



The Illumination of the Spirit

A Definition:

Illumination is the ministry of the Holy Spirit helping the believer to understand and apply the truth of the Bible.

- Charles Ryrie

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The Illumination of the Spirit

The Biblical Term – Guidance

John 16:12-13

I have many more things to say to you, but you cannot bear them now. But when He, the Spirit of truth, comes, **He will guide you** into all the truth

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The Illumination of the Spirit

The Biblical Term – Guidance

- We **need** the Spirit's guidance
- The Spirit's guidance requires our **cooperation**.
- The Spirit's guidance is a **process**

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Our Capacity for Illumination

Four Categories of People:

- **A Natural Man** (1 Cor 2:14)
 - An unbeliever
 - Spiritual truth is not understood intellectually or academically

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Our Capacity for Illumination

Four Categories of People:

- **A Natural Man** (1 Cor 2:14)
- **A Spiritual Man** (1 Cor 2:15)
 - A mature Christian
 - Unlimited capacity

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Our Capacity for Illumination

Four Categories of People:

- **A Natural Man** (1 Cor 2:14)
- **A Spiritual Man** (1 Cor 2:15)
- **An Immature Christian** (1 Cor 3:1)
 - An infant
 - A limited capacity

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Handwritten multiplication problems on a whiteboard:

$$\begin{array}{r} 6 \\ \times 5 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 5 \\ \times 2 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 0 \\ \times 4 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 8 \\ \times 4 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

Handwritten mathematical equations on a whiteboard:

$$\log_3(x+2) + \log_3(x-4) = 3$$

$$\int_0^{2\pi} \int_0^{2\sin\theta} \int_0^{6-r^2} r \, dz \, dr \, d\theta$$

Our Capacity for Illumination

Four Categories of People:

- **A Natural Man** (1 Cor 2:14)
- **A Spiritual Man** (1 Cor 2:15)
- **An Immature Christian** (1 Cor 3:1)
 - An infant
 - A limited capacity

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Our Capacity for Illumination

Four Categories of People:

- **A Natural Man** (1 Cor 2:14)
- **A Spiritual Man** (1 Cor 2:15)
- **An Immature Christian** (1 Cor 3:1)
- **A Resistant Christian** (1 Cor 3:1)
 - Cannot be guided into truth

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The Danger of Ignoring Illumination

James 1:22

But prove yourselves **doers** of the word, and not merely **hearers** who delude themselves.

The Danger: Self-Delusion

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