



## **SPIRITUAL LEARNER**

J.J. Turner, Ph..D. ©

Here is a wakeup thought: *“The man who thinks he knows something does not know as he ought to know”* (1 Corinthians 8:2). Halt! Look at Paul’s words again. These words imply that when we know as we ought to know, we will be conscious of how ignorant we are. This should be thought provoking.

Have you ever been around a person who is wide-eyed in spouting what he/she knows? Regardless of the subject, they know it all and can add to anything you say or correct when you are wrong. Honestly, most of us prefer not to be around, at least not for long, know-it-alls.

Christianity is a new journey traveled every day. It is always fresh and exciting. There is always a new testing of faith (cf. Jas 1:1-5); always something new to learn and put into practice; always something to be reminded. This is why we must always be spiritual learners; digging with excitement into God word.

What have you learned this year?

What parts of the Bible have you started practicing this year?

What difference is what you know making in your life?

It is my opinion that if Christians really understood and believed they needed to continue to study, learn, believe and practice the Bible, which would be evidenced in their lives, you would see more interest in Bible study, attending Bible classes and more activity related to the word of God.

I know it’s like butting your head against a brick wall—a waste of time—to try and encourage Christians who feel no need to study or attend Bible classes, to do so. Yet, we still try! There must be a desire and felt need before one is motivated. Spiritually, Jesus described it as *“hungering and thirsting after righteousness”* (Matt. 5:6). Rarely do we eat or drink unless we are hungry and thirsty.

Every Christian is commanded to *“be a doer of the word”* (Jas. 1:21-24). This requires (1) knowing, (2) believing, and (3) practicing God’s word. We have not been



## JEREMIAH INSTITUTE

J. J. TURNER

[jeremiahinst@aol.com](mailto:jeremiahinst@aol.com)

[www.jeremiahinstitute.com](http://www.jeremiahinstitute.com)

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called by the Gospel to be storage houses, memory vaults, or safety deposit boxes for God's word. We have been called to PRACTICE God's word. Jesus said the ones going to heaven are those "*who DO the Father's will*" (Matt. 7:21). Doing is proof you are a spiritual learner.