

Proverbs 15:10-12

Sunday 3/20/2016

I told you Thursday night that today was going to be a day when you get a big chunk of something that you really need to understand about the Bible. Every sermon, you get principles and things that you want to get down. But every once in a while, you come to a place in the Bible where it is such a gold mine that you just have to take the time to really accomplish what you need to accomplish. My goal for all of you, obviously, is to learn the Bible so that it works for you, that the number one thing in your life and the number one thing that you know more about than anything else in life will be the Bible.

Now, I understand that that will not happen with a lot of people, but that is still my goal. My job is simply to make the Bible as easy as I can for you, make it as exciting as I can for you, and make it as real as I can for you. Hopefully, many of you will grasp that challenge and you too will want the Word of God on that level. It is an exciting time around here when it comes to the Bible and all the things that we do. I told you that you are going to have the ability today to get a real piece of the puzzle when it comes to the Word of God, when it comes to you and me as God's creation, what God has done, the way He has done it, and why it is so important for us to understand that.

Now, I am going to make it real simple today. Actually, this message is going to be built around three words that are in our text today that I want to talk about. These three words will be one of the three concepts that will help us unlock this that we need to understand. I am going to begin reading here at Proverbs chapter 15, just verses 10 and 12, and then we will go from there.

Proverbs 15:10

Correction is grievous unto him that forsaketh the way: and he that hateth reproof shall die.

Proverbs 15:11

Hell and destruction are before the LORD: how much more then the hearts of the children of men?

Proverbs 15:12

A scorner loveth not one that reproveth him: neither will he go unto the wise.

That is a great passage. As I said, I want to unlock it by just looking at three key words as it will give us what we need today. But before we do that, let us go to the Lord in prayer.

I. Three Key Concepts

Now, three key concepts here I want to talk about.

1. The heart of man.
2. The way of man.
3. The correction of man.

Those are three key aspects to our Christian life and found in these verses as you read them. So I want to begin by kind of breaking it down and showing you how it applies in the Word of God to you and to me. One of the things you are going to have to do when it comes to the Bible at some point in time, you are going to have to learn how the Bible and where the Bible defines all the key issues. The Bible defines every issue, but starting out, you want to get the key ones.

You will notice that when I teach you the Bible on Thursday night or when you come over one-on-one or on Sunday morning, when I get to a definitive passage, I will tell you right then that this is a definitive passage. If you are smart, you are going to mark that in your Bible right while we are going there. It takes no time to do that at all. That gives you a key to understanding and unlocking many things in the Bible.

II. The Heart of Man

The first word that I want to look at and that we have to understand is the aspect of man's heart. I am going to give you a number of definitive passages today that you will want to get down. We see the heart of man a lot in the Bible. A couple of weeks ago, I talked to you in Proverbs 14:30 about a sound heart. We talked about the heart, but I was waiting until I got to here to really kind of lay it out. We talked about back then on that day, a couple of weeks ago, Matthew 22:37, that you and I as God's people are to:

Matthew 22:37

...love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind.

When we use things like that and we talk about that, the real question comes up. I have been asked this many times over the years, "What is the heart? What really is it? What does it really mean when it says that we have a heart and should have a heart for God or love God with all of your heart?" If you would look inside your body today, where do you find the heart that the Bible is talking about? It certainly is not just the physical one that pumps the blood through your body, but there is a spiritual heart inside of man.

With that spiritual heart, and this is one of the things we want to define today, that spiritual heart gives you the ability to choose to either love God, love your children, love your husband, love your wife, love things out there, people out there. Certainly, it is not this heart that you have, as I said, beating the blood through your body. I know the life of the flesh is in the blood and the heart pumps that through your body. We use the word heart to illustrate what is central to us. We talked about this a couple of weeks ago, "the heart of the matter." We talk about, "I love you with all of my heart," something that is key and central. But the heart that is inside of you that you love with, that you hate with, that you feel with, what is it? Now we want to break it down for you today and I want you to be able to understand it. So you want to get your notes as we come through here.

I want to go back and I want to explain a process to you which I think is vital. Most of God's people have no clue about what I am about to lay out for them. So you are just aware to get the piece of the puzzle here. When God made man, and God created man, man is not a product of

evolution. Man did not start out with a tadpole and then a monkey and a banyan tree and then a doctor with a PhD. It did not come that way. God created man. When He created man, He created man with the appearance of age, 33 years of age. When He made man, He made man in a trinity form. We will call it a trichotomy.

Genesis 1:27

So God created man in his own image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them.

Genesis 2:7

And the LORD God formed man of the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living soul.

There are the three parts of man. By the way, Genesis 2:7 is the definitive verse on your trichotomy body in the Bible. When you define them out of that verse, it says God made man out of the dust of the ground. That is your physical body. Breathed into his nostrils the breath of life. That is the spirit of man. Then the Bible says that man became a living soul. Three parts to you if you are saved. You have a body, you have a soul, and you have a spirit.

Within that trichotomy, there lies a heart, a central part of man, a heart that you choose to give your love to God, give your love to your wife, give your love to your husband, give your love to your animals, give your love to your children, and all of the things that we talk about out there. Each one of these parts has its own identity and its own function. I want to explain them to you today. I want you to understand each part of this. So we are going to take it slow. We are going to take it fundamentally. When you leave here today, if you are paying attention, you will formally understand the function of your body, your soul, and your spirit that you will never get confused on it again. You will understand where your heart is.

God's people who do not know the Bible, they will use the terms like, "what is your mind," "speaking your mind," "the mind of man," or "the heart of man." They will use it based on the information that they have got or what they think it really is. In almost every case, without exception, because they did not use the Bible to define it, they come up with some ideas that are not right. It becomes very confusing because without a Bible, without the Word of God, and for me, if the Bible is not a book that defines everything for us in life, then let me just tell you something. I am wasting my time this morning, and you have wasted your time this morning.

In this world of uncertainty, in this world of the most screwed up concepts you could ever find in your life, there has to be something that is solid, something that is absolute, something that you and I can go to that in a world of controversy and upside down values and principles, there is still somewhere where we can go to get the absolute truth on something. For me, it is the Word of God. So let us see how each part is defined from the Bible, and then we will look at how it fits into our three key words today and then it fits into our text.

III. The Body of Man

First of all, the Bible says God made man out of the dust of the ground. That will be your body. You are sitting here today in what God made out of the dust of the ground, your flesh, your body. In fact, you remember that when God made Adam, He says He made him out of the dust of the ground. I do not know if you know this or not, but the same 14 elements that are in the dirt, any dirt you pick up anywhere, are the same 14 elements that are in your body.

