

Ephesians 2013-049 and 050

Thieme's Spiritual Growth
Doctrines

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.'*

*"He that **believes** the Son has everlasting life, and he that believes not the Son, shall not see life, but the wrath of God abides on him." [Jn 3:36](#)*

*"And this is the will of him that sent me, that every one that sees the Son, and **believes** on him, will have everlasting life, and I will raise him up on the last day." [Jn 6:40](#)*

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"Truly I say unto you, he that **believes** on me, has everlasting life." [Jn 6:47](#)

"Whosoever **believes** in me will not perish, but have everlasting life." [Jn 3:15](#)

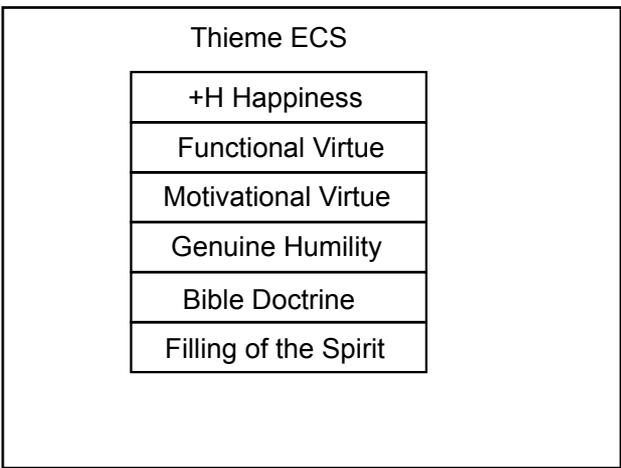
"He that **believes** on him is not condemned, but he that **believes** not is condemned already, because he has not **believed** in the name of the only begotten Son of God." [Jn 3:18](#)

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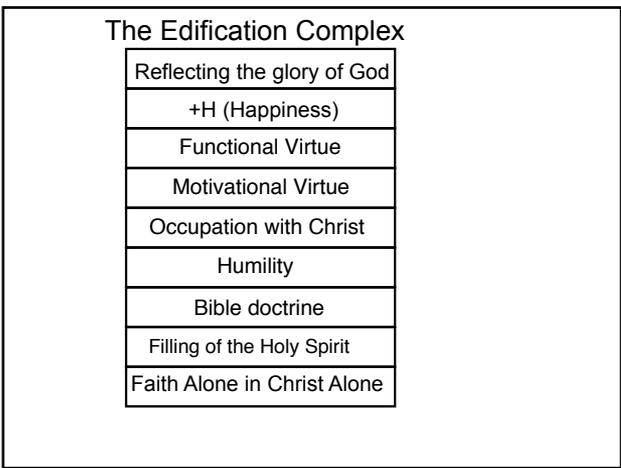
- John 3:16, "For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever trusts in Him should not perish, but have eternal life."
- "Trust in the Lord Jesus Christ and you will be saved" Acts 16:31

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

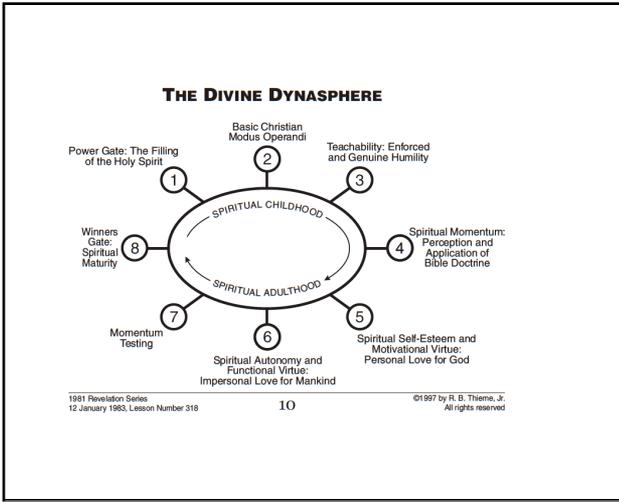
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There are 10 Problem-Solving Devices which God has provided for the execution of the Christian Way of Life. These are:

- 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.

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.

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.

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.

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ADVANCE TO THE HIGH GROUND

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The construction of the Edification Complex of the Soul. [Building of your Soul.]

1. When you execute the Pre-designed protocol plan of God, over a period of time, you have constructed the following building.
2. **Foundation:** Your eternal salvation, with resultant regeneration and creation of your human spirit. This foundation is based on the foundation of Christ as our corner stone which the Apostles built upon. **1 Pet 2:6-7; Eph 2:20-21; Act 4:11-12; Luk 20:17; Mar 12:10; Mat 21:42; Psa 118:22**

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Eph 2:20, “having been built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Christ Jesus Himself being the corner stone, ²¹in whom the whole building, being fitted together is growing into a holy temple in the Lord, ²²in whom you also are being built together into a dwelling of God in the Spirit.”

