

The Shame Of Entropy

"I speak to your shame. Is it so, that there is not a wise man among you? no, not one that shall be able to judge between his brethren?"

1 Corinthians 6:5

The word for "*shame*" in this verse is the Greek *entropē*, meaning "turning inward" or "inversion." It is used only one other time, in 1 Corinthians 15:34: "*Awake to righteousness, and sin not; for some have not the knowledge of God: I speak this to your shame.*" Evidently this special variety of shame is associated with taking controversies between Christian brethren to ungodly judges and also with failing to witness to the non-Christian community. Instead of bringing the true wisdom of God to the ungodly, such "entropic Christians" were turning to worldly wisdom to resolve their own spiritual problems. This inverted behavior was nothing less than spiritual confusion!

The modern scientific term "entropy" is essentially this same Greek word. In science, entropy is a measure of disorder in any given system. The universal law of increasing entropy states that every system tends to disintegrate into disorder, or confusion, if left to itself. This tendency can only be reversed if ordering energy is applied to it effectively from a source outside the system.

This universal scientific law has a striking parallel in the spiritual realm. A person turning inward to draw on his own bank of power, or seeking power from an ineffective outside source, will inevitably deteriorate eventually into utter spiritual confusion and death. But when Christ enters the life, that person becomes a new creation in Christ Jesus (2 Corinthians 5:17). Through the Holy Spirit and the scriptures, "*his divine power hath given unto us all things that pertain unto life and godliness*" (2 Peter 1:3). The law of spiritual entropy is transformed into the "*law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus*" (Romans 8:2).

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