

The work of the Spirit in sinners' hearts (Quality: Good)

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Preacher: Seymour, Gordon (1928-2017)

- [0 : 00] We'll read this evening from Paul's epistle, first epistle to the Corinthians, and reading chapter 2. Chapter 2 from Corinthians 1 And I, brethren, when I came to you, came not with excellency a speech or a wisdom, declaring unto you the testimony of God.
- For I determined not to know anything among you save Jesus Christ and him crucified, and I was with you in weakness and in fear and in much threatening, and my speech and my preaching was not with enticing words of man's wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power, that your faith should not stand in the wisdom of men, but in the power of God.
- Howbeit we speak wisdom among them that are perfect, yet not the wisdom of this world, nor of the princes of this world, that come to know.
- Howbeit we speak the wisdom of God in a mystery, even the hidden wisdom, which God ordained before the world, unto our glory, which none of the princes of this world knew, for had they known it, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory.
- For as it is written, I 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, that God hath revealed them unto us by his Spirit.
- [1 : 49] For the Spirit teacheth, searcheth all things, yea, the deep things of God. What man knoweth the things of man, save the Spirit of man which is in him?
- Even so the things of God knoweth no man, but the Spirit of God. 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, 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.
- 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.
- But he that is spiritual, judges all things, yet he himself is judged of no man.
- For who hath known the mind of the Lord, that he may instruct him, but we have the mind of Christ. May the Lord bless his word and help us now in prayer.
- [3 : 11] O Spirit of truth, come down. We know it's the language of a hymn, Lord, but it's in our desire.
- As we venture to call upon thy name at this evening hour, pray, Lord, that we might be able to lay aside those sins and weights that do so easily beset us, and truly run with patience the race set before us, looking under Jesus, all to have a glimpse of thyself, Lord.
- May the blessed spirit of truth then truly come down and reveal the things of God to make to our salvation known and witness with the blood.
- Lord, we do pray to know these deep things of God. We feel sometimes our religion is so superficial. Lord, it causes us concern.

Lord, may it be a little real, or a little reality, of those things that we trust, we have handled, tasted and felt. May they be brought forth in our midst and in our hearts this afternoon, this evening, Lord.

[4 : 26] As we do desire, Lord, to feel thy presence, thy blessing. What is the Master's house to me unless the Master there I see?

Lord, give us a glimpse by faith in thyself. Who calls us to hear thy voice? We are with a few here. A few, Lord, of their friends at Bride and those who are the relay, Lord, in Adelaide and Geelong.

And I do pray, Lord, that they'll hear their poor petition. Remember thine afflicted people, both here in England. We have, Lord, those servants of thine that go forth, Lord, labouring with inward and doctrine over there in England and elsewhere, Lord, in the world.

Lord, there are so many enemies, Lord, of the truth that they seem to be permitted to go on here and there and cause havoc, Lord, in the churches. We do pray, Lord, send us prosperity in the churches.

We do grant, Lord, that there might be returning to thee many souls that they shall, Lord, be convinced of their sins and may to realise that their sins will bring a death upon them ultimately.

[5 : 55] But, oh, Lord, if their sins be pardoned, they'll have a measure of security and good hope for a grace that they shall get the victory over this body of sin and death and be brought at last, Lord, amongst those happy songsters in heaven, Lord, that they've truly been able to say they've gotten the victory that they have through the precious blood of Christ, Jesus Christ, had that royal robe put upon them to cover, Lord, all their sins and their transgressions and they will be spending a never-ending eternity in singing God is love.

We pray, Lord, for the sorrowing church, Lord, that he filled where the deacon, Lord, has died on the Lord's day, having been cut down with a stroke, so called.

Lord, another widow, Lord, to the earth can be mourning over the loss of a godly husband. And yet, Lord, we do pray that by these things men live, might be brought, Lord, following generations, might be brought on by the Spirit to have that hunger and curse for thy righteousness.

Lord, we do needy, Lord, in these dark days to grant us a spiritual revival, sons and daughters of God by blessed adoption, with a talk to fear thy name, with a hunger and a thirst after thy righteousness, and wait upon thee, Lord, to renew their strength of faith, we do pray thee.

