

**Ephesians 2013-043 and 044
The Edification Complex
of the Soul**

1 Corinthians 3:9-15

Or, to put it another way, you are God's house. Using the gift God gave me as a good architect, I designed blueprints; Apollos is putting up the walls. Let each carpenter who comes on the job take care to build on the foundation! Remember, there is only one foundation, the one already laid: Jesus Christ. Take particular care in picking out your building materials. Eventually there is going to be an inspection. If you use cheap or inferior materials, you'll be found out. The inspection will be thorough and rigorous. You won't get by with a thing. If your work passes inspection, fine; if it doesn't, your part of the building will be torn out and started over. But you won't be torn out; you'll survive—but just barely. (The Message)

1

*The Believer's Grace Adjustment to the
Justice of God*

- Psalms 66:18 *If I perceive sin in my heart, the Lord will not hear me.*
- Psalms 32:5 *I acknowledged my sin unto thee, and mine iniquity have I not hid. I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the LORD; and thou forgavest the iniquity of my sin. Selah.*
- 1 Cor 11:31 *But if we judge ourselves rightly, we should not be judged.*
- 1 John 1:9 *If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all other unrighteousness.*

2

*Invitation: Becoming a member of God's
Family:*

- Ephesians 2:8-9 *For by a free gift you are saved through trusting and that not of yourselves, it is the gift of God; 9 not as a result of how good we are, so that no one may brag.*
- Rom. 11:6, *"But if it is by a free gift it is no longer on the basis of how good we are, otherwise a free gift is no longer a free gift"*
- Gal. 2:21, *"I do not nullify the free gift from God; for if righteousness comes through the following rules, then Christ died needlessly."*

3

- Gal. 3:24, *"Therefore the rules of the Jewish Law have become our teacher to lead us to Christ, that we may be justified by trusting."*
- 1 Corinthians 3:11 *There is nothing else salvation can be built upon, only Jesus Christ.'*
- John 3:16, *"For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever trusts in Him should not perish, but have eternal life."*
- *"Trust in the Lord Jesus Christ and you will be saved" Acts 16:31*

Privately praying to God the Father that you trust what Christ has done, not what you can do, is the method of salvation.

4

3:17 May Christ through your faith [actually] dwell (settle down, abide, make His permanent home) in your hearts! May you be rooted deep in love and founded securely on love,

EDIFICATION COMPLEX OF THE SOUL (ECS) – The mature believer approaches life from the divine viewpoint, which is manifested in discernment, thoughtfulness toward people, and the ability to astutely interpret current trends of history. Stabilized by his love for truth, he is distinguished by his spiritual common sense.

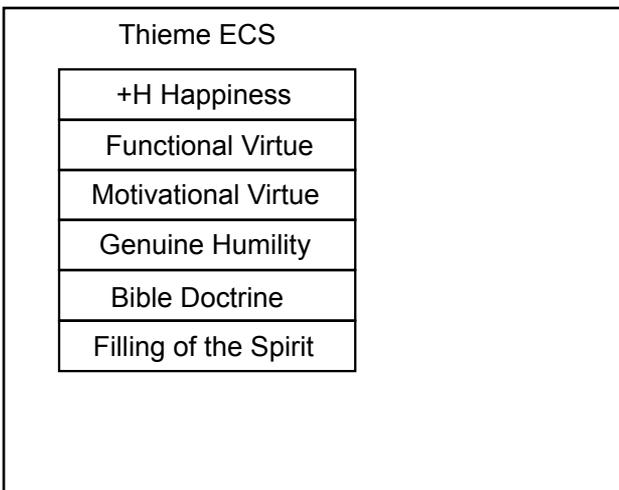
He maintains his poise in all circumstances, sustained by the unseen reality of his love for God.

