

2020 4Q Education: Lesson 8 Education and Redemption

by Tim Jennings (announcements last page)

SABBATH

I am excited to share a special resource, recently made available by <u>Pineknoll</u> and it is their new book, *Conversations about God* by Graham Maxwell, with Louis Venden and edited by Jon Paulien.

In 1984, Graham Maxwell conducted a lecture series at the Loma Linda University Church entitled, *Conversations about God.* After each presentation he would have a Q&A period with Louis Venden. These were all recorded, and recently Pineknoll has transcribed and edited these presentations and discussions and produced a beautiful book and are giving these away at no cost. We have enough here for all of you who attend our class, so pick one up today.

If you watch online, please go to **Pineknoll.org** and request your free copy and they will ship it to you at no cost, **anywhere in the world**!

Read Memory Text: "**All Scripture is given** by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness" (2Timothy 3:16 NIKJV).

thoughts? What do we understand to be a better translation and why?

For all Scripture, inspired by God, is beneficial for teaching, redirecting, correcting and training — to promote character transformation (2Timothy 3:16 *The Remedy*).

Do these two texts mean the same thing? What is the difference and is it important?

This is why we don't surrender our thinking but must reason through Scripture. This translation, the KJV and the NKJV have an error in the translation which suggests that all Scripture is given by inspiration. Is that so?

- What about the apocrypha? Books like:
 - Esdras (Vulgate 3 Esdras)
 - 2 Esdras (Vulgate 4 Esdras)
 - o Tobit.
 - Judith ("Judeth" in Geneva)
 - \circ Rest of Esther (Vulgate Esther 10:4 16:24)
 - o Wisdom.
 - Ecclesiasticus (also known as Sirach)
 - Baruch and the Epistle of Jeremy ("Jeremiah" in Geneva) (all part of Vulgate Baruch)



- What versions of the Bible have included the apocryphal books?
 - Gutenberg Bible
 - o Luther Bible
 - Clementine Vulgate
 - King James Version
- Pseudepigrapha?
 - o 3 Maccabees.
 - o 4 Maccabees.
 - Assumption of Moses.
 - Ethiopic Book of Enoch (1 Enoch)
 - $\circ \quad \mbox{Slavonic Second Book of Enoch.}$
 - Book of Jubilees.
 - \circ 3 Baruch.
- Book of Mormon?
- Koran?

So we believe that all Scripture which is inspired by God is useful...

Read second paragraph, "But for the purposes..." What do you think of the idea that theme of the Bible is of a Teacher and His students?

Who is the Teacher? Who are the students?

What do you think of this perspective from the apostle Peter?

Concerning this salvation... Even angels long to look into these things. (1Peter 1:10-12).

What about the angels in heaven—are they also students? Are they also learning things they didn't already know?

This is from the book Patriarchs and Prophets and goes along the lines of Peter's view:

But the plan of redemption had a yet broader and deeper purpose than the salvation of man. [What? Isn't the entire gospel about us, about our salvation? No the gospel or good news is about God and it just so happens that God is so good that He did not abandon us after Adam sinned, but sent His Son to save us, but the good news is that God is not like Satan has made Him out to appear.] It was not for this alone that Christ came to the earth; it was not merely that the inhabitants of this little world might regard the law of God as it should be regarded; but it was to vindicate the character of God before the universe. [How should God's law be regarded? As design law—remember Satan in the opening of the great controversy took the position that every sin must meet its punishment. Satan is the author of imposed law, imposed punishments which distort the character and government of God and incite fear and rebellion.



