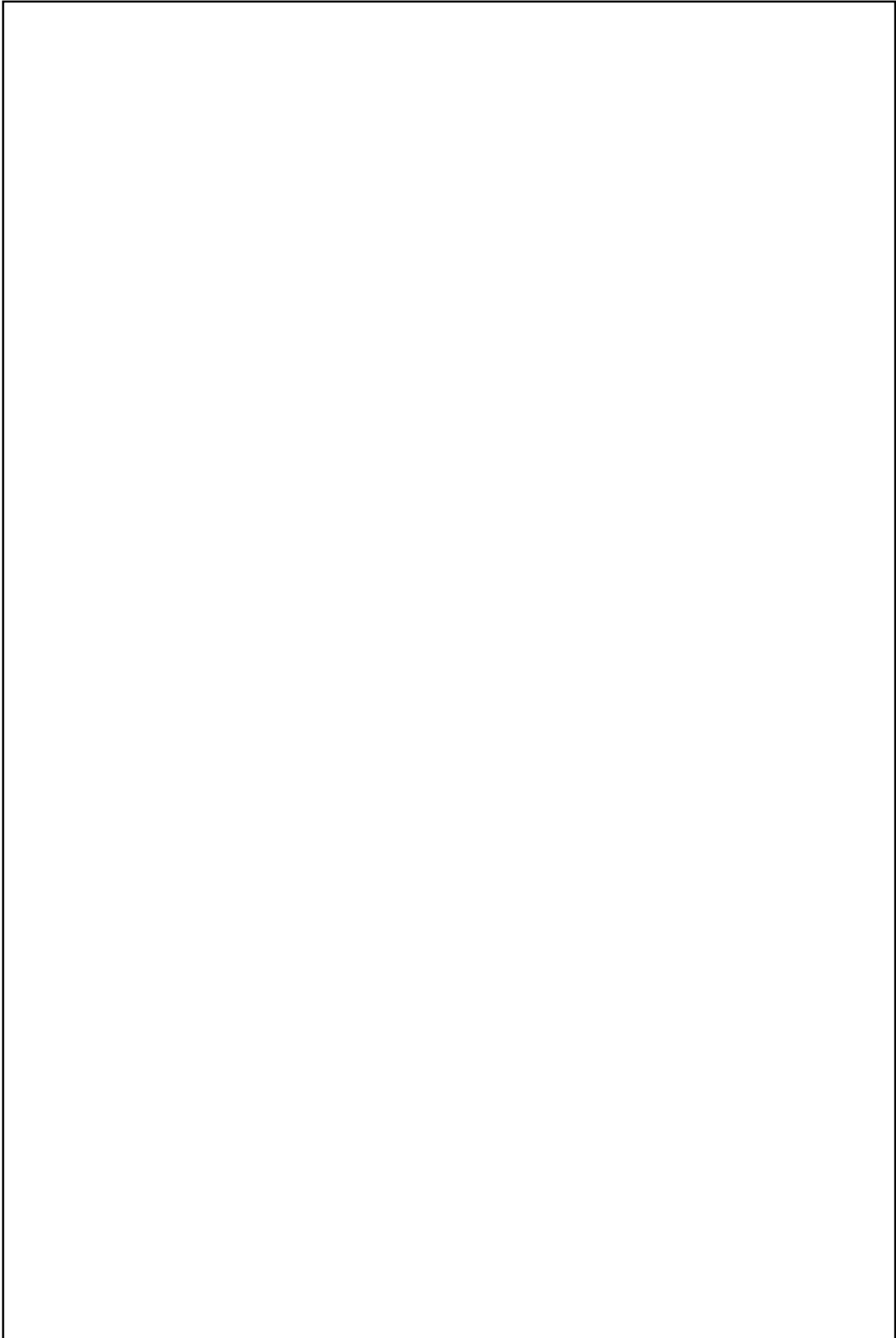


Appendix A–C



APPENDIX A–C

Introduction

Throughout this book, I addressed major passages pertaining to Christian living and indicated where I disagreed with other interpretations. Differing interpretations lead to different ways the Christian life is understood and lived out in everyday life.

Of particular importance is the correct understanding of the Spirit's role. While the topic of the Spirit's empowerment for Christian living is typically focused on Acts 1:8, the underlining text rests on the New Covenant promises of Ezekiel 36:26-27: "I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit within you" (v 26) and "I will put My Spirit within you and cause you to walk in My statutes" (v 27). Notice Ezekiel addressed the two-part inner man (mind and human spirit) of the new man, as well as the indwelling Holy Spirit who "will cause you to obey." *Appendix A* looks at the old man/new man from five positions, each with a distinct perspective on Christian living. *Appendix B* delves into various theological positions regarding the interworking of the inner man in conjunction with the Spirit, particularly the fulfillment of New Covenant promises in a historical timeline. [**Note:** While the interworking of the inner man with the Spirit is not clearly stated in Scripture, assumptions guided by study lead to the formulation of conclusions.]

Appendix C considers the current popular "relationship" gospel. The term *relationship* is being used as an overarching principle, encompassing both justification and sanctification for salvation. Connecting "believing in Christ" with "following Christ" is erroneous, requiring "trusting in the Spirit's power" for living and leading to a "let-go-and-let-God" understanding of the Christian life.

Author's Note

From careful study and interpretation of various texts, I arrived at conclusions, as every student of the Word must eventually decide how to explain and harmonize difficult texts.

ESCAPE

My approach to Scripture is based on two assumptions:

First God has communicated His will to believers through the Scriptures (2 Tim 3:16-17).

Second God is not trying to confuse us.

With those assumptions, diligent study leads to a discovery of the outworking of the Christian life. Clarity becomes reality when we realize—

God has spoken and His is not trying to confuse us!