5

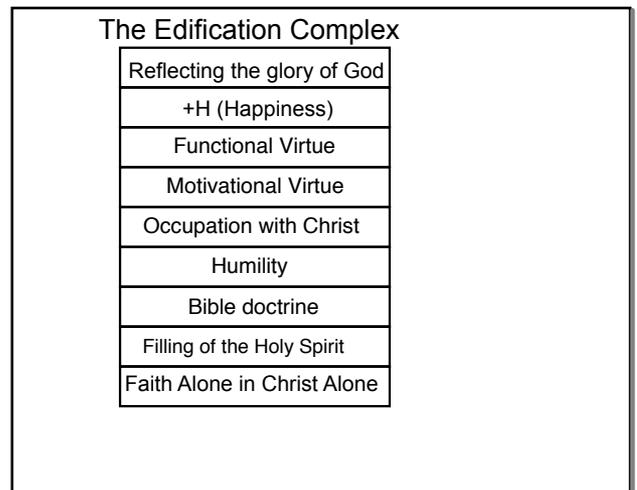
In the strength of the sphere of divine power, the mature believer has constructed an edifice in his soul (1 Cor. 3:9-17; Eph. 4:12), an inner structure I call the “edification complex,” with a penthouse that represents the happiness of God.

The ECS is composed of six levels, from bottom to top: filling of the Holy Spirit, Bible doctrine, Genuine Humility, Motivational Virtue, Functional Virtue, and Sharing the Happiness of God. Movement from the bottom to the top is called “progressive sanctification” in most theological seminaries. (R.B. Thieme, Jr.) In the strength of the divine dynasphere, the mature believer constructs an edifice in his soul, an inner structure built by Bible doctrine, with the happiness of God as the penthouse or pinnacle of the complex.

6



7



8

The Foundation of the
Edification Complex:
Jesus Christ
(salvation by faith alone
in Him alone)

The foundation for the edification complex structure is Jesus Christ. No man can build upon a foundation other than Him. An unbeliever cannot build an edification complex in his soul. The best that he can do is to line up his thinking with divine establishment laws. *According to the grace of God given to me, like a skilled master builder I laid a foundation, and someone else is building upon it. Let each one take care how he builds upon it. For no one can lay a foundation other than that which is laid, which is Jesus Christ (1Cor. 3:10–11).*

9

The First Floor:
Filling of the Holy Spirit

God has given every Church Age believer the Holy Spirit, and the Holy Spirit must function in our lives in order for us to grow spiritually. *(Be filled with the Holy Spirit (Eph. 5:18b)*

This requires two Faith Functions:

1. The Recovery or Rebound technique, which is simply naming your sins to God. *. If we acknowledge our sins, then He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness (1John 1:9).*
2. Resistance, which is the voluntary volitional decision to refuse to succumb to Temptation. *But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus, his Son, purifies us from all sin. (1 Jn 1:7)*

10

Bible doctrine absorbed into the soul and spirit by the function of ministry of God the Holy Spirit, Who makes truth known to us through a pastor-teacher (in most situations). R. B. Thieme, Jr. calls this gap.²

All believers grow using a grace system while learning Bible doctrine. God gives us the ability to understand spiritual information, and this ability is a grace system. We all have it and none of us earn or deserve it. What is required is, first the filling of the Holy Spirit accompanied with accurate Bible teaching from a pastor-teacher who has a clue as to what he is doing. The filling of the Holy Spirit is not enough on its own to spur our spiritual growth.

11

And we [Paul and other believers with teaching gifts] impart this in words not taught by human wisdom but taught by the Spirit, interpreting spiritual truths to those who are spiritual. The natural person [the unbeliever] does not accept the things of the Spirit of God, for they are folly to him, and he is not able to understand them because they are spiritually discerned. For who has knowledge of the mind of the Lord, so as to be his teacher? But we [Paul and other believers with teaching gifts] have the mind of Christ (1Cor. 2:13–14, 16).

12

[So that we—all believers in Jesus Christ] may be able to grasp with all the saints what is the width and length and depth and height; to know the surpassing knowledge and love of Christ; that you may be filled with all the fullness of God (Eph. 3:18–19).

13

True Humility (which includes authority orientation and teachability)

We begin to develop grace orientation, also known as true humility. Believers, just like anyone else, can be extremely arrogant. What often happens is, a new believer will cling to many of their views and values from their old manner of life, stop committing a few overt sins, figure out what passes for holy in their church and do that; and they think they are being spiritual. Grace orientation is recognizing Who and What God is and who and what we are, and not confusing the two. We understand that everything we are and everything we have is based upon the grace of God. We understand that our very spiritual growth is completely a grace function and that we can take upon ourselves no merit for our own spiritual growth. But He [God] gives more grace. Therefore He says: God opposes the arrogant and He gives grace to the humble (James 4:6).

