8. The source of this development of spiritual ideas is the Word of God which is retained in the conscience for divine guidance.

## The Conscience and the Cosmic Systems

- Unbelievers and believers minus doctrine are incapable of producing divine 1. good. Consequently, they live in darkness and consistently produce human good at best and evil at worse.
- 2. Timothy addresses these categories of cosmic function in:

1 Timothy 4:1 The Holy Spirit explicitly reports that in latter periods of time some believers will become apostate. paying attention to deceitful spirits [fallen angels who, through demon influence, infiltrate the souls of faculty members who become their emissaries in the Satanic Academy of Cosmic Didactics 19 and doctrines of demons [ curriculum ],

v. 2 by means of hypocrisy from the source of human liars who because their own conscience [receptive to evil ideas due to blackout of the soul I has been branded [καυτηριάζω (kautēriázō): cauterized indoctrination 1 with the branding iron of evil. (EXT)

In footnote 19 above, the word "emissaries" is defined as: 3.

> A person or agent, especially a secret agent, sent out on a specific mission. Synonym-spy. An emissary differs from a spy. A spy in war is one who enters an enemy's camp or territory to learn the condition of the enemy; an emissary may be a secret agent employed not only to detect the schemes of an opposing party, but to influence their councils.<sup>20</sup>

- 4. When academicians teach lies as truths designed to promote a hidden agenda, those propagandized can become so permanently indoctrinated that Paul describes their souls as having been "cauterized with a branding iron."
- 5. It is extremely difficult to transform generations of people who have been propagandized from youth to believe the lie.
- The only dependable way a conversion away from the lie over to truth can be efficiently accomplished is by first, salvation and second, the transformation of the soul through spiritual growth.

### **Transformation of the Conscience**

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>20</sup> Webster's New Twentieth Century Dictionary: Unabridged, 2d ed. (1962), s.v. "emissary."



<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>19</sup> This term refers to faculty members in all levels of academia who have been propagandized by emissaries of Satan over the past 60 years.

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- 1. The term "rehabilitation" is defined as follows: "To restore to a former capacity; to restore to a former state." 21
- 2. When decades of propaganda have indoctrinated an ever-growing number of a population, the problem-solving device cannot be "rehabilitation," but instead accomplished through "transformation" through "conversion."
- 3. "Transform' is defined as: "to change in character or condition," whereas 'convert' implies a change fitting something for a new or different use or function." This word has a metaphysical application specifically regarding religion: "an experience associated with the definite and decisive adoption of a religion." The verb "convert" means "to bring over from one belief, view, or party to another; to bring about a religious 'conversion."
- 4. After this conversion occurs, the transformation process is enabled to commence if positive volition to serious Bible study begins. The conscience is malleable. It is designed to respond to alterations in its inventory under the enabling power of the Holy Spirit.
- 5. Dramatic alterations in a person's lifestyle, character traits, and behavior patterns are not unusual when a person follows salvation with serious study of the Word of God.
- 6. Under the power of the Holy Spirit, grace orientation to the power of doctrine motivates the new believer to alter his norms and standards to line up with biblical absolutes.
- 7. The alteration of one's norms and standards through positive volition to biblical guidance plays a key role in the transformative process in the soul resulting in the buildup of doctrinal absolutes:
  - **2 Corinthians 4:2** We have renounced the hidden things of <u>dishonesty</u>, not walking in <u>craftiness</u>, not handling the Word of God <u>deceitfully</u>; but by manifestation of the <u>truth</u> [ ἀλήθεια (alétheia) ] <u>commending</u> ourselves to every man's <u>conscience</u> in the sight of God. (EXT)
  - (1) "Hidden things of dishonesty" refer to previous false norms and standards in the conscience that resulted in guilt or arrogance. The word is the noun, αἰσχύνη (aischúnē): "disgraceful conduct." This requires the transformation of thought through positive volition to the veracity of God's "truth": ἀλήθεια (alḗtheia).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>22</sup> Ibid., s.vv. "transform "convert," "conversion."



<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>21</sup> Merriam-Webster's Collegiate Dictionary, 11th ed. (2014), s.v. "rehabilitate."

