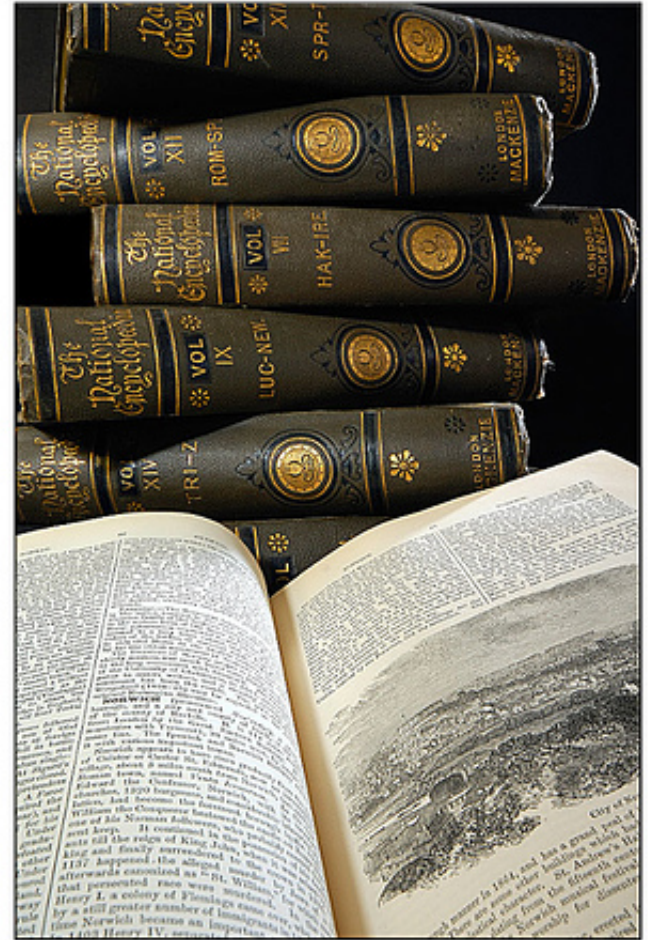


Over Coming Your Temptations

“Knowledge Will Put Me on Top”

Ecclesiastes 1:13-18



© Paul Crispin

Absolutely Useless Trivia



Faulty Assumption #1

“If only I can control my world, life will be manageable and have meaning and purpose.”

Faulty Assumption #2

“If only I can get the right relationship, life will be fulfilling.”

Faulty Assumption #3

“If only I can get enough money, I will have freedom.”

Faulty Assumption #4

“If only I can find pleasure I will be satisfied.”

Faulty Assumption #6

“If only I can get enough KNOWLEDGE, I ought to be on top.”

THE PROBLEM

What is marketed as wisdom is often an illusion of mastery that disappears into thin air over time.

Knowledge

Wisdom

Knowledge is the understanding that a tomato is a fruit.

Wisdom is the understanding that you don't put tomatoes' in fruit salads.

Knowledge is the awareness and understanding of facts, truths or information gained.

Wisdom is the ability to apply knowledge.

Knowledge is knowing what should be done.

Wisdom is doing it!

An Even Bigger Problem

"I devoted myself to study and to explore by wisdom all that is done under heaven. What a heavy burden God has laid on men!" (Ecclesiastes 1:13)

"I thought to myself, "Look, I have grown and increased in wisdom more than anyone who has ruled over Jerusalem before me; I have experienced much of wisdom and knowledge." Then I applied myself to the understanding of wisdom, and also of madness and folly, but I learned that this, too, is a chasing after the wind."

Ecclesiastes 1:16-17

An Even Bigger Problem

"For with much wisdom comes much sorrow;
the more knowledge, the more grief."