Lord, we look to thee, Lord, to this night, to remember us each here and on the relay system, to bless thine own word, Lord, from a feeble sinner, that it might have free course to be glorified in the hearts of the hearers.

[8 : 07] Lord, to whom else can we go, as thou alone hast the words of eternal life to give. Thou knowest, Lord, our frames, thou knowest how often times we are in darkness and bondage through many fears.

No, not the unknown way, but thou knowest, Lord, the end from the beginning. And we do pray, Lord, that it will stir us up and give us true repentance, make us true mourners in Zion over our sins and after thee.

Though, Lord, feeling to be black, yet through that little glimmer of hope, we are humbly because the Lord has covered us for the mantle of his forgiving love.

Oh, do keep alive our churches, Lord. We are many, some brought love over here. They are in England in many places. But, Lord, are they able to revive them? They are able, Lord, to bless thine own word, that it might bring forth fruit, fruit, Lord, that it might be fruit, fruit, fruit of repentance, fruit of the Spirit, fruit of that heavenly love, and that, Lord, that becomeeth true believers in Christ to keep thy commandments.

So do hear us in these things, Lord. And we pray thy present, preserving mercies upon us each in our goings out and comings in in this dark and evil day that we live in.

[9 : 40] May we, Lord, know what it is to feel constrained to call upon thy name in the day of trouble. And thou said, I will hear thee and deliver thee.

And we do need thee, Lord, to guide us by thy counsel and ask for us to receive us and be gloried. And thou, Lord, be with us and help us.

And thou give us thankful hearts and all the deliverances to our own son and also, Lord, to our Lord being able to sing thy praises for thy great goodness that has gone before each one of us here and on the relay through life's journey.

O Lord, we've been unworthy of thy goodness and mercy that surely we can say follow us all the days of our life. And we hope we should dwell in the house of the Lord in heaven forever.

O what a prospect, Lord, that is. And we're unworthy of it. Nevertheless, we do wait upon thee for that renewed strength. So, Lord, we have much cause for thanksgiving and we do pray, Lord, now to descend upon us by thy Spirit to be anointed by the Spirit anew and preach unto them Jesus Christ the centre and hope of their love and the one thing needful to us to keep alive their soul tokens of thy love.

[11 : 18] do, blessed Spirit, then come and anoint us anew. We do pray thee forgive our sin and give us thankful hearts for those daily benefits, Lord, that we are favoured to receive at thy hand as we ask it for Christ's sake alone.

Amen. Let us further sing hymn 1073, the tune is Chapel Brahe 634.

Holy Ghost, dispel our sadness, pierce the clouds of nature's night, come thou source of joy and gladness, breathe thy life and spread thy light, come thou best of all donations, God can give or we implore, having thy sweet consolations, we are earth can wish no more.

1073 pray. Thank you.

Thank you.

[13 : 46] Thank you. Thank you.

Thank you. Thank you. Thank you. Thank you.

Thank you. Thank you. Thank you. Thank you. Thank you. Thank you.

Thank you. Thank you. Thank you. Thank you. Thank you. Thank you.

Thank you. Thank you. Thank you. Thank you. Thank you. Thank you.

[16 : 26] Thank you. friends cannot understand these things. And as we read here, concerning these things, those things that we speak, not in the words which man's wisdom teacheth, but which the Holy Ghost teacheth, comparing spiritual things with spiritual.

But the natural man receiveth not these things. What a great need for you and me to be born again of the water and the Spirit.

Quickened. As he says to the Ephesians, you have been quickened who were dead in trespassing in sin. We haven't, dear friends, lost their sins, don't we?

Only when the Lord condescends to pardon them and then they're brought again to your remembrance and mine because we carry about a body of sin and death.

And all to be favoured to have the breath of the Spirit upon your soul. It breathes into you the new life. We come across people in their lives that they know nothing about this breath of the Spirit.

[17 : 54] We have to look continually ourselves. Holy Ghost, we look to Thee. We need deliverance. We need confirmation. We need evidence. We need evidence.