The message to lighten the world calls us back to worship the Creator whose laws are design laws] To this result of His great sacrifice--its influence upon the intelligences of other worlds, as well as upon man-[the sacrifice of Jesus was for other sinless beings? If so then it wasn't some legal payment for our sins as some like to claim; it was to reveal the truth and expunge the lies!] the Saviour looked forward when just before His crucifixion He said: "Now is the judgment of this world: now shall the prince of this world be cast out. And I, if I be lifted up from the earth, will draw all unto Me." John 12:31, 32. [Cast out of where? What kind of action is Jesus' death on the Cross? Is it an act of force or the use of might and power by God to throw someone down? Is God using angels with flaming swords in a physical battle? This is an act of love, of surrender, of laying down of physical might and power, yet, Jesus says by this act that Satan is cast out-how? What does it mean? Cast out of where? Satan is cast out of the affections of heavenly beings and all human beings who, through the Sacrifice of Jesus, are won back to trust in God! The battle has never been a physical battle. It has always been a battle over who we love and trust!] The act of Christ in dying for the salvation of man would not only make heaven accessible to men, but before all the universe it would justify God and His Son in their dealing with the rebellion of Satan. It would establish the perpetuity of the **law** of God and would reveal the nature and the results of sin. {PP 68.2}

What does it mean establish the perpetuity of the law? If the law was a system of imposed rules, rules can be changed or bent or cheated—look around at every human government in history—all human laws get bent or cheated by those in power.

But God's laws are design laws and these cannot be changed, or bent, or cheated. To change the law of God is to change the very order of the universe, all we know, life as we know it would not exist if God's design laws were changed. If the law could be changed then Jesus would not have had to die, but the death of Jesus was the only way to reveal the truth and cure the problem while maintain God's design for life!

Are there any other Bible texts that support this view?

For God was pleased to have all his fullness dwell in him [Jesus], and **through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether things on earth or things in heaven**, by making peace through his blood, shed on the cross (Colossians 1:20 NIV84).

What is reconciled to Christ through His blood? Was this blood shed for angels? Was it shed to pay their legal penalty for their sins? Then what is the blood of Jesus doing for angels? Why did they need it?

Consider this from The Desire of Ages:

To the angels and the unfallen worlds the cry, "It is finished," had a deep significance. It was for them as well as for us that the great work of redemption had been accomplished. They with us share the fruits of Christ's victory.



Not until the death of Christ was the character of Satan clearly revealed to the angels or to the unfallen worlds. The archapostate had so clothed himself with deception that even holy beings had not understood his principles. They had not clearly seen the nature of his rebellion. {DA 758}

Satan saw that his disguise was torn away. His administration was laid open before the unfallen angels and before the heavenly universe. He had revealed himself as a murderer. By shedding the blood of the Son of God, he had uprooted himself from the sympathies of the heavenly beings. Henceforth his work was restricted. Whatever attitude he might assume, he could no longer await the angels as they came from the heavenly courts, and before them accuse Christ's brethren of being clothed with the garments of blackness and the defilement of sin. The last link of sympathy between Satan and the heavenly world was broken. DA 761.2

Thus Jesus' words that when He is lifted up the prince of this world is cast out—cast out of the sympathies of heavenly beings and out of the hearts of all who trust Jesus here on earth.

But why haven't all humans come to have Satan and his methods cast out of there hearts? Why haven't all Christians been freed from fear and selfishness and become true representatives of Christ?

Because Satan infected Christianity with a lie that God's law works like human law and essentially all Christianity of all denominations teach that it wasn't Satan that murdered Jesus, but it was God who killed Jesus at the cross for justice sake, to pay our legal debt.

Here are some references from various Christian denominations which document this infection of thought:

Roman Catholic:

What did Christ's suffering and death actually accomplish that allowed the Father to provide the human race with salvation? ... Scripture teaches only that Christ became a 'propitiation,' a 'sin offering,' or a 'sacrifice' for sins...Essentially, this means that Christ, because he was guiltless, sin-free and in favor with God, **could offer himself up as a means of persuading God to relent of his angry wrath** against the sins of mankind... Anger against sin shows the personal side of God, for sin is a personal offense against him **God is personally offended by sin and thus he needs to be personally appeased** in order to offer a personal forgiveness. In keeping with his divine principles, his personal nature, and the magnitude of the sins of man, **the only thing that God would allow to appease him was the suffering and death of the sinless representative of mankind, namely, Christ**. Robert Sungenis, Founder and President of Catholic Apologetics International Publishing: Not By Faith Alone (Santa Barbara: Queenship, 1997), pp. 107-108.



