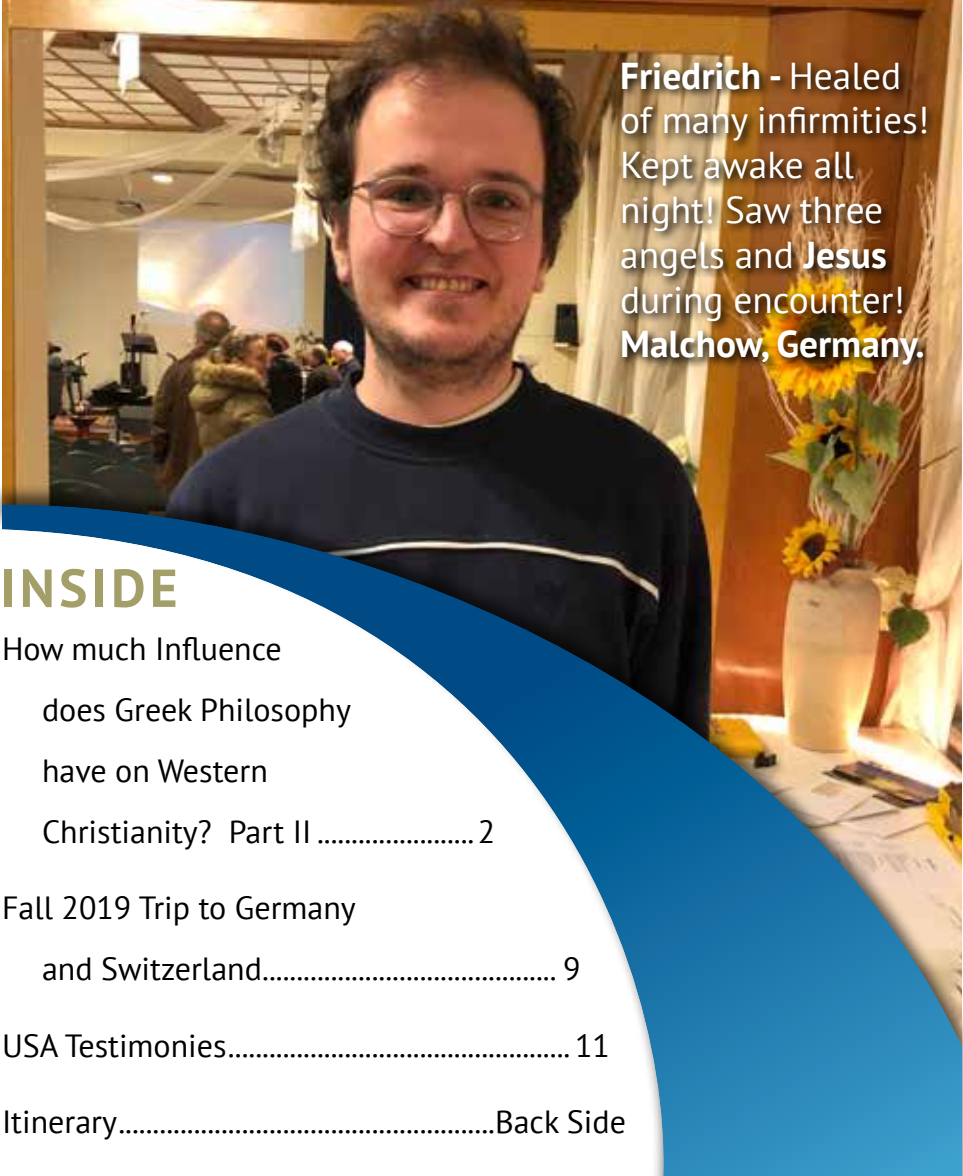


goodnews

Magazine

Fall 2019/Winter 2020 Report



Friedrich - Healed of many infirmities! Kept awake all night! Saw three angels and **Jesus** during encounter! **Malchow, Germany.**

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How much Influence does Greek Philosophy have on Western Christianity? Part II (title for a future book)

by Mark R. Anderson

We shared (Part I Spring/Summer 2019 Report) how most Christians in the West are more influenced by Greek Philosophy and those beliefs that came into Western Christianity than they are by the Bible. I will continue to share what these beliefs are and compare them to the scriptures.

As mentioned before the most influential person to bring Greek Philosophy into Western Christianity was Augustine (A.D. 354-430). Augustine was heavy into Neo-Platonism, the reworking of Plato's ideas. One of the main issues addressed earlier that I will continue on is how Greek Philosophy separates the spiritual realm from the physical realm. This is not something Jesus or the early church taught or believed. When you believe these two realms are separated it leads to many false doctrines and perceptions of God. We will expose those in the light of the Gospel. For the early church and true Christianity there is no separating of these two realms because both are connected as one.