Remember the time that Jesus had a blind man and he was blind and God wanted to heal him? He reached down and He got some dirt and He spit into it and made clay, made that guy an eye because of the fact that he came from the dirt. The name Adam means red-brown like the dirt. We have a familiar expression, do not hear it much anymore, but when somebody was in trouble or somebody did something wrong, he would simply say, "My name is mud," dirt.

The Bible teaches that this is what changed the day that Adam fell. Adam lost the image of God. Adam lost the likeness of God. Now Adam begins to produce a chain of children and children and grandchildren and great-grandchildren right down through the genealogies that come to you and to me because every one of us here today come from Adam originally. Once he fell, he produced human beings in his own likeness, in his own image, which was sinful flesh. This flesh of yours and mine is sinful and it is a source of all our problems.

I want you to understand and I think you probably understand it or believe this, I am not sure you practice it or understand it, but there is no negotiating with your flesh. The idea, "Well, I will do a little bit because I know when to stop," is the most foolish thing anybody ever said. The idea that you can play with your flesh, give it this, give it that and then pull back and say, "Oh, enough is enough," you are out of your mind. There is no negotiating with your flesh. There are no halfway measures with your flesh. There is no compromise with your flesh. Your flesh is sinful and it wants total control of your life away from God and the things of God and will always try to destroy you.

The Bible says that our great battles are up against the world, the flesh, and the devil.

- 2 Peter 2:10 says that we as Christians are not to walk after the flesh.
- 1 John 2:16 talks about the lust of the flesh.

Now there are two phrases in the Bible that you will want to get down and they will define some things.

4. When the Bible says that we walk after the flesh, that will be a Christian.
5. The Bible will talk about the fact that there are people like in Romans 7:5 who are in the flesh. That is an unsaved person.

You want to remember that. A saved person can never be in the flesh. That is very important. I know some people say, "Well, what is the big deal? It is all about word." No. It is about doctrine. A saved person can never be in the flesh because of the fact, and I will explain it in a moment, that you have been saved. But what a Christian can do is not be in the flesh. It is an unsaved man, but a Christian can walk after the flesh. That is the big difference. Those are two basic fundamental doctrines in the Bible that sooner or later you are going to have to learn.

The definitive passage on the flesh, the body, will be Romans chapter 7. In Romans chapter 7, Romans being the greatest book in the Bible and doctrine for you and for me as a New Testament Christian, he explains the problems that we have with the flesh and lays it out very clearly. He says in Romans 7:14, this is Paul speaking now about his own flesh. Here is what he says:

Romans 7:14

For we know that the law is spiritual: but I am carnal, sold under sin.

Romans 7:15

For that which I do I allow not: for what I would, that do I not; but what I hate, that do I.

You know what? That is the greatest verse right there that explains Bob Alexander. If you are honest this morning, it is the greatest verse in the Bible that explains you. The things that I do not want to do, the things that I do, and the things that I know I should do I do not do. He says in verse 16:

Romans 7:16

If then I do that which I would not, I consent unto the law that it is good.

Here is what he says:

Romans 7:17

Now then it is no more I that do it, but sin that dwelleth in me.

You see, Paul was a Christian. If you are a Christian, you have a new nature after you got saved and you have an old nature after you got saved. This is why you cannot as a Christian be in the flesh anymore. You cannot be in the flesh, but you can walk after the flesh. Because the new nature is God's. It is perfect. It is everything that God wants. That is what he is saying here. He says:

Romans 7:18

For I know that in me (that is, in my flesh,) dwelleth no good thing: for to will is present with me; but how to perform that which is good I find not.

See how easy it is? Dwelleth is no good thing. There are a lot of God's people today that think there is some good in their flesh. There is no good in your flesh. You cannot play with it. You cannot compromise with it. There is only one thing you can do with your flesh. That is crucify it. Eradicate it. He says:

Romans 7:19

For the good that I would I do not: but the evil which I would not, that I do.

Romans 7:20

Now if I do that I would not, it is no more I that do it, but sin that dwelleth in me.

There is your spiritual warfare right there. There is what we are up against. If you are saved this morning, if you are unsaved, it really does not matter one way or the other. You are going to wind up in a lake of fire, so you might as well enjoy it. But if you are saved this morning, there is a war inside of you between our old nature, the flesh, and our new nature, our soul, which we are going to talk about in a minute. Verse 15 says, the things that I should not do, I do, and the things that I do not do are the things that I want to do, I cannot do, and how do I perform that? He says in verse 20, the whole problem is sin dwelling in you. There is your flesh. So now you will understand what your flesh is, all right?

IV. The Soul of Man

Let us look at the second aspect. Let us talk about your soul. Genesis 2:7 says, man became a living soul. Your soul is the eternal part of you that only a human being has, and there is a reason for that. Ecclesiastes 3:21 will tell us that our furry little critters, the animals that we so much love, they have a body, they have flesh, and they have a spirit, but they have no souls. The soul of man after salvation is the place where God lives inside you through the Spirit of God.

1 Corinthians 6:19

What? know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost which is in you, which ye have of God, and ye are not your own?

You are bought with a price. Man's soul will be the complete spiritual body within your physical body. You go to Luke chapter 16 and you will find that there is a rich man and Lazarus. The Bible says about the rich man that he died and he was buried. But then it goes on to say that in hell he lifted up his eyes being in torment. He says Lazarus comforted and he says to Lazarus, "Hey look, go dip the tip of your finger in water and put it on my tongue because I am tormented in this flame." Then he says, "I have five brothers, go send somebody to them lest they come also to this place of condemnation."

Now there is his soul. His soul had eyes, his soul had a tongue, his soul could remember, his soul could feel pain, but his body was in the grave. You have inside of you this morning a spiritual body that is just like your physical body in every shape, way and form. But it is the spiritual part of you that when you get saved God takes up residency in and separates that soul from your flesh. The two can never get back together again and then God lives inside your soul. Sealed, the Bible says, unto the day of redemption. Nothing can get in, nothing can get out.

Somebody says, "Well, I believe you can lose your salvation." That is because you do not know your Bible. You have no idea that you have been sealed. Nothing can get in your soul, nothing can get out of your soul. The Holy Spirit of God comes in and zips you like a Ziploc bag and He stays there. The soul of man is the place where God lives. So it will be a complete spiritual body within your physical body.