Evangelical

We affirm that the atonement of Christ by which, in his obedience, he offered a perfect sacrifice, **propitiating the Father by paying for our sins** and satisfying divine justice on our behalf according to God's eternal plan, is an essential element of the Gospel. "A Call to Evangelical Unity," Christianity Today, June 14, 1999.

SDA—Since the 1888 GC and the rejection of the Righteousness by Faith Message meaning since the rejection of design law and the embracing of imposed law:

Christ's self-sacrifice is pleasing to God because this sacrificial offering **took away the barrier between God and sinful man** in that **Christ fully bore God's wrath on man's sin**. Through Christ, God's wrath is not turned into love but is turned away from man and borne by Himself. *Seventh-day Adventist Believe 27*, p. 111.

What is the barrier between God and man according to this reference?

What happened to "The lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world?" (John 1:29)

Also from Seventh-day Adventist Believe 27, p. 111.

For a loving God to maintain His justice and righteousness, the atoning death of Jesus Christ became 'a moral and legal necessity.' God's 'justice requires that sin be carried to judgment. God must therefore execute judgment on sin and thus on the sinner. In this execution the Son of God took our place, the sinner's place, according to God's will. ibid.

Do you see the deep infection of Satan's lie about God's law being imposed, and then the lie about God's character being the source of death and the one from whom we need to be protected?

But Ellen White, one of the founders of the SDA church saw it differently:

To break **down the barrier that Satan had erected between God and man**, Christ made a full and complete sacrifice, revealing unexampled self-denial. He revealed to the world the amazing spectacle of God living in human flesh, and sacrificing Himself to save fallen men. What wonderful love! *Signs of the Times*, September 24, 1902, Review & Herald Publishing.

It is no wonder so many Christians don't trust God and have struggled to have Satan and his methods of fear and selfishness cast out of their hearts. The lie that God's law functions like human law with its poisonous fruit of penal substitution theology has kept Satan enthroned in the Spirit temple as a false god that is the source of pain, suffering and death inflicted upon sinners and who needs a blood payment to appease or assuage his wrath. Such ideas keep people afraid and worshipping a false god.



SUNDAY

Read the first paragraph, "The phrase..." What do you understand the image of God in humanity to be?

- character of love?
- intelligence?
- individuality?
- capacity for procreation?
- capacity for dominion and ruling the planet?
- other?

What does it mean that education is to restore the image of God in man?

Would that suggest that the image of God language refers to something beyond the physical appearance?

What does the Bible describe as God's core identifiers?

- God is Creator
- AND
- God is love

These are the two characteristics that are prime that set the true God apart from false gods.

Humankind was created in God's image to be pro-creators and to be the repository of God's design law of love. This law is a living law a law upon which life operate and cannot be understood written on stone. God's law is only truly seen in a living being. Adam and Eve were designed and built to operate in other centered love, to give of themselves, to create little beings in their image, to govern the planet upon the protocols of love.

While we still have procreative abilities—do we, as a species, operate upon the principles of love or has selfishness infected humanity?

If selfishness is operating as the motivator to our actions, then whose image to we bear? This is the battle between Christ and Satan—God wants to write His law in our hearts and minds—His design methods of love, truth and freedom. Satan wants to destroy God's law of love from our hearts and fill us with fear and selfishness.

Consider this quote from Acts of the Apostles:

"If any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new." 2 Corinthians 5:17. Through the power of Christ, men and women have broken the chains of sinful habit. **They have renounced selfishness**. [Is this a legal process or a healing process?] The profane have become reverent, the drunken sober, the profligate [the



shameless immoral] pure. Souls that have borne the likeness of Satan have become transformed into the image of God. This change is in itself the miracle of miracles. A change wrought by the Word, it is one of the deepest mysteries of the Word. We cannot understand it; we can only believe, as declared by the Scriptures, it is "Christ in you, the hope of glory." AA 476.1

What is it to bear the likeness of Satan? To be selfish, to exploit others for self, to be profane, to debase oneself, to be immoral.

