

PAUL'S FIRST EPISTLE TO THE CORINTHIANS

LEARNING HOW TO BE A HEAVENLY CHURCH IN A GODLESS WORLD

1 CORINTHIANS CHAPTER 2:12-16

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THE TITLE OF THE MESSAGE:

WORLDS IN COLLISION

HOW TO BE A CHURCH THAT'S OUT OF THIS WORLD

SUBJECT TOPICALLY REFERENCED UNDER:

Spirit, Flesh, Knowledge, Salvation

1 Corinthians 2:12-16

Now **we have received**, not the spirit of **the world**, but **the Spirit who** is from God, that **we might know the things** that have been freely given to **us** by God. **:13 These things we** also speak, not in words which **man's wisdom** teaches but which **the Holy Spirit teaches, comparing** spiritual things with spiritual. **:14** But the **natural man** does not receive the things of **the Spirit of God**, for they are **foolishness** to him; nor can he know them, because they are spiritually **discerned**. **:15** But he who is spiritual **judges** all things, yet he himself is rightly judged by no one. **:16** For "who has known the mind of the LORD that he may instruct Him?" **But we have the mind of Christ.**

History Has Recorded for Us an Epic Battle.

James 4:1-2

Where do wars and fights *come* from among you? Do *they* not *come* from your *desires for* pleasure that war in your members? **:2** You lust and do not have. You murder and covet and cannot obtain. You fight and war. Yet you do not have because you do not ask.

History Has Recorded for Us an Epic Battle.

**The Battle between Cain and Abel, Jacob and Esau,
Joseph and His brothers, Saul and David...**

WORLDS IN COLLISION

WHAT MAKES YOU A TRUE BELIEVER!

1.) When Faith hits Unbelief

v.12

1a.) Faith is able to receive

7 Now we **have received**, not the spirit of the world,
but **the Spirit who** is from God...

Being Able to Receive

Paul argues here that, to truly receive a gift,
it must be clearly understood
what the gift is for and what it is about.

There's the "world system" out there

that is constantly offering you and I things - -
Things like **power** or **money** or **pleasure** or **fame** or....

But none of these things are gifts

no matter how you wrap them.

The world gives nothing away – everything it offers has strings attached

It is the Work and Ministry and Life of The Holy Spirit

That Makes Him Our Greatest Advocate and Friend in This World

(We Need Help From Beyond – His Help)

Our "Liberated Relationship" comes by The Holy Spirit

2 Corinthians 3:17

Now **the Lord is the Spirit**; and where **the Spirit of the Lord is**,
there *is liberty*.

(no longer having to be a slave to the demands of this earthly life)

Our “Personal Relationship” comes by The Holy Spirit

John 20:21-22

So Jesus said to them again, “Peace to you! As the Father has sent Me, I also send you.” :22 And when He had said this, He breathed on *them*, and said to them, “**Receive** the Holy Spirit.

...all of this is the gift of God.

Our Granddaughter – it’s all a gift, diapers, milk, swing

Ephesians 2:8-9

For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; *it is* the gift of God, :9 not of works, lest anyone should boast.

WHEN FAITH HITS UNBELIEF

1b.) Faith is able to know

(12) that we might know “the things”

The Spiritual Knowledge of the Holy One

Our “Holy Relationship” comes by The Holy Spirit

1 Corinthians 6:19-20

Or do you not know that your body **is the temple of the Holy Spirit** *who is* in you, whom you have from God, and you are not your own? :20 For you were bought at a price; therefore glorify God in your body and in your spirit, which are God’s.

He Lives Here

Our “Identification Relationship” is with The Holy Spirit

1 Corinthians 12:13

For by one Spirit we were all **baptized** into one body—whether Jews or Greeks, whether slaves or free—and have all been made to drink into one Spirit.

WHEN FAITH HITS UNBELIEF

1c.) Faith is able to rejoice

(12) the things that **have been freely given** to us by God

He is The Gift of God

John 14:16-18

And I will pray the Father, and He will give you another Helper, that He may abide with you forever—:17 the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees Him nor knows Him; but you know Him, for He dwells with you and will be in you. :18 I will not leave you orphans; I will come to you.

Our “Guanteeded Relationship” comes by The Holy Spirit

Ephesians 1:13-14

In Him you also *trusted*, after you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation; in whom also, having believed, you were sealed with the Holy Spirit of promise, :14 who is the guarantee of our inheritance until the redemption of the purchased possession, to the praise of His glory.

Our “Liberated Relationship” comes by The Holy Spirit

2 Corinthians 3:17

Now **the Lord is the Spirit**; and where **the Spirit of the Lord is**, there *is liberty*.

Our “Lordship Relationship” comes by The Holy Spirit

Romans 8:14-16

For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, these are sons of God. :15 For you did not receive the spirit of bondage again to fear, but you received the Spirit of adoption by whom we cry out, “Abba, Father.” :16 The Spirit Himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God,

Our “Personal Relationship” comes by The Holy Spirit

John 20:21-22

So Jesus said to them again, “Peace to you! As the Father has sent Me, I also send you.” :22 And when He had said this, He breathed on *them*, and said to them, “Receive the Holy Spirit.

He's The Gift of God -

Galatians 4:5-7

So that He might redeem those who were under the law, that we might **receive the adoption as sons**. :6 And because you **are** sons, God has sent forth **the Spirit of His Son into your hearts**, (*result*) crying out, "Abba, Father!" :7 Therefore you are no longer a slave but a son,

From Being Lost to Being Found to Being Family

WORLDS IN COLLISION

WHAT MAKES YOU A TRUE BELIEVER!

