

John 15:19 “If you belonged to the world, it would love you as its own. As it is, you do not belong to the world, but I have elected you out of the world. This is why the world hates you.”

14. For those who trust God as the Source of truth, both confidence and happiness will gradually define their lives.

Romans 15:13 May the God of confidence fill you with happiness and prosperity as you trust in Him, so that you may overflow with confidence by means of the omnipotence of the Holy Spirit.

15. Knowledge of truth results in motivational love for God which in turn creates a desire to acquire more knowledge.
16. The tandem problem-solving devices result from this advance: (1) personal love for God, followed by (2) unconditional love for all mankind.
17. These are the categories of virtue love which, when facilitated into character traits, produce true happiness in the soul.
18. Colossians 1:8–13 describes the nuances of spiritual growth:

Colossians 1:7 Even as you have been taught from the source of Epaphras [Ἐπαφρᾶς (*Epaphrás*), pastor-teacher of the church at Colossae⁴], our dear fellow servant, who is faithful minister of Christ on our behalf,

v. 8 and who gave us a written report about your unconditional love which the Holy Spirit produced in you.

v. 9 Because of this [**unconditional love**], from the day on which we heard, we have not stopped praying for you and asking, that you might be filled with the epígnōsis knowledge of His will [**spiritual maturity**] by means of all wisdom and spiritual understanding;

⁴ “Epaphras. A native of Colossae and founder of the Colossian church, who was with Paul when he wrote Colossians. Epaphras may have been Paul’s convert. As Paul’s representative he had evangelized Colossae and the neighboring towns of Laodicea and Hierapolis during Paul’s Ephesian ministry. His visit to Paul in Rome and his report concerning conditions in the churches of the Lycus Valley caused Paul to write Colossians (Colossians 1:7–9)” (D. E. Hiebert, “Epaphras,” in *The Zondervan Pictorial Encyclopedia of the Bible*, gen. ed. Merrill C. Tenney [Grand Rapids: Zondervan Publishing House, 1976], 2:315).

Colossians 1:10 that you conduct yourselves worthy of the Lord, seeking to please Him in every way [**by functioning inside the operational divine dynasphere**], bearing fruit by every good work [**application of doctrine**], always making progress [**continuous spiritual growth**] in the sphere of the knowledge that comes from the source of God;

v. 11 that you might be constantly made strong [**advance by means of doctrine through the areas of momentum testing**] by means of every enabling power—in keeping with His sovereign power which has His essence as its source [**delegated power through the filling of the Holy Spirit**]—in order that you might always have endurance, stability, and patience; happily [**χαρά (chará): unalloyed happiness of God: the copacetic spiritual life**]

v. 12 being thankful to the Father, the One Who made it possible for you to share in the inheritance of the saints [**divine operating assets**] in the sphere of the Light [**operational divine dynasphere**].

v. 13 For He [**God**] rescued us from the authority of darkness [**the Satanic Academy of Cosmic Didactics**] and transferred us into the kingdom of the Son of His love [**adoption into the royal family and enrollment into the Divine Academy of Grace Didactics**].⁵ (EXT)

Momentum Testing in 4 Categories

1. Momentum Testing is associated with the development of happiness in the soul or the Copacetic Spiritual Life.
2. The more truth a believer accumulates in his soul the more intense are the pressures from the angelic conflict in his personal life.

⁵ Joe Griffin, *The Copacetic Christian: How to Be Happy in the Devil's World* (St. Charles, Mo.: Joe Griffin Media Ministries, 2011), 13-15. Audio stream: 2011 Shreveport Bible Conference, 2d session: (<http://www.joegriffin.org/media-archive/class-catalog/sbc11-02/>).



3. The believer with maximum doctrine in his soul is a combatant in the front rank of the Invisible War. The term to characterize this spiritual deployment is the Classical Greek noun, **πρόμαχοι** (*prómachoi*): “fighting in front” or “front rankers.”
4. The Spartans trained their children from the earliest ages to prepare for war. Their training was designed to develop the tactics and discipline that must be ingrained in order to fight as a unit in concert with **στρατιώται** (*stratiótai*)—fellow soldiers—in the phalanx:

During the 7th century BC the Greek city-states adapted a phalanx eight men deep. [The panoply of] the Greek hoplite, the heavy-armed infantryman who manned the phalanx, was equipped with a round shield [ὄπλον (*hóplon*), a heavy corselet [aka: bell cuirass (*kwi-rás*] of leather and metal, greaves [κνημῖς (*knēmís*: shin armor)], an 8-foot pike [δόρυ (*dóru*): spear] for thrusting, and a 2-foot double-edged sword [μάχαιρα (*máchaira*)]. Since the phalanx held in solid ranks and was divided only into the center and wings, there was generally little need for an officer corps; the whole line advanced in step to the sound of the flute [αὐλός (*aulós*)]⁶. Such a formation encouraged cohesion among advancing troops and presented a frightening spectacle to the enemy.⁷

