

## XI. The Association Cortex: Staging Area for Academic Understanding

As part of His teaching ministry, the Holy Spirit can recall these principles into the conscious mind when the believer, under pressure, is confronted with circumstances which demand problem-solving, decision-making, or spiritual growth.

When a believer responds positively to doctrinal data made available under recall or inculcation, then his resultant thought, decision, or action is classified by the Bible as divine good. Volition chose the wheel-track established by doctrine rather than the old FLESH highway which, under normal circumstances, would have been the path of least resistance.

Therefore, we may conclude that spiritual decision-making, problem-solving, and growth are initiated in the association cortex under the enabling power of the Holy Spirit. This documents from neurology what the Bible teaches absolutely—without the enabling power of the Holy Spirit and the Grace Apparatus for Perception, no believer can change the way he thinks or produce divine good. It further emphasizes that the unbeliever is, according to:

**Ephesians 2:12** - separate from Christ ... having no hope, and without God in the world.

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 [*peripateo*: the wheel-tracks of wickedness], we lie [self-justification] and do not practice the truth.

**1 John 1:7** - But if we walk in the light [*peripateo*: 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.

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.

Under the principle of *didaktos*, the believer is taught Bible doctrine. The Holy Spirit takes the doctrine communicated by a pastor and makes it understandable to the believer’s human spirit.

Academic understanding is realized in the association cortex where human volition must accept or reject the information as truth or foolishness. If positive volition occurs then the doctrinal student has learned—*manthano*: knowledge that results from being taught and which has the power to result in a changed behavior pattern.

Positive volition permits the Holy Spirit to take the doctrine and metabolize it into the seven compartments of the stream of consciousness. The power of the Spirit activates certain genes in the DNA of the pertinent nuclei altering the structure of the affected neurons.

The memory trace of doctrine is permanently established in the brain as electrochemical transmitters communicate the data from one neuron to another through axons, synapses, and dendrites. Once the knowledge is encoded into the brain’s long-term memory as a chemically unique wheel-track, it is permanently available for recall and consideration under the enabling power of the Holy Spirit.