

Spiritual Truths Differ Dramatically From Natural Physical Truths

Not only do spiritual truths differ from physical truths in their constitution but also in their apprehension by human beings.

Natural physical and mental truths can be learned by human beings regardless of their moral or spiritual condition.

There is, for example, **no** relationship between –

Compassion and logic

Kindness and science

Christian love and philosophy

Godliness and theology

The last statement may surprise many.

But if we think it through, theology can be learned in any seminary by a thief or a swindler just as well as by any consecrated Christian.

While I have no doubt that the majority of theological students live far better than average lives, yet it should be kept in mind that they can easily get their lessons and pass their exams without living any better than is absolutely required to stay in the institution.

Remember Judas Iscariot experienced a three year course of theological studies with the greatest tutor possible!

There is simply **no** necessary relation between the studies engaged in by students in a divinity school and the state of the students' hearts.

There are things that the Creator God desires to say to human beings that He cannot say to any human who is living a sinful life.

Spiritual truths **cannot** be received in the ordinary natural way that directs every human life.

1 Corinthians 2:14 [NIV] *“The man without the Spirit does not accept the things that come from the Spirit of God, for they are foolishness to him, and he cannot understand them, because they are spiritually discerned.”*

This is a fact that human beings find hard to accept.

The major reason for this blindness is human pride, prompted by the influence of Satan.

Ezekiel 28:12, 15, 17 [NIV] *“Son of man, take up a lament concerning the king of Tyre and say to him: ‘This is what the Sovereign LORD says: “You were the model of perfection, full of wisdom and perfect in beauty.” ... “You were blameless in your ways from the day you were created till wickedness was found in you.” ... “Your heart became proud on account of your beauty, and you corrupted your wisdom because of your splendour. So I threw you to the earth; I made a spectacle of you before kings.”*

The “king of Tyre” refers to Satan as the description of him **cannot** be attributed to any human being.

Pride caused a perfectly created spirit being to become Satan the enemy of the Creator God who now rules on this earth deceiving all human beings into rejecting their Creator.

[Read **Revelation 12:9-10; 1 John 5:19; 2 Corinthians 4:4**]

1 Corinthians 2:4-5 [NIV] *“My message and my preaching were not with wise and persuasive words, but with a demonstration of the Spirit’s power, so that your faith might not rest on men’s wisdom, but on God’s power.”*

Paul, although a man of great intellect, preached the spiritual message he brought from Jesus Christ by the power of the Holy Spirit **not** his own intellect.

Galatians 1:13-17 [NIV] *“For you have heard of my previous way of life in Judaism, how intensely I persecuted the church of God and tried to destroy it. I was advancing in Judaism beyond many Jews of my own age and was extremely zealous for the traditions of my fathers. But when God, who set me apart from birth and called me by his grace, was pleased to reveal his Son in me so that I might preach him among the Gentiles, I did not consult any man, nor did I go up to Jerusalem to see those who were apostles before I was, but I went immediately into Arabia and later returned to Damascus.”*

Paul who at first, because of his Pharisee Jewish background, persecuted the Christian church had Jesus revealed to him.

I believe this happened during this time that he spent with the risen Jesus Christ in Arabia.

Paul’s message did **not** come from human insight, it came directly from God.

1 Corinthians 2:6-10 [NIV] *“We do, however, speak a message of wisdom among the mature, but not the wisdom of this age or of the rulers of this age, who are coming to nothing. No, we speak of God’s secret wisdom, a wisdom that has been hidden and that God destined for our glory before time began. None of the rulers of this age understood it, for if they had, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory. However, as it is written: “No eye has seen, no ear has heard, no mind has conceived what God has prepared for those who love him”, but God has revealed it to us by his Spirit. The Spirit searches all things, even the deep things of God.”*

This spiritual revelation of the reason for human existence and the wonderful future that the Creator God is preparing for humanity, is **only** revealed to a limited number of people in each generation at this time.

The spiritual revelation comes **only** through the indwelling of the Holy Spirit in a human being.