14

Occupation with Christ (which may include a relaxed mental attitude)

We begin to focus on Him Who has saved us, rather than upon ourselves, other people or on things (our possessions and the possessions of others). Looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith, Who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God (Heb. 12:2).

15

Motivational Virtue (personal love toward God)

God loves us with a perfect love, which we begin to understand through the teaching of the Word of God. This gives us reason to proceed and function in our Christian lives. Furthermore, we have come to know and have believed this love that God keeps having toward us. God is love. In fact, the one who resides in the sphere of love continues in the [plan of] God, and God [the Holy Spirit] resides in him. By this, love [which motivates us and causes us to function honorably toward others] has been achieved by us (1John 4:16–17a).

16

Functional Virtue (impersonal love toward mankind)

We then demonstrate love toward all mankind; this is the agape love, where we treat everyone fairly and honestly, without mental attitude sins or feelings of superiority or without a desire for revenge. This is where our spiritual life begins to actually function. Until this point in our growth, we are just growing. **We love because He first loved us** (1John 4:19).

17

+H (happiness, contentment, enjoyment of our lives)

As we grow spiritually, we become contented with all that God has given us, with our lot in life. We are happy with who we are, where we are, and how God is functioning in our lives. Whether we have a multitude of things or not is not an issue; we are happy and content with what we have. **Happiness to the man who finds wisdom and to the man who gains understanding** (Prov. 3:13). **Happinesses to those who listen to me** [Bible doctrine], **assembling daily at my gates** [the place where Bible doctrine was taught], **waiting** [mental attitude of eager anticipation] **at my doorpost** (Prov. 8:34).

18

Reflecting the glory of God (or, **Christ being formed in us**)

This is the top floor, where we reflect the glory of God through what is in our souls. **You were bought with a price, so glorify God in your body** (1Cor. 6:20). **To this end we always pray for you, that our God may make you worthy of His calling and may fulfill every resolve for good and every work of faith by His power, so that the name of our Lord Jesus may be glorified in you, and you in Him, according to the grace of our God and the Lord Jesus Christ** (2Thess. 1:11–12).

19

To them [the gentiles to whom God entrusted the responsibilities of this dispensation] **God chose to make known how great among the Gentiles are the riches of the glory of this mystery, which is Christ in you, the hope of glory. Him we proclaim, warning everyone and teaching everyone with all wisdom, that we may present everyone mature in Christ** (Col. 1:27–28). **My children, I travail until Christ should be formed in you** (Gal. 4:19).

20

The Edification Complex

Reflecting the glory of God
+H (Happiness)
Functional Virtue
Motivational Virtue
Occupation with Christ
Humility
Bible doctrine
Filling of the Holy Spirit
Faith Alone in Christ Alone

21

Most of the time, the edification complex is presented as having 6 floors (throughout its various incarnations). We need to first have a foundation (which has always been assumed, but not stated as one of the floors) and we need to see this from God's perspective, which means that, the completion of the edification complex glorifies God, which is our overall purpose on this earth. We do not do much by way of glorifying God as baby believers. Understand this as a parallel to our own children. When you show your new baby off, there is limited accolades which can be heaped upon you ("He's got your eyes"). But, when a child enters into adulthood and begins making many series of good decisions, the perceptive person understand that this young adult was guided to this point by his parents.

22

It is the same with believers; being saved is great, and it brings some glory to God. But then taking that person that you are, and building in your soul a structure of stability and grace, that especially glorifies God. This spiritual growth does not just automatically happen. We grow in grace and knowledge of His Word. It is a grace system and it takes time for this to occur. A child does not develop automatically completely on his own. A child needs physical nourishment and mental stimulation. As we have found with wild children, you can feed a child and keep him or her locked in a closet, and they will never be able to overcome the lack of mental and emotional growth from their formative years.

23

They will never develop a vocabulary of over a few words, if this part of the brain is not stimulated. This sort of thing will permanently stunt a person's intellectual and emotional growth. Such a child, even as an adult, will think and act like a 5 year-old. We have parents today who do little or nothing to encourage the mental and emotional growth of their children. I have been in homes where there is not one book, not one magazine, and often, not even a coloring book. A child in some homes can go from age zero to age 5 before they are consistently exposed to the printed word (except on the back of cereal boxes).

