

Illumination

A. The Definition of Illumination

Context: 1 Corinthians 1:18-2:16; **Larger Context:** 1 Corinthians 1:10-4:21

1 Cor 2:14	But a natural man does not accept the things of the Spirit of God, for they are foolishness to him; and he cannot understand them, because they are spiritually appraised.
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A natural man

The things of the Spirit of God

To accept: to receive

To understand: to know, to have intimate knowledge of

Matthew 7:21-23	²¹ “Not everyone who says to Me, ‘Lord, Lord,’ will enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of My Father who is in heaven <i>will enter</i> . ²² Many will say to Me on that day, ‘Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in Your name, and in Your name cast out demons, and in Your name perform many miracles?’ ²³ And then I will declare to them, ‘I never knew you; depart from Me, you who practice lawlessness.’”
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to appraise: to examine, to investigate

1 Cor 2:15	But he who is spiritual appraises all things, yet he himself is appraised by no one.
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He who is spiritual

1 Cor 3:16	Do you not know that you are a sanctuary of God and <i>that</i> the Spirit of God dwells in you? (LSB)
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All things

He himself is appraised by no one

① The Initial Opening at

Acts 26:18	to open their eyes so that they may turn from darkness to light and from the dominion of Satan to God, that they may receive forgiveness of sins and an inheritance among those who have been sanctified by faith in Me.
2 Cor 4:3,4,6	³ And even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing, ⁴ in whose case the god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelieving so that they might not see the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God. ⁶ For God, who said, “Light shall shine out of darkness,” is the One who has shone in our hearts to give the Light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Christ.

② The Continual Opening in

Psalm 119:18	Open my eyes, that I may behold Wonderful things from Your law.
Psalm 119:27	Make me understand the way of Your precepts, So I will meditate on Your wonders.

The Holy Spirit opening the minds of _____ to understand the Scripture.

B. The Provision of Illumination

(1) A _____ *to the authority of God’s Word.*

(2) A _____ *that it is the truthful Word of God.*

(3) A _____ *to discern the true meaning of God’s Word.*

Illumination is primarily _____, instead of (primarily)_____.

1 Cor 1:18	For the word of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.
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C. The Purposes of Illumination

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Psalm 119:66	Teach me good discernment and knowledge, For I believe in Your commandments.
Psalm 119:104	From Your precepts I get understanding; Therefore I hate every false way.
Psalm 119:125	I am Your servant; give me understanding, That I may know Your testimonies.
Ephesians 1:15-21 (LSB)	¹⁵ For this reason I too, having heard of the faith in the Lord Jesus which <i>exists</i> among you and your love for all the saints, ¹⁶ do not cease giving thanks for you, while making mention <i>of you</i> in my prayers: ¹⁷ that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give to you <i>the</i> Spirit of wisdom and of revelation in the full knowledge of Him, ¹⁸ so that you—the eyes of your heart having been enlightened—will know what is the hope of His calling, what are the riches of the glory of His inheritance in the saints, ¹⁹ and what is the surpassing greatness of His power toward us who believe according to the working of the might of His strength, ²⁰ which He worked in Christ, by raising Him from the dead and seating Him at His right hand in the heavenly <i>places</i> , ²¹ far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the one to come.
John 15:26	When the Helper comes, whom I will send to you from the Father, that is the Spirit of truth who proceeds from the Father, He will testify about Me.
②	
Psalm 119:38	Establish Your word to Your servant, As that which produces reverence for You.
Psalm 119:164	Seven times a day I praise You, Because of Your righteous ordinances.

Psalm 119: 171,172	¹⁷¹ Let my lips utter praise, For You teach me Your statutes. ¹⁷² Let my tongue sing of Your word, For all Your commandments are righteousness.
Ephesians 3:18-20	¹⁸ [You] may be able to comprehend with all the saints what is the breadth and length and height and depth, ¹⁹ and to know the love of Christ which surpasses knowledge, that you may be filled up to all the fullness of God. ²⁰ Now to Him who is able to do far more abundantly beyond all that we ask or think, according to the power that works within us, ²¹ to Him <i>be</i> the glory in the church and in Christ Jesus to all generations forever and ever. Amen.
③	
Psalm 119:33-34	³³ Teach me, O LORD, the way of Your statutes, And I shall observe it to the end. ³⁴ Give me understanding, that I may observe Your law And keep it with all <i>my</i> heart.
Ephesians 4:1	Therefore I, the prisoner of the Lord, implore you to walk in a manner worthy of the calling with which you have been called
Ephesians 4:17-24	¹⁷ So this I say, and affirm together with the Lord, that you walk no longer just as the Gentiles also walk, in the futility of their mind, ¹⁸ being darkened in their understanding, excluded from the life of God because of the ignorance that is in them, because of the hardness of their heart; ¹⁹ and they, having become callous, have given themselves over to sensuality for the practice of every kind of impurity with greediness. ²⁰ But you did not learn Christ in this way, ²¹ if indeed you have heard Him and have been taught in Him, just as truth is in Jesus, ²² that, in reference to your former manner of life, you lay aside the old self, which is being corrupted in accordance with the lusts of deceit, ²³ and that you be renewed in the spirit of your mind, ²⁴ and put on the new self, which in <i>the likeness of</i> God has been created in righteousness and holiness of the truth.

D. The Misapplications of Illumination

(1) *Does not excuse one from the responsibility to _____.*

Deut 6:6-7	These words, which I am commanding you today, shall be on your heart. ⁷ You shall teach them diligently to your sons and shall talk of them when you sit in your house and when you walk by the way and when you lie down and when you rise up.
Joshua 1:8	This book of the law shall not depart from your mouth, but you shall meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful to do according to all that is written in it
Acts 17:10-11	¹⁰ The brethren immediately sent Paul and Silas away by night to Berea, and when they arrived, they went into the synagogue of the Jews. ¹¹ Now these were more noble-minded than those in Thessalonica, for they received the word with great eagerness, examining the Scriptures daily <i>to see</i> whether these things were so.
2 Timothy 2:15	Be diligent to present yourself approved to God as a workman who does not need to be ashamed, accurately handling the word of truth.

(2) *Does not exclude the necessity of _____.*

1 John 2:27	As for you, the anointing which you received from Him abides in you, and you have no need for anyone to teach you;
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1 John 2:18-27

- Us (1 John 1:1-4):
- You:
- They (1 John 2:18, 22, 26):
- The Anointing (1 John 1:3; 2:14, 24)
- The Holy One (Mark 1:24; Luke 4:34; John 6:69; Acts 3:14; 13:35):

Verse 19

1 John 2:26	These things I have written to you concerning those who are trying to deceive you.
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Verse 22

1 John 4:1-3	Beloved, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits to see whether they are from God, because many false prophets have gone out into the world. ² By this you know the Spirit of God: every spirit that confesses that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is from God; ³ and every spirit that does not confess Jesus is not from God; this is the <i>spirit</i> of the antichrist, of which you have heard that it is coming, and now it is already in the world.
2 John 7	For many deceivers have gone out into the world, those who do not acknowledge Jesus Christ <i>as</i> coming in the flesh. This is the deceiver and the antichrist.

John 14:6	Jesus *said to him, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life; no one comes to the Father but through Me.
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Verse 24

1 John 1:1-4	What was from the beginning, what we have heard, what we have seen with our eyes, what we have looked at and touched with our hands, concerning the Word of Life— ² and the life was manifested, and we have seen and testify and proclaim to you the eternal life, which was with the Father and was manifested to us— ³ what we have seen and heard we proclaim to you also, so that you too may have fellowship with us; and indeed our fellowship is with the Father, and with His Son Jesus Christ. ⁴ These things we write, so that our joy may be made complete.
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Verse 25

John 17:3	This is eternal life, that they may know You, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom You have sent.
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Verse 27

Imperative: As for you, abide in Him!

Indicatives:

- The anointing you received from Him abides in you
- You have no need for anyone to teach you
- His anointing teaches you regarding all things
- The anointing is true and is not a lie
- The anointing has taught you

Docetism: (*dokeo*, “to appear”) Jesus only appeared to have a human body.

(3) Does not impart _____.

Deut 29:29	The secret things belong to the LORD our God, but the things revealed belong to us and to our sons forever
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Without the Word, the Spirit is _____.

Without the Spirit, the Word is _____.

The Chicago Statement on Biblical Inerrancy

Article XVII

- We affirm that the Holy Spirit bears witness to the Scriptures, assuring believers of the truthfulness of God’s written Word.
- We deny that this witness of the Holy Spirit operates in isolation from or against Scripture.

E. The Extremes of Illumination

1. The “Gurus” determine the meaning of the Scripture.
2. “Just Me and my Bible alone”

Holy Spirit’s Ministry to Christ			References
①	The _____	of Christ	Matt 1:18-21; Luke 1:35
②	The _____	of Christ	Matt 3:16-17; Mark 1:9-11; Luke 3:21-22; John 1:32
③	The _____	of Christ	Matthew 4:1; Mark 1:12-13; Luke 4:1-2
④	The _____	of Christ	Luke 4:16-21
⑤	The _____	of Christ	Matthew 12:25-29; Luke 4:14
⑥	The _____	of Christ	Hebrews 9:13-14
⑦	The _____	of Christ	Romans 1:1-6