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- (2) The conscience, whose inventory has been propagandized by the devil's world, is dominated by human viewpoint, human good, and evil. These are false and even harmful norms and standards.
- (3) The verse refers to this inventory as "crafty," the locative of sphere of the noun, πανουργία (*panourgía*): "cunning, unscrupulousness: the employment of any or all means necessary to realize an end."<sup>23</sup> The locative of sphere indicates that this is a cosmic "problem-solving device":
  - The Locative of Sphere. The limits suggested are logical, confining one idea within the bounds of another, thus indicating the sphere within which the former idea is to be applied.<sup>24</sup>
- (4) The sphere in which this mental attitude functions is the cosmic system and it functions from an inventory of human viewpoint for illegitimate gain or advantage.
- (5) What doctrine does is inhibit these types of rationales and applications while facilitating biblical principles and doctrines.
- (6) This transformation occurs when the person stops handling the Word of God "deceitfully," the present active participle of the verb δολόω (dolóō): "to make false through deception or distortion, falsify."<sup>25</sup>
- (7) The issue regarding the distorted conscience of the person in question is actually, in context, referring to unbelievers who have been misled by an erroneous presentation of the gospel of salvation.
- (8) The issue being discussed is the transformation of the soul of the evangelist away from presenting a gospel of salvation by works over to the gospel of faith alone in Christ alone.
- (9) By the same idea, the unbeliever already has erroneous ideas about his relationship to God, so we have a case of the pot calling the kettle black.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>25</sup> Walter Bauer, *A Greek-English Lexicon of the New Testament and other Early Christian Literature*, 3d ed., rev. and ed. Frederick William Danker (Chicago: The University of Chicago Press, 2000), s.v. "δολόω."



<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>23</sup> Zodhiates, The Complete Word Study Dictionary, s.v. "πανουργία."

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>24</sup> H. E. Dana and Julius R. Mantey, "The Locative of Sphere," in *A Manual Grammar of the Greek New Testament* (Toronto: The Macmillian Co., 1955), 87.

- (10) What Paul urges is for a transformation in the soul of the evangelist: to abandon "dishonesty and craftiness" over to the gospel of salvation by grace. They would likewise renounce those elements of error discussed in the verse.
- (11) The solution begins by association with the truth: "commending ourselves to every man's conscience in the sight of God."
- (12) The word "commending" is the present active participle of συνίστημι (sunistēmi): "to present as worthy" followed by, "to every man's conscience," our key word, συνείδησις (suneidēsis): "the faculty of soul that distinguishes between right and wrong and prompts one to choose the former and avoid the latter."

A moral awareness that springs from and is conditioned by one's knowledge of God and his duties to Him. Accordingly, it has the duty of confirming the truth of divine saving revelation designed to meet and satisfy man's religious need. Thus, conscience is the testimony of the Spirit in man's heart concerning his obligation to God.<sup>26</sup>

### The Conscience and Stream of Consciousness

The area of the soul that enables the believer to acquire, retain, and apply the infinite Word of God is its stream of consciousness. The power to acquire divine thought is supplied by the Holy Spirit's teaching ministry.

When the pastor communicates information from the Word of God, the Holy Spirit takes that information into the soul's staging area for analysis by the believer's volition.

At this point, the believer is provided the opportunity to accept and believe the information or to reject and disregard it due to ignorance or by disagreement. If he agrees with the information, then the Holy Spirit takes that information and moves it over into the soul's *kardía* and sorts it into its several categories of the stream of consciousness.

Doctrines already contained in the soul's compartments are expanded by the new information resulting in spiritual advancement on that subject.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>26</sup> Zodhiates, s.v. "συνείδησις."



1.

The soul's Stream of Consciousness is categorized into seven compartments.