What does it mean to bear the image of Christ? To be purified in heart, mind and character to love God and others, to no longer be selfish, to be honest, kind, generous.

After Adam and Eve sinned, Satan has sought to destroy the image of God in humanity—what are some of Satan's methods to accomplish this?

Consider this quote:

It was Satan's studied effort [in the antediluvian age] to pervert the marriage institution, to weaken its obligations and lessen its sacredness; for in no surer way could he deface the image of God in man and open the door to misery and vice. AH 326.1

How has the marriage institution been corrupted throughout human history?

- Male abuse, control, domination of their wives and daughters, treating them like property and subordinating them to their husbands and fathers as if they had no individuality of their own,
- Wives who abuse and mistreat their husbands
- Adultery—betrayal of any kind
- Polygamy which makes women into objects of passion and pleasure to be used for the benefit of the man
- Prostitution which corrupts the sexual union into a transaction for selfish indulgence and exploitation
- Pornography
- Fertility cults which elevate sexuality to the object of worship and typically worship the feminine
- Living together without marriage, without commitment, without self-sacrifice only as long as it is convenient
- Hardness of heart that leads to lack of love in a marriage that results in divorce
- Progressivism in which there are no genders, no male no female and no purpose or need for marriage

Why is marriage, as God designed, related to our sanctity? Why is perverting marriage so destructive to us and so damaging to the image of God in people?



- Where did God design love to operate at its fullest and purest?
- Where did God design two people to experience unity as "one" in its fullest sense?
- What happens in the heart and mind of people who do experience this?
- If we experience marriage as God designed it to operate, do we become more selfish or more selfless? Do we become more exploitive or more caring, compassionate, concerned for others? In other words, does our ability to love others grow in marriages where God's design functions?
- What happens to our abilities if we exercise them?
- What happens to people if they allow fear to rule them in their marriage? Fear of rejection, fear of not being good enough, fear of being abandoned, fear of loss, fear of exploitation?
- Does fear allow people to experience genuine love?
- Does fear lead to greater development of noble traits of character?
- If fear rules the heart then what actions follow? What character develops if fear rules?
- What happens to fear where love is experienced? Is marriage as God designed a place where one's fears can be washed away in love?
- What happens to the character of people in whom sex becomes merely selfish gratification pornography, prostitution, serial relationships, frequent one-night stands, polygamy, or using the spouse merely as a sexual object?
- Do we see how marriage as God designed is for the development of God-like character, the joy of God-like love, the expansion of God-like abilities and thus Satan attacks marriage to deface the image of God in people?

Consider this historic quote, do you agree?

Satan worked upon such principles as would conform those who sympathized with him to his own corrupt standard, and would assimilate them with his own Satanic nature. It was his determined purpose to efface from man the image of God, and stamp upon the souls of his subjects his own image and superscription. He employed in his work the most deceptive methods, and was successful in leading men to cooperate with him in rebellion against God. Christ gives to him the title of "the father of lies," "the accuser of the brethren," "a murderer from the beginning." By his bewitching power he instilled into man the same spirit of opposition and hatred of God as he himself had, and set up his throne as the rallying point for the confederacy of wickedness. ST June 13, 1895, par. 1

What are the principles of Satan?

- lies
- fear
- selfishness
- coercion
- corrupt standards—which means what? false standards, this would include the false standards on marriage, but also false laws i.e. imposed laws or rules that contradict or are not in harmony with design laws



The lesson points out that one of the main purposes of education is to restore the image of God in us.

Where are children to receive a godly education? At home, at church, and at school?

How are we doing in society today?

Do our children receive a consistent godly education in our homes, churches and schools?

Can we look at history and see how the education of children changes a society?