Evidence is that we're born of God. That's the Spirit born of God and that our treasure is above. For what man knoweth the things of a man?

It is by the foolishness of preaching, dear friends, that art of the world to the natural man because he cannot discern them.

But you and me, by the Spirit, cannot create anything spiritual. This is where I think, dear friends, many people are deceived.

I think because they may have an aching void in their soul that they want something. And if it's spiritually placed there, they will need something.

[18 : 59] They'll be filled after all their poverty and their need of the reality of the truth fixed and bent upon their very selves. And so, this is that we might be blessed with this spiritual mind which is life and peace.

We're told that in the Scripture. And we have to plead, don't we, for the Spirit of Truth to be applied with power to ourselves as we search the Scriptures that we might know something of the feeling sense of the Lord Jesus Christ.

And you see, preaching Christ might be a stumbling block to you and me as it was to the Jews and the Greeks' foolishness, but not unto them which are called, Jews and Greeks alike.

When he, the Spirit of Truth, is come, he will guide you into all truth. We hear the preached word. We read the preached sermons.

And unless the Lord will take anything from those words that they've read or preached on record, or preached on record, unless the Lord apply them, unless these sayings sink down deep in your ears as Jesus said in his preaching, then what will they profit you and me?

[20 : 29] You hear thousands of sermons. You go along and approve the doctrines of free and sovereign grace. But until the Spirit shines, what will it profit us, dear friends?

If we can gain a lot of knowledge naturally, if it's not, dear friends, applied by the Spirit to our souls. So it's very solemn, really.

We know the things of man, but the Spirit of man is not known, dear friends, by men, generally speaking, unless they have truly been quickened by the Spirit.

But all have, we want to know the Spirit of God, the Spirit of Truth. He said, you should know the truth and the truth shall make you free.

And as we spoke on the Lord's Day, that making you free from the condemnation of broken law, oh, blessing Jesus if he's touched your heart.

[21 : 40] And so, in our poor attempts to preach, I can't compare myself to poor, dear friends, never can, never will.

But we depend upon the same Spirit. And so he said, I was with you in weakness and in fear and in much trembling. And my speech and my preaching was not with enticing words of man's wisdom, but in the demonstration of the Spirit and of power.

That your faith should not stand in the wisdom of men, but in the power of God. God. And that's what I feel is lacking and that's what we need for the Lord to be our remembrance and revive us and confirm us to know the Spirit of truth.

And Jesus to apply his word of truth to comfort our troubled heart, to assure us and confirm our souls that the things of God we are taught by the Spirit.

There's little wonder, dear friends, there's no prosperity or little amongst the churches in the day and age we live in. They're all Armenian. They've all told you you've only got to believe that you know the things better than that, I'm sure, that you need the Spirit of truth.

[23 : 09] You need him to quicken you and make you cry. Give me Christ or else I die. You need to be made wise unto salvation. Whoso is wise will understand these things even they shall understand the loving kindness of the Lord.

And it's preaching Christ crucified. And we must likewise be crucified to the world. We're in the world but not of it.

we have feelings what our hand finds to do to do that unto the Lord and not unto man. And this is a great mystery that the Lord when he touches your heart and mind he's the object of your soul's desire.

And you call upon him in the day of trouble because you believe he's a prayer hearing answering God. And he sends his blessed spirit down to come for your troubled heart and saying to you be still and know that I am God.

So God reveals these things unto you by his spirit. What a mercy to have a revelation a word dropped into your soul divine instruction and teaching in the way you and I should go.

[24 : 28] All blessed mercy you will have something to record. to the Lord's honour and glory when he touches your heart and mine. And so you've not received not the spirit of the world but the spirit which is of God.

I thought in all confusion in the government of Geelong all dear friends the devil's language if there ever was anything.