I have had people that I have known over years that had a leg amputated. Years later they would think that their leg where it was gone itched or they feel like they could feel it. But it was clearly gone. They never understood the fact that inside your physical body is a spiritual body and even

though your physical leg was cut off there is a spiritual leg there that nobody can ever cut off. It is incredible.

In 1 Timothy 2:8 it talks about lifting up holy hands unto God. There are certain people in Christianity today that they go to churches and they think that it is a real spiritual thing to put your hands up and hold your hands up in an act of worship or praise. Let me just say I do not care if you do. I am not mad if you do. It would not bother me at all if you did that here. What would bother me though is if you did that thinking that you were fulfilling that verse. That is people who do not know their Bible. That is people who do not know to define the verses. I am sorry. They may be nice people. I am certainly not mad at them. I do not even know them. If I knew them maybe I would not like them. But sometimes it is better off not to know them because then I can say I like them.

When you lift up these hands in a service this is not lifting up holy hands unto God. Do you know why? Because you are lifting up your hands of your flesh and there is nothing holy about these two hands. Nothing. Nothing. These hands will get you in all kinds of trouble. You light cigarettes with them. You drink a can of beer with them. You wave at people who cut you off in front of you with them. Those are the same hands you are holding up. People are ridiculously inept when it comes to the Bible. Now I know inept is a big \$25 word but I have made it my vow in life not to call people stupid anymore. Inept is just a \$25 word for you are stupid.

God gave you an eternal soul so that when you got saved you could have fellowship with God through your soul if you choose to. When you get saved the Bible says as I already told you in Ephesians 4:30 that you were sealed unto the day of redemption. Cannot get out, nothing can get in. Even though you are still in the flesh God at the time of salvation came down Colossians 2:11. I will not get into the details of it but He separated your flesh from your soul. As I said the two will never get back together. Your soul now is completely separate from your flesh and your spirit. You have to see this where your body can sin and your spirit can still sin your soul cannot ever sin again.

Now there is a great verse that is a definitive verse on this in 1 John 3:9. Very confusing verse to some of the brethren. But it simply says:

1 John 3:9

Whosoever is born of God doth not commit sin; for his seed remaineth in him: and he cannot sin, because he is born of God.

That is one of the greatest verses in all of the Bible that shows you your soul and the fact that it is absolutely sinless this morning if you are saved. Now pastors, Christians, theologians today here again they are so inept when it comes to the use of the scriptures in the Bible they cannot get this truth. They just cannot. If you got any other Bible than a King James Bible where the Bible says he that is born of God does not commit sin they cannot get that because the Bible says in 1 John 1:8 that:

1 John 1:8

If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

They say, "Well, to say you cannot sin is a terrible thing. In fact, the Bible says that if we say we have no sin we are a liar and there is no truth in it yet it says over here that he that is born of God does not commit sin." So what do you do when you are a scholar? What do you do when you are a preacher that is educated beyond your intelligence? That is exactly what you do, it must be a mistake, let us change it. So they take the word where it says he that is born of God does not commit sin and change it to he that is born of God does not practice sin. That will be in your NIV and every other Bible out there which is to me is more inept than to commit.

I have always thought that the guys who do this stuff must never work with people. If you work with people you would not say stupid things like that. Do you know why I never put in there that he that is born of God does not practice sin? We all practice it and some of you are really good at it, you know why? Because practice makes perfect. I practice sin, you practice sin, everybody does, to make that verse in there is absolutely ridiculous. You practice sin. Boy, do we ever, are you kidding me?

Now the key to understanding this contradiction so we do not have to change our Bible is simply the fact when it says he that is born of God does not commit sin he is not talking about your body he is talking about your soul. You know how I know that? Because Paul said in Romans chapter 7 when you got saved your flesh did not get saved and when I got saved my soul got born again my flesh never did my flesh never will my flesh and your flesh will be the problems that you and I face all down through the Bible and our lives. Your flesh is not born of God but your soul is. The verse is not talking about your flesh, it does sin, but your soul is sealed and God's seed, verse 9 of that verse, remains in your soul not in your flesh nor in your spirit.

The Bible tells us in Ephesians 4:30 that when a child of God practices sin in his flesh that that grieves the Holy Spirit of God and it causes some real problems in your life. It will be somebody who walks after the flesh after they are saved to fulfill the lust thereof the Bible says but you do that in your flesh and when the Bible says in 1 John 3:9 whosoever is born of God does not commit sin he is not talking about your flesh he is talking about your soul which was born of God. So the soul of man is the eternal part of man given by God so that throughout eternity man by his free will can choose to be with God. Right now it is in time of fellowship right now you have the Holy Spirit of God living inside you for one purpose that is the point of contact of fellowship with God if you desire to have it. You are going to need a glorified body coming down the line when Christ puts the rest of his plan into effect this would not go to cut it anymore.

V. Hell and the Lake of Fire

Let me talk to you a minute and help you understand the concept of hell and a lake of fire, maybe this will help you. I know that we live in a world today that does not believe in hell. I know we live in a world today in Christianity people claim to be Christian do not believe in hell and a lake of fire. I do not know if they think it went away or gone or never existed. I do not know the answer I can give you about people like that today is people who are just really inept. This whole country was preached at by the greatest evangelist preachers that ever walked this planet for over

200 years and every one of them preached a hell fire damnation lake of fire ending for a man who did not trust Christ. How in the world can you go through 200 years of history of a man preaching about hell, Jesus in the New Testament talked about it at least 14 times, and then come out of the bushes today and say and it does not exist. It exists. The fact that you do not believe it does not change it.

I had two Jehovah Witnesses one time that came to my house and I started witnessing to them and I told him about hell and he said, "Oh, we do not believe in hell, we are Jehovah Witnesses." I looked back and said, "Well, I know all kinds of Jehovah Witnesses believe in hell." He said, "Well, where are they at?" And I said, "They are in hell and did not trust Jesus Christ as their own personal Savior."

You want to understand why God has a hell and a lake of fire? It is simple and maybe this will help you today. You see since the soul of man is eternal and a man rejects to have the Holy Spirit of God come into his soul and if a man rejects God his soul is sinful. The Bible says over there in Ezekiel 18:20:

Ezekiel 18:20

The soul that sinneth, it shall die.

