

AN INTRODUCTION TO THE BOOK OF EPHESIANS; OUR REGENERATED HUMAN SPIRIT INDWELT BY THE SPIRIT OF GOD

(Scripture quotations are from the *Recovery Version of the Bible*.)

Scripture Reading: Eph. 1:17; 2:18, 22; 3:5, 16; 4:23; 5:18; 6:18

I. **The Spirit of Man is the Deepest Part of Man's Being**

A. The spirit of man has the faculty to penetrate the innermost region of the things of man, whereas the mind of man is capable of knowing only superficial things.

1 Corinthians 2:11

11 For who among men knows the things of man, except the spirit of man which is in him? In the same way, the things of God also no one has known except the Spirit of God.

B. "God is Spirit" in John 4:24 is a reference to the nature of the complete Triune God; it does not refer merely to the Lord Spirit. To worship God, who is Spirit, we must worship with our spirit, which is of the same nature as He is.

John 4:24

24 God is Spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truthfulness.

II. **The Importance of the Spirit of Man as Revealed in the Book of Ephesians**

A. In chapter one, our regenerated spirit indwelt by the Spirit of God is a spirit of wisdom and revelation. The veil of the natural understanding must be taken away so that the eyes of our inner understanding may be enlightened to thoroughly see through to the eternal things in the heavenlies.

Ephesians 1:17

17 That the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give to you a spirit of wisdom and revelation in the full knowledge of Him,

B. In chapter two, in our spirit we are being built into God's dwelling place. To have access unto the Father is to enjoy God, who, as the source of life, regenerated us to be His sons, building us together to be His dwelling place.

Ephesians 2:18, 22

18 For through Him we both have access in one Spirit unto the Father.

22 In whom you also are being built together into a dwelling place of God in spirit.

- C. In chapter three, God gives the revelation of the mystery of Christ to His apostles and prophets in the human spirit in order that we could experientially be strengthened into our inner man, our human spirit, that is to live in our spirit.

Ephesians 3:5

5 Which in other generations was not made known to the sons of men, as it has now been revealed to His holy apostles and prophets in spirit,

Ephesians 3:16

16 That He would grant you, according to the riches of His glory, to be strengthened with power through His Spirit into the inner man,

- D. In chapter four, the believers are renewed in the spirit of the mind by having the renewing Spirit spreading from our spirit into our mind.

Ephesians 4:23

23 And that you be renewed in the spirit of your mind

- E. In chapter five, to be filled in our spirit with Christ causes us to overflow with Christ to others in speaking, singing, psalming, and giving thanks to God. To be drunk is to be filled in the body with wine, but to be filled in spirit is to be filled in our human spirit with the Holy Spirit who is the heavenly wine.

Ephesians 5:18

18 And do not be drunk with wine, in which is dissoluteness, but be filled in spirit,

- F. In chapter six, our regenerated spirit, indwelt by the Spirit of God, is the main faculty that we should use in our prayer and petition in engaging in spiritual warfare. In order to slay the enemy, we must pray. If we do not pray in the spirit, we cannot fight the battle for God.

Ephesians 6:18

18 By means of all prayer and petition, praying at every time in spirit and watching unto this in all perseverance and petition concerning all the saints,

STUDY QUESTIONS

1. What is your impression of the importance of the human spirit in Ephesians?
2. What is the progression of God's economy toward the believer revealed in these verses concerning the human spirit?
3. How does entering into and living in our human spirit affect you as the Lord's believer?
4. What is your personal experience related to contacting and living in the human spirit?