

Revelation: The Dynamic Function  
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From 2 Corinthians 12:1-10. REVELATION: THE DYNAMIC FUNCTION, PART 1

#1. Cognitive science and human intuition apparently agree on the premise that mind and brain are the same thing. However, the Bible pronounces a distinction between the two. "Fourteen years" before writing this epistle, Paul "was caught up to the third heaven" (v. 2.) He means the dwelling place of God. The apostle adds "whether in the body I do not know, or out of the body I do not know, God knows" (v. 2.)

#2. The significance of this: In his body or without his body, there was no effect on the revelation of God that came to him. Meaning: Neither the body, the temporal dimension, materiality, (the brain being a material article), physicality nor human language acted as obstacles -- in any way -- to the revelation of the word of God.

#3. In other words, revelation by-passes our materiality! This must therefore include the brain, a chunk of matter. Revelation in this text is presented as a dynamic function of God that bypasses the brain and goes directly to the mind!

#4. Incredible as it sounds, the human temporal "context" is bypassed. It poses no obstacle to the apprehension of the knowledge of God. No situation in time, no circumstance, no material condition can be preclusive of revelation. One generalizes that this nature of revelation applies equally to Scripture.

#5. This means that Scripture must be read in a certain way. The human mind so taught by the Word of God must always overrule the brain and its priorities.

Examples in Scripture abound where revelation to the mind was locked down at the brain level and disobeyed. They include Genesis 3:1-7 and Numbers 13:25-14:10.

From 2 Corinthians 12:1-10. REVELATION: THE DYNAMIC FUNCTION, PART 2.

#1. There are no personal limitations on knowing revelation. Since the writer stipulates that revelation by-passes materiality (including the brain), then mind must act as the control force over the brain.

This is the purpose of revealed truth; to drive a wedge between mind and flesh.

#2. Paul distinguishes revealed truth from subjectivism. "For if I do wish to boast I will not be foolish, for I will be speaking the truth; but I refrain from this, so that no one will credit me with more than he sees in me or hears from me" (v. 6.)

#3. "Truth" is rooted in God. Subjectivism is rooted in the human. The apostle did not conjure up these revelations to manufacture a certain reputation. Anything revealed to him had the purpose (we call this teleology) to be forced into his reasoning and behavior. That is what one "sees" and "hears" in another.

#4. The meaning of this: One reads his Bible with the understanding that there are no temporal constraints put upon revealed truth. The revelation that one reads is not constrained by human wisdom, nor by human experience, nor by human erudition. The brain objects to this!

It's The Red Sea (Exodus 13, 14). Moses urged Israel, "Do not fear! Stand by and see the salvation of the Lord--" (Exodus 14:13). But at that dangerous moment, poised between apparent death by Egyptian and death by drowning, the brain was controlling the mind. "The people might change their minds when they see war, and return to Egypt" (Ex. 13:17).

In every circumstance in this life we are always at the Red Sea. With palpable fear in our throats, we ask: "Who's in charge here? -- the mind armed with The Word of God or the brain stimulated by what it senses?"

From 2 Corinthians 12:1-10. REVELATION: THE DYNAMIC FUNCTION, PART 3

#1. THE ISSUE OF TELEOLOGY. Teleology is a term for the end of something, the purpose of something, the reason for something, the goal of an action or state of condition.

#2. There is an axis of teleology running from GOD --> TO--> THE HUMAN MIND. That axis is the Word of God. Without this extraordinary connection, it is impossible for us to navigate the waters of temporal existence! "And He has said to me, 'My grace is sufficient for you, for power is perfected in weakness.' Most gladly, therefore, I will rather boast about my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may dwell in me" (v. 9.)

#3. Meaning: Our circumstances, whatever they are, have teleology from Heaven. These things have eternal purpose . Our circumstances are NOT ordinary nor common ! The apostle said "for when I am weak, then I am strong" (v. 10.)

#4. Twelve men went into Canaan and came back with "data," but there was nothing teleological about it (Numbers 13,14.) They did not know what to do. We go to the doctor and get "data," and often it is discouraging. There is nothing teleological about it!

#5. The revealed teleology in our minds tells us, "I have no control over my conditions. Good! God's power is perfected in my weakness! Here we stand and wait for you Oh Lord." As my brother preacher Salvador Estrada says, "Aqui estamos esperandote Señor"!

## From 2 Corinthians 12:1-10. REVELATION: THE DYNAMIC FUNCTION, PART 4

#1. The mind, at the end of the requisite sequence: THE ANCHOR POINT OF GOD --> REVELATION THE DYNAMIC FUNCTION --> THE TELEOLOGICAL MIND appears to partake of the dynamic function of the Word of God.

#2. Accordingly then, the believing and instructed mind thus exercises dynamic function over the workings of the material brain. Evidence of the spiritual mind is its dominion over the brain and its will to power and control: "Because of the surpassing greatness of the revelations, for this reason, to keep me from exalting myself there was given me a thorn in the flesh, a messenger of Satan to torment me -- to keep me from exalting myself"(v.7)!

#3 Under such exacting conditions as those, the spiritual mind will have to struggle energetically against the brain. Discouragements, depressions, the sense of futility and perhaps bitterness can be generated by this personal and internal upheaval.

#4. "Concerning this, I implored the Lord three times that it might leave me" (v. 8.), but the Lord did not remove the torment! Paul was required to depend upon the relation between the "grace" of God and the "power" of God (v. 9.) There cannot be a greater test.

#5. Unbelief: This is the supremacy of brain over the spiritual mind. If we don't learn how to grow spiritual minds, then we cannot and will not overcome the self, let alone the world. Marriages, families, churches and the faith of many will collapse.

## From 2 Corinthians 12:1-10; Luke 16:19-31. REVELATION: THE DYNAMIC FUNCTION, PART 5

#1. We have a choice. We can determine to live uniquely within the range and reach of the brain regardless of revealed truth.

#2. Or we can decide to live beyond the range and reach of the brain and in perfect attention to the Word of God.

#3. Jesus Himself chose to illustrate the discrepancy between these two life postures in parabolic form: "Now there was a rich man (Luke 16:19), and he habitually dressed in purple and fine linen, joyously living in splendor every day."

#4. "And a poor man named Lazarus was laid at his gate, covered with sores" (v. 20). The rich man was not condemned because he was rich. The poor man was not saved because he was poor. The social gospel is junk.

#5. The point of departure was revelation. That means "Moses and the Prophets" (v. 29). The rich man had no mind for God and no thought for anyone else. He lived within the range of the

brain exclusively. Lazarus was beset by distressing personal conditions. But he lived beyond the range and reach of the brain and in attention to Scripture.

#6. Both men died (v. 22,23). One went to heaven; the other went to hell. The rich man lived by his confidence in the relation between his brain and his experience, while the poor man suffered greatly yet devoted his mind to scriptural teaching.

#7. Biblical belief by-passes the brain and its objections to revealed truth. "But the righteous man shall live by faith" (Romans 1:17). This means to transcend the material brain in all and every circumstance and by force of belief, jump to the biblical teleological mind.

Here then is the great test of faith. It's trust in God or the idolatry of the self. Today we'll choose.