

The Stature of a Perfect Man Pt-2 Knowledge & Temperance

2 Peter 1:4-10

4 Whereby are given unto us exceeding great and precious promises: that by these ye might be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust.

5 And beside this, giving all diligence, add to your faith virtue; and to virtue knowledge;

6 And to knowledge temperance; and to temperance patience; and to patience godliness;

7 And to godliness brotherly kindness; and to brotherly kindness charity.

8 For if these things be in you, and abound, they make you that ye shall neither be barren nor unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ.

9 But he that lacketh these things is blind, and cannot see afar off, and hath forgotten that he was purged from his old sins.

10 Wherefore the rather, brethren, give diligence to make your calling and election sure: for if ye do these things, ye shall never fall:

Knowledge:

Transliteration: sunesis

Strong's Definition:

a mental putting together that is intelligence or (concretely) the intellect

Thayers

Definition:

1. a running together, a flowing together with
2. knowledge
 - a. understanding
 - b. the understanding, i.e the mind so far forth as it understands

Ephesians 3:3-6

3 How that by revelation he made known unto me the mystery;
(as I wrote afore in few words,

4 Whereby, when ye read, ye may understand my knowledge in
the mystery of Christ)

5 Which in other ages was not made known unto the sons of
men, as it is now revealed unto his holy apostles and prophets
by the Spirit;

6 That the Gentiles should be fellowheirs, and of the same body,
and partakers of his promise in Christ by the gospel:

The First mention of Knowledge is in Genesis,
Knowledge of the Tree of Life is Faith (Revelation of Christ)
Knowledge of Good and Evil is Death (reasoning, Unbelief)

Genesis 2:8-9

8 And the Lord God planted a garden eastward in Eden; and there he put the man whom he had formed.

9 And out of the ground made the Lord God to grow every tree that is pleasant to the sight, and good for food; the tree of life (Tree 1) also in the midst of the garden, and the tree of knowledge of good and evil (Tree 2)

Meaning: a tree

Word Origin: Derived from a root word meaning "to be strong" or "to be firm."

Usage: The Hebrew word "ilan" refers to a tree, often symbolizing strength, stability, and life. In the biblical context, trees are frequently used as metaphors for righteous individuals, nations, or the blessings of God. They are also seen as part of God's creation, reflecting His glory and provision.

Cultural and Historical Background: In ancient Israel, trees were vital to daily life, providing food, shelter, and

resources for building and fuel. They were also significant in religious and cultural symbolism. The "Tree of Life" and the "Tree of the Knowledge of Good and Evil" in the Garden of Eden are central to the biblical narrative, representing life, wisdom, and the consequences of human choices.

Genesis 2:16-18

16 And the Lord God commanded the man, saying, Of every tree of the garden thou mayest freely eat:

17 But of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, thou shalt not eat of it: for in the day that thou eatest thereof thou shalt surely die.

18 And the Lord God said, It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him an help meet for him.

Notice a woman wasn't even Created Yet, So who did Eve disbelieve? Her Husband, not God, God told Adam.

30 Now, in the garden of Eden there were two trees. One of them was the tree of knowledge; one was the Tree of Life. And man can never know God by knowledge. So no matter how well you get educated, how smart your pastor is, how many degrees he's taken, you can't...

God is not known by education, neither is He known by scientific research; the only way God is known is by faith. No matter if you don't know the difference between split beans and coffee, if

you'll absolutely by faith accept God and...It's bound to be an act of faith.

31 And when man was eating on this Tree of Life, he had Eternal Life. But when he left that Tree of Life and went on the tree of knowledge, the first bite he took, he separated his fellowship with God, and every time that he bites off of that tree of knowledge, he destroys himself.

53-1201 - God's Provided Way

36 So just forget about knowledge and all your puffed-up knowledge, and just remember, it's THUS SAITH THE LORD, and that's what God wants you to believe, is His Word. That's right. That's God's provided way for man and always has been.

