

STONES OF BITTERNESS

By **Chalton Askew**

Recently I suffered an attack of the gall bladder. Oh course I did not know that that is what was going on at the time. A series of testing resulted and the conclusion was that I had gall stones. Oh my God, what in the world are gall stones and where do they come from, I asked myself? Well in my quest to find out more information I learned that gall stones form from the bile that the liver releases that's sole purpose is to aid in the digestive process by helping to break down the food in the stomach.

The week before my attack, my pastor had experienced the same thing so this really stirred my curiosity as to why the role of the minister seemed to be under attack, especially since I've learned that things in the natural do reflect and parallel the spiritual, 1Cor.15:44-46.

When certain foods are eaten, a signal is sent to the gall bladder to dump some bile so that it can aid in the breakdown of what has been eaten to transform it into a form that can be digested and absorbed to provide nourishment for the body.

Upon giving thought to this I realized that the role of a minister is to aid in the digestive process of the Word of God. First in my own life, then into others. This caused me to become more God conscious of the portion of bile (His Understanding and Wisdom that comes forth in me from applying The Completed Work of The Cross) that flows into me to make sure that there is a proportionate releasing and mixture, therefore halting the possibility of crystallization of painful stones of bitterness.

I did not realize what impact my frustrations had on me. I was not receiving for myself the revelation knowledge and mixing it with the foundational teaching of application and Power drawn from The Completed Work of Jesus' Cross. The resulting frustration and withholding of the Truth caused stones of bitterness. The new awareness in me, thanks to The Completed Work of Jesus' Cross, has caused me to abandon my reservations to release what God gives to me for the benefit of others.

My gall bladder has since been removed, thus eliminating the holding place of the bile and now it is released directly into the bile duct causing a more immediate impact on the body. My digestion, assimilation, and elimination, being improved. Literally, and spiritually, to the greater health of the body - mine personally in the natural and spiritual, and the Body of Christ in the spiritual. Praise our God!