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SPIRITUAL EXPERIENCE

INTRODUCTION

I am told that there is a specie of Ducks, which live in Canada. They raise their young then fly south leaving the young behind. The young tarry behind until they have put on enough weight for the trip, the extra weight providing protein and strength. The young then join Mama and Papa in the far south. How do they know they need the extra weight? How do they know how much? How do they know where to fly? No map, and never been there, they join Mama and Papa.

It is instinct, a God given natural ability.

God deals with the soul and mind of man.

Job 32:8 But there is a spirit in man and the inspiration of the Almighty giveth them understanding.

Inspiration - A divine influence directly and immediately exerted upon the mind and soul of man.

Genesis through Revelation God communicated with man.

I. II TIM 1:9 WHO HATH SAVED US AND CALLED US WITH AN HOLY CALLING, NOT ACCORDING TO OUR WORKS, BUT ACCORDING TO HIS OWN PURPOSE AND GRACE, WHICH WAS GIVEN US IN CHRIST JESUS BEFORE THE WORLD BEGAN.

- A. Called with a holy calling. Rev 22:17
- B. According to his Grace. Eph 2:8-9
- C. According to his purpose. Eph 2:10
- D. God has purpose for every member of the church, thus the term members in particular. I Cor 12:18
- E. The pastor or evangelist is set in the church by the Holy Spirit becoming a member in particular. I Cor 12:27-28
- F. The Spirit dealing with the soul and mind gives the understanding of what God's purpose is for each of us. When we enter that work, we have become a member in particular.

- G. In a simple expression of truth, I heard an old black preacher say, God called his Moses, God called his Elijah. { Elijah I kings 18:1}
- H. Like Moses or Elijah, God calls us to the work of the ministry.
- Long before the burning bush, Moses knew the work God had for him to do. Acts 7:25
- II. I COR12:13 FOR BY ONE SPIRIT ARE WE ALL BAPTIZED INTO ONE BODY WHETHER WE BE JEWS OR GENTILES, WHETHER WE BE BOND OR FREE; AND HAVE BEEN ALL MADE TO DRINK INTO ONE SPIRIT..
 - A. Baptized in the Holy Ghost. { Immersed in the Spirit} Acts 2:1-2
 - B. Baptized in water. { Immersed in Water} Rom 6:4-5
 - C. For by one Spirit are we all baptized into one body. { Immersed in the body] I Cor 12:13
 - D. I Cor 12:18
 - E. I Cor 12:27-28

III. THE CALL IS MADE KNOWN TO THE CHURCH. ACTS 13:1-4

- A. The Holy Ghost said, separate me Barnabas and Saul. Acts 13:2
- B. Sent forth by the Holy Ghost. Acts 13:4
- C. How can they preach except they be sent. Rom 10:15
- D. He also puts care for the church in the heart of the minister. II Cor 8:16
- E. God puts the desire in our hearts to Pastor. I Tim 3:1
- F. If God has not put the love of your church in your heart, If you have no desire to be their Pastor, you are trespassing on Holy Ground.

IV. THE HOLY SPIRIT EMPOWERS PREACHING

- A. John the Baptist preached in the power of Elijah. Luke 1:17
- B. John did no miracle. Jn 10:41

- C. Paul's preaching was in the power and demonstration of the Spirit. I Cor 2:4
- D. That your faith might stand in the power of God and not in the wisdom of men. I Cor 2:5
- E. God opened the heart of Lydia that she attended the things spoken by Paul. Act 16:14
- F. If the Spirit does not empower preaching why did Paul ask the Ephesians to pray for him. Eph 6:19
- G. The Gospel is not in word only. I Thes 1:5
- H. The Holy Spirit gives power to the word, it is experienced. I Thes 1:5
- I. The Holy spirit puts assurance into the word of God and it is experienced. I Thes 1:5
 - J. The word of God is the sword of the Spirit. Eph 6:17
 - K. The word of God is Quick, Powerful and Sharper, than any two edged sword. Heb 4:12
 - L. Felix the governor trembled at the preaching of Paul, He was not afraid of Paul He experienced the sharpness of the word of God. Act 24:25

V. GOD'S SPIRIT AND GRACE ARE RESISTIBLE

- A. The Holy Spirit can be resisted. Acts 7:51
- B. Those that resist the Holy Spirit do experience the power, some are angered some mock and some tremble with fear. Acts 7:54; Acts 17:51; Act 24:25
- C. The Holy Spirit can be quenched. I Thes 5:19
- D. Paul alludes to the old oil lamp of his day, to put out the blaze was to put out the light, to quench the Spirit is to put out the light of the gospel.
- E. Every one that doeth evil hateth the light, neither cometh to the light lest his deed should be reproved. Jn 3:20
- F. God's Spirit strives with man. Gen 6:3 In the great day of the flood, except for eight souls the world resisted unto death in the flood.

VI. CHILDREN OF GOD HAVE THE HOLY SPIRIT DWELLING IN THEM.

- A. The new birth is a spiritual birth. Jn 3:8
- B. Because ye are sons, God has sent forth the Spirit of his son into your hearts crying Abba father. Gal 4:6
- C The children of God are the temple of God. I Cor 3:16
- D. The Holy Spirit is received through faith. Gal 3:13-14
- E. The Holy Spirit lets us know that we have union with Christ. I Jn 4:13
- F. The Spirit bears witness with our spirit that we are the children of God. Rom 8:16
- G. Children of God are sealed by the Spirit. Eph 1:13
- H. The sealing of the Spirit is the earnest of our inheritance in a heavenly country. Eph 1:14
- I. If any man have not the Spirit of Christ, he is none of his. Rom 8:9
- J. The things of the Spirit are supernatural. I Cor 2:14
- K. The world cannot receive him because, they cannot see him. Jn 14:17

VII. CHILDREN OF GOD EXPERIENCE THE FRUITS OF THE SPIRIT

- A. Gal 5:22-23
- B. Love-Rom 5:5
- C. Joy I Peter 1:8
- D. Peace At the point and time of salvation. Rom 5:1; In life. Phil 4:7
- E. Longsuffering Love suffers long. I Cor 13:4
- F. Gentleness Love for others causes gentleness toward them. Gal 5:14
- G. Goodness Love and faith produce every good work toward God or man. I Cor 13; Heb 11

- H. Faith We experience the love, joy and peace in our hearts, how could it not increase faith and faithfulness. Rom 12:3
- I. Meekness The presents of God experienced magnifies the greatness of God and we are humbled by it. Isaiah 6
- J. Temperance The love of God constrains us. II Cor 5:14

VIII. WE ARE TAUGHT TO ENJOY THE SPIRITUAL EXPERIENCE

A. Eph 5:18-19