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7. Therefore, the men's talents in how to make money resulted in wealth. One would think that with that wealth they could enjoy it. But since they did not have the capacity for wealth their possession of gold and silver could not be enjoyed.

- 8. The gold and the silver are doing just fine being untarnished. These men's souls, while possessing untarnished gold and silver, remain in the throes of reverse process reversionism accompanied by hardness of heart.
- 9. Hardness of heart is typical of those who are in the advanced stages of reversionism, and this doctrine is obviously pertinent to our two guys in James, Chapter 5, verse 3. This condition is common among those who have lost the thought exemplified by their rusted souls.

The Doctrine of Hardness of the Heart

A. Definition and Description.

- Hardness of the Heart, also referred to as Scar Tissue of the Soul, is the result 1. of prolonged function inside the cosmic system.
- 2. There is generally a logical retrogression in which Blackout of the Soul also precedes Scar Tissue of the Soul or is coterminous with it.
- Blackout of the soul is the believer saying, "No," to doctrine, which opens a 3. vacuum that draws in false concepts. There is a pseudo function of the Grace Apparatus for Perception in the cosmic system. Scar tissue of the soul is the result of false information being processed in the believer's frame of reference, norms and standards, vocabulary center, and memory center, and is the basis for applications to life.
- Negative volition, expressed by gate two of cosmic one or gate one of cosmic 4. two, creates the vacuum in the soul called ματαιότης (mataiótēs).
- 5. Blackout of the soul then spreads like a disease and results in the malady of scar tissue of the soul. Scar tissue of the soul has a detrimental effect on every part of the soul. The cosmic systems always stimulate the emotions.
 - Scar tissue of the soul results in loss of perceptive ability a. in the frame of reference. The believer with scar tissue of the soul can listen to doctrine every day and still react and remain in ignorance.
 - In his memory center he forgets what doctrine he has learned b. and cannot apply it. Thus, his momentum stopped.
 - In his vocabulary storage, all technical language related to c. perception and application is gradually destroyed.

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- d. In his categorical storage, scar tissue of the soul destroys categorical doctrinal understanding, such as the rationales used in the second stage of the faith-rest drill: application of a doctrinal rationale.
- e. Scar tissue of the soul destroys the norms and standards related to the three categories of truth, thus wiping out the conscience. Loss of norms and standards motivates the believer to function under the plan of Satan.
- f. Scar tissue of the soul destroys all application of doctrine and the modus operandi of impersonal love. Scar tissue of the soul is a guarantee of the destruction of true love. Personal love cannot survive without the integrity of impersonal love.
- 6. Scar tissue of the soul is that spiritual malady of involvement in the cosmic systems resulting in total loss of momentum and eventuating in the most awful discipline from God.
- 7. The Greek word for hardness of the heart is found in Mark 3:5 and Ephesians 4:18. The noun is πώρωσις (pōrōsis) and the verb is πωρόω (pōrōō) which means "to petrify" or "to harden."
- B. Relation between Hardness of Heart and Scar Tissue of the Soul is found in:

Ephesians 4:17 Therefore, I communicate this and because of the Lord I insist that you no longer walk as Gentiles walk, in the vacuum of their mind,

Ephesians 4:18 having become darkened in their way of thinking [blackout of the soul], having been alienated from the life of God, because of the ignorance that is in them, because of the scar tissue on the soul. (EXT)

C. The Divine Mandate Regarding Scar Tissue of the Soul is found in:

1 John 2:15 Stop loving the cosmic systems, or anything in the cosmic systems. If anyone keeps loving the cosmic systems, the love from the Father is not in him.

v. 16 We only obey this command by residence and function inside the divine dynasphere. (EXT)

D. Scar tissue of the soul is the enemy of evangelism:

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> 2 Peter 2:22 ... illustrations of this true proverb: "A dog returns to its own vomit," and "A sow, after washing herself, wallows in the mire." (NET)

- The unbeliever functions inside the cosmic system and hears the Gospel. But 1. eventually he rejects the Gospel like the dog returning to his vomit. This phenomenon is the function of scar tissue of the soul.
- By the convicting ministry of the Holy Spirit, the unbeliever is pulled out of 2. the cosmic system for the moment. They hear the Gospel outside of the cosmic system. If they say "no," they go back into the cosmic system and the latter stage is worse than the first.
- 3. Scar tissue of the soul is what motivated Judas in Matthew 27:3-10. After so many chances at reversion recovery, he finally went to the ultimate in arrogance—suicide. The scar tissue of the soul built up in his soul until he expressed it in maximum arrogance.
- Blackout of the soul and scar tissue of the soul combine to reject all forms of 4. truth. "Vomit" here includes socialism, communism, the welfare state, redistribution of wealth, social equality [i.e., "equity"], and being saved by anything except faith alone in Christ alone.

John 12:40 "He has blinded their eyes [blackout of the soul], He has hardened their kardias [scar tissue of the soul], lest they should see with their eyes, and perceive by means of their kardías, and receive conversion, and I restore them [Israel as a priest nation]."

2 Thessalonians 2:10 ... and with all deception of maladjustment [rejection of Jesus Christ] for those who perish, because they did not receive the love of the truth, so as to be saved.

And for this reason, God sends them a deluding influence [blackout of the soul, scar tissue of the soul], so that they might believe a lie,

v. 12 in order that they might all be condemned who do not believe the truth, but take pleasure in unrighteousness.

E. A synonym for scar tissue of the soul in the Old Testament is "hardness of neck." It emphasizes lack of enforced and genuine humility. It emphasizes rejection of authority:

The quotation is a loose rendering of Proverbs 26:11: Like a dog that returns to its vomit, so a fool repeats his folly [2 Pet 2:22]. The point is clear: Fools repeat their disgusting mistakes, or to put it another way, whenever we repeat our disgusting mistakes, we are fools. The proverb is affirming that no matter how many times a fool is warned, he never learns. (The NET Bible. (Dallas: Biblical Studies Press, 2005), Proverbs 26:11, sn14, p. 1161.