37 And every man that's ever took God at His Word, and every man that ever amounted to anything in the world, was men who **took God at His Word.**

53-1201 - God's Provided Way

Romans 3:19-24 From the Amplified VS

19 Now we know that whatever the Law [of Moses] says, it speaks to those who are under the Law, so that [the excuses of] every mouth may be silenced [from protesting] and that all the world may be held accountable to God [and subject to His judgment].

20 For no [b]person will be justified [freed of guilt and declared righteous] in His sight by [trying to do] the works of the Law. For through the Law we become conscious of sin [and the recognition of sin directs us toward repentance, but provides no remedy for sin].

Justification by Faith

21 But now the righteousness of God has been clearly revealed [independently and completely] apart from the Law, though it is [actually] confirmed by the Law and the [words and writings of the] Prophets.

22 This righteousness of God comes through faith in Jesus Christ for all those [Jew or Gentile] who believe [and trust in Him and acknowledge Him as God's Son]. There is no distinction,

23 since all have sinned and continually fall short of the glory of God,

24 and are being justified [declared free of the guilt of sin, made acceptable to God, and granted eternal life] as a gift by His [precious, undeserved] [c]grace, through the redemption [the payment for our sin] which is [provided] in Christ Jesus,

Now you can see that you can't base interpretation upon students' profound knowledge of the language the Bible is

written in. But if you still can't see that because you are veiled in your mind by tradition here is one last illustration.

No one can doubt but what the Scribes and Pharisees and the great scholars of the year 33 A.D. knew the exact laws of grammar and the exact meanings of the words in which the Old Testament was written; but for all their superb knowledge they missed the revelation of God's promised Word manifested in the Son.

There He was set forth from Genesis to Malachi, with whole chapters devoted to Him and His ministry, and yet except for a few who were illuminated by the Spirit, they missed him entirely.

We now come to a conclusion, such conclusion as we have already found in the Word. As much as we believe in trying to find the oldest and best manuscripts to get the best record of the Word possible, we will never get the true meaning of it by study and comparison of Scriptures, sincere as we may be.

IT WILL TAKE A REVELATION FROM GOD TO BRING IT OUT. THAT IS EXACTLY WHAT PAUL SAID, "WHICH THINGS WE ALSO SPEAK, NOT IN WORDS WHICH MAN'S WISDOM TEACHETH, BUT WHICH THE HOLY GHOST TEACHETH," I Corinthians 2:13. The true revelation is God interpreting His own Word by vindicating what is promised.

An Exposition Of The Seven Church Ages - 1 - The Revelation Of Jesus Christ

Knowing God is the Correct Knowledge.

Now right here someone is going to ask me this question: Did God tell Eve to watch out for the serpent or the serpent would seduce her? Now listen, God didn't have to say one thing about what would happen. Just get the point of the story.

He simply gave the Word. He said not to partake of KNOWLEDGE. Partake of LIFE. LIFE WAS THE WORD OF GOD. DEATH WAS ANYTHING THAT WASN'T THE WORD OF GOD. She allowed ONE WORD to be changed and right then Satan had her.

God could have said, “**Don't pick more fruit off the trees than you can eat.**” Satan could say, “Look, that is quite right. You see if you pick too much it will rot. But here is a method of preserving the fruit and yet at the same time you can pick all you want. So you see, you can have your way and God's way at the same time.”

The devil would have her right there. He that is guilty in ONE point of the law has broken the WHOLE law. Don't fool with that Word. That is exactly what happened in the Ephesian Age before it ran out in about 170 A.D. And what did that tree produce?

The Tree of Knowledge produced death. Cain killed his brother, Abel. The wicked killed the righteous. It set a pattern. **It will**

keep that pattern until the restoration of all things as spoken by the prophets.