So if a man rejects God his soul is sinful and he must be dealt with in an eternal way. That sin does not put itself all out through the universe and contaminate God's plan and you know and I know that the only way you purge something is by fire. So God created a place called hell like into a furnace like into the lake of fire. A place where an eternal soul that is sinful because it rejected Christ must eternally be purged by fire because it is spiritual and eternal. It burns for all of eternity never being consumed because it is not physically but eternally being purged in a place that keeps it from ever contaminating the universe again. An eternal purging in a place that sin can never get in and mess up God's plan ever again.

VI. The Spirit of Man

Now we have come to the third part of man's trichotomy here and this will be the spirit of man. Remember now we are on a shirt for the heart of man. Genesis 2:7 says that God formed man out of the dust of the ground breathed into his nostrils the breath of life and man became a living soul. So now we got God breathed into his nostrils the breath of life. There is the spirit of man. The spirit of man comes from God, Ecclesiastes 3:21 and it goes back to God when you die. It is like air. It is called the breath of life. In fact without getting into it today it is the key of understanding when life begins and when life ends which is the big controversy. No controversy in the Bible which is clear as can be.

Hebrews 12:9

Furthermore we have had fathers of our flesh which corrected us, and we gave them reverence: shall we not much rather be in subjection unto the Father of spirits, and live?

So when God made Adam he formed his body, his soul and then breathed into his nostrils the breath of life and man became a living soul. There is his spirit. This is important now because the spirit of man you need to understand this much like the flesh is not saved. The only thing saved about you is your soul. Your flesh is not saved nor is your spirit saved. You have got to understand that. It is not sealed. In fact 2 Corinthians 7:1 says and it is a great verse it says:

2 Corinthians 7:1

Having therefore these promises, dearly beloved, let us cleanse ourselves from all filthiness of the flesh and spirit, perfecting holiness in the fear of God.

It says the flesh and the spirit are sinful and need to be cleansed says nothing about the soul. You know what? Your soul was sealed. It is perfect. It was born of God therefore it cannot sin. Perfecting holiness in the fear of God in your flesh and in your spirit.

When we talk about the mind of man and the heart of man in a physical sense we are talking about the spirit of man. The seed of all that man is his human senses will be his spirit. The spirit of man will be the exact center of everything man is. It is called the will of God sometimes. It is called man's willpower. It is called passion of man or woman sometimes. It is about what he loves or what we hate. When we talk about free will in the Bible we are talking about man's spirit to make a free will choice based on a man's spirit. The spirit of man is probably the most misunderstood yet the most vitally important component of your life and my life that needs to be understood today.

Now get this. Two aspects of the spirit of man.

6. Your heart.
7. Your mind.

The Bible talks about the spirit of our mind. When we talk about the spirit of man as to his heart attitude we are talking about his free will to either give his love to God or somebody else or something else. He makes his choices based on his attitude of heart. When we talk about the spirit of man as being his mind it is talking about a conscious choice of which way we are going to decide we are going to go in life. Free will based on the spirit of man. One will deal with our attitude, our heart about life. One will deal with the direction we choose to go based on our mindset in life.

God gave man his human spirit, man's human spirit then at salvation man now gets the Holy Spirit and if that man chooses to love God and gives his spirit to the things of God then Romans 8:16 says at that point, keep in mind you got saved. Now separated your flesh from your spirit. Now you have the Holy Spirit of God inside you but you have a flesh and you have a spirit that needs to be cleansed. How do you do that? By taking the principles of the Word of God, the promises of the Word of God and cleansing those two. The Spirit of God then will lend itself to the Spirit of God that is inside you and the Bible says in Romans 8:16 when you do that that:

Romans 8:16

The Spirit itself beareth witness with our spirit, that we are the children of God:

That is how it works. Not complicated at all. He does this 2 Corinthians 7:1 by the promises of the Word of God, the principles. This is why I beat into you every time we are together learning the principles. You cleanse your flesh and your spirit by the promises, the principles that God gave you. You have the Holy Spirit of God locked up and sealed inside your soul. That is the place that you can choose to have God fellowship with but you have to give your spirit to that. He does this by recognizing that he has the principles, the mind of Christ, the Word of God, 1 Corinthians 2:16. Then by letting this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus, taking your spirit, your mind and your heart and putting it into this book to get God's heart and God's mind and your human spirit that lines up with God's spirit. Now see how easy that was?

What you allow into your spirit will determine which way you go, the way. I do not know if you know it or not, man has four openings that will be the conduit to his spirit. A feeder system to the spirit of man.

8. The eyes. What you look at will affect your spirit. You can have the happiest day of your life and driving down the street and all of a sudden a dog, cute little dog runs out and a big semi-tractor trailer squirts on him and the blood goes all over your windshield and it ruins your day. Your spirit just goes, you saw something.
9. What you listen to. The greatest example of it in the Bible is, and it is many things, but music. Music affects your spirit. When you go out and listen to the God-awful worldly stuff that it sounds like, out of the whatever and you listen to that stuff, it affects your spirit. What you listen to, you can go out and have the greatest on-fire relationship for God in the morning and going to go do this and boy, everything is fine, everything is great. Man, I am on top of my world and you will get one phone call, one phone call from some bitty bag over here that wants to tell you all the felt that she is hurt over the weekend and your spirit just goes to the bottom. I am telling you. Now in both cases, how do you deal with the one in this ditty bag over here? You follow the principles.
10. Your mouth.
11. Your nose. What you take into your body.

All four of these will affect your spirit, which will in turn affect your way to God or your way away from God. It is your choice. It is what you lend yourself to. One way will perfect you to holiness. The other way will destroy you through the flesh. The Bible said sin always starts in the heart. That is man's spirit. It cannot be the soul. Somebody says, "Well, I think the soul of man is his heart." It cannot be. The Bible says that a man's spirit and a man's heart is wicked. It cannot be your soul. Your soul is sinless.

The great example of this is Saul and David. Saul's attitude toward David was based on his spirit. When he had the spirit of God, he loved David. When he had an evil spirit from the Lord, he hated David and wanted to kill him. It is your spirit. This is the center of man. This is the spirit of man is his driving force. It is his drive. It is his ambition. It is his passion. It is his feelings. It is his love. It is his hate. It is his emotions. It is his will. It is his pride. It is his arrogance. It is his thinking that he is smarter than God. It is his sinful through the intents of his heart. It is his conscience that he has. The Bible says that God wrote the Word of God on the tables of your heart. This is why man knows inherently that some things are wrong without ever reading the

Bible. What does man do? He feels those things in his heart, feels those things in his conscience, feels those things in his spirit. Then the Bible says he sears it. It is man putting his spirit up against God's spirit instead of becoming one with it, saved or lost.

