

# Ephesians Series

Lesson #042

September 8, 2019

Dean Bible Ministries

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# EPHESIANS

THE WEALTH, WALK  
& WARFARE  
OF THE BELIEVER

**Prayer to Know God**  
**Ephesians 1:17–18**



**Eph. 1:16, “do not cease to give thanks for you, making mention of you in my prayers:**

**Eph. 1:17, “that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give to you the spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of Him,**

**Eph. 1:18, “the eyes of your understanding being enlightened; that you may know what is the hope of His calling, what are the riches of the glory of His inheritance in the saints,”**



**Eph. 1:16, “[I also] do not cease to give thanks for you, making mention of you in my prayers:**

**Eph. 1:17, “that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give to you the spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of Him,**

**Eph. 1:18, “the eyes of your understanding being enlightened; that you may know what is the hope of His calling, what are the riches of the glory of His inheritance in the saints,**

**Eph. 1:19, “and what is the exceeding greatness of His power toward us who believe, according to the working of His mighty power”**



**Eph. 1:17, “that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give to you the spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of Him,”**



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**Isa. 6:3, “And one cried to another and said: ‘Holy, holy, holy is the LORD of hosts; The whole earth is full of His glory!’ ”**

**קָדוֹשׁ *qadosh* masc  
sing abs**

**holy, unique, distinct,  
one of a kind,  
special, set apart**

**כְּבוֹד *kavod*  
comm masc sing  
constr  
heavy, weighty,  
significant,  
important, also  
liver**



**John 12:41, “These things Isaiah said  
when he saw His glory and spoke of Him.”**



**Eph. 1:17, “that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give to you the spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of Him,”**



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***πνεῦμα* *pneuma* air, wind; breath; spirit, life-spirit, [Holy] Spirit, attitude, disposition, human spirit, spirit (angel or demon)**



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**ἀποκάλυψις  
*apokalupsis*  
fem sing gen  
revelation;  
disclosure,  
unveiling**



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**σοφία *sophia***

**fem sing gen skill; wisdom;  
from the Old Testament**

**Hebrew concept of חֵכֶּמָה**

***hokmah* comm fem sing abs  
wisdom, skill; skillful living**

**ἀποκάλυψις**

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**Not like other uses which reflect a mental attitude:**

***spirit of gentleness*, 1 Cor. 4:21;**

***spirit of bondage*, Rom. 8:15;**

***spirit of stupor*, Rom. 11:8;**

***spirit of meekness*, Gal. 6:1;**

***spirit of timidity*, 2 Tim. 1:7.**

**In each case, *pneuma* also does not have an article.**

**If this were true, then Eph. 1:17 would refer to an attitude or disposition toward wisdom or revelation.**



# **Four reasons this must be the Holy Spirit**

- 1. Revelation is not the understanding of things disclosed, but the disclosing of information, the “mysteries of God.”**



**Four reasons this must be the Holy Spirit**

**2. God the Holy Spirit reveals, the human spirit does not reveal.**



## Four reasons this must be the Holy Spirit

3. Whenever *pneuma* is the content of a giving verb, it is always the Holy Spirit who is given.

John 3:34, “For He whom God has sent speaks the words of God, for God does not give the Spirit by measure.”

Acts 8:18, “And when Simon saw that through the laying on of the apostles’ hands the Holy Spirit was given, he offered them money,”

1 John 3:24, “Now he who keeps His commandments abides in Him, and He in him. And by this we know that He abides in us, by the Spirit whom He has given us.”