Well if only they knew God and all you see that is the state of the world where else do we know any in our governments that all this vile language all this wickedness that goes on with no unity there dear friends that when the Lord blesses you and me with the spirit in union with the lamp and condemnation free the saints will be the everlasting world and shall forever be so what a mercy there we have received and you have received and I don't doubt dear friends that you can say you haven't done you haven't received the spirit and something brings you into God's house as something causes you to open your bible in your house and search the scriptures and blessed be the Lord when you when you alight on something that is really real why you've not seen that before you've not read that before there's been a set time in God's dealings with you in mercy and pity and love that he comes by his spirit and what he inscribes upon the flesh he told you your heart you know it will stick fast and it will be a lamp to your feet and a light to your path to humbly follow him you won't always be in that sweet frame when it visits your soul but there will be something dear friends that will lay with you and tempt you and me and to pray to be kept though you're not always in the spirit and the

Lord's day and the week or whenever but you're brought to fear Lord keep me from the love of sinning and keep my mind stayed upon these blessed truths and do make me wise unto salvation through faith in the merits of Jesus and so this spirit which is of God we might know the things that are freely given this is for the thirsting sinner however when the thirst it come you to the waters he that had no money come me by wine and without money wherefore dost thou spend money for that that is all this is God's free gift free and sovereign grace without money and without price the priceless sum of the blood of Christ without price it's not for you and me to buy money

I know it says in the scriptures in a certain place buy the truth and sell it not it'll be with wrestling prayer you're looking for the Lord to confirm your soul as being one of his subjects one of those that he's loved everlastingly and well it is everlasting love if he's loved you and drawn you by the bands of that love so what man what natural man know if these things save the spirit of man which is in him and so he gives you that spirit we don't want a earthly spirit we want a worldly spirit subdued by his grace but we want the spirit of God the things of God and the spirit of God that teaches you and thee to number our days to apply our hearts unto wisdom and so all to observe all open the eyes of my understanding

[29 : 05] Lord teach me to do thy will you grant that I might love the preaching of the cross tells to them that perish foolishness but unto us who just saved it is the parable now you want confirmation that don't you but you're one of these that he's saved that he's eternally loved and if he's given you a token and a good hope through grace he'll never leave you he may seem to withdraw his hand from the hole of the door as it reads in the candles but he'll never leave you his omniscient eye is upon all those that he has shed his blood for on the cow tree and we bless the lord do we not for his loving kindness and his tender verses towards us and so we ask him to grant us more tokens and evidences of that love now we have received see he opens your heart he touches your heart he sends out his light and his truth and he leads you to his holy hell and to his tabernacle and he favors you and me to feel that good hope through grace that he's formed himself in your heart the hope of glory and his

Christ and him crucified will soften your heart at times when you're brought into the fellowship of the sufferings of Christ you'll say I can do all things through Christ that strengthen it may so it depends upon the Lord in all these things to open your heart to receive them he pours in them the blessed tokens of his love and you sit down under his shadow and greatly his fruit is sweet to your taste and mine what blessed moments are these they're very rare you want them more frequently to come but these are treasures they won't be had every day or every week or every year maybe but they'll be those brought to your remembrance when your eyes fall upon these precious truths that he reveals himself by his spirit and you have that spiritual mind that you and I long more for you pray

Lord do reveal thyself to me so unto my soul I am thy salvation teach me to do thy will and leave me the plain path because of my enemies so you see your natural man won't receive it you can't study and restore up with a good memory dear friends it's the application it must be applied and we have to pray Lord do apply thy work that I might have some living evidence that I am born of God that I might have those evidences that the entrance of thy word that has given me light and understanding to my poor simple mind and it makes you long for more because you trust that he has blessed you with this hidden wisdom to observe them to observe what the

Lord has done brought your remembrance in mind what he has done for your soul so you see it's the things it's the spirit of man and ultimately the spirit of man going upward whereas the spirit of beast going downward don't have someone to live and die without Christ to be suddenly confronted with death and have no no evidence you're going to be saved and everlasting salvation it's so vital sometimes my thoughts have led to this what if I am not spiritually enlightened enlightened what if I die I've been having a profession of religion without the spirit you see we must not be complacent as to our assurance but we wanted the

