The Deep Things of God

*1Co 2:9—But as it is written, Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love him.*

*10 But God hath revealed them unto us by his Spirit: for the Spirit searcheth all things, yea,* ***the deep things of God****.*

*Ps 42:7 Deep calleth unto deep at the noise of thy waterspouts: all thy waves and thy billows are gone over me.*

*Ro 8:39 Nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.*

*Ro 11:33 ¶ O the depth of the riches both of the wisdom and knowledge of God! how unsearchable are his judgments, and his ways past finding out!*

*Eph 3:18 May be able to comprehend with all saints what is the breadth, and length, and depth, and height;*

*Ps 36:6 Thy righteousness is like the great mountains; thy judgments are a great deep: O LORD, thou preservest man and beast.*

*Ps 92:5 O LORD, how great are thy works! and thy thoughts are very deep.*

*Mr 4:5 And some fell on stony ground, where it had not much earth; and immediately it sprang up, because it had no depth of earth:*

*Isa 28:23 Give ye ear, and hear my voice; hearken, and hear my speech.*

*24 Doth the plowman plow all day to sow? doth he open and break the clods of his ground?*

*25 When he hath made plain the face thereof, doth he not cast abroad the fitches, and scatter the cummin, and cast in the principal wheat and the appointed barley and the rie in their place?*

*26 For his God doth instruct him to discretion, and doth teach him.*

*27 For the fitches are not threshed with a threshing instrument, neither is a cart wheel turned about upon the cummin; but the fitches are beaten out with a staff, and the cummin with a rod.*

*28 Bread corn is bruised; because he will not ever be threshing it, nor break it with the wheel of his cart, nor bruise it with his horsemen.*

*29 This also cometh forth from the LORD of hosts, which is wonderful in counsel, and excellent in working.*

*1Ti 6:11 But thou, O man of God, flee these things; and follow after righteousness, godliness, faith, love, patience, meekness.*

*Jas 3:13 ¶ Who is a wise man and endued with knowledge among you? let him shew out of a good conversation his works with* ***meekness of wisdom****.*

*Ro 15:5 ¶ Now the God of patience and consolation grant you to be likeminded one toward another according to Christ Jesus: {according to: or, after the example of}*

*Heb 10:36 For ye have need of patience, that, after ye have done the will of God, ye might receive the promise.*

*Jas 5:10 Take, my brethren, the prophets, who have spoken in the name of the Lord, for an example of suffering affliction, and of patience.*

*Lu 5:4 Now when he had left speaking, he said unto Simon, Launch out into the deep, and let down your nets for a draught.*

*Lu 6:48 He is like a man which built an house, and digged deep, and laid the foundation on a rock: and when the flood arose, the stream beat vehemently upon that house, and could not shake it: for it was founded upon a rock.*

*Lu 8:31 And they besought him that he would not command them to go out into the deep.*

*Ro 10:7 Or, Who shall descend into the deep? (that is, to bring up Christ again from the dead.)*

*Re 9:1 ¶ And the fifth angel sounded, and I saw a star fall from heaven unto the earth: and to him was given the key of the bottomless pit.*

*2 And he opened the bottomless pit; and there arose a smoke out of the pit, as the smoke of a great furnace; and the sun and the air were darkened by reason of the smoke of the pit.*

*Re 11:7 And when they shall have finished their testimony, the beast that ascendeth out of the bottomless pit shall make war against them, and shall overcome them, and kill them.*

*Re 17:8 The beast that thou sawest was, and is not; and shall ascend out of the bottomless pit, and go into perdition: and they that dwell on the earth shall wonder, whose names were not written in the book of life from the foundation of the world, when they behold the beast that was, and is not, and yet is.*

*Re 20:1 ¶ And I saw an angel come down from heaven, having the key of the bottomless pit and a great chain in his hand.*

*3 And cast him into the bottomless pit, and shut him up, and set a seal upon him, that he should deceive the nations no more, till the thousand years should be fulfilled: and after that he must be loosed a little season.*

* Be a qualified altar worker
* Qualifications For an Altar Worker
* You must be saved*,“born-again.”*
* You must not harbour any known sin.
* You must have a working faith and knowledge of Jesus Christ, and be diligent for God to add to your faith.
* Your confidence as a Christian must be in God’s Word, KJV of the Bible.
* You must be dedicated and have a growing desire to serve diligently:
* You must Serve the Lord Jesus Christ
* Serve as a member of the body of His Church.
* Serve His Lambs
* Serve His Sheep.
* You must be an intercessor in prayer:
* For the Pastor and Church leadership
* For the Church members.
* For Family and Friends.
* For the Lost.
* You must have a burden to witness to the lost.
* To see the lost get saved.
* You must have a full understanding of how to lead a soul to Christ, having and following the plan of Salvation.
* You must worship and fellowship with your Church Family regularly. *Be faithful in attendance*.
* You must be Spirit-Filled and Holy Ghost-Led.
* You must inspire the saved to seek the Indwelling and Baptism of fire of the Holy Ghost.
* You must have and encourage others to have as needed, of the nine Gifts of the Spirit operating by the Spirit.
* You must have fruit to perfection and encourage the baptized believer to have the fruit of the Spirit perfected in their life.

The Plan of Salvation

* Salvation is a gift from God

Salvation is only through Jesus Christ

* Jesus Christ the only savior
* Jesus Christ is Lord

Salvation is to be saved from sin.

*Please have a plan!* Romans Road To Salvation:

Romans 3:10

Romans 3:23

Romans 6:23

Romans 10:9-10

3. Lead the seeker into a relationship with Christ. Give him/her a choice to pray his/her own words or repeat a prayer after you. Pray definitely and

briefly. Here is a sample prayer:

*“Lord Jesus, I acknowledge that I am a sinner and cannot save myself. I ask You, Lord Jesus to forgive me and cleanse me from all my sin. I turn*

*from my sin and receive you as my Saviour and Lord of my life. Thank you Lord for saving me. Amen.”*

4. After prayer ask: “Did God hear and answer your prayer?.....

Are you saved then?”......

5. If the answer is positive, show him/her that his assurance rests on the Word, not on feelings.

6. Have him confess his new-found salvation (Romans 10:9-10) to someone, immediately. Take him to the Pastor or some other person that is

mature and have him share his new experience.

7. Give him helpful literature which will help establish him in the faith.

8. Get his phone number, etc. (In addition to filling out a church decision card) and call him the following day.

* Be Refilled
* Be a channel

**Establish the Need - Then Proceed**

1. Salvation for the lost. Romans 3:23

Romans 5:8-9

2. Assurance of Salvation. 1 John 5:10-13

3. Restoration *for the backsliders*.

Jeremiah 3:12,22

4. Dedication *for service*.

Romans 12:1

5. Guidance *for the will of God*.

1 John 5:14-15

6. Devotions *daily Bible reading and prayer*.

Mark 1:35-39

7. Faith *to believe*.

Romans 10:17

8. Healing *for the body*.

James 5:14-16

9. Holy Spirit *Baptism or Filling*.

Acts 2:4, 16-18

10. Holy Spirit *Refilling*.

Acts 4:8, 31

Note: You will need to be in much prayer for wisdom and guidance from the Holy Spirit. Also, learn to deal with the basic spiritual problem and do

not be sidetracked by secondary issues. For Example: a person may be having trouble with alcohol, but his real need may be to receive Jesus as

Saviour and Lord.

**II Assurance**

**Biblical based salvation**

When a seeker is unsure of his salvation, he needs *Biblical assurance* . A good Bible basis for his experience........it may be necessary to go through

the complete plan of salvation as if the seeker were lost. This will give him a good Bible understanding.

1. Try to get the person to recall the particulars of his salvation.

*Where?.....When?.....Why?.....Who helped?*

2. Have the person pray and thank God for salvation, Have him pray for the problem at hand and repent of all known sins, asking Christ for renewed

forgiveness.

3. Does he have faith in God and His Word? If his faith is weak, help him with your faith. (This should also be emphasised when dealing with people

who are coming for salvation for the first time)

Good scriptures to use: 1 John 5:10-13

Philippians 1:6

**III Restoration**

**The Backslider**

***Questions to consider:***

1. Why did they backslide?..... If this problem is not met and overcome, they will backslide again.

2. What answer have they found to their problem? Is the answer rooted in the Word of God?

3. What fear does this person have of not being strong enough to stand?.......this problem will take extensive follow-up.

Four Steps can be taken to lead a backslider into a deep and meaningful relationship with Christ.

1. God will take them back. Their sin is not too great for God to forgive. Jeremiah 3:12,22

Isaiah 55:7

1 Timothy 1:15

2. They must turn from their sin in repentance and confession. 1 John 1:9; 2:1-2

Romans 10:9

Isaiah 55:7

3. They must be shown how to overcome habitual sin and how to live victoriously.

Romans 6:11-13

1 Corinthians 6:19-20

Romans 8:1; 8-11

4. Read God’s Word with understanding and pray consistently. Psalm 119:9-16

1 Timothy 4:15

Joshua 1:8-9

Call a sin a sin. Do not excuse it. Do not try to dress it up by calling it a human weakness that you cannot help. Expose it to God consistently until He

takes it away.

**IV Dedication**

Many Christians present themselves at a church altar in dedication to God.....this is a good thing......dedication is a daily act of the Christian

life.....this presentation of one self does not necessarily denote sin in ones life......but a fulfilment of Romans 12:1.

If a person is dedicating his life to God leave him alone and let him do it.......if a scripture is needed; Romans 12:1

Hebrews 12:1-2

Philippians 1:29; 4:6-10

**V Guidance**

**I want to know God’s will for my life**

Counsellor --- remember its God’s will and not your will that the seeker desires.

Most often you will do better to give some basic principles from God’s Word and leave the present decision to the person and God....Assure him that

it is possible to know God’s will if they really want to. Proverbs 3:5-6

1 John 5:14-15

Mark 14:35-36

**VI Devotions**

**I don’t read my Bible and pray as I should**

1. Many coming to seek a new experience with God actually need *daily fellowship* with God.

This is the Christians greatest lack.

Ask the question: “Do you have regular daily devotions?”

2. Use these suggestions for a devotional life:

a) Start your day by praising God for what you have just read in the Word.

b) Commit your day to God in detail:

Your work, your trip, your appointments, etc...

c) Make a pray chart if that would help.

Use and organized method of reading your Bible.

d) Keep track of answers to your prayers.

Scriptures: Mark 1:35-39

Ephesians 6:18

Job 1:5

To lead another into a good life of “Daily Devotions” you need a plan for yourself..... So you can tell them *how to do it.*

**VII Faith**

**I haven’t enough faith to believe**

1. This is a frequent reason for people thinking they are not getting from God what they ask.

Where then does faith come in?

2. When a seeker says he doesn’t have enough faith, then show him from God’s Word where faith comes from, what faith is, and how to get it.

Scriptures: Romans 10:17

Hebrews 11:1 (faith chapter)

John 20:30:31

Use your Bible, it brings faith.

**VII Healing**

**I need healing for my body**

The person, at the alter for healing, wants prayer for healing, prayer can be offered by the Pastor, Evangelist, or elders, the counsellor can build faith

by using the Word of God.

Scriptures: James 5:14-16

Mark 16:15-18

II Kings 20:1-11 (v.5)

**IX The Baptism of the Holy Spirit (infilling)**

**Practical Advice:**

1. Are they really wanting more of God; to be used more by God? If not, give personal illustration of what the holy Spirit can do.

Examples: Peter, Philip, Stephen.

2. Do they believe in the Pentecostal Baptism? (Acts 2:4). If not, discuss scripture and personal experience.

3. What is their motive in seeking? Is it because others want them to? Is it because others are seeking? Is it because it’s commanded in scripture.

Perhaps they want power for Christian service. (Acts 1:8).

4. Do they believe its a gift? (Acts 2:38).

Some say, “ I’m not good enough,”

“ Maybe I’m not ready.”

5. Do they believe it’s for them? (Acts 2:38-39).

6. Do they believe that tongues are the “initial” evidence as God fills them?

7. A word of caution: Remember, you can’t bring a person through to an experience.....God MUST! .......so don’t occupy your time with trying to

shout or shake a person through.......if you are impatient then leave the seeker alone, God has a work to do in that person’s life that may take longer

than 5 or 10 minutes you are willing to take.

Every person who believes and received this glorious experience needs to know and understand the Bible basis for this experience.

Here are some Bible guidelines for assisting believers to the Baptism of the Holy Spirit:

1. Emphasize the Bible Truth of the doctrine.....to build faith.

Joel 2:28-29; Acts 2:16-18; Mark 16:17; John 7:38-39

2. Show from the Bible the five instances in the Acts and explain. *The Experience*, Acts 2:4; 8:14-119; 9:17; 10:44-47: 19:1-7

3. Show using the Bible the promises of the Holy Spirit.

Acts 1:4-8; 2:38-39; John 14:16-17

4. Explain the *Biblical Truth* of speaking with other tongues.

1 Cor. 14:2, 22, 24

Mark 16:17

Acts 2:4

5. Explain the necessity of faith in receiving.

Eg. Saved by faith, healed by faith, filled by faith Heb.11:6, 2Cor.5:7, Galatians. 3:2

6. Emphasize the seeking for the person of the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit is not an it. He is a person, the third person of the God-Head. (John 14:26)

7. The purpose of the infilling of the Holy Spirit is to receive power. (Acts 1:8; 1 Thess.1:5)

*Some helpful thoughts*:

We must be as specific and definite about this as about salvation. If a man is willing to meet God’s conditions, God will fill him now.

1. Does the seeker realize that the Baptism in the Holy Spirit is for all believers? (Acts 1:4,38-39) It is not the same as salvation but subsequent to it.

2. Is he willing to receive the gift on God’s terms of cleansing, surrender and faith?

3. After prayer for the Baptism in the Holy Spirit talk to the seeker again......Does he believe that God has heard him and answered that prayer now?

If in doubt, use Luke 11:13. Point out that God gives to them that ask....the seeker has already asked.....could God fail to give?.....If the seeker

believes this verse, then, as a proof of this faith, let him thank God heartily that according to His Word he has answered his prayer......remember that

*feeling is not important at this point.....faith is not feeling*.

4. Before further prayer, instruct the seeker:

To quit asking God for the Baptism at this point.

To keep praising God as joyfully as he wants for filling him and for Jesus Christ Himself.

To be ready to speak the word or syllable that will come to his mind in an unknown language (unknown tongue). Speaking in tongues is therefore

a humbling of self which is rejected by so many.

**X Refilling with the Holy Spirit**

Every Holy Spirit filled believer should use the gift that is within him.

Some respond to an altar call because they want to be refilled with the Holy Spirit. This is good......often the problem is devotional and you can use

the scriptures.

However the need for refilling is legitimate......the person may no longer speak with tongues.

He needs to be shown:

1. The necessity of speaking in tongues often.

2. The Biblical possibility of a refilling.

Scriptures for 1.: 1 Cor. 2:10, 14:2,4,18

Scriptures for 2.: Acts 4:8,31

***In Conclusion:***

1. Establish the need - then proceed.

2. Know your Bible and use it.

3. Rely on the Holy Spirit.......without His help and guidance you can do *nothing* .

4. Do not grieve the Holy Spirit ......*never* argue about anything.......always stay sweet and full of love.

5. Don’t be in a hurry.

6. Check your motives. Why do you want to be a soul winner?

PUT CHRIST FIRST \* IN YOUR LIFE AND THEIRS

7. *“He that winneth souls is wise”*

**Come on - let’s be wise!**