

The Natural and The Spiritual Man

I Corinthians 2:6-16, "... For what man knoweth the things of a man, save the spirit of man which is in him? even so the things of God knoweth no man, but the Spirit of God. Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit Which is of God; that we might know the things that are freely given to us of God. Which things also we speak, not in the words which man's wisdom teacheth; but which the Holy Ghost teacheth; comparing spiritual things with spiritual. But the natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God: for they are foolishness unto him: neither can he know them, because they are Spiritually discerned. But he that is Spiritual judgeth all things, yet he himself is judged of no man. For who hath known the mind of the Lord, that he may instruct him? But we have the mind of Christ."

It is most evident from these Scriptures that no man of himself can hear God. That ability has to be given him of God. *Matthew 16:17, "And Jesus answered and said unto him, Blessed art thou, Simon Barjona; for flesh and blood hath not revealed it unto thee, but My Father Which is in heaven."* Putting these verses together we see that there is only one group of people, **and that's a very special group of people who are able to hear what the Spirit says in each age.** It is one special group that receives the revelation for each age. That group is of God, because the group that cannot hear is not of God (*John 8:42-44*). The group that can and does hear what the Spirit is saying and receives the revelation thereof is that group described in *I Corinthians 2:6-16*. **They are the ones who have the Spirit of God. They are the ones that are born of God. They are baptized into the body of the Lord Jesus Christ by His Spirit (*I Cor. 12:13*).** They are baptized with the Holy Ghost. [1]

The natural man, by the knowledge, looks backward for his achievement; that's science, see to what God has done in a former creation. They go out and pick up clods, and get pieces of rocks and fossils, and elements, and ties them together. See, on that achievement, they are taking what God has done, and perverting it from its original estate, and making his living quarters, and so forth, and his economy a little better, by what has been created. That's in the natural achievement, by man.

But God, in the spiritual achievement, is going forward, not going backward. He is going forward, looking into the Word, and believing the promises for things that never has come yet, for the spiritual revelations

to manifest the spiritual things that God has promised. He sees them come to pass. Just as the scientist in his laboratory is working on different things to help man, taking creation; **the spiritual man is looking forward to something that God promised, that has never yet been created** (*II Cor. 3:18*). **The natural man looks backward. The spiritual man looks forward.**

That's the way, they got that in the church. The natural church member looks back to what Finney, Sankey, Knox, Calvin. That was all right, but that was their day. **We are looking forward for something else, the promise that's greater and higher, and what God has promised.** Science goes back, to pick it up. We go forward, in the Word of the Lord, **to find what God has achieved.**

Notice, **the natural man even counts backwards.** I said he did things backwards. He counts backwards. Watch his count, "Ten, nine, eight, seven, six, five, four, three, two, one, zero!" See, he goes back (at the countdown), and starts counting. [2]

Our bodies are controlled by five senses. How many knows that to be true? **Five senses: see, taste, feel, smell, and hear, that controls the natural man.** Now, there's another man on the inside, **which is the man of faith, the spirit** (*II Cor. 4:13*). He has two senses: One of them is faith; the other is unbelief. [3]

And I was just thinking a few moments ago upon the subject of science. And I, just thinking of how that science, how they are taking the natural man and how he's went into the research from the fall of the natural and what he has done. **And how little the spiritual man has progressed in the Kingdom of God.** And I was thinking that the natural man went out at the unseen of his eye and pulled an atom down out of the sky, and split that atom in two that destroys human life. **And if the natural man that knows nothing of God and cannot know nothing of God except he's been converted, then his soul becomes alive with the supernatural...** If he could do that in the natural realm, what ought the man of God to be doing? My, my, friends, the church is so far behind. Let's pray, that God will move His church up. **The natural man with the natural resource is getting greater results than people are that call themselves Christian. Let's press into the unseen!** (*Luke 16:16; II Kings 6:14-17*). **The blessings are yours; they're for you!** [4]

The natural man only has the five senses. But the believer, when he meets God, he gets something different; **it's a super sense that lifts him up above the shadows. It makes him believe things that's impossible to come to**

pass (*Eph. 3:20-21*). He still believes they will come to pass, because God said so. When a man meets God, something takes place (*II Cor. 5:17*). [5]

The spiritual man on the inside, if you'll give him the right of way, he might lead you to a little mission somewhere, where there is not many people, **but there is the Spirit of the Living God. For the outside man feeds on psychology and intellectual. But the inside man feeds on the Word of God** (*Matt. 4:4*). [6]

