

SPIRITUAL GIFTS

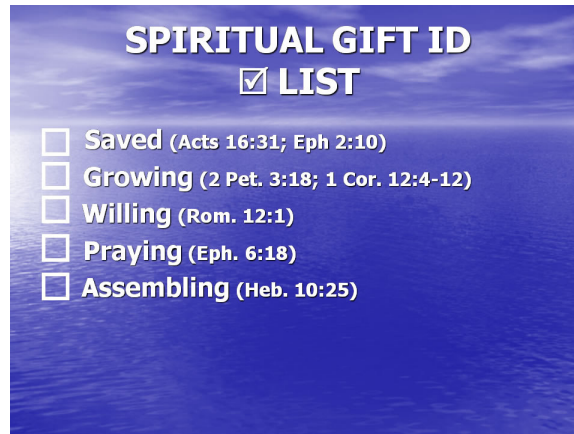
Class #10 – Monday PM1 JULY 02, 2007

CONFERENCE #1

It is important to ensure fellowship with God before the study of the Word.

If we confess our sins, He is faithful and righteous to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness (**1 John 1:9**).

Hebrews 4:12 For the Word of God is alive and powerful, sharper than any two-edged sword.



✓ Saved

Acts 16:31 "Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved."

Ephesians 2:10 For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand *in order that we might* walk in them.

✓ Growing

2 Peter 3:18 *But keep on growing by means of* grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

1 Corinthians 12:4-12

✓ Willing

Romans 12:1-2 Therefore I urge you, brethren, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies a living and holy sacrifice, acceptable to God, which is your spiritual service of worship. ² And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, so that you may prove what the will of God is, that which is good and acceptable and perfect.

✓ Praying

Matthew 7:7 "Ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you."

✓ Assembling

Hebrews 10:24-25 and let us consider how to stimulate one another to love and good deeds, ²⁵ not forsaking our own assembling together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another; and all the more as you see the day drawing near.

- - Willingness - -

Romans 12:1-2 Therefore I urge you, brethren, by the mercies of God, to **present** your bodies a living and holy sacrifice, acceptable to God, which is your spiritual service of worship. ²And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, so that you may prove what the will of God is, that which is good and acceptable and perfect.

παρίστημι - **PARISTEMI** – “To place at one’s disposal”

Revealed will of God is bound up in all the commands of God [“Keep on being filled”; “Pray at all times” etc.]

Points of Doctrine

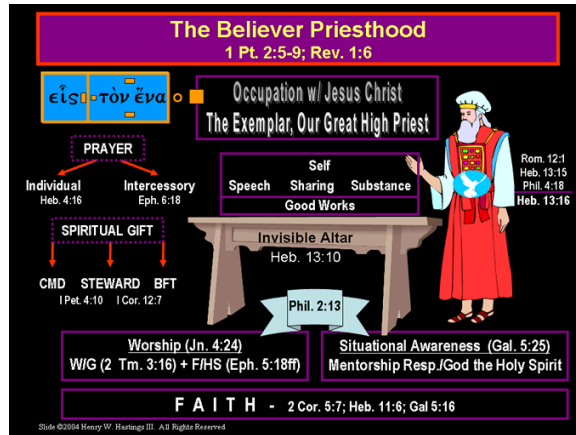
1st POD: The epitome of willingness is actualized when the Christian places himself at God’s disposal to be used however God so chooses.

2nd POD: The presentation of oneself to God as a living sacrifice is fulfilled in the throne of grace through prayer.

3rd POD: Presenting oneself to God is a comprehensive action after salvation which mandates perpetual responsibilities.

4th POD: An individual does not present himself to God in order to be saved, but *because* he has been saved.

5th POD: Once placed at God’s disposal, it is God’s divine prerogative and responsibility to provide the opportunities for deploying one’s spiritual gift.



Hebrews 12:2 fixing our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of faith, who for the joy set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.

ἀφορώ - **APHORAO** – “To focus upon,” “to look intently”

vs. 1b “. . . let us run with endurance the race that is set before us.”

“the author and perfecter of faith” – ἀρχηγός plus τελειωτής

ARCHEGOS – “Leader” - - - **TELEIOTES** – “One who completes something”

Interpretive translation “Fixing our eyes on Jesus, the leader and finisher of THE faith. . .”

1. The Lord Jesus Christ started and finished the unique race of faith.
2. As such, He is our Exemplar.
3. Therefore, we are to fix our eyes upon our Savior – to learn from the precedence He established to run the race.

The unique race of the spiritual life

Hebrews 10:5-9 Therefore, when He comes into the world, He says, "SACRIFICE AND OFFERING YOU HAVE NOT DESIRED, BUT A BODY YOU HAVE PREPARED FOR ME; ⁶ IN WHOLE BURNT OFFERINGS AND sacrifices FOR SIN YOU HAVE TAKEN NO PLEASURE. ⁷ "THEN I SAID, 'BEHOLD, I HAVE COME (IN THE SCROLL OF THE BOOK IT IS WRITTEN OF ME) TO DO YOUR WILL, O GOD.'" ⁸ After saying above, "SACRIFICES AND OFFERINGS AND WHOLE BURNT OFFERINGS AND sacrifices FOR SIN YOU HAVE NOT DESIRED, NOR HAVE YOU TAKEN PLEASURE in them" (which are offered according to the Law), ⁹ then He said, "BEHOLD, I HAVE COME TO DO YOUR WILL." He takes away the first in order to establish the second.

“Here it is well to observe that yieldedness to the will of God is not demonstrated by some one particular issue alone; it is rather a matter of having taken the will of God as the rule or dominating principle of one’s whole life.

To be in the will of God is simply to be willing to do His will without reference to any single distinctive feature of that will.

It is electing God’s will to be final before any specific problem may have arisen for decision. It is not a willingness to do some one thing; it is the willingness to do anything, when, where, and how it may seem best to the wisdom and love of God. It is taking the normal position of childlike trust which freely consents to the wish of the Father before any detail thereof is discovered. The importance of this distinction is clear.

It is too often said: “If he wishes me to do a certain thing, let Him show me what it is and I will determine what I will do about it.” To that attitude of heart nothing is revealed.

There should and must be a relationship of trust in which the will of God is assented to once for all and without reservations.”¹

Are you willing to be used by God however He chooses?

Exodus 21:1-5 "Now these are the ordinances which you are to set before them: ² "If you buy a Hebrew slave, he shall serve for six years; but on the seventh he shall go out as a free man without payment. ³ "If he comes alone, he shall go out alone; if he is the husband of a wife, then his wife shall go out with him. ⁴ "If his master gives him a wife, and she bears him sons or daughters, the wife and her children shall belong to her master, and he shall go out alone. ⁵ "But if the slave plainly says, 'I love my master, my wife and my children; I will not go out as a free man,' ⁶ then his master shall bring him to God, then he shall bring him to the door or the doorpost. And his master shall pierce his ear with an awl; and he shall serve him permanently.

Application – The slave’s statement was an act of the heart. As believers, we have been redeemed by the precious blood of Christ [1 Peter 1:18-19]. We were purchased by Him on the cross - yet many of us are living as free men - pursuing our own plans in life.

Matthew 26:39 And He went a little beyond them, and fell on His face and prayed, saying, "My Father, if it is possible, let this cup pass from Me; yet not as I will, but as You will."

Scriptures quoted are from New American Standard unless otherwise noted.

¹Chafer, L. S. (1993). *Systematic theology*. Originally published: Dallas, Tex: Dallas Seminary Press, 1947-1948. (6:258-259). Grand Rapids, MI: Kregel Publications.