An Exposition Of The Seven Church Ages - 3 - The Ephesian Church Age

“To him that overcometh will I give to eat of the Tree Of Life, Which is in the midst of the paradise of God.” What a thrilling thought is this. That Tree Of Life in the Garden of Eden Which could not be approached unto because of the fall of Adam is now given to the overcomer.

The flaming sword of the guarding cherubim has been **sheathed**. But it was not sheathed ere its blade was bloody with the blood of the Lamb. Let us meditate upon this truth awhile as we consider why the Tree was denied to Adam and his descendants **but now allowed again.**

God's intention for His creation, man, is to express His Words. In Genesis, Adam was given the Word to live by. A life lived by the Word would be the Word expressed. That is true is it not? But did Adam live by that Word? No, because he was to live by EVERY Word, and he failed to take heed to every Word.

Then there arose Moses. What a great and mighty man he was. Yet he also failed to live by every Word, and that prophet, the type of the Great Prophet to come, failed in anger to obey the Word. And there was also David, the great king of Israel, a man

after God's own heart. He failed by adultery, when he was tempted.

But eventually, in the fullness of time, there came One, **the Head, even Jesus**, Who also must be tempted to see if He would live by EVERY Word that proceeded out of the mouth of God. **Then was Satan foiled.** For here was One Who lived by **"It is written," and that Masterpiece of God overcame by reflecting God's Word.**

Then was this manifested Perfect One given to the cross, as the Perfect Lamb of God for the perfect sacrifice. And on the "tree" He received the wounds unto death, **that we, by Him and because of Him, might eat of the Tree Of Life**, and then that **Life freely given would enable us to overcome, and express the Word of God.**

And now to these Sons of God, who by Him overcome, are given the privilege of the paradise of God, and the constant fellowship of Jesus Christ. There will never more be any separation from Him. **Whither He goes, His bride will go.** What is His, He shares with His beloved on a joint-heir relationship.

And you Only Know God By Faith the Foundation, if You have any Doubt or Reasoning, Sand under your foundation IT Will Fail.

The secret things will be revealed. The dark things will be made plain. We shall know as we are known. **And we shall be like Him.** This is the heritage of the overcomer who has overcome by the blood of the Lamb and the Word of testimony to Jesus Christ.

How we long for that day when the crooked roads will all be straightened, and we will be with Him, time without end. May that day hasten its appearance, and may we hasten to obey His Word and thereby prove our worthiness to share His glory. “**He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches.**”

How tragic it is that this first age did not listen to the Spirit. Instead it listened to man. **But thank God, in the last age there will be a group rise up, the True Bride of the last day, and she will listen to the Spirit.** In that day of gross darkness the light will return by the pure Word and we will return to the power of Pentecost to welcome back the Lord Jesus Christ.

An Exposition Of The Seven Church Ages - 3 - The Ephesian Church Age

Adam was given the Word. He Failed
Jesus was given the Word. He Overcame
What was the Difference, Adam chose the Woman (Church) for a quick save, stepped in and stood in the Gap. To Save the Church.

Jesus Chose to Keep Gods Word (It is Written) and it pleased God and Saved Every Generation After That. How? By Beliving Every Word.

105 A reason, reasonings, “God is too good. God is too merciful. He loves you too much.” You hear that same old devil today. “God is too good to do this. God won’t do this. God won’t punish.” **He will do just exactly what His Word said He’d do.** See?

106 **“Ye shall not surely die.”** See? What’s he trying to do? Getting her to reason with him. In a minute that you reason on God’s Word, **then you’re losing faith.** See? Don’t have no “yes, noes, maybe so.” Stay right with It. See? Eve had the right approach, but she listened to his reasonings.

107 There’s just so many people today that has the right knowledge, that knows that this Word should be God’s Word, and It is God’s Word, but they stand and let some seminary student reason them out of It, away from the Holy Spirit, away from the things of God. “Reasonings, **we’re to cast them down.**”

108 Now, 4th verse. For... I’m going to tell you why Satan said. I’ll read the 4th verse, first, then the 5th one. And the serpent said unto the woman, Ye shall not surely die—die: For God knoweth that in the days you eat thereof, then your eyes shall be opened, and ye shall be as gods, knowing good from evil.

