

Laws of the Spirit

John Tittle

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Chapter One

Introduction to Laws of the Spirit

“Do not be amazed that I said to you, ‘You must be born again.’ The wind blows where it wishes and you hear the sound of it, but do not know where it comes from and where it is going; so is everyone who is born of the Spirit.”

Nicodemus said to Him, “How can these things be?” Jesus answered and said to him, “Are you the teacher of Israel and do not understand these things? Truly, truly, I say to you, we speak of what we know and testify of what we have seen, and you do not accept our testimony. If I told you earthly things and you do not believe, how will you believe if I tell you heavenly things?”

John 3:7-12

Do you notice Jesus’ rebuke of Nicodemus in this passage?

Jesus seems to be saying that Nicodemus should have been able to understand the way things work, both in heaven and on earth.

Since we know Jesus’ rebuke is just, is it also true that we should be able to understand heavenly things?

From observing the physical world, we know that God created universal laws and principles of causality.

What if the spiritual world operates in much the same way, based on a knowable and observable set of laws?

The laws of the Spirit should be just as predictable, regular, orderly and workable as the laws of the natural world.

The same God who created this orderly natural world also created the spiritual world.

I don’t believe He would have created a disorderly world of the Spirit.

Jesus knew what God was doing.

He was able to discern the movement of the Spirit.

When praying for people, Jesus never finished with, “Well, I guess we’ll have to wait and see because you just never know what God’s going to do.”

Jesus knew and understood the Laws of the Spirit.

There are other examples of him rebuking his disciples for not acting in line with the Spirit.

I don’t think we need to make excuses for God.

I think God’s next action is just as regular and orderly as the universe He created.

It seems to me the shortfall is in us not seeing the Laws of the Spirit and not understanding how things work.

I believe that scripture will reveal these Laws of the Spirit if we will just understand the causality underneath it, the regularity of it, and understand its context and its flow. I believe that what Jesus came to show us is that we don't understand the Father.

I think He was saying, "You have the teaching, you have the scripture, and you should be able to understand the heart of the Father and what he's doing and what he's saying."

However, Jesus is very clear that pure head knowledge of scripture and detailed doctrine is not enough.

Jesus' harshest words were to those who spent their lives studying doctrine, yet somehow they missed the whole point.

I believe what they were missing can be found in knowing the heart of the Father and experiencing the operation of the Spirit.

I can talk all day long about spiritual things.

I can write books and debate theologians and devise a new systematic theology.

But if I do not experience the spiritual realm, particularly God's Spirit, for myself—in my heart and in my body, I do not understand.

I have ears that do not hear and eyes that do not see.

I have been hosting a workshop in my home for a handful of men.

Our goal is to delve into the heart of the Father by observing the spiritual laws laid out in scripture, as well as experiencing those spiritual truths in a personal and intimate way.

We spend Saturday mornings using a systems dynamics modeling tool to look at the connections and architecture of scripture, and then we work on connecting scriptural principles through experiential exercises.

We practice hearing the Lord and understanding his purposes.

John Custer, a regular Saturday morning attendee, says "the most dangerous thing about this type of approach is that if God reveals a truth to you, your life will not be the same."

"The most unique aspect of Saturday mornings for me is the experiential part," John Custer continues. "One morning in particular stands out to me, we were talking earlier about how we so often make our prayers vague simply because we don't believe that God would answer them, and we're afraid of what would happen if God 'lost face.'"

So we sound very spiritual with all our caveats, but our relationship with God is out of the picture because He can neither demonstrate that He answered the prayer or didn't.

To experience the authenticity of seeking God's will while honestly sharing what was in our hearts, John Tittle opened up our prayer time by saying, 'No more making excuses for God, what specifically are you asking of the Lord?'

We shared our requests and prayed.

During the next week after God had answered every one of the requests, the invocation at the beginning of the prayer time was, 'OK, last week God was five for five.

That's not a bad batting average!"

Another member of the group, Larry Noyes agrees. "I went to the meeting hoping to learn about a new way of understanding scripture and the workings of the Holy Spirit.

I did not come away disappointed!

But, frankly, I was blown away by the intensity of the "experiential" prayer time afterwards.

I was prayerfully and personally challenged to search deep within myself to discover my true identity, particularly as it relates to God and my purpose in life.

This one-on-one process of spiritual revelation and cleansing was incredibly challenging, humbling, and rewarding."

Four basic questions for starting in anything:

1. Why should I care?
2. What is it?
3. How do I do it or use it?
4. What does it mean for me going forward (or the So What)?

So LotS is focused on how things work in the realm of the Spirit – the unseen world of the Spirit of God that is actually more real than the natural created world. It is a Bible based analysis of the casual laws as best we can extract from what scripture says about how things in this natural seen creation are an expression of what is unseen. I care because to the extent God has revealed Himself to us through His word, this is a deeper revealing of who He is and what He wants us to know about Him through what He has done. So, I care because the more of Him I see and know, the deeper and deeper I will love Him.

How can I use this LotS? I have found the insights can be transformative as I get into God's word with this analytical approach. I have found really interesting connections and insights from the process of just asking what is an essentially a scientific question, namely; what relationship (such as causality) are defined by this passage or collection of passages.

What it means going forward is a deeper connection to what is really real, deeper than the seen reality if you will and therefore a better basis for action in His world. Some of the connections show up in seeing deeper, beyond the surface effects – see Jn3:8. Maybe being able to see with the Spirit of God is up to and being able to line up with that, in the moment.

My draw into this journey is:

"What if there is a deeper truth than the "reality construct" we think we live in?"

“What if there is a world of the Spirit and this natural, material world is just an expression of something deeper?”

“What if the various religions/spiritual traditions are just a facet of trying to express this deeper reality?”

“What if we can in fact know deeper and see more clearly how, but even more, why things work the way they do?”

“What if everything we think we know is in fact a partial truth - some parts are gold even pure gold but not all the gold?”

“What if you have to ‘enter into’ the experience to even grasp this true truth, the deeper reality and clearer seeing, all the while holding in tension that you only know in part, through a glass darkly?”

Chapter Two

How to start in “The Laws of the Spirit” v2 Dec 2012 - (Rough draft of ideas)

Question to be answered. “How can a new person come up to speed in the most effective way and start being a part of the group discussion?”

Order of presentation to a new person:

1. What the model looks like as of now
2. Some of the history how we got here
3. What the principals are underneath the approach
4. How they can get engaged

1 Foundational bible study

1.1 Jn 3 1.2 Ro 10:17

2 Principals discussion Concern about only being attractive to systematic people, but seems to be attractive to visual and textual learners. Need to add other exercises to include the kinesthetic learners in those exercises. Explain various maps and each one’s purpose. 2.1 Shoe box understandings How most of the understanding of scripture is like having a “shoe box” full of one off sayings or tidbits. Difference of understanding systemically. 2.2 Give scripture for each principal 2.3 Offer the “Laws of the Spirit” as working hypothesis We will never understand completely. Objective is to understand deeper and more, to see in the world of the Spirit. At any given time, we best be humble about what we have, it is best described as a working hypothesis. This encourages others, in particular new others, to consider and challenge anything. If the structure cannot withstand the challenge, then it was the wrong structure. This is much more about an approach and about a way to walk your journey deeper into the Lord. Approach is not that of being a teacher, but of helping others to walk with their Lord. New participants become co-discoverers of these Laws.

This is not about being teacher of Jr High kids on “the right laws” but about their walking their own walk. Keeps us humble among other things. 2.4 Should be able to start anywhere Separated groups should be able to start anywhere and because this is looking at connected laws, will be able to connect up with another group that started somewhere else. They will be able to see one set of laws. In each case they as individuals will be going deeper with the Lord.

3 Explain the tools being used

3.1 Systems Dynamics tools What SD is about, how this tool is used. Vensim tool from a economic modeling background, maybe management flight simulators will connect for some people. Need to discuss basics of SD, through a factory to capture levels, transient actions, feedback loops with time

delays that cause oscillations in outputs. See Stearman book to give them a reference to read if they so desire.