5. The mission of the Christian soldier is to acquire maximum spiritual ordinance in his soul in order to defend truth while opposing the lie.
6. The term *prómachoi* describe mature believers who fight on the front rank of the invisible conflict that constantly rages between those of the light against those of the darkness during the course of Lucifer’s appeal.
7. The most important factor in preparation for battle was the total elimination of **φόβος** (*phóbos*): fear. To accomplish its avoidance, the Greeks developed the science of fear.
8. The tactics utilized trained cadets how to mentally prevent fear from reaching the psyche by denying reactions to danger or physical pain.

⁶ The Greek words and definitions of the panoply are from: Liddell and Scott, *A Greek-English Lexicon* (1968).
⁷ “Phalanx,” in *The New Encyclopaedia Britannica: Micropaedia* (2010), 352.

9. The Greeks contended that fear spawns in the body and must be combated there. Put the body into a state of **ἀφοβία (aphobía)**: “fearlessness,” and the mind will follow.
10. Therefore, their military training concentrated on eliminating fear caused by attacks on the body. However, in the Invisible War the concentration on managing fear must be focused on thought—incoming information that challenges one’s established inventory of ideas.
11. Events that have transpired in the United States over the last few months expose two concentrated campaigns. This word is used in various ways. Here are a dictionary’s definitions:

Campaign. 1. A series of military operations undertaken to achieve a large-scale objective during a war. 2. An operation or series of operations energetically pursued to accomplish a purpose: an advertising campaign for a new product; a candidate’s political campaign. To engage in an operation planned to achieve a certain goal: an army that campaigned across the entire continent; an international group that campaigned for human rights.⁸

12. For over two years the United States has seen the open exposition of growing rebellion designed to eventuate in a:

Coup d’état: a sudden decisive exercise of force in politics; especially the violent overthrow or alteration of an existing government by a small group.⁹

13. The above two terms define strategies associated with warfare and politics and are not precise to the events transpiring in our country. But a well-organized “campaign” has been active over the last three years whose strategy is the “alteration of an existing government by a small group.”
14. The “small group” is the Democrat Party which over the last 60 years, has propagandized three generations of our nation’s youth into becoming “agents of change.”

(End JAS3-05. See JAS3-06 for continuation of study at p. 51.)

⁸ *The American Heritage Dictionary of the English Language*, 5th ed. (New York: Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, 2016), s.v. “campaign.”

⁹ *Merriam-Webster’s Collegiate Dictionary*, (2003), s.v. “coup d’état.”



15. Ignorant of our nation's history, the literal uniqueness of its foundational documents, and the absoluteness of civil laws that maintain order in society, these Progressive acolytes are primed to become the catalysts for the "violent overthrow ... of existing government."
16. These developments reflect the obvious loss of biblical thought within the population. When truth is rejected then cosmic concepts must rush in to take its place in the form of human viewpoint, human good, and evil.
17. What exposes the success of these strategies is the anger, bitterness, and violence that accompanies public protests. The anger is sincere in the souls of the demonstrators since it expresses what they have been taught since kindergarten.
18. The bitterness is based on the conclusion that those who disagree with them are the problem and by removing them, peace and harmony will rush in to restore order.
19. Violence is approved since the established order is considered illegitimate and its authority and must be suppressed and then destroyed. Ergo, open rebellion.
20. Rebellion is justified in the minds of the anointed ones who, ignorant of history's repeated evidence that revolutions result in tyranny, blindly do the bidding of the puppet masters.
21. The Bible presents a pertinent example of this process from c. 1000 B.C. We will not engage the full study at this time, but a sequence of events occurs in 2 Samuel 11 through 18 that includes David's son Absalom's rebellion against his father.
22. In the 2 Samuel 11–18 context, you will see that David's sin with Bathsheba began a sequence of events that resulted in David's Installment Discipline.
23. The pertinent passage to consult is 2 Samuel 15:1–13. Absalom's hatred for his father motivated him to foment rebellion. His initial strategy was to begin a propaganda campaign against David followed by invasion of Jerusalem.
24. David evacuated Jerusalem, Absalom seized the castle, and pursued David's party and military east of the Jordan. Absalom's attempt of a coup d'état failed when he was killed in action by Joab in the Battle of Ephraim Forest (2 Samuel 18).



25. David's installment discipline was used by God to deal with David's deviations from divine guidance. Instead of employing the sin unto death to David, God disciplined him in a sequence of circumstances. If David applied doctrine, he would survive and in doing so become the greatest king in Israelite history.
26. In the Church Age, the believer is educated toward spiritual maturity by means of grace plus as many as three levels of divine discipline: (1) Warning, (2) Intensive, and (3) Dying.