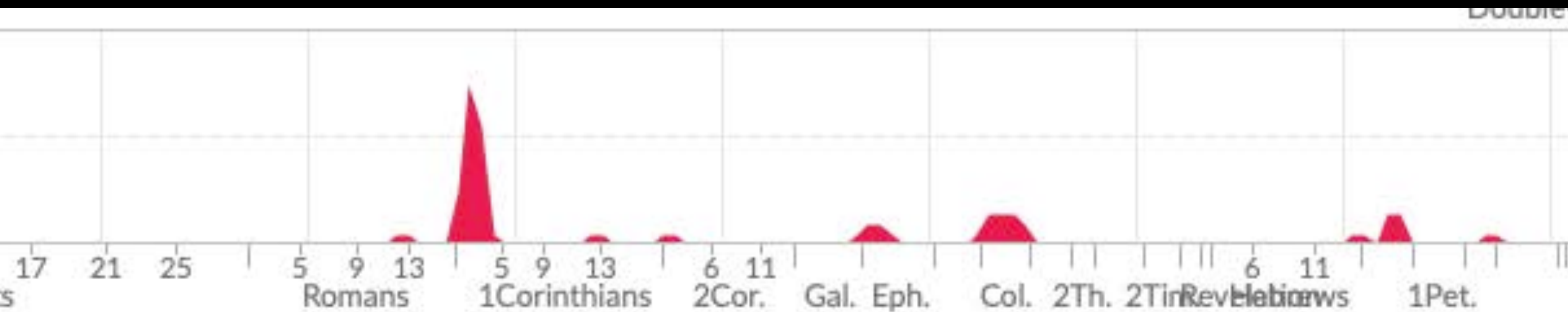
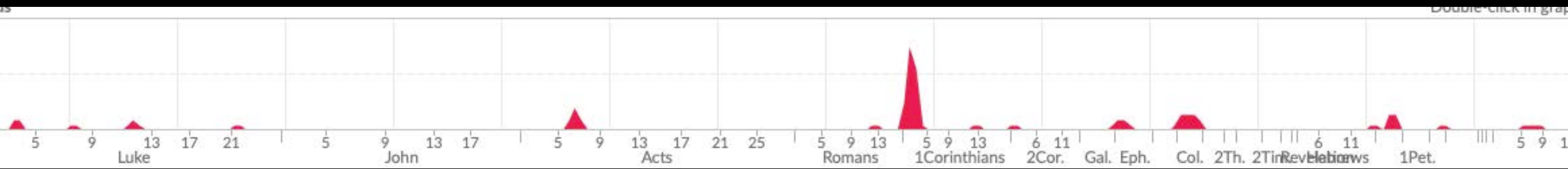


# **Four reasons this must be the Holy Spirit**

- 4. This is parallel to Paul's lengthy explanation of the Holy Spirit's role in revealing wisdom and knowledge in 1 Cor. 2:6–16.**



# Word frequency of “*sophia*” (wisdom)



**1 Corinthians**



**1 Cor. 2:5, “that your faith should not be in the wisdom of men but in the power of God.**

**1 Cor. 2:6, “However, we speak wisdom among those who are mature, yet not the wisdom of this age, nor of the rulers of this age, who are coming to nothing.**

**1 Cor. 2:7, “But we speak the wisdom of God in a mystery, the hidden wisdom which God ordained before the ages for our glory,”**



**1 Cor. 2:9, “But as it is written: ‘*Eye has not seen, nor ear heard, nor have entered into the heart of man the things [revealed Scripture] which God has prepared for those who love Him.*’ ”**

**–a paraphrase of Isa. 64:4.**



**1 Cor. 2:12, “Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the spirit who is from God [human not HOLY Spirit], so that we may know the things [revealed Scripture] freely given to us by God,**

**1 Cor. 2:13, “which things [revealed Scripture] we also speak, not in words taught by **human wisdom**, but in those taught by the Spirit, combining spiritual *thoughts* with spiritual *words*.”**



**1 Cor. 2:14, “But a natural man does not accept the things of the Spirit of God; for they are foolishness to him, and he cannot understand them, because they are spiritually appraised.”**

**ψυχικος, *psuchikos***

**Soulish, “natural”,  
unsaved man without the  
human spirit**



**Jude 19, “These are the ones who cause divisions, worldly-minded, devoid of the Spirit.”**



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**πνεῦμα μὴ ἔχοντες,  
*Pneuma me echontes*,  
Not having spirit**



**1 Cor. 2:14, “But a natural man does not accept the things [revealed Scripture] of the Spirit of God; for they are foolishness to him, and he cannot understand them, because they are spiritually appraised.”**