3.1.1 System Control of Laws of the Spirit Using feedback loops, measurement, objective function dimensional recognition trajectory description - in the natural and in the spiritual parts of the system are unobservable and parts are uncontrollable

Laws of the Spirit Operate by faith How does emotional energy convert to spiritual energy? Words and actions have impact on spirit and emotions What is connection and conversion factors What is relationship and Casual Loop Diagram for this interaction? In what way might these be equivalent to Laws of Thermodynamics? \$ are one way value emotional energy - see the basic of advertising ROI

Essential elements of LotS 1. Love 2. Hope 3. Faith 4. Grace

And negatives terms 1. Sin 2. Shame 3. Hate

Look at relationships as defined by Scripture Some may be on a continuum and others in a Competing Values Framework Looks at Spiritual Intelligence and Emotional Intelligence (EQ) to integrate into LotS

Other references for development: How is spiritual integrity best defined? Speed of Trust five levels? Used Casual Loop Diagrams for describing and discussion as a group Define the state matrix What control variables? Culture by Quinn OrgCon by Burton Gallup Q12 for employees Neural-Linguistic Programming for interior states Spiritual disciplines for progress and forcing functions in interior states Spiral Dynamics Integral for cultural matrix coefficients AQAL for trajectory in culture space dimensions IMA for control variables and measurement The observed and observer interact by cross product elements

Miracles are system resonance or oscillation points Show up as extraordinary outputs with little change in inputs Look for eigenvectors for high impact with least energy input What if most of the various teaching around a personal "Ah Ha!" are actually rooted in a discovered particular eigenvalue of the plant matrix - Then I go make an industry around a particular "Ah Ha" This suggests that looking for a root resonance in each body of teaching, each doctrine, etc. would be on way to recognize the eigenvalues of interest and descriptive of the system Others trying to repeat the particular "Ah ha" miss the synchronization with the fundamental oscillation and it does not work and maybe turns into legalism and rules instead of the original grace.

Describe Competing Values Framework (CVF) tension What would be the form of the equation to describe the tension in the CVF dimensions

Look at places, like the CVF - where thing are in tension with each other, the net is a fundamental eigenvalue of the system for example: Predestination vs freewill grace vs works doing in the world vs being in the world Mercy of God vs judgement Goodness of God vs misery in world Personal work is about finding the energy nodes - that with a little push can start oscillating at a natural frequency - a miracle can happen of release. You unstuck the friction or restriction that is holding things in place and kept that belief from moving - and miracles can happen. Psychodrama/Neural

Linguistic Programming/voices dialogue all get to a eigenvalue plane of deep emotionally rooted beliefs. Forcing functions change trajectory Transformational forces the state matrix

what is a forcing function Feedback controller is what? How would Parson's Theory of Action fit within structure and maybe cause a restructuring of the form of the the description?

What would a fully functional human look like? Four Connects Fruit of the spirit What would a fully functional family look like? What is the scalability of this theory? One person One family one company one nation/society Possible relationships go up a N! What scales up all the way, and what does not?

3.2 Explain Mind Map Basically a brainstorming tool that I have found helpful to capture various aspects of the approach and to expose for critical scrutiny my presuppositions. This has structured a rich discussion about what is underneath my approach and forced me to be very clear about what is assumed, based in my own view of scripture and how to understand the world of the Spirit. This is the primary way I have captured the principle of the approach. The group with me has had a rich discussion about the principals and kept that separate from an interpretation discussion about the passage at hand. We have been able to stop a discussion and say, "Is this about the approach or the passage/model?" Start with a discussion of the underlying principals from the MM tool. Seems like I also give my history, or how I got here discussion when I explain this to a new person. An outlining tool that gives the visual representation in very compact form. Allows me to also export to Word, and then email, etc as necessary. Happens to also have an export to MS Project but haven't needed that yet. 3.3 McGrath book Used to structure the beginning principals that I am starting with. I have basically just followed the outline in his book to discuss "where I am coming from". I either choose or react to most of his topics and use his outline of the chapters in the book to lay out in a consistent manner what I think and the assumptions I am using. One thing that has struck me in this part of my activity is that most "systematic" theology studies mostly mean organized where I mean actually addressing causality constructs. 3.4 Use of PC Bible With laptop projection to get group understanding and discussion as deep as we can in the time allocated. References are both books. like McGrath, and the PC Bible add ins. Most handy so far is the Interlinear with Vines Expository, and of course the concordance for word searches.