109 See, he's giving her a reason, "Will you like to be equal with God? Take..." Other words, "You want to really be right with God? Take my advice. Listen to me. God don't mean That. He just didn't."

110 When you hear that, get away from it. That's right. That's the hiss of the serpent. It sounds reasonable. But don't reason, at all. Just believe it, what God said. Now, when the... And when the woman saw that the tree was good for food,...

111 See what it was? His reasonings brought her to know that it was right, it was true. ...and that it was pleasant to the eye, and a tree to be desired...

112 **"To make one have faith"?** [Congregation says, **"No."**—Ed.] ...to make one have knowledge, make one wise,...

113 See what it was? Satan presenting knowledge, knowledge that was contrary to the Word, "one to make one wise." ...she took of the fruit...and did eat, and gave also to her husband with her; and he did eat.

And their eyes of them both were opened, and they knew that they were naked;(the Word was striped from them, Not dressed in the Word any longer!)and they sewed fig leaves together, (creeds and Do's and Don't) and made themselves aprons.

114 Now, what started it? Reasoning. See? **Faith has no reason. You don't reason, at all. You believe.** When you're prayed for, and accept God's Word for healing, don't reason with your feelings. Don't reason with nothing else. There's no reasoning to it. God said so, and that settles it.

62-0401 - Wisdom Versus Faith

Temperance

TEM'PERANCE, noun

1. Moderation; particularly, habitual moderation in regard to the indulgence of the natural appetites and passions; restrained or moderate indulgence; as temperance in eating and drinking; temperance in the indulgence of joy or mirth. temperance in eating and drinking is opposed to gluttony and drunkenness, and in other indulgences, to excess.

2. Patience; calmness; sedateness; moderation of passion. He calm'd his wrath with goodly temperance [Unusual.]

Galatians 5:22-23

22 But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith,

23 Meekness, temperance: against such there is no law.

Galatians 5:16-26 Amp

16 But I say, walk habitually in the [Holy] Spirit [seek Him and be responsive to His guidance], and then you will certainly not carry out the desire of the [g]sinful nature [which responds impulsively without regard for God and His precepts].

17 For the sinful nature has its desire which is opposed to the Spirit, and the [desire of the] Spirit opposes the [h]sinful nature; for these [two, the sinful nature and the Spirit] are in direct opposition to each other [continually in conflict], so that you [as believers] do not [always] do whatever [good things] you want to do.

18 But if you are guided and led by the Spirit, you are not subject to the Law.

19 Now the practices of the [i]sinful nature are clearly evident: they are sexual immorality, impurity, sensuality (total irresponsibility, lack of self-control),

20 [j]idolatry, [k]sorcery, hostility, strife, jealousy, fits of anger, disputes, dissensions, factions [that promote heresies],

21 envy, drunkenness, riotous behavior, and other things like these. I warn you beforehand, just as I did previously, that those who practice such things will not inherit the kingdom of God.

22 But the fruit of the Spirit [**the result of His presence within us**] is love [unselfish concern for others], joy, [inner] peace, patience [**not the ability to wait, but how we act while waiting**], kindness, goodness, faithfulness,

23 gentleness, self-control. Against such things there is no law.

24 And those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the [l]sinful nature together with its passions and appetites.

25 If we [claim to] live by the [Holy] Spirit, we must also walk by the Spirit [with personal integrity, godly character, and moral courage—our conduct empowered by the Holy Spirit].

26 We must not become conceited, challenging or provoking one another, envying one another.

254 And that's the way God does the Church. He beats every creed, every denomination, every man-made dogma, until He sees **His Own Life reflecting in you**. "If I do not the works of My Father, believe Me not." See?

