



THE HOLY SPIRIT

"I will pray the Father,
and He shall give you
another COMFORTER,
that He may abide
with you forever"

John 14 : 16

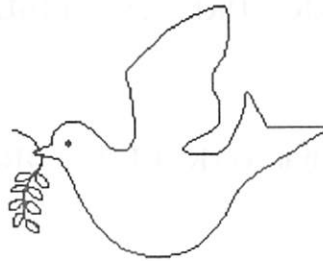
By
Rev. Dr. Andrew J. Losier

Not to be Sold

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**Founder and President
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GOD THE HOLY SPIRIT

BY

REV. DR. ANDREW J. LOSIER

OF

CHRISTIAN LITERATURE AND BIBLE CENTER INC.,

U. S. AMERICA

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PREFACE

Understanding the work of God the Holy Spirit in each age of the history of man is of utmost important for our present age of Grace. It is also very important that we understand the eternal existence of God the Holy Spirit. God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit are equal in character but individual in personality. We are particularly dealing with God the Holy Spirit, who has been sent to the saints of God for some very import reasons. Before any creation began, the Triune Godhead was agreed as to each ones position and program for all ages. The Godhead, being absolutely holy and impeccable desired to remove the possibility of sin, once and forever. God the Father planned it, God the Son provided the means of dealing with sin once and forever, and God the Holy Spirit furnishes an eternal protection through the new birth. The Holy Spirit made us immortal with the Divine spark of life that will never end. "That which is born of the flesh is flesh; and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit." Jn.3:6.

As believers of this present age, we need to thoroughly understand our total dependence upon the Holy Spirit, to maintain the Christian life according to the Scripture. The Holy Spirit is our source of power and is a manifestation of God for this present age. He is as much of a real person as God the Father and God the Son. He is the author of the Bible and can best guide and direct us in our study of the Bible. It is the wisdom of God the Holy Spirit in our lives that makes the difference as to whether we understand the Word of God or not.

God the Holy Spirit is our source of eternal life, made possible by the self sacrifice of the Lord Jesus Christ, in paying the penalty of sin. The angels of heaven and mankind upon this earth were given volition to live by, rather than a set pattern of behavior through "Instinct". As we study this textbook on the Holy Spirit, may we ever be reminded, "Not by might, nor by power, but by my Spirit, saith the Lord of hosts." Zech.4:6b. God the Holy Spirit is a vital part of our Divine nature, for it is through Him that we have become immortal beings, to dwell in the presence of God forever and ever.

Rev. Dr. Andrew J.Losier,

Founder & President

of

Christian Literature & Bible Center Inc.

FORWARD

It gives me great joy and pleasure to introduce you to one of our outstanding Bible teachers of our day. He was formerly Pastor of the Cleveland Park Bible Church of Spartanburg, South Carolina, U.S.A. Pastor Dr. John E. Mcknight is now pastor of the Evangelical Methodist Church and Harford Christian School of Dublin, Maryland. He has some timely spiritual advise to be given to each of us concerning God the Holy Spirit. May the Holy Spirit direct and guide you, Rev. Dr. John McKnight, as you impart to us sound doctrine from the Word of God.

Behind the scenes, hidden from human view and in perfect silence, One moves executing the will of God. Incubating the unformed creation as a bird does her hatchings, overcoming Philistia's warriors through one man Samson; and signifying through the prophets Christ's sufferings and glory centuries before the events, He advanced the purpose of God. Jesus Christ described His workings with these words. "The wind bloweth where it listeth, and thou hearest the sound thereof, but canst not tell whence it cometh, and whither it goeth" John 3:8. Who is this wonderful and awe inspiring One?

He is symbolized by the dove: gentle, harmless and full of grace. He is symbolized by oil: a source of healing and light to the ancient world. He is symbolized by water: a necessity for life. He presents our prayers to God with unutterable groanings when words fail to express our hearts burden. He bears witness to believers that they are children of God. With sharp jabs He convicts of sin. With gentle prodding He leads to Christ. He is tireless in the work of advancing God's purpose to exalt Jesus Christ.

This glorious One seeks no glory. This all-powerful One always submits to the Father and Christ. This gentle One can crush the hardest heart. This Eternal One deals in our time. This indispensable Teacher, Guide and Comforter is the Holy Spirit. He should be given reverent attention.

