

GRACE BIBLE CHURCH
SUNDAY 3-12-2023
EPHESIANS 0290-052
DOCTRINE OF GRACE, 28.
SOUL & SPIRIT 1.

We are studying the greatest passage on the grace of God, PHI 2:1-11.

PHI 2:2 bring to completion [in your life] my inner happiness by thinking the same things [mental attitude], maintaining the same virtue-love, united in spirit, intent on one purpose.

maintaining is the pres-act-part of the verb *echo* which is *echontes* meaning to have, to have and to hold.

The present tense is a present tense of duration denoting what has begun in the past and continues into the present time.

The active voice, the adult believer produces the action of the verb through occupation with Christ and personal love for God.

The participle is circumstantial for the purpose of maintaining spiritual adulthood, so that the believer continues to grow in grace and knowledge.

PHI 2:2 Bring to completion my inner happiness [in your life] by thinking the same things, maintaining the same love,

“the same love” is the definite article *ten* plus the personal pronoun *auten* and then the noun *agapen* it should be translated “*the same virtue-love.*”

1. Personal love for God.
2. Impersonal love for all.
3. Occupation with Christ.

“united in spirit” is the nominative masculine plural is from an adjective made up of two words, *psuchoi* means “soul.” *sum* means together with meaning soul rapport or united in soul.

PHI 2:2 Bring to completion my inner happiness [in your life] by thinking the same things, maintaining the same virtue-love, united in soul, intent on one purpose.

“*intent on one purpose*” is the accusative singular definite article *to* and then the numeral *hen* and then the pres-act-part from the same verb in this verse *phroneo* which means thinking or concentrating on the same objective.

PHI 2:2 Bring to completion my inner happiness [in your life] by thinking the same things, maintaining the same virtue-love, united in soul, concentrating on the same objective.

We have the phrase “being in one accord,” “united in spirit, and yet what is left out is the word *soul* which is in view in verse 2, as the translation “soul rapport.”

The Doctrine of the Soul and Spirit.

First, it pierces, *diikneomai* means to cut through.

The word of God cuts through all the garbage in the soul.

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This means that it reveals the innermost intimacies of man's being!

The second thing that God's word does, it judges!

We get the word critic from the Greek word *kritikos* translated judge.

The word means to critique, to judge, to discern, or to evaluate.

What is it about God's word that regardless of culture, age, sex, or circumstance, when it is learned and believed, it works?

It works, first of all, because it is universal in scope, no one is hidden from God's sight.

Even the Pharisees, in MAT 6:18, our Father who sees them in secret.

HEB 4:13 all things are open and laid bare to the eyes of Him with whom we have to do.

The word of God works because it is universal in scope and secondly, it is limitless in exposure!

All things are open means all things are uncovered and, *laid bare* which means to be totally and completely exposed.

It is able to go beyond the action to the motive into the thought life so that He is able to expose and reveal to us the true meaning behind our thoughts, our words and our actions.

Point 1. The Essence of the Soul.

a. Self-consciousness. Man is aware of his own existence and can relate to both animate and inanimate life on earth.

b. Mentality. Self-consciousness is no good without mentality.

1. The mind or left lobe of the soul.

2. The heart or right lobe of the soul which contains the frame of reference, memory center, vocabulary and categorical storage, norms, and standards, and launching pad for application of knowledge to life.

Rom 1:20-22 and Psa 26:2 teach that all thought originates in these two lobes.

PSA 26:2 Examine me, O Lord, and try me; Test my *mind* and my *heart*.

It is the battleground between the old sin nature and the Holy Spirit, Mat 10:28; Eph 4:17-19; Psa 143.

c. Volition which means that man has the ability to be negative or positive to anything in life.

d. Emotion, Luk 12:19. This is the appreciator or the reaction of the soul.

This is what this man said who was a loser and reacted by using his emotions to tell himself that he was going to provide only for himself and no one else.

Normally the emotion is dominated by the right lobe of the soul, known as the heart.

e. Conscience, which is the evaluator of the soul containing the norms and standards, Acts 24:16.

ACT 24:16 "In view of this, I also do my best to maintain always a blameless conscience {both} before God and before men.

It is important to note that the Old Sin Nature is not part of the soul.

It battles for control of the soul through sin, human good and evil, Gal 5:16-18.