24

Such a child may observe hundreds of implied and actual sex scenes from tv and video as they grow up, and yet struggle with reading, because their parents do nothing to encourage them to read. There has been a great deal written about the educational gap between Inner city youth and others in the United States; this is the reason why this is true. Our schools cannot close this gap, no more than a wild child can be made to develop a normal vocabulary or normal thinking.
The believer can be the same way.

25

If the believer is not filled with the Holy Spirit regularly and exposed to Bible teaching daily, their spiritual growth will be stunted as well. Their entire spiritual life will be devoted to sanding off the rough edges of their personality and hiding their sins as best as possible. The best possible outcome for society is that such a believer begins to follow the Laws of Divine Establishment, which are laws for believers and unbelievers alike. There are no eternal rewards for such a person, but he will lead a happier life and those around him will be happier.

26

The basic structure of this was taken from a little handout from Bible Doctrine Cassettes (now defunct, I assume), which are from Bob Thieme Jr.'s class notes. The same doctrine can be found in R. B. Thieme, Jr.'s Edification Complex of the Soul; ©1972 by R. B. Thieme, Jr.

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The God-ward and Man-ward Sides of the Edification Complex

God-ward Side	Man-ward Side
Reflecting God's Glory	+H Happiness
Motivational Virtue	Impersonal Love
Occupation w/ Christ	RMA
Genuine Humility	Authority Orientation
Doctrinal Orientation	
Jesus Christ	

28

1. The Doctrine of Edification is based on Categorizing the Greek noun Oikodome. This noun is found in, **Rom 14:19; 2 Cor 10:8, 13:10; Eph 4:12,16, 29; 2 Cor 14:5,12,26.**

In all these passages, it has a dual connotation.

29

a. Collectively it refers to the formation of the Royal Family of God during the entire period of the Church Age. I.e., The building up of the body of Christ. When the royal family is completed, the rapture of the church will occur.

30

b. Individually it refers to the spiritual growth of the positive believer, and/or momentum in the Christian way of life. Hence, the individual connotation refers to the execution of the Pre-designed Protocol Plan of God (P₃G) and the subsequent manufacture of the invisible hero, resulting in the glorification of God.

31

2. When the collective connotation is used, Oikodome should be translated - "construction, building up," or "building process."

The collective connotation of Oikodome is based upon our Lord's third Royal patent or title, King of kings and Lord of lords, the Bright Morning Star, which was given to Him as a result of His strategic victory in the angelic conflict. **1 Tim 6:15 Rev 17:14, 19:16**

32

Our Lord Jesus Christ now possesses three categories of Royalty.

- a. The Royalty of His Deity, (Divine Royalty) by virtue of the fact that He is eternal and infinite God - Son of God. **Mat 4:3**
- b. The Royalty of His humanity, (Jewish Royalty) by virtue of the virgin birth, incarnation and first advent - Son of David. **Mat 1:1**
- c. The royalty of His hypostatic union, (Battle field Royalty), by virtue of His strategic victory at the cross - "King of kings, Lord of lords; the Bright Morning Star."

33

"King of kings" gives Christ precedence over human rulers;

"Lord of lords" gives Christ precedence over angelic rulers.

So, the collective connotation of Oikodome is based upon our Lord's third Royal patent or title, King of kings and Lord of lords, the Bright Morning Star.

34

3. When the Individual connotation is used, Oikodome should be translated "edification."

American Heritage Dictionary:

Edification = Intellectual, moral or spiritual improvement, enlightenment.

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B. Definition and Description

1. The Edification Complex of the Soul (ECS) is technical nomenclature found in the Epistles of the New Testament for the attainment of spiritual maturity.

2. The consistent function of the Grace Apparatus for Perception (GAP) under one's right Pastor-Teacher is the only way to construct an Edification Complex of the Soul.

You don't edify your soul through prayer, singing or works, those are a result of edification not the cause for edification.