- Does it make a difference if children are educated to believe they are created in the image of God versus there is no God and they merely evolved from lower life forms?
- Does it make a difference if children are taught that some groups of people are less human than others?
- Does it make a difference if children are taught that the only thing that matters is winning—all is fair in love and war?
- Does it make a difference if children are taught God's law is like human law imposed rules and that God must punish rule breakers?

And what is happening in the world today? What kind of education are the children receiving in our public schools around the world? Are they being taught about God and God's design for human beings or are they being taught a godless philosophy of humanism?

Does the godless education, the progressive worldly education, have an impact on developing minds and characters? Is the image of God being restored into people or is it being effaced by this worldly education?

How can so many Christians support the worldly education? Because they are deceived—they are tricked into believing school is merely about reading, writing and arithmetic. Millions have failed to understand that **education is about restoring the image of God in people!**

What would happen if that was the primary issue when parents consider schools? Is it, when parents are considering schools is their primary concern—*what impact will this school have on restoring the image of God in my child*?

And thus, millions of Christians support education that undermines the image of God in their children.

Should we support government run religion in schools? Why or why not?

What would be a solution? What about vouchers in which parents could decide where their children go to school and regardless of income parents could still choose to send their children to private Christian schools?



MONDAY

The lesson states regarding Jesus, "Somehow His work of Redemption is akin to the work of teaching."

If Jesus is teaching, then we are learning and what does learning require of the student?

- Does Jesus want simple memorization—here is the list of fundamental beliefs you must accept—memorize them?
- Does Jesus want us to believe because the Teacher said so? Jesus said it, I believe it, that settles it?

What does Jesus want from us?

"Come now, let us reason together," says the LORD. "Though your sins are like scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they are red as crimson, they shall be like wool. (Isaiah 1:18 NIV84)

What does this text mean? Why is reasoning with God connected with cleansing from sin?

What about:

Then you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free. (John 8:32 NIV84)

What does this text mean? What does truth set us free from?

- lies believed break the circle of love and trust
- broken love and trust result in fear and selfishness
- fear and selfishness result in acts of sin
- acts of sin damage our minds, body, relationships a terminal condition

What is the cure, the solution?

- Truth believed destroys lies and wins to trust
- In trust we open our hearts and the Spirit fills us with the love of God (no longer I that live but Christ lives in me) fear and selfishness is cast out
- In love and trust we carry out acts of love, service, giving
- In living God's methods and principles we grow in godliness and healed condition

BUT IT ALL STARTS WITH THE TRUTH ABOUT GOD!

And the truth about God is not merely facts it is coming to know God personally which requires we reason and think and be fully persuaded in our own minds!



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WEDNESDAY

Read the second paragraph, "King Solomon is singled..." Do you consider Solomon wise? Yet somehow he became very foolish, how did that happen?

Consider this historic quote:

The mind of a man or woman does not come down in a moment from purity and holiness to depravity, corruption, and crime. It takes time to transform the human to the divine, or to degrade those formed in the image of God to the brutal or the satanic. By beholding we become changed. [Why? The law of worship—this is a design law upon how we are created. It is unavoidable. We are constantly being changed either into the image of God by worshipping Him, by fixing our eyes upon Jesus, or into the Satanic by embracing some false standard, some false god even though we claim to be Christian] Though formed in the image of his Maker, man can so educate his mind that sin which he once loathed will become pleasant to him. [Does education mean only scholastics? Does public education work to restore the image of God in people? Does Christian education which misrepresents God restore the image of God in people? Or religious education that indoctrinates and does not teach people how to reason and think?] As he ceases to watch and pray, he ceases to guard the citadel, the heart, and engages in sin and crime. The mind is debased, and it is impossible to elevate it from corruption while it is being educated to enslave the moral and intellectual powers and bring them in subjection to grosser passions. Constant war against the carnal mind must be maintained; and we must be aided by the refining influence of the grace of God, which will attract the mind upward and habituate it to meditate upon pure and holy things.12 AH 330.2

It is impossible to elevate our minds and characters *while* they are being educated to enslave the moral and intellectual powers to the grosser passions—i.e. to selfishness. Why? Design law, how reality works. It is like saying, it is impossible to restore health while one continues to violate the laws of health.