Dr. Andrew Losier knows the biblical teachings regarding the Holy Spirit. He also knows the practical workings of the Blessed One through a ministry that spans six decades. He knows the Holy Spirit's work in his own life and in the lives of others. He has observed the Comforter's workings in refined American churches and in forsaken African bushlands. He writes from a full life and a full heart.

May the reader make this his prayer as he receives the message of each page.

**Holy Spirit, with light Divine, Shine upon this heart of mine.
Chase the shades of night away, Turn my darkness into day.**

**Holy Spirit, all Divine, Dwell within this heart of mine;
Cast down every idol-throne, Reign supreme, and reign alone. Amen.**

Rev. Dr. John E. Mcknight.

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CHAPTER ONE



Introduction

CHAPTER ONE

INTRODUCTION BY PASTOR PAUL GARRISON

In our present day of evangelism, the general preaching ministry avoids reference to God the Holy Spirit and his great commission in this age of grace. The Holy Spirit seems to be the unknown personality in the Godhead. However, we do have God's witnesses, proclaiming the Word of God who give the Holy Spirit his rightful place in so great salvation. I have found, Pastor Paul Garrison of the Hill Street Baptist Church, to be preaching and teaching the importance of God the Holy Spirit. I have asked Pastor Paul to introduce the teaching of the Holy Spirit as well as a series of questions to be answered based upon his introduction. May we take heed to this man of God as he introduces the subject of the Holy Spirit. It gives me the great honor to introduce you to Pastor Paul Garrison, a man of God to whom the Lord is giving a very fruitful ministry, with many precious souls heeding the convictions of the Holy Spirit through his ministry.

There is a widespread ignorance on the part of many believers concerning the role of the Holy Spirit in their lives, today. Most people understand reasonably well what Jesus did when he died on a cross for our sins, but it may not be true that they understand also the role of the Holy Spirit in their life. Someone put it this way, they said that the average Christian is somewhere between Calvary and Pentecost. They have been to Calvary for pardon, but they have not been to Pentecost for power. Jesus talked about the Pentecostal difference in chapter 14 of John when he said about the Holy Spirit, "He is with you and shall be in you" (vs.17).

In the Old Testament times God's Spirit came upon individuals at different times for different purposes. It was possible in Old Testament times for the Spirit of God to be withdrawn from them. But on the day of Pentecost God's Spirit came to in-dwell believers and from that point to this time every truly born-again child of God is in-dwelt by the Holy Spirit.

Now the Bible also teaches that the Holy Spirit is a very real person... He is not an "it". You deny existence if you deny personality. Jesus talks about the personality of the Holy Spirit in John 14:17 where he says. "Even the Spirit of truth (talking about the Holy Spirit); whom the world cannot receive, because it seeth Him (the Holy Spirit) not, neither know Him (The Holy Spirit): but you know Him (the Holy Spirit); for He (the Holy Spirit) dwells with you, and shall be in you." God the Father, God the Son, God the Holy Spirit. One God and yet He reveals Himself in three very distinct personalities. You say, "Can you explain how God can be one God and yet three personalities?" No, I don't have all the answers to that. All I know is that the Bible teaches that and I just believe what the Bible teaches whether I understand it all or not.

You do not have to understand something to believe it. For instance, electricity. Now I know that in an electrical wire that one molecule touches another molecule and that is what makes the current. But I still do not understand it, yet I believe in it so much that I

make all precautions to keep my thumb out of live sockets. And I will tell you something else. I do not understand how it is that a brown cow can eat green grass and give yellow butter and white milk, but I drink milk, and I like butter. You believe in a lot of things you do not understand.

In this chapter I want to set out three very important things that the Holy Spirit does in the life of the believer as a kind of summary of His work in the world. First of all there is the work that the Holy Spirit does for you. We use the word "salvation" to explain the work that He does for you. Now that involves two activities of the Holy Spirit. One of those activities is conviction. Jesus said in John chapter 16, verse 8, "And when He (the Holy Spirit) is come, He will reprove the world of sin, righteousness, and of judgement." He will reprove the world -- that means He will convict men that they are lost and that they need Jesus. The Holy Spirit helps you understand that you are a sinner (Romans 3:23), that Jesus died for you on the cross, and that if you would invite Him into your heart you would be saved (Romans 10:13).

SALVATION

Now the Lord works in different ways in different people's hearts. Because of your make-up some people are more demonstrative and more emotional than others and so they express conviction in different ways. I have seen some people convicted by the Holy Spirit and they weep copious tears. On the other hand I have seen people who were convicted by the Spirit and there did not seem to be a great deal of outward expression or outward emotion. It really does not matter about that if down in your heart you know that you are lost and if you know that Jesus will save you. You only have that understanding because of the convicting work of the Holy Spirit of God.

But there is also conversion. The moment you repent of your sin, receive Jesus as your Saviour, you are converted. You become a child of God. Now there are several things in relationship to the Holy Spirit that happen at the very moment of salvation. Let me just run down through them real quickly. Number one, you are born of the Spirit. John chapter 3, verse 6, Jesus talks about being born of the Spirit. He said "That which is flesh is flesh", (the physical birth), "That which is of the Spirit is spirit", (the spiritual birth). You are born of the Spirit into the family of God.

And then the Bible says you are baptized by the Spirit at the moment of your salvation. "For as by one Spirit we are all baptized into the body of Jesus Christ" (1 Corinthians 12:13). At the moment of salvation God's Spirit baptizes you into the body of Jesus Christ. You become a part of the invisible universal church, the body of our Lord Jesus Christ. Birthed of the Spirit; baptized by the Spirit.

And then the Bible says you are sealed by the Holy Spirit. In Ephesians chapter 1, verse 13, the Bible says that when you receive the Spirit you are sealed by the Spirit. A seal is something that is used in corporate transactions, so what it is saying is that God has entered into an agreement with you. God has set down terms of His salvation, the bases on which He will save a human being. God has signed that into His covenant, it is revealed to us in His Word, the Bible. He sent His Son Jesus Christ to fulfill the terms of the covenant. The moment you receive Jesus as your Saviour you give your assent to what God has

determined He would do. At that moment God seals the transaction with the gift of the Holy Spirit in your life. You are sealed with the Holy Spirit.

Now what this means then is that you are divinely preserved by God's Holy Spirit. The reason I know that I am going to heaven when I die is because when I received Jesus as my Saviour I was sealed by the Spirit. If you are saved that means that you are signed, sealed, and delivered, and one of these days you're going to be in heaven because of what Jesus Christ did. Ephesians 4:30 says, "Grieve not the Holy Spirit, whereby you are sealed until the day of redemption." Now the only way you could ever get lost again after you have been saved is for the seal to be broken. So, you can not break the seal that God Himself has put in your heart, the blessed Holy Spirit.

Born of the Spirit, baptized by the Spirit, sealed by the Spirit. And then in Ephesians 1:14 it says that God has given us the earnest of the Spirit in our hearts. Now the word "earnest" means "a down payment." We still use the word today. We talk about "earnest money." Now we go shopping for a new car and you see one that you really want. You say, "Boy, I really do want that car right there." And the salesman says, "Well you better get in line, there's about ten right after you that want it. You better buy it right now today." "Well I've got some things I need to do." So what you do is you put down some "earnest money." In other words you put down a down payment and you say, "Now this earnest money means I'm serious. I'm earnest about this thing. I'm sincere about this thing." So the down payment is the guarantee that the rest of the payment is on the way.

Now do you see what that says about God's Spirit in your heart? Every time I get a spiritual blessing and the Spirit of God just touches my heart and blesses me it's just another down payment that everything included in my salvation is going to be mine one of these days. I have the earnest of the Spirit of God in my heart.

Now that is the work that the Holy Spirit does in you. That is salvation. It all happens at the moment of salvation. You do not have to tarry for it; you don't have to pray later on to get it. Once it has happened in your life it does not happen a second time. It has to do with your position as a believer. That is your position in Jesus Christ. The work that the Holy Spirit does for you.

SANCTIFICATION

But now there is a second work concerning the Holy Spirit in the life of a Christian. There is, secondly, the work that the Holy Spirit does in you, and that's called in the Bible "sanctification." God's Holy Spirit who in-dwells you now wants to do a work in you and the work is called sanctification. Now the word "sanctification" really means "to set apart." You sanctify something, that means you set it apart. In other words, in the Old Testament for instance there were certain vessels that were used in the temple service and activities so they were sanctified vessels. That means they set them apart. You just did not use those vessels for ordinary things.

Well, now that you belong to the Lord Jesus Christ you are special to Him. See? You're very special to Him and He wants to set you apart only, fully, totally, completely to Him. To set apart. Now that suggests a negative and also a positive. That means that you are to be set apart from the world and set apart unto the Lord Jesus Christ. You are to

come out of everything that's wrong and come in to everything that is right. Now I want to explain this from 2 Corinthians chapter 7, I am going to start back up in verse 17 chapter 6, because all of that ties together.

2 Corinthians 6.

vs.17. "Wherefore come out from among them, and be you separate, says the Lord, (that's what God says to the Christian) and touch not the unclean thing; and I will receive you,

vs.18 And will be a Father unto you, and you shall be my sons and daughters, says the Lord Almighty.

2 Corinthians 7:1.

vs.1. "Having therefore, dearly beloved, these promises, let us cleanse ourselves from all filthiness of the flesh and spirit, perfecting holiness (sanctification) in the fear of God."

Now do you notice the negative there? Cleansing yourselves of all filthiness of the flesh and spirit. That's the negative aspect of what God's Spirit wants to do in your life. God's Holy Spirit wants to clean you up. God's Holy Spirit wants to clean you out. God's Holy Spirit wants to get the things out of your life that ought not to be there now that you belong to Jesus. Now you do not get saved because you give up some things. You do not get saved because you clean up your life. You are saved on the basis of unmerited favor of God. A lot of people get hung up right there. I've talked to people who have said, "Well, I believe I'd come to the Lord if I was sure I could live it, but I've got to straighten out some things first." Have you ever had anybody say that? I've got to get some things out of my life now before I can get saved. You don't get your life clean and then come to Jesus, you come to Jesus and then He does the cleaning job on you. See? He gets your life clean. So that's the work of the Holy Spirit. He wants to cleanse you. So as you yield to the indwelling Holy Spirit of God, He helps get some things out of your life that ought not to be in your life.

Now He also wants to do something positive. Separation means, not only separation from some things that are wrong, it also means separation to the Lord Jesus Christ. Over in Galatians 5 it talks about the fruit of the Spirit, love, joy, peace those nine graces of the Holy Spirit. And what He's saying there is, allow the Holy Spirit to fill your life with these things that are good and beautiful and noble. Now you don't become a spiritual Christian instantly. You don't just all of a sudden become a full - grown, mature child of God. You have to grow in the Lord. I mean when you get saved, if you've got a bad temper, chances are that temper doesn't evaporate at the moment of salvation. And if you've got a mouth that talks too much, chances are when you get saved it won't cure that problem. You've got to grow you see, and you've got to allow the Holy Spirit time to put some things in your life that ought to be there. So that's the work the Holy Spirit does in us, that's sanctification.

SERVICE

All right, there's the work He does for us, that's salvation; there's the work the Holy Spirit does in us, that's sanctification. Number three, there is the work that the Holy Spirit does through us, and that's service. God's Holy Spirit who lives in your heart wants to use you as a channel to be a blessing to those with whom you come in contact. God has given His Spirit in your heart to enable you to serve the Lord Jesus Christ. Now I want to show you something. Anything God asks you to do He has given you the potential in the in-dwelling Holy Spirit to do that very thing. In Philippians chapter 1 and verse 19 the Apostle Paul writes: "For I know that this shall turn your salvation through your prayer, and the supply of the Spirit of Jesus Christ." He talks here about the supply of the Spirit. An interesting word right there. It is the word from which we get the word "Choir" or "Chorus." It referred to an individual in Greek cities who would provide the necessary funds for the chorus of that city to maintain its existence and to perform. He was a patron, someone who had a great deal of wealth, and they had choruses, full-time choruses, like we have symphonies. So a patron would provide all of the funds necessary. He would supply all the resources essential for that choir to do what it was supposed to do. That's the word. The supply of the Holy Spirit. The rich provision of the Holy Spirit. Now what that simply means is that everything you need to be a witness for Jesus and to serve Jesus Christ is already available for you in the Holy Spirit who lives in your heart.

NECESSARY CHRISTIAN INGREDIENTS

I have come to believe you need three basic ingredients to serve Jesus and to be a witness for Him. Those ingredients are **Love, Wisdom, and Power**. You've got to have love. If you don't have love you can't serve Jesus and be a blessing to others. #Wisdom --- you not only have to have love but you've got to have wisdom. You've got to know how to do what you need to do. And then power, you've got to have power to do what you need to do. Did you know all three of those ingredients are provided by the in-dwelling Spirit? You need love --- Romans 5:15 says the love of God is poured out in your hearts by the Holy Spirit, it is given unto us. You say, "You have got to love people to win them to the Lord?" That's right. You say, "Well I don't love people." I don't either, not the way I should. We don't love people the way we should. But you see, the wonderful thing is we've got the loving Holy Spirit in us and as we allow Him to fill our lives, He teaches us to love people. And we love people in the Lord. We love people for Jesus' sake. We can learn to love people the way Jesus loved those people because love is poured into my heart by the Holy Spirit.

You need wisdom? The Holy Spirit is the Spirit of wisdom. You need to know how to say just what you're going to say. Do you know how to give that word just the way you ought to give? God's Spirit gives you that wisdom.

You need power? You say, "I am afraid to witness for the Lord. I don't have the power. I don't have the courage." Well the Bible says when He is come, you shall receive power after the Spirit is come upon you. He will give you the necessary power to be a witness for Him.

Now I want to wrap it up. With each one of these works of the Holy Spirit in the life of a person there is a corresponding commandment in Scripture. Start at the bottom and go up, okay? The work of the Holy Spirit does through us, **Service**. 1 Thessalonians 5:19 says, "Quench not the Spirit." And what he's saying is God wants to work through your life, don't quench the prompting of the Holy Spirit. Don't refuse to speak when God's Spirit prompts you to speak. Don't refuse to move when God's Spirit prompts you to move. Oh, the tragedies when Christians had an opportunity to say something for the Lord and were prompted by the Lord to say it and they didn't say it. Quench not the Spirit.

Second commandment, the Spirit's work in you. Ephesians 4:30, "Grieve not the Holy Spirit." God's Spirit wants to do a cleansing and a changing work in your heart, don't grieve Him. Don't break the heart of the Spirit of God as He tries to work in your life and use His Word to help you grow. Don't grieve the Holy Spirit.

And then there's some of you now with whom God's Spirit wants to do a work for you, He wants to save you. Acts 7:51. "Ye do always resist the Holy Spirit." Don't resist the Holy Spirit. It is extremely dangerous to be dealt with by the Holy Spirit and say "No" to the Holy Spirit. The Bible says, "My Spirit will not always strive with man." I do not know when, I do not understand everything that is involved, I just know this, the Bible teaches that there are times that come into the lives of individuals when God makes His final plea with their hearty, when a person makes that full and final rejection of the Holy Spirit, and never again do they have a desire to know Jesus as their Saviour. Do not resist the Holy Spirit.

Pastor Paul Garrison.

QUESTIONS CHAPTER ONE

1. **What is the difference between Calvary and Pentecost in the believer's life?**
2. **How do you explain the Trinity?**
3. **What does the word "Salvation" explain in the life of the believer?**
4. **What are two activities of the Holy Spirit in relation to our salvation?**
5. **What happens when you are converted?**
6. **List the several things that the Holy Spirit does in the moment of salvation?**
7. **What does it mean to be sealed by the Holy Spirit?**
8. **When does the baptism of the Holy Spirit take place?**
9. **What does the word "Earnest" mean in relationship to the Holy Spirit?**
10. **What is the believer's position?**
11. **What does the word "Sanctification" mean?**
12. **List a negative and positive aspect of "Sanctification".**
13. **What does the "Supply of the Spirit" (Philippians 1:19) mean?**
14. **What are the three basic ingredients to be a witness for Jesus?**
15. **What does it mean to "Quench the Spirit"?**
16. **What does it mean to "Grieve the Spirit"?**
17. **What does it mean to "Resist the Spirit"?**

CHAPTER TWO



The Eternal Existence of God the Holy Spirit

CHAPTER TWO

THE ETERNAL EXISTENCE OF GOD THE HOLY SPIRIT.

INTRODUCTION

There are a few things which we should understand about the responsibilities eternally existing with God the Holy Spirit. He is not some sort of mystical power that exists, but he is a real person. His work in creation and of the sovereignty of God is of great importance to the saints of all ages. The Holy Spirit is that quiet influence behind the scenes, but also a mighty and great restraining power in all affairs, yesterday, today and forever. His purpose in this age is to glorify the Lord Jesus Christ, in and through the lives of the saints. May we examine the following responsibilities belonging to God the Holy Spirit.

- I. THE AUTHOR OF THE BIBLE.
- II. THE GIVER OF THE ETERNAL LIFE.
- III. THE PROVIDER OF THE BELIEVER'S IDENTIFICATION.
- IV. THE DIVINE GUARANTEE TO THE BELIEVER.