VISUAL #7: Stream of Consciousness in the *Kardía* of the Soul

- **The Frame of Reference.** This compartment is where perception of biblical truths is categorized and associated with resident doctrines. There may be principles that coalesce with others of the same category. There are eleven categories of systematic theology to which new information is pertinent to one or more of them. (1 Corinthians 2:9–10; Jeremiah 17: 9–10)
- 2. **The Memory Center.** What is cataloged into the Frame of Reference is available for recall, consideration, and possible application to life and circumstances. This may be characterized as the "recall ministry of the Holy Spirit." Current circumstances stimulate recall of pertinent doctrine for immediate application. (Lamentations 3:20–23; Psalms 119:16; John 14:26; 1 Corinthians 11:24)
- 3. **Vocabulary Storage.** No one is capable of thinking beyond his facilitated vocabulary. Enlargement of one's vocabulary is what enables the believer to comprehend the infinite knowledge contained in the Word of God. It is the soul's dictionary. Vocabulary words are developed to assist recall of doctrinal concepts. The larger the vocabulary the more advanced one becomes in his comprehension of the doctrine being considered. (Jeremiah 15:16)
- 4. **Categorical Storage.** The preceding three categories of the stream of consciousness contribute to the development of biblical doctrines. For example, a verse or a sequence of verses may present a cluster of biblical categories. To illustrate, let's note Romans 8:28–30 which mentions five major doctrines:
  - **Romans 8:28** We know that God causes all things to work together for good to those who love God, to those who are called according to His purpose.
  - **v. 29** For those whom He (1) <u>foreknew</u> [ προγινώσκω ( $progin \hat{o} sk \bar{o}$ )], He also (2) <u>predestined</u> [ προορίζω ( $proor iz\bar{o}$ )] to become conformed to the image of His Son, so that He would be the firstborn among many brethren;
  - v. 30 and these whom He predestined, He also (3) called [  $\kappa\alpha\lambda\dot{\epsilon}\omega$  ( $kal\dot{\epsilon}\bar{o}$ )]; and these whom He called, He also (4) justified [  $\delta\iota\kappa\alpha\iota\dot{\delta}\omega$  ( $dikai\dot{\delta}\bar{o}$ )]; and these whom He justified, He also (5) glorified [  $\delta\iota\dot{\kappa}\dot{\alpha}\zeta\omega$  ( $dox\dot{\alpha}z\bar{o}$ )]. (NASB)

(1) Foreknew: προγινώσκω (proginōskō): God's omniscience knew in eternity past those who would place their personal faith in Christ and those who would not. (2) <u>Predestined</u>: προορίζω (proorizō): Since every believer was known to God, then He has a predetermined plan for each one of them. (3) Called: καλέω  $(kal\acute{e}\bar{o})$ : The presentation of the gospel by a believer to an unbeliever resulting in his election. (4) Justified: δικαιόω (dikaióō): The act of the Holy Spirit at salvation when He imputes divine righteousness to the believer. (5) Glorified: δοξάζω  $(dox\dot{a}z\bar{o})$ : Ultimate sanctification at the Evaluation Tribunal of Christ.

Failure to understand the meaning, application, and purpose of each of these verbs and how they are associated with each other has led some to impute to this passage the false doctrine that God personally selected some for salvation while others were left reprobate. This is the heresy of Limited Atonement. This sacrilege exposes one's failure to comprehend the definitions and doctrinal sequencing of each while ignoring the grace plan of God in the process.

It is really quite easy to refute the false doctrine of Limited Atonement by citing one of the more famous verses of Scripture which is a quote by the Lord Jesus Christ Himself:

John 3:16 For God the Father so loved [constative aorist active indicative of the verb  $\dot{\alpha}\gamma\alpha\pi\dot{\alpha}\omega$  (agapá $\bar{o}$ ): His righteousness & justice combined with grace to give something to: ] the world with the result that He gave [ constative agrist active indicative of the verb δίδωμι (didōmi): under the policy of grace | His uniquely-born Son with the purpose that whosoever [ singular pronoun  $\pi \hat{\alpha} \zeta$  (pás): any member of the human race; functions in agreement with: ] believes [πιστεύω (pisteúō): to believe: in the working object of: ] in Him [singular pronoun αὐτός (autós): "Him": God's uniquely-born Son ] shall not perish [ ἀπόλλυμι (apóllumi): in the lake of fire ], but shall keep on having and holding everlasting life [αἰώνιος ζωή (aiōnios  $z\bar{o}\dot{\bar{e}}$ ): eternal life ]. (EXT)

## **NOTE:** The Principle of Unlimited Atonement:

God desires that all men be saved. At birth, God selected every member of the human race, giving them human life, and is willing that all should be saved. The fact that all are not saved is indicative of the fact that we are given free will, and that free will is the means of resolving the angelic conflict. We have free will because we must have the same basic pattern in immaterial essence as the angels. God desires that all men be saved. Christ was judged for the sins of the entire human race, which is a manifestation of the sovereign will of God in the matter. Unlimited atonement provides potential salvation for the entire human race, but restricts actual salvation to those who believe in Christ.

The examples above serve to illustrate the importance of knowing and understanding the multiple categories of New Testament doctrines. Reciting verses and reading passages in English translations are obviously beneficial. But exegesis of the New Testament's Koiné Greek is how a believer rapidly acquires doctrinal insight into the "deep things of God" on the road to spiritual maturity.

VISUAL #8: Stream of Consciousness in the *Kardía* of the

Soul

5.

