

A man in a dark suit and a fedora hat stands on a paved path, looking out over a landscape at sunset. He is holding a brown suitcase in his right hand. The sky is filled with warm, golden light from the setting sun, and the horizon is visible in the distance.

# *The Challenge of* SELF EXAMINATION

**2 Corinthians 13:5–6 (NKJV)**

<sup>5</sup> Examine yourselves *as to* whether you are in the faith. Test yourselves. Do you not know yourselves, that Jesus Christ is in you?—unless indeed you are disqualified. <sup>6</sup> But I trust that you will know that we are not disqualified.





# *The Challenge of* SELF EXAMINATION

**PERSONAL  
RESPONSIBILITY**

**SELF  
TESTING**

**BEING LIKE  
JESUS TO BE  
OUR GOAL**

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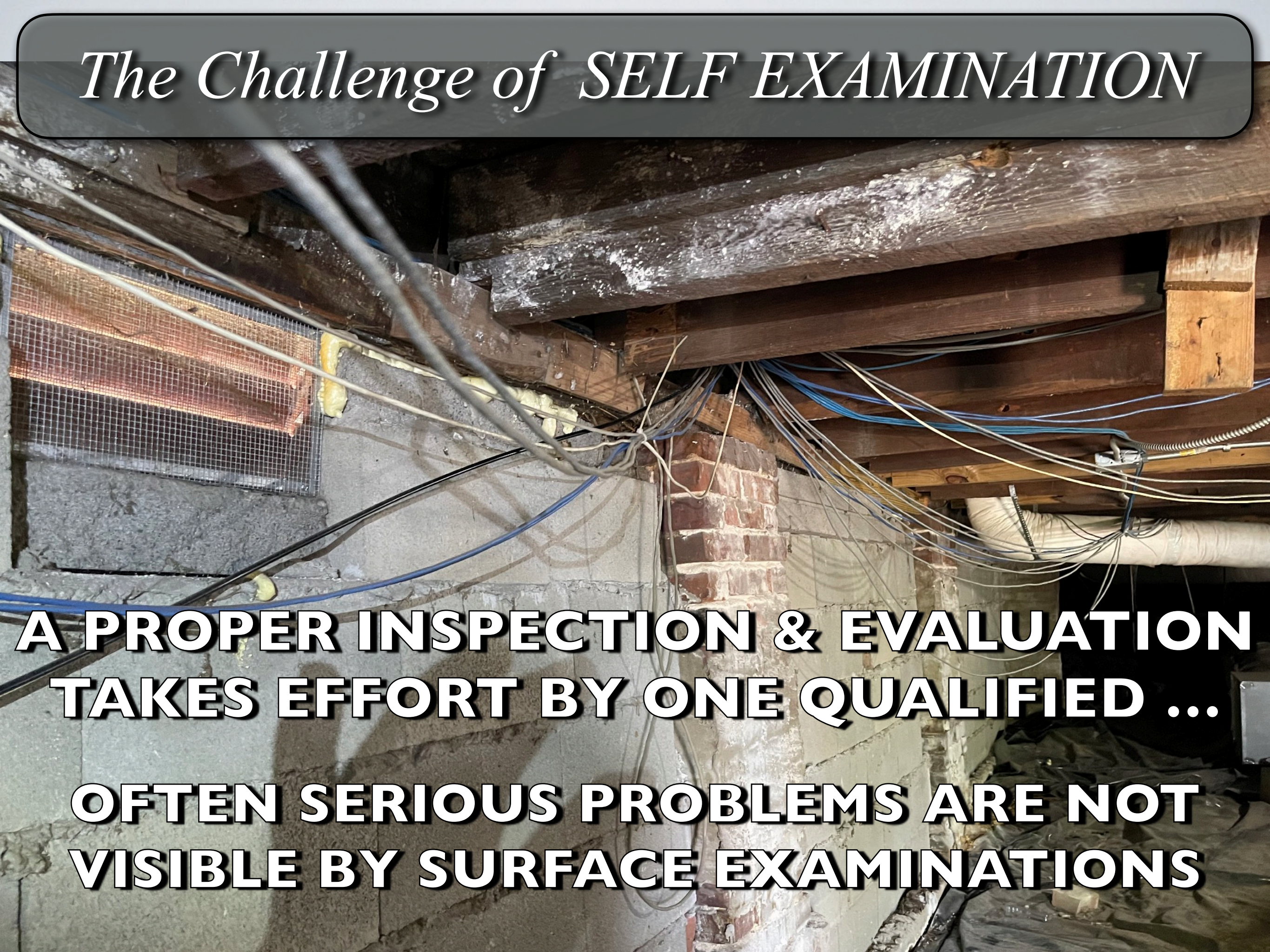
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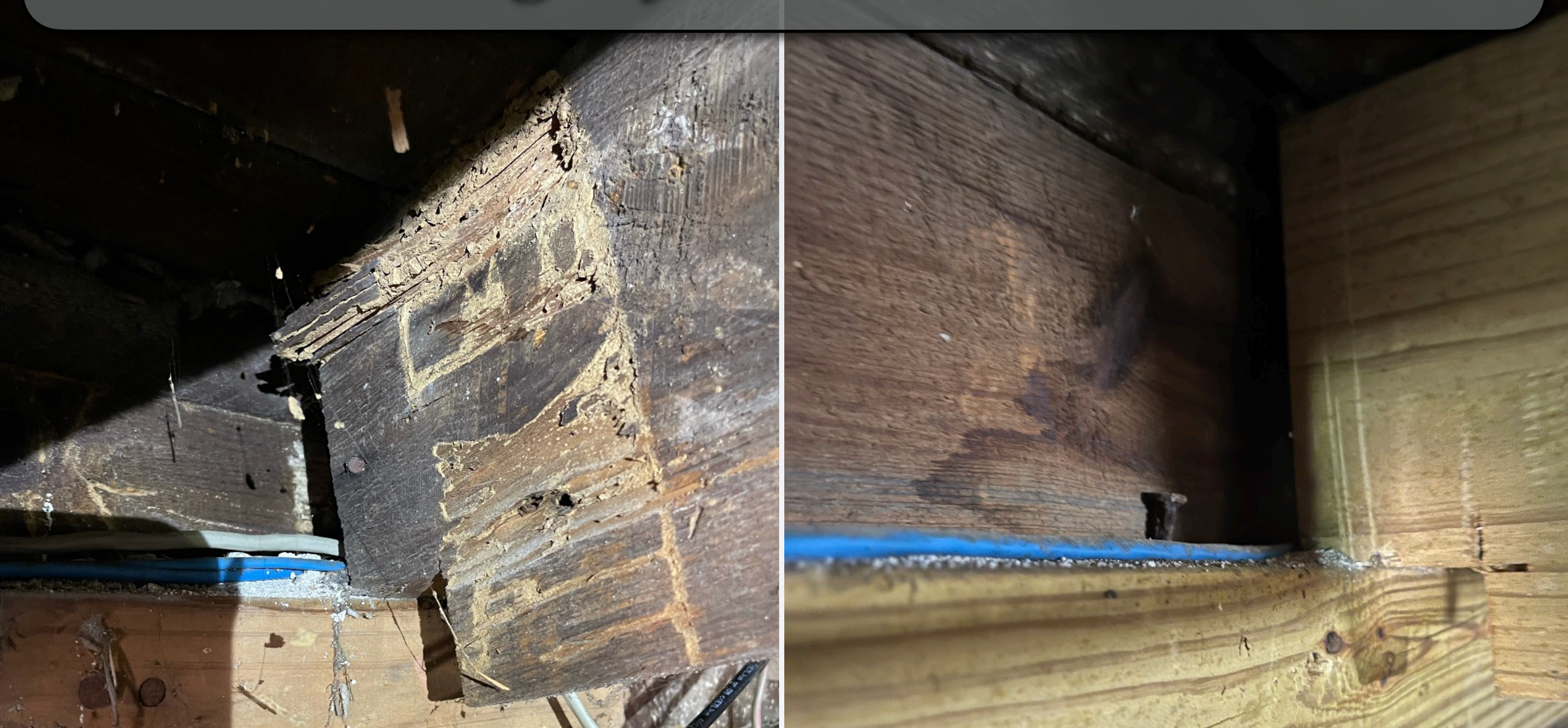
# *The Challenge of SELF EXAMINATION*



**A PROPER INSPECTION & EVALUATION  
TAKES EFFORT BY ONE QUALIFIED ...  
OFTEN SERIOUS PROBLEMS ARE NOT  
VISIBLE BY SURFACE EXAMINATIONS**



# *The Challenge of SELF EXAMINATION*



**WHEN WE DIG A LITTLE DEEPER WE  
MAY FIND SERIOUS AND DANGEROUS  
PROBLEMS WE ARE NOT AWARE OF**



# *The Challenge of SELF EXAMINATION*

**MEN DO NOT HAVE THE ANSWERS APART FROM GOD!**

Jeremiah 17:9  
(NKJV)

9 “The heart *is*  
deceitful above all  
*things*, And  
desperately wicked;  
Who can know it?



