

Personal/Small Group Study

Week of June 9, 2024 A.D.

Do You Have the Mind of Christ?

The man without the Spirit does not accept the things that come from the Spirit of God because they are spiritually discerned. The man with the Spirit accepts the things of God - and such a man is blessed. Let's talk about that in this week's study.

(Note: For every question which appears in this study, always give the reasoning and/or the explanation for each of your answers.)

Read Genesis 1:1

1. Do you believe that God created everything? Do you believe that God lives in a dimension which is beyond (and outside of) time and space? Do you believe that nothing happens anywhere unless God causes it to happen and/or God allows it to happen?

Read John 3:5-8, John 4:24

2. Do you believe that there are two realms of existence, namely: (a) a physical realm and (b) a spiritual realm? Please explain what Jesus is saying in verse 8.

Read 1 Corinthians 2:6-8

3. "Age" can be defined as "a period in history which occurs before or after the creation of humanity". Who are the "rulers of this age" to whom Paul makes reference in verse 6? Do you agree that the "rulers of this age . . . are coming to nothing"?
4. Refer to verses 7-8. What is the "secret wisdom" of God? How (and from whom) has the secret wisdom of God been hidden? Would God have allowed Adam and Eve to rebel against God if God did not intend to reveal God's "secret wisdom" to mankind through the Holy Spirit?
5. Why have "none of the rulers of this age understood" God's secret wisdom? Do you agree with the conclusion which is stated in verse 8?

Read 1 Corinthians 2:9-10

6. Please explain the meaning of these verses.
7. What are the "deep things of God"? Have any of the "deep things of God" been revealed to you? How has your understanding of any of the "deep things of God" changed (a) your behavior, (b) your goals, (c) your love for God, and (d) your love for people?

Read 1 Corinthians 2:11-14

8. What are some of the "spiritual truths" which guide and direct your daily behavior and activities? What has God "freely given" to you (and also to every believer in Christ)? Does God expect every Christian to "accept (and obey) the things that come from the Spirit of God"?

Read Genesis 1:26-28; 6:9-22; 8:13-19; 9:1,7

9. Why did God create man? According to the Genesis 6:9-22 passage, why did God kill all humans except for Noah and Noah's family? What are the similarities between the verses found at Genesis 1:27-28 and the verses found at Genesis 8:13-19 and Genesis 9:1,7?

Read Genesis 11:1-9

10. Refer to verse 4. Why is God angered when the people of earth choose to "make a name for themselves"? Please state examples of how (throughout history) the people and the rulers of our planet have made, and continue to make, "a name for themselves"? In your opinion, is God pleased when the rulers of our planet pursue the establishment of (a) a one world government, (b) a common language (i.e. English) for the majority of the world, (c) a one-world currency, (d) a world wide web, and/or (e) artificial intelligence?

Read Genesis 12:1-3 & Hebrews 6:18

11. Is it possible for God to lie? Has God promised to bless every person and every nation which blesses the nation of Israel? Has God promised to curse every person and every nation which curses Israel? Based on these promises, and concerning the current war and any future war involving the nation of Israel, what consequences are likely to result for: (a) the nation of America and (b) the church in America?

Read Acts 17:24-31

12. Referring to 1 Corinthians 2, in your opinion, is the American church more influenced by (a) "the wisdom of this age" or (b) "God's secret wisdom"? Is the American church in general (and your church family in particular) more influenced by (a) "the spirit of the world" or (b) "the Spirit who is from God"? Do you personally have (a) "the mind of Christ" or (b) are the "things that come from the Spirit of God foolish to you"?

Consider: No eye has seen, no ear has heard, no mind has conceived what God has prepared for those who love him. But God has revealed it to us by his Spirit. "You think about that." Amen.