

Christ is the Mystery no 212
Review no 36 twins no 10
Identifiable Characteristics no 3
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Sunday we just looked at the attributes that Jude mentioned concerning the natural man, the unregenerate man who has not the Spirit of Christ. Although the Book of Jude might appear a bit on the heavy side, yet it is what the Scripture says, and it is the Word of God, so I have no apologies for speaking tough where God Speaks tough, and Speaking mercy and grace where God's Word speaks mercy and grace. This evening we will look at more attributes of both the true vine and the false vine and we will do a comparison between those two vines.

The important thing for us to know is what does the Word of God say about these identifiable characteristics of both seeds, because otherwise if we do not know we open ourselves up for being deceived. But the reason the Bride will not be deceived, is because she has the Holy Ghost, and she believes and accepts all the Word of God, including what it shows concerning the two vines. But it all comes down to whether you are actually born again or just have that religious spirit.

Therefore, let's look at an attribute which all born again believers share, and that is *that "All who are ordained to Eternal Life Believe"*.

In fact that is what we hear the Word of God tells us in **Acts 13:48** *And when the Gentiles heard this, they were glad, and glorified the word of the Lord: and as many as were ordained to eternal life believed.*

We also find William Branham say the same thing in his sermon, **Perseverance 62-0218 P:19** *Now, perseverance, to be persistent, to try to make a goal, trying to... You've got your mind set on something, and you're persistent in it, because you believe it's the thing that you want, and you believe you can get it. Now, pardon me. To be persistent, you've got your mind made up now that what you're going to do. Now, you cannot have faith in God without knowing the Word of God or knowing something about God. Now, someone told you, "If you go touch that post, you'll get well. You're sick." Now, I wouldn't believe that. You might do it. But that's just a little too strong for my faith. I don't believe there's any virtue in that post, no more than I believe there's virtue in a statue, or a monument, or a crucifix, or something like that. I believe the virtue is in Christ, and Christ is the Word. "In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. And the Word was made flesh and dwelled among us." Now, **the Word Itself comes back in the form of the Holy Spirit, into us, and It's Word in you: God in you.** So many wants to point God to some mystical something way away, or so far away they overreach it. **God is in you. The hope of Glory, Christ, the mind that was in Christ in you.** You're reaching plumb away from it, trying to get what's been given to you. God, in the human being.*

Questions and answers COD 64-0823E P:48 *At the instant of receiving the Holy Ghost, or the baptism of the Holy Ghost, is there a difference? Does a person speak with tongues? If not always, what manifestation is known? Well, could you imagine a mother giving birth to a baby and not knowing it? She'd have to be unconscious not to know it. **Neither can you receive the Holy Ghost without knowing it. There's something that takes place in you. See? There's something that changes you. Your whole system, your whole spiritual system is made new again, and you become a new creature in Christ, as the Bible puts it, a new creation in Christ. You know it.** Now, you say, "Brother Branham, then you don't believe that a man should speak with tongues to receive the Holy Ghost." Not to prove he's got the Holy Ghost..*

Again let's look to the Word of God, in **1John 2:20** and read, *But ye have an unction (an anointing) from the Holy One, and ye know all things.*

Notice, you have the anointing and you know it. Not only do you know you have it, but you will know all things, because that is the promise. Only those with the Holy Ghost will know the things of God.

John 3:5 Jesus answered, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God.

And we know from what God's vindicated prophet taught us that to see means to understand.

Seeing God 62-0609M P:17 *How blind a person must be that can't see life. And think that many people doesn't see life. Now, we might see it, but the word "see" doesn't mean to look at; the word "see" means "to understand it." Now, Jesus said to Nicodemus, "Except a man be borned again, he cannot see the Kingdom." Now, in otherwise, you be looking at something and you say, "I don't see it"; you mean you don't understand it. "To see," what we call see, that's "to look at." But "to see" in Bible terminology is "to understand what we're looking at, to be revealed." And we assemble together like this that Christ might be revealed among us.*

Therefore unless a man is born of the Spirit of God, he can not even understand the things of God. And notice, the other seed not only cannot understand the things of God, but according to Jesus himself, they do not even have a place for the Word in them, as we hear Jesus tell the Pharisees in **John 8:37** *I know that ye are Abraham's seed; but ye seek to kill me, because my word hath no place in you.*