If what is purposed to the Church, **the Life that was in Christ isn't reflecting in you**, don't you stand still if you haven't got patience, virtue, all these things, and temperance, and—and things, and godliness, and brotherly kindness, and all these things **that's required of you**.

No matter what you've done, no matter how much you've shouted, how many churches you've joined, how many feathers you've pinned into yourself, don't do it. Wait till genuinely, from your heart, you can forgive, till in your heart you have brotherly kindness.

No matter if they pull a handful of beard from one side, you can turn the other cheek with sweetness, see, until those virtues, no matter what they say to you.

62-1111E - Why I'm Against Organized Religion

45 So then, no shouting, no nothing like that is evidence. Jesus said, **“By their fruit, you shall know them.”** And the fruit of the Spirit is not speaking with tongues. That's not the fruit of the Spirit.

Shouting is not the fruit of the Spirit. Weeping is not this fruit of the Spirit. But, love, joy, peace, longsuffering, goodness, gentleness, faith, meekness, temperance, that's the fruits of the Spirit. See? That's what the Spirit's fruits are. All right.

57-0901M - Hebrews, Chapter Three

47 There's where the church is failing in one place: overcoming, **overcoming temperance**—temper, overcoming difference, overcoming church prejudice, overcoming hatred. Many people tonight who shout and speak with tongues and run up-and-down the aisle, and hate their neighbor.

That has...Brother, you're lost yet. That's hard to say, but that's the truth. Right. Overcome. You can only overcome when you... You say, "I'm eating manna, glory to God." Yes, but look what happens from one day to the other. You get the miss-meal cramps.

Come on in where the manna's fresh all the time. Whether your neighbor treats you right or not, you'll love him anyhow. That's right. Whether he agrees with you or not, you love him anyhow.

That's the way you got to do it. That's the hidden life. That's that consecrated life. That's that life that the veils of the worlds...And you're shut off from the things of the world. **You only live in Christ. You see what I mean, church?**

I don't want to hurt your feelings, but I've got to stand with you at judgment someday. I'm responsible for not telling the truth, if I know It. That's right.

55-1110 - A Hidden Life In Christ

140 And here's, now, get this lesson. Here is what's wrong with the—with the...I turn on for this. Here is what's wrong with the Branham Tabernacle. You see, there is two different kinds of faith. There is two different kinds of virtue, as I had it the other day. Two different kinds of knowledge. Two different kinds of temperance.

141 One thinks it's prohibition, they got. That ain't the kind of temperance that God is talking about. It's that ungodly, uncontrollable temper you got, and things of that side, fast back, fuss.

142 Patience, and so forth, there's a mockery of it, a pretending to be; a nature-given faith; a nature-given virtue. There's a nature-given temperance. All these things are nature given.

143 And the biggest part of our faith is mental faith. By hearing the Word, it brings us to a mental recognition of God.

144 But if This, **coming from Above**, oh, brother, if It ever strikes this, there is a godly spiritual faith. Then what does that faith do? That faith recognizes only the Word. No matter what anything else says, it only recognizes the Word,

because, "In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God." And the Word is still God. "And the Word was made flesh and dwelt among us." **And when the Word Itself is pouring into our faith, our mental faith becomes a spiritual revelation.**

62-1104M - Blasphemous Names

168 Now, when the member is born by the Holy Ghost into the family of God and has proven to have these virtues in him, that God can see virtue, knowledge, temperance, patience, brotherly kindness, and godliness, in him, **then God seals him,**

or places him. And, there, that's when you see the sons and daughters of God.

169 Then, Ephesians 4:30 says, "**Grieve not the Holy Spirit of God, whereby ye are sealed until the Day of your redemption.**" Now, some of you Baptists that wants to go on Eternal security, now, if you'll come to that stage, I'll stand with you. It's Eternal security if you'll come to that place.

