

**SLB-023**

**11-05-06**

**The Spiritual Life Techniques (SLT):  
Phase I Techniques Continued -  
Recognition (Review) and  
Repentance**

# SLB III: Spiritual Life Techniques

- We are exploring the Basic Spiritual Life Techniques with a series of words beginning with the letter “R”.
- We will consider them within the context of the 3 Phases of the Spiritual Life:
  - Phase I: Salvation
  - Phase II: Earthly Life (The SPIRITUAL LIFE)
  - Phase III: Heavenly Life

# SLB III: Spiritual Life Techniques

- Phase I: Salvation
  - Recognition
  - Repentance
  - Reliance
  - Regeneration

# Spiritual Life Techniques

## Phase II: Earthly Life

Righteousness

Residence

Recovery

Resistance

Reckoning

Rest

Renovation

Rehearsal

Reciprocation

Reverence

Revelation

# Spiritual Life Techniques

- Phase III: Heavenly Life
  - Resurrection
  - Reward
  - Reign

# SLB III: Spiritual Life Techniques

- Phase I: Salvation
  - Recognition
  - Repentance
  - Regeneration

# SLB III: Spiritual Life Techniques

- Recognition *noun*
- a learning process that relates a perception of something new to knowledge already possessed.
- Theological definition: The point at which the unbeliever is “convinced” by the Holy Spirit that he is unable to meet God’s Standard, and requires Christ, who is able, as his Substitute.

# SLT: Phase I: Salvation

- Recognition
  - *And when He [the Comforter] is come, He will convince the world of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgment. (John 16:8)*
  - *No man can come to me, except the Father which hath sent me draw him. John 6:44*
  - *"He shall convince the world of sin. "*
  - This has always been the case.



# SLT: Phase I: Salvation

- In Acts 2 we are told that when the Spirit came on the apostles the crowd mocked them saying: "*These men are full of new wine;*" and yet, when Peter preached, the Spirit wrought through his preaching on the hearts of these very scoffers. They were pricked in their hearts, and cried: "*Men and brethren, what must we do?*"

# SLT: Phase I: Salvation

- Recognition
  - I. The first work of the Spirit is to convince of sin.
    - 1. Who it is that convinces of sin: "He shall convince the world of sin, because they believe not in Me."
  -

# SLT: Phase I: Salvation

- Recognition
  - 1. An awareness of an absence of a relationship with God.
    - It's not enough for one to have a sense of need, but of a particular need—the need for the establishment of fellowship with God; a need to know God.
    - It is an intolerable relationship to remain in, and so a recognition springs up that, whatever the cost and on whatever terms, it must be changed.

# SLT: Phase I: Salvation

- Recognition
  - 2. Conviction of sins: a sense of guilt for particular wrongs done against God.
    - True conviction may include recognizing specific sins, sins that were willfully done in direct violation of the law of God written in the heart (Rom 2:14-15) and in God's Word.

# SLT: Phase I: Salvation

- Recognition
  - 3. Conviction of God's Perfection: a sense of one's complete inability to meet the standard of God's Righteousness and one's consequent need of the new birth (John 3:3).
  - True conviction evidences itself by the desire to end reliance on our own Human nature.

# SLT: Phase I: Salvation

- Recognition
  - *"Every man therefore that hath heard and learned of the Father cometh unto me."* John 6:44, 45.
  - The same truth is repeated in another form in vs. 65 of the same chapter of the gospel according to John: *"And he said: Therefore said I unto you, that no man can come unto me, except it were given unto me of my Father."*

# SLT: Phase I: Salvation

- Recognition
  - The second step the unbeliever takes in coming to Jesus is the Recognition, whereby the unbeliever beholds Christ as the God of his salvation, as the fullness of his own emptiness, the righteousness that is able to blot out his own unrighteousness, the life that overcomes his death.
  - And corresponding to this act of spiritual Recognition on the sinner's part, is God's act of spiritual illumination, whereby He reveals His Son unto the unbeliever.
  - When He convicts a man of his need, He does not leave him in the despair of his condemnation: He shows him Jesus in all the fullness of His salvation.

# SLT: Phase I: Salvation

- Recognition
  - This spiritual illumination is not the same as that natural enlightenment by which the unbeliever knows all about Christ, recognizes and acknowledges to an extent by his natural powers the beauty of Christ as the best of men, as one that was deeply God-conscious, as a great teacher and wonderful example; but he does not behold Him as the righteousness of God, and the cross is foolishness to him.



# SLT: Phase I: Salvation

- Recognition
  - The natural man does not understand the things of the Spirit; *"they are foolishness to him, neither can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned."* 1 Cor. 2:14.
  - Nor does the mere sharing of the gospel give him this spiritual knowledge of Christ.

# SLT: Phase I: Salvation

- The Lord Jesus, reviewing the result of His own preaching gives thanks to the Father that He has hid these things from the wise and from the prudent, and revealed them unto babes, Matt. 11:25; and he emphasizes that no man knoweth the Father, save the Son, and to whomsoever the Son will reveal Him, Matt. 11:27.
- But when the Father draws us, He reveals unto us Jesus in all His power of salvation.

# SLT: Phase I: Salvation

- He so illuminates our understanding that we behold Him as the One that is desirable above all things, as the One we need as our Redeemer and Deliverer from sin and death.
- He opens our eyes so that we behold Him in all the riches of His grace, in all the fullness of His righteousness and life.
- He opens our ears, so that we hear the Word of the cross as a power of God unto salvation.
- The drawing power of God causes us to seek Him as the beautiful Savior, the God of our salvation!

# SLT: Phase I: Salvation

- Recognition
  - The carnal mind is enmity against God.
  - His will is perverse, and all his desires are impure. He does not hunger and thirst after any righteousness but his own.
  - Nor can mere preaching of the gospel alone open the understanding in the Natural Man of the Spiritual Truth of the need for a righteousness greater than his own.

# SLT: Phase I: Salvation

- But when the Father draws, and by the power of His grace marvelously operates upon the soul of the sinner through the convincing ministry of the Holy Spirit, He makes clear the Spiritual Truth of the inability to meet the standards of God's Essence and Justice.
- And as he Recognizes Jesus Christ as the only way to meet the standards of the Father, he has the free choice of "believing" or "choosing" Christ as his substitute.
- And so, it is also due to the drawing power of the Father, through the Spirit of Christ, that the Flesh and Blood Unbeliever finally Recognizes his need for the last step to come to Jesus, that of appropriation.

# SLT: Phase I: Salvation

- Sin, Righteousness, Judgment and Salvation - John 16:8-11
- When the Helper comes, he will prove to the people of the world the truth about these things: about sin, about being right with God, and about judgment.
- The Helper will prove that people have sinned, because they don't believe in me.
- He will prove to them about {my} being right with God, because I am going to the Father.
- You will not see me then. And the Helper will prove to the world the truth about judgment, because the ruler of this world (the devil) is already judged.

# SLT: Phase I: Salvation

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- When the Helper comes, he will prove to the people of the world the truth about these things: about missing the objective, about being right with God, and about judgment.
- The Helper will prove that people have missed the objective, because they don't believe in me.
- He will prove to them about {my} being right with God, because I am going to the Father.
- You will not see me then. And the Helper will prove to the world the truth about judgment, because the ruler of this world (the devil) is already judged.

# SLT: Phase I: Salvation

- Repentance:
- (Defn)
- Metanoeo - Meta = change; and Noeo = thinking.
- To change your thinking.



# SLT: Phase I: Salvation

- Repentance:
- In the NT there are 115 declarations that the lost are to depend ONLY on believing.
- In another 35 they are to depend ONLY upon faith.
- Yet millions of Christians (or “Religians”), from legalistic individuals to entire legalistic denominations, attempt to coerce those whom God calls into their box, requiring some religious activity to stamp the process of salvation “legitimate”.
- Their legalistic religionism negate the Grace of God, and deny untold numbers their salvation.

# SLT: Phase I: Salvation

- Repentance:
- There are numerous additions to the simple but accurate Faith, Believe, Trust, or Rely means to salvation:
  - 1. Believe and Pray
  - 2. Believe and be Baptized
  - 3. Believe and Confess before men
  - 4. Believe and Confess your sins
  - 5. Believe and Repent of your sins

# SLT: Phase I: Salvation

- Repentance:
- I. Believe and Pray
  - Invite Christ into your heart.
  - Repeat a prayer formula.
  - Pray to tell God you are sorry.
  - Pray to ask God to save you.

# SLT: Phase I: Salvation

- Repentance:
- 3. Believe and Confess before men.
  - Found only in the Kingdom teachings of Mt. 10:32.

# SLT: Phase I: Salvation

- Repentance:
- 4. Believe and Confess your sins.
  - An erroneous application of the 1 John 1:9 verse addressed to Believers.

# SLT: Phase I: Salvation

- Repentance:
- 5. Believe and Repent of your sins.
  - 6 verses can be found that couple repentance, believing and salvation.
  - However, the book of John that repeatedly reveals the plan of salvation never uses the word repentance.
  - Romans, the advanced exposition of the doctrine of salvation omits repentance at every prescription.

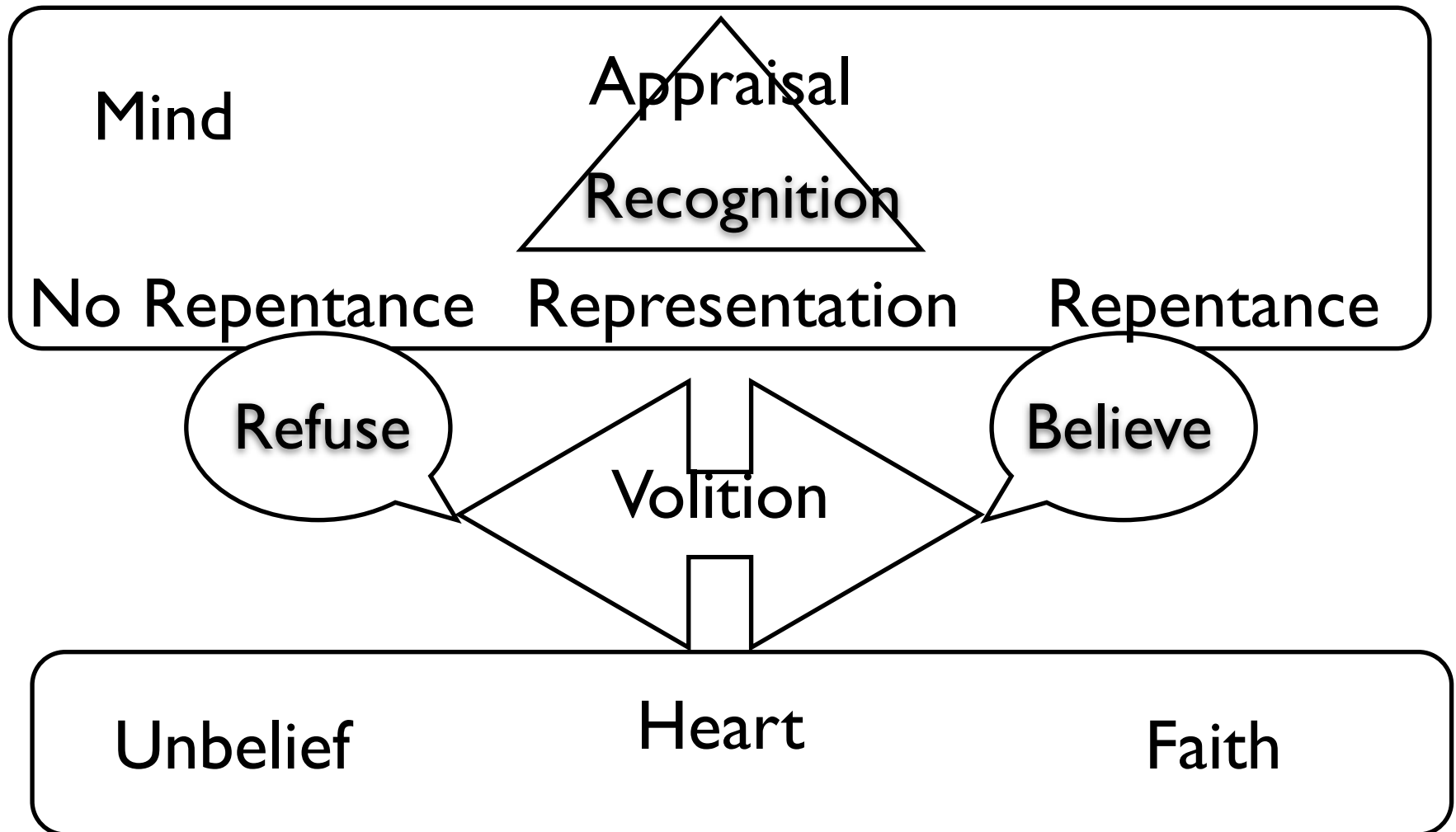
# SLT: Phase I: Salvation

- Repentance:
  - There are 150 salvation statements with “faith” or “believe”, but without “repentance”.
  - When the true meaning of repentance is known, it is obvious that repentance is a part of the believing process, and a direct result of the Recognition process.
  - When one recognizes that nothing BUT Christ will do, we are forced to change our mind and believe.

# SLT: Phase I: Salvation Diagram

The Father Draws

The Holy Spirit Convinces by means of the Word





# SLT: Phase I: Salvation

- Repentance:
- 2. Believe and be Baptized
  - Only 1 verse (Mark 16:16) joins these together.
  - This verse is not included in the oldest manuscripts.
  - It is evident from the final statement, “he that believes not shall be condemned”, that baptism is not the essential element, anyway.

# SLT: Phase I: Salvation

- Repentance:
- Repentance does NOT mean “give up sinning”, it means “change your mind”.
- Not one verse has in the context the hint of personal sins as the object of repentance.
- It is clear that the object of repentance is the Lord Jesus Christ, and to “give Him up” would be ludicrous to all but the most legalistic of cults.

# SLT: Phase I: Salvation

- Repentance:
- "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near;  
repent, and believe in the good news." Mark 1:15.
- "John baptized with the baptism of repentance, telling the people to believe in the one who was to come after him, that is, Jesus." (Acts 19:4, ESV)
- In Acts 20, Paul tells the Ephesian elders in his farewell address to them that the message he preached was of "repentance toward God and faith in our Lord Jesus Christ" (the same Greek word is used for faith here and belief in the other two passages).

# SLT: Phase I: Salvation

- One further passage makes the connection.
- The author of Hebrews says his recipients don't need to keep laying the basic foundation but need to move on to deeper things.
- That basic foundation is " of repentance from dead works and of faith toward God".
- Dead works is “religion”, Legalism, Human Good.