4 How I got here discussion

4.1 Jn 3 Rebuke to Nicodemus because he was not seeing in the Spirit. Would be unjust rebuke unless N. could have seen from the OT writings and revelation. Born again, what if this is at least partly about being about to see what the Spirit is up to? Born of the flesh and Spirit. I think Nicodemus eventually got it, defended Jesus before the Sanhedrian, got his body for burial. 4.2 Praying for people Asking, why are my prayers so ineffective? Why can't I pray for someone and have them healed? Found I was making excuses for God, by saying, "Well, you never know what God is going to do." That is nonsense. The God who created this universe with all it's order and natural laws, would not create a world of the Spirit that was disorganized. Just did not make much sense. So I started asking, "What are Maxwell's Laws of the Spirit?" 4.3 Tools history Needed to learn SD tool for work.

4.4 World of the Spirit I have a picture that the world of the Spirit is "larger", maybe more dimensions than, the world of the natural. The picture that works for me is about two dimensional living vs three dimensional beings. I also think that the Laws to the Spirit are inclusive and larger than the laws of

the natural world, and probably are deeper causality for the world of the natural. What happens here is in some way a projecting onto a lower dimensional space, objects and actions that are actually from a higher dimensionality (meaning to me having more dimensions to operate in than our four recognized dimensions of the natural world). 4.5 Having a training plan for new people John Corse's comment asking where is the training plan for new Christians? He made the comment that he would not hire someone in his company unless he had a training plan for their job and a way to test if they were competent.

5 Experience vs Theology maps

6 Current model status What if there is a "Language of the Spirit" that actually lets us speak in the Spirit and grasp this concepts directly by spirit, soul and body? A formal language the has logic and natural experience and spiritual knowing all that can be manipulated directly and can express what we can only poorly express when we only use intellectual language. 6.1 Page one Explain Ro 10:17 and relate to tool modeling symbols. How some verses are very compact but are still rightly represented in the model. Like God's word brings healing, is correct but skips a few steps. The idea is that every verse that touches on faith, either fits within what we have or extends the model. 6.2 Page two Tie to Love and Hope.

7 How to apply to evangelism Work on existence of Spirit, soul and body?

"There are no accidents." Use that as a starting place and push that to the next logical step, so what do you think keeps things from being accidental?

Use MI model.

Look at four types of pre-contemplator. I think this might be the answer of how do you get to 6,000,000 men? This might be the process/approach to train men up quickly in how to walk in their own personal journey and help other men walk their journey where they hear and obey from the Lord. What if this takes less than 1 year for men to get it and start work with others. What if a generation (or decade 1 to 10 more) is less than a year? We would be at the 6,000,000 in less than 6 years. This might be the path for at least some men, not all but some. When they see what is going on the the world of the Spirit, lay hands of someone and see them healed, can hear and know the voice of their Lord, that is a very good foundation that the rest can be built on. I don't think the disciples had a whole lot more to go on.

8 Guidelines for leader 8.1 Be a facilitator of the the person's journey This is about their journey, your job is not to "get them" to a certain place, that job belongs to the Holy Spirit. You have things the Lord has revealed to you, and you were ready to hear them when you were ready, not before. 8.2 Prophetic words When you feel like you have a personal word for a man give it 1) only if you are under spiritual authority, 2) offered for the man's consideration, 3) ask if he wants to hear the word you think you have, 4) offered in humility both because you hear imperfectly and the word may actually be for you not him. This applies also if the word I encouraging not just if it is corrective. Recognize there is a trap of Satan at the bottom of this if you are not watching and being in the Spirit. 8.3 See CtR Prayer Guidelines 8.4 Who will be drawn to this? I think at least two types of people will be drawn to this work, hungry, desperate men who are in personal trouble in some way and are looking for some reality and next step with the Lord in their life (mainly to relieve the pain). The second type may be those who are just hungry to a deeper relationship with the Lord, who feel

that there is more, that they don't have enough, that there must be something more for them. Not a place for a pew potato. Not a hard sell but needs to be a clear presentation of what will happen. Title not yet getting to what I'm trying to do. "Laws" may be the problem. It is both about the Heart of the Father, but also about seeing the structure and operation of the Spirit and how the world of the Spirit operates. Knowing the heart of the Father and seeing what the Spirit is up to. Almost have an organic picture of this. Where you know and feel the heart beat of the Father, you have the structure and backbone of the Spirit's regular operation.

