Perception on Earth – Perception in Heaven

I CORINTHIANS 13:12

"For you see now we see by means of a mirror" "For we see" gar $\beta\lambda\dot{\epsilon}\pi o\mu \epsilon\nu$ $\gamma\dot{\alpha}\rho$ Explanatory use of $\gamma\dot{\alpha}\rho$ The adverb $\dot{\alpha}\rho\tau\iota$ speaks of immediate present – now

Es/optron – a mirror – a mirror is a reflecting surface – originally it was polished metal – now it is glass with a metallic backing (no detail needed here). Corinth was the center of the manufacture of the greatest mirrors in the ancient World. They were polished bits of metal developed to such a high degree of polish that they worked extremely well. However, in some there were distortions. Also humidity would fog the mirror or the breath of an individual would fog it so it had to be polished often for the best vision.

The next word in the original language is " $\alpha i \nu i \gamma \mu \alpha \tau i$ " a distorted image, riddle. This is the Greek idiom meaning "DIMLY". ENIGMA (STUDY)

When we look into the mirror of the Word of God we learn things. So the mirror represents learning – PERCEPTION – The word "blepo- $\beta\lambda\acute{\epsilon}\pi\omega$ " – The continuation of study – while in harmony with the LJC. WE SEE NOW – BUT NOT AS WE WILL SEE WHEN WE ARRIVE IN HEAVEN. THE MIRROR REPRESENTS THE WORD. The word MIRROR is used 2 time in the NT for an analogy of the NT scriptures. <u>I Cor. 13:12</u> and <u>James 1:19-25</u> (READ slowly)

"For you see we see now dimly by means of a mirror"

1. We must remember that the mirror represents the completed canon of the NT. We have the Scriptures – the completed NT since AD 96 and the Pastor/Teacher has a God given responsibility to communicate that message. The Pastor must have organizational humility; enforce humility, which can result in genuine humility.

<u>Perception on Earth – Perception in Heaven</u> (Continued)

- 2. What we see dimly at this moment is the LJC, the members of the Trinity, the Plan of God, His gracious provision and support through logistical grace THEN we will see in its entirety the Essence of God in ALL the GLORY.
- 3. What we now learn inside this DIVINE SYSTEM OF LOVE AND GRACE provides the momentum for the Spiritual life each day and allows application of Divine Truth to all the experiences of life each day.
- 4. THE PRINCIPLE: PERCEPTION AND APPLICATION OF GOD'S WORD DEPENDS ON FULFILLING THE DIVINE MANDATE IN John 15:9, "As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you REMAIN ABIDE IN MY LOVE COMPLEX-SYSTEM."
- 5. The system we have today is a vast improvement over what they had before the completion of the Canon of Scripture BUT nothing compared to what we will have in the future in the presence of the LJC through-out eternity.
- 6. We are now living in a great time of CONFLICT. We all face burdens, problems, difficulties, fighting against the control of our old sinful natures! The only hope of our Spiritual success today is our determination to STUDY, LEARN, and BE OBEDIENT to the POWER of TRUTH by the FHS and consistency in God's wonderful Word.
- 7. Each believer has been given a VEHICLE it was a present from God at the point of our salvation A SYSTEM OF LOVE this vehicle makes it possible for us to be VICTORIOUS AND LIVE A JOYFUL, FRUITFUL, TRIUMPH, HAPPY EXISTENCE IN OUR VERY BRIEF TIME ON THIS EARTH.
- 8. Just remember God the Father invented this system, put it all together properly gave it to His Son when He came on the earth as a baby at His earthly birth. Then He also gave this magnificent system to us at our Spiritual Birth.

It is not NOW completely clear to us, but THEN (A FUTURE TIME)---Adv. tote τότε THIS IS CERTAIN – IT WILL HAPPEN!!!! IN HEAVEN, EVERYTHING WILL BE CLEAR!! No longer a foggy mirror! No longer a puzzle!! The words are: πρόσωπον πτὸς πρόσωπον FACE TO FACE.

SOONER OR LATER WE WILL LEAVE THIS LIFE. If we fail to use the system He has given us for this life – we will have placed many limitations on ourselves – BUT – THEN – "FOR NOW (PHASE II) WE SEE DIMLY AS IN A

Perception on Earth — Perception in Heaven (Continued)

MIRROR (canon of Scripture) BUT THEN FACE TO FACE; NOW I HAVE PARTIAL UNDERSTANDING BUT THEN I WILL UNDERSTAND COMPLETELY JUST AS I HAVE BEEN COMPLETELY UNDERSTOOD."