

The Spirit of Deep Sleep
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From Isaiah 29:9-16. "THE SPIRIT OF DEEP SLEEP"

#1. This text crystallizes the nature of human preference. Men (individuals) may prefer revelation from God or prefer human rationalization. But whatever the choice, the crystallization of preference sparks the attention and the intervention of God.

#2. Certainly, the crystallization of preference is a major fork in the road. Issues come and a preference will be declared by each of us.

#3. The Almighty then intervenes accordingly. With the trigger of human rationalization:

- The Lord pours "over you a spirit of deep sleep" (v. 10.)
- "He has shut your eyes, the prophets" (v. 10.)
- "And He has covered your heads, the seers" (v. 10.) The Lord affects the mental landscape, and men become caught in the cul-de-sac of human limitation.
- No understanding -- ("a sealed book" v. 11).
- No truth. No real answers (the "illiterate" v. 12).
- A kind of spiritual coma.
- The unity between symbols --> and --> meaning was broken.

#4. The trigger of outward forms:

- The spirit of deep sleep continues with superficial forms of religion, but there is no truth in it. "This people draw near with their words and honor Me with their lip service" (v. 13.)
- "But they remove their hearts far from me, and their reverence for me consists of tradition--" (v. 13.) Thus, habitual practice substitutes for effective religion.

#5. The deluding comfort of meaningless tradition remains. But truth and understanding were withdrawn by the Lord. "And the wisdom of their wise men will perish, and the discernment of their discerning men will be concealed" (v. 14.)

#6. Systemic disregard of the revealed language manifold conduces to deep sleep. And the fear is that we might not awaken until it is too late !

The "Deep Sleep" is to be oblivious to the very real and very dangerous eternal reality that surrounds us.