The spirit of man is like a rudder of a ship. You control the way you go by which way you allow your spirit to go. If you lend your spirit to the things of the world, that is the way you are going and that is where your heart will be. If you lend that spirit to the things of God, that is where you go. That is where your heart will be.

VII. The Way of Man

Now this brings us up to our next word. The way of man. Now we understand the body, soul and spirit with the heart. Now we are going to look at the second word, the way of man. The way of man will simply be based on two things, your attitude of heart and your mindset toward the things of God. You are going to go God's way or you are going to go your own way.

Proverbs 16:9

A man's heart deviseth his way: but the LORD directeth his steps.

Your free will is your ability to choose which way you go based on what you allow into your spirit. When it is worldly things, worldly music, worldly smoke, when it is pornography, when it is booze, when it is filthy jokes and filthy talk and filthy people, that is the way you are going to go. How many times I have seen a guy or a gal, nominal Christian, not going to set the world on fire or it would have never happened, but they go to a Christmas party at work someplace or they go out to someplace where they are out with the guys at work and they are Christians. Yet they fall into the booze, they fall into the lifestyle. Why? Because you put your spirit with the wrong spirit.

Now I do not suggest you do this. If anybody could get away with it, you two guys, good. You know if you went into a strip club someplace? They are already taking notes on this. If you went into a strip club, I mean a real bonafide strip club, if you went into a strip club and you got up there and you started to sing, "Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound, That Saved a Wretch Like Me," you know that would be like taking two pieces of sandpaper and it just would not fit. You realize that you would be thrown out of there so fast you would not know what hit you. You would not be welcome. They do not want to hear that in a place of that kind of godlessness. Do you know why that is? Have you ever even figured it out yet? It is because there are two spirits there. One is the spirit of God, the other one is the spirit of the devil. They will not mix.

So you as a child of God taking your spirit that needs to be toward the things of God and even playing with it. "Oh, I will go to the party. I just will not drink," no, until you get the DWI on the way home. "No, I just, I know I am just going to go be with my friend." Yeah, when you lend your spirit to the wrong thing, you have to make your own choice about that. But I am going to tell you right now, there is no negotiating with your flesh. There is no playing with your flesh. There is no saying, "I will give you a little bit, but that is all you get." Uh-uh. People's lives turn into disasters because of that kind of reasoning. It is just that simple. You will either give your

spirit to the things of the world or you will give them to the Word of God. Godly music, soul winning, preaching, the people of God, fellowship with them, fellowship with them.

You never notice, you know, and I know you do not get this, I tell them what you do, but I know you do not have no idea. I know this sounds absolutely stupid. You have absolutely no idea how important it is for a place like Jason's Deli after volleyball. You have no clue. Yet I hear, "No doubt, we are going back to Jason's Deli again. We have been there every time." I know I do not like it either. They do not like us being there either. They put the dividers up to try to get us to leave. We are staying for sure now. But you know why it is important for you to be there? I will tell you why. Because you walk around and look at that place, you see about 150 people who have the same spirit of loving God, loving that book, and loving each other. You cannot buy that someplace. But no, no, no, you will go home or you will go here or you will go this place where you will have no problem going out with your friends that drink, they curse, they live in immorality, and all the things that are in godliness world. You feel more comfortable there than you do with God's people. There is your problem.

The Bible says when you do those things, because God has separated your soul from your spirit and your flesh, and you choose to put your heart somewhere else and your mind somewhere else, the Bible says that perfect unity of that eternal body that has God's mind, God's heart gets grieved. Another messed up concept, and I am going to give you definitive passage on this since most of you have it, is the idea of worship in the Bible. We think the idea of worship is a service. We think that worship has to do with music, singing. So churches today have to have a praise band, praise singers. You know who the biggest people in churches like that are in the flesh? It is the praise singers. It is the band. Anytime you stand up there and perform with the idea and the attitude, "Look at me, I am leading you in worship." Me in the flesh as a sinner. I am going to sing a song that is going to bring, hey, the best song you could ever sing on the best day of your life, being in fellowship with God, to the best of your ability is a stench in the nostrils of God. You say, "Well, I pray for God's repentance and forgiveness every day." Your prayer repentance needs to be repented of. We are a mess.

The idea we can build a church on human people in sinful flesh, getting up and standing up there and singing, swaying back and forth. Like, here we go, guys closed, dragging her in a trance someplace. All that is is, "Look how spiritual I am." If you really wanted to get God the Honor and Glory, get up there and do it naked. I know that sounds uncouth and terrible, but you know what? You have nothing to hide that way. I doubt very seriously. Here it is, the morning of the prayer singers. This is the woman. "What am I going to wear today? You know, I am going to be up in front of everybody. No, that one makes me look fat. That one makes me look fatter. I like this. Honey, do you think that this would look good up there?" "Oh, honey, that would look wonderful. I think I will wear this." You know, "Oh, this Sunday I am in the praise group. I am in front of everybody. I have got to get my hair done. I am going to get my nails done. I want to look good when I am up there." Really? Then you have the guys. I do not even know what they do. Not much most guys can do. I get you put mousse on your hair. Is that what it is called? I do not know. I am not a hunter. Mousse on your hair? Is that what it is called, mousse? Is it called, help me out here. Is it mousse? I do not know anybody. If mousse on your hair does not work,

you come and see me. I trap coyotes. I got some raccoon urine. It will work really good on you. It is past descent. Tell you what.

But you know what? That is exactly what our flesh does. You cannot help it. You cannot help it. The moment you start picking out your clothes to look good for standing up there presenting God, you are in trouble. You are in trouble. Did you ever hear the professional prayers of most Christians? "Oh, Lord, thank you. Oh, God, we are here today to seek your face. Oh, Lord, take us ugly ducklings and turn us into swans." If duck season was in, you would be dead before you got out of the bushes. You know what I love about you guys when you pray, you just pray.

I do not know if John is... Is David here this morning? He is not here. A couple of years ago, David is a very shy guy, but he is the sweetest kid on the planet. Loved the Lord. Good kid. He started coming to his church. Part of the little process is if I see somebody new out there, they have been coming a while, you know, and just... I will put you on the spot. I will have you pray. Most people, you know, they... I mean, you have got to start someplace. I mean, what could be... Next, if you do not like that, the next time I will stay home and I will call you to preach and just say, "I am going to be sick that day." You know, and you ask people to pray, and they feel so terrible about it. They will get up and they will say, "Yeah, Lord, thank... I am here. Thanks. Yeah, it is a great... Lord, I just love you, and I do not know what Bob is going to say, but I hope it is good. And just, you know, bless everything. And Lord, I do not even know what I am talking to you about here, Lloyd, but, you know, just amen, Lord, and thanks a lot." You go out of home and you think you did the worst job in the world. You know what? You did the greatest job before God that you could ever do.

