

The Conflict Between Flesh and Spirit

- The Holy Spirit devoted some of two chapters in the book of Romans to give detailed information about our fleshly body and the eternal inner man within.
- He also used half a chapter to give a detailed explanation about what He does to help us and how he does it.
- It is even important we understand how He aids us than it is to understand how our flesh seeks to take control.
- We can read the verse, but do we understand?
- I say then: **Walk in the Spirit**, and you shall **not fulfill the lust of the flesh**. 17 For the **flesh lusts against the Spirit**, and the **Spirit against the flesh**; and these are **contrary to one another**, so that you do not do the things that you wish. 18 But **if you are led by the Spirit, you are not under the law**. Gal. 5:16-18

- Spirit is used 16 times in Romans Eight
- There is therefore now no condemnation to them that are in Christ Jesus. 2 For the law of the **Spirit** of life in Christ Jesus made me free from the law of sin and of death... 4 that the ordinance of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not after the flesh, but after the **Spirit**. 5 For they that are after the flesh mind the things of the flesh; but they that are after the **Spirit** the things of the **Spirit**. 6 For the mind of the flesh is death; but the mind of the **Spirit** is life and peace: ... : 8 and they that are in the flesh cannot please God. 9 But ye are not in the flesh but in the **Spirit**, if so be that the **Spirit** of God dwells in you. But if any man has not the **Spirit** of Christ, he is none of his. 10 And if Christ is in you, the body is dead because of sin; but the **spirit** is life because of righteousness. 11 But if the **Spirit** of him that raised up Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he that raised up Christ Jesus from the dead shall give life also to your mortal bodies through his **Spirit** that dwelleth in you. ... but if by the **Spirit** you put to death the deeds of the body, you shall live. 14 For as many as are led by the **Spirit** of God, these are sons of God. 15 For you received not the **spirit** of bondage again unto fear; but you received the **spirit** of adoption, whereby we cry, Abba, Father. 16 The **Spirit** himself bears witness with our spirit, that we are children of God: 17 and if children, then heirs; heirs of God, and joint-heirs with Christ; if so be that we suffer with (him), that we may be also glorified with (him). Rom 8:1-17

Jesus Revealed work of the Holy Spirit

- *"If you love Me, keep My commandments. 16 And I will pray the Father, and He will give you another Helper, that He may abide with you forever — 17 the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees Him nor knows Him; but you know Him, for He dwells with you and will be in you. John 14:15-18*
- The Holy Spirit will become a comforter just like Jesus. It started with the apostles and the spoken word but continued in their written word.
- How else can the Holy Spirit abide with us “forever”

Our Relationship with the Holy Spirit

- *These things I have spoken to you while being present with you. 26 But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My name, He will teach you all things, and bring to your remembrance all things that I said to you. Jn 14:25-26*
- This was given first directly to the apostles
- *But we have this treasure in earthen vessels, that the excellence of the power may be of God and not of us. 2 Cor 4:7-8*
- Was this promise only for the apostles?
- What about those to whom the word was preached? He is still doing this today!!!

Relationship with the Holy Spirit

- *I still have many things to say to you, but you cannot bear them now. 13 However, when He, the Spirit of truth, has come, He will guide you into all truth; for He will not speak on His own authority, but whatever He hears He will speak; and He will tell you things to come. Jn 16:12-15*
- What He did directly for the apostles them has been placed eternally into God's Word.
- He does exactly the same thing for us today.
- Only the medium has changed
- What was in the apostles through the spoken word
- Is now in the apostles through their written word –
- Nothing was lost!
- Takes more faith, but results are the same.

The Transition

- *Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit who is from God, that we might know the things that have been freely given to us by God. 13 These things we also speak, not in words which man's wisdom teaches but which the Holy Spirit teaches, comparing spiritual things with spiritual. 1 Cor 2:12-14*

- The spoken word became the written word

- *how that by revelation He made known to me the mystery (as I have briefly written already, 4 by which, when you read, you may understand my knowledge in the mystery of Christ), 5 which in other ages was not made known to the sons of men, as it has now been revealed by the Spirit to His holy apostles and prophets: Eph 3:3-6*

- Exactly what they received by inspiration and gave through the spoken word we now receive by reading.

After all these years ... Still Perfect

- 1 Pet 1:22-25
- obey the truth through the Spirit
- not of corruptible seed but incorruptible
- word of God which lives and abides forever,
- the word of the Lord endures forever.
- this is the word which was preached to you.
- The key is always making the application that it is Holy Spirit that makes these things so.
- Without the Holy Spirit it is just another book

The Spirit Working thru His Word

- *For this reason we also thank God without ceasing, because when you received the word of God which you heard from us, you welcomed it not as the word of men, but as it is in truth, the word of God, which also effectively works in you who believe. 1Th 2:13-14*
- It effectively works because the Holy Spirit is using it today to be our comforter and guide.
- *And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God; Eph 6:17*
- What the Word does The Holy Spirit is doing through that word.