2.) When the Spiritual hits the Physical v.13-14

2a.) The spiritual goes deeper

13 These things we also speak, not in words which man's wisdom teaches **but** (*in contrast or opposition to*) which **the Holy Spirit teaches**, comparing **spiritual** things with **spiritual**

Theologians differ on the exact meaning

of verse 13 because of the word usage.

The Holy Spirit – Author of the Bible, chose to use **pneumatikos**, = **spiritual** things with **spiritual**

But They Agree on the Obvious,:

That It's The Holy Spirit who Reveals Spiritual things to the New Spiritual man, things that are unknown and unknowable to a physical man.

His Method is to Raise the New Man up to His level.

The Lord uses Spiritual Things to Reach the Spiritual Man.

Spiritual

pneumatiko/β pneumatikos, *pn̄yoo-mat-ik-os'*;

something ethereal, outside of or different from the physical, air-driven or spirit-driven. Supernatural.

A GRAND COLLISION

Summation Illustration: Immanuel Velikovsky's - worlds collided

Comparing sugkri÷nw sugkrino, soong-kree´-no;
to examine one thing against another. To hold up to the light. To look through something.

**The sense is, to judge one thing against another thing
To determine which one is real. To hold it up.**

We Have Been and are being Taught by The Holy Spirit

Note Here - The **Tri-Unity** of the Godhead

John 14:26

But the **Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father** will send in **My name, He** will teach you all things, and bring to your remembrance all things that **I** said to you.

John 16:13

However, when **He, the Spirit of truth,** has come, **He** will guide you into all truth; for **He** will not speak on **His** own *authority*, but whatever **He** hears **He** will speak; and **He** will tell you things to come.

John 17:7-8

Now they have **known** that all things which **You** have given **Me** are from **You**. :8 For I have given to them the words which **You** have given **Me**.; and they have received *them*, and have **known** surely that **I** came forth from **You**; and they have believed that **You** sent **Me**.

WHEN THE SPIRITUAL HITS THE PHYSICAL

2b.) The spiritual goes farther

14 But the **natural** man does not receive the things of the Spirit of God, for they are **foolishness** to him;

The world is dying and so is its logic and reason.

The people are getting less enlightened and more degenerate and base.

2 Corinthians 2:15-16

For we are to God the fragrance of Christ among those who are being saved and among those who are perishing. :16 To the one we are the aroma of death *leading* to death, and to the other the aroma of life *leading* to life.

His Wisdom is Growing Up in Us

Day by day we're growing wiser with the Lord, while the world is growing more and more ignorant of God and darker and darker

WHEN THE SPIRITUAL HITS THE PHYSICAL

2c.) The spiritual goes beyond

14 nor can he know them, because they are **spiritually discerned**.

Discerned *ajnakri÷nw anakrino, an-ak-ree'-no;*
to spiritually scrutinize, spiritually investigate, spiritually
interrogate, spiritually apprise,

We've Been Given Spiritual Eyes

Robert Jastrow NASA Astronomer

Columbia University Dr. in Theoretical Physics, Chairman of NASA's Lunar Exploration Committee, Director of Goddard Institute for Space Studies, Professor of Earth Sciences at Dartmouth College and Director of the Mount Wilson Observatory.

"Theologians generally are delighted with the proof that the universe had a beginning, but astronomers are curiously upset. It turns out that the scientist behaves the way the rest of us do when our beliefs are in conflict with the evidence. For the scientist who has lived by his faith in the power of reason, the story ends like a bad dream. He has scaled the mountains of ignorance; he is about to conquer the highest peak; as he pulls himself over the final rock, he is greeted by a band of theologians who have been sitting there for centuries." It seems the Cosmic Egg that was the birth of our universe

logically requires a Cosmic Chicken. — Robert Jastrow
God and the Astronomers, p. 116.

Psalm 14:1

The fool has said in his heart, "*There is no God.*" They are corrupt,

(14b) nor can he know them, because they are **spiritually discerned**.

If you're a Christian today – you're at war with a spiritual universe that makes its presence known in this world – apathy is being AWOL

WORLDS IN COLLISION

WHAT MAKES YOU A TRUE BELIEVER!

3.) When Knowledge hits Ignorance

v.15-16

3a.) Knowledge discovers

15 But he who is **spiritual judges all things**, yet he himself is rightly **judged** by no one.

judges, judged *ajnakri÷nw anakrino, an-ak-ree'-no;*
to spiritually scrutinize, spiritually investigate, spiritually interrogate, spiritually apprise,

We Know The One Who Knows Secrets

1 John 5:19-20

We know that we are of God, and the whole world lies *under the sway of the wicked* one. **:20** And we know that the Son of God has come and has given us an understanding, that we may know Him who is true; and we are in Him who is true, in His Son Jesus Christ. This is the true God and eternal life.

WHEN KNOWLEDGE HITS IGNORANCE

3b.) Knowledge knows

16 For “who has known the mind of the LORD that he may instruct Him?” **But we have the mind of Christ.**

We Have “Eternal” Knowledge Now

But we have the mind of Christ.

Meaning: we can know exactly “**What Would Jesus Do**” in any given situation. We know what the Lord thinks about love, hate, life and death, war and peace...”

1 Corinthians 2:11

For what man **knows** the things of a man except the spirit of the man which is in him?
Even so no one **knows** the things of God except the Spirit of God.

Galatians 2:16

knowing that a man is not justified by the works of the law but by faith in Jesus Christ, even we have believed in Christ Jesus, that we might be justified by faith in Christ and not by the works of the law; for by the works of the law no flesh shall be justified.

2 Timothy 1:12

For this reason I also suffer these things; nevertheless I am not ashamed, **for I know whom I have believed** and am persuaded that He is able to keep what I have committed to Him until that Day.

Evangelistically – He Has Known You All Along

What Do We Need To Do Church?

We Need To “Get Out” - Into a Dark and Dying World

End of Study