170 But just to say, anybody says, "I've joined the Baptist church. I'm a Presbyterian. I got Eternal security." **That's wrong.** Your own life proves you haven't got It, until This is there.

171 **And God has adopted you and sealed you by the Holy Ghost into His Kingdom,** then there is no getting out of it. You are Eternally secure. **Believe.** "**Grieve not the Holy Spirit of God whereby all you and your godly virtues are sealed until the Day of redemption.**"

172 I believe there is a Bride that's predestinated. I believe God said He would have "**a Church without spot or wrinkle.**" I believe in predestination, that the Bride is predestinated. She's got to be There.

I hope I'm with Her. That, see, I'm with Her. Now it's up to me to work out my own salvation with God, until these things are approved of God, and then sealed into the Kingdom of God.

There is the Holy Spirit. There is the genuine works of God.
“It’s sealed until the Day of redemption.” That was her dream. I
thought it was beautiful.

62-1104M - Blasphemous Names

Amen,

Communion

1 Corinthians 11:23-34

23 For I have received of the Lord that which also I delivered unto you, that the Lord Jesus the same night in which he was betrayed took bread:

24 And when he had given thanks, he brake it, and said, Take, eat: this is my body, which is broken for you: this do in remembrance of me.

25 After the same manner also he took the cup, when he had supped, saying, this cup is the new testament in my blood: this do ye, as oft as ye drink it, in remembrance of me.

26 For as often as ye eat this bread, and drink this cup, ye do shew the Lord's death till he come.

27 Wherefore whosoever shall eat this bread, and drink this cup of the Lord, unworthily, shall be guilty of the body and blood of the Lord.

28 But let a man examine himself, and so let him eat of that bread, and drink of that cup.

29 For he that eateth and drinketh unworthily, eateth and drinketh damnation to himself, not discerning the Lord's body.

30 For this cause many are weak and sickly among you, and many sleep.

31 For if we would judge ourselves, we should not be judged.

32 But when we are judged, we are chastened of the Lord, that we should not be condemned with the world.

33 Wherefore, my brethren, when ye come together to eat, tarry one for another.

34 And if any man hunger, let him eat at home; that ye come not together unto condemnation. And the rest will I set in order when I come.

Foot Washing

John 13

1 Now before the feast of the passover, when Jesus knew that his hour was come that he should depart out of this world unto the Father, having loved his own which were in the world, he loved them unto the end.

2 And supper being ended, the devil having now put into the heart of Judas Iscariot, Simon's son, to betray him;

3 Jesus knowing that the Father had given all things into his hands, and that he was come from God, and went to God;

4 He riseth from supper, and laid aside his garments; and took a towel, and girded himself.

5 After that he poureth water into a bason, and began to wash the disciples' feet, and to wipe them with the towel wherewith he was girded.

6 Then cometh he to Simon Peter: and Peter saith unto him, Lord, dost thou wash my feet?

7 Jesus answered and said unto him, What I do thou knowest not now; but thou shalt know hereafter.

8 Peter saith unto him, Thou shalt never wash my feet. Jesus answered him, If I wash thee not, thou hast no part with me.

9 Simon Peter saith unto him, Lord, not my feet only, but also my hands and my head.

10 Jesus saith to him, He that is washed needeth not save to wash his feet, but is clean every whit: and ye are clean, but not all.

11 For he knew who should betray him; therefore said he, Ye are not all clean.

12 So after he had washed their feet, and had taken his garments, and was set down again, he said unto them, Know ye what I have done to you?

13 Ye call me Master and Lord: and ye say well; for so I am.

14 If I then, your Lord and Master, have washed your feet; ye also ought to wash one another's feet.

15 For I have given you an example, that ye should do as I have done to you.

16 Verily, verily, I say unto you, The servant is not greater than his lord; neither he that is sent greater than he that sent him.

17 If ye know these things, happy are ye if ye do them.

Amen,