Lord to come again and again because Satan is such an active foe he'll lower your mid-asleep he'll make you rest on something that is not profitable when he so favours you and me where is my soul blessed in eternity he'll be in terrible sorrow if we're mistaken and so our vitality is that we see the preaching of the gospel reaches down in your very heart you have a love of the truth it isn't just knowing the truth it's the love of the truth and the love of the truth is the love of the Lord Jesus Christ to your soul and that reciprocating love from you I love the Lord because heard my voice and my supplications so many texts that I've done in the Word of God that can exercise us rightly about this spirit's work and it is the spirit must work before all of his free and suffering grace for by grace he is saved through faith and not of yourselves is the gift of

[35 : 11] God not of works without any man should boast the poor things that they can rest in their works rest in their works but know they're mistaken dear things it is the spirit of truth alone that you and I receive as your heart is open your ears unstopped your tongue loosen that you can speak of the wonders what he has done for your soul and I trust in mine there then we have received and so these things of God that know but the spirit of God he brings you with a spirit of prayer supplication he gives you hunger and a thirst after his righteousness he covers all your sins with the mouth of his forgiving love we want these fruits of the spirit and we have to go on pleading for it and asking him to make us wise and these

Jews and these Greeks are not stumbling blocks to you and me not to know that you have called and to be more than called because many are called but who are chosen you I've chosen you all in the deep troubles I've chosen you in the furnace of affliction affliction dear friends there's some things that we find hard to bear don't we unless we're giving grace but we trust we know where to take our problems to to the mercy seat and he does hear and answer prayer to poor sinners and he guides them and he makes them I believe he makes them to weep sometimes over their sinful thoughts lust of the flesh and pride of life and makes them truly to mourn over their sins blessings but blessed be the spirit of the lord it's after him and waiting upon him giving no rest until he establish him a praise in the earth that you might know the truth and you be persuaded as Paul was in the

Romans persuaded and so he will have persuaded you and me as you search the scriptures and see much of how Paul was called and how he said I thank my God always on your behalf he said the Corinthians for the grace of God which is given you by Jesus Christ that in everything you are enriched in him by utterance there's no doubt these Corinthians and those amongst them they were able to utter the goodness of the Lord they'd been taught and the manner of Paul's preaching went home to their hearts and they sought to follow the Lord in the ordinances of his house blessed be the Lord and they sought to be crucified in the world and the world of the heart thing isn't it to be crucified to the world and we wonder sometimes where the scene is going to end with us but now we have received so the spirit of

God has opened your heart he's torn you away from the lust of the flesh and the pride of life for a few seasons and yet you have to be under watch tower because of this wretched foe who comes in like a flood but the Lord lifts up a standard against him and as he leads and guides you into all truth he makes you wise unto salvation by bringing those hard things to the Lord and he has promised to resolve with it oh what a mercy to prove such a helper and a helpless who know that they must have the spirit to search them and see if they're in the wicked way and lead them in the way everlasting and so now we have received not the spirit of the world but the spirit which is of God and this is what we long for the proofs of the spirit in ourselves to walk worthy of vocation where we have been called looking unto

Jesus the joy that was set before him endured the cross as wise as shame and he sent down the right hand of God there to intercede what an intercessor we have in the Lord Jesus Christ interceding for you takes your poor polluted prayers purifies them and presents them before the Father great mystery great wonderful wonders but he does it according to his word and he's revealed unto you and he says look to Jesus kind and strong mercy joy with power and he gives you that power and you're ready to find and have no strength he only gives you that heavenly wisdom to observe these things and to consider your ways and to seek that blessing by his spirit to anoint you and be anew and that's what we need you you see your flesh won't glory in his presence no flesh should glory in his presence he tells us here but of him are ye in

[41 : 30] Christ Jesus who God is made unto us wisdom and righteousness and sanctification and redemption and so all the glory in is to be in the Lord himself who has plucked you as a brand from the burning think of it so many paving their way to hell for the burning but he plucks them as a brand from the burning oh what a precious mercy if you've got some evidence of that in your own soul practically for the brand you were paving your way to death to hell an everlasting banishment in outer darkness and he plucked you dear friends he picked him up and he changed your heart renewed your will and returned your feet as I had said surely you say goodness and mercy have followed me all the days of my life and I would well in the house of the

