

1st Attack & Antinomianism

NOTE: Second session on Sunday, 26 May 1996 was a Memorial Day Special: Shenandoah's Children. See 96-05- 26-B/MDS-1.

Principles on the First Attack

Paul wants to do better, in fact he knows what to do. But he is constantly failing because the power of his first husband is more powerful than his volitional desire to resist. Why? Because once sin is committed the sinful nature reestablishes its tyranny over the believer's life. Successful resistance is impossible. The sinful nature will maintain its position by vectoring facilitated wheel-tracks of wickedness into the cerebral cortex. Escape from the situation is only possible through rebound, the first problem-solving device.

Thus, we see the emergence of the inner conflict which rages in the souls of believers. There is the work of the Holy Spirit Who constantly brings to the believer's remembrance those doctrines which are to be obeyed. But also working within your members is the sinful nature and its lust pattern, tempting you to return to the policies of the first husband.

We must always remember that the believer is never alone. Indwelling his body is the sinful nature in every cell. Indwelling his body is the Holy Spirit who transforms it into a temple for the indwelling of Christ, the second Husband. Both the sinful nature and the Holy Spirit struggle for control of the soul.

In the conflict the artillery is competing wheel-tracks, the battleground is the cerebral cortex, and the victors prize is control over the soul. Volition determines who wins each encounter. This warfare between indwelling power sources is described by Paul in:

Galatians 5:16 - But I say, walk by the Holy Spirit [wheel-tracks of righteousness], and you will not carry out the lust patterns of the flesh [enabling power to override the temptations presented].

Galatians 5:17 - For the flesh [sinful nature] lusts against the Holy Spirit and the Holy Spirit against the flesh; for these two are in constant warfare with one another so that you may not do the things that you wish [if the sinful nature wins control].

Galatians 5:18 - But if you are led by the Holy Spirit [recall ministry of doctrinal wheel-tracks] you are not under the Law.

Galatians 5:19 - Now the works of the flesh are evident, which are: ...

Galatians 5:22 - But the fruit of the Holy Spirit is: ...

Galatians 5:24 - Now those who belong to Christ Jesus [baptism of the Holy Spirit] have crucified the flesh with its passions and lusts [retroactive positional truth].

Galatians 5:25 - If we live by the Holy Spirit [current positional truth], let us also walk by the Holy Spirit [status quo spirituality].

In order to consistently and efficiently walk by means of the Holy Spirit there must be yet another indwelling— Bible doctrine stored into long-term memory traces in the stream of consciousness.

The third question we proposed that could be asked of our corrected translation of Romans 7:17 was, “*Is Paul setting up a rationale whereby he can conveniently ignore his involvement in sin by claiming that it's not really him who does it but the sinful nature?*”

Amazingly, this kind of rationale exists today among doctrinal believers. Their approach is a distortion of the doctrine of grace which is so contorted that it ends up as antinomianism. The problem is presented in an article by:

Wilkin, Bob. “Christians and Commands.” *Grace in Focus. Grace Evangelical Society Newsletter. May/June 1996, pp. 2–3.*

The first attack of the ex-husband emphasizes the source of the conflict and the seduction of the volition. The second attack emphasizes the struggle between divine good and satanic evil in Romans 7:18, Romans 7:19, Romans 7:20.

The 2nd Attack of the 1st Husband: Romans 7:18-20

Romans 7:18 begins with a post positive conjunctive particle: *gar* - “*in fact;*” + the perfect active indicative of the verb: *oida* - “*I know*”

Perfect - 1- The perfect tense is the tense of completed action. It takes into view the progress of a set of circumstances to its point of culmination and then emphasizes the finished results. The perfect implies progress but views that progress as having reached its consummation and therefore exists in a completed state. Therefore, it may be graphically represented as a dash, a dot, and a dash: —•—.

The use here is the intensive perfect which places emphasis on the existing results therefore what is presented may be viewed as a “*finished product.*” Since special attention is directed to the results of the action, stress upon its existing fact is intensified. This is the strongest way in the Greek of saying that a fact is.

Paul uses the perfect to indicate a past learning experience. He brought the information into his conscious mind, which he understood and metabolized and it is the existing result now emphasized.

active - Paul produces the action by knowing the fact he is about to express in this sentence.

indicative - Declarative; The perfect indicative signifies action which is complete from the point of view of the present time. The declarative use indicates that it is a statement of fact.

“*In fact, I know...*”

This is Paul’s way of qualifying what he is about to say. He is going to say that there is nothing good in him. This would include the indwelling of the Holy Spirit and resident doctrine did he not qualify it.

So, Paul stresses a present reality by using the perfect tense. He received the imputation of Adam's original sin at the moment of his physical birth. Simultaneous with that, the imputation of soul life to biological life created in him human life.

At the moment of physical birth, Paul was both physically alive and spiritually dead. Why? Because not only does the imputation of soul life create human life, it energizes the body.

During the time between physical birth and physical death, the soul is inseparably united with the body. The body is unfortunately contaminated with a contagion called the sinful nature, a genetic propensity to sin encoded into the DNA of every cell nucleus including the neurons of the brain. This process began at his conception when his originating zygote was contaminated with sinful nature genes by his father’s sperm.

Through mitosis, every cell in Paul's developing fetus contained in its nucleus these sinful nature genes. Mitosis is a process that takes place in the nucleus of a dividing cell which results in the formation of two new nuclei each having the same number of chromosomes as the parent nucleus. Therefore, through mitosis, the sinful nature genes are reproduced and become encoded into the nuclei of every cell in the body. They are activated however only in the neurons of the brain and this activation occurs at a moment of time, i.e., selection—the imputation of soul life to biological life at physical birth.