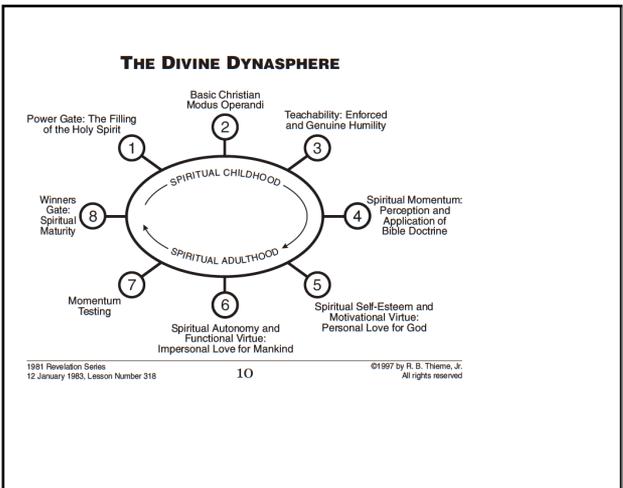
36

3. The mature believer possesses a completed edification complex in his/her soul.

4. Doctrine perceived must feed both the human spirit and the human soul for capacity for both human and eternal life. The ECS is the result.

5. Virtue-love is the means of reaching maturity and receiving an ECS, **1 Cor 8:1**. You cannot have an Edification Complex of the Soul unless you are using virtue-love at gates 5 and 6 of the Divine Dynasphere. "Gnosis produces arrogance, but virtue-love edifies." Virtue-love is the sign that you have been metabolizing doctrine.

1 Cor 8:1-3, "Now concerning things sacrificed to idols, we know that we all have knowledge. Knowledge makes arrogant, but love edifies. If anyone supposes that he knows anything, he has not yet known as he ought to know; but if anyone loves God, he is known by Him."



6. Synonyms for the Edification Complex of the Soul.

a. Light: This is used for the Divine Dynasphere and sometimes for the Edification Complex of the Soul. **Eph 5:8-9; Rom 13:12**

b. **"Christ formed in you" Gal 4:19**, connotes both the Edification Complex of the Soul and spiritual self-esteem.

c. **"the new man" Eph 4; Col 3**, refers to both the Edification Complex of the Soul and Divine Dynasphere.

d. **"the perfect man" James 1:4**.

e. **"imitators of God" 1 Thess 1:6, Eph 5:1**. There is a direct relation between Gate 8 of the Divine Dynasphere and the Edification Complex of the Soul.

41

42

Eph. 5:1-2

¹ **"Therefore be imitators of God, as beloved children; ²and walk in love, just as Christ also loved you and gave Himself up for us."**

C. The Importance of the Pastor's Authority in Edification.

1. Scriptural references for the authority of the Pastor in edification.

a. ² Cor 10:8, **"for even if I should boast somewhat further (rub it in) about our authority, which God gave for your edification and not for destroying you, I shall not feel ashamed."**

43

44

The Corinthians wavered so much that Paul really had to get tough with them and throw his rank around.

1 Cor. 1:1, "Paul an Apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God,"

The Corinthians were reacting to Paul's authority and so were doing many things detrimental to their spiritual life.

45

(1) Because of rejecting his authority they rejected sound doctrine and replaced it with tradition, legalism and liberalism.

(2) "our authority" refers to those with the communication gifts of Pastor-Teacher as well as Apostleship. e.g. Pastor-Teacher = Apollos and Timothy.
How does the Pastor establish his authority?
Through the communication of doctrine.

46

(3) Paul makes it very clear that the construction of the edification complex depends upon accepting the authority of a Pastor-Teacher who communicates doctrinal information.

(4) People never grow up without authority.

(5) "and not for destroying you" - Even though the authority may not feel good or be enjoyable at first, it has tremendous benefits to you.

47

(6) "I am not ashamed" - Paul makes no bones about it.

Gal 4:16, "So have I become your enemy by telling you the truth?"

b. 2 Cor 13:10, "for this reason, I am writing these things while absent, in order that when I am present, I may not use severity in compatibility with the authority which God has given to me for the purpose of your edification, and not for the purpose of destroying you."

48

(1) No one can learn any subject without accepting the authority of the one who teaches.

Therefore, the importance of understanding that edification and invisible heroship comes only in one way, and that is through the teaching of the Pastor in communicating the mystery doctrine of the church age, and no other way.

49

(2) It is impossible for anyone with the gift of Pastor-Teacher to communicate Bible doctrine unless his authority is recognized. Therefore, the enforcement of good manners and thoughtfulness of others is a part of the exercise of the Pastor's authority.