Now, let me ask you parents something. Let me just ask you something. I am a plain simple guy. Let me ask you. You had a little kid, did you? What was the most important part for those kids other than when they started walking? When they started talking to you. Well, my grandkids are... old. 12, 13 years old. They still call Barb Nana. They come from when they were a kid. Do not you know as a parent, when you got those little kids, and they were starting to grow and began to walk on their own, and they became to come to you and began to say their first words. It was not Shakespeare. It was Bible Babel if it was anything. But you know what? It was the happiest moment in your life. You called everybody and said, "He said his first words today." Do not you know God is the same way? Do not you know when some of you young Christians who love God and you find your way and you get up and pray and you stumble, stumble around, do not you think God is your Heavenly Father, looks at that with pride and joy, just like you do with your kids? What is the matter with us? You think God is impressed with the flowers we put on things? You think God is impressed with the praise services we have to praise Him? When you do not even know what praise and worship is to find...

Let me give you the definitive verse on prayer and worship in the Bible. It is John 4:24. It is a definitive passage on it now. He says:

John 4:24

God is a Spirit: and they that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth.

That is man's spirit. That is your spirit and truth. That is the Word of God. Now you know what I have just done? I know it is a dastardly thing and I am a terrible person for it, but you know what I have just done? I just wiped out 99.99% of the church services this morning. Because if you do not have the Word of God, number one, you cannot have real worship. Worship is not about your singing. It is not about your music. It is not about your service. It is not about you lifting up your holy hands. Worship is about your spirit being yielded to God's spirit through the principles of that book. Worship is a 24 hour, 7 day a week event. 11 o'clock worship service. Out at 12. From 12 to 2, hell service. Do whatever you want.

VIII. The Correction of Man

Now the third word is the word correction. Proverbs 15:10 says:

Proverbs 15:10

Correction is grievous unto him that forsaketh the way: and he that hateth reproof shall die.

Proverbs 15:12 says:

Proverbs 15:12

A scorner loveth not him that reproveth him: neither will he go unto the wise.

Now let me tell you something, and I want you to listen to me, and I really mean this. Correction, reproof, rebuke, and chastisement for a child of God is just as much a part of the Christian life as is the blessings and the goodness and the rewards of God. Change will only come in your life and my life through the process of correction, through the process of reproof, through rebuke, through chastisement.

Romans 8:28

And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose.

The blessings that, oh how we want the blessings, but how we do not want the, I am going to tell you something, as a Christian, sitting here this morning, listen to me, until you learn to take the rebuke and the reproof and the correction of God and enjoy it as much as the blessings, and seeing it for what it is, and you are going to have some problems in life. It comes through the church. Ephesians 4 says that He gave some pastors teaching, teachers. What? For the perfecting of the saints. Your perfecting only comes through the correction.

When I was a young guy and I first felt my call to preach, and I have told you before, I was trained by the old last of the Philadelphia boys, they were the best of the best, all dead now. But they did not cut us young guys any slack. If I treated some of you guys the way they treated me, you would leave this church. But I can say this, if I am anything in today in my preaching, and I am not saying I am, but I am saying this, if I am anything, it is because of the way those old boys trained me and treated me. To them, the Bible is everything, and you better be exact with it.

I was preaching one time in a youth conference, and there must have been 500 kids there. My first, second, third time I got to preach. I was going on about something, and I brought a quarter into my sermon, and I was talking about the bums and people who do not do what is right. I said, "And the Bible says in Genesis," I said, "by the sweat of your brow you shall earn your bread." Right that time, this big booming voice, in front of 500 people, said, "Book, chapter, verse," with my Father and the Lord. In front of 500 people. I said, "I will show him." I went back to Genesis and where I got it, and I said, "by the sweat of your face." He stood up in front of 500 people, pointed his finger at me, and he says, "Young man, I gave you an opportunity to preach tonight, and you are a good preacher. But I want to tell you something, and never forget it. If you preach the Word of God, you preach it correctly."

"Well, why did he even embarrass me in front of all them people? I am going to go be the pistol failure." I believe it. You are laughing, but that is exactly what you do. Not all of you. I think the majority of men and women in this church have some real guts to them. We have a relationship enough that you would probably take that. My problem is, I could not do it. I am too much of a softie. Those guys did not care. I do not think I could do it. I love you too much. I am not saying they did not love me, but I am just too much of a softie. I mean, I may think it, but I figure you will pick it up or I can help you some other way. Those guys did not think that way. Boy, I will tell you what, when you screwed up, you heard about it when you did it. You know what? Somebody said, "Well, that sounds like just terrible." Maybe it was, and maybe it is everything you have got in fear of your heart rate. But let me tell you one thing. I never forgot it. Every time I step into that pulpit, I make sure my teeth are crossed and my eyes are dotted. So in that sense, it worked. But until you and I learned to take those things and realize that they are just as much as a value in our lives as anything else that we do.

Hebrews 12:5-11

5 And ye have forgotten the exhortation which speaketh unto you as unto children, My son, despise not thou the chastening of the Lord, nor faint when thou art rebuked of him:

6 For whom the Lord loveth he chasteneth, and scourgeth every son whom he receiveth.

7 If ye endure chastening, God dealeth with you as with sons; for what son is he whom the father chasteneth not?

8 But if ye be without chastisement, whereof all are partakers, then are ye bastards, and not sons.

9 Furthermore we have had fathers of our flesh which corrected us, and we gave them reverence: shall we not much rather be in subjection unto the Father of spirits, and live?

10 For they verily for a few days chastened us after their own pleasure; but he for our profit, that we might be partakers of his holiness.

11 Now no chastening for the present seemeth to be joyous, but grievous: nevertheless afterward it yieldeth the peaceable fruit of righteousness unto them which are exercised thereby.

