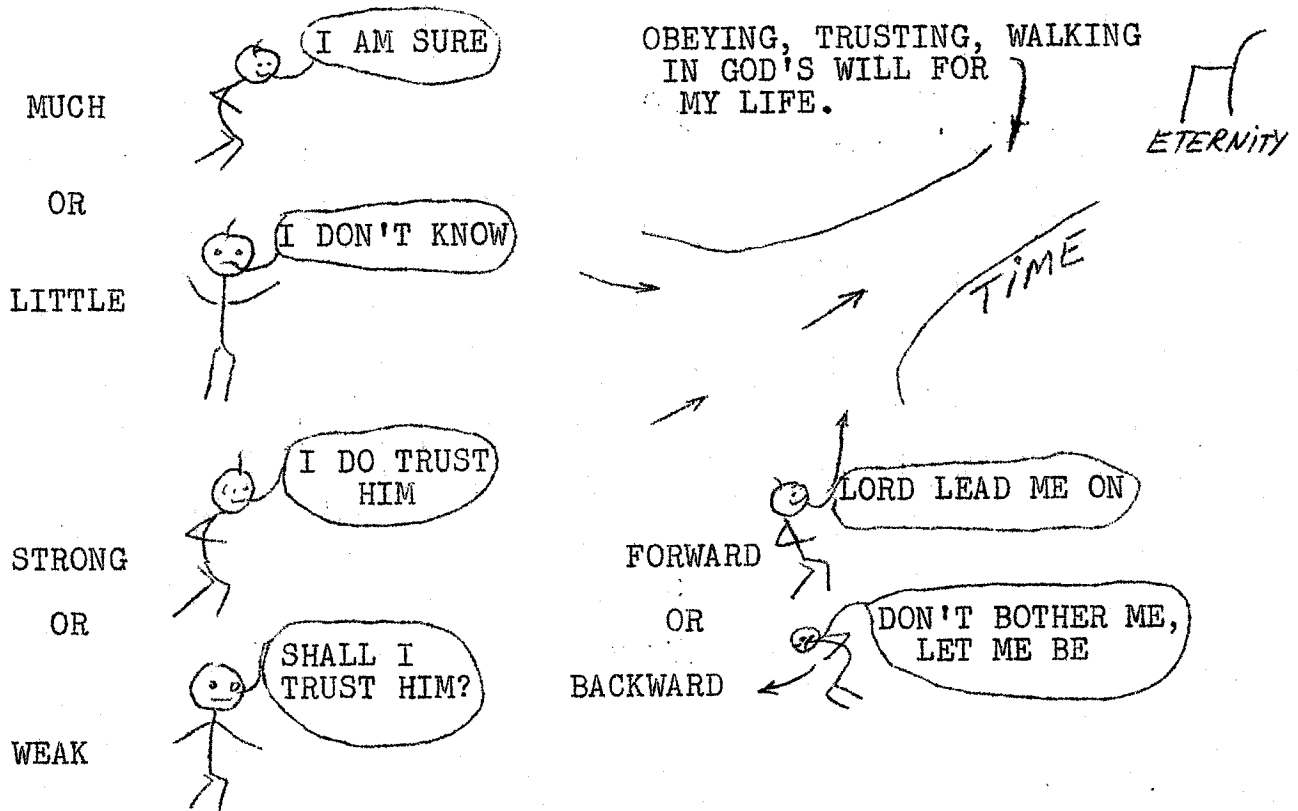


THE BATTLE OF ASSURANCE

The person who KNOWS the Lord Jesus Christ as his or her OWN saviour will find that their ASSURANCE (see page 2) can CHANGE and it can grow or increase.



My ASSURANCE can be UP or DOWN, HIGH or LOW.

Can my SECURITY CHANGE? _____ Why not? see page 2

Let us look at some reasons why the believer's assurance can change.

1. It can CHANGE because of CHOICE.

He or she still has the RIGHT TO CHOOSE God's way or his or her own way. Heb.11:25; Phil.1:22; see also page 23,3.

What about our will.

2. It can CHANGE because of CONFLICT.

The believer has 3 ENEMIES

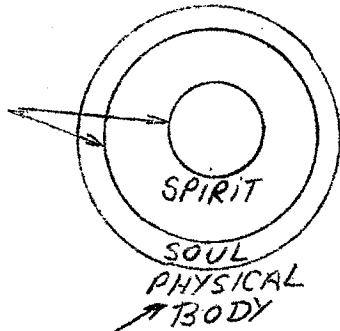
A. On the INSIDE the OLD SIN NATURE.