I. THE AUTHOR OF THE BIBLE.

It has been the sole responsibility of God the Holy Spirit to inspire the writing of the Bible. This of course is evident, in that over 40 writers have been selected and there is but a single Master Plan developed. The Holy Spirit has all of the essential characteristics and attributes, as have God the Father and God the Son. Although we are limiting the teaching of the Holy Spirit to these responsibilities, being eternal without beginning or ending, he was always present for every occasion. We will deal with these various aspects as we study facts about the Holy Spirit. Here we are primarily dealing with the revelation through the writings of the Holy Spirit in the Word of God.

THE GOD BREATHED WORD.

As we refer to the first book of the Bible, we are aware that existence and development did not evolve, but were set forth in an orderly manner. "In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth." Gen.1:1. It had to be complete as God said, "And God saw the light, that it was good;" Gen.1:4. This occurred several times, God declaring his creation as "good". Bear in mind that I had already mentioned that there were over 40 writers of the Bible, but one Master Plan. This would have been impossible, with individuals

writing without the influence of the omniscient God. "All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness, that the man of God may be perfect thoroughly furnished unto all good works." 2 Tim.3:16-17. God the Holy Spirit is the breath from the Triune God that has made possible our communication and understanding of Almighty God. The Bible has been misused and the most criticized writings among the ungodly, for it does not set forth opinions, but rather the presents the truth. The Bible proves what is in the natural heart of man, and declares him "Totally Depraved". This one factor along brings anger from the unregenerate man. It leaves no room for speculation, or guess work. The inspiration of the Scripture by the Holy Spirit is one of the very important works assigned to him by God the Father and God the Son. The three persons in the Godhead had agreed upon their individual functions and are in complete unity and agreement. By the Bible being the breath of God, we could absolutely rely upon. "Thus saith the Lord".

In the earthly ministry of the Lord Jesus Christ, he constantly quoted the Scripture. During the 40 day temptation in the wilderness, Christ verses Satan was a battle with quotations. Satan is a master at misquoting, applying it wrongly, and using the Word of God out of context. This is how you and I can detect Satan's followers, as they make the wrong applications to God's word. The Scribes and Pharisees tried their very best to trap the Lord by subtle methods, but being the Eternal Son of God , he could out manoeuvre them by various methods. May I list several reasons for accepting the Bible as the work of the Holy Spirit.

- 1. It is a consistent revelation regardless of the writers.**
- 2. The prophetic statements of fulfilled events have occurred exactly as predicted.**
- 3. The Bible has constantly been denied it's authority by the unregenerate.**
- 4. The satanic demons cannot cope with the quotations from the Bible, when being challenged.**
- 5. The Scripture brings inward convictions to those who hear.**
- 6. The Scripture illuminates and strengthens our belief as Christians.**
- 7. The Scripture gives inward comfort, when faced with sorrow.**
- 8. The Scripture controls our pattern of thought and understanding of spiritual truth.**

There is absolutely no substitute for the Word of God. We as the saints of God can write volumes of books, but to have the Divine effect, we must base our writings upon the Word of God. "Heaven and earth shall pass away, but my words shall not pass away." Matt.24:35.

II. THE GIVER OF ETERNAL LIFE.

THE WORK OF GOD THE HOLY SPIRIT.

God the Holy Spirit has a tremendous part in the salvation of men, as well as dealing with sin. The Holy Spirit was used in the creation of the heavens and earth. "And the Spirit of God moved upon the face of the waters." Gen.1:2b. It can also be said that the Spirit of God moved within the lives of prophets, priests and kings throughout the centuries of man. "God, who at sundry times and in diverse manners spoke in time past unto the fathers by the prophets." Heb.1:1. Although the Holy Spirit does not exalt himself, but glorifies the Eternal Son of God in all of his marvelous works, yet he is the giver of life. Let us itemize these important works of the Holy Spirit with comments on each.

1. THE INSPIRATION OF THE WORD OF GOD.

We have dealt with this important issue, showing the continuity of the Bible, with one major Master Plan. Without the Holy Spirit we would have had a distorted record, as always occurs with heathen mythology. The Scriptures in the original writings are absolutely flawless and without error. The Holy Spirit dealt with mankind, giving us the Divine viewpoint in a human environment. There are revelations from the Holy Spirit that we often cannot understand, but must accept these as from our infinite and omniscient God. It is God's chief communication with man in revealing the persons of the Godhead as well as the revelation that God desires to impart to mankind.

