

Grace and peace to you through God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ,

1Co 2:9-14 "....*Eye has not seen and ear has not heard, and [it has] not entered the heart of man, all that God has prepared for those who love him.*" (10) *For to us God revealed them through the Spirit; for the Spirit searches all things, even the depths of God. (11) For who among men knows the thoughts of a man except the spirit of the man which is in him? Even so the thoughts of God no one knows except the Spirit of God. (12) Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit who is from God, so that we may know the things freely given to us by God, (13) which things we also speak, not in words taught by human wisdom, but in those taught by the Spirit, combining spiritual thoughts with spiritual words. (14) But a natural man does not accept the things of the Spirit of God, for they are foolishness to him; and he cannot understand them, because they are spiritually appraised.*

The basic truths of Scripture show us that the essential reality of the Kingdom of God and of God Himself is of a different dimension than the one in which we generally function.

Everything about God and His kingdom is foreign to the natural man. In verse 14 above we see that the "*natural man does not accept the things of the Spirit of God*". The reason for this failure is that the natural man necessarily depends upon the natural senses to grapple with his world, but the Kingdom of God, God Himself, His Son, and even the angels are all of another dimension. Generally, natural eyes cannot see Him or them or the reality of the Kingdom of God. Natural ears do not hear the communications of spiritual beings nor can the natural man touch them for they exist in a different dimension.

It is for this reason that Jesus said to Nicodemus, "*Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God. (4) Nicodemus saith unto him, How can a man be born when he is old? can he enter the second time into his mother's womb, and be born? (5) Jesus answered, 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. (6) That which is born of the flesh is flesh; and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit.. (7) Marvel not that I said unto thee, *Ye must be born again.*" [John 3:3-7]*

A spiritual birth is necessary for either seeing or entering the Kingdom of God. The natural man **MUST** be born of the Spirit in order to see or know or embrace either God or His kingdom because without spiritual life, the natural man has only natural abilities and senses so that it is impossible for him to "see" or "know" the things of a different dimension.

That is why the above passage begins with the following words: ...The natural "*....eye has not seen and ear has not heard, and [it has] not entered the heart of man, all that God has prepared for those who love him.*" Obviously it is impossible for the natural man to perceive these things, but **it is also** almost beyond belief all that God has planned for us, so that the natural man cannot apprehend things so wonderful. But, **God has revealed these things to us through the Spirit as the next verses show.**

For to us [spiritually alive people] *God revealed them through the Spirit; for the Spirit searches all things, even the depths of God.Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit who is from God, so that we may know the things freely given to us by*

God, (13) which things we also speak, not in words taught by human wisdom, but in those taught by the Spirit, combining spiritual thoughts with spiritual words.

There is the revelation of and by the Spirit noted here AND revelation by the same Spirit through *spiritual thoughts* and *spiritual words*. It is the work of the Spirit to illuminate the human mind and reveal the mind of God. This is NOT ACCOMPLISHED by or “*in words taught by human wisdom*” ***but by the Spirit. That which is born of the flesh is flesh;*** [and only can operate and understand natural and fleshly things] ***and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit.. Marvel not that I said unto thee, Ye must be born again,*** because being born again enables one to know BY THE SPIRIT the things of God and His kingdom.

In Isaiah 55 we are shown that God’s ways and thoughts are higher than ours, but we are also told that HE will release His Word so that we can hear and know His ways and thoughts. He shows us that the way to know Him and His thoughts is **by revelation**, but far too often we think that we can use human, natural reasoning to KNOW God and to bring other people to a knowledge of God. But the truth is, people can only know God through the revelation of the Spirit and through *spiritual thoughts* communicated through *spiritual words*.

Of course, **as we receive spiritual revelations concerning the spiritual realm, our intellect, emotions, and even physical well-being are all impacted.** The natural man is impacted in every dimension, but it all begins with God Who reveals to us the reality of another world which exists outside the reach of our natural abilities.

All religions engage the natural abilities of man to reach their particular religious deity. Usually those religions have a list of rules, creeds, and liturgies which the faithful embrace. Those various religions engage the mind and will power of the man to call and challenge him to certain activities to please his particular god or goddess.

Biblical Christianity is very different from all those various natural-man religions . In fact true Biblical Christianity does not even qualify as a religion in the way the natural religions of men do. It does not hang on creeds, intellect, and willpower. **It rests on revelation and the indwelling presence of the true and Living God.**

Our Creator, the true and Living God is a God of love and that love is always reaching to touch, love, and indwell the loved one. Biblical Christianity is all about a living loving relationship between God and His children resulting in fellowship and ultimately union. That union releases the spirit of the man which results in a spiritual life which begins and increasingly continues to reflect the life of the Living God. Ultimately that life [God’s life] impacts every element of the natural man..... so that he, as a spiritual man, lives a life full of the grace, truth, nature, and power of God.

It is not a life of rules and regulations; it is the life of God being expressed in a human being through the Spirit-quickened spirit-man. This is accomplished through the revelations and impartations of God. This is a GOD WORK. The flesh and the natural man cannot enhance or improve on what only God can do, but that does not mean that there is nothing that man can do in this union with God. There are numerous ways to cooperate with God but we will only list a few here.

1. Recognize that there is a God who exists out beyond our natural ability to touch or know.
2. Ask HIM to reveal Himself and then ask for more.
3. Be humbly honest with Him about your own failures and weaknesses and inconsistencies.
4. Stop trying to see or hear or know HIM through natural-man abilities.
5. Stop trying to please HIM through natural-man will-power. It is not about the natural-man's willpower; it is about the spirit-man's God-power.
6. Ask Him to give you a hungry, longing, loving, and obedient heart. How could any man change his natural-man's selfish heart into a God-powered loving heart? It is simply an impossibility, so ask God to do what only HE CAN DO!
7. Wait for HIM expectantly and respond to His calls in whatever way is appropriate.
8. Love Him, Talk to Him, Obey Him.....all the time. [back to #6] And when you have failed or just forgotten, return to Him with humility and love and receive His embrace and walk another step or two with HIM. Most of us are just learning to walk and like any earthly father He rejoices in every step we take.
9. God speaks in numerous ways. No one hears just like another, but He speaks through Bible verses, devotionals, books, sunsets, flowers, pain, joy, life, death, personal testimonies, and even people who are following another god. God is everywhere speaking to all who will listen; this is the nature of the Living Loving God.... and He would like to talk to you!

The eleventh chapter of Hebrews lists a number of people who discovered God, heard His personal and unique directions, and served Him during their lifetimes. The experience and direction was noticeably different for each one, but in this chapter we are given some very important secrets for God-lovers. *"...without faith it is impossible to please Him, for he who comes to God must believe that He is and that He is a rewarder of those who seek Him."* [Heb 11:6]

He rewards those who seek HIM!

He reveals Himself – His secrets – His power – His Purposes – His love – His heart.

God-seekers begin to think and look and act like God.

It is impossible to brush up against God [or embrace the God within] and remain unchanged.

This is Basic Biblical Christianity It is not religion, but a relationship revealed in and through the supernatural nature of the life – [the God-life] - of the believer who diligently seeks after God.....

Have a blessed - GOD-FILLED week,

George