Do All Things Work Together For The Good?

Augustine said *"Nothing happens unless the Omnipotent wills it to happen."* Augustine also went on to say a victim *"ought not to attribute (his suffering) to the will of men or of angels, or of any created spirit, but rather to His (God's) will."* Augustine's "extreme sovereignty" theory took root and became a widespread belief that is greatly embraced in the USA and Western Europe even today. John Calvin went on and taught in the 1500s that, *"all events are governed by God's secret plan."* So according to Augustine and Calvin their perception of God, is that God is the one to blame for bad things that happen on planet earth. Most Western Christians hold this view. This is one of the major beliefs of Augustine and taught in Calvinism. Where do they find this belief in the Bible? Two main places. One is in the book of Job (the first written book of the Bible). Job thought it was God who was afflicting him and perpetrating all the evil against him (see Job 1:21, 13:24, 16:9, & 12-14). The book of Job was written 155 years before Moses. Job had no knowledge that there was a Satan or demons that afflicted him. Throughout the book of Job He blames God for doing both

good and evil just like Augustine and John Calvin. Look at the book of Job. *So Satan departed from the presence of the Lord and struck Job with loathsome boils and agonizingly painful sores from the sole of his foot to the crown of his head* (Job 2:7 Amp). This lasted for short time in Job's life until his theology was a corrected by God. Job had his poor theology corrected by God. God said to Job *"Will you condemn Me [your God] that you may [appear to] be righteous and justified?"* (Job 40:8 Amp) The neat thing about Job is he humbled himself, repented, and God restored twice as much to Job after his 9 month ordeal (see Job 42:10).

As long as you think God is the author of negative circumstances in your life like so many Christians and non-Christians believe then you shut the door to the answer for your problem. God is not your problem. He is the answer to your problem. God does not partner with the Devil and demons to bring about His perfect will for your life.

By the way if the earth is in the throes of disaster, **it is not God's fault. It is mankind's! Do not be deceived, my beloved brethren. Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and comes down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow of turning** (James 1:16-17). God is good and Satan or demons are bad! The earth was given to mankind along with the authority to bring good or evil into this world. Despite possessing this

authority, evil men do evil, give place to, have the aid of demon spirits (to carry out evil on the earth), just as Christians have the Holy Spirit/God (to do good) to carry out their God given authority. Verse 16 says **Do not be deceived!** Pretty strong warning from James! Yet today so many Christians are deceived thinking God does both good and bad and somehow Satan and God work together to further God's purpose and plan for your life.

Much of the evil in this world can be attributed to mankind partnering knowingly or unknowingly with demonic spirits or Satan's will or mankind is to blame for doing bad or stupid things without the aid of demons. Either way mankind makes choices and lives with the consequences of poor choices.

Those who believe that God orchestrates both good and evil events say everything good or bad (evil) works together for the good of all people in this world. It is easy to grab ahold of one verse and take it out of context. Romans 8:28 says, *"and we know that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are called according to His purpose."* Do all things good and bad automatically work together for good, like Augustine and Calvin believed? It is very important not to pull things out of context to make it adhere to our beliefs. I do not believe all things necessarily work for the good

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of every person on this planet. The Apostle Paul is not saying in Romans 8:28 that all things good and bad in life are automatically God's will no matter what. Notice how that verse starts, with an 'and'. That means there is something tied to that verse before that. Look at Romans 8:26-27 just before verse 28: *Likewise the Spirit also helps in our weaknesses. For we do not know what we should pray for as we ought, but the Spirit Himself makes intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered (Greek says groanings, which can't be uttered in articulate speech or known speech). Now He who searches the hearts knows what the mind of the Spirit is, because He makes intercession for the saints according to the will of God.*

Notice the prior verses are talking about Holy Spirit interceding through us "according to the will of God." He does this when we are praying in the Spirit or tongues, just like Jesus prayed before raising Lazarus from the dead (1 Corinthians 14: 13-15, 18, John 11: 33 & 38). Praying like this is what helps us flow in the power of Holy Spirit especially in an environment where the miracles of Jesus are needed. My testimony of how I was called into ministry revolves around these verses. The purpose of praying in the Spirit is to allow the Holy Spirit to

pray through us for God's will to be done. He, Jesus, makes intercession for us (Hebrews 7:25). The Holy Spirit helps us pray according to His will by praying through us in the Spirit or tongues.

