

The Inner Man, part 12

- I.** The inner man—a picture of how the Holy Spirit aides the Christian in time of need.
1. The ‘hidden’ man of the heart (1 Pet. 3:4).
 - 1) Involves motivation—heart: mind, will, and emotions.
 - 2) Not seen or valued by those in the world.
 - 3) Highly valued by God.
 - 4) God values the motivation behind what we do or do not do (*cf.* 1 Cor. 4:5).
 2. During trials the Holy Spirit refreshes the Christian day-by-day (2 Cor. 4:8-18).
 - 1) The inner man is contrasted to the outer man.
 - 2) The outer man is physical things—seen.
 - 3) The inner man is spiritual thoughts—not seen.
 3. The inner man is in direct opposition to the sin nature (Rom. 7:14-25).
 - 1) Paul uses the present tense to make his historical experience vivid in the present.
 - 2) One person: two natures; two desirous wills.
 - i. The sin nature desires to sin.
 - ii. The new nature desires to please God (Phil. 2:13).
 - 3) The sin principle dwells in his body (Rom. 7:18, 20, 25).
 - 4) Lacking divine enabling, the sin nature always wins (Rom. 7:24).
- II.** The new nature delights in the rule of God (Rom. 7:22).
1. The new nature delights after the inner man.
 - 1) Renewed (2 Cor. 4:16).
 - 2) Ruled or governed by God’s principles.
 2. On one hand, Paul with the mind *of Christ*, serves the governance of God (Rom. 7:25).
 3. On the other hand, Paul *with the mind of the flesh*, serves the rule of the sin nature (Rom. 7:25; Col. 2:18; Rom. 8:6-7).
 4. The rule of the Spirit has set us free from the governance of the sin nature (Rom. 8:2).