

The Inner Man

A continuous resource for the Christian

- The inner man is a metaphor (i.e., a figure of speech) that pictures the individual Christian as he relates to the Divine nature.
- The inner man's mind is in accord with principles regarding God (Rom. 7:22, 25; Phil. 2:13).
- The Christian has two "minds."
 - a. The new mind: access to the mind of Christ (1 Cor. 2:16).
 - b. And an opposing fleshy mind (Col. 2:18).
 - c. Thus two potential frames of mind (Rom. 8:5, 7).
- The Holy Spirit refreshes the inner man in the renewed mind (2 Cor. 4:15-18; Rom. 12:2).

The context of the inner man in Ephesians chapter three:

- A.** The letter "to the Ephesians" is to a group with numerous spiritual problems Eph. 4:17, 22, 27, 28, 29, 30; 5:14, 18).
 - a. Carnal, not living up to potential in Christ.
 - b. Acting just like unsaved.
 - c. Paul and the Holy Spirit writing to Ephesus about the Gospel for maturity; every provision of the Christian's life is ordered by grace (Eph. 6:19; Rom. 16:25-27; Gal. 1:6-9; 11-13).
- B.** All acclaim goes to the Father (Eph. 3:13-15).
 - a. Reason for Paul's dire circumstances was to their glory (v. 13)
 - b. Paul's reverence of the Father's role toward the church (v. 14).
 - c. The Father is named by all: His fatherhood.
 - i. The heavens:
 - Cherubim: honor guard "the Praetorian Guard" (Ex. 26:31; Rev. 4:6-9)
 - Seraphim (Isa. 6:2, 6).
 - Angels: thrones, dominions, principalities, and powers (Col. 1:16; Job 1 & 2; Heb. 12:22).
 - ii. Earth:
 - Angels (Heb. 1:14).
 - Not fallen spirit beings: Satan, principalities and powers (Rev. 12; Eph. 6:12; 3:10; Col. 2:15; Cor. 4: 8 theatrical-stage).
 - Some of mankind (1 Jn. 3:10).