B. On the OUTSIDE the WORLD SYSTEM.

C. On the OUTSIDE SATAN AND HIS ARMY OF EVIL ANGELS

Let us look on the INSIDE.

They cannot be SEEN or TOUCHED by other people on earth.



It can be SEEN and TOUCHED.

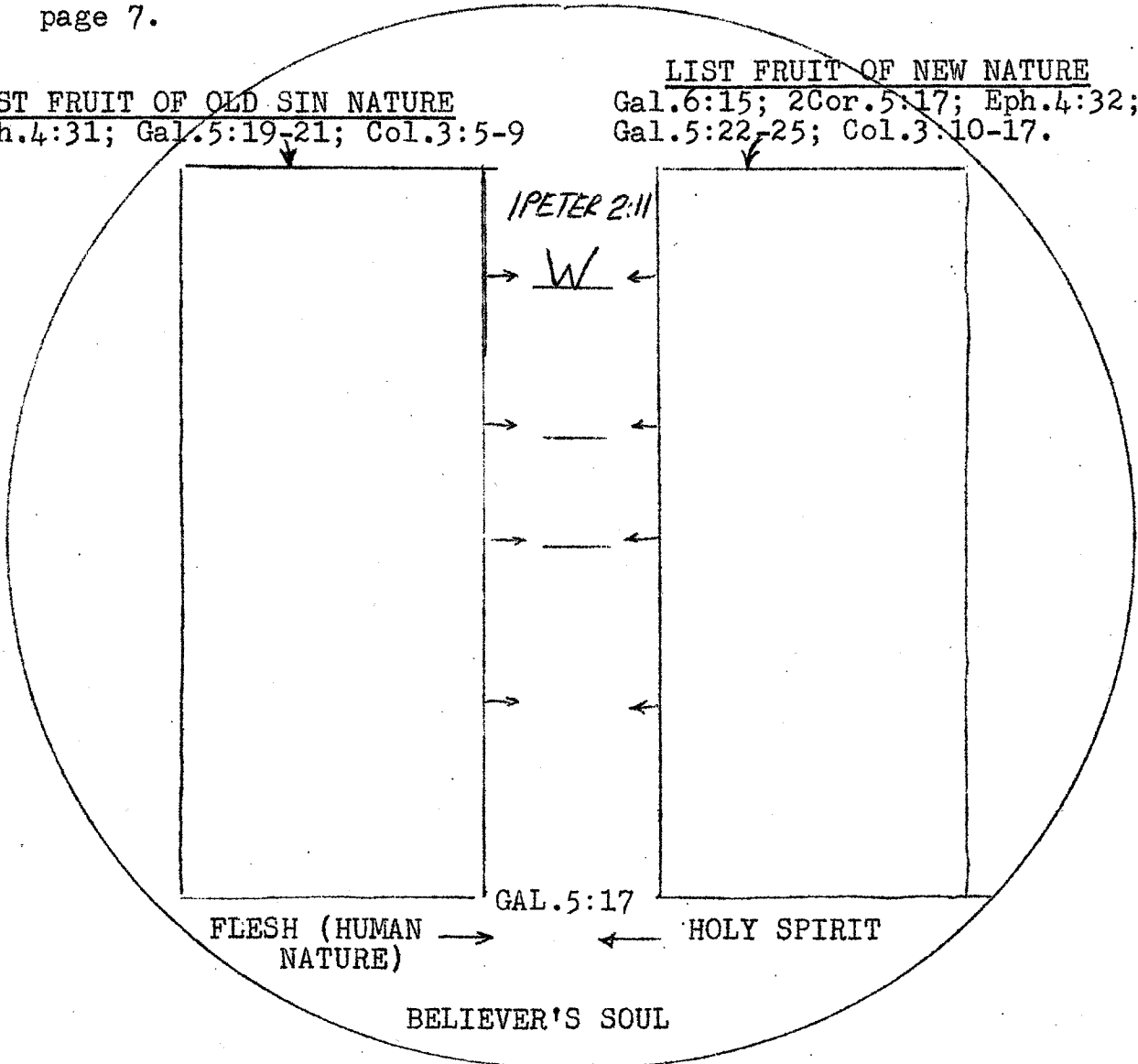
The believer has an OUTER SHELL OR HOUSE made for time.