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**πνευματικῶς**

***pneumatikos***

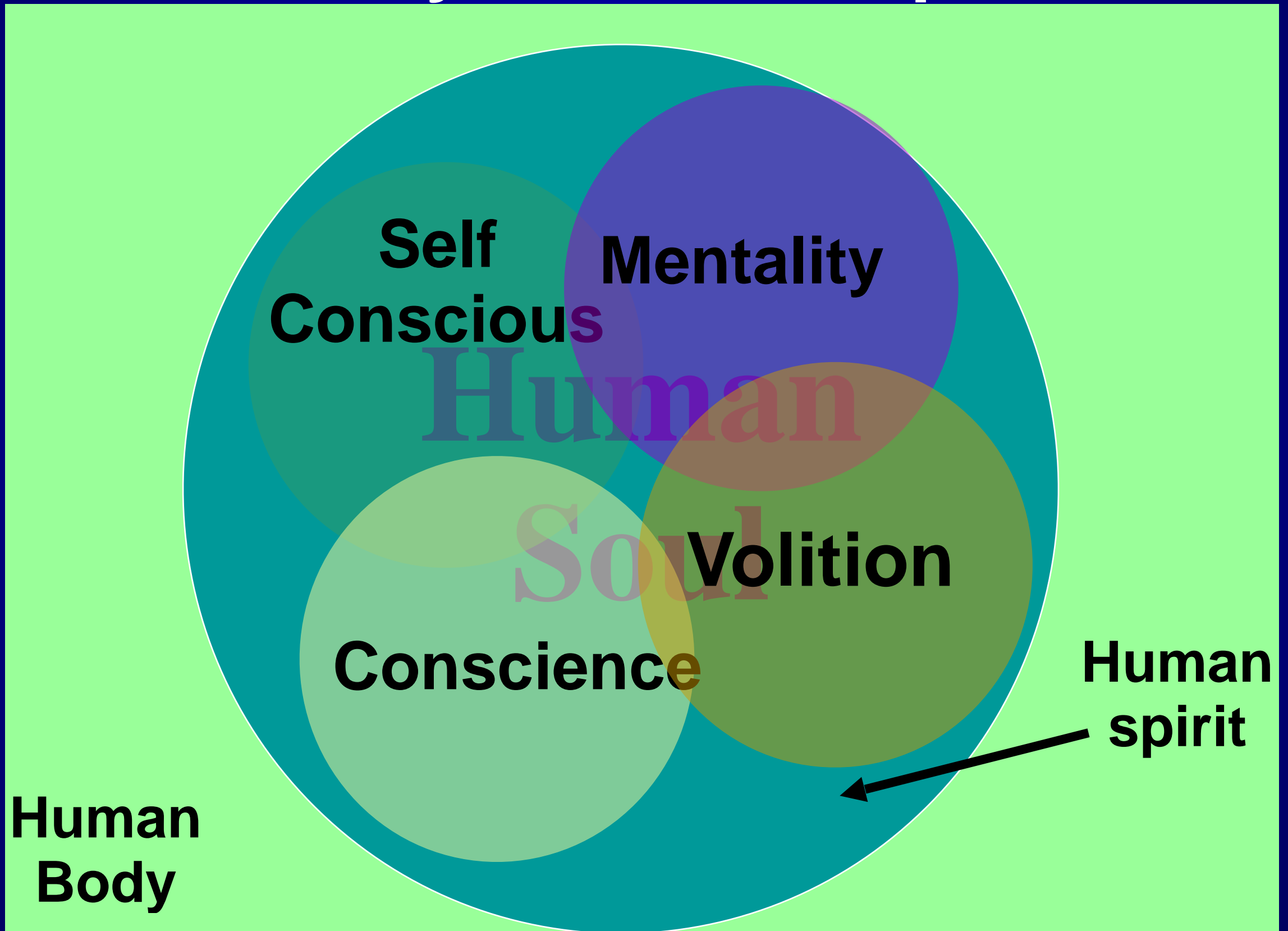
**spiritually, e.g., the  
human spirit**



**Gen. 2:17, “but from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat from it you will surely die.”**



# The Three Parts of a Human Being: Body, Soul, and Spirit





**Titus 3:5, “He saved us, not on the basis of deeds which we have done in righteousness, but according to His mercy, by the washing of regeneration and renewing by the Holy Spirit,”**



**Heb. 4:12, “For the word of God is living and active and sharper than any two-edged sword, and piercing as far as the division of soul and spirit, of both joints and marrow, and able to judge the thoughts and intentions of the heart.”**

**1 Thess. 5:23, “Now may the God of peace Himself sanctify you completely; and may your whole spirit, soul, and body be preserved blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.”**



**Eph. 1:17, “that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give to you the Spirit characterized by giving wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of Him,”**

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***apokalupsis*  
fem sing gen  
revelation;  
disclosure,  
unveiling**



**Paul is not praying for them to receive the Holy Spirit.**

**Paul is praying that the Holy Spirit, who has already enlightened them at regeneration, will give them the continued insight into skillful living from the revealed Word of God—the mysteries which Paul talks about throughout Ephesians.**



**Eph. 1:17, “that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give to you the Spirit characterized by giving wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of Him,”**