I am trying to present to them, Lord, **that the natural man sees the natural things. And there, the spiritual things are so contrary to the intellectuals, that he cannot understand it.** And it was You, Lord, that told Nicodemus, "Except a man be born again, he can't even understand the Kingdom of God" (*John 3:3-5*). [7]

Why did Aaron have on his breastplate the birthstone of each one of those patriarchs? (*Exod. 28:15-30; Numbers 27:18-21; I Sam. 28:6; Lev. 8:1-13*). Look at those mothers when they gave their utterance. When them mothers and them Hebrew women in labor giving utterance to those children being born, it placed their name; it told their birth; it put them in the homeland; and set them over to eternity. Exactly. And then watch Jacob, when he was dying there, when he laid his hands upon the patriarchs and blessed them, he was telling them exactly where they would be. And that's exactly according to their name, and exactly according to their birth. And sure, it has something to do with you.

Now, **that's your birth path; that's what you are, a natural man or natural woman. But when you're reborn again**, that's not the outside conscience. The outside is what you **see, taste, feel, smell, and hear, but the inside of that is what you really are.** Now, this out here, Satan just tempts you and knocks you around every way here; **but down here he can't do it unless you let him do it. For in here you've got faith**, and faith doesn't come from the outer conscience, it reasons. But in faith there's no reason. **You've got it from God, and you know it's there** (*Mark 11:22*). I don't care how much it looks wrong, you still know it's right; it's **THUS SAITH THE LORD**. See? And there's nothing going to bother that. Nothing can bother that; it's moving right straight on. Difficult means nothing to it; wades right on through it, for It's the Word. And **the Word's the Sword** (*Eph. 6:17*), **and the Word cuts**. The Sword cuts Itself free from everything else. You see? Takes the hand of faith to hold that Word. [8]

Will all the sons and daughters of true, born again believers be saved?

No, brother; no, they sure won't. See, as I copied David duPlessis on this remark, "God doesn't have grandchildren, just sons and daughters." See,

they'll have to be born just exactly like their father and mother was born of the Spirit (John 3:5). See? That's what makes a man a **new person, is because he's born again, reborn.** His first birth brings him a natural man on earth; his second birth brings him a **spiritual man of heaven.** See? It changes him, his soul, not his outward conscience, his outward being, his senses; he still feels, and smells, tastes, and hears; **but his inward parts, his desires, what motivates him, has been changed to God (Heb. 10:2).**

Now, remember, the only way that this could happen would be this: just like it was in the time of the Roman centurion (*Acts 16:16-34*). Paul told the Roman, him and Silas, when he wanted to pull his sword and kill himself, because God had shook the jail down with an earthquake; he said, "Do thyself no harm, seeing we're all here. Rise." And wanted to know what he could do. He said, "Rise and be baptized, calling on the Name of the Lord, **and thou and thy house shall be saved.**" See? In other words, "Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, thou and thy house shall be saved." Now, how? **If your house believes in the same way that you believe.** See? You pray and commit your children to God **and hold onto God, believing that they will be saved.** [9]

We are taught **that God gave the natural man five senses to contact his earthly home;** and those senses are known as: **see, taste, feel, smell, hear, those five senses which are known to the natural man.** And they are good, and we cannot operate or live a normal life when one of these senses fail to act. Your sight, hearing, feeling, smelling, or tasting, we cannot be normal without them. There's something missing, some portion of life that we cannot contact, without that sense acting. **And they're good and they're useful, and they were given to us by God.**

God gave those senses, but they're given to you as a gift. And **it depends on, what you yield these senses to, will be the way that your life is controlled:** the way you yield those five senses... What you see, what you hear, what you taste, smell, or feel, **whatever those senses are yielded to, they will dominate you.** [10]

Now, our eternal destination is not altogether determined by what we see and what we hear, but it's determined on what discernment we have of what we see and what we hear. [11]

And we are grateful to God that we have the five senses, **but by no means were these five senses given to you to guide you. They were given to you for earthly contact.** But there was given you the sixth sense, and that sixth sense belongs only to the Christian. And **you cannot have this sixth sense until you become a Christian,** is the only way that you can ever have any more than the five natural senses for the natural person. But, sixth sense is better known, to the Christian, **as faith (II Cor. 4:13). It's the one that**

governs and guides you, and it is superior to all the other senses. It's superior to all of the other five senses.