1 John 4:5-6 *They are of the world: therefore speak they of the world, and the world heareth them. 6 We are of God: he that knoweth God heareth us; he that is not of God heareth not us. Hereby know we the spirit of truth, and the spirit of error.*

1John 2:19 *They went out from us, but they were not of us; for if they had been of us, they would no doubt have continued with us: but they went out, that they might be made manifest that they were not all of us. 20 But ye have an unction from the Holy One, and ye know all things. 21 I have not written unto you because ye know not the truth, but because ye know it, and that no lie is of the truth.*

The apostle John gives us many of our comparisons between the two vines as we see in **John 3:17-20** where we are taught that the elect children of God love the light, and come to it, and walk in it, but the children of darkness can not stand to walk in the light, they are like the creepy things of this world that hide in the dark during the daylight, but come out at night so they can do what they do by nature without being seen.

17 "For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be saved. 18 He that believeth on him is not condemned: but he that believeth not is condemned already, because he hath not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God. 19 And this is the condemnation, that light is come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil. 20 For every one that doeth evil hateth the light, neither cometh to the light, lest his deeds should be reprov'd. 21 But he that doeth truth cometh to the light, that his deeds may be made manifest, that they are wrought in God."

Let me read this for you from the translation called "**The Voice**" ¹⁸ *No one who believes in Him has to fear condemnation, yet condemnation is already the reality for everyone who refuses to believe because they reject the name of the only Son of God.* ¹⁹ **Why does God allow for judgment and condemnation? Because the Light, sent from God, pierced through the world's darkness to expose ill motives, hatred, gossip, greed, violence, and the like. Still some people preferred the darkness over the light because their actions were dark.** ²⁰ *Some of humankind hated the light. They scampered hurriedly back into the darkness where vices thrive and wickedness flourishes.*

Mark of the beast 54-0513 P:24 *The sun rises in the east, at the beginning of the dispensation of grace, and now the sun is setting in the west on the western people. We are the western people. And He promised that there would be a revival and there would be Light in the evening time. They're here. **The Light's a shining, "and the darkness comprehended It not."** That's it. **"Men love evil deeds better than they do good deeds."** But it's just fixing to drop over the horizon yonder. And **what little Light we got, hold onto It.** Look, it's the same sun that rose yonder on the Jews are setting here on the Gentiles. All through the age here, through these two thousand years, they had this, and that, and organizations, and dispensations, and this and that. And **people don't know where they are standing.***

Ephesians 4:17 *This I say therefore, and testify in the Lord, that ye henceforth walk not as other Gentiles walk, in the vanity of their mind, 18 **Having the understanding darkened, they become alienated from the life of God through the ignorance that is in them,** because of the blindness of their heart: 19 Who being past feeling have given themselves over unto lasciviousness, to work all uncleanness with greediness. 20 But ye have not so learned Christ;*

To whom shall we go 60-0604 P:21 *If we are borned again, we are the children of the day. **The children of the world walk in darkness;** they walk at night time; **they love darkness.** The Bible said, **"The men love--people love darkness more than they do light, because the light would manifest their deeds."** Let the sun come up, and every old lizard, every old bug, insects of the dark kingdom, crawls at night, will take under something.*

That's the same way when the Gospel Light begins to shine; every evil deed will try to crawl under something.

So we see the Elect coming to the Light and not walking in darkness

Isaiah 60:3 *And the Gentiles shall come to thy light, and kings to the brightness of thy rising.*

Psalms 56:13 *For thou hast delivered my soul from death: wilt not thou deliver my feet from falling, that I may walk before God in **the light of the living?***

Psalms 89:15 *Blessed is the people that know the joyful sound: they shall walk, O LORD, in **the light of thy countenance.***

John 3:21 *But he that doeth truth cometh to the light, that his deeds may be made manifest, that they are wrought in God.*

John 12:46 *I am come a light into the world, that whosoever believeth on me should not abide in darkness.*

1John 1:5-7 *This then is the message which we have heard of him, and declare unto you, that God is light, and in him is no darkness at all. 6 If we say that we have fellowship with him, and walk in darkness, we lie, and do not the truth: 7 But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin.*

But notice the other seed, the other vine will not come to the Light, and they won't hang around it if they find themselves in it and they will try to keep others from it. **Matthew 23:13** *But woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! for ye shut up the kingdom of heaven against men: for ye neither go in yourselves, neither suffer ye them that are entering to go in.*

Romans 1:18 *For therein is the righteousness of God revealed from faith to faith: as it is written, The just shall live by faith. 18 For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who **hold the truth in un-right-wiseness;***

