

Sunday, October 14, 2012—The Things Freely Given Us of God: Introduction: Know, Reckon, and Yield

### **I Corinthians 2:9-12**

- I Corinthians 2:9—tells us that our eyes have not seen, our ears have not heard, neither has the heart of man even entered into an understanding of what God as prepared for those that love him. This verse is a free quotation from the Old Testament.
  - Isaiah 64:4
- The point here is that mankind by his own efforts is incapable of perceiving the ways of God. There is no way for us to fathom, through our own means, the way God loves those that are his.
- I Corinthians 2:10—“But God hath revealed them unto us by his Spirit.” Note the contrast with the pervious verse, things that we are incapable of entering into in verse 9 on our own, have been revealed and made known unto us by the Spirit of God.
- Please notice that the word Spirit in verse ten is spelled with a capital “S” meaning that it is referring to a person i.e., the third member of the Godhead, the Holy Spirit. God the Holy Spirit reveals or makes known things to us regarding how God views us that we could never understand on our own. The Greek word here is the word *pneuma* which occurs 385 times in the New Testament: Spirit 111, Holy Ghost 89, Spirit (of God) 13, Spirit (of the Lord) 5, (My)Spirit 3, Spirit (of truth) 3, Spirit (of Christ) 2, human (spirit) 49, (evil) spirit47
  - I Corinthians 12:12-13—it is God the Holy Spirit that baptizes us into and places us in the body of Christ.
  - Ephesians 4:30—the “holy Sprit of God” seals us into the body of Christ.
  - Ephesians 2:22—as believes we are the habitation of God through the indwelling Holy Spirit. If you have trusted that Christ died for your sins, was buried, and rose again you are the temple of God through the indwelling Holy Spirit.
  - II Peter 1:21—the writers of Scripture wrote the words the Holy Ghost gave them to write.
- I Corinthians 2:10—“for the Spirit searcheth all things, yea, the deep things of God.” It is only the Spirit of God that is capable of entering into and comprehending the “deep things of God.” However, since the Holy Spirit dwells within in us God has now given us the capacity to know and understand the deep things of God. God the Holy Spirit has revealed and make know things unto us that we are otherwise incapable of knowing.
- I Corinthians 2:11—my spirit knows what is going on inside my inner man. I don’t know what is going on inside of anyone else unless they tell me. So it is with the Sprit of God, the things of

God are only known by the Spirit of God. In other words, mankind cannot know the things of God apart from God's spirit.

- I Corinthians 2:12—"Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the spirit which is of God." When we trusted in and relied exclusively upon the finished work of Christ we received God the Holy Spirit. Why? "That we might know the things that are freely given us of God." God wants us to know what we could not enter into in verse 9. God wants us to know the things he has prepared for those whom he loves (us). God wants us to know and appreciate what he has done for us. This is why he gave us his Spirit, so that we can know these things. God does not want us to be ignorant of what he has done for us; our Christian lives are not designed to function on the basis of ignorance.

### **Know, Reckon, and Yield**

- First, there are some spiritual truths and realities that we need to know. We cannot walk in what we do not understand.
  - Romans 6:3, 6, 9
- Second, we need to reckon as true in our lives the things that we learn.
  - Romans 6:11—"Likewise" or in this manner (*Strong's*), or in like manner (*Webster's 1828*). "Reckon" the same Greek word is translated as impute and reckon in Romans 4. The word is also translated as count, account, and number in the King James Bible.
    - Impute—Romans 4: 6, 8, 11, 22-24
    - Reckon—Romans 4:4, 9-10, 8:18
  - The word "reckon" deals with reality. If I reckon (*logizomai*) that my bank account has \$25 in it, it has \$25 in it. Otherwise I am deceiving myself. This word refers more to fact than supposition or opinion. In the context, Paul is saying there are some truths that we need to practically reckon or by faith impute as true and operative in our daily lives.
  - Romans 6:3-5—believers have been spiritually identified with Jesus Christ in his death and resurrection.
  - Romans 6:6-7—our old sin nature was crucified and put to death through Jesus Christ. We have been made free from sin.
  - Romans 6:8-10—just as death no longer has any dominion over Christ so sin should not have dominion over us.
  - Romans 6:11—there needs to be a practical accounting or reckoning in verse 11 of the truths presented in verses 3-10. We need to believe we are who the word says we are.

We need to see ourselves that way Christ sees us. We no longer need to serve sin any longer. We have been made alive unto God through Jesus Christ.

- Third, we need to yield and submit to the truth of God’s Word. Now that we know, and have reckoned it to be so, we need to yield to God’s truth in our lives.
  - Romans 6:13, 16, 19
  - According to the *Webster’s 1828 Dictionary* the English word yield carries many meanings. To give up the contest; to submit. To comply with; as, I yielded to his request. To give way; not to oppose.
  - Romans 12:1—the word “present” comes from the same Greek translated “yield” in Romans 6.
  - As we walk through life we need to know who we are, we need to reckon it to be so, and we need to yield to it.

### **I Corinthians 2:13-16**

- I Corinthians 2:13—Paul says these are the things I have been speaking about, i.e., the things freely given to us of God (v. 12). Paul was not using man’s words/wisdom to speak about these things but the words/wisdom by which the Holy Ghost teaches. The method of instruction used by God the Holy Spirit is to compare spiritual things with spiritual or scripture with scripture. The only way we are going to know the things freely given us of God is by reading and studying God’s Word.
- I Corinthians 2:14—the natural man, i.e., the last man cannot receive “the things of the Spirit of God” because he does not possess the Spirit of God. Therefore, they are foolishness unto him and he cannot know them.
  - The Greek word translated “discerned” means to examine or judge, a) to investigate, examine, enquire into, scrutinize, sift, question b) to judge of, estimate, determine (the excellence or defects of any person or thing).
  - Acts 12:19—“examined”
  - Acts 17:11—“searched”
- The things of the Spirit of God are only spiritually discerned and examined and since the lost man does not possess the Spirit of God he is not capable of receiving these things.

- I Corinthians 2:15—the words “judgeth” and “judged” come from the same Greek work as “discerned” in verse 14. The spiritual man is constantly judging, searching, examining, and discerning things with the help and aid of the Spirit of God that is in him.
- I Corinthians 2:16—who knows the mind of the Lord that he may instruct the spiritual man in the deep things of God. There is no one in the world, i.e., no natural man that can instruct the believer in the things freely given us of God this instruction only comes through the mind of Christ. We already possess the mind of Christ.