

7. Note that Paul is approaching the Corinthian believers in a letter. His desire is to challenge them to refocus their attention on the fact that he is authorized by the Lord to be His spokesman and with that comes associated authority over those to whom he communicates.
8. Paul writes in verse 2 that he will use his authority, if necessary, “I will not spare anyone.” However, in verse 10, it is Paul’s desire that, “when I arrive I may not have to deal harshly with you by using my authority.”
9. In the twenty-first century, the Word of God is available not only face-to-face but also from a multiplicity of electronic contrivances. There is no excuse for anyone to be without consistent inculcation of the unadulterated truth of the Word of God.
10. However, these same contrivances overwhelm the biblically oriented sites so that Lucifer’s propaganda, misinformation, disinformation, and boldface lies overwhelm them.
11. Assuming an average of 180 Bible studies per year, which would be a low estimate, I have taught over six-thousand Bible classes.
12. Those who have stuck it out for 34 years have had orientation to authority that has enabled them to use doctrine to fight the good fight of faith. They have been supportive and encouraging, joined by numerous others who have join up along the way.
13. Here’s the verse that has enabled those who have entered the doors of Chesterfield Day School on White Road and Grace Doctrine Church on South River Road to stay the course:

Hebrews 13:17 Keep obeying those pastors who themselves have authority over you, and submit to their authority by learning doctrine, for these same pastors keep watching for the benefit of your souls as those having to render an account. Keep on obeying them, for the purpose that they may do this accounting with inner happiness, and not with groaning, for this is unprofitable for you. (EXT)

4. The Purpose of the Pastor in Edification

1. Paul points out the threefold purpose of the pastor in:

Ephesians 4:12 ... for the purpose of equipping the saints, for the production of Christian service, for the edification of the body of Christ. (EXT)



2. The word “saints” refers to the royal family of God with emphasis on the baptism of the Holy Spirit. The word “saints” is the noun, “ἅγιος (*hágios*): set apart, sanctified, devoted to the service of Deity; metaphorically it means morally pure, upright, blameless in heart and life, virtuous. Consecrated, devoted, set apart from a common to a sacred use.”⁶
3. Equipping the saints” emphasizes God’s grace policy which inculcates truth into the souls of believers for the execution of the protocol plan of God.
4. In this principle, “equipping” is the responsibility of the pastor through his teaching ministry from the pulpit. His duty is to prepare the souls of the faithful to do battle in *cosmos diabolicus*, moving toward πρόμαχοι (*prómachoi*) status: “front rankers” in the Invisible War.
5. These things are the responsibilities of the pastor in the field of “communication: verbal conveyance of biblical doctrines to his assigned congregation.”
6. Next on the sequence of events in the System of Divine Didactics is **Illumination**: believers, guided by the Holy Spirit, are enabled to understand and retain Bible doctrines. Lewis Sperry Chafer provides the definition for this part of the system:

The purpose of God in providing the Bible is that man, to whom the Bible is addressed, may be possessed of dependable information regarding things tangible and intangible, temporal and eternal, visible and invisible, earthly and heavenly.

Among the age-characterizing operations of the Spirit is that of teaching or enlightening the individual in whom He dwells. This reception of truth is not confined to commonplace issues, but may reach out into the “deep things of God,” and the experience of the believer when thus taught by the Spirit is peculiar in this respect, that the divine Teacher is within his heart and he therefore does not hear a voice speaking from without and at stated times, as is the method of human teachers, but the mind and heart are supernaturally awakened from within to apprehend what otherwise would be unknown.

⁶ Zodhiates, “ἅγιος,” in *The Complete Word Study Dictionary*, 70.