The Other Comforter at Work

- *that from childhood you have known the Holy Scriptures, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus. 16 All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness, 17 that the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work. 2 Tim 3:15-17*

We see the Holy Spirit in the Word

David himself said in the Holy Spirit Mark 12:36

Scripture fulfilled, which the Holy Spirit spoke by the mouth of David concerning Judas, Acts 1:16

Holy Spirit, by the mouth of our father David your servant, did say, Acts 4:25

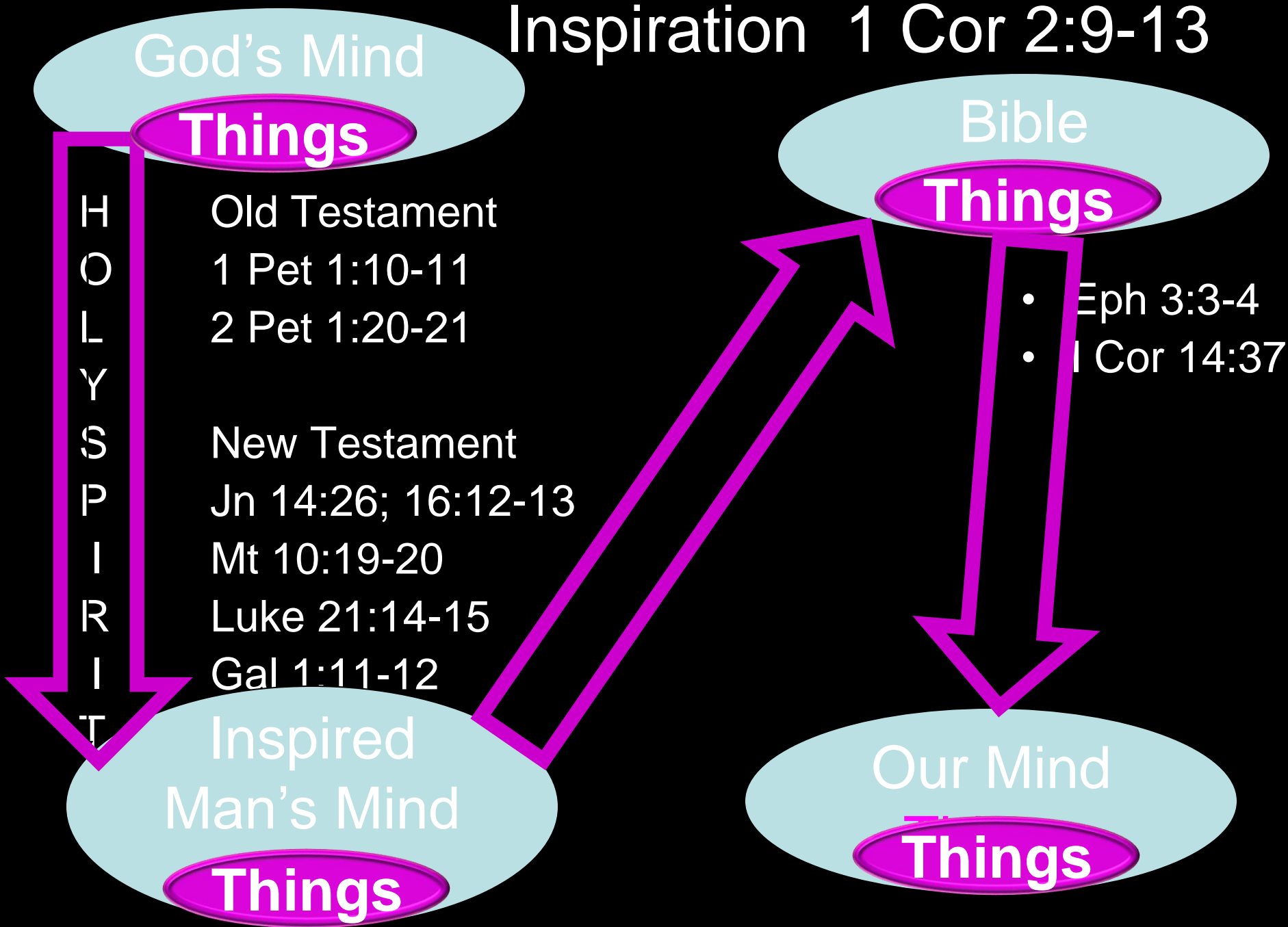
no prophecy ever came by will of man: but men spoke from God, being moved by the Holy Spirit.

2Pet 1:19-21

Sword of the Spirit – God's Word

- *the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God; Eph 6:17-18*
- *For the word of God is living and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the division of soul and spirit, and of joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart. Heb 4:12-13*
- Think of 1Cor 2:9-11; 2Tim 3:15-16;
- The Word is Inspired by the Holy Spirit. That is why it is incorruptible seed and that is why it is living and active.

Inspiration 1 Cor 2:9-13



Inspiration still in the Word

- Inspiration places God's word for the first time into the minds of man. It still had to be applied and obeyed.
- Those who received God's word in the first century were in no better position than we are today. Miracles /inspiration that were in earthen vessels, now in the Word.
- We must grow to understand that the Holy Spirit is using His word to do all that He can do for us. We are not reading a book. We are reading the living oracles. Living because the Holy Spirit is dwelling withing it and using it.