The Attackers: 4 Categories of Positive or Negative Volition Compared with Operation Z; Paul Addresses the Failure to Learn Doctrine, Synopsis of Cosmic 1 Arrogance, 2 Tim 3:1-3

II. Metabolism Is Analogous to Operation Z

- 1. The metabolism of air and food is the sum of the processes in the buildup and destruction of protoplasm; specifically: the chemical changes in living cells by which energy is provided for vital processes and activities and new material is assimilated.¹
- 2. A well-balanced, nutritious meal can be prepared, presented on the finest china and accompanied by crystal glassware and sterling silver flatware.
- 3. Its nutrients represent potential energy. It only becomes kinetic energy when the dinner guests actually eat the food and consume the beverage.
- 4. The key to a healthy life and the requisite physical energy is the consistent metabolization of nutritious food.
- 5. Jeremiah wrote in Jeremiah 15:16, "Your words were found and I ate them, and Your words became for me a joy and a delight of my heart."
- 6. The Word of God is made available to any believer that consults its writings and has interest in its content.
- 7. A pastor can spend his time developing a message for his parishioners as a cook prepares a meal for his or her family.
- 8. But several areas of negative volition result in the rejection of the "food" and the failure to acquire the energy contained in the Word of God which is "alive and powerful."
- 9. Failure to metabolize doctrine results in the soul-infirmities of carnality and reversionism.
- 10. Operation Z is an illustration of how communication of Bible doctrine can be transferred from the pages of Scripture into the stream of consciousness of the believer's soul.
- 11. This is a four-step process and a breakdown at any of the four results in a failure to serve the Lord. This is illustrated by two diagrams:

"Four Categories of Positive or Negative Volition" Compared with "Operation Z"

1. At gospel hearing a person may reject Jesus as the Savior or accept Him as such. Refusal to believe in Christ amounts to personal rejection of the love of God and failure at Stage 1 of Operation Z. Faith alone in Christ alone results in the imputation of forty things² and the potential to be taught, beginning at Stage 2.

² See R. B. Thieme, Jr., "Appendix," in *The Plan of God*, 4th ed. (Houston: R. B. Thieme, Jr., Bible Ministries, 2003), 29–33.



¹ Merriam-Webster's Collegiate Dictionary, s.v.: "metabolism."



- 2. The next challenge is consistent attendance and concentration at a local church or through utilization of an electronic contrivance. Failure to perform these tasks at Stage 2 results in complete ignorance of God's policies, plan, and purpose while compliance provides the environment for learning doctrine.
- 3. Spiritual growth is made available when doctrine is taught. Those who ignore the teaching or reject it as truth remain spiritually ignorant and destined for a life in the cosmic systems. Those who have interest and accept the teaching as truth grow in grace at Stage 3.
- 4. Spiritual advance enables the believer to manage his life in accordance with God's desires and policies. Failure at Stage 4 by refusing to apply doctrine learned puts the believer into reversionism and he reacquires the behavior patterns, character traits and lifestyle he possessed as an unbeliever.
 - 12. The failure to learn doctrine from Scripture is addressed by Paul in:
 - 2 Timothy 3:1 Know this, that in the <u>last days</u> [of a client nation or a dispensation] <u>hard times</u> [the cycles of discipline] will be eminent.
 - v. 2 For men [reversionists under the influence of evil] shall be: lovers of themselves [cosmic 1 arrogance], lovers of money [monetary lust], boasters, arrogant, slanderous [blasphemous of God, Christ, believers, Bible, etc.], disobedient to parents [antiauthority], anti-establishment [divine institutions],
 - v. 3 no capacity for unconditional love, implacable, malicious gossips, without self-control [unrestrained], violent, brutal, haters of good [cosmic 2 hatred],