There is no didactic discipline in the world comparable to the teaching of Christ by the Holy Spirit, both because of the fact that infinity characterizes the themes which are taught, and because the Teacher's method of approach by which He, by the Spirit, enters the innermost recesses of the heart where impressions originate and there not only tells out the truth of transcendent magnitude, but causes the pupil actually to grasp the things thus revealed. "By faith we understand" (Hebrews 11:3).⁷

7. Finally, the system concludes with, "**Animation:** Believers, enabled by the Holy Spirit, apply resident doctrines to life and circumstances."
8. This category is the final step in a divine process that begins with divine revelation and concludes with its application into the devil's world by the believer.
9. Dr. Chafer cites numerous passages that define the historical and future impact of God's Word when it is deployed privately in the soul of the believer or broadly by application, specifically to others or broadly to the world at large.

By the term *animation*, reference is made to that inimitable element of vitality or life which obtains in the Bible as in no other book. There are various attributes which are predicated of the written Word of God. In the Old Testament these are presented in two Psalms.⁸

Psalm 19:7 The law of the Lord is perfect, restoring the soul; the testimony of the Lord is sure, making wise the simple.

v. 8 The precepts of the Lord are right, rejoicing the heart; the commandment of the Lord is pure, enlightening the eyes.

v. 9 The fear of the Lord is clean, enduring forever; the judgments of the Lord are true; they are righteous altogether.

(End JAS3-02. See JAS3-03 for continuation of study at p. 21).

⁷ Lewis Sperry Chafer, "Illumination," in *Systematic Theology* (Dallas: Dallas Seminary Press, 1947), 1:105, 109, 113.

⁸ Ibid., "Animation," in *Systematic Theology*, 1:120. Dr. Chafer quotes Psalm 19:7–9 from the King James Version. Instead, this passage is cited from the New American Standard Bible.



Similarly, seven attributes of the Bible are named in Psalm 119. These are: “All Your commandments are faithful” (v. 86), “Your commandment is exceedingly broad” (v. 96), “I esteem right all Your precepts” (v. 128), “Your testimonies are wonderful” (v. 129), “Your Word is very pure” (v. 140), “Every one of your righteous ordinances is everlasting” (v. 160), and “All Your commandments are righteous” (v. 172).

The New Testament adds that the Word of God is “truth” (John 17:17), “powerful” (2 Timothy 3:16), and “quick and active” (or “alive and powerful,” Hebrews 4:12).

In light of this body of truth which so definitely predicates the Word of God that it is a living, vital agency with supernatural power, the preacher has little excuse for the presentation of anything else. The divine promise through Isaiah is:

Isaiah 55:10

“For as the rain and snow come down from heaven, and do not return there without watering the earth and making it bear and sprout, and furnishing seed to the sower and bread to the eater;

v. 11

so will My Word be which goes forth from My mouth; it will not return to Me empty, without accomplishing what I desire, without succeeding in the matter for which I sent it.” (NASB)

5. Motivation of the Believer in Edification

1. Motivation may be defined in two categories: (1) positive volition and (2) humility.
2. Positive volition is expressed in:

Romans 14:19

Let us therefore make every effort to do what leads to peace and to mutual edification [οἰκοδομή (*oikodomē*): to build up a spiritual edifice in the soul]. (NIV)



3. In the process of growing in grace, Scripture encourages us to do so with the intensity of a runner who sprints toward the goal in:

Hebrews 12:1 Therefore, since we have so great a cloud of witnesses surrounding us, let us also lay aside every encumbrance and the sin which so easily entangles us, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us,
v. 2a fixing our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of faith. (NASB)

4. Running instead of walking stresses the importance of consistently moving forward with positive volition. Spiritual growth is delayed and haphazard if not done consistently. Memory quickly fails to recall information if not facilitated.
5. There are no graduate degrees issued so that there is no longer any need for inculcation. The Bible is a treasure trove of truth. Doctrine is built on Doctrine. To emphasize this principle, it may be restated as, Truth is built on Truth.
6. The cosmic system is constantly promoting the lie and Lucifer's acolytes are very good at presenting ideas which the biblically ignorant eagerly adopt as truth.
7. The dumbing down of education has been orchestrated to invert absolute Truth into acceptable philosophies and viewpoints based on emotion rather than absolutes.
8. Over time, inversion of thought occurs. The lie is accepted as the truth while the Truth is considered to be the lie. When enough people adopt the former, the loss of thought changes the culture.
9. Principles that constitutionally insure liberty are assaulted. They are replaced by authoritarian standards specifically imposed upon opponents while anything goes for the budding Brownshirts.

