

Tuesday's Touch

...from Pastor Ed

...January 27, 2009

The Spirit & the Word

For by grace are you saved through faith, and that not of yourselves, it is the gift of God.

Ephesians 2:8-9

Faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the Word of God.

Romans 10:17

It is through the miraculous power of the Inspired Scriptures effectually wrought upon by the Holy Spirit that God breathes life into a soul- a soul which was spiritually dead in trespasses and sin, without hope, and under the abiding wrath of God (John 3:36). The enlightened heart fixes its gaze of faith on the crucified, risen, glorified Christ and is healed. (John 3:14-15)

This same dynamic interaction of the Spirit and the Word is the continuing lifeblood of the believer. It is in the scriptures that the now indwelling, abiding Holy Spirit exalts Christ before our eyes, glorifies the holy majesty of God, witnesses to the reality of our salvation, presses to us the infallible promises of God in Christ, and leads us in paths of righteousness for His name's sake.

Unctions, strong impressions, emotional inclinations, dreams, etc. are all loose canons apart from the Spirit's perennial ministry of truth through the Word. (see Jeremiah 23:28-32)

There are three practical aspects of this means of grace:

- 1. As Christians we must be feeding continually upon (reading) the Word of God. How shall the Spirit witness and lead if we neglect the very means by which He accomplishes His ministry.*
- 2. We must not neglect the ministries of preaching and teaching in the local church which God has ordained for the edifying of His people. (Eph.4:11-12; 2 Tim.4:1-4) Apart from this ministry of the word we will not be strong in true faith, nor perfected for the work of ministry (service).*

3. *Through these means we must be taught by the Spirit. We have the responsibility to read, and to hear what is being preached and taught, but it must be the Holy Spirit Who gives spiritual understanding.*

(2 Tim.2:7).

Holy Father,

Thank you for your precious life-giving words, inspired by Your Holy Spirit, proclaimed and recorded by Your prophets, and preserved for us by Your superintending providence. May we not sin against you in our neglect and lack of appreciation of this priceless treasure. Holy Spirit, in mercy open our ears and hearts to receive truth, and effectually bear fruit in our lives to the glory our Triune God.

*In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit...
Amen*

To comment, or to ask more information about the salvation offered to us in Christ, please respond to:

Tuesdays_Touch@SpringwoodChapel.com

Please report problems in formatting.

To be deleted from this email put 'Cancel' in the subject line.