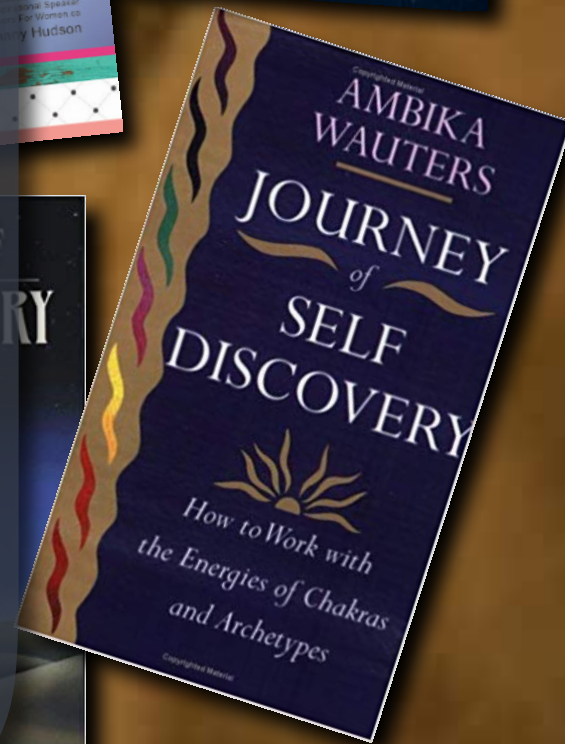
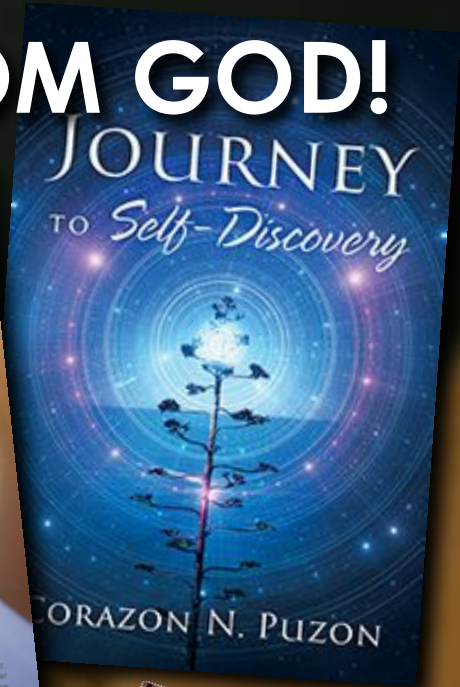


# *The Challenge of SELF EXAMINATION*

**MEN DO NOT HAVE THE ANSWERS APART FROM GOD!**

Ecclesiastes 9:3 (NKJV)

<sup>3</sup> This *is* an evil in all that is done under the sun: that one thing *happens* to all. Truly the hearts of the sons of men are full of evil; madness *is* in their hearts while they live, and after that *they* go to the dead.

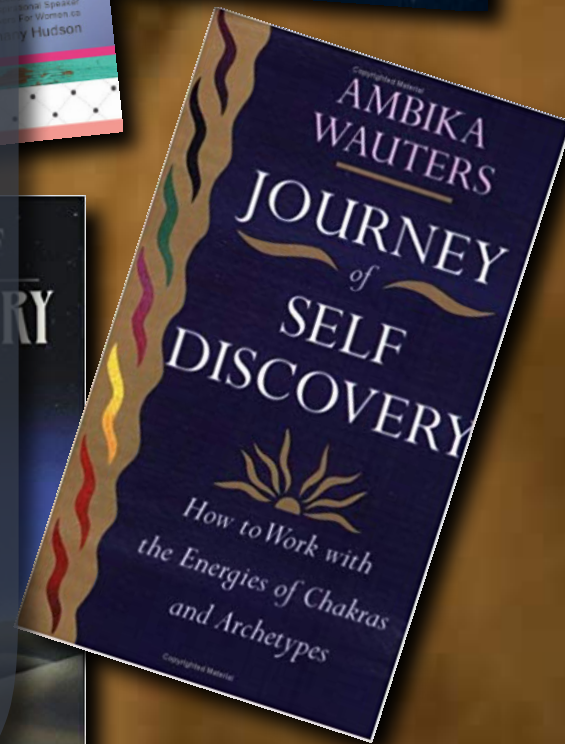
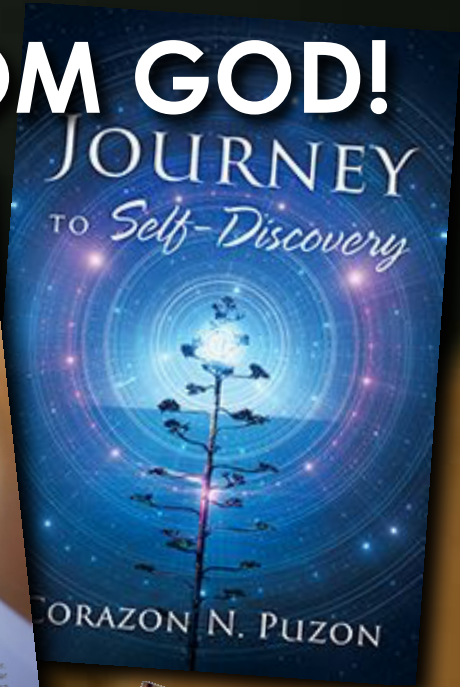




