The Ministry of the Spirit - Part 2

Introduction and Review

- □ The ministry of the Holy Spirit yields changed lives & godly character in true believers by the power of the gospel (v. 1-3)
- □ The ministry of the Holy Spirit gives confidence for the personal competence of the believer in the success of gospel ministry (v. 4-6a)
- Salvation by the law is a ministry of <u>death</u> (v. 7) & <u>condemnation</u> (v. 9a) brought to an end by Christ (v. 7d, 11a; Rom. 8:1-4)
- □ The Holy Spirit works internally in the **heart** (v. 3b), gives eternal **life** (v. 6b), gives **righteousness** (v. 9b) & brings eternal **glory** (v. 8, 10-11)

I. The Veil That Remains (v. 13-15)

A. The cause (v. 14a)

Israel was willfully unable to see or understand the redemptive truth of the scriptures – "But their minds were hardened". The love of & slavery to sin makes a sinner unable to understand & obey biblical truth (Ps. 95:7b-8; Jn. 3:3, 19-20; Rom. 1:18-20; Heb. 3:8).

B. The result (v. 13, 14b-c, 15)

The hope, boldness & glory of the old covenant (law) were brought to an end by Christ (v. 13). Therefore those who read, study, teach & listen to the law are not changed by it (v. 14b-c, 15); fear & guilt, but no repentance & change (2Tim. 3:6-7: Jas. 1:26).

The truth is hidden (veiled) from religious sinners who will not obey God.

II. The Veil That is Removed (v. 12, 16-18)

A. The cause (v. 14d, 16)

Jesus is the fulfillment or end of the old covenant (law). Everyone who believes in Christ for salvation can see the true purpose of the law (v. 14d, 16) – the veil is "taken away", "removed". No one can see their need for Christ without the work of the Holy Spirit (Jn. 3:3; 6:44; Ac. 16:14b).

B. The result (v. 12, 17-18)

We have **hope** & **boldness** in Christ (v. 12). Every true believer: knows the Holy Spirit is God (v. 17a), knows He brought us freedom (v. 17b), can enjoy the presence of God (v. 18a-b) & is being transformed into the image of Christ (v. 18c-d; Rom. 8:29).

The Holy Spirit gives hope, boldness, freedom, joy & transformation to the believer!