Chapter Three

800x600

The Laws of the Spirit: Experiential Part

1.

Warrior Monk processes

1.1

Want - Resist process

1.2

Create the reality with any doubts

1.3

Meditation practice?

2.

Guts for I Groups processes

3.

Integrate Personal Mission processes

3.1

Footprints exercises

3.2

Little boy's deepest needs for mission

3.3

Mission clarity

3.4

Gold and shadow hotseat

3.5

Shadow mission and smelling the ozone

3.6

Visualize journey and see tools you have and rocks in front of you

4.

Needs to allow” drop in/drop out”

Need a easy way to bring people up to speed on what is going on, the approach and then for them to fully experience the present moment where the group is.

5.

Processes for experiencing “hearing with understanding”

This is about hearing from the Lord, who you are, and what He has called you to be.

It includes the personal mission series experiential processes and the “Shadow mission” session.

5.1

Footprints of God in your life

5.2

Garden of your heart

5.3

Who are you/where are you going/who are you going with

5.4

Positive visualization with the HS

5.5

Deepest need

5.6

Gold and shadow hotseat

5.7

Shadow mission work

5.8

Mission clarity process

6.

Integrate and target to topic under study

6.1

Need to make exercises that make it experiential

6.2

Look for multiple exercises for each topic

7.

Extend Inner Healing

7.1

Add visulaization of the desires of your heart

7.2

Use normal healing of the memories

7.3

Garden of your heart

7.4

Gen 3 in the garden with the Lord, what does He say and do

Chapter4

Let's work on some samples to best see how this works:

Casual Statement on Faith

Rom 10:17 17 So faith comes from hearing, and hearing by the word of Christ. NASU

The the casual order in the above passage is:

1. Word of (about or concerning) Christ - where "word" is rhema in the Greek
2. Hearing
3. Faith

or in Casual Loop Diagram:

[Insert diagram]

So, seems pretty basic, if I want faith then the rhema of Christ needs to be available and I need to hear it

The significance of rhema (as distinct from logos) is exemplified in the injunction to take "the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God," Eph 6:17; here the reference is not to the whole Bible as such, but to the individual scripture which the Spirit brings to our remembrance for use in time of need, a prerequisite being the regular storing of the mind with Scripture. (from Vine's Expository Dictionary of Biblical Words, Copyright © 1985, Thomas Nelson Publishers.)

So if I want more faith to operate in my life, find a place where I can hear the rhema about Christ.

This is something I call a foundational principle, since faith may be the key to both seeing and operating in the Spirit.

So my early focus is on things that seem fundamental, or elemental, like atomic particles of the world of the Spirit.

Two immediate ones are the parable of the Sower and the 1 Cor 13: 13 on 1 Cor 13:13 "But now faith, hope, love, abide these three; but the greatest of these is love."NASU

Parable of the Sower

Why I think this is fundamental is from the telling in Mark 4

Mark 4:13

13 And He said to them, “Do you not understand this parable? How will you understand all the parables? NASU

So if we don’t get this parable, we may not be able to understand any of them.

Also the relationship to Rom 10:17 is interesting because the Greek word here is logos, or the permanent eternal Word of God. Also the soil is clearly stated as our heart in the Matthew and Luke telling of this parable. The parable is about hearing the logos of God and in the case of the good soil (heart) bringing forth 30, 60 and 100 fold return. Seems like the connection is something causes logos (the seed) to become rhema in a prepared heart and brings forth the crop.

Faith, Hope and Love Relationships

So these three seem to be fundamental in that they remain after our partial knowledge and gifts disappear.

[Insert Diagram]

The details of this relationship are called out in various scriptures; and here is what I have discovered so far.