And this is the problem with the penal/legal fraud within Christianity—it teaches that sin is a legal problem and the solution is a legal one by claiming a blood payment to the god that will kill you if you don't, but if you do then all your sins, past, present and future, are legally paid for and you are under grace and no matter what future sins you commit they are covered by the blood and you are saved. So, in this model:

- The wrong god is being worshipped and by beholding we are changed
- The wrong understanding of law is being taught and by practice of punishment and coercion of either ourselves or others we are being changed
- The wrong understanding of sin and its solution results in continued practice of sin and via the law of exertion we are being changed

This is the wine of Babylon; this is the corruption of the Dark Ages false Christianity; this is what we are to call people out of!



What did Solomon do that brought down his character to the point that he sacrificed one of his own children to a pagan god?

He practices polygamy—God's design for marriage was corrupted and this resulted in what? In taking foreign wives, and this resulted in what? In Solomon allowing them religious freedom and they brought in their pagan worship practices and began teaching and seducing Solomon into their falsehoods.

And what happened to Solomon?

Is there a lesson for us?

- Violating God's design is **always** damaging no matter the motive
- Allowing feelings, compassion, or desire to overrule one's judgment is always damaging
- Failure to set healthy boundaries results in injury
- Surrendering judgment to others, allowing oneself to be influenced by those who are not loyal to God is dangerous and destructive
- True wisdom is found only in harmony with God and His designs and methods

Was Solomon wrong for granting religious liberty to his wives? Why or why not?

Was Solomon wrong for keeping them as wives or should he have divorced all who insisted on worshipping false gods? Why or why not?

- Once in a marriage relationship each spouse has responsibilities to the other that necessarily restricts the liberty that one had as a single person. Such as, not free within the bounds of marriage, to date other people. Not free, within the bounds of marriage, to take actions that knowingly betray the other or injure the spouse? Love binds us with loyalty and devotion to consider the welfare of our spouse, the impact that our actions will have on the other in a way we did not have to consider with a non-spouse.
- Marriage is a commitment to love the other more than the self and thus one as a duty to fulfill that responsibility.
- When marriage is practiced in godly love the individual grows in godliness. This is by design—we grow to ever increasing heights of love and joy in a godly marriage. But this means that certain freedoms are relinquished for the good of the other—but it is done by the self because we freely choose to give up those privileges for the other.

So, what if a spouse continues to act for self and not put their partners welfare as a priority? What if a spouse does continue to betray their loyalty by undermining the integrity, reputation, or health of their partner? Is it injuring only the one who is being betrayed, or is it injuring the betrayer? What does love do from both sides of this situation?

The lesson points out that we learn wisdom from others, from our parents or teachers. But, can we teach something we don't ourselves know? So, would a parent or teacher need to have wisdom in order to teach wisdom?



Can one have wisdom if they don't know God?

Can one have wisdom if they know God, but know Him as a child knows their parent level 1-4 moral development? Can one have wisdom if they know God but still don't know God's law is design law, they think it is imposed rules?

Consider Paul's admonition to the Corinthians:

For the message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. For it is written:

"I will destroy the wisdom of the wise;

the intelligence of the intelligent I will frustrate."

Where is the wise man? Where is the scholar? Where is the philosopher of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? For since in the wisdom of God the world through its wisdom did not know him, God was pleased through the foolishness of what was preached to save those who believe. Jews demand miraculous signs and Greeks look for wisdom, but we preach Christ crucified: a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles, 24 but to those whom God has called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. For the foolishness of God is wiser than man's wisdom, and the weakness of God is stronger than man's strength. Brothers, think of what you were when you were called. Not many of you were wise by human standards; not many were influential; not many were of noble birth. But God chose the foolish things of the world to shame the wise; God chose the weak things of the world to shame the strong. 1Corinthians 1:18-27 NIV84).

