

SPIRITUAL UNDERSTANDING MAY 1, 2019

INTRODUCTION:

The Christian life is about more than accepting Christ, getting our needs met and going to Heaven. It's about God saving us, coming to live in us, filling us with His Spirit and power, with His glory and love. It's about our knowing Him and allowing Him to love others through us. It's about allowing the Holy Spirit to transform us, walking as Jesus walked, doing as Jesus did, submitting our lives to God and becoming vessels of honor for His use. **2 TIMOTHY 2:19-21**

THE TRIPART BEING OF MAN - 1 THESSALONIANS 5:23

We are spirit beings, having souls, living in physical bodies. The spirit and soul can't be separated, but they can be separated from the body. **2 CORINTHIANS 5:8** The fall affected all three parts of man's being. Redemption makes provision for reconciliation.

SPIRITUAL UNDERSTANDING NEEDED - COLOSSIANS 1:9-10

The spirit needs recreated, the soul needs renewed, the body needs crucified and only the Holy spirit can meet the human need. He reveals Jesus to us, HE builds truth into us, and He conforms us to the image of Christ as we exercise our faith.

UNDERSTANDING SPIRITUAL DEATH - EPHESIANS 2:1-3

We were spiritually dead, possessing the nature of our enemy. **JOHN 8:44** Our sin nature can't be removed by good works or religious practices, such as infant baptism. Spiritual death is removed by grace through faith. **EPHESIANS 2:4-10** By faith we received Christ and became what He created us to be in the beginning. We are now His masterpiece.

WE WALK BY FAITH – COLOSSIANS 2:6-7

We received Christ by faith and we walk in who we are in Him, by faith, not by feeling, emotions or reasonings. Our focus now is on who God says we are, not who we think, others think or the devil says we are.

UNDERSTANDING FAITH – 2 CORINTHIANS 4:13

Faith is a spiritual law just as gravity is a natural law. It involves what we believe and say. **MARK 11:23** This is how spiritual death is removed from the human spirit. **ROMANS 10:9-10** It's also how we overcome the world. **1 JOHN 5:4**

SPIRITUAL WARFARE – GALATIANS 5:16-17

Getting saved starts a war with our flesh. Both want control. The spirit believes the truth, while the flesh believes feelings, emotions and reasonings. Game on! **2 CORINTHIANS 10:3-5**

TRUTH OR DECEPTIVE LIES – 3 JOHN 3-4

Eve left the boundaries of truth for a lie. She believed Satan's word above God's. In doing so, she removed the image of God and put on the image of the enemy. The devil wants us to believe his lies so we can reflect his image. He wants us to take on his personality and become fear-driven, self-driven, not Christ driven. Man was created to bear the image of God, not Satan.

PUT ON CHRIST – COLOSSIANS 3:1-10

We are to put off the deeds of the old man and put on the deeds of Christ. This requires knowledge of who we are in Him. **I JOHN 4:4** We're to be God inside minded, not devil outside minded.

SATAN'S REGRET AND TERRIFIED DEVILS - MATTHEW 8:29

Devils were terrified of Jesus. He defeated them first with truth, then with death. **HEBREWS 2:14-15** His three driving forces motivated him to kill Jesus, which led to his doom. Now, his focus is on blinding our eyes with his lies. His goal is to get us to believe who we are outwardly is who we really are! **EPHESIANS 6:10-11 (NLT)**