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First floor: The perception, and metabolization of Bible doctrine under the consistent process of renewing your mind [post-salvation epistemological rehabilitation.] **Psa 51:10 – 12; Rom 12:2; Tit 3:5**

Psa 51:10-12, “Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a steadfast spirit within me. ¹¹Do not cast me away from Your presence, And do not take Your Holy Spirit from me. ¹²Restore to me the joy of Your salvation, And sustain me with a willing spirit.”

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This is the endowment of the Holy Spirit. In the New Testament, Church Age the indwelling is permanent. **2 Cor 1:22; Eph 1:13; 4:10** (sealed with the Holy Spirit, our eternal pledge.)

Rom 12:2, “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.”

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Second floor: Dispensational orientation, (i.e., understanding the uniqueness of the church age.) **Eph 1:10; 3:9-10**

Eph 1:10, “with a view to an administration suitable to the fullness of the times, *that is*, the summing up of all things in Christ, things in the heavens and things on the earth. In Him”

Eph 3:9-10, “and to bring to light what is the administration of the mystery which for ages has been hidden in God, who created all things; ¹⁰so that the manifold wisdom of God might now be made known through the church to the rulers and the authorities in the heavenly places.”

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Oikonomia:

Oikos – a house, any dwelling place, the human body as the abode of demons that possess it: [of tents, and huts, and later, of the nests, stalls, lairs, of animals; the place where one has fixed his residence, one’s settled abode, domicile] All the persons forming one family, a household, [it was used for] the family of God, of the Christian Church.

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Nomos – Anything established, anything received by usage, a custom, a law, a command. A law or rule producing a state approved of God, by the observance of which is approved of God. A precept or injunction, the rule of action prescribed by reason; the Christian religion: the law demanding faith, the moral instruction given by Christ. This word is also used when referring to the Old Testament and the first 5 books called the Pentateuch.

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Oikonomia has come to mean the management of a household or of household affairs, specifically,] the management, oversight, or administration, of other's property, (dispensation).
 God has designed the administration, management, or dispensation of the human race through His protocol plan, specific to each age according to His sovereign will. God has designed a law for the proper administration of another's household that His family is temporarily dwelling in. And it is our job to understand what that dispensation is for our time and live in it.

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Third floor: Problem solving devices, which are very important for experiential Christianity.

(1) As you understand and function under these problem-solving devices, you become spiritually self-sustained, and you function under the privacy of your priesthood to resolve your own problems, including the greatest problems in life.

(2) There are two ways in which problems are properly resolved: Through the use of the ten problem solving devices, and through cognizance of specific principles in the word of God.

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Fourth floor: Spiritual self-esteem, the first stage of spiritual adulthood.

Fifth floor: Spiritual autonomy, the second stage of spiritual adulthood.

Sixth floor: Spiritual maturity, the point at which we execute the protocol plan of God.

Seventh floor: The modus operandi of the invisible hero.

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1. The moment you personally believed in Jesus Christ, a foundation was constructed, comprised of the forty things from God. The foundation is Jesus Christ. **2 Tim 2:19a; 1 Cor 3:11**
2. 2 Tim 2:19a, "Nevertheless, the firm foundation of God stands, having this seal, the Lord knows those who are his..."
3. 1 Cor 3:11, "For no man can lay a foundation other than the one which is laid, which is Jesus Christ."

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1. The foundation is constructed on the saving work of Jesus Christ on the cross, (i.e., redemption, propitiation, reconciliation, imputation, and justification).
2. The foundation is instantly constructed the very second we believe in Christ. Again, the foundation is comprised of the forty things we receive at the point of our salvation.
3. (1) One of the forty things we receive is eternal life. **Heb 6:1**
4. **John 3:15, "whosoever believes in him shall never perish, but have eternal life."**
5. **John 3:16, "For God loved the world so much that he gave his uniquely-born son that anyone who believes in him should never perish but have eternal life."**

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1 John 5:11-13, "This is the deposition: God has given to us eternal life, and this life is in his Son. ¹²He who has the Son has this [eternal] life; he who does not have the Son does not have this [eternal] life. ¹³These things I have written to you who believe in the person of the Son of God, in order that you may know that you have eternal life."
John 6:47, "Truly, truly, I say to you, he who believes in Me has eternal life. "Heb 6:1-8

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1. The first floor is consistent perception, metabolization, and application of the mystery doctrine of the Church Age. [It is converting gnosis into epignosis doctrine.]
2. The second floor is comprised of the unique characteristics of the Church Age, called dispensational orientation. [We have ten unique things in the Church Age that believers in other dispensations do not possess. As a result, there is tremendous emphasis on the individual believer in the Church Age.] The baptism of the Spirit results in the creation of a new spiritual species and the royal family of God. [Cognition of being a new spiritual species makes you aware of the tremendous requirements related to your spiritual life. As a member of the Royal Family of God, you have a unique modus operandi.]

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- a. The Predesigned Protocol Plan of God or P₃G is unique for the Royal Family of God only.
1. A phenomenal portfolio of invisible assets belongs to each one of us as Royal Family of God.
 2. For the first time in history every believer regardless of his background, attainments or lack of attainments, handicaps, success, or any other distinguishing human factor has equality given by God himself.

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- (1) It is impossible for man to make men equal, [as the communists allege] man can only provide freedom, but freedom manufactures inequality.
- (2) Equality originates with the baptism of the Holy Spirit. [The first time anyone is equal is the moment when they believe in Jesus Christ, and are entered into union with Christ. That is the only moment of equality.] Spiritual freedom means that immediately after salvation, stratification among believers begins to develop. Some believers become winners; some believers become losers of rewards.

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(3) Under election, we have equal privilege (Royal Priesthood) and equal opportunity (logistical grace). Under predestination, we have equal privilege (union with Christ, new spiritual species, Royal Family of God) and equal opportunity (operational-type Divine Dynasphere).

(4) Freedom guarantees and manufactures inequality. [Some believers will advance to maturity and become winners. Some believers will use their free will to be losers.]

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(5) Only God can create equality. [Only once in all of history has God created equality, and that is in the Church Age through the baptism of the Holy Spirit.] [That's why we have no right to racial discrimination or inferiority or superiority complexes.] As born-again believers, we all have exactly the same status in the Royal Family of God. **Gal 3:28, "There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free man, there is neither male nor female; for you are all one in Christ Jesus."**

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1. We have our unique royal commissions:
 1. (1) Royal Priesthood, where we can and should approach the throne of grace in confidence.
 2. 1 Peter 2:9, "But you are A CHOSEN RACE, A royal PRIESTHOOD, A HOLY NATION, A PEOPLE FOR God's OWN POSSESSION, so that you may proclaim the excellencies of Him who has called you out of darkness into His marvelous light;"
 3. **Heb 4:16, "Therefore let us draw near with confidence to the throne of grace, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need."**
 4. **Mat 21:22, "And all things you ask in prayer, believing, you will receive."**

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(2) Royal Ambassadorship where we represent our Sovereign God while on foreign land.
Eph 6:20, "for which I am an ambassador [Presbeuo] in chains; that in proclaiming it I may speak boldly, as I ought to speak."

1. We have the unique mystery doctrines of the Church Age. Power at our disposal.
2. Every member of the trinity indwells every believer. This never existed before in history!
Rom 8:10-11; "If Christ is in you, though the body is dead because of sin, yet the spirit is alive because of righteousness. "But if the Spirit of Him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, He who raised Christ Jesus from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through His Spirit who dwells in you.

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Father's Indwelling – John 14:20, 17:21
 Holy Spirit's Indwelling – 1 Cor. 6:19-20, 3:16
 The Lord Jesus Christ's (TLJC) Indwelling – Col. 1:25-29
1 John 4:4, "You are from God, little children, and have overcome them; because greater is He who is in you than he who is in the world."

1. We have the unique availability of divine power. Never before in history has divine omnipotence been available for use to every believer. Remember how this power was used by the test pilot (TLJC).

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- (1) The omnipotence of God the Father is related to our portfolio of invisible assets. [pre-designed in eternity past]
- (2) The omnipotence of God the Son is related to the perpetuation of history and preservation of the universe. [personal sense of destiny, knowing Christ has everything in control]
 Furthermore, Jesus Christ guarantees the protection of the positive believer for the fulfillment of His will.
- (3) The omnipotence of God the Holy Spirit is related to the operational-type Divine Dynasphere.

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1. This is the first time in history when there are no prophecies to be fulfilled during the Church Age.
 - (1) There are only 2 prophecies related to the Church Age: The baptism of the Spirit began the church age, and the rapture of the church will terminate the church age. [Everything in between is a matter of historical trends.]
 - (2) Historical trends are based on the principle: as goes the believer, so goes the client nation to God. If there is a large pivot, there is real prosperity. If there is a shrinkage of the pivot, there is loss of real prosperity, substituted for a time with pseudo prosperity and often loss of client nation status.

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1. This is the dispensation of invisible heroes.
Visible heroes in this dispensation are related to the laws of divine establishment, and those put in authority by Christ to protect our freedoms in the realm of volition, marriage, family, and nationalism, whether they are a believer or unbeliever. Invisible heroes are believers who execute the protocol plan of God. No believer ever advances in the protocol plan of God apart from dispensational orientation.

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1. The third floor is made up of the problem solving devices.
2. The fourth floor is Spiritual Self-Esteem (SSE) characterized by cognitive self-confidence.
3. Here you begin to apply and use Bible doctrine. Previously you grabbed Bible promises and used them, now you grab whole chunks of doctrine and use them. Now you are becoming powerful in your spiritual life.
4. Suffering for blessing begins in SSE, specifically Providential Preventative Suffering (PPS). SSE + PPS = SA (Spiritual Autonomy)

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1. We do not advance past SSE unless we pass the four tests of PPS: (people, thought, system, and undeserved suffering).
2. Now you have really grown up, because you have at your fingertips all the doctrinal rationales you need to push your way through life and glorify God.
3. You must pass suffering for blessing in the form of Momentum Testing (MT) if you are going to advance. SA + MT = SM (Spiritual Maturity)

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1. Cognitive invincibility is necessary to pass the third category of suffering for blessing, which is Evidence Testing. SM + ET = Glorification of God to the maximum [as a witness for the prosecution in the rebuttal phase of Satan's appeal trial, which runs co-terminously with human history.] **Job 1:12**
2. Personal impact – blessing by association to others.
3. Historical impact – blessing by association to the client nation as a part of the pivot of mature believers.

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1. International impact – blessing by association to non-client nations through missionary activity of invisible heroes.
2. Angelic impact – the invisible hero becoming a witness for God against Satan in Satan's appeal trial.
3. Heritage impact – blessing by association to loved ones after the death of the invisible hero.
4. The manufacture of an invisible hero and the five areas of invisible impact.
5. The modus operandi of the invisible hero.
6. The distribution of escrow blessings for time.

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1. The fifth floor is Spiritual Autonomy (SA) characterized by cognitive independence.
2. The sixth floor is Spiritual Maturity (SM) characterized by cognitive invincibility.
3. The seventh floor is the modus operandi of the invisible hero with his invisible impact. [Invisible God plus invisible assets plus invisible power equals invisible heroes.] The invisible impact of the invisible hero includes:
4. The results of construction of the Edification Complex of the Soul are:
The anticipation of escrow blessings for the eternal state, received at the judgment seat (Bema) of Christ.

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DOCTRINE OF TESTING

"Beloved, do not be surprised at the fiery ordeal among you, which comes upon you for your testing, as though some strange thing were happening to you; but to the degree that you share the sufferings of Christ, keep on rejoicing; so that at the revelation of His glory, you may be ecstatically happy." [1Peter 4:12-13](#)

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Vocabulary.

Hebrew vocabulary.

(bachan), to search out, to examine, to try, prove or test something. Used of assaying a metal to determine its composition.

(bochan), 1X, something which has been tested and evaluated thoroughly and determined to be of proven quality. [Isa. 28:16](#)

(nasah), to smell or examine something by smelling, to try, test or prove something.

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Greek vocabulary.

dokima,zw (dokimazo), 23X, to examine or scrutinize something, to test, try or prove whether something is genuine or not.

doki,mion (dokimion), 2X, that by which something is tested or proved, the means of testing something, the test itself.

dokimh, (dokime), 7X, the process of proving or certifying something is what it should be.

do,kimoi (dokimos), 7X, an object that has been tested and found to be genuine, reliable, trustworthy or valuable. Something that has gained approval following careful examination.

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Definition.

The process of testing something is the method employed to examine or scrutinize an object or person via any number of means for the purpose of determining the genuineness, authenticity and/or value of the object or person being tested.

While it may not always be overtly evident, testing is the process that makes plain the true nature or character of something or someone.

Testing must be distinguished from temptation, which is the overt solicitation to do wrong or evil.

Temptation always implies an evil intent, whereas testing implies more of a neutral intention.

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Temptation is designed to be harmful, to cause one to pursue something that is not in their best interest, while testing is simply designed to obtain information about something.

God, therefore, tests men, not because He lacks information but to make what is true manifest; God never tempts anyone. [James 1:13](#)

Temptation arises when the lust pattern of the old sin nature is incited by something it desires in the cosmos, provoking the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, or the boastful pride of life. [James 1:14](#); [1Jn. 2:15-17](#)

All temptations fall under the category of testing, but all testing is not necessarily temptation.

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Various forms or categories of testing.

Man may test or evaluate any number of things.

Stones. [Isa. 28:16](#)

Metals. [Zech. 13:9](#)

The truth of what he hears. [Job 12:11](#)

The value of what he eats. [Job 12:11](#)

Weather conditions. [Lk. 12:56](#)

Animals. [Lk. 14:19](#)

The conditions of history so as to ascertain the spiritual condition of a nation or the direction in which history is headed. [Lk. 12:56](#)

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The truth of God's word and plan. [Rom. 2:18, 12:2](#)

The spirits, those that come with information, claiming to represent
Men may test other men.

The Queen of Sheba tested Solomon. [IKings 10:1](#)

Jesus tested Philip. [Jn. 6:6](#)

Paul tested those under his charge. [IICor. 8:22](#)

Deacons are to be tested before they assume the office. [ITim.](#)

Believers are to test themselves before they participate in the L

Believers are to evaluate their own Ph2 applications. [Gal. 6:4](#)

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God can and does test man.

God obviously does not test man in order to acquire knowledge; omniscience applied. [Job 11:11](#); [Ps. 94:11](#); [Isa. 46:9-10](#)

God tests the positive believer as well as the negative unbeliever, determining future blessing or cursing. [Ps. 11:4-7](#)

God tests the believer to make manifest whether or not they intend to obey Him. [Ex. 16:4](#); [Deut. 8:2, 13:1-3](#)

God allows evil men to come into the periphery of believers and espouse their false doctrine in order to demonstrate the depth of that believer's love for God. [Deut. 13:3](#)

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Testing is designed by God to get the believer to focus on the truly important issues of life and prioritize accordingly. [Deut. 8:3](#)

This type of testing teaches us not only to rely on God's grace, but serves as a means of demonstrating his goodness and greatness. [Deut. 8:3,15-18](#)

The ultimate test of mankind by God will occur during the final seven years of Daniel's 70th week. [Rev. 3:10](#)

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Man can test God, although the Word of God does not ever view this as a positive thing.

God, who is perfect and immutable, cannot truly be tested by man; this is an anthropopathism.

Men test God when they refuse to believe what He says, thus calling God a liar and slandering the attribute of veracity. [Num. 14:22](#); [Heb. 3:9](#)

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The Exodus generation is the most notable example of believe They rejected the divine viewpoint. [Ps. 78:10](#)

They did not focus their attention on the work of God toward th They rejected their living grace provision, opting instead for sa

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Failure to believe God under GAP is revealed to be the ultimate cause. [Ps. 78:22](#)

God continued to provide for them, demonstrating His goodness, but riddled them with Divine discipline. [Ps. 78:23-31](#)

Due to their failure to acclimate and continued insistence on testing God, they eventually died the sin unto death. [Ps. 78:32-33](#)

Their failure is ultimately rooted in the fact that they continued to embrace human viewpoint, even after they heard the truth. [Heb. 3:16-19](#)

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One clear evidence that a believer is testing God is the constant whining and complaining about God's provision. [Ex. 16:2-7](#), [17:2-7](#); [Ps. 106:24-25](#)

Lack of gratitude for what one has manifests a lack of contentment; this in turn suggests that God's provision is not good enough. [1Cor. 10:5-11](#)

When a believer is not satisfied with his niche, spends his time blaming God for boredom or other factors in his niche he does not like, he is testing God.

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Operation Scapegoat

We will either believe God, orient to His word and our niche, or we will test God via unbelief. [Heb. 3:11,19](#)

Ananias and Sapphira are examples of two believers that tested God in the early part of the Church age. [Acts 5:9](#)

Legalism is another means that believers use to test God. [Acts 15:10](#)

Interestingly enough, there is one area in which God encourages men to test Him; the issue of giving and temporal prosperity. [Mal. 3:10](#)

Kinds of testing

Testing occurs in both the physical realm and in the spiritual realm. [II Cor. 11:23-29](#)

In the physical realm, testing may be classified as:

The too much test. [Ex. 14](#)

The too little test. [Ex. 17:1-7](#)

The wrong kind test. [Ex. 15:22](#)

While we recognize that there is some overlap between physical and spiritual testing, spiritual testing includes: Living grace tests; including issues related to your job, house, car, finances, etc. [Mk. 4:19](#)

Persecution that comes on the positive believer from negative family, friends, co-workers, etc. [Mk. 4:17](#); [IPet. 4:12](#)

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Various types of health tests, up to and including the death test. [II Cor. 4:16](#)

Direct solicitation to evil. [Matt. 4:1-10](#)

The prosperity test. [Gen. 22:2ff](#); [Eccles. 2:1](#); [ITim. 6:17-19](#)

The four walls test, no social life; including testing relating to separation, dating, RM/RW, etc. [Ps. 25:16](#), [68:6](#); [Rom. 11:3](#); [ITim. 4:16](#)

The test of lupe that comes from those that are, or have gone negative. [Rom. 9:2](#); [ICor. 7:15-16](#); [Phil. 3:18-19](#)

The testing of others. [Eph. 3:13](#); [IThess. 3:3-4](#)

The patience test. [James 5:7-11](#)

Testing and the Christian way of life.

Believers should be put on notice very early that the Christian way of life is loaded with testing. [Acts 14:21-23](#)

They should be informed that testing can come in almost any form and that it is not limited in one particular area. [James 1:2](#); [IPet. 1:6](#)

New believers should be told not to be shocked by the form or intensity of testing, recognizing that anything can happen. [IThess. 3:3](#); [IPet. 4:12](#)

Testing is designed to produce and enhance spiritual growth and is a necessary component for anyone that intends to make the maturity adjustment. [Rom. 5:3-5](#); [James 1:2-4](#)

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Those that acclimate to testing and apply the appropriate doctrine(s) are promised SG3 reward. [Rom. 5:4](#); [James 1:12](#); [Rev. 2:10](#)

The formula each believer should memorize is:

Bible doctrine + Testing + Application = Divine good

Through an understanding of God's word and faith in the same, we are able to see the value of our testing and keep things in perspective. [Job 23:10](#); [1Pet. 4:13-16](#)

With any and every test that comes to us, God can and will provide sufficient grace so we may pass that test. [1Cor. 10:13](#); [II Cor. 12:9](#)

No one faces unique tests. [1Cor. 10:13](#)

You cannot be tested beyond your ability (it only seems that God does that), since God must have provided you the doctrine to pass that test.

God is certainly aware of our testing and perfectly understands all that we experience. [Heb. 2:17-18, 4:15-16](#)

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Reasons that believers do not pass tests.

Every test is passed or failed based on our orientation to Bible doctrine.

Therefore, a breakdown at some point in the GAP system ultimately accounts for why believers fail tests. Failure to assemble to hear Bible doctrine consistently is not only a violation of God's word, it makes spiritual success impossible. [Heb. 10:25](#); [Hosea 4:6](#)

Failure to believe the doctrine taught by the pastor-teacher destines one for failure when he encounters a test. [Heb. 3:12,19](#)

Failure to follow through and actually apply the doctrine resident in the inner man to the test is the final reason for failure. [James 1:22-25, 2:14-26](#)

Therefore, we fail to successfully pass our tests due to some breakdown in our own thinking and never due to any lack of provision or failure on God's part.

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Testing and the local church.

Every believer will come under testing at some point in the Christian way of life; this is unavoidable and the real question is the magnitude of the test.

One major purpose for the organization called the local church is so believers have a human resource on which they can rely during periods of testing; we are to provide aid and support in the conflict. [Gal. 6:2,10](#); [Heb. 3:13](#)

When you fall under any kind of testing you have a right to privacy; but you also need to recognize that help may be available simply by sharing the details of your test with other positive believers around you.

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Other believers may be the very resource that God intends to use to provide aid or total deliverance from the test. [II Cor. 9:12](#)

Therefore, those that have repudiated the local church have cut themselves off from one of the single most important resources he has when under testing.

The first thing every believer should do when he finds himself under testing is to immediately begin to pray about the matter. [Heb. 4:16](#)

Believers should not seek to avoid those under testing but should learn to seek ways to apply toward those around them that are in need. [Rom. 12:16](#); [Tit. 3:14](#)

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When seeking to encourage and support those under testing, do not resort to human viewpoint solutions; make certain that you are offering the divine viewpoint when attempting to help another believer. [II Cor. 1:3-4](#); [IThess. 4:18](#)

The Bible speaks very specifically to the issue of believers under the living grace test.

Each believer is responsible to have a legitimate job, not only to supply his own needs, but also to have the wherewithal to aid others that come under testing. [Eph. 4:28](#)

67

When a believer suffers a living grace test, other believers are to rally to his aid. [James 2:15-27](#); [Jn. 3:17](#)

Failure to apply in this area when you have excess and enjoy luxuries while other positive believers around you are not able to meet their basic needs is shameful.

The Word of God recognizes that certain believers are not candidates for living grace support. [IThess. 3:10-15](#)

The principle of "do unto others.." applies when seeking to determine how to apply toward other believers in the local church. [II Cor. 8:13-14, 9:6ff](#)

68

One major motivation factor that you cannot afford to overlook is the harvest of SG3 that comes to those that make these types of applications. [Gal. 6:7-9](#)
 The enemy of these types of applications is the STA motivated selfishness and self-centeredness, something that is rampant in this period of history. [Phil. 2:3-4,14](#); [II Tim. 3:2](#)

69

Conclusions.

Testing is a reality that will not change in the angelic conflict and believers must recognize that it is not something to be avoided. Testing comes in various forms, varying in intensity from the charge of the mosquito to the charge of the elephant. If we intend to pass our tests, advance spiritually, and glorify God in time, we must avail ourselves of the grace provisions of prayer, Bible doctrine, other believers, etc.

70

We should be sensitive to one another and seek to be aware of the testing of others without being meddlesome or attempting to invade one another's privacy. [IPet. 4:15](#)
 When we become aware of a believer under testing, we should be willing to get under the test and help him bear his burden. [Gal. 6:2](#)
 This attitude and willingness most closely models the attitude of Jesus Christ. [Phil. 2:5-8](#)

71

God is aware of our concern and aid for other believers and will reward such applications with great SG3. [Gal. 6:9](#)

The mature believer does not resent his tests but has come to recognize the necessity of testing and the value of such in the Christian way of life. [Rom. 5:3](#); [II Cor. 12:9-10](#)

"Beloved, do not be surprised at the fiery ordeal among you, which comes upon you for your testing, as though some strange thing were happening to you; but to the degree that you share the sufferings of Christ, keep on rejoicing; so that at the revelation of His glory, you may be ecstatically happy." [IPeter 4:12-13](#)

72

The Six Areas of Testing

1. Sexual.
2. Chemical.
3. Religious.
4. Approbation.
5. Power.
6. Materialism.

73

THE DOCTRINE OF THE 10 PROBLEM SOLVING DEVICES

1. Rebound
2. The Filling of the Holy Spirit
3. Faith-Rest
4. Grace Orientation
5. Doctrinal Orientation
6. A Personal Sense of Destiny
7. Personal Love for God the Father
8. Impersonal Unconditional Love for all Mankind
9. Contentment and Perfect Happiness with God
10. Occupation with the Lord Jesus Christ

74

Solutions to Problems

Every problem in life has a solution stated in the Word of God. God reveals Himself and His policy through the written pages of the Bible, which we called the Word of God, the mind of Christ, and the voice of the Holy Spirit. God supernaturally directed the human writers of Scripture, without waiving their personal feelings, human intelligence, literary style, or any other human factor, to convey His complete and coherent message to mankind. This was done with perfect accuracy in the original languages of Scripture; these very words bear the authority of divine authorship.

75

Therefore, there is no such thing as a problem in life that does not have a solution in the Word of God. For the unbeliever, solutions are always related to establishment principles, for only in establishment principles can the unbeliever utilize virtue and make it a part of his life. Therefore, solutions for the unbeliever are limited because he has no eternal or temporal relationship with God. Ultimately then, problem solving is the monopoly of the believer in the Lord Jesus Christ. This does not mean, however, that unbelievers cannot solve problems, but that unbelievers do not have answers to all their problems.

76

Consequently, the subject of problems and solutions is always directed toward the believer in Jesus Christ, and specifically toward the Church-age believer whose possession of the mystery doctrines of the Church-age, his very own portfolio of invisible assets, the unique availability of divine power, and the fantastic privileges related to being a member of the Royal Family of God, provide him with clearly defined problem-solving devices. In other words, beyond gnosis (knowledge) there is the most fantastic system of solving one's own problems from thinking with the mind of Christ.

Accomplishing this requires us to put Bible doctrine first in our life.

77

The Option of the Loser

The malfunction of post-salvation perception, metabolization, and application of Bible doctrine.
Malfunction of post-salvation perception, metabolization, and application of Bible doctrine.

78

There are two general causes for the malfunction of post-salvation perception, metabolization, and application of Bible doctrine.

First, there is the rejection of the mystery doctrine of the Church-age when heard.

Secondly, there is apathy or indifference to that same doctrine, so that it is not heard.

79

Basic Problems in the Life of the Believer

When the believer emphasizes his relationship with people as a priority over his relationship with God, he has a very serious problem. This believer attempts to execute the Pre-designed Plan of God for the Church-age through human power rather than through the divine power available. Because of total ignorance of Bible doctrine, especially failure to understand virtue-love, believers create their own problems. This is what happens when they associate the subject of love in the Bible with their own concepts of love. Therefore, they fail to understand the mandates to love God and to love all mankind.

80

An ever-present problem in Christianity is the emphasis of people relationships over one's relationship with God, or assuming that a good relationship with people equates with a good relationship with God. Actually, good relationships with people result from first having a good relationship with God.

The first sign of spiritual death in our original parents in the garden was the erroneous assumption that a good relationship with people equaled a good relationship with God.

81

Immediately after the original sin, both Adam and the woman assigned number one priority to their relationship with each other. They did not give one thought to God until our Lord came in the Garden, and then they had to hide. Both Adam and Ishah were naked after their original sin of disobedience, and they tried to solve their problem by putting on clothes. So their first function in spiritual death was one of self-righteousness. They assumed that by covering their naked bodies with fig leaves and adjusting to each other that they would be adjusted to God.

82

When the Lord came to visit in the Garden, they discovered the true meaning of spiritual death; total helplessness to have fellowship with God on the basis of their own merits, so they hid from our Lord.

This trend has continued throughout history. Many believers in ignorance and rejection of doctrine allow people emphasis to take precedence over God emphasis. This is a major reason why so many believers never come to understand these fantastic problem-solving devices.

This problem can only be resolved by consistent perception, metabolization, and application of Bible doctrine. The number one priority in the Christian way of life must be our relationship with God!

83

Therefore, all the problem-solving devices take this into consideration. It is no accident that, in the Church-age, each believer is a priest and as such represents himself before God. In reality, this priesthood is the basis for the function of all ten problem-solving devices. There can be no solution to human relationships until we as believers have sorted out our relationship with God.

Spiritual adulthood is where this is accomplished.

84

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

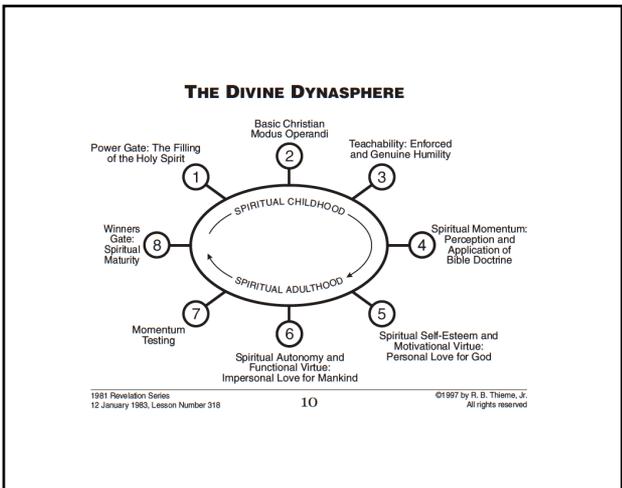
- 1] Confession of sin/Rebound.
- 2] The filling of the Holy Spirit.
- 3] Faith-Rest.
- 4] Grace Orientation.
- 5] Doctrinal Orientation.
- 6] Personal Sense of Destiny.
- 7] Personal Love for God.
- 8] Impersonal Love for all mankind.
- 9] Sharing the Happiness of God.
- 10] Occupation with the Person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

85

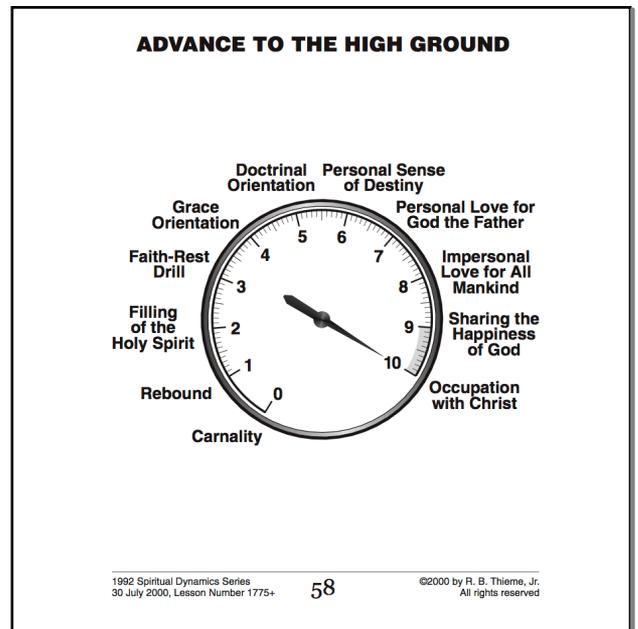
The Edification Complex

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

86



87



88

ADVANCE TO THE HIGH GROUND

THE DIVINE DYNASPHERE

The 10 Problem-Solving Devices:

- 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.
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The Edification Complex

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

Next Week:
Expansion of the 10
PSD's