What does this mean?

This is from *The Remedy:*

For the truth about God-his character of absolute love, as revealed by Christ at the cross-makes no sense whatsoever to those who are dying through practicing the world's method of survival-of-the-fittest; but to those of us who are being healed and restored, it is the true power of God, the secret of eternal life. For the Scriptures reveal that God's method of self-sacrificing love will destroy the world's wisdom of promoting self first, but the apparent logic of working for self-exaltation, fame, personal advancement or financial wealth-rather than bringing healing and restoration, will be shown to actually accelerate the damage to one's mind and character. So then, what value is there in the wisdom of the selfish person? Or the agnostic professor? Or the atheistic scientist? Or the psychologist of the New Age? God has shown that all ''wisdom'' based on the principles of this world is in reality foolishness, silliness, nonsense! For after those who value the methods of the world rejected God and denied his existence, God joyfully revealed his wisdom by actually healing



and transforming all those who trust him on the basis of the simple message of God's selfless love revealed by Jesus. The Jews, and many like them, demand supernatural signs and wonders, which (they fail to realize) can be counterfeited; and the Greeks look only for intellectual explanations, but we preach God's self-sacrificing character of love revealed by Christ crucified. It's a roadblock to the egocentric Jews, and utter nonsense to the self-seeking Gentiles, but to all those who respond to God's call — whether Jew or Gentile — Christ is the embodiment of the character, wisdom and power of God! For the simple love of God is wiser than all humankind's self-centered scheming: God's love literally heals and restores. And this love of God, which appears weak to the world, is stronger than all the strength of selfish humanity.

Brothers and sisters, remember where you were, and what you were like before you responded to God's call. From the world's perspective, not many of you were successful or wise, or powerful, or high on the social scale. But God has purposely chosen what appears to be the worst cases—the ignorant and foolish—to reveal the tremendous transforming **power of his Remedy and thus expose the futility of the world's wisdom**. God has purposely chosen what the selfish world considers weak to reveal how impotent the world's power really is.

Do you see God's kingdom does not operate like this selfish world does? Everything this world promotes, wars against the kingdom of love and truth.

THURSDAY

The second paragraph states, "While the Holy Spirit is not identified as an educator, the work of the Spirit certainly is educational, particularly as it pertains to seeking and finding truth."

So true—the Spirit is the Spirit of truth and leads us into all truth and without truth there is no education into the things of God.

Let's be clear though, education is the process of teaching and learning and people can be educated into all kinds of lies and falsehoods such as:

- godless evolutionism
- penal substitution theology
- eternal torment in hell

and many more false ideas that indoctrinate and enslave minds.

The work of the Holy Spirit is to free people's minds from lies and restore them to godliness.

Consider this quote from The Desire of Ages:

The Comforter is called "the Spirit of truth." His work is to define and **maintain the truth**. **He first dwells in the heart as the Spirit of truth**, and thus He becomes the Comforter. **There is**



comfort and peace in the truth, but no real peace or comfort can be found in falsehood. It is through false theories and traditions that Satan gains his power over the mind. By directing men to false standards, he misshapes the character. Through the Scriptures the Holy Spirit speaks to the mind, and impresses truth upon the heart. Thus He exposes error, and expels it from the soul. It is by the Spirit of truth, working through the word of God, that Christ subdues His chosen people to Himself. DA 671.1

What does it mean to have the mind of Christ?

FRIDAY

Read and discuss questions

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

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BE SURE TO USE OUR WEBSITE STORE TO PLACE YOUR ORDER—DON'T SEND AN EMAIL.

If you are in Australia be sure to check out the Come and Reason Australia Facebook page where there is unique content and local events.

The Book of Genesis has now been added to our website Remedy and is NOW available on the Remedy App, just go to the App store and update.

Multi-Languages: Check out our multi-language section, it is growing every month.