# *The Challenge of SELF EXAMINATION*

**MEN DO NOT HAVE THE ANSWERS APART FROM GOD!**

Matthew 15:19 (NKJV)  
19 For out of the heart proceed  
evil thoughts, murders,  
adulteries, fornications, thefts,  
false witness, blasphemies.





# *The Challenge of SELF EXAMINATION*

- **We MUST come to see ourselves as God sees us!! (2 Cor. 13:5)**
- **Only God's word defines who & what we should be!!**

Psalm 139:23–24 (NKJV)

<sup>23</sup> Search me, O God, and know my heart; Try me, and know my anxieties; <sup>24</sup> And see if *there is any* wicked way in me, And lead me in the way everlasting.



# *The Challenge of SELF EXAMINATION*

IT'S ONLY IN THE MIRROR OF **GOD'S WORD**  
THAT YOU SEE YOURSELF ACCURATELY,  
AND ONLY IN **HIS GRACE** THAT  
YOU FIND HELP FOR WHAT YOU SEE.

”

— <sup>25</sup> But he who looks into the perfect law of liberty and continues *in it*,  
and is not a forgetful hearer but a doer of the work, this one will be blessed  
in what he does. — James 1:25 (NKJV)

Paul David Tripp



# *The Challenge of SELF EXAMINATION*

## **THE DANGER OF SELF-DECEPTION**



- We Can Think That We Are Right With God When We Are Not!! –
- Luke 18:9-14 — Parable of the Pharisee and the Tax Collector
- Romans 10:1-3 — Unbelieving Jews
- Rev. 3:14-17 — The Laodiceans
- James 1:26 — unbridled tongue
- 1 John 1:8-10 — many in sin
- 2 Peter 2:12-16 — False teachers & their followers ...



# *The Challenge of SELF EXAMINATION*

## **POTENTIAL BLINDERS ...**

### ■ **Human Wisdom -**

- Wisdom confined to human experiences / temporal studies / physical and psychological studies EXCLUDING GOD AND SPIRITUAL REALITY. We are warned — Eccle; Rom. 1:18-32; Ephes. 5:6; etc.



**Colossians 2:8 (NKJV)**




**<sup>8</sup> Beware lest anyone cheat you through philosophy and empty deceit, according to the tradition of men, according to the basic principles of the world, and not according to Christ.**



# *The Challenge of SELF EXAMINATION*

## **POTENTIAL BLINDERS ...**

### **Temporal THINGS**

-  "Let him not trust in futile things, deceiving himself, For futility will be his reward. - Job 15:31
-  "Take heed and beware of covetousness, for one's life does not consist in the abundance of the things he possesses." Luke 12:15
-  Consider some lessons from Matthew 6 - (praises of men - 6:1-18 / Values, focus & loyalty - 6:19-24 / things - 6:25-34





# *The Challenge of SELF EXAMINATION*

## POTENTIAL BLINDERS ...

### ■ HOW DO YOU FEEL?

- What **FEELS** most natural? ...
- What makes you **FEEL** good? ...
- Does it **FEEL** right?
- That which is GOOD & RIGHT is NOT determined by how we **FEEL**! — Prov 14:12; 20:24; Jer. 10:23
- How is the person going to **FEEL** who is unlearned when it comes to God and His will? — Eph. 2:1-3; Titus 3:3; Rom. 10:1-3; Acts 22:1-5; 26:9-11





# *The Challenge of SELF EXAMINATION*

## **POTENTIAL BLINDERS ...**

### **PRIDE / SELF-SUFFICIENCY ?**

- ✿ If we think we can be WHO & WHAT we ought to be WITHOUT God's guidance, help and strength, we are fools — Galatians 6:3;

