

The storms of life -

Psalm 107:23, 25, 27 (NIV)

"Some went out on the sea in ships; they were merchants on the mighty waters For he spoke and stirred up a tempest that lifted high the waves They reeled and staggered like drunkards; they were at their wits' end."

Sin's seduction -

Revelation 17:1-2 (NET)

"Then one of the seven angels who had the seven bowls came and spoke to me. "Come," he said, "I will show you the condemnation and punishment of the great prostitute who sits on

Sin's seduction -

Revelation 17:1-2 (NET)

many waters, with whom the kings of the earth committed sexual immorality and the earth's inhabitants **got drunk with the wine of her immorality.**"

God's judgement -

Jeremiah 25:15-16 (NET)

"So the LORD, the God of Israel, spoke to me in a vision. "Take this cup from my hand. It is filled with the wine of my wrath. Take it and make the nations to whom I send you drink it. When they have drunk it, they will stagger to and

God's judgement -

Jeremiah 25:15-16 (NET)

fro and act insane. For I will send wars sweeping through them.

[Jeremiah 51:7, 39, 57; Isaiah 19:14]

Importance of sobriety

A leadership imperative –

I Timothy 3:2 (NKJV)

"A bishop then must be blameless, the husband of one wife, temperate, **sober-minded**, of good behavior, hospitable, able to teach"

A leadership imperative –

Titus 1:7-9 (NKJV)

"For a bishop must be blameless, as a steward of God, not self-willed, not quick-tempered, not given to wine, not violent, not greedy for money, but hospitable, a lover of what is good, **sober-minded**, just, holy, self-controlled, holding fast the faithful

A leadership imperative –

Titus 1:7-9 (NKJV)

word as he has been taught, that he may be able, by sound doctrine, both to exhort and convict those who contradict."

An aspect of gender identity –

Titus 2:2 (NKJV)

"that the older men be sober, reverent, temperate, sound in faith, in love, in patience;"

Titus 2:6 (NKJV)

"Likewise, exhort the young men to be sober-minded,"

An aspect of gender identity –

Titus 2:4 (AMP)

"So that they will wisely train the young women to be sane and sober of mind (temperate, disciplined) and to love their husbands and their children,"

Essential for self-knowledge –

Romans 12:3 (NKJV)

"For I say, through the grace given to me, to everyone who is among you, not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think, but to think soberly, as God has dealt to each one a measure of faith."

Essential for self-knowledge –

Self-knowledge encompasses our identity question with reference to 'who' we are; and it speaks to our destiny question with reference to 'what' we are. The 'who' refers to character formation, while the 'what' is reference to the inherent competencies, skills and gifts an

Essential for self-knowledge –

individual is endowed with at birth and is called to develop spiritually and vocationally, figuratively speaking.

Essential for self-knowledge –

However, when we come to the place where we're given the grace to begin to discover the answers to these questions, God can begin to engage us on His future plans for us.

Essential for self-knowledge –

A healthy self-knowledge is a necessary safeguard against vanity, envy, presumption and pride - all the vices that had led to Lucifer's fall.

For spiritual discernment – powers of assessment

1 Peter 4:7 (NIV)

"The end of all things is near. Therefore be alert and of sober mind so that you may pray."

For spiritual discernment – powers of assessment

1 Thessalonians 5:7-8 (NKJV)

"Therefore let us not sleep, as others do, but let us watch and be sober. For those who sleep, sleep at night, and those who get drunk are drunk at night."

For spiritual discernment –
powers of assessment

I Thessalonians 5:7-8 (NKJV)

"But let us who are of the day be sober, putting on the breastplate of faith and love, and as a helmet the hope of salvation."

For spiritual discernment – powers of
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For spiritual discernment – powers of
assessment

I Peter 5:8 (NKJV)

"Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil walks about like a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour."

An aquired spiritual aptitude
(discipling function)

It comes by 'training' ie. the cultivation of sound judgement and prudence./ 'to cause to be of sound mind, to recall to one's senses'. [Vines]

An aquired spiritual aptitude
(discipling function)

Titus 2:2,6, 12 (NKJV)

"that the older men be sober, reverent, temperate, sound in faith, in love, in patience; Likewise, exhort the young men to be sober-minded,

An aquired spiritual aptitude
(discipling function)

Titus 2:2,6, 12 (NKJV)

.... **teaching us** that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly in the present age.

**Safeguard against vulnerability –
1 Corinthians 15:34 (AMP)**

"Awake [from your drunken stupor and return] to sober sense and your right minds, and sin no more. For some of you have not the knowledge of God [you are utterly

**Safeguard against vulnerability –
1 Corinthians 15:34 (AMP)**

and willfully and disgracefully ignorant, and continue to be so, lacking the sense of God's presence and all true knowledge of Him]. I say this to your shame."

Safeguard against vulnerability

1 Peter 1:13 (NKJV)

"Therefore gird up the loins of your mind, be sober, and rest your hope fully upon the grace that is to be brought to you at the revelation of Jesus Christ;"

**Self-government – key to spiritual
authority**

2 Timothy 1:7 (NKJV)

"For God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power and of love and of a sound mind".

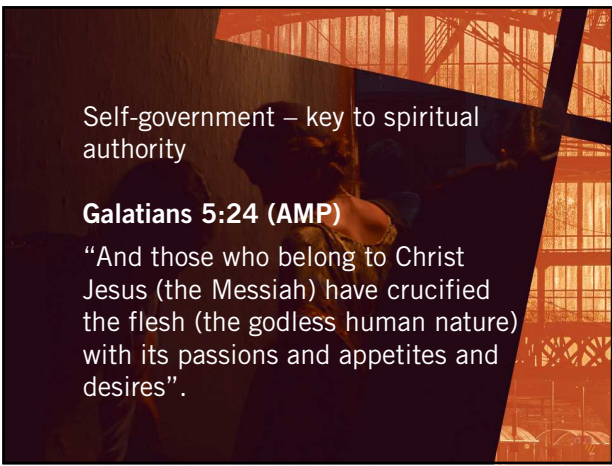
**Self-government – key to spiritual
authority**

Spiritual authority is a function of our conformity to the image and mind of Christ which is only possible through a crucified-self life.

**Self-government – key to spiritual
authority**

Galatians 2:20 (NKJV)

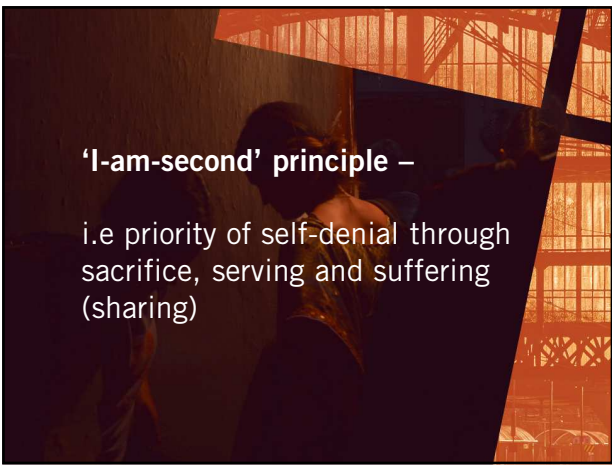
"I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God who loved me and gave Himself for me".



Self-government – key to spiritual authority

Galatians 5:24 (AMP)

“And those who belong to Christ Jesus (the Messiah) have crucified the flesh (the godless human nature) with its passions and appetites and desires”.



‘I-am-second’ principle –

i.e priority of self-denial through sacrifice, serving and suffering (sharing)