

# THE TWO OPPOSING PRINCIPLES IN EVERY BELIEVER

*“The spirit lusteth against the flesh and the flesh against the spirit.” Gal. 5:17*

By Pastor Del Wray

There are two opposing principles in every believer; the spirit that believes and the spirit of unbelief. If you watch the movements of divine life in your own bosom, you will find that there are two opposing principles there. There is that which doubts and disbelieves, and there is that which credits and believes; there is that which is always suggesting arguments, objections, and difficulties, ever casting confusion over the plainest principles, and questioning the reality of every truth, however clearly revealed in the Scriptures, or traced by the hand of God in the soul. This I find and feel every day that I live. I find my carnal heart the very seat of unbelief; and that this spirit of unbelief is no dead principle, lying motionless, like a stone at the bottom of a clear brook; but is a living principle of action and movement, objecting, questioning, surmising, and raising up all manner of suspicions against every one of those vital truths which my heart most dearly loves. Would that it would give me a little rest; but that is not in its nature, for it is ever restless, unceasingly at work, and continually seeking to confuse and darken the mind, and utterly to ruin the soul, by casting it down into the fathomless depths of infidelity.

But the spirit, in opposition to this wretched spirit of unbelief, believes. If the Lord has blessed you with a spirit of faith, you will find from time to time there is that in you which does believe, and yet may be sadly opposed by a contrary principle of unbelief. We see the conflict between the two principles in the man who fell down before the Lord with the words, "Lord, I believe." There was the spirit of faith in his heart, but he felt, as we feel, another principle in him, which could not, and would not believe; and he also felt that nothing but the power of the Lord could subdue that obstinate, unbelieving, principle. Therefore he cried, "Help my unbelief." Here we see the two principles plainly at work, which we ourselves so often feel. But everything that we have received in faith, we have received in the new man of grace, not in our unbelieving nature. "Have you received the Spirit by the works of the law, or by the hearing of faith?" asks the apostle. Gal. 3:2. When we hear in faith, then we receive the Spirit in His witnessing testimony to the reality and to the divine origin and nature of our faith, for "faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the Word of God," as made "spirit and life" to our souls Rom. 10:17; John 6:63.

**WALK IN THE SPIRIT!**