2 Cor.4:16; 5:1,2,6,8. The believer lives INSIDE his or her PHYSICAL BODY. The believer has a SOUL and a SPIRIT. 1 Thess.5:23.

The believer still has his or her OLD SIN NATURE. See scale on page 7.

LIST FRUIT OF OLD SIN NATURE
Eph.4:31; Gal.5:19-21; Col.3:5-9

LIST FRUIT OF NEW NATURE
Gal.6:15; 2Cor.5:17; Eph.4:32;
Gal.5:22-25; Col.3:10-17.



Some help on what the words mean.

EPH.4:31 BITTERNESS = inner irritation of mind and heart, producing hard and harsh opinions of others.

WRATH = short lived outbursts of passion, tantrums, the hot retort, the strong emotions, hate and so forth out from the mind, as a flame leaping into the air, suddenly.

ANGER = a settled disposition of indignation, an angry outlook upon everything. The habit of mind, as the heat of the fire keeps on rising out from the fire.

CLAMOUR = is a loud outcry, bold assertion of supposed rights and grievances, to shout and scream at people.

EVIL SPEAKING = is blasphemy, abusive speech, whether directed against God or against man, gossip, maligning slander, to speak evil of.

ALL MALICE = badness, all kinds of evil coming out of a wicked mind, envy, jealousy, an ill will, desire to injure.

GAL.5:19 ADULTRY = unlawful, sexual intercourse outside the marriage relationship.

FORNICATION = voluntary sexual intercourse between an unmarried woman and an unmarried man.

UNCLEANNES = unclean, impure, opposite of PURE, a general condition of an impure mind.

LASCIVIOUSNESS (La-siv'-i-as) = excess, absence of restraint, one who does what he wants, and says he can do what he wants and he or she doesn't care what others think or say, or how bad or wrong it is to do.

GAL.5:20 IDOLATRY = the worship of an image or an idol or the god represented by it. Rom.1:21-25.

WITCHCRAFT = here the use of drugs, potions, spells to trick and to harm, as poison to the body and poison to the mind; magic art.

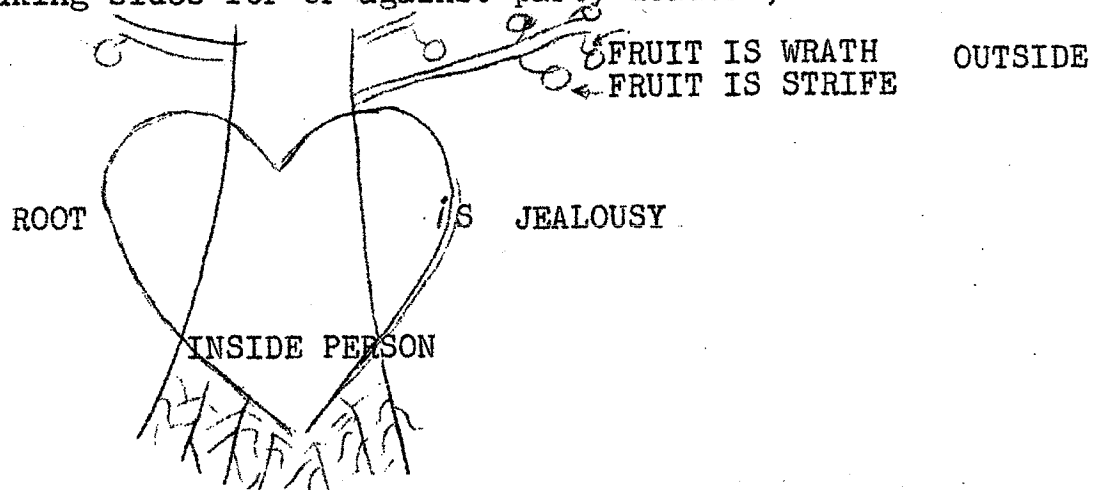
HATRED = ENMITY, HATING, HOSTILE AS AN ENEMY; it is the opposite of love.

VARIANCE (Var'-i-ans) = strife, rivalry, quarreling, fighting, discord; it is the expression of hatred, the word just before this one.

EMULATION (Em'-yoo-lā'-shan) = ZEAL, here in a bad sense, Jealousy, "the unfriendly feeling or desire to have the same or the same sort or kind of thing for myself that someone else has or owns.

