

# SPIRITUAL UNDERSTANDING

## THE BENEFIT OF KNOWING SPIRITUAL THINGS

*"... desire that ye might be filled with the knowledge of his will  
in all wisdom and spiritual understanding"*

*~ Colossians 1:9*

### **1. Spiritual understanding is how we know God**

- a. God made man special of all his creatures to know him – Gen 2:7, Job 27:3, 33:4
- b. The spirit is how we are able to understand God – John 4:24, Job 32:8, 1 Cor 2:11
- c. Sin made our spirit dead, incapable of understanding God – Rom 1:21, Eph 2:1, 4:18
- d. What man needs is a regeneration of his spirit – Eph 2:4-5, 1 Cor 15:44-46, Titus 3:5

### **2. Spiritual understanding not in our flesh**

- a. The natural man receives not the things of the Spirit of God - 1 Cor 2:14
- b. Spirituality is not carnal/physical, but religion can be carnal
  - i. Whole lives can be lived in religion, without spiritual understanding
- c. Spirituality is not sensual/emotional; when you are emotion driven you are flesh driven
  - i. "feel the spirit"; "feel the power of God"; "passion for..."; "desire"

### **3. Spiritual understanding comes from the word of God**

- a. Jesus said the spirit that quickens (gives life) – John 6:63
- b. We were given the Spirit when we believed the gospel – Eph 1:13-18
- c. God made us with his inspiration, and gave the Scripture by inspiration – 2 Tim 3:16
  - i. Scripture came by the movement of the Holy Ghost in men - 2 Pet 1:19-21
  - ii. The words of God is alive and powerful – Heb 4:12
- d. Do you want to eat/taste God's words? Job 23:12, Psa 119:103, Jer 15:16, Matt 4:4
- e. Do you want to walk in the Spirit? Do you want to live in the Spirit? We need the book.

### **4. Spiritual understanding comes from the knowing the mystery of Christ**

- a. Paul says consider what I say and you will be given understanding – 2 Tim 2:7
- b. In Paul's epistles we learn about a special spiritual dispensation of God – Eph 3:1-5
- c. Understanding the things of God comes from this revelation - 1 Cor 2:10-16, 4:1-2
- d. Without spiritual understanding, God seems cruel, absent, distant, cold, uninvolved.
- e. The hallmark of this dispensation is not physical, but spiritual things – Eph 1:3
  - i. "spiritual" and the Spirit are topics largely spoken of in Paul's epistles.
  - ii. Grace, faith, forgiveness, justification, salvation, peace, and eternal life.
- f. It is by these spiritual things that we are strong to do all things in Christ – Rom 8:6
- g. Knowing the mystery opens our eyes to the benefit of spiritual things.