

Part III: Showing What Are Distinguishing Signs of Truly Gracious  
and Holy Affections (Signs 7-9)

1. Review from previous weeks
2. Descriptions of the signs
  - a. Seventh sign: Change of Nature
  - b. Eighth sign: Christ-like Spirit
  - c. Ninth sign: Tender Spirit

3. Applications
  - a. Change of Nature
    - i. Application to self
    - ii. Application to others
    - iii. Application to ministries

- b. Christ-like Spirit & Tender Spirit
  - i. Application to self
  - ii. Application to others
  - iii. Application to ministries

4. *Miscellanies: 397. Conversion. Spiritual Knowledge*

... [W]e learn that the prime alteration that is made in conversion, that which is first and the foundation of all, is the alteration of the temper and disposition and spirit of the mind. For what is done in conversion is nothing but conferring the Spirit of God, which dwells in the soul and becomes there a principle of life and action. 'Tis this is the new nature, and the divine nature; and the nature of the soul being thus changed, it admits divine light. Divine things now appear excellent, beautiful, glorious, which did not when the soul was of another spirit. Indeed, the first act of the Spirit of God, or the first that this divine temper exerts itself in, is in spiritual understanding or in the sense of the mind, its perception of glory and excellency, etc. — in the ideas it has of divine things. And this is before any proper acts of the will. Indeed, the inclination of the soul, as immediately exercised in that sense of the mind which is called spiritual understanding or the intellect's love, is not only mere presence of ideas in the mind, but it is the mind's sense of their excellency, glory, and delightfulness. By this sense or taste of the mind, especially if it be lively, the mind distinguishes truth from falsehood.