

Galatians 6:1 (NKJV)

¹ Brethren, if a man is overtaken in any trespass, you who are spiritual restore such a one in a spirit of gentleness, considering yourself lest you also be tempted.

**What does Spirituality
mean?**

1. Basic to all spiritual reality for the believer is the fact of his **identification with the cross work of Christ** The facts of identification truth are well-documented in *Rom. 6:1-10*.

Romans. 6 teaches:

- the believer's death to the sin (nature), *6:2*
- baptism-identity with the death-burial-resurrection of Christ (this by the baptism of the Holy Spirit), *6:3*
- the old man stands crucified, *6:6*
- identification-death-burial-resurrection liberates positionally from the sin (nature), *6.7*
- the fact that the believer is to reckon or count it as true that he died to the sin nature, *6:11*

2. The **emphasis of the Holy Spirit** in this age.

- *John 16:13 "He (the Spirit) shall not speak of Himself."*
- *John 16:14 "He (the Spirit) shall glorify Me (the Christ)."*

3. Spirituality is best understood as a right relationship with the Spirit of Christ, the very Holy Spirit of God.

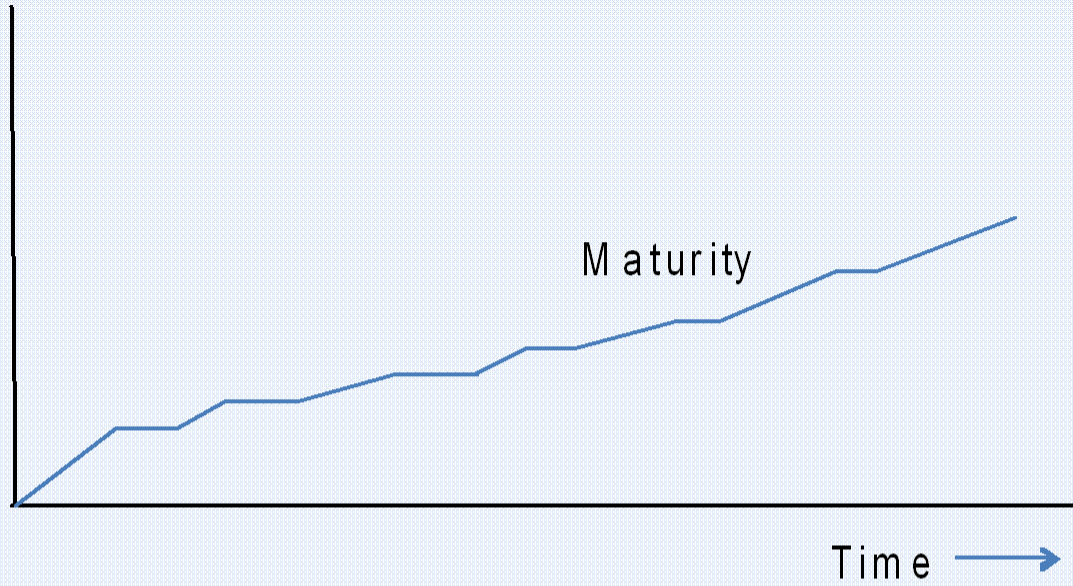
4. The believer at any given moment in his human experience (CONDITION) is **either** spiritual (in right relation with the Holy Spirit) **or** carnal (fleshly).

5. Confusion about spirituality often results over failure to make a distinction between **spirituality** and maturation or **maturity**:

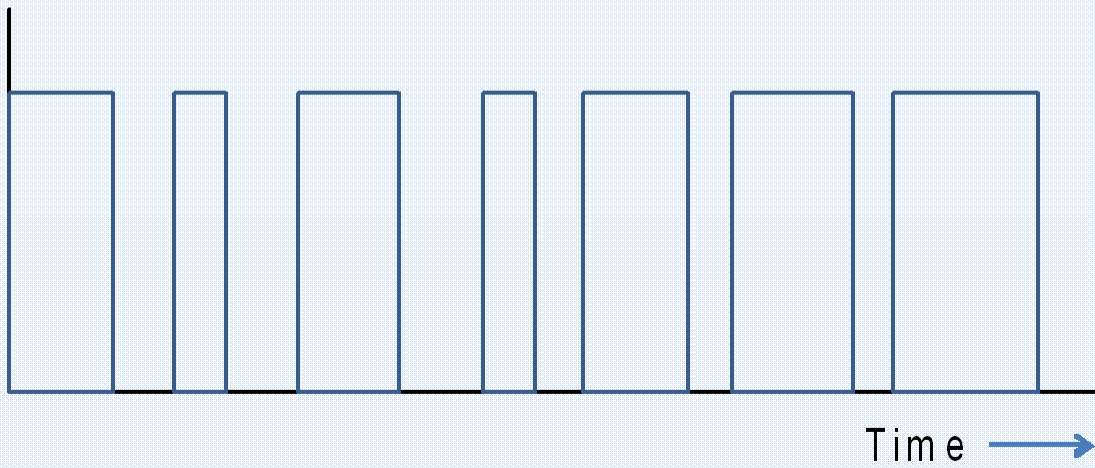
Advice: Keep Christian maturity and spirituality distinct.

Maturity v.s. Spirituality

Maturity Level ↑



100% Spiritual



0% Spiritual

6. Spirituality in this sense is a **means to maturity**:

7. Spirituality is **maintained** by "walking in/by the Spirit"

8. Consideration of the truths *of Rom. 6* (referred to in point # 1), including the meaning of the believer "**yielding unto God**" or "**Present**" (*Rom. 6:13, 16, 19; 12:1*).

9. Paul intended **each believer to know if he/she is or is not spiritual** (*Gal. 6:1*).

There is no evidence that church elders were to pass judgment via outward observation nor were Christians to examine each other (spirituality via comparison).

Conclusions and Applications:

1. God desires believers to be spiritual, e.g., rightly related to His Spirit.
2. Only spiritual believers can be used in the best way of God.
3. Spiritual believers (not carnal) can honestly know they are rightly related to God's Spirit, hence, "**spiritual.**"
4. Spiritual believers do not brag about nor call attention to their spirituality nor do they feel they have reached a point of spiritual-maturity excellence beyond which is no growth.
5. Spiritual believers enjoy the fruit of the Holy Spirit (*Gal. 5:22*) produced in their mentality, the consciousness of maturity as they learn and apply Bible doctrine, and the repeated demonstrations of the effectiveness of the life of Christ in them as they meet the issues of life.

Galatians 6:2-5 (NKJV)

² Bear one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ

Lit. "One another's burdens, keep on bearing"

Burdens = *bastazo* which means "to bear what is burdensome of a grievous overwhelming nature."

The word *fulfil* is from *pleroo* which here means "to satisfy the requirements of."

THE Law of Christ

- Paul thought of that law as expressed in one word, **love**,
- Divine love (Agape) produced in the heart of the yielded believer by the Holy Spirit,
- Agape love exercises a restraint over the individual that takes the place of the restraint which the Mosaic Law had imposed.

³ **For** if anyone thinks himself to be something, when he is nothing, he deceives himself.

The Hindrance

the word **for** associates it with v. 2:

the meaning is that self-conceit is a chief roadblock to any sense of responsibility to the overburdened brethren.

The Command

⁴ But let each one **examine** his own work, and then he will have **rejoicing** in himself alone, and not in another.

Examine or prove (dokimazō put to test with view of approval)

The accomplishments of grace in one's own life are in

[view here.](#)

rejoicing is from **kauchema** which means "that of which one glories or can glory,"

⁵ *For each one shall bear his **own load or burden.***

The word **own** is from *idios*, which means "pertaining to one's self,"

burden = phortion. "a regular load," "a military pack," "the regular daily burdens of life"

Conclusion and Application

- Each believer is responsible for the normal obligations of their own life and discipleship.
- Because this is true, he/she must put to test for approval his/her own production before and unto the Lord.
- Success then is not based upon comparative analyses with other believers, but upon how we shoulder our own burdens before the Lord and before men.
- But when believers come under the crushing loads, other Christians should help them bear the burden.