

I. Know the Plan - 2 Peter 3:16-18: Divine Good & Problem Solving

Spiritual death is the dichotomous status of mankind at birth under three categories of condemnation from God:

1. Total separation from God through the imputation of Adam's original sin.
2. Total depravity which means that there is nothing in fallen man which God can find pleasure in or accept.
3. Total inability to do anything to gain the approval of God.

These barriers are removed through faith in Christ, not through works of the Law.

At the moment of salvation, grace then provides all the assets necessary for the new believer to grow in grace and fulfill the plan of God for the Christian life.

The only way Christian service counts in the eyes of God is when they are accomplished through His grace policy and under the enabling power of the Holy Spirit.

There are many problems with regard to our temporal fellowship with God which short-circuit the production of divinely-approved good:

1. The problem of post-salvation sinning which is solved by the rebound technique taught in 1 John 1:9
2. The problem of ignorance of Bible doctrine.
3. The problem of failure to make the correct application of doctrine because of ignorance.

You have to accumulate an inventory of truth in your stream of consciousness in order to have divine viewpoint which is the basis for making right applications.

The thinking of Bible doctrine under every circumstance of life is the only viewpoint by which you can enjoy tranquility of soul in the Devil's world.

Three things are necessary as part of the grace process of problem solving: