

DOCTRINE OF THE CONVICTING MINISTRY OF GOD THE HOLY SPIRIT

- I.** Definition.
- A.** The convicting ministry of the Holy Spirit (H.S.) is directed toward unbelievers only. It is the Spirit's pre-salvation ministry whereby It acts as the human spirit so the unbeliever can understand the issue of the Ph₁ gospel so as to make an informed decision. *See The Doctrine of Regeneration aka The Birth of the Human Spirit*
 - B.** It is the execution of the Father's calling in time fulfilling His electing process. Cf. Rom.8:28-30 *See The Doctrine of Election and Calling*
- II.** The need for this ministry is revealed in 1Cor.2:11-14.
- III.** The first reference to this ministry is Gen.6:3.
- A.** The NAS translation "*strive*" is "דִּינָה – diyn" meaning "judge/contend/plead".
 - B.** It looks to the H.S. as an arbitrator on behalf of God soliciting man to accord with God.
- IV.** The mechanics: The H.S. takes gnosis (the information) gospel and makes it epignosis (complete understanding) gospel within the brain computer. Then the unbeliever makes a decision and exhales faith or no faith. Cp. 2Pet.2:20-21
- V.** It is a part of common grace. Cf. Mat.5:45
- A.** The work of the H.S. is revealing the gospel to the unbeliever (via evangelism).
 - B.** It includes the ability to understand the true issue of sin and eternal life.
 - C.** Further, it is designed to provide the universal call to faith in the Lord Jesus Christ.
 - D.** A spiritually dead man cannot otherwise understand the things of the Spirit. Joh.6:44; Rom.5:12; 8:7; 1Cor.1:18; 2Cor.4:3-4; Eph.2:1
- VI.** The areas in which the H.S. convicts. Joh.16:7-11
- A.** Sin (of unbelief in Jesus Christ).
 - B.** Righteousness (+R i.e., no salvation in human works/relative righteousness).
 - C.** Judgment (the consequences of rejecting faith in Jesus Christ).
- VII.** Further theological definitions:
- A.** Common grace: The convicting ministry of the H.S. apart from human volition.
 - B.** Efficacious grace: Positive human volition (+V).
 - C.** Regeneration: The H.S. gives the new believer a human spirit.
 - D.** The Divine call: The ministry of the H.S. converting gnosis into epignosis; the call or invitation.
- VIII.** The spectrum of efficacious grace.
- A.** "δία – dia" plus "καλέω – kaleo": Called *through* the gospel. 2The.2:14
 - B.** "ἐν – en" plus "καλέω – kaleo": Called *in the sphere of*:
 - 1. Grace. Gal.1:6
 - 2. Hope. Eph.4:4
 - 3. Peace. 1Cor.7:15
 - 4. Holiness (+R). 1The.4:7
 - C.** "εἰς – eis" plus "καλέω – kaleo": Called *into*:

1. Fellowship. 1Cor.1:9
2. His kingdom. 1The.2:12
3. Eternal life. 1Tim.6:12
4. The enjoyment of Bible Doctrine. 1Pet.2:9
5. Suffering. 1Pet.2:21
6. The sphere of blessing. 1Pet.3:9
7. Eternal glory. 1Pet.5:10
8. A marriage supper. Rev.19:9

IX. Summary.

- A. In common grace, the H.S. presents the gospel Ph₁.
- B. In efficacious grace, man responds to the gospel.