Conscience. This category relates to the soul's ability to distinguish between right and wrong. It is innate to the human soul and is what distinguishes Homo sapiens from the animal kingdom. The conscience is preprogrammed to distinguish between right and wrong, but this characteristic must be developed to distinguish right from wrong in the culture in which one was born. As we have already discussed, this is the system of decision-making to which every citizen must orient and adjust under the Law of Liberty.

The believer in Jesus Christ does the same sort of adjustment to the guidance and imperatives of Bible doctrine under the Law of Freedom. There are numerous verses and passages of Scripture that address the latter: Romans 2:15; Acts 23:1, 24:16; Romans 1:18–23; 1 Timothy 3:9, 4:1–2; Titus 1:15; Hebrews 9:14; 1 Peter 2:19, 3:16, and our analysis above of 2 Corinthians 4:2)

6. **Momentum.** Spiritual growth is a process. When one devotes years of matriculation in a given discipline at university followed by post-graduate advancements and the acquisition of a doctorate, he is considered an expert in that field of study. To acquire a Th.D. or M.D. can take between 8 to 12 years. These folks know way more than they did the first day out.

<sup>&</sup>quot;The Holy Spirit searches all things, even the deep things of God" (1 Corinthians 2:10b, NET).



The most advanced curriculum of all the disciplines is Systematic Theology. The believer must take on the obligation to grow in grace under the teaching ministry of the Holy Spirit. This requires personal discipline to learn absolute truth from God through consistent study of His Word, the Holy Bible. (1 Peter 2:2; 2 Peter 3:18; 2 Timothy 3:16–17; 2 Thessalonians 1:3)

7. **Wisdom.** This is the repository of a believer's spiritual growth over the course of his spiritual life post salvation. Wisdom systematically enlarges over the course of a positive believer's life.

The word "wisdom" is used in both testaments. The Hebrew word is the noun, אַּכְמָּה (chachmah) while the Greek word is the noun, is σοφία (sophía).

In the New Testament, Paul refers to wisdom as a mystery:

**1 Corinthians 2:7** We keep on speaking the wisdom of God in a mystery, which has been hidden from the prophets, this mystery doctrine that God ordained in eternity past unto our glory. (EXT)

Old Testament believers were not permitted to know the mystery doctrines because they were to be exclusively revealed to Church Age believers.

Divine wisdom is the unique privilege given to believers of the Church Age. This wisdom is contained in the completed canon of Scripture.

Appropriation of this wisdom is accumulated in the souls of believers who make themselves available to the teaching of Bible doctrine by a qualified pastor-teacher.

The teaching ministry of the Holy Spirit makes God's infinite thought perspicuous in the believer's soul where it is retained in the stream of consciousness.

<u>VISUAL #9</u>: Ten Divisions of Systematic Theology This process results in spiritual growth when the positive believer avails himself to the teaching of the Word. The curriculum of systematic theology demands consistent inculcation of its teachings.

In the twenty-first century, believers can take advantage of advanced technology's many contrivances that enable them to access Bible teaching while, at the same time, avoiding consistent attendance in a local congregation.

Although we are commanded to assemble ourselves together in Hebrews 10:25, many occupations require travel, school age children require study time and early bedtime, illnesses keep some away temporarily and for some permanently. The important thing is to consistently use the technology to keep your momentum going.

Solomon comments on the inculcation of wisdom in two of his **Proverbs:** 

Proverbs 2:2 Make your ear attentive to wisdom, incline you heart to understanding.

Proverbs 2:10 For wisdom will enter your heart and knowledge will be pleasant to your soul.

The attentive ear precedes positive volition to the message. This enables the teaching ministry of the Holy Spirit to transfer truth into the various compartments of the stream of consciousness.

Truth has power and when accumulated consistently into the soul it results in wisdom. When wisdom is applied it results in invisible historical impact.

The Word of God is alive and powerful. In the life of the believer, its power is available through positive volition. When acquired systematically, it not only changes the way the person thinks, but when applied results in his spiritual advance.

**Principle:** God honors His Word wherever it is found including the believer's soul. God honors the believer who applies resident doctrine to life and circumstances.

#### The Two Words for Truth

# Definitions of Πάκ ('emeth) and ἀλήθεια (alḗtheia): truth.

- 1. These words for "truth" are found over two-hundred times in Scripture. We will define each of them and observe how they are used in various contexts.
- 2. Briefly, they refer to things which are absolutes from the source of divine veracity, what God confirms as absolute truth and therefore free of falsehood, error, or heresy.
- 3. These two nouns certify statements in which they are used. When a believer applies divine guidance present in his stream of consciousness, he has inserted a principle of absolute truth into the devil's world.

