

Tuesday's Touch ...#24

...from Pastor Ed ...July 07, 2009

Receiving Truth... Part 3 Being Taught by the Spirit

*A new heart also will I give you, and a new spirit will I put within you: and I will take away the stony heart out of your flesh, and I will give you an heart of flesh. And I will put my spirit within you, and cause you to walk in my statutes, and ye shall keep my judgments, and do *them*. Eze 36:26-27*

However when he, the Spirit of truth, is come, he will guide you into all truth: John 16:13

But the anointing which ye have received of him abideth in you, and ye need not that any man teach you: but as the same anointing teacheth you of all things, and is truth, and is no lie, and even as it hath taught you, ye shall abide in him. 1Jn 2:27

*It is written in the prophets, and they shall be all taught by God.
John 6:45*

*The indwelling reality of God's Spirit in all his true children is fundamental to the New Covenant. Because of this, our first thought concerning the receiving of truth ought to be that we will be **taught by God**. It is a great mistake to minimize this fact. The 'natural man' cannot receive the things of the Spirit because they are spiritually discerned (1 Cor 2:14). The natural man **can**, however, learn Bible lessons, memorize doctrinal statements, or even argue points of doctrine, without a shred of the Spirit's influence. The Holy Spirit works from within the heart bearing witness with our spirit concerning the things of God (Rom 8:16, 1 Jn 2:27). Our understanding must not rest upon the wisdom of man's words, but upon that which the Holy Spirit teaches (1Corinth. 2:18). Even such a one as the Apostle Paul, who was directly sent by Christ with inspired truth, taught Timothy to **consider** what he said, but the Lord must give the understanding (2 Tim.2:7).*

We must be careful at this point that we do not equate being taught by the Spirit with being individually inspired like the original apostles and prophets. The Holy Spirit teaches through the completed, inspired Word which He, himself, has given. I had professors in college who taught from

textbooks which they themselves had written. So it is with the Spirit. He teaches us *by* the scriptures, not apart from them. It is very telling that Paul's description of being filled with the Spirit in Ephesians 4:18-20, is nearly identical to his description of being filled with the word of Christ in Colossians 3:16. The Spirit will never contradict his own word. His teaching may contradict our current understanding of a passage or doctrine, but that only means that we have not yet properly grasped it.

So, as we seek to be taught by the Holy Spirit we must remember:

1. He always teaches in conjunction with the scriptures which he has given.
2. He will always present truth in the context of the exaltation of Christ.
3. His witness of truth in Christ will not just inform our intellect, but always impact our inner character, conforming us more and more to the image of Christ (sanctification).

Blessed Holy Spirit,

Again we pray...

Teacher of teachers, Author of the scriptures, open the eyes of our understanding. Living Word within us bear witness with the written Word thou hast given. Sanctify us by thy truth.

Still at the feet of the Master,

Amen

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