THE TRIUNITY OF MAN

"Functions of the Spirit"

(1 Th 5:23 KJV) And the very God of peace sanctify you wholly; and I pray God your whole spirit and soul and body be preserved blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

I. THE BATTLE BETWEEN THE SPIRIT AND THE SOUL.

- A. After human beings were cut off from God spiritually, the soul took command.
 - 1. The will could no longer look to the spirit for guidance, so was forced to make its own decisions from the data supplied by the intellect, the emotions, and the bodily senses.
 - 2. This meant that the will had to decide on the bases of *reasoning*, *feeling*, and *reacting* to events in the outside world.
- B. **Battle between soul and spirit.** In the early days of our Christian walk our spirit fought with the lusts of the flesh; today it is a battle between the spirit and the soul.
- C. **Separating soul from spirit by the Word.** (Heb 4:12 KJV) For the word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any twoedged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart.

II. FUNCTIONS OF THE SPIRIT.

- A. Intuition.
- B. Communion.
- C. Conscience.

INTUITION - SPIRITUAL SENSING.

- A. Holy Spirit expresses his thought through intuition.
 - 1. What we commonly refer to as being moved by the Spirit is but the Holy Spirit making us know His will intuitively by working upon our spirit (from within).
 - 2. Must learn to distinguish our feelings as to whether they originate with the inner or come from the outer man.
 - 3. Satan can only attack from without. He may work through the lust and sensations of the body or through the mind and emotion of the soul, for those two belong to the outward man.
- B. The intuition is locus where occurs the anointing that teaches.
 - 1. (1 John 2:20 KJV) But ye have an unction from the Holy One, and ye know all things.
 - 2. (1 John 2:27 KJV) But the anointing which ye have received of him abideth in you, and ye need not that any man teach you: but as the same anointing teacheth you of all things, and is truth, and is no lie, and even as it hath taught you, ye shall abide in him.

C. Distinction between knowing and understanding.

- 1. The spirit knows; the mind understands.
- 2. The Holy Spirit enables our spirit to know; our spirit instructs the mind to

understand.

D. *Holy Spirit leads into all truth.* (John 16:13 KJV) Howbeit when he, the Spirit of truth, is come, he will guide you into all truth: for he shall not speak of himself; but whatsoever he shall hear, that shall he speak: and he will show you things to come.

E. Discernment as form of spiritual intuition.

- 1. The ability to recognize the source of information: God, the flesh, or the devil.
- 2. To help identify false teachings and antichrist spirits.
- 3. If we must pore over many theological references and reason, compare, research, observe and think with our mind until we ultimately reach an understanding of what is lie or what is truth, then only Christians with good minds and education would escape deception.

F. Knowing people; dealing with people.

- 1. Need to know other people in order to live with them, deal with them, and to assist them.
- 2. The ordinary way for man to know others is to inquire, observe and investigate.
- 3. Jesus' example: (Mark 2:8 KJV) And immediately when Jesus perceived in his spirit that they so reasoned within themselves, he said unto them, Why reason ye these things in your hearts?
 - a. Does not state that Jesus thought or felt in his heart nor does it say the Holy Spirit told Him.
 - b. It was His spirit that immediately detected how the surrounding people questioned in their heart. He spoke to them according to what He intuitively knew.
 - c. So should our human spirit be so activated by the indwelling Spirit.
- 4. Know one another by the spirit.
 - (2 Cor 5:16 KJV) Wherefore henceforth know we no man after the flesh: yea, though we have known Christ after the flesh, yet now henceforth know we him no more.
 - (2 Cor 5:16 NRSV) From now on, therefore, we regard no one from a human point of view; even though we once knew Christ from a human point of view, we know him no longer in that way.

Revelation as a form of spiritual intuition.

To know things in our intuition is what the Bible calls revelations.

Revelation has no other meaning than that the Holy Spirit enables a believer to apprehend a particular matter by indicating the reality of it to his spirit.

There is but one kind of knowledge concerning either the Bible or God which is valuable, and that is the truth revealed to our spirit by God's Spirit.

(1 Cor 2:9 KJV) But as it is written, Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love him. (1 Cor 2:10 KJV) But God hath revealed them unto us by his Spirit: for the Spirit searcheth all things, yea, the deep things of God. (1 Cor 2:11 KJV) For what man knoweth the things of a man, save the spirit of man which is in him? even so the things of God knoweth no man, but the

Spirit of God. (1 Cor 2:12 KJV) Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the spirit which is of God; that we might know the things that are freely given to us of God. (1 Cor 2:13 KJV) Which things also we speak, not in the words which man's wisdom teacheth, but which the Holy Ghost teacheth; comparing spiritual things with spiritual. (1 Cor 2:14 KJV) But the natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God: for they are foolishness unto him: neither can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned. (1 Cor 2:15 KJV) But he that is spiritual judgeth all things, yet he himself is judged of no man. (1 Cor 2:16 KJV) For who hath known the mind of the Lord, that he may instruct him? But we have the mind of Christ.

- The head is where God's will is understood, but it is never the source of His will. The will of God originates in Himself; by the Holy Spirit, then revealed to spirit of man.
- He who follows his mind can never say "I truly know this is the will of God."

 Such deep faith and assurance emerges only when one has received revelation in his spirit.
- A. Guidance through the knowledge of God's will.