

# The Nature of Reality

## First: reality second: responsibility

The Bible is God's instruction about every aspect of life, and the purpose of that instruction is to teach us how to think, with the result that it changes how we live

### The Transformation

is the indispensable quality for Christian growth

Of our thinking

"Out of every one hundred men,  
ten shouldn't even be there.

eighty are just targets.

nine are the real fighters, and we are lucky  
to have them, for they make the battle.

Ah, but the one, one is a warrior, and he  
will bring the others back." – Heracitus

To change how you live,  
without changing how you  
think, is to place a patch  
over the problem

We must start  
with the mindset  
that we are going  
to be one of  
those 10

### Challenge the Believer

1.

Its Christ's responsibility to build the church

Our responsibility is to make disciples,  
to challenge the believer

Matthew 28:18–20

<sup>18</sup> And Jesus came and spoke to them, saying, <sup>19</sup> "All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. <sup>20</sup> Go <sup>21</sup> therefore and <sup>22</sup> make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, <sup>23</sup> teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am <sup>24</sup> with you always, even to the end of the age." <sup>25</sup> Amen.

Philip ministers to the Ethiopian eunuch:

Acts 8:36–37 (NKJV)

36 Now as they went down the road, they came to some water. And the eunuch said, "See, here is water.

What hinders me from being baptized?"

37 Then Philip said, "If you believe with all your heart, you may," And he answered and said, "I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God."

John 6:66 (NKJV)

66 From that time many of His disciples went back and walked with Him no more.

They didn't want to do what it took to be a disciple

2.

### A Summary of the Christian walk:

Romans 12:1 (NKJV)

1 I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God,

Fellow believers

All the undeserved favors made available to the  
believer at the point of, and including justification

**beseech**  
παρακαλέω ◀◀ parakaléō urge; implore; exhort; comfort; invite  
**4151** παρακαλέω (parakaléō): vb.; = DBLHebr 5714; Str 3870; TDNT 5.773–1. LN 33.168 ask for earnestly, beg, plead (Ac 28:20), for another interp, see below; 2. LN 33.315 invite (Lk 8:41); 3. LN 33.310 call together to (Ac 28:20), for another interp, see above; 4. LN 25.150 encourage,

διὰ διὰ ◀◀ dia dia by; through; because of  
✓ διὰ διὰ by; through; because of  
◉ P preposition  
89.76 εἰς<sup>h</sup>, ἐν<sup>P</sup>; διὰ<sup>C</sup>: marking of the means by which one event makes another event possible — by means of, through, by

1. Free gift of salvation:  
2. Free provision of His word: revealing reality  
3. Free provision of the indwelling of the Holy Spirit, to empower the believer, and fill us with His word

Paul is not saying I command you, but rather I challenge you; but you have to make up your mind if you're going to accept the challenge

For those believers who do not accept the challenge there is impending disaster for their life, and grievance of mind for their believing family and acquaintances.

**genitive** — The genitive is the case that qualifies or restricts a noun by means of a specific characterization. The genitive normally marks a noun as the source or possessor of something, or refers to the kind of relationship that noun has to another noun. It is typically expressed in English by the preposition "of". For example, in the phrase "throne of the king" the noun "king" is in the genitive and qualifies the type of throne. In "blood of Christ," Christ is the genitive noun which describes possession. The genitive case is also used for the objects of some prepositions.

**WORD INFO**  
◉ οἰκτιρῶν oiktirmōn  
◉ οἰκτιρῶς oiktirmōs ◀◀ mercy; compassion; pity  
✓ οἰκτιρῶν oiktirmōn have compassion on  
◉ NGPM noun **genitive** plural, masculine

trope's  
+ Noun  
oun

that you present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God, which is your reasonable service.

If it wasn't possible for the believer to not accept the challenge; he would not have challenged them

τῆς tēs  
πίστεως pisteōs  
πίστις pistis ◀◀ faith  
✓ πιστεύω pisteuō believe  
◉ NGSF noun **genitive** singular, feminine

3.

Ephesians 2:8–9 (NKJV)

8 For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God, 9 not of works, lest anyone should boast.

4.

2 Corinthians 1:3 (NKJV)

3 Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and God of all comfort,

Presentation of a sacrifice in the temple or of an offering

Bodies the entire person

Romans 12:1–2 (NKJV)

1 I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that you present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God, which is your reasonable service.

Rational

Or the logical result of our justification through Christ

Presenting all of who we are to God

A contrast given to verse one

2 And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God.

Pressed into the mold of this present age in terms of thinking

In other words, we must take time to think / meditate

### world

αἰών ◀◀ aión age

αἰών, αἰώς, ὥρα, time, age; (1) as a segment of contemporary time lifetime, era, present age (LU 16.8); (2) of time gone by past, earliest times (LU 1.70); (3) of prolonged and unlimited time eternity (1T 1.17); (4) of time to come eternity, age to come (LU 20.35);

a.

Christianity is based on thinking, it's based on thoughtful reflection upon God's Word.

In other words we have to follow the written logical development of the thought of the writer.

b.

God's word is sufficient to handle all the difficulties in life, but only if we study it and make that exchange of thinking from man's to God's thinking.