SA, abbreviation of Sturmabteilung [shtoom' äp' tī loong]: (German: "Assault Division"), byname Storm Troopers, or Brownshirts, in the German Nazi Party, a paramilitary organization whose methods of violent intimidation played a key role in Adolf Hitler's rise to power. Outfitted in brown uniforms, the SA men protected Party meetings, marched in Nazi rallies, and physically assaulted political opponents.



From January 1931, it was headed by Ernst Röhm, who harboured radical anticapitalist notions and dreamed of building the SA into Germany's main military force. Under Röhm SA membership, swelled from the ranks of the Great Depression's unemployed, grew to 400,000 by 1932 and to perhaps 2,000,000—20 times the size of the regular army—by the time that Hitler came to power in 1933.

During the early days of the Nazi regime, the SA carried out unchecked street violence against Jews and Nazi opponents. But it was eyed with suspicion by the regular army and by the wealthy industrialists, two groups whose support Hitler was trying to secure. Against Hitler's expressed wishes, Röhm ... hoped to merge the regular army with the SA under his own leadership. On June 30, 1934, the Night of the Long Knives, Hitler, using SS forces, carried out a "Blood Purge" of the SA leadership. Röhm and dozens of SA leaders were summarily executed.¹

10. Such types are in the market for the insertion of Truth into their souls, however, associated with historical downtrends is the lack of interest in Christianity, specifically for the teachings of Scripture. However,

Romans 1:25 They exchanged the truth of God for the lie and worshiped served the creation rather than the Creator, Who is blessed forever! (NET)

11. Paul advises why transition away from the lie over to the truth is imperative:

Romans 12:2 Do not be conformed to this present world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, so that you may test and approve what is the will of God—what is good and well-pleasing and perfect.

v. 3 For by the grace given to me I say to every one of you not to think more highly of yourself than you ought to think, but to think with sober discernment, as God has distributed to each of you a measure of faith. (NET)

¹ "SA," in *The New Encyclopaedia Britannica: Micropaedia*, 15th ed. (2010), 10:273.



12. Conformity to the devil's world is a warning sign for a client nation. When it gains momentum then that nation is in spiritual decline and in danger of that being followed eventually by the advances of a predator nation.
13. We have a list of missionaries on our prayer bulletin. Twelve work primarily in foreign countries while three function primarily as evangelists.
14. This is only my opinion, because all these men function under the principle that God has them assigned where He wants them. However, I find myself wondering if under the current circumstances if these men might at some point be led by the Lord to come back to base camp and evangelize the lost in Client Nation America.
15. The millennial and current generations have been won over by the Dark Side and through salvation they could then enter into the process of edifying their souls into vessels of honor.
16. The masses today live in the status of subjectivity. **Subjectivism** is:
The doctrine that the supreme good is the realization of some type of subjective experience or feeling, as pleasure. The doctrine that individual feeling or apprehension is the ultimate criterion of the good and the right.”²
17. Without enforced and genuine humility, there is neither objectivity nor teachability. Without these things a person will be miserable because he is not teachable.
18. Therefore, edification is impossible without humility, teachability, and objectivity.

6. Edification Is the Key to the Proper Function of the Local Church

1 Corinthians 14:12 So also you, since you are zealous of spiritual gifts, seek to abound for edification of the church.

1. Most members of the church at Corinth were eager to have the gift of tongues. It was spectacular, it was considered to be dramatic, and was assumed to make them special.
2. Paul wants to direct their attention away from a spiritual gift that had become a distraction away from edification through Bible study.
3. The phrase “seek to abound” is a command, the present active imperative of **ζητέω (zētēō)**: “endeavor; strive for.” This word is defined as follows:

² Webster's New Collegiate Dictionary, 2d the ed. (1953), s.v. “subjectivism.”