WRATH = plural, see above Eph.4:31 WRATH.

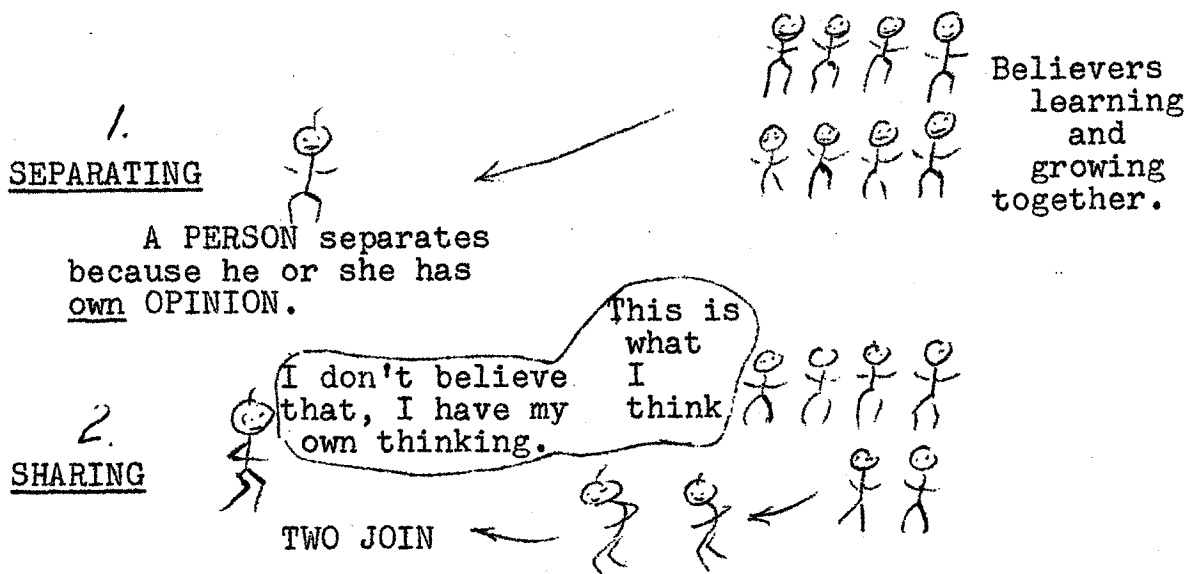
STRIFE = BAD AMBITIONS, LABOR for wages, the exercise of self-will is involved in the word, self-seeking, selfishness, taking sides for or against party leaders, rivalries.



SEDITIONS (Si-dish'-ans) = a standing apart which speaks of divisions, stirring up resistance or rebellion, taking sides. The believer must be careful not to cause division and not to be part of division or those who cause division.

HERESIES (Her'-a-siz) = a choosing, that which is chosen. A chosen course of thought or action, an OPINION, especially a SELF-WILLED OPINION. The person's chosen opinion is substituted for submission to God's Word, the 66 Books of the Bible, as understood in the light of the CONTEXT, the GRAMMAR, the HISTORICAL SETTING, the MESSAGE of the BOOK and its CLEAR HARMONY with the 65 other books. The person's self chosen opinion makes for:

1. separation from others not of the same mind; at first mentally and possibly verbally and then physically in time.
2. makes for sharing their false, untrue, unfounded view with others to gain support and approval.
3. makes for sects or parties. The division leads to an established group called a sect.

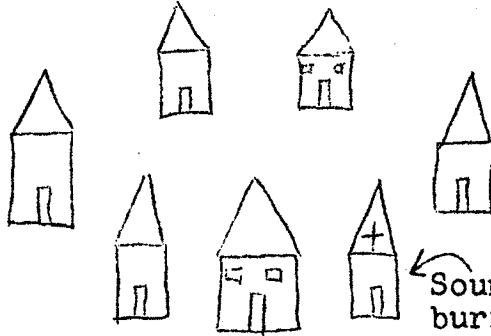


3. SECT OR
NEW SOCIETY

We will call ourselves

and build our own building and win others to our way of thinking.

4. RESULT: DIVISIONS, GROUPS, CULTS, ISMS



Sound Bible believing Testimony buried in among others, but it should be identified by its life, truth (God's Word), light (transformed believers), etc.

NOTE: A. God allows heresies in professing (people and churches who call themselves Christians) Christendom, even in local assemblies (churches) of believers, as in Corinth 1 Cor. 11:19. In order that God may make known those believers who stand for the TRUTH and who refuse to take any side but God's only.

