

SOUL-TALK

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THE ILLUMINATION OF THE
HOLY SPIRIT

The Spirit Enables Believers to Receive and Understand God's Truth

1 CORINTHIANS 2:6-14 KJV

Howbeit we speak wisdom among them that are perfect: yet not the wisdom of this world, nor of the princes of this world, that come to nought: But we speak the wisdom of God in a mystery, even the hidden wisdom, which God ordained before the world unto our glory: Which none of the princes of this world knew: for had they known it, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory. But as it is written, Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love him. But God hath revealed them unto us by his Spirit: for the Spirit searcheth all things, yea, the deep things of God. For what man knoweth the things of a man, save the spirit of man which is in him? even so the things of God knoweth no man, but the Spirit of God. Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the spirit which is of God; that we might know the things that are freely given to us of God. Which things also we speak, not in the words which man's wisdom teacheth, but which the Holy Ghost teacheth; comparing spiritual things with spiritual. But the natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God: for they are foolishness unto him: neither can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned.

The illumination of the Holy Spirit

is His work of opening the believer's understanding to receive, comprehend, and apply the truth God has revealed. The natural man may read biblical words and learn biblical facts while rejecting their spiritual meaning. The believer has received the Spirit of God so that he may know the things freely given by God.

Illumination does not replace Scripture, add new Scripture, or make every private impression a word from God. The Spirit who inspired the Bible opens the mind to the Bible and never leads contrary to it. Believers must read carefully, respect the context, compare spiritual things with spiritual, pray for understanding, and obey the truth made clear.

Spiritual understanding should produce humility rather than pride. The believer understands because God graciously reveals truth by His Spirit. The proper response is worship, gratitude, obedience, and an increasing desire to know Christ.

SUPPORTING SCRIPTURES: OPEN THOU MINE EYES

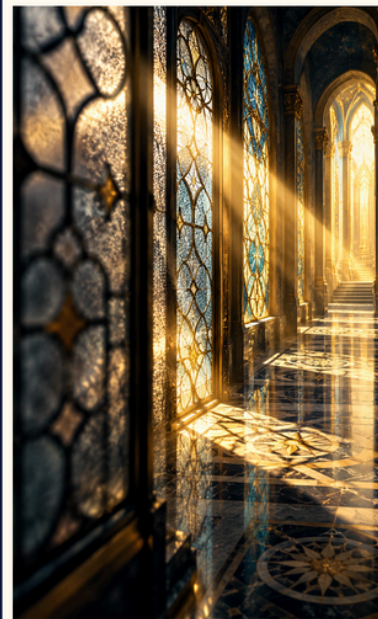
PSALM 119:18 KJV

Open thou mine eyes, that I may behold
wondrous things out of thy law.

LUKE 24:45 KJV

Then opened he their understanding, that
they might understand the scriptures,

TRUTH BROUGHT TO LIGHT



THE SPIRIT OF TRUTH

JOHN 16:13 KJV

Howbeit when he, the Spirit of
truth, is come, he will guide you
into all truth: for he shall not
speak of himself; but whatsoever
he shall hear, that shall he speak:
and he will shew you things to
come.

ILLUMINATION DOES NOT
REPLACE SCRIPTURE.THE SPIRIT OPENS THE MIND
TO THE BIBLE.