This inspired Bible that we handle, gives us wisdom and knowledge, regardless of one's educational background, or age. God the Holy Spirit uses our knowledge of the Scripture to build us up in the most holy faith. Knowing the inspired Word of God gives us stability and confidence as we face the issues of life. In times of sadness with the trials and tribulations, we can obtain comfort through the Word of God. With the complete Bible, God speaks to his children, guiding and directing them through life. The inspired Word gives the saints a firm foundation with stability and confidence of the future. The inspired Word of God is alive and vital to our souls. "For the Word of God is living, and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart." Heb.4:12.

2. CREATION AND ENERGIZING BY THE HOLY SPIRIT.

Although we recognize from the Scripture, "In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. The same was in the beginning with God. All things were made by him; and without him was not anything made that was made." Jn.1:1-3. Although Christ is the Creator of all things, yet he is manifested as "The Word". This brings us to the very point concerning the work of the Holy Spirit. Since Christ is the expression of the Father and he is the Word, which was God breathed by the Holy Spirit, then we have a unification of the three in one.

3. BRINGING THE INCARNATE LIFE INTO THIS WORLD.

Along with the inspiration of the Holy Scriptures, by the Holy Spirit, this should have the greatest importance in our theological understanding of the work of the Holy Spirit. A human virgin was chosen through whom the Incarnate Son of God could enter the human race, apart from the sin nature. "And the angel said unto her, Fear not, Mary; for thou hast found favor with God. And, behold, thou shalt conceive in thy womb, and bring forth a son, and shalt call his name JESUS. He shall be great, and shall be called the Son of the Highest; and the Lord God shall give unto him the throne of his father David. And he shall reign over the house of Jacob forever; and of his kingdom there shall be no end. Then said Mary unto the angel, How shall this be, seeing I know not a man? And the angel answered, and said unto her, The Holy Spirit shall come upon thee, and the power of the Highest shall overshadow thee; therefore also that holy thing which shall be born of thee shall be called the Son of God." Lk.1:30-35. Without the conception by the Holy Spirit, it would have been impossible to have had a redeemer.

4. BRINGING A NEW AND ETERNAL BIRTH TO BELIEVERS.

The Holy Spirit's work in the incarnation of the Eternal Son of God, has made possible the new birth "To those who believe". God the Father is justified by imputing upon believers the righteousness of the Son of God. In each case, the Holy Spirit was given the authority to energize, making new creatures out of those who believe. "Jesus answered, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born of water (the Word) and the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God. That which is born of the flesh is flesh; and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit. Marvel not that I said unto thee, Ye must be born again." Jn.3:5-7. "And when the day of Pentecost was fully come, they were with one accord in one place. And suddenly there came a sound from heaven like a rushing mighty wind, and filled all the house where they were sitting. And there appeared unto them cloven tongues as of fire, and it sat upon them. And they were filled with the Holy Spirit, and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance." Acts 2:1-4.

The Holy Spirit makes alive forever! This new birth by the Holy Spirit will remain forever! "And I will pray the Father, and he shall give you another Comforter, that he may abide with you forever; Even the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it seeth him not, neither knoweth him: but ye know him; for he dwelleth with you, and shall be in you." Jn.14:16-17.

This identification by the indwelling of the Holy Spirit is a marvelous undertaking by the Godhead. It is referred to as the baptism of the Holy Spirit. "For by one Spirit were we all baptized into one body, whether we be Jews or Greeks, whether we be bond or free; and have been all made to drink into one Spirit." 1 Cor.12:13. May we remember that we are also members of one body, which is the Lord Jesus Christ. This is another indication of the unity within the Triune God.

5. STRIVING OF THE HOLY SPIRIT TO BRING CONVICTION.

As man multiplied and went farther away from his Creator, being totally depraved. "And it repented the Lord that he had made man on the earth, and it grieved him at heart." Gen.6:6. God in his omniscience was aware that this would happen, but regardless, he was grieved that he had to destroy the multitude and save only 8 souls. The Holy Spirit had been striving with mankind and Noah found grace in the eyes of the Lord, and was left to preach repentance to the rebellious people. The outcome was fatal and the flood was their punishment. "And the Lord said, My Spirit shall not always strive with man, for that he also is flesh: yet his days shall be an hundred and twenty years." Gen.6:3.