Ecclesiastes 1:18

The Increase of Knowledge Only Increase Sorrow

The Limits of Wisdom

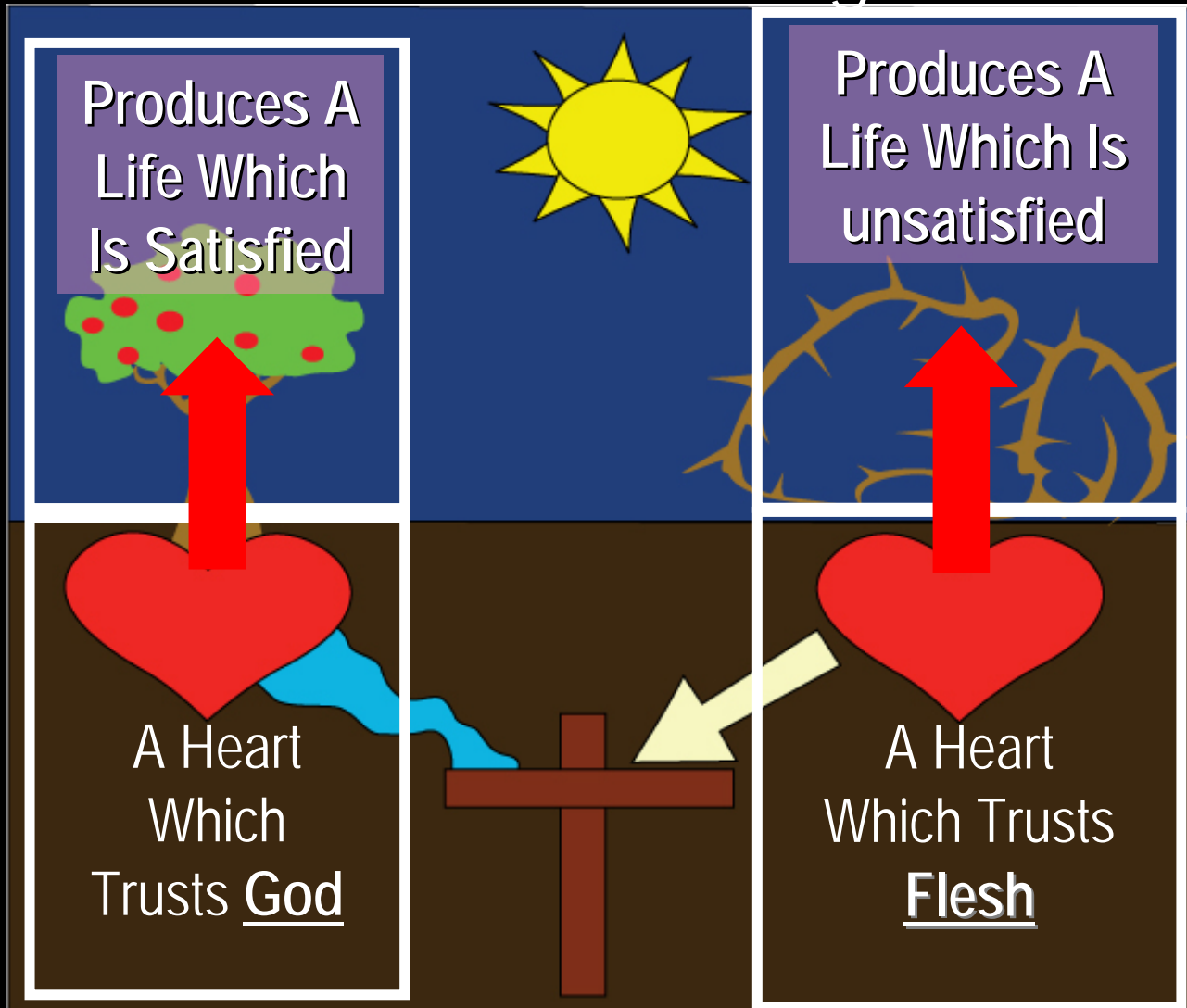
"Wisdom, like an inheritance, is a good thing and benefits those who see the sun. Wisdom is a shelter as money is a shelter, but the advantage of knowledge is this: that wisdom preserves the life of its possessor."