Now, I would not say that because that we receive the sixth sense that the five senses are no good no more. Yes, they are. **Those five senses were given to you by God, and they are to be used. But when the five senses act contrary to the Word of God, then they are lying.**

Now, **the sixth sense cannot lie. It's a super sense.**

And the super Sense is the Holy Spirit, the faith of God that dwells in you (Gal. 2:19-20). And if you'll let the five senses be yielded to the sixth sense, it'll guide you and bring all the other five senses **under control of that super sense.** For it's so far above the natural sense, **as the spiritual man is above the natural; it's as far and as high as the heavens is above the natural man and his five senses.** It makes you believe things that you cannot see. It makes you act where you do not think the five senses would ever think about it. The devil can get into these five senses and lie to you, **but he cannot touch that super sense.** That's far beyond his reach. That comes from God. It's called faith. **Faith is that great thing.** ^[10]

A man can't understand why people shout. A man can't understand why a human being's language would change and he'd speak in tongues. **The natural man can't see how a glory of God would come over a man's eyes,** and he'd see vision and tell man of certain things, and what to do; tell them things that's fixing to happen, and fix things to come to pass. The natural mind tries to figure out. "Well, what did he do? Or, what kind of a hoax is he using? What gimmick has he got?" To see a man speaking in tongues, and somebody interpret and tell just exactly to a certain member of the Body what they've done, and what they should not do (*I Cor. 12:4-11; 14:10-16*). They think it's some kind of a hoax. "There's something fixed up between them."

They can't understand it until that man is born again. Then when he's born again, then he's in line of fellowship, because he is a new creation. That old suspicious, doubting character he was, is dead. Now, he's a new creation (*II Cor. 5:17; Gal. 6:14-15*).

Notice, you must be born again. **And when you're born again, you can't be born again without having faith.** That's right. Faith is the foundation of all of it (*II Peter 1:5-11*).

"For without faith it's impossible to please God. He that cometh to God must believe that He is, and a rewarder of those that diligently seek Him." (Heb. 11:6).

What is sin? Unbelief (John 16:8-11). There's only two elements that control the human being. That's either doubt or faith, one or the other. **You're possessed of one that dominates your life.** Just depends on how much faith you have, **how high you can rise.** But, first, it's got to be faith.

Now, faith is what you must believe. "*Faith is the substance of things hoped for.*" You already have it when you have faith, **because it's revealed in faith.** "*Faith is the substance of things hoped for,*" Hebrews 11:1, see, "the evidence." What is it? What kind of an evidence? **A holy evidence.** [12]

Now, **faith is a revelation from God.** There's where I want to stay, just a moment. **It's a revelation.** He has revealed it to you by His grace. **It's nothing you did. You didn't work yourself up into faith.** You never have faith; **it's given to you by the grace of God (Matt. 16:13-19).** And God reveals it to you, therefore faith is a revelation. And **the whole Church of God is built upon the revelation.**

In an audience of people, where a prayer line comes through, you'll find some... and they were all good people, we'll say. There's some that's trying hard to believe It, trying to work themselves into It. Some just can't do it at all. **And others, it's just by grace, it's just given to them.** Now, there is the difference. That does it. **That's the real revelation, because faith is a revelation from God.** It must be revealed first. [13]

What is faith? **Faith is something that's revealed to you; that is not yet, but you believe it will be. Faith is a revelation of the will of God. So, by revelation!** [14]

Reference:

- [1] "Smyrnaean Church Age", CAB pg. 139
- [2] "Countdown" (64-0209), par. 36-38, 79-80
- [3] "Diseases and Afflictions" (50-0100), par. 49
- [4] "I Was Not Disobedient To The Heavenly Vision" (49-0718), par. E-7
- [5] "And From That Time" (59-1231), par. E-27
- [6] "Looking At The Unseen" (58-1003), par. E-14
- [7] "All The Days Of Our Life" (59-0612), par. E-36
- [8] "Questions & Answers" (64-0830M), COD pg. 1083
- [9] "Questions & Answers" (64-0823M), COD pg. 945
- [10] "A Super Sense" (59-1227E), par. 52-57
- [11] "Discerning the Body of the Lord" (59-0812), pg. 4
- [12] "The Stature of a Perfect Man" (62-1014M), pg. 17-18
- [13] "Works Is Faith Expressed" (65-1126), par. 105, 117
- [14] "The Anointed Ones At The End Time" (65-0725M), par. 53

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There's coming one with a Message that's straight on the Bible, and quick work will circle the earth. The seeds will go in newspapers, reading material, until every predestinated Seed of God has heard It.
[Bro. Branham in „Conduct-Order-Doctrine“, page 724]