1 John 5:14-15 says if we pray for something according to His will: *Now this is the confidence that we have in Him, that if we ask anything according to His will, He hears us. And if we know that He hears us, whatever we ask, we know that we have the petitions that we have asked of Him.*

If Holy Spirit is praying through us for God's will to be done, don't you think all things will work together for your good? I have seen both good and bad things work together for my good when I have allowed Holy Spirit to pray through me. There is no such thing as everything just automatically working together for the good of every person on this planet, contrary to Augustine and Calvin's belief and teachings. I could give you hundreds of stories of things not working together for the good of people in this world.

Romans 8:28 also says *to those who are the called according to His purpose.* Let's say, for example, as a Christian I am not fitting into the purpose and plan that God has for my life. Could things end up not working together for my good? I have seen Christians all over the world, not fitting into God's plan and purpose for their life — they end up living a miserable and defeated life. All things do not work together for

good if we understand these verses and live in reality. All things can work together for the good if we are doing what Romans 8:26 - 28 says to do.

The Natural And Spiritual Divide

The next thing we will look at is THE NATURAL AND SPIRITUAL DIVIDE. If we believe that both the spiritual and natural world are divided, then it will distort our focus on our powerful God and the miracles He can do and is doing greatly. Many who strongly embrace Calvinism rarely see the supernatural, healings or miracles. Is sad to say it is a doctrine loaded with unbelief. Why? Because to see healings and miracles you have to believe both the spiritual and natural world are integrated as one. One way to define a supernatural miracle or healing is that the invisible realm has affected or infiltrated the physical realm. Heaven has invaded earth! That does not happen by taking on an attitude of whatever will be will be.

First lets look what the Jews and Jesus believed then compare to what Plato and Augustine believed. In Matthew 16:19 (Amp) Jesus says, *"I will give you the keys (authority) of the kingdom of heaven; and whatever you bind [forbid, declare to be improper and unlawful] on earth will have [already] been bound in heaven, and whatever you loose [permit, declare lawful] on earth will have [already] been loosed in heaven."* If negative

things are happening on earth, believers have the authority to bring about positive change. In this verse Jesus is talking about changing the spiritual atmosphere to see permanent change in the physical realm. One thing taught in Greek philosophy and promoted by Augustine is that **the spiritual realm has preeminence over the physical realm. This is most certainly true!** But Jesus, the Jews, and the early church did not separate the spiritual and physical realms as taught by Plato and those who embrace Greek philosophy. If we can affect the spiritual realm we can see numerous miracles or circumstances change for the better in the physical realm, with heaven's assistance. Spirit filled Christians have the authority and the power of Holy Spirit to change the spiritual realm and then in turn the physical realm and the circumstances around them. Jesus said this is the **keys of the kingdom of heaven.** If you have the keys of a kingdom, everything in that kingdom is at your disposal. Heaven is the main kingdom of the entire universe. Jesus wants us to use the keys of the kingdom of Heaven (the invisible or spiritual realm).

Some of what Jesus talks about here in Matthew 16:19, is based on the concept of **mirror image.** This implies affecting the spiritual realm for success in the physical realm. I personally believe for the most

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part everything that happens in the physical realm, such as miracles or a move of the Holy Spirit came as a result of affecting the spiritual realm first. We need to affect the spiritual realm to see results in the physical realm. We need to reflect heaven on the Earth, just like a reflection in a mirror. The Israelites understood this concept and were in tune to the spiritual realm. They knew that if they could affect the spiritual realm they would see great success in the physical realm.

2 Chronicles 20 is a good example of this 'Mirror Image' principle, found throughout the Old Testament. This principle was something easy for the people Jesus ministered to, to understand because they were in tune to both the spiritual and physical realms as one. They did not separate the spiritual and physical realms like we are taught here in the West to believe because of the influence of Greek philosophy. Judah called upon the living God with fasting and prayer to affect the spiritual and the natural realm. King Jehoshaphat did this when the combined armies of Moab, Ammon and others besieged Judah and there appeared no way out for Judah (Ref. 2 Chronicles 20:1-30). They were greatly outnumbered!

After praying, fasting, operating in faith and affecting the spiritual

realm God spoke through a prophet in 2 Chronicles 20:15, *“And he said, Listen, all you of Judah and you inhabitants of Jerusalem, and you, King Jehoshaphat! Thus says the Lord to you: Do not be afraid nor dismayed because of this great multitude, for the battle is not yours, but God’s.”* King Jehoshaphat understood that God would deliver Judah from the vast enemy army and instead of sending soldiers out to face the enemy, he sent the praise and worship teams to worship God before the enemy. Worship is powerful in affecting the spiritual realm. As they were praising God, the Lord sent ambushments (angels) against the enemy, and the enemy was defeated. These kind of events happened time and time again in the Old Testament when the spiritual realm was affected, allowing great things to happen in the physical realm.