God is not the One who causes the divisions and trouble but God does allow it in His perfect wisdom to PROVE OR TEST His people, and to make known those who are not in HARMONY with him.

B. In 2 Peter 2:1 the word is used again telling us that those who teach heresies are FALSE TEACHERS and that their MESSAGE, their MOTIVE and their MANNER are DAMNABLE or DESTRUCTIVE, leading to loss and ruin of a person's WELL-BEING.

C. In Titus 3:10,11 God instructs the local assembly what to do with such a person. "After the first and second admonition be rejecting (or AVOID; TO EXCUSE ONE'S SELF FROM, REFUSE, TO DECLINE RECEIVING THAT PERSON; it is a COMMAND, and it is in the present tense, meaning to continue such action until the person gets RIGHT with the LORD JESUS CHRIST).

"knowing that such a man (or woman) has been SUBVERTED (PERVERTED, TO BE TURNED INSIDE OUT OR CHANGED COMPLETELY) and sinneth (as a habit, constantly) being condemned of himself (self-condemned)."

GAL. 5:21 ENVYINGS = is the feeling of displeasure produced by witnessing or hearing of the advantage or prosperity of others; used in a bad sense. Envy desires to take away that which belongs to someone else.

DRUNKENESS = to be drunk, too much strong drink. See Eph. 5:18. Adult Sunday School Class notes pages 24,25.

REVELLINGS = a feasting, merrymaking, old word also for DRINKING PARTIES; the thinking and acting that is the result of drinking; the condition that occurs while drinking and because of drinking; the action that goes hand in hand with drinking. GOD'S WORD considers ALCOHOLISM as a SIN for which the person is responsible and so ACCOUNTABLE to the living GOD. 1 Cor.6:10. ALCOHOLICS are MADE NOT BORN. IT IS SELF-INFLICTED by free choice and can lead to the place where the person is controlled by it. "One drink is too many and a hundred are not enough."

"AND SUCH LIKE" = and things like these." Representative list.

"DO SUCH THINGS" = as a habit; keep on practicing or doing such things and so tell what the person's character (what he or she is like on the inside) is really like. Mark 7:18-23; Jer.17:9,10a; Heb.4:12,13.

COL.3:5

FORNICATION = UNLAWFUL SEXUAL INTERCOURSE. See Gal.5:19

UNCLEANNES = IMPURITY. See Gal.5:19

INORDINATE AFFECTION = here passion whatever one suffers or experience, affection of the mind, morally bad, corrupt cravings, lust. Rom.1:16; 1 Thess.4:5.

EVIL CONCUPISCENCE (Kon-kū'-pa-s'ns) = to fix the desire upon (verb); an evil desire, longing, word includes all manner of lusts and desires. 1 Thess.4:5.

COVETOUSNESS (Kuv'i-tas-nis) = a desire to have more, the will to have more, the larger part, the highest position, the advantage; in a bad sense, GREED, SELFISHNESS, SELF-SEEKING.

IDOLATRY = WORSHIP OF ANYTHING ; the substitution of anything at all in place of ADORATION FOR THE ONLY LIVING AND TRUE GOD. See Gal.5:20.

COL.3:8

ANGER = See Eph.4:31

WRATH = See Eph.4:31

MALICE = See Eph.4:31

BLASPHEMY = INSULTS AGAINST GOD or against MAN, DETRACTION, words that injure, harm, marring the person; an act or remark meant to hurt another's person, character etc. See Eph.4:31. EVIL SPEAKING.

FILTHY COMMUNICATION = SHAMEFUL LANGUAGE, ABUSIVE SPEECH, Foul-mouthed talk.

THE FRUIT OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

GAL.5:22

BUT (in contrast to works of the flesh , and in opposition to the works of the flesh) the FRUIT. See page 28 - Gal.5:17 note and following.

LOVE (A-gah'-pay) = The Holy Spirit's word used in the New

Testament making known God's love. "As used of God, it expresses the deep and constant love and interest of a perfect Being towards entirely unworthy objects, producing and fostering a reverential love IN THEM towards the GIVER, and a practical love towards those who are partakers of the same, and a desire to help others to seek the GIVER." W.E.Vine, under LOVE. THIS LOVE IS A DECISION OF FREE WILL. IT IS AN INTELLIGENT AND A DEDICATED CHOICE OUT OF A GRATEFUL HEART. IT IS PRODUCED BY THE HOLY SPIRIT (Rom.5:5) IN THE BORN AGAIN BELIEVER AND SHOWS ITSELF BY ITS SELF-DENYING AND COMPASSIONATE DEVOTION TO GOD AND HIS WORD. LOVE EXPRESSES ITSELF IN OBEDIENCE,- 1 John 5:2,3; John 14:21-24;15:9,10.