See, that is what comes through it. O'Mel used to tell the story that his dad worked all the time, and he had five brothers, and they were something else. These boys, when they grew up, not saved, were something else. He tells the story that his mom was a real, real, disciplinarian, and boy, she cracked the whip. When you do something wrong, and I heard him use this illustration many, many times in preaching, when you do something wrong, you knew you were going to get it. Dad never wanted to get it because dad was always out working, mom did it, and mom did it harder, better, worse than dad ever did. He said, "We had a big old willow tree out back, and we would sit there, whoever is in trouble in the back porch, and watch mom get under that tree and cut off a big old whipping branch for that long. She would come back, and she would say, 'Son, I love you, but I am not going to let you do these things and grow up the wrong way. Now bend over.'" They had respect, and they bent over. She could crack that thing. There is nothing like a willow branch, brother, to get your attention. But Mel said, "We figured out after a while how to make it not so bad. We would take a few hits, and then we would run around mom, and we would grab her and hold on to her. She could not hit us. We would just hold tight her. She could not hit us. Pretty soon, she put the branch down. I got laughing. She got laughing. I said I was sorry. We held each other in her arms, and that is how we made it right." Hey, when God comes to you with a willow branch, he would take a couple of swaths at you, get in close, get your arms around him, stay tight with him, and it will be okay. I am going to bring forth fruit, peaceable fruit. But you all have got to go through it. We all do. We all do.

Proverbs 15:12 says, the scorner does not like it, nor will he go to the ones that can fix his problem, nor will he like you anymore for trying to correct him or her. Do not you notice that you have all been in that situation when you started to disciple somebody, and lesson one went to, lesson two went good, lesson three went good, time you got down a little bit. You had some problems, did not you? You see, I say it all the time. When you start to get into that book, there are some things you have got to change. Here, our guy in Proverbs, he hates and despises any correction that threatens what he is or what his view of the way life is. I mean, Christians. I will tell you, one of the key areas that I observe in people, and I watch for, is how they take reproof and how they take correction. I think it says volumes about you. I may never say anything. I have dealt with you sometimes and this or that.

I have got to tell you this story. Joe Christian is my hero. I love Joe. He is not here today, so I will tell a story on him. Last year sometime, we were doing something. I remember what it was, and Joe forgot to do it. It was absolutely no big deal. Nothing. But to Joe, it was a big deal. Joe called me and I missed his phone call and he left me a message. He says, "Bob," he said, "I want to apologize. I did not carry through with the assignment. I just dropped the ball." He says, "I want you to know I am really sorry about it, and I all want you to know whatever discipline you want to put on me, whatever responsibilities you want to take away from me, whatever you want to do if you do not want me to be a deacon anymore, whatever you want to do, I accept it. I take it because that is exactly what I want it to be." I called him back on the phone. I said, "Are you out of your mind?" I said, "This is nothing." I said, "I am not going to shoot the fastest, one of the fastest racehorses I got just because of the fact that you did not get out the gate in time." But you see, that is the attitude. Somebody who says, "You know what, I will take it, Bob." How you take the rebuke that comes from God, how you take the correction, says everything about you.

I have had husbands that their wife came to me and talked about something that they did, that bothered their wives. They went back and I said, "Go back and tell your husband." They went back and told him and the husband got mad because they came to me. That is a natural first out of the gate response. But then about an hour later, two hours later, they came around and simply said, "No, you did the right thing." Then they come to me and said, "You know what, she did the right thing. I was wrong and I am going to fix what I need to fix." Man, it did not get any better than that. However you take rebuke, correction in your life says everything about you.

Proverbs 27:7

The full soul loatheth an honeycomb; but to the hungry soul every bitter thing is sweet.

Here is a man that is full of his own ideas, full of his own ways, full of himself, self-willed, full of his, you know, everything that he does. His Christian way is just not biblical and he will not change. He hates the book even though he claims to love it. You know, if you love the Word of God, then you will accept and change whatever it tells you to do. Is it not strange how people love to pick and choose out of the Bible what they want to believe? Loving the Word of God is not just you saying so. It is allowing the book to change you even when you do not want to change.

Proverbs 27:7 says, the full soul loatheth the honeycomb, but to the hungry soul, every bitter thing is sweet. There are some things in that Bible that are going to be bitter for you and me, but when you love the book, they are sweet. You have to get to the place where even the rebuke, the reproof and the correction of God is a blessing to you, and you love it too because you know it is what helps you get closer to God, part of that transformation of you becoming like Him. When you do not, you become a scorner. Proverbs 15:12, your will over God's will, you become a strong willed Christian.

You know, as parents, some of you have the unfortunate experience to have a strong willed child. A strong willed child needs to be dealt with early in life. There is a way to do it. You do not let that strong will get past a certain point. There are some legitimate things you have to do to break that strong will of that child. When it comes to Christians, sometimes Christian men and women, when they get saved, they are strong willed. Where a child may be strong willed, an adult comes to the place where his child is strong willed because he is strong willed, but an adult is strong willed because of arrogance and pride. God has to be broken very quickly. Some will, some will not. When they do not, then they find fault. They will falsely accuse. Their pride, their arrogance, their stubbornness takes over. Now suddenly, those who know absolutely nothing about the Bible begin to set in judgment on those who do. Accuse them. Instead of going to the wise who can help them, they will not. Their pride gets in the way. You know why? Proverbs 15:10, correction is grievous to them. You do not love the reproof of God. You despise it. In time, Proverbs 15:12, you will love not the one that reproofed you. That is what the verse says. I see it all the time throughout the years.

Proverbs 15:10 says:

Correction is grievous unto him that forsaketh the way: and he that hateth reproof shall die.

Let me ask you something. Let me give you something. You need to know this in case you have not figured it out yet. I am not a very complicated person. When it comes to me and my ministry, it is just very simple. I really like it this way. I would not have it any other way. People either love me or they hate me. There is no middle ground. It is either, "Man, that is a great church." "It is a cult." "Man, he is a great preacher." "He is demonic." You will never hear somebody say, "Well, you know, I kind of like him." I just think it is either. It is either, "Wow, that is exactly what I needed." Or, "Who does he think he is? God."

Now, I will tell you why that is. I would not have it any other way. To me, everything comes down to the book and it is black and white. Simply, and Bill O'Reilly stole this from me years ago. The spin stops here. Either do it by the book. Or you are going to do it your way. In the army, you know, the old timers used to say, and I used to say it a lot of times, "There is the right way. There is the wrong way. And then there is the army's way." I never could figure out which one was which. But here it is the right way and the wrong way. And then there is God's way.