Ecclesiastes 7:11-12

"In this meaningless life of mine I have seen both of these: a righteous man perishing in his righteousness, and a wicked man living long in his wickedness. Do not be overrighteous, neither be overwise— why destroy yourself? Do not be overwicked, and do not be a fool— why die before your time? It is good to grasp the one and not let go of the other. The man who fears God will avoid all extremes."

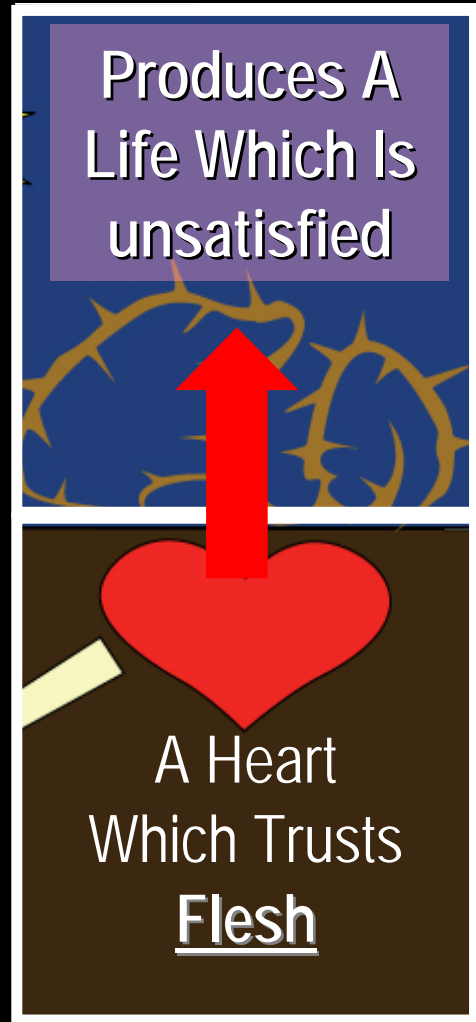
Ecclesiastes 7:15-18

Three Trees Diagram



"This is what the Lord says: "Cursed is the one who trusts in man, who depends on flesh for his strength and whose heart turns away from the Lord..."