Without Bible doctrine in the soul, you tend to run loose with your old sin nature's area of strength and link this activity with pride.

Point 2. The Soul must Be Distinguished from the Human Spirit.

Originally man was trichotomous, having a body, soul, and spirit, Gen 2:7.

GEN 2:7 Then the Lord God formed man of dust from the ground and breathed into his nostrils the breath of lives [soul and spirit]; and man became a living being.

After the fall, man is born dichotomous, having only a body and soul, 1Co 2:14; Jude 1:19.

JUD 1:19 These are the ones who cause divisions, worldly minded, *devoid* of the human spirit.

The believer is said to have a body, soul, and spirit, 1Th 5:23.

The human spirit is regenerated by God the Holy Spirit at salvation TIT 3:5.

TIT 3:5 He saved us, not on the basis of deeds which we have done in righteousness, but according to His mercy, by the washing of regeneration and renewing by the *Holy Spirit*.

Point 3. Only the Soul, Not the Body, is Saved at the Point of Regeneration, Psa 19:7, 34:22; Mar 8:36-37; 1Pe 1:9; Heb 10:39.

PSA 19:7 The doctrine of the Lord is perfect, restoring the soul;

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PSA 34:22 The Lord redeems the soul of His servants;

1PE 1:9 obtaining as the outcome of your faith the salvation of your souls.

Only the soul, not the body is saved at the point of regeneration.

In eternity the soul is given a perfect body minus an old sin nature or any human good.

To have a soul, a human spirit, and a resurrection body, in eternity is strictly a matter of grace.

HEB 10:39 But we are not of those who shrink back to destruction, but of those who have faith to the preserving of the soul.

Point 4. Only the Soul, not the Body was made in the Image of God, Gen 1:26-27, Gen 2:7.

God is spirit and does not have a physical body; JOH 4:24 "God is spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth."

Point 5. The Soul is the Area of the Worse Sins which are Mental Attitude Sins, Job 21:22-25; Zec 11:8.

ZEC 11:8 Then I annihilated the three shepherds in one month, for my soul was impatient with them, and their soul also was weary of me.

If you are guilty, arrogant, bitter, or full of revenge, you will talk a certain way that reveals the content of your soul.

Point 6. The Soul Becomes the Seat of Misery Because of Scar Tissue of the Soul, Psa 6:3, 119:25, 28, 81.

Point 7. The Soul is the Area for all Capacities, Good or Bad.

Inside the PPOG, the mature believer has maximum capacity for life, love and happiness.

Inside the cosmic system, the reversionist has maximum capacity for sin, human good, evil, and self-induced misery.

1SA 18:1 Now it came about when he had finished speaking to Saul, that the *soul* of Jonathan was knit to the *soul* of David, and Jonathan loved him as himself.

Point 8. In Physical Death, both the Soul and the Human Spirit departs from the Body, Job 27:8; Psa 16:10; 2Co 5:8.

JOB 27:8 "For what is the hope of the godless when he is cut off, When God requires his life?"

PSA 16:10 For Thou wilt not abandon my soul to Sheol; Neither wilt Thou allow Thy Holy One to undergo decay.

Point 9. Definition of the Human Spirit.

The human spirit is the immaterial part of man designed by God to convert, to store, and to utilize spiritual phenomena.

The human spirit receives spiritual information which the Holy Spirit converts into gnosis (knowledge).

Information may come into the left lobe of the soul of man as *noeo*, meaning imagination type thinking, or *phroneo*, meaning objective thinking, or *dokeo*, meaning subjective thinking.

Then once the information is understood, the believer who is filled with the Spirit either accepts it or rejects it.

If the information is *accepted*, which is tantamount to saying mentally, "I believe it, then the Holy Spirit converts *gnosis* information that is believed by the believer into *epignosis*, or metabolize doctrine available to use.

Epignosis doctrine can then be processed by the various areas of the right lobe of the soul which will not happen without positive volition toward doctrine.

1. First, spiritual information is taught in some manner.
2. Then the believer must have both positive volition, and concentration, on what is taught.
3. Then the Holy Spirit transfers this spiritual information to the human spirit where it becomes spiritual phenomena.
4. The Holy Spirit transfers this spiritual phenomenon to the left lobe of the soul where it becomes gnosis or just a knowledge of what is being taught.
5. Faith or belief by the believer causes the Holy Spirit to convert gnosis to epignosis and transfer it to the right lobe of the soul known as the heart.
6. Application of epignosis produces wisdom.