We see clearly through the scriptures that the ancient Jews and Jesus did not divide these two realms, but operated with both the spiritual and natural or invisible and visible realms being fully integrated or as one. This is important to understand if you want to see heaven invade this earth with Christ’s miracles, healings, signs and wonders.

Jesus said in John 6:38, *“For I have come down from heaven, not to do My own will, but the will of Him who sent Me.”* I do not think you can get better theology than Jesus’ theology. As followers of Christ, we need

to **filter all our theology through Jesus and what He accomplished at Calvary.** It is important as believers to live our lives on the right side of the cross. Many Christians live their life as if Jesus never went to the cross. That is in part because we are so influenced by Greek Philosophy here in the West. We are living under a New Covenant, which is much better than any previous covenant because Jesus laid down His life and was raised from the dead. Even though Job had a heart right before God that does not mean his theology was spot on. Jesus’ theology is the best you can get.

What we are basically doing according to this principal of mirror image in Matthew 16:19 is reflecting heaven onto the earth by not separating the spiritual and natural or invisible and visible realms. With the keys Jesus gave us, we can use our authority in the physical realm to affect the spiritual realm and thus see the manifestation of that in this physical realm. So for Jesus there was no separating these two realms; they are both one and fully integrated. That is why Jesus prayed in Matthew 6:10, *“Your kingdom come. Your will be done on earth (physical realm) as it is in heaven (spiritual realm).”* We are to reflect God’s Kingdom here on planet Earth. Is there any sickness, torment, destruction, or chaos in heaven? We are to reflect heaven on earth. Why would Jesus pray *your will be done* if, like Augustine and Calvin believed, everything good and bad

that happens in life is God’s will? It is clear there are many things happening on this earth that are not God’s will. That is why Jesus came to do the will of the Father and destroy the works (will) of the devil (see 1 John 3:8).

Paul said, *For we walk by faith, not by sight* (2 Corinthians 5:7). Many in Christian circles are doing everything they can in the natural or physical realm to bring about the answers to their prayers. Their faith is totally dependent on what can be worked up in the natural realm, what they feel, see, hear, etc. For them a miracle is if they find the right medicine or herb to help them get healed. There is very little connection to the invisible realm or the supernatural power of God. It’s all dependent on the natural!

Faith in God moves beyond the physical realm or what can be achieved in the physical realm only, into affecting the spiritual realm and bringing the manifestation into the physical realm. One thing we addressed in Part I is gnosticism. The separating of the spiritual and physical realms! What many people do whether Christian or non-Christian because of the influence of Greek philosophy is live their lives with more emphasis on one or the other, the spiritual or physical realm. We either can become so spiritually minded we are no earthly good or so carnal with very little connection to the spiritual realm. To be balanced

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we need to be connected to both realms. Because they are one!

Hebrews 11:1-3 says, *Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen. For by it the elders obtained a good testimony. By faith we understand that the worlds were framed by the word of God, so that the things which are seen were not made of things which are visible.* Faith can actually bring about something (physical) out of nothing (invisible). Faith activates the miracle working power of God the same way fear activates Satan's destructive power.

John 8:31-32 says, *Then Jesus said to those Jews who believed Him, "If you abide (Greek- continue) in My word, you are My disciples indeed. And you shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free."* It is one thing to know scriptures like many Christians do and quite another thing to continue in the Word, to know and experience the Word working in your life. Many Christians know the truth of God's Word but are still bound. Mental assent to the Word of God will not cut it. Neither will trying to get your doctrine to line up with your experience. Get your experiences to line up with God's Word. The Bible is spiritual (invisible realm) truth. If someone is sick or diseased the fact is they are sick or diseased. This is not

mind over matter or ignore it and it will go away. Jesus did not tell us to ignore the mountain but to face the mountain and speak to it with authority and in faith believing that it would be removed (Mark 11:22-23). Pastor Bill Johnson says, *"Faith doesn't deny a problem's existence. It denies it a place of influence."* The mountain before you is the truth (fact) in the physical realm. Here is the difference with those who do not separate the two realms, as in Greek philosophy. You can take spiritual truth (the Word of God) which supersedes physical facts and apply with faith and watch the spiritual truth do away with the physical facts (physical realm truth) by creating something (physical) out of nothing (invisible). That is how faith in God's Word works. Miracles, healings, signs, and wonders! Heaven invading earth!

