

Spiritual Photosynthesis A Picture of Divine Conversion through Christ

Opening Thoughts

- Review of the four soils
- The good soil: The story of growing to maturity – From salvation to fruitful ministry.
 - Cultivated and broken
 - Significant work below the surface – the work God does in silence. Being rooted & established in love.
 - Growing up together in a symbiotic community.
 - Spiritual photosynthesis – a picture of divine or miraculous conversion.
- Seeing God's qualities, power & nature in nature – (The natural Speaks of the supernatural)

Romans 1 -

19For the truth about God is known to them instinctively. God has put this knowledge in their hearts. 20From the time the world was created, people have seen the earth and sky and all that God made. They can clearly see his invisible qualities--his eternal power and divine nature. So they have no excuse whatsoever for not knowing God.

Photosynthesis = a divine conversion process that uses plants to convert CO₂ to O₂.

- The process of photosynthesis – (1st Drawing – Power-point)
 - light, warmth, water & carbon dioxide = growth & oxygen
 - The role & miracle of chlorophyll – God placed it in plants so the conversion would happen.
- CO₂ is converted to O₂ – Old life of poison is now new life of purity

Spiritual photosynthesis = a divine process where God converts our old self to a new self.

Ephesians 4

20But that isn't what you were taught when you learned about Christ. 21Since you have heard all about him and have learned the truth that is in Jesus, 22throw off your old evil nature and your former way of life, which is rotten through and through, full of lust and deception. 23Instead, there must be a spiritual renewal of your thoughts and attitudes. 24You must display a new nature because you are a new person, created in God's likeness--righteous, holy, and true.

The Parallel – The natural speaking of the supernatural (2nd drawing – power point)

- Chlorophyll: The heart of man – DNA for eternity (Chapter 1). His plan.

Ephesians 1 – NLT

1This letter is from Paul, chosen by God to be an apostle of Christ Jesus. It is written to God's holy

people in Ephesus, who are faithful followers of Christ Jesus. 2May grace and peace be yours, sent to you from God our Father and Jesus Christ our Lord.

3How we praise God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly realms because we belong to Christ. 4Long ago, even before he made the world, God loved us and chose us in Christ to be holy and without fault in his eyes. 5His unchanging plan has always been to adopt us into his own family by bringing us to himself through Jesus Christ. And this gave him great pleasure.

6So we praise God for the wonderful kindness he has poured out on us because we belong to his dearly loved Son. 7He is so rich in kindness that he purchased our freedom through the blood of his Son, and our sins are forgiven. 8He has showered his kindness on us, along with all wisdom and understanding.

9God's secret plan has now been revealed to us; it is a plan centered on Christ, designed long ago according to his good pleasure. 10And this is his plan: At the right time he will bring everything together under the authority of Christ--everything in heaven and on earth. 11Furthermore, because of Christ, we have received an inheritance from God, for he chose us from the beginning, and all things happen just as he decided long ago. 12God's purpose was that we who were the first to trust in Christ should praise our glorious God. 13And now you also have heard the truth, the Good News that God saves you. And when you believed in Christ, he identified you as his own by giving you the Holy Spirit, whom he promised long ago. 14The Spirit is God's guarantee that he will give us everything he promised and that he has purchased us to be his own people. This is just one more reason for us to praise our glorious God.

- Sun - light & Warmth - Light (truth) and warmth (reality of God's love)

15Ever since I first heard of your strong faith in the Lord Jesus and your love for Christians everywhere, 16I have never stopped thanking God for you. I pray for you constantly, 17asking God, the glorious Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, to give you spiritual wisdom and understanding, so that you might grow in your knowledge of God. (Truth - light) 18I pray that your hearts will be flooded with light so that you can understand the wonderful future he has promised to those he called. I want you to realize what a rich and glorious inheritance he has given to his people.

19I pray that you will begin to understand the incredible greatness of his power for us who believe him. This is the same mighty power 20that raised Christ from the dead and seated him in the place of honor at God's right hand in the heavenly realms.

- Rain and watering - Empowering presence of the Holy Spirit.

Ephesians 3 - 14When I think of the wisdom and scope of God's plan, I fall to my knees and pray to the Father, 15the Creator of everything in heaven and on earth. 16I pray that from his glorious, unlimited resources he will give you mighty inner strength through his Holy Spirit. 17And I pray that Christ will be more and more at home in your hearts as you trust in him. May your roots go down deep into the soil of God's marvelous love. 18And may you have the power to understand, as all God's people should, how

wide, how long, how high, and how deep his love really is. 19May you experience the love of Christ, though it is so great you will never fully understand it. Then you will be filled with the fullness of life and power that comes from God. 20Now glory be to God! By his mighty power at work within us, he is able to accomplish infinitely more than we would ever dare to ask or hope. 21May he be given glory in the church and in Christ Jesus forever and ever through endless ages. Amen.

1. Revelation for assurance of inheritance.
2. Revelation of His love.
(Romans 5:5 – “We know how dearly God loves us because he has given us the Holy Spirit to fill our hearts with love.”)
3. Power for transformation & sanctification
4. Power for service
 - Baptism of the Spirit – empowers by revelation the reality of God (A second experience – Book of Acts – Some see it as being born again - again)

Luke 24: 49" And behold, I am sending forth the promise of My Father upon you; but you are to stay in the city until you are clothed with power from on high."
 - Issue of refilling (*wilted plant photos – before and after - power-point*)
 - Revival vs. regular watering (*Power point – irrigation system*)
 - Anointing – Depends on how deep is the well it draws from.

The conversion or transformation

- CO2 - The old nature – a poison that was causing death
- Oxygen- The new nature – Like a perfume – an invisible fragrance that begins to radiate off of our life.

Ephesians 4 (Repeat)

22throw off your old evil nature and your former way of life, which is rotten through and through, full of lust and deception. 23Instead, there must be a spiritual renewal of your thoughts and attitudes. 24You must display a new nature because you are a new person, created in God's likeness--righteous, holy, and true.

Ephesians 5

1Follow God's example in everything you do, because you are his dear children. 2Live a life filled with love for others, following the example of Christ, who loved you and gave himself as a sacrifice to take away your sins. And God was pleased, because that sacrifice was like sweet perfume to him. 3Let there be no sexual immorality, impurity, or greed among you. Such sins have no place among God's people. 4Obscene stories, foolish talk, and coarse jokes--these are not for you. Instead, let there be thankfulness to God. 5You can be sure that no immoral, impure, or greedy person will inherit the Kingdom of Christ and of God. For a greedy person is really an idolater who worships the things of this world. 6Don't be fooled by those who try to excuse these sins, for the terrible anger of God comes upon all those who disobey him. 7Don't participate in the things these people do. 8For though your hearts were once full of darkness, now you are full of light from the Lord, and your behavior should show it! 9For this light within you produces only what is good and right and true.