1. **Warning.** Failure to rebound (1 John 1:9) causes the believer to function in the cosmic systems of arrogance and hatred. Outside the evanescent[!] divine dynasphere, the believer is removed from the direct influence of Bible doctrine in the soul. Resultant application is always mixed with human viewpoint, human good, and evil.

Although involved in self-induced misery, he was still sensitive to truth and between the two able to confess his sins and restore fellowship with the Father.

This condition is illustrated by the Lord in:

Revelation 3:20 "Listen! I am standing at the door and knocking [divine influence to confess his sins]! If anyone hears My voice [the appeal to restore fellowship] and opens the door [confession alone to God alone] I will come into his home and have a meal with him [restoration of fellowship], and he with me." (NET)

Failure to rebound, results in the imposition of intensified levels of divine discipline as required.

2. **Intensified.** Continued residence in the cosmic system reveals that the believer did not respond to warning discipline. God's plan for that believer is still accessible, but to guide him back into fellowship, discipline must be intensified.

[!] "Evanescence: Vanishing or likely to vanish like vapor" in *The American Heritage Dictionary of the English Language*, 5th ed., s.v. "evanescent."

To allow recovery to occur, God continues to supply him with logistical grace support. He is kept alive, so that rebound recovery is always a prayer away.

The believer may intensify his obstinacy which means the discipline already intensified is strengthened further. The two combined are extremely severe to the point of unbearable suffering.

One may conclude that this suffering is imposed physically only. Conceivably, some forms of mental suffering are more intense than physical suffering. Which form or a combination of the two may be what is required to restore objectivity to the person's soul.

Each failure to respond to God's efforts to elicit spiritual recovery diminishes his likelihood of rebound recovery. Unrelenting, the person moves from blackout of the soul to hardness of the heart, and finally scar tissue of the soul.

Ephesians 4:18 having become darkened in their thinking [**blackout of the soul: loss of objectivity**], excluded from the life of God because of the ignorance which keeps on being in them because of the hardness of their heart [*πώρωσις (pōrōsis)*; loss of objectivity results in the heart rejecting truth and thus becoming ossified by cosmic viewpoint];

v. 19 who, while having become callous [*ἀπαλγέω (apalgēō)*: **scar tissue of the soul**], have betrayed themselves to promiscuous debauchery [*ἀσέλγεια (asélgeia)*: abnormal sexual perversions] resulting in the practice [*ἐργασία (ergasía)*: production of evil] of every kind of immorality [*ἀκαθαρσία (akatharsía)*: perversions common to a defiled soul] in the sphere of insatiable lust [*πλεονεξία (pleonexía)*: an intensified pursuit of happiness from unbridled sensual acts]. (EXT)



3. **Dying.** This category accompanies rapid spiritual decline that, sans rebound, results in the sin unto death. Although the believer was saved by his expression of faith alone in Christ alone, his avoidance of serious Bible study eventuates in becoming a casualty in the Invisible War.

Tragically, he has turned away from the revelation of divine truth and instead inculcates rationales from the Dark Side's propaganda. Typical of such an individual is the trend toward reversionism that is expressed in:

Hebrews 12:5 You have forgotten the principle of doctrine which teaches you as sons, [**Proverbs 3:11–12**] “My son [υἱός (*huíos*): a minor], do not make light of corrective discipline from the Lord, nor become discouraged when you are reproved by Him;

v. 6 For whom the Lord loves perpetually [static present active indicative of ἀγαπάω (*agapáō*): eternally] He imposes corrective discipline [customary present active indicative of παιδεύω (*paideúō*): as to a child²] and He whips [customary present active indicative of μαστιγῶω (*mastigóō*): corporal punishment³] every son He perpetually receives [static present active indicative of παραδέχομαι (*paradéchomai*): eternally].” (EXT)

27. These warnings are avoided by successfully passing momentum testing. Synopses of its four categories follow.

² The cognate noun is παιδεία (*paideía*) which is corrective discipline. Both the verb and the noun have as their basic root *pai* (*pai*) which comes from παῖς (*país*) which means a child. It is used in the sense of teaching or training a child by discipline. The customary present indicates what habitually occurs, or may be reasonably expected to occur.

³ “The word is used figuratively in Hebrews 12:6 (quoting Proverbs 3:12) for “to impart corrective punishment.” As the education of a beloved child may sometimes demand blows, so God may sometimes smite His children. Suffering will be regarded by the Christian as a proof of God’s educative love” (Carl Schneider, “μαστιγῶω,” in *Theological Dictionary of the New Testament*, ed. Gerhard Kittel, trans. and ed. Geoffrey W. Bromiley [Grand Rapids: Wm. B. Eerdmans Publishing Co., 1967]. 4:518).