Jeremiah 17:5-6

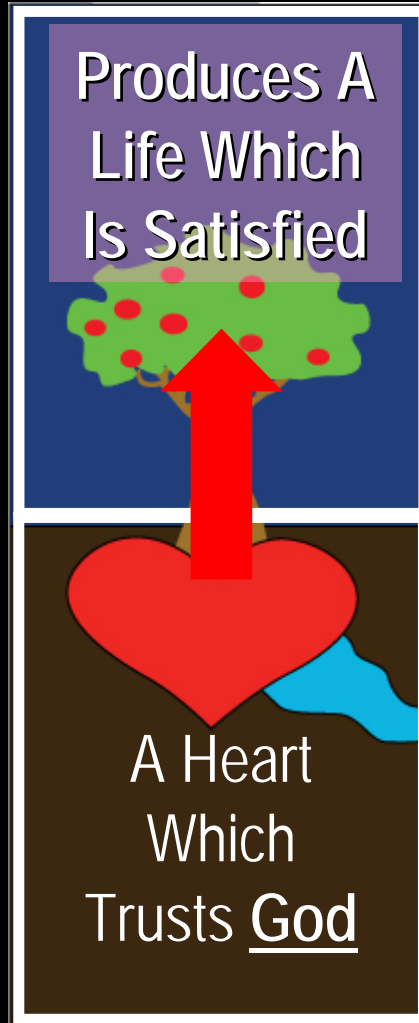


EXPERIENCE

- ✓ Unstable
- ✓ Unsatisfied
- ✓ Thirsty
- ✓ Lonely
- ✓ Miserable

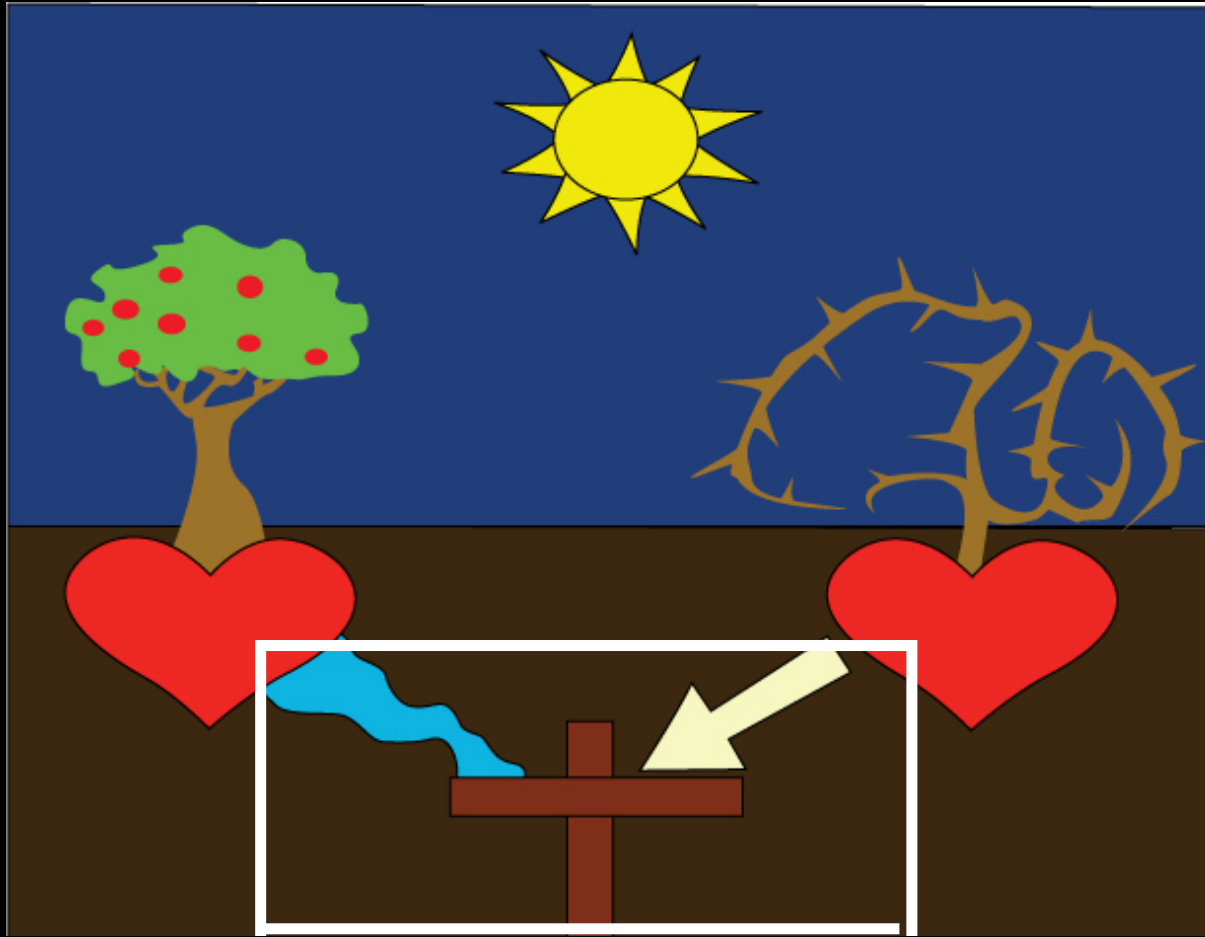
EXPERIENCE

- ✓ Stable
- ✓ Satisfied
- ✓ Fruitful
- ✓ Contented
- ✓ Full Life



"But blessed is the man
who trusts in the Lord,
whose confidence is in
him..."

Jeremiah 17:7-18



"I have declared to both Jews and Greeks that they must turn to God in repentance and have faith in our Lord Jesus." (Acts 20:21)