### **Proverbs 26:12 (NKJV)**

<sup>12</sup> Do you see a man wise in his own eyes? *There is more hope for a fool than for him.*





# *The Challenge of SELF EXAMINATION*

## **POTENTIAL BLINDERS ...**

### **PRIDE / SELF-SUFFICIENCY ?**

- If we think we can be WHO & WHAT we ought to be WITHOUT God's guidance, help and strength, we are fools — Galatians 6:3;
- Before we can be WHO and WHAT we ought to be, we MUST humble ourselves before God — 1 Peter 5:5
- IF WE TRULY HUMBLE OURSELVES - God WILL MAKE us into who WE TRULY SHOULD BE — James 4:6-10; 2 Timothy 2:20,21; 1 Cor. 3:8





# *The Challenge of SELF EXAMINATION*

## **POTENTIAL BLINDERS ...**



### **LOVE FOR SIN**

- If we have PLEASURE in unrighteousness we will seek to “justify” our unrighteousness — 2 Thes 2:10-12; Rom 2:8; 2 Pet 2:13-15;
- To “justify our unrighteousness, we have to “suppress” / “twist” / “change” the TRUTH — Rom 1:18-32; Gal. 1:6-9; 1 John 1:9,10; Jn 3:18-21
- If we reject God’s word about our sin - we reject the truth about ourselves — Eph. 5:13-17; Jm 1:22-25





# *The Challenge of SELF EXAMINATION*

## **POTENTIAL BLINDERS ...**



- Recognizing the sins of others while ignoring our own – Mat 7:3-5; 2 Sam 12:5
- Comparing ourselves to “WORSE” sinners – 2 Cor 10:12; Luke 18:11
- Shifting blame – Gen. 3:12,13; 1 Sam 15:21,24
- Assuming virtue by association – Mat 3:9; John 8:33-39; Phil 2:12



# *The Challenge of SELF EXAMINATION*

## **POTENTIAL BLINDERS ...**



- Redefining sin, righteousness or truth relative to our current circumstances – Is. 5:20; Luke 16:15; Mt 5:21-48; Ro 8:7,8; 10:1-3
- I have done \_\_\_\_\_, I am doing \_\_\_\_\_, therefore God won't hold \_\_\_\_\_ against me! – Gal 6:7-9; James 2:10
- Prejudice – Prov 18:13
- Hard Headedness – Acts 7:51



# *The Challenge of SELF EXAMINATION*

## HOW TO DISCOVER WHO I SHOULD BE



- **REVERENCE** — Prov 1:7; Eccl 12:13
- **HUMILITY** — Mat 5:3; Jer. 10:23; Is 6:5;
- **MEEKNESS** — James 1:21
- **HONESTY / EXAMINATION** – Acts 17:11; 2 Cor. 13:5
- **STUDY / TRUST** — Acts 17:11; 2 Cor. 13:5; 2 Tim 2:15; Act 2:41,42; John 17:17; 1 Thes 2:13
- **APPLICATION** — Jam 1:22-25
- **DILIGENCE** – 2 Peter 1:5,10; 3:14



# *The Challenge of SELF EXAMINATION*

## **HOW TO DISCOVER WHO I SHOULD BE**



- The example of David – 2 Samuel 12:1-14
- The example of Peter – Mat 26:33-35, 69-75
- The example of the prodigal son – Luke 15:11-24
- The example of Paul – Acts 9:1-18; Acts 23:1; 1 Tim 1:13





# *The Challenge of* **SELF EXAMINATION**

- **The Danger of Self Deception – We must be aware and on guard!**
- **We must honestly examine ourselves and remove anything that would blind us to the truth about ourselves!**
- **The Biblical Path To Self Discovery?**

**Fear – -**  
**Humility –**  
**Meekness –**  
**Honesty / Integrity –**  
**Examination —**  
**Study / Trust**  
**Application –**  
**Diligence –**



A man in a dark suit and a fedora hat stands on a paved path, looking out over a landscape at sunset. He is holding a brown suitcase in his right hand. The sky is filled with warm, orange and yellow clouds, and the sun is low on the horizon to the right. The path leads into the distance, flanked by greenery.

# *The Challenge of* SELF EXAMINATION

- Trust & submit to God – Repent of ANY sin in your life — He will forgive and guide you — Acts 2:38-42; Rom. 6:3-23
- Commit to serving the Lord His way – NOT YOURS!







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# JOURNEY *to* SELF DISCOVERY GOD'S WAY

**Charts by Don McClain**

Preached AUGUST 18, 2019

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# LOOK INTO God's Mirror

*What Do You See?*

**Charts by Don McClain**

Preached November 18, 2018

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