

The Attackers: Fellowship with God Only Possible under the Filling of the Spirit, 1 John 1:6–7; Relationship of GAP to the Stream of Consciousness & the Brain's Memory Traces; Knowledge of the "Love of God," Eph 3:19; Love Defined, 1 Cor 13:4–8a

- (18) But those "with Christ" have hope and may enjoy fellowship with God but only through the enabling power of the Holy Spirit.

1 John 1:6 - If we say we have fellowship with Him and yet walk in darkness [περιπατῶμεν ἐν τῷ σκοτίᾳ (*peripatōmen en tō, skotia*): wheel-tracks of wickedness], we lie and do not practice the truth.

v. 7 - But if we walk in the light [περιπατῶμεν ἐν τῷ φωτὶ (*peripatōmen en tō, photi*): wheel-tracks of righteousness] as He Himself is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus His Son cleanses us from all sin.

- (19) This fellowship with God occurs during the major expression of worship available to the royal family – the didactical ministry of the Holy Spirit as Teacher and the believer as student in the Divine Academy of Grace Didactics.
- (20) Under the principle of **διδάκτος (didaktos)**, the believer is taught Bible doctrine. The Holy Spirit takes the doctrine communicated by the pastor and makes it understandable to the believer's human spirit.
- (21) Academic understanding is realized in the association cortex where human volition must then accept or reject the information as truth or foolishness.
- (22) If positive volition concurs then the doctrinal student understands the spiritual content of the doctrine – **μανθάνω (manthanō)**: knowledge that results from being taught and which has the power to result in a changed behavior pattern.

- (23) Positive volition permits the Holy Spirit to take the doctrine and distribute it into the seven compartments of the stream of consciousness.
- (24) This doctrine is also stored in a memory trace which is permanently established in the brain as electrochemical transmitters communicate the data from one neuron to another through axons, dendrites, and synapses.
- (25) Once the knowledge is encoded into the brain's long-term memory, it is permanently available for recall and consideration under the enabling power of the Holy Spirit.
- (26) This is the end result of the Holy Spirit converting γνῶσις to επίγνωσις. Paul writes that with the enabling power of the Holy Spirit, the believer can acquire a knowledge which goes beyond *gnosis*:

Ephesians 3:19 - ... to know the love of Christ which surpasses knowledge, that you may be filled up to all the fullness of God. (NASB)

- (27) The word "know" is the aorist active infinitive of the verb **γινώσκω (ginōskō)**: to come to know, or intelligent comprehension.
- (28) The aorist ingressive is a command to begin an action and puts stress on the urgency of the action.¹
- (29) So believers are mandated to begin the process of intelligent comprehension of the love of Christ. The word "love" is the accusative singular of the noun **ἀγάπη (agape)**: a mental attitude directed toward someone else. It requires sophistication regarding the absence of any mental attitude sins.
- (30) Believers are commanded by the Lord to "love one another, even as I have loved you, that you also love one another" (John 13:34).

¹ Daniel B. Wallace, *Greek Grammar Beyond the Basics* (Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1996), 719.

(31) It is important to define what love is in order for a person to come to know how to do it.

1 Corinthians 13:4 - Love keeps on being patient when dealing with others, love is kind by treating others with grace and love is not envious or jealous; love does not seek to aggrandize self and love is not arrogant,

v. 5 - love does not act dishonorably; love does not seek its own gratification, nor is love easily provoked and, it is not resentful of wrongs done,

v. 6 - love does not take pleasure in problems suffered by others, but instead takes pleasure in the truth;

v. 7 - love keeps all things confidential, love believes all things are under the Lord's control, love has confidence in all things promised, love endures all circumstances as being God's will.

v. 8a - Love never fails.