John 12:35 *Then Jesus said unto them, Yet a little while is the light with you. Walk while ye have the light, lest darkness come upon you: for he that walketh in darkness knoweth not whither he goeth. 36 While ye have light, believe in the light, that ye may be the children of light. These things spake Jesus, and departed, and did hide himself from them. 37 But though he had done so many miracles before them, yet they believed not on him: 38 That the saying of Esaias the prophet might be fulfilled, which he spake, Lord, who hath believed our report? and to whom hath the arm of the Lord been revealed? 39 Therefore they could not believe, because that Esaias said again, 40 He hath blinded their eyes, and hardened their heart; that they should not see with their eyes, nor understand with their heart, and be converted, and I should heal them.*

John 12:48 *He that rejecteth me, and receiveth not my words, hath one that judgeth him: the word that I have spoken, the same shall judge him in the last day.*

Isaiah 50:11 Behold, *all ye that kindle a fire, that compass yourselves about with sparks: walk in the light of your fire, and in the sparks that ye have kindled. This shall ye have of mine hand; ye shall lie down in sorrow.*

Let me read this from the **NIV** *But now, all you who light fires and provide yourselves with flaming torches, go, walk in the light of your fires and of the torches you have set ablaze. This is what you shall receive from my hand: You will lie down in torment.*

And again from **The Message 50:10-11** *Who out there fears GOD, actually listens to the voice of his servant? For anyone out there who doesn't know where you're going, anyone groping in the dark, Here's what: Trust in GOD. Lean on your God! But **if all you're after is making trouble, playing with fire, Go ahead and see where it gets you.** Set your fires, stir people up, blow on the flames. But don't expect me to just stand there and watch. **I'll hold your feet to those flames.***

The Voice 50:11 *Ah, but if you've tried to go it alone, the light by which you go is your own consuming fire, And the torches you light will be your undoing.*

The Elect of God will **love the Vindicated Word** for their season. That is what we find in **Ephesians 4:15** *But speaking the truth in love, may grow up into him in all things, which is the head, even Christ: 16 From whom the whole body fitly joined together and compacted by that which every joint supplieth, according to the effectual working in the measure of every part, maketh increase of the body **unto the edifying of itself in love.***

1 Peter 1:22 *Seeing ye have purified your souls in obeying the truth through the Spirit unto **unfeigned love of the brethren, see that ye love one another with a pure heart fervently:***

Contrast that to the children of this world who do not love the Word for the season as we see in **2 Thessalonians 2:10-12** *2 And with all deceivableness of unrighteousness in them that perish; **because they received not the love of the truth, that they might be saved.***

Only God's Sons can understand the Word as we see **John 8: 31** *Then said Jesus to those Jews which believed on him, If ye continue in my word, then are ye my disciples indeed; 32 **And ye shall know the truth, and in knowing the truth it shall make you free.***

John 8:42 *Jesus said unto them, If God were your Father, ye would love me: for I proceeded forth and came from God; neither came I of myself, but he sent me. 43 Why do ye not understand my speech? even because ye cannot hear my word. 44 Ye are of your father the devil, and the lusts of your father ye will do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and abode not in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaketh a lie, he speaketh of his own: for he is a liar, and the father of it. 45 And because I tell you the truth, ye believe me not. 46 Which of you convinceth me of sin? And if I say the truth, why do ye not believe me? 47 He that is of God heareth God's words: ye therefore hear them not, because ye are not of God.*

Isaiah 50:4-10 *The Lord GOD hath given me the tongue of the learned, that I should know how to speak a word in season to him that is weary: he wakeneth morning by morning, he wakeneth mine ear to hear as the learned. 5 The Lord GOD hath opened mine ear, and I was not rebellious, neither turned away back. 6 I gave my back to the*

smite, and my cheeks to them that plucked off the hair: I hid not my face from shame and spitting. 7 For the Lord GOD will help me; therefore shall I not be confounded: therefore have I set my face like a flint, and I know that I shall not be ashamed. 8 He is near that justifieth me; who will contend with me? let us stand together: who is mine adversary? let him come near to me. 9 Behold, the Lord GOD will help me; who is he that shall condemn me? lo, they all shall wax old as a garment; the moth shall eat them up. 10 Who is among you that feareth the LORD, that obeyeth the voice of his servant, that walketh in darkness, and hath no light? let him trust in the name of the LORD, and stay upon his God.