Notice that Paul thought it better to talk about authority in a non-face-to-face situation so that he would not have to chew them out face-to-face when he arrived.

50

c. 1 Thess 5:12 - 13

¹²"But we request of you, brethren, that you respect those Pastor-Teachers who work hard among you [studying and teaching], who have command over you in the Lord and give you instruction. ¹³and that you esteem them very highly in love because of their work. "

The road to the edification complex is paved with hundreds and thousands of messages regarding the P₃G God.

51

Whether these messages are of any benefit to you depends upon whether you accept one man as your right Pastor and accept his authority in teaching.

d. ^{Heb 13:17}, **"Keep obeying those Pastors who themselves are ruling over you, and submit to their authority [by learning bible doctrine], for these same Pastors keep watching for the benefit of your souls as those who have to render an account. Keep obeying them, in order that they may do this accounting with joy, and not with groaning, for this is unprofitable for you."**

52

2. The threefold purpose of the Pastor is found in **Eph 4:12**,

"for the purpose of equipping the saints, for the production of Christian service, for the edification of the body of Christ."

53

a. The "saints" refer to the Royal Family of God with emphasis on the baptism of the Spirit.

1. "equipping the saints" refers to God's grace policy and provision for the execution of the protocol plan.

2. "equipping" is the function of the Pastor who, through teaching the mystery doctrine of the great power experiment of the church age, is able to see people grow and become invisible heroes for combat in the angelic conflict.

54

b. All believers are in full-time Christian service from the moment of their salvation.

Christian service is the normal result of spiritual growth but never the means.

c. Edification is the execution of the P₃G for the Church Age and subsequent manufacture of invisible heroes, resulting in the glorification of God.

"For the edification of the body of Christ". The Pastor must study, teach, discipline (public), reprimand (private), and encourage by steadfastness and doctrine.

55

3. The spiritual momentum of the believer comes from the teaching ministry of the Pastor.

Eph 4:16, "because of whom [Lord Jesus Christ] the entire body, being joined together [baptism of the spirit] and being inculcated by every joint of supply [Pastor-Teacher] on the basis of the operational power [Holy Spirit in Divine Dynasphere], in measure one [Pastor-Teacher] for each part [of the Royal Family of God]; he himself [Pastor-Teacher] causes growth in the body, resulting in its edification by means of virtue-love."

56

a. Body function depends upon the proper use of joints just as athletic coordination depends upon the proper use of the joints.

b. So in this analogy of the Pastor to the joints, it is the Pastor-Teacher who gives the body of Christ its function on earth.

c. The result of the communication of doctrine is the construction of an Edification Complex in your soul.

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d. Eph 4:16b says, "he himself [Pastor] causes growth in the body."

(1) Therefore the function of the Pastor is to teach, to inculcate the mystery doctrine of the church age.

(2) This is the means by which the Royal Family of God not only orients to this dispensation, but is caused to grow and attain spiritual maturity.

(3) In spiritual maturity, invisible heroes are manufactured and God is glorified.

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(4) Growth of the body does not depend on the mode or style of teaching but consistency of teaching.

Face-to-face teaching versus non-face-to-face teaching is a false issue.

The real issue is the power of God presented through the teaching of the Word of God, whatever the medium: Written ministry, tapes, radio, T.V., Internet.

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The main point is: However you get your doctrine, be consistent!

Find whoever is your right Pastor and stay with him.

60

D. The Motivation of the Believer in Edification.

There are two categories of motivation: Positive volition and the mental attitude of humility.

1. Positive volition is expressed in **Rom 14:19**.

Rom 14:19, "Consequently, we run after [pursue] those things related to prosperity and edification."

a. Running, not walking expresses positive volition toward the mystery doctrine of the church age, which gives us all the details necessary regarding God's plan, purpose and will for our lives after salvation.

1Cor 9:24 - 27

²⁴ "Do you not know that those who run in a race all run, but only one receives the prize? Run in such a way that you may win. ²⁵Everyone who competes in the games exercises self-control in all things. They then do it to receive a perishable wreath, but we an imperishable. ²⁶Therefore I run in such a way, as not without aim; I box in such a way, as not beating the air; ²⁷but I discipline my body and make it my slave, so that, after I have preached to others, I myself will not be disqualified."

