

The Attackers: The Compartments of the Stream of Consciousness: The Frame of Reference: Doctrine Is Built on Doctrine: Vectors: Wheel-tracks, Associations, Constellations, & the Neural Network, 1 Cor 2:9–10; Vocabulary Essential to Spiritual Growth; Doctrine Understood Based on One's Inventory of Ideas

C. The Compartments of the Stream of Consciousness:

1. **The Frame of Reference:**

- (1) Every building must have a firm foundation if it is to withstand the effects nature imposes. The foundation for the spiritual stream of consciousness is a frame of reference that is comprised of principles and doctrines acquired from Bible study.
- (2) As knowledge is built on knowledge so doctrine is built on doctrine. As one's inventory grows then the guidance contained in one doctrine will soon associate in some way with similar principles in another doctrine.
- (2) This is defined as an "association" in which memory traces are coordinated by the Holy Spirit so that the believer has access to additional information regarding a given subject.
- (4) Chapter 2 of 1 Corinthians gives a detailed explanation of the work of the Holy Spirit in transferring spiritual phenomena into the *kardia* of the believer. These verses address the frame of reference:

**1 Corinthians 2:9** - Just as it is written, "Things which the eye has not seen and the ear has not heard, and which have not entered the *kardia* of man, all that God has prepared for those who love Him."

**1 Corinthians 2:10** - But God has revealed them to us through the Spirit; for the Spirit searches all things, even the deep things of God.

- (5) Failure to utilize this divinely prepared system is expressed by Jeremiah in:

**Jeremiah 17:9** - The *kardia* is deceitful above all else and is dangerously ill; who is able to understand it?

**v. 10** - I, the Lord, search the *kardia*, I test the emotions, even to give to each man according to his way of thinking [ from GAP ], according to the divine-good production of his deeds.

- (6) The soul is attacked by temptations, both internally from the sinful nature and externally by the devil's world. Volitional weakness against these attacks places the believer in status quo carnality.
- (7) Prolonged residence in the cosmic system causes an erosion of the frame of reference and cosmic principles and doctrines systematically replace the truths accumulated from the Word of God.
- (8) Recovery is accomplished by (1) rebound: confession alone to God alone, (2) resumption of Bible study, and (3) stick-to-itiveness in order to renovate the frame of reference back to its former spiritual status.

- (9) It is in the frame of reference where doctrine is first processed and then distributed out to the various other compartments that have an affinity for the information.
- (10) PRINCIPLE: You cannot grow without an ever- increasing vocabulary and you cannot think beyond that vocabulary. Spiritual growth is facilitated by the systematic increase in one's ability to think categorically.
- (11) The larger the doctrinal frame of reference the more constellations of interconnected doctrines are available to the believer for consultation in his spiritual walk.
- (12) Dictionary definitions of the term "frame of reference" are helpful in understanding how it applies to the content of doctrine, or lack of it, in the soul's *kardia*:

**A set of ideas, conditions, or assumptions that determine how something will be approached, perceived, or understood.<sup>1</sup>**

**A set of criteria or stated values in relation to which measurements or judgments can be made: the observer interprets what he sees in terms of his own cultural frame of reference.<sup>2</sup>**

**A system of ideas, as of philosophical or religious doctrine, in terms of which other ideas are interpreted or assigned meaning.<sup>3</sup>**

- (13) The content of the Bible is designed by God to develop your frame of reference. For example in the first definition there is the phrase "set of ideas." What is your set of ideas, or better, inventory of ideas?
- (14) You are only able to think within the confines of your ideas. Whatever that inventory happens to be, it is the frame of reference you utilize in approaching an issue, perceive incoming data, and understand its meaning.
- (15) Therefore, what is taught from Scripture may be understood in varying ways by those who hear it based on their inventory of ideas.
- (16) "Set of criteria or stated values" refers to one's norms and standards. A *norm* is "a principle of right action binding upon the members of a group and serving to guide, control, or regulate proper and acceptable behavior" (MWCD).
- (17) Standards are "a decree or level of requirement, excellence, or attainment. A requirement of moral conduct. Often used in the plural to indicate moral character" (AHDEL).
- (18) So norms for believers are biblical mandates that require self-governance by means of free-will decisions to do a right thing in a right way.
- (19) Standards are those principles and doctrines that inform the believer's free will on what decision should be made in a given circumstance.

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<sup>1</sup> Merriam-Webster's Collegiate Dictionary, 11th ed., s.v.: "frame of reference." (MWCD)

<sup>2</sup> The New Oxford American Dictionary, s.v.: "frame of reference." (NOAD)

<sup>3</sup> The American Heritage Dictionary of the English Language, s.v.: "frame of reference." (AHDEL)

- (20) An example of how the frame of reference works in coordination with norms and standards is David's encounter with King Saul in a cave near Engedi.