Matthew 13:11 He answered and said unto them, Because it is given unto you to know the mysteries of the kingdom of heaven, but to them it is not given. 12 For whosoever hath, to him shall be given, and he shall have more abundance: but whosoever hath not, from him shall be taken away even that he hath. 13 Therefore speak I to them in parables: because they seeing see not; and hearing they hear not, neither do they understand. 14 And in them is fulfilled the prophecy of Esaias, which saith, By hearing ye shall hear, and shall not understand; and seeing ye shall see, and shall not perceive: 15 For this people's heart is waxed gross, and their ears are dull of hearing, and their eyes they have closed; lest at any time they should see with their eyes, and hear with their ears, and should understand with their heart, and should be converted, and I should heal them. 16 But blessed are your eyes, for they see: and your ears, for they hear. 17 For verily I say unto you, That many prophets and righteous men have desired to see those things which ye see, and have not seen them; and to hear those things which ye hear, and have not heard them.

Mark 4:11 10 And when he was alone, they that were about him with the twelve asked of him the parable. 11 And he said unto them, Unto you it is given to know the mystery of the kingdom of God: but unto them that are without, all these things are done in parables: 12 That seeing they may see, and not perceive; and hearing they may hear, and not understand; lest at any time they should be converted, and their sins should be forgiven them. 13 And he said unto them, Know ye not this parable? and how then will ye know all parables?

Luke 8:9 And his disciples asked him, saying, What might this parable be? 10 And he said, Unto you it is given to know the mysteries of the kingdom of God: but to others in parables; that seeing they might not see, and hearing they might not understand. 11 Now the parable is this: The seed is the word of God. 12 Those by the way side are they that hear; then cometh the devil, and taketh away the word out of their hearts, lest they should believe and be saved. 13 They on the rock are they, which, when they hear, receive the word with joy; and these have no root, which for a while believe, and in time of temptation fall away. 14 And that which fell among thorns are they, which, when they have heard, go forth, and are choked with cares and riches and pleasures of this life, and bring no fruit to perfection. 15 But that on the good ground are they, which in an honest and good heart, having heard the word, keep it, and bring forth fruit with patience. 16 No man, when he hath lighted a candle, covereth it with a vessel, or putteth it under a

bed; but setteth it on a candlestick, that they which enter in may see the light. 17 For nothing is secret, that shall not be made manifest; neither any thing hid, that shall not be known and come abroad. 18 Take heed therefore how ye hear: for whosoever hath, to him shall be given; and whosoever hath not, from him shall be taken even that which he seemeth to have.

1 Corinthians 2:9 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. 11 For what man knoweth the things of a man, save the spirit of man which is in him? even so the things of God knoweth no man, but the Spirit of God. 12 Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the spirit which is of God; that we might know the things that are freely given to us of God. 13 Which things also we speak, not in the words which man's wisdom teacheth, but which the Holy Ghost teacheth; comparing spiritual things with spiritual. 14 But the natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God: for they are foolishness unto him: neither can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned. 15 But he that is spiritual judgeth all things, yet he himself is judged of no man. 16 For who hath known the mind of the Lord, that he may instruct him? but we have the mind of Christ.

The other vine can not understand the Word of God **John 8:38-42** I speak that which I have seen with my Father: and ye do that which ye have seen with your father. 39 They answered and said unto him, Abraham is our father. Jesus saith unto them, If ye were Abraham's children, ye would do the works of Abraham. 40 But now ye seek to kill me, a man that hath told you the truth, which I have heard of God: this did not Abraham. 41 Ye do the deeds of your father. Then said they to him, We be not born of fornication; we have one Father, even God. 42 Jesus said unto them, If God were your Father, ye would love me: for I proceeded forth and came from God; neither came I of myself, but he sent me.

Notice that they cannot understand the Word of God. This is because they are not born again and without the Holy Ghost as we saw in **1 Corinthians 2**, it is impossible for anyone to understand the things of God.

John 8:43-47 Why do ye not understand my speech? even because ye cannot hear my word. 44 Ye are of your father the devil, and the lusts of your father ye will do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and abode not in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaketh a lie, he speaketh of his own: for he is a liar, and the father of it. 45 And because I tell you the truth, ye believe me not. 46 Which of you convinceth me of sin? And if I say the truth, why do ye not believe me? 47 He that is of God heareth God's words: ye therefore hear them not, because ye are not of God.

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let us pray