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Phil 2:16 – 18

¹⁶ "holding fast the word of life, so that in the day of Christ I will have reason to glory because I did not run in vain nor toil in vain. ¹⁷But even if I am being poured out as a drink offering upon the sacrifice and service of your faith, I rejoice and share my joy with you all. ¹⁸You too, I urge you, rejoice in the same way and share your joy with me."

Heb12:1 – 3

¹ "Therefore, since we have so great a cloud of witnesses surrounding us, let us also lay aside every encumbrance and the sin which so easily entangles us, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, ²fixing 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. ³For consider Him who has endured such hostility by sinners against Himself, so that you will not grow weary and lose heart."

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64

b. This includes the perception, metabolization and application of the mystery doctrine of the church age as the means of executing the P₃G. The execution of the P₃G results in the manufacture of invisible heroes.

Invisible God plus invisible assets plus invisible power equals invisible heroes who glorify God. I.G. + I.A. + I.P. = I.H.

65

c. Prosperity and edification go together; both are the result of continual positive volition.

The more you grow spiritually, the more God is able to bless you.

The more you edify your soul, the more Escrow blessing God can distribute to you.

66

2. In order to get the garbage from the Cosmic (world) system out of your soul and for consistent perception of doctrine to occur, it is important to have a mental attitude of humility. **Rom 12:2-5**

Rom 12:2-5,

2"Stop being conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renovation of your thought [divine viewpoint of life] that you may prove what the will of God is; namely, the good of intrinsic value achievement [advance to spiritual maturity, Spiritual Self Esteem], (and acceptable) the well-pleasing to God [fulfillment of the pre-designed protocol plan (P₃), Spiritual Autonomy], (and perfect) the mature status quo [manufacture of invisible heroes, Spiritual Maturity].

67

³For I say through the grace which has been given to me to everyone who is among you: stop thinking of self in terms of arrogance beyond what you ought to think, but think in terms of sanity for the purpose of being rational without illusion as God has assigned to each one of us a standard of thinking from doctrine. ⁴For just as we have many members in one body and all members do not have the same function, ⁵so we who are many are one body in Christ and individually members of one another."

68

a. Conformity to this world means involvement in the cosmic system.

b. There must be a complete renovation in your thinking if you're ever going to demonstrate what the will of God is for your life. Certain types of thinking are out of bounds, i.e., thinking related to the arrogance complex.

c. The standard of thinking from doctrine includes every aspect of divine viewpoint, orientation to life through enforced and genuine humility, and everything that makes us objective and teachable toward the Word of God.

d. "many members in one body" emphasizes that although we have different spiritual gifts and different personalities, we all belong to one Royal Family, the body of Christ.

e. "individually members one of another" refers to interaction within the Royal Family of God.

3. Without enforced and genuine humility, there is neither objectivity nor teachability.

Without objectivity and teachability in life, you will be miserable whether you are a believer or unbeliever, successful or not.

Without objectivity and teachability, there is no edification complex in your soul as a believer.

Don't be subjective about the information being taught, relax and operate in grace.

4. Edification is the execution of the P₃G through the function of (P₃ER) -post-salvation epistemological rehabilitation. This includes your daily perception, metabolization and application of Bible doctrine.

5. Edification is the status of the invisible hero. She/he has completed the Edification Complex of the Soul, the most beautiful structure in life. It is found in the soul of the invisible hero.

6. Edification is therefore impossible without humility, teachability and objectivity.

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E. Edification is the Key to the Proper Function of the Local Church.

1 Cor 12:1 - 14:40

1 Cor 14:12, **"So also you, since you are eager to have the function of spiritual gifts, seek to abound in spiritual gifts that edify the church."**

"so also you" is a Greek idiom that should be translated, "this applies to you."

74

a. The Corinthians were all eager to get the gift of tongues because it was spectacular, and then they could assume they were spiritual.

In reality, the worst believers in the Bible (the Corinthians) are described as having the gift of tongues.

b. "seek to abound", means you should give precedence to those spiritual gifts which result in edification. The primary spiritual gift in this category is the gift of Pastor-Teacher.