Lord forever for to whom can I go for thou hast the words alone of eternal life so your natural man receiveth not these things of the spirit but the spirit truth there we have received you see he opens your heart to receive the word he pours it in it leaves an heart on your conscience it leaves a mark in your steps you look to him that your steps might be ordered you see that the Lord is good and a stronghold in the day of trouble and he holds fast our goings and his powers and his footsteps slip that the footsteps slip not how dependent we are upon the Lord if you're bound up in this month of life surely goodness and mercy will follow you all the days of your life and you'll dwell in the house of the

Lord forever as we said earlier and this is great isn't it this is wonderful the spirit searches all things and all you know is you push out the buyers and the sellers you deliver you from the buyers and the sellers and you'll be favoured to feel that your heart is the dwelling place of the Lord he dwells within who are but a contrite heart and a broken spirit and you look to his name and plead that name the love and the blood and the righteousness of Christ you received it he opens the windows of heaven and pours out a blessing such as your cup runs over there's real joy and peace in believing these are rare real moments they're rare they're precious they're real and you bring them to your remembrance again you worship him in spirit and in truth and you go anyway rejoicing because you believe you have received the spirit of Christ and you want the spirit of Christ and you by praying

Lord do give me to know the truth and conduct me in my fear and grant me fresh supplies of grace that I might persevere pressing toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus to whom else can we go said one of old thou hast the words of eternal life to give this is what you're striving for aren't you eternal life by his words which are taken by the spirit as I conveyed into your new heart that he gives you and makes you and me tender in his fear oh what love on such love my soul will still ponder love so amazing and so divine demands my life my soul my all and you feel sometimes oh how shortcomings are your pathway are your steps but he knows he knows the way you and I take and when he has tried us we should come for the gold and we bless the

Lord for his word it gives you a little heart doesn't it and so this cross of Christ Christ is the one thing needful Christ in his glory oh how the Mary of old she wept have taken away my master and I know not where they laid him she knew he was dead as she thought there is supposing she's supposing him to be the gardener when he calls her by her name Mary or when he calls you by your name what a mercy it is when he says this is the way walking in it when you turn to the right of the left bless his spirit you for now we have received now we have received tokens and evidences in love oh this will make you cry won't it more and more for the blessing of the Lord to enrich your soul and mine

[47 : 33] Lord Jesus do bow down my ear for I am so poor so needy give me a real religion which is more a notion something truly known and fair that I might truly know what it is to know the difference between the things of man and the spirit of man which Christ teaches to number their days searching all things the things of God and so the things of even so the things of God know no man but the spirit of God and when he touches your heart you will have some real religion and something will be hold fast into your soul and how he will make you willing in the day of that hour to truly follow Christ his track I see and I'll pursue the narrow way till him

I view for what man knoweth the things of a man save the spirit of man which is in him and the opposite even so the things of God knoweth no man but the spirit of God oh what a difference if we're in the second path of this verse we need to know another we know the spirit of man we know what it is to witness what man is the wretched man God and full of sin is man that this man receiveth sinners and talketh with them and their hearts burn within them while they're pondering these things in their hearts even so the things of God knoweth no man but the spirit of God now we have received the

Lord we do bless the Lord for his word for he'd be presented but no knoweth and so does the Lord may he bless our few remarks and pardon all the best for his sake amen let us conclude with hymn number 115 between this Boston 305 imputed righteousness is strange nor will with human fancy range we guess the work emoted well and all the hateful truth shall tell the lofty heart cannot submit to cast itself at Jesus feet it scorns in borrowed robes to shine though weaved with righteousness divine 115 115 115

Thank you.

Thank you.

[51 : 59] Thank you. Thank you.

Thank you. Thank you.

Thank you. Thank you.

Thank you. Thank you. Thank you. Thank you. Thank you. Thank you.

Thank you. Thank you. May the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God the Father, the fellowship of the Holy Spirit rest in the Bible this age. Amen.

[55 : 00] Thank you. Thank you. Thank you. Thank you.