As we have already noted, in the original creation of man, the human spirit was received along with the human soul when man received the "breath of lives," Gen 2:7.

GEN 2:7 Then the Lord God formed man of dust from the ground and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living being.

The word for life is the Hebrew word *chajim* which means “lives” because it is a masculine plural noun.

GEN 2:7 Then the Lord God formed man of dust from the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of *lives*; (plural) and man became a living being.

The word for breathed is the Hebrew word *neshamah* which is translated both *soul* and *spirit*.

Point 10. The Principle of Trichotomy and Dichotomy.

Original man was created trichotomous, Gen 2:7, he had a body, soul, and spirit.

As a result of the Fall, both Adam and the woman became dichotomous, having only a body and soul.

That is because the day that they ate of the tree of knowledge of good and evil they died, not physically but spiritually, Gen 2:17; Rom 5:12.

GEN 2:17 but from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat from it you shall surely die."

All of us sinned when Adam sinned, because all of us receive his old sin nature which is passed down to the entire human race at physical birth.

We all have positional truth in Adam, but we can all have positional truth in Christ.

1CO 15:22 For as in Adam all die, so also in Christ all shall be made alive.

“surely die: is the Hebrew phrase *taamuwt mowt* which means dying spiritually, you will die physically.

“spiritual death” includes the destruction or death of the human spirit.

As a result, their progeny, the human race, are always physically born dichotomous, having no human spirit; PSA 51:5; 58:3.

The unbeliever is born in the line of Adam with a genetically formed old sin nature passed down through the man in procreation.

He receives the imputation of Adam's sin directly at physical birth.

This is why 1Co 2:14 describes all the human race as *psuchikos*, meaning soulish.

1CO 2:14 “The soulish man cannot understand the things of the spirit of God; they are foolishness unto him, neither can he know them, because they are discerned by the human spirit.”

Jud 19 “These [unbelievers] are the ones who cause divisions, soulish, not having a human spirit.”

Point 10. The Principle of Trichotomy and Dichotomy.

When anyone believes in Christ, the omnipotence of the Spirit restores the status quo of trichotomy (Adam before the fall), i.e., in regeneration, the Holy Spirit creates a human spirit for the imputation of eternal life.

The word for born is the word *gennao* which means to procreate or to regenerate.

The word again is not the normal word for again in the Greek which is *palin* meaning to restore back or to repeat, here is the Greek word *anōthen* which means brand new or from above or as the Greek says from above, or from a higher place.

It means to be born again with a brand-new nature from above, not something that was dead and ignited by God the Holy Spirit as some teach.

Many teach that we had a little wick of light left that was about to die, but then God blew on it and made them alive.

2CO 5:17 Therefore if any man is in Christ, {he is} a new creature; the old things passed away; behold, new things have come.

When eternal life is imputed to the human spirit, we call that being born again.

This means that every believer has human life residing in his soul forever and eternal life residing in his human spirit forever.

The believer receives the human spirit at the same time he receives the indwelling of the Holy Spirit.

1Th 5:23 "Now may the God of peace Himself sanctify you entirely, and may your spirit, soul, and body be preserved blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ."

Job 32:8 "But it is the spirit in man [believer] and the Spirit of the Almighty that gives perception."

Phile 25 "The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with your human spirit."

The human spirit of Titus is mentioned specifically in 2Co 7:13 "For this reason, we have been comforted, and in addition to our comfort, we have rejoiced, even much more, for the joy of Titus, because his spirit has been refreshed by all of you."

Heb 4:12 "The Word of God is alive and powerful, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder between the soul and the spirit."

Point 11. Perception of Doctrine Occurs by the Functions of the Two Spirits, the Holy Spirit and the human spirit, 1Co 2:12-16.

ROM 8:16 puts it like this "The [Holy] Spirit Himself bears witness with our [human] spirit"

This is why the Holy Spirit is called the teacher of Bible doctrine, Joh 14:26, 16:12-16; 1Jo 2:27; 1Co 2:9-16.

In JOH 16:13 He is called the Spirit of doctrine, "But when He, the Spirit of truth, comes,"

Point 11. Perception of Doctrine Occurs by the Functions of the Two Spirits, the Holy Spirit and the human spirit.