character that Christ represented in his pure, sincere **love** to God, and in his **love** for fallen man.

They do not take God at his word, and **identify** their interests with Jesus Christ.

They do not form the habit of **communing** with Jesus, of taking him as a guide and counselor, and thus **learn the trade** of living a well-defined Christian life."

⇒ This is not wise because, as we have learned before, **Proverbs 16:25** warns us:

"There is a _____ that _____ right unto a man, but the _____ thereof are the _____ of _____."

13. Since our own ways lead to death – eternal death, we need to recognize the truth of **Proverbs 30:5**: "E_____ word of _____ is _____: he is a _____ unto them that put their _____ in _____."

When we recognize this, and choose to have God's Word planted in our heart, what happens? **1 Peter 1:23** "Being _____ again, not of **corruptible** _____, but of **incorruptible**, by the _____ of God, which _____ and _____ for ever."

What will you sow in your heart garden? Check what kind of harvest you will get:

Galatians 6:8 "For he that _____ to his **flesh** shall of the flesh _____ **corruption**; but he that _____ to the _____ shall of the Spirit reap _____ **everlasting**."

☹ So you can **choose** to sow your own way; you can **choose** to i_____ and **despise God's Word**, but the harvest you will reap is C_____, or eternal D_____.

☺ Or you can **choose** to sow God's way; you can **choose** to pay close attention to **His Word** and put it into practice in your L_____. Then you will reap L_____ E_____.

⇒ When you choose to study and obey God's Word, it will work in you to change you into God's image and prepare you for eternal life. This is what the Thessalonians did:

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1 Thessalonians 2:11-13 "As ye know how we _____ and _____ and charged _____ one of you, as a _____ doth his _____, That ye would walk _____ of God, who hath _____ you unto his kingdom and _____. For this cause also _____ we God without ceasing, because, when ye _____ the word of _____ which ye _____ of us, ye received it _____ as the word of _____, but as it is in _____, the word of _____, which effectually _____ also _____ you that believe."

☺ **Those who not only hear but do the words of Christ,**

make **manifest** in **character** the operation of the **Holy Spirit**.

The **result** of the **internal** operation of the Holy Spirit is **demonstrated** in the **outward** conduct.

The life of the Christian is hid with Christ in God,

and **God acknowledges those who are his**, declaring, 'Ye are my witnesses.'

They **testify** that divine power is **influencing** their hearts and **shaping** their conduct.

Their works give evidence that the Spirit is moving upon the inward man;

those who are **associated** with them are **convinced**

that they are making Jesus Christ their **pattern**." RH, May 12, 1896 par. 6

13. How will those who have chosen to live their lives according to God's word, regard the wisdom of worldly wise men in comparison to the wisdom of God's Word?

1 Corinthians 1:25 "The _____ of God is _____ than _____; and the _____ of God is _____ than _____.

What will be their theme of conversation? **Galatians 6:14**

"But God forbid that I should _____, save in the _____ of our Lord Jesus Christ, by whom the _____ is _____ unto me, and _____ unto the _____."

"The **inner life** of the soul will **reveal** itself in the **outward conduct**.

Let the **word of God** bear its testimony in behalf of the messenger whom God hath sent

with a **message** in these last days to **prepare** a people to stand in the day of the Lord.

Isaiah 52:7: 'How _____ upon the mountains are the _____ of him that bringeth _____ tidings, that publisheth _____; that bringeth good tidings of _____, that publisheth _____; that saith unto Zion, Thy God _____!'

The wisdom of *so-called* intellectual men **cannot be relied upon,**

unless they have learned and are daily learning lessons in the school of Christ.

Men, in their *supposed* wisdom, may plan and devise **theories** and **systems** of philosophy,

but the Lord calls them vain and foolish.

The Lord says, 'The foolishness of God is wiser than men;

and the weakness of God is stronger than men.'

'God forbid that I should glory, save in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ,

by whom the world is crucified unto me, and I unto the world.'" RH, May 12, 1896 par. 8

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