

SCRIPTURE READINGS: Exodus 20:1-17 & John 6:41-71

SINGING: 228:1-3 – 333:2-3 – 69:1, 2, 4, 6, 7 – 190:1-4 – 415:1-2

THE SOURCE AND EVIDENCE OF SPIRITUAL LIFE
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I. WHAT IS THE SOURCE OF SPIRITUAL LIFE?

A. The multitude before Jesus divides into two groups: *alive – dead*

1. among spiritually dead are differences: 41-42; 52; 60-61; 66; 70-71

2. among spiritually alive are also differences: 53-54; 68-69

B. If there is spiritual life to be found, what is source of this?

1. All life on earth is *fruit of God's Creation Power* (Gen 1)

2. All spiritual life is also fruit of God's creative power (John 6:44, 65)

a. The manner of His work may remain a mystery but evidence of His work is revealing

II. HOW IS GENUINE SPIRITUAL LIFE EVIDENT?

A. There are many aspects or marks of (new) life

1. Why does Word of God describe it so detailed?

B. Jesus points to one of the *clearest characteristics* of new life

1. Note the *strength of this statement* in choice of His Word

C. Exposition of the heart of vs. 53-55

1. What is "meant with *flesh – blood of Son of man?*"

2. What is meant with *eating flesh – drinking blood* of Jesus?

a. not *act of body* (literal) but *act of soul* (spiritual)

b. eating/drinking is *feeding of enlightened mind on truths of Christ*

c. eat/drink is the act of Spirit-worked faith in heart of a sinner

D. Where such inner exercises exist, is the evidence of spiritual life in you!

1. But notice what Christ adds to comfort and strengthen such
a. you have eternal life

b. you will be raised at the last day

2. Lord's Supper was instituted to strengthen the faith in these promises

FINALLY ... TO EXAMINE CLOSELY:

A. Are you learning to *mourn – abhor – confess* your sins/sinfulness?

B. Are you learning to *look – hunger – eat/drink* Jesus Christ?

C. Are you learning the *joy of holiness*?

Thoughts on Communion

Lovers love to be alone. The more any man loves Christ, the more he delights to be with Christ alone. (Thomas Brooks)

Communion with God is the beginning of heaven. (William Bates)

Look into the Fountain and the very looking will make you thirsty. (Bonar)

To be little with God is to be little for God. (E. Bounds)

Communion with God means warfare with the world. (Fuller)

Though the gracious soul still desires more of God, it never desires more than God. (M. Henry)

It is not sufficient to commune with the truth, for truth is impersonal. We must commune with the God of truth. (W. Shedd)