In conclusion I would like to address is how we perceive things from a western mindset, if we separate the physical and spiritual realms. It affects how we perceive things like physical suffering, disease, healing, politics, money, physical exercise, sexual relations between a husband and wife, and much more. Asia and Africa are experiencing phenomenal miracles and healings, partly because they are not influenced by Greek philosophy. When we live connected to both the spiritual (invisible) and physical (visible) realms connected as one we see things from a whole different perspective and can walk in victory

and authority. The reason why, is we are not limited to what can be worked up in natural realm but have a connection to heaven (the invisible realm also. Part III to come! 🌐

Books Available On This Matter

For more information on how much influence Greek Philosophy has on Western Christianity?

You can check out my books **OVERCOMING ROADBLOCKS TO HEALING** (with forward by Randy Clark) [https://](https://www.markandersonministries.com/product/overcoming-roadblocks-to-healing)



www.markandersonministries.com/product/overcoming-roadblocks-to-healing.

And **THE AUTHORITY GIVEN TO MANKIND** <https://www.markandersonministries.com/product/authority-given-mankind>.



Fall 2019 Trip to Germany and Switzerland

Sharmila and I did a 4 week trip to Germany and Switzerland in November and December 2019. We put on 2,300 miles on our rental car traveling from Berlin, to far northern Germany, to the southern border and then finished in Switzerland. We conducted 8 meetings during this time. Holy Spirit moved powerfully amongst so many hungry hearts. We sold over 5,500 Euros worth of books (mostly my German books). The biggest seller was HUMILITY THE HIDDEN KEY TO WALKING IN SIGNS AND WONDERS! There was tremendous hunger for teaching and training on humility and its connection to the glory of God manifesting on earth. There was a tremendous amount healings, miracles, signs and wonders that took place on this trip. Here are some of the testimonies from this trip.



Barbara Vogt - Came to our conference in Basel, Switzerland July 2019! Had severe reactions eating anything with gluten for many years. Felt like she was choking if she did! Received prayer at our conference and afterwards completely healed by Jesus. Able to eat anything now! Many who know her are amazed by her testimony! We saw on our recent trip that she is able to eat anything now.

Susan - Healed of severe knee problem and also felt healing power flowing through foot affected by osteoposis - **Schauffhassen, Switzerland December 8, 2019.**



Friedrich - Nightmares nightly! Gone! Saw 3 angels and Jesus during encounter stayed up the entire night afterwards. Right shoulder healed, back healed, short leg lengthened and crooked foot healed. Recently emailed us to say, still healed. **Malchow, Germany November 2019.**



Severe problems with achilles tendon! healed by Jesus! - **Eutin, Germany November 2019.**



Severe shoulder and disc problems. Doctors said he was 30% disabled. Now ready to get off Government assistance! **Eutin, Germany November 2019.**



USA testimonies - Undeniable Miracles in USA!

Sharmila and I continue doing stateside ministry. We have seen a tremendous hunger in Wyoming and Montana. Here are some photos of powerful healings that happened in January 2020.



Skip - felt like ending his life because of so much physical pain. We started by praying over his legs as one was much shorter. Jesus healed him once his short leg grew past long leg & legs evened out, back healed, then knee (meniscus), shoulder, neck pain all healed. Pain free! **Billings, MT January 9, 2020.**

Steven - Was a professional Mixed Marshall Arts Fighter! Mark had word of knowledge week earlier of severely injured right arm. Called it out, describing the exact location of injury! Steven broke arm many years ago. Wasn't healing! Was skeptical when he came forward! After prayer was healed and able to straighten out arm and lift it freely. **Billings, MT January 9, 2020.**



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2020 Schedule



FEBRUARY 2 Streams of Life Church (formerly
Cody Christian Church) 2637 Sheridan Ave **Cody,**
WY 10:30am (307) 527-7431

FEBRUARY 11-18 *Nepal and India*

MARCH 27-28 Multi-church conference Healing Rooms

Munich, Germany

Vineyard Gemeinde München Emersonstraße 1 81549 München/
Saturday, open to the public 10-1, 2-5 & 7pm

APRIL 4-5 Gemeinde Unterwegs Industriestrasse 22 **Nastätten, Germany**

56355 067722179 Email m.kolar@gemeinde-unterwegs.de Conference
- Hidden Keys to Walking in Signs and Wonders, Humility Sat 9:30am to
6pm/ Sun 10am

APRIL 8 Refugee ministry Fels in der Brandung E.V. Seminarstrasse 12

Ludwigslust, Germany 19299 7:30pm

MAY 26-30 *India*

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