75

The pre-canon temporary gift of tongues did not edify the church. **1 Cor 14:4**

1 Cor 14:26, **"...When you assemble, ... Let all things be done for edification."**

a. There are a number of ways in which we worship God, but they must all relate to our spiritual growth.

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b. Everything in assembly worship should be done with a view toward the objective, which is edification.

c. The objective is to communicate doctrine, the purpose of which is to produce edification.

1. The key to the modus operandi of the local church is edification. Edification, or the advance to spiritual maturity, is the objective of the Christian way of life.

2. In the context of **1 Cor 14**, the gift of tongues did not fulfill that purpose.

1 Cor 14:40 concludes that The gift of tongues did not do "all things properly and in an orderly manner."

a. The gift of tongues only existed for the first forty years of the church age. It was discontinued when the fifth cycle of discipline was administered to Israel by the Romans in August, 70 A.D.

b. In Corinthians, the gift of tongues illustrated how not to do things decently and orderly.

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F. Edification Follows the Pattern of the Priority Solution.

1. Priority #1 for edification must be perception, metabolization and application of the mystery doctrine for the church age under the Grace Apparatus for Perception (G.A.P.).

This demands concentration under the ministry of the Holy Spirit inside the operational-type Divine Dynasphere.

Therefore, when doctrine is taught, concentration means there is renewing of the mind through the ministry of God the Holy Spirit.

2. As you give Bible doctrine #1 priority in your life, you organize your life around priority #1. Therefore, you have an organized life and your life is in order. This means you always give proper time to the perception, metabolization and application of doctrine.

3. **Rom 12:1 – 3**, As you learn doctrine, your thinking inevitably begins to change; there's a "renovation of your thought". (**Rom 12:2**)

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Therefore, you begin to organize your thinking around priority #1.

The more doctrine you learn, the more you organize your thinking around doctrine.

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4. Mechanically, that means you use the ten problem solving devices (P.S.D.) of the P₃G.

As you develop the problem solving devices in your mind, you concentrate on executing the P₃G through the doctrine you have learned.

That is how you construct the Edification Complex of the Soul.

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Ten Problem Solving Devices

If you are a believer in the Lord Jesus Christ, that is, if you have placed your personal faith in Him for eternal salvation, then you have a responsibility to grow, to advance spiritually. At the cross Jesus Christ won the strategic victory over Satan. In your spiritual life you can achieve a tactical victory in the angelic conflict - the spiritual warfare in which every believer is involved, **only if** you advance to spiritual maturity. For that reason God commands you to grow up.

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2 Peter 3:18 'but grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To Him be the glory, both now and to the day of eternity. Amen.'

The means of growing in the grace and knowledge of Jesus Christ is through the consistent study and application of the doctrines and principles contained in the word of God.

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2 Timothy 2:15 'Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.'

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There are 10 Problem-Solving Devices which God has provided for the execution of the Christian Way of Life. These are:

- 1] Confession of sin/Rebound.
- 2] The filling of the Holy Spirit.
- 3] Faith-Rest.
- 4] Grace Orientation.
- 5] Doctrinal Orientation.
- 6] Personal Sense of Destiny.
- 7] Personal Love for God.
- 8] Impersonal Love for all mankind.
- 9] Sharing the Happiness of God.
- 10] Occupation with the Person of Christ.

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The Problem-Solving Devices encompass every aspect of the Christian Way of Life, the victorious life that God has planned for every believer. The Problem-Solving Devices are to be used as a system of problem solving for every Christian, regardless of their stage of growth in the Christian life. In other words, no one ever outgrows the need to use all ten. Depending on the problem to be solved, the believer may use one or several of the devices simultaneously as the solution to any of life's challenges.

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When learned, believed and applied, this system will stabilize, sustain, empower, and liberate the believer. Consistent utilization of the system will advance the believer far beyond what he can imagine, to a lifestyle of a relaxed mental attitude toward circumstances, toward self, toward others and most importantly, toward God.

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You must live your own spiritual life before the Lord. No one else can live it for you. Whether or not you glorify the Lord depends on your decisions to learn, metabolize and apply Bible doctrine. You can become victorious in your spiritual life by advancing to and maintaining spiritual maturity which glorifies God, or you can choose to remain a spiritual infant and be a loser believer. It is a choice you must make.

ADVANCE TO THE HIGH GROUND

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