JOY = delight, gladness; Jesus made it possible to share His JOY with believers, John 15:11. The Holy Spirit produces this JOY, (1 Thess.1:6), even in troubles and testings (James 1:2), rejoicing with JOY unspeakable (1 Peter 1:8), until we see our Lord and SAVIOUR face to face (1 Peter 1:7,9).

PEACE = rest, to keep peace or to be at peace; because the believer has PEACE WITH GOD (Rom.5:1) because of sins forgiven, he or she can enjoy the PEACE OF GOD because of being in fellowship with God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit. This PEACE OF MIND, or state of spiritual health (a present, right relationship to God, 1 John 1:9; Eph.5:18) comes from SUBMISSION to GOD and HIS WORD not STRIFE OVER OR ABOUT GOD'S WORD. The Holy Spirit produces this PEACE, this untroubled, undisturbed well-being. John 14:27 two times; John 16:23; Phil.4:7 etc.

LONGSUFFERING = long temper, "that quality of self-restraint in the face of provocation, (something that excites or stirs up action or feeling) which does not hastily retaliate or promptly punish; it is the opposite of anger." The believer who shows patience, forbearance to those who annoy, oppose, molest or treat him or her badly, without being angry or the thought of revenge. See 2 Peter 3:9.

GENTLENESS = goodness that shows itself in kindness, goodness in action, expressing itself in deeds; usefulness in kind acts toward others. God has made known His Goodness toward the world. Rom.2:4; He will show His KINDNESS and GOODNESS toward us in the ages to come; He desires to show His goodness by the ministry of the Holy Spirit through us in time. Col.3:12.

GOODNESS = being good in a believer's character; the Holy Spirit producing in the believer the GOODNESS that belongs to God and was displayed by the Lord Jesus Christ in His cleansing of the temple Mt.21:12,13, and when He denounced woes upon the Scribes and Pharisees Mt.23:13-29. The believer ruled by and aiming at the outworking of God's goodness. The word seems to picture GOODNESS in its STERNER QUALITY where the word before gentleness shows it in its milder aspect as in Jesus dealing with repentant woman Luke 7:37-50. This GOODNESS expresses itself in its willingness to share or give unselfishly.

FAITH = FAITHFULNESS. The LOYALTY to God, the TRUSTFULNESS OF MIND, a firmly relying confidence in what we hear from God in HIS WORD, knowing and doing His WILL, being FIRMLY PERSUADED OF WHO HE IS and what HE HAS SAID. The Holy Spirit produces in the SURRENDERED BELIEVER this relying confidence based on what HE knows

is TRUE AND SURE of GOD'S PERSON and GOD'S WORD.

MEEKNESS = MEEK, GENTLE, describes a condition of mind and heart; it centers in God NOT SELF; "it is that temper of spirit in which we accept His dealings with us as good and therefore without disputing or resisting." "The Lord was meek because He had the infinite resources of God at His command", Mt.11:19.

TEMPERANCE = self-control in all things, having mastery or possession of, "the power to keep himself in check." The Grace by which the Flesh, the OLD NATURE and its works (Gal.5:19-21 etc.) are brought under CONTROL as the believer is CONTROLLED (Eph.5:18) by the Holy Spirit. The OLD SIN NATURE IS still there BUT IT NO MORE HAS TO RULE US, the believer can REMAIN FREE FROM ITS HOLD BY THE POWER OF THE HOLY SPIRIT. DO NOT CONFUSE THE FREEDOM FROM ITS HOLD AT A GIVEN POINT IN TIME WITH THE OLD SIN NATURE'S PRESENCE, (1 John 1:8-10) in the believer; and the need for CONSTANT CLEANSING BECAUSE OF ITS PRESENCE while he or she walks with the Lord Jesus Christ on earth 1 John 1:7.

AGAINST SUCH THERE IS NO LAW = representative list only. See Gal.5:21 "and such like." These and such things fully meet the demands of the law.