1 Corinthians 2:11-15 [NIV] *“For who among men knows the thoughts of a man except the man’s spirit within him? In the same way no-one knows the thoughts of God except the Spirit of God. We have not received the spirit of the world but the Spirit who is from God, that we may understand what God has freely given us. This is what we speak, not in words taught us by human wisdom but in words taught by the Spirit, expressing spiritual truths in spiritual words. The man without the Spirit does not accept the things that come from the Spirit of God, for they are foolishness to him, and he cannot understand them, because they are spiritually discerned. The spiritual man makes judgments about all things, but he himself is not subject to any man’s judgment:”*

The physical parallel to this spiritual revelation is the indwelling human spirit that sets apart humans from all other mammals. [Read **Job 32:8**]

This spirit gives humans the intellectual ability to think, plan and build.

This necessity for spiritual illumination before we can grasp spiritual truths is taught throughout the entire New Testament, in the Christian Bible, as well as being in accord with the teaching of the Psalms, Proverbs and the Prophets.

The New Testament draws a sharp line between the natural human mind and the human mind that has been touched by the divine fire of the Holy Spirit.

John 20:19 [NIV] *“On the evening of that first day of the week, when the disciples were together, with the doors locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you!”*”

After the death of their leader Jesus Christ, the disciples hid behind locked doors.

Notice the complete change in heart, mind and physical courage after they received the revelation by the Holy Spirit.

Acts 2:1-4 [NIV] *“When the day of Pentecost came, they were all together in one place. Suddenly a sound like the blowing of a violent wind came from heaven and filled the whole house where they were sitting. They saw what seemed to be tongues of fire that separated and came to rest on each of them. All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit enabled them.”*

The Holy Spirit “enabled”, gave the power and insight into who Jesus was and the message he brought.

This was something **not** revealed to them before, even with their close relationship with Jesus Christ.

John 16:13 [NIV] *“But when he, the Spirit of truth, comes, he will guide you into all truth. He will not speak on his own; he will speak only what he hears, and he will tell you what is yet to come.”*

Note the future tense of this revelation of the truth that Jesus Christ brought.

Matthew 16:15-17 [NIV] *“But what about you?” he asked. “Who do you say I am?” Simon Peter answered, “You are the Christ, the Son of the living God.” Jesus replied, “Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah, for **this was not revealed to you by man, but by my Father in heaven.**”*

The revelation of who Jesus Christ was came from God the Father.

1 Corinthians 12:1-3 [NIV] *“Now about spiritual gifts, brothers, I do not want you to be ignorant. You know that when you were pagans, somehow or other you were influenced and led astray to mute idols. Therefore I tell you that no-one who is speaking by the Spirit of God says, “Jesus be cursed,” and no-one can say, “Jesus is Lord,” except by the Holy Spirit.”*

We **cannot** even accept Jesus Christ as our Saviour and Master unless the Holy Spirit illuminates our mind and human spirit.

There has to be a divinely bestowed spiritual illumination given to us before theological truth becomes more than just information.

While this illumination is never given apart from theology, the study of God through His inspired Word the Christian Bible, it is entirely possible to have theology without illumination.

This is proved true by the example of humans who have had theological training yet then preach against the very Holy Spirit inspired Word of God, the Christian Bible.

Such humans have made Christian religion a career instead of commission given by Jesus Christ.

Too many Christian fellowships today, while orthodox in creed, are devoid of spiritual life.

Revival in the Christian churches can **only** come to those who know the truth as revealed by the indwelling of the Holy Spirit in the individual and in the fellowship.

John 14:6 [NIV] *“Jesus answered, “I am the way and the truth and the life. No-one comes to the Father except through me.”*

Jesus Christ is the truth as the personification of God’s Word, the Christian Bible.

Revival can **only** come to those who are studying God’s Word, the Christian Bible, daily.

This is when the Holy Spirit reveals the inner meaning of what may be a familiar scripture or doctrine.

The Christian church as a whole today needs a revival as it has experience in the past.

Such revivals have essentially been a spiritual quickening in the lives of people who are already orthodox in their thinking.

For the first time the Holy Spirit will bring alive the very orthodox chants and creeds they have been repeating in each religious service.

Such a revival will be essential to prepare the way for the second coming of Jesus Christ, to sort out the mess that humanity has made of the physical world that He created for us.

To help this revival start in your Christian fellowship please download and study the series of articles on this website under the heading ‘*Revival*’.

May the Holy Spirit illuminate your mind and spirit from this day onwards.