Today the Holy Spirit is striving with the unregenerate, bringing conviction to them, but the multitude are not taking heed. The Holy Spirit came at Pentecost, doing a mighty work, bringing eternal life through the new birth. "And when he is come, he will reprove the world of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgement; Of sin, because they believe not on me; Of righteousness, because I go to my Father, and ye see me no more; Of judgement, because the prince of this world is judged." Jn.16:8-11. From these statements of the Lord Jesus Christ, we understand the magnitude of the work of the Spirit in our day. "Not by might, nor by power, but by my Spirit, saith the Lord of hosts." Zech.4:6b. What God the Holy Spirit began in believers, he will perfect. "Are ye so foolish? Having begun in the Spirit, are ye now made perfect by the flesh?" Gal.3:3. This is the work of the Holy Spirit to guide us into all truth, after we believed and were made new creatures. "For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, they are the sons of God." Rom.8:14. The Holy Spirit uses his word to teach us all these marvelous things, written in the Bible. "But the Comforter, who is the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, he shall teach you all these things, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatever I have said unto you." Jn.14:26. Again we see that the Triune God is involved, with perfect unity.

6. THE HOLY SPIRIT RESTRAINS THE EVIL FORCES.

Sometimes, when we hear the news from around the world, we often wonder whether the restraining power of the Holy Spirit has weakened. No. that restraining power is very active, and the wicked forces are becoming more aggressive, as their time is running out. They are restrained by the Holy Spirit, to a degree, until the Holy Spirit is taken out, when the Rapture takes place. "And now ye know what restraineth that he might be revealed in his time. For the mystery of iniquity doth already work; only he who now hindereth will continue to hinder until he be taken out of the way. And then shall that wicked one be revealed, whom the Lord shall consume with the spirit of his mouth, and shall destroy with the brightness of his coming," 2 Thess.2:6-8. As we draw nearer to the Rapture of the saints, we can expect the evil forces to increase their subtlety. This will be but another sign of the soon coming of the Lord to remove his own out from the wrath to come. (1 Thess.1:10.)

7. THE HOLY SPIRIT ILLUMINATES THE BIBLE.

The very name of the Holy Spirit, "Paraclete" reminds us of his ever present help. As a teacher, he comes along side to give us personal attention in teaching the Word. There are many passages of Scripture which are just difficult to understand, and if we keep on studying and combining the Word, we can rest assured that the Holy Spirit will give you sufficient illumination. It is his responsibility to guide you into all truth. "Nevertheless, when he, the Spirit of truth, is come, he will guide you into all truth; for he shall not speak of himself, but whatever he shall hear, that shall he speak; and he will show you things to come. He shall glorify me; for he shall receive of mine, and shall show it unto you. All things that the Father hath are mine; therefore said I, that he shall take of mine, and shall show it unto you." Jn.16:13-15. Here again you have the Triune God involved as the Holy Spirit teaches us the word.

8. THE HOLY SPIRIT IS THE SOURCE OF WITNESSING.

Being led by the Spirit, as we testify and witness of the saving grace of our lovely Lord, it is the Holy Spirit who should prompt us with our testimony. He should be very real to each of us as believers, allowing him to be our ever present help. "For there are three that bear record in heaven, the Father, the Word, and the Holy Spirit; and these three are one. And there are three that bear witness in earth, the Spirit, and the water, and the blood; and these three agree in one. If we receive the witness of men, the witness of God is greater; for this is the witness of God which he hath testified of his Son. He that believeth on the Son of God hath the witness in himself; he that believeth not God hath made him a liar, because he believeth not the record that God gave his Son. And this is the record, that God hath given to us eternal life, and this life is in his Son. He that hath the Son hath life; and he that hath not the Son of God hath not life." 1 Jn.5:7-12. Therefore as we witness, the Holy Spirit will use us to show the true source of life. "The Spirit himself beareth witness with our spirit, that we are the children of God." Rom.8:16. In order to have the witness of the Holy Spirit within, you must be led by him. "For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, they are the sons of God." Rom.8:14. There is also another important factor in witnessing and that is, we must allow him to help you overcome your weaknesses in testifying. He is our guiding power throughout this present life.

III. THE PROVIDER OF THE BELIEVER'S IDENTIFICATION.

The Bible clearly gives us an identification, which is not a number, but rather a name. We are promised a new name written down in glory, according to our faithfulness, here on planet earth. "He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches: To him that overcometh will I give to eat of the hidden manna, and will give him a white stone, and in the stone a new name written, which no man knoweth except he that receiveth it." Rev.2:17. This of course is a very special identification, which is an addition to God the Holy Spirit dwelling within. "By this know we that we dwell in him, and he in us, because he hath given us his Spirit. And we have seen and do testify that the Father sent the Son to be the

Savior