

Have You Seen What We've Seen? (Observation 1)

Dear Friends in Christ Jesus our Lord,

In this Teaching Email and several to come, we'll be sharing observations we've made over the years during our extensive interaction with numerous Christians and faith communities throughout the US. Many of these experiences impacted us deeply. You'll also be able to prayerfully weigh our **prophetic prosecution** of essential points about our Lord Jesus and the Bible's commands for anyone who claims to belong to Him. You might even find yourself identifying with one or all of our observations!

We want to begin with a situation we introduced in an earlier Teaching Email, "*Speak, LORD, for Your servant is listening*". In response to that email, a mature sister in Jesus shared a personal insight which deeply touched us, prompting us to delve into the voice of the Holy Spirit a little more. Maybe you can feel her sorrow and frustration:

"...This message today – about how absolutely essential it is to come into a full relationship with God as Lord and to learn to hear His voice and to led by Him – is one I am trying to share with my church and others. In recent days I have watched as people who should know better are being led into the lies of the enemy because they aren't hearing the Lord's voice – or if they are, they are choosing not to listen. That grieves my heart and I know it deeply grieves God's heart..."

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

(1Corinthians 2:12,13).

In that Teaching Email we used this illustration:



#1. The Holy Spirit is completely involved in the *genuinely* born again. He reveals truth through the spirit of a person to be spoken to another person. And to the receiving person He also gives understanding and confirmation through the spirit of the *genuinely* born again *if* they have trained themselves to listen to the Holy Spirit within them.

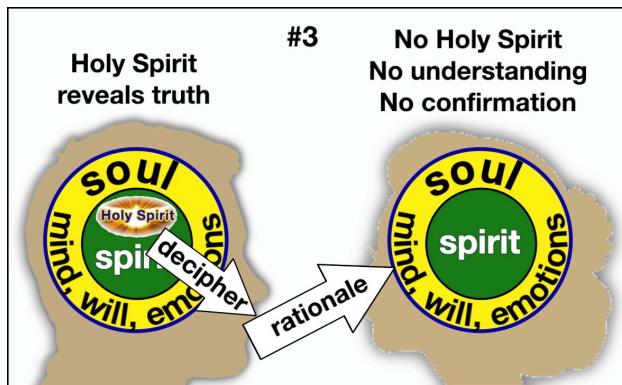
#2. There's real difficulty in speaking the Spirit's truth to those who are without the Holy Spirit, or to those who refrain from listening to Him. They only hear through their soul — their mind, will, and emotions — so Spirit-revealed thoughts using spiritual words have no meaning for them.

Far too many in Christianity refuse to listen to the Holy Spirit. They are a modern-day version of the Israelites telling Moses, *“Speak to us yourself and we will listen. But do not have God speak to us or we will die”* (Exodus 20:19). Today’s updated version is, **“Lord, don’t speak to us at all or we’ll be held responsible.”** Please don’t be one of these! They claim to be “Christian” but their daily lives bring no glory to our heavenly Father through fulfilling His purposes — purposes which can only be made known through the Holy Spirit.

“Whoever has ears, let them hear. We played the pipe for you, and you did not dance; we sang a dirge, and you did not mourn” (Matthew 11:15,17).

Here’s the point we didn’t cover in our earlier Teaching Email: *falsely assuming* that someone who identifies themselves as “Christian” or “born again” even has the indwelling Holy Spirit. Just because they claim to be “Christian” or “born again” doesn’t mean the Spirit of Jesus is in them. (And this includes clergy and others in position of religious leadership.) For quite awhile we sought the Holy Spirit’s understanding of why we got *internally frustrated* when trying to speak the Spirit’s truths with certain “Christians” and there was just no connection. Then one day the Spirit revealed, **“That person doesn’t have Me in them!”**

So we hope that what we’re sharing here will help the *genuinely* born again from becoming frustrated with people who claim to be “born again” or “Christian” but their lives offer no proof. Just keep in mind that our Lord Jesus experienced similar frustration: *“Why don’t you understand what I’m saying? Because you are not able to listen to My word”* (John 8:43).



#3: When we talked with those who don’t or who can’t listen to the Holy Spirit, we discovered this: that rather than having the Spirit’s truth pass through our soul to our mouth and speaking it, #1 (page 1), we felt a level of internal stress as we tried to *decipher* the Spirit’s revelation and reword it into something the other person’s *rational mind* might understand. We kept asking ourselves, **“How can I help this person understand?”**

Before the Holy Spirit revealed to us why we experienced such mental frustration, we’d feel disheartened because they couldn’t grasp what we were saying. Now we realize that *spiritual truths can be fully understood only by those who have the Spirit indwelling them.*

We hope this gives you some insight into what might be frustrating you at times when you’re sharing things of the Spirit with people who are without the Spirit, or who refuse to listen to Him and obey.

Mike & Sue

Please remember us in your prayers, as well as our friends Ron and Nicki who are trying to sell some property in the US to fund the orphanage/farm in Ecuador (Acts 2:45).