**ἐπίγνωσις**

***epignosis***

**fem sing dat**

**knowledge, full**

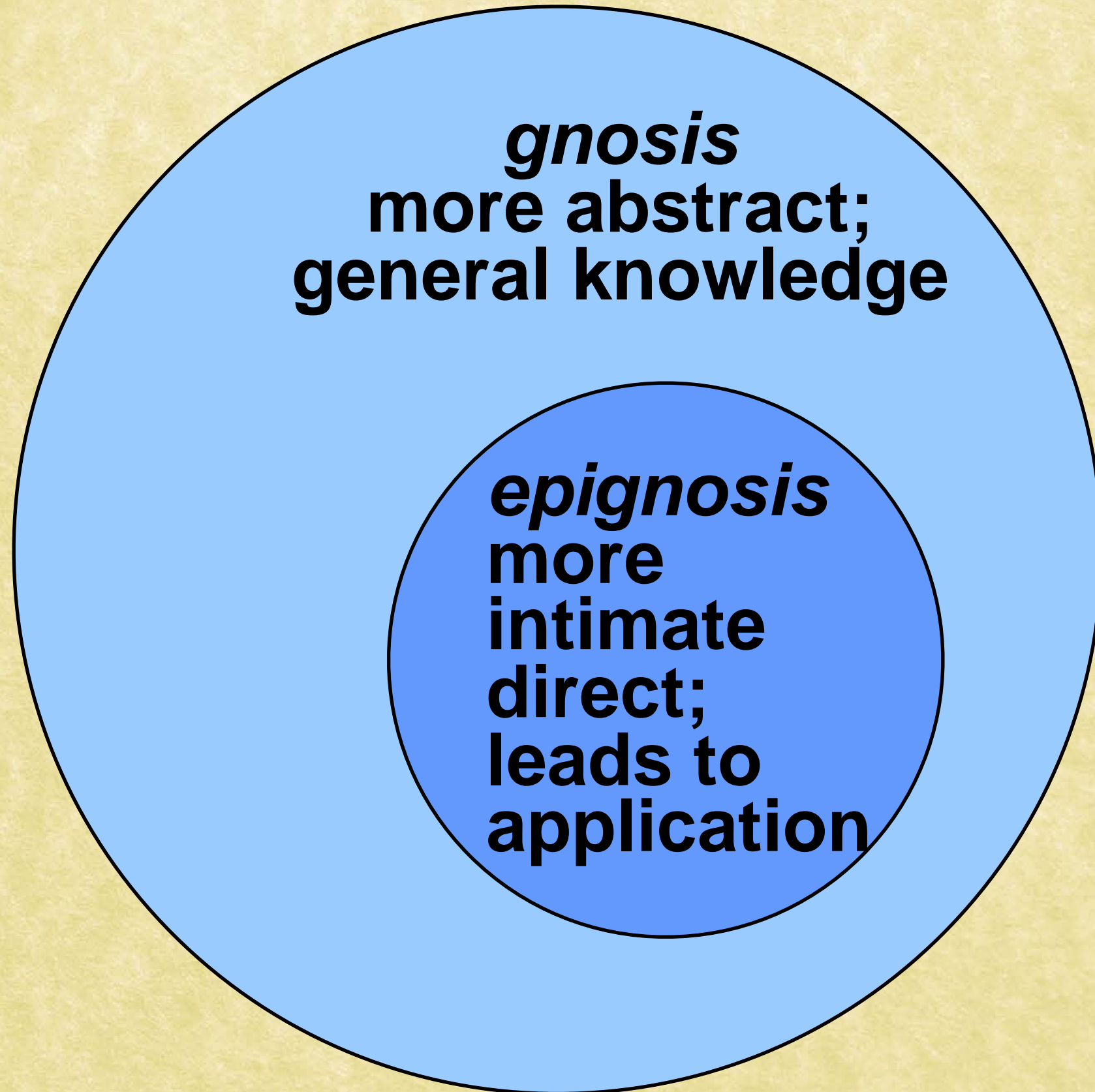
**knowledge,**

**intimate**

**knowledge**



# ***Gnosis and Epignosis***





**Paul prays that the Spirit of God would provide increased wisdom and revelation in the area of a more in-depth knowledge of God.**

**Is that our prayer for ourselves?**



**Eph. 1:17, “that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give to you the spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of Him,**

**Eph. 1:18, “the eyes of your understanding being enlightened;”**



**Eph. 1:18, “the eyes of your understanding  
being enlightened;” ~NKJV**

**φωτίζω *phōtizō*  
perf pass part  
masc plur acc  
“having already  
been  
enlightened”**



**Eph. 1:18, “the eyes of your understanding being enlightened;” ~NKJV**

**φωτίζω *phōtizō*  
perf pass part  
masc plur acc  
Causal ptcp**

**“because the eyes of your heart have already been enlightened”**

**Eph. 1:18, “–since the eyes of your heart have been enlightened–so that you may know what is the hope of his calling, what is the wealth of his glorious inheritance in the saints,” ~NET**



**Eph. 1:17, “that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give to you the Spirit who gives wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of Him,**

**Eph. 1:18, “because the eyes of your heart have already been enlightened;” ~RD**



**Jer. 9:23, “Thus says the LORD:**

**‘Let not the wise man glory in his wisdom,**

**Let not the mighty man glory in his might,**

**Nor let the rich man glory in his riches;**

**Jer. 9:24, “ ‘But let him who glories glory in this,**

**That he understands and knows Me,**

**That I am the LORD, exercising lovingkindness, judgment, and righteousness in the earth.**

**For in these I delight,’ says the LORD.”**