You can go to 99% of the churches and just slide by in your deception. Your fake spirituality. Not here. The heaviness of that book hangs over and permeates this church so much that you cannot escape it. It is not a me, but it is a fail safe system that just got built into this thing. The proof of that is just look at the people that we quality that we have here. Everything I do, there has to be, there must be a biblical principle behind it. If it is building a church, there has to be a series of principles that you know what you are doing. I see a lot of guys start a lot of churches and what happens is, you know, you can go along for four or five years and just the excitement of starting a new church carries you through. But then there comes a point after five or six, seven years when all the new things have wore off and it settles down to the work of the ministry, you better know what you need to do to build a church. It is true of building people. There has to be principles behind who you are and what you get.

I just do not get up here and come on Thursday night and show up one on one and just say, "Okay," I have a design behind everything I do based on the principles to accomplish what I feel God wants me to accomplish. I look at every one of you. I get to take the time to know you. I get to take the time to love you. Find out who you are. Spend time with you. Watch you because I design for you specifically when you come to me. I design for you specifically the principles to help you get where I think you want to go. That is my job. The games people play with the Bible will never be allowed to be played out here. Too many of you know the Bible. Too many of you young ladies and you young men, when you start to work with somebody and they start to go at it and then they start to show the signs of Proverbs 15:10, 11 and 12, you do not put up with it. You have nowhere to go. A couple of weeks ago, we talked about the eyes of the Lord being everywhere and seeing everything. Nowhere to hide. Here it is by the book and everything we try to do and are as humanly close and as possible as we can get it. Every model in the Bible becomes our model. When Jesus said straight is the gate and narrow the way, brother, he was not kidding.

You know, you can fake a lot of things in life. But if you know what to look for, you can never fake real Bible-based spirituality. My favorite verse, 1 Corinthians 8:3, when dealing with people, simply says:

1 Corinthians 8:3

But if any man love God, the same is known of him.

There are things that identify himself with true love. Always do. That verse says, "If any man loved God, the same is known of him." It does not say this, but the opposite is also true. If any man does not love God, the same is known of him. Along with loving God, will be loving the correction to reproof the changes about you and me of what is not right, allowing God to use the church, use the pastor, use older Christians to help get you where you want to go. But some of God's people will just never do that.

I have watched parents. Oh, you will demand your children follow the instructions and correction. You will correct them. You will reprove them when they do not follow what you say. But you yourself will not submit yourself to those who have watched care over your soul.

Hebrews 13:17

Obey them that have the rule over you, and submit yourselves: for they watch for your souls, as they that must give account, that they may do it with joy, and not with grief: for that is unprofitable for you.

There are some things that God has for us. Listen, the truth of God will always separate and divide people. It always will. We will have to pick and choose what we are going to do in life based on our free will, based on our mindset and our heart. Paul faced it in his day, and every pastor has it in his ministry when it comes to being done biblical. In Galatians chapter 4, you know, in Galatians they are really having some issues. Another gospel is set in. Paul is going to them and trying to get them straightened out. He says something in Galatians 4:16, which I have experienced many, many times. Every pastor has it. I am sure you have too in verse 16. He is talking to the Galatians, and he says:

Galatians 4:16

Am I therefore become your enemy, because I tell you the truth?

The answer to that question, you bet you will. Because correction is grievous unto him that forsaketh the way, and a scorner loveth not the one that reproveth him. Now, you got some good stuff today, some good defining verses. I suggest to you that you get this in your Bible. Get you a set of pens, set of charter markers. I have told you before, the best study Bible that you ever have will be your own. It is the one that you do. I like to look at people's Bibles. We will be sitting around someplace, and you will be walking off, and your Bible will be there. I will just take it and flip through it and look at it. Not only can you tell a lot about people by how they take rebuke, you tell a lot about people by what they do with their Bibles.

I remember years ago, I was at a church and I was preaching, and there was a dear old saint of God. She probably was in her 80s or 85s. She was up there. She is probably dead by now. It has been like 30 years ago, maybe longer. We were sitting there, and she went up, and she had an old ragtag Bible that was there. She went up to do something, and I just started looking through her Bible. She came back, and I said, "I was just looking at her," and I said, "Oh, it is okay. Look at

your Bible." I had looked over in one of the passages, and she had notes everywhere. I mean, this woman, she had taken notes all her life in the Bible. I saw these little circles on one passage. In fact, it was on several pages, and I was not sure what she was trying to illustrate. I said, "I am always looking for ways to improve my own Bible study." I said, "I noticed, man, you have got great notes." I said, "I wish I could write like you. This is incredible." I said, "But these circles have got me puzzled." I said, "What is, what are they? Do they represent something in the Bible that she reminds you?" She says, she kind of looked down, and she says, "Yeah," she says, "Let me tell you, pastor. When I went through tough times in life, I would always go to my Bible. Sometimes God would break my heart over something, and I would begin to weep. In several pages, the tears ran down my face and stained the pages of my Bible." She said, "I never wanted to forget those days, and I knew the tears would dry. So I put circles around those teardrops that I never, never, never, never forget, where God touched my heart and my tears touched the pages of that old book."

You know, the judgment seat of Christ, all God would have to really do to find out where you and I are at is just open the Bibles up and see what you put in it. To me, the greatest single thing you will ever do with your Bible is join your spirit and God's mind. That is your read what he has written in there. It will get into your heart, get into your spirit. You will lend your spirit to that book, spirit of God there. Then you take your Bible. That is why we sell the Ward-Muygens Bible. You take your Bible, read what God has written to you, and then you write back in his book what it means to you and what you got out of it. What that must be to God. I got a sneak in suspicion that when we get up to the job of the sheet of Christ, we have to start laying out everything we did. God will just say, "Just never mind. Gabriel, let me see his Bible." Brand new. I am sure you will hear every excuse in the world. But the bottom line is the best Bible study is your own. You take your spirit and you match it up to God's spirit, and you take your heart and your mind of that spirit and give it to God's heart and God's mind, and you begin to let God speak to you through the book, and then you write back to him in that book.

People buy old school fields, new school fields, tanks, Adonina needed Bible, Riley's Bible, every study Bible on the planet. All you try to do go through spiritual life on somebody else's relationship with God. Get your own. Put it in there. Let your heart, your mind, your spirit become with his. Fill that Bible up with the things that he showed you that when you stand before him, brother, you hold that book up and you said, "Lord, I do not have to open one thing out of my mouth. My Bible will say it at all of what you meant to me. Here it is. You gave it to me. It touched and changed my life. Do not ask me any questions. Just read page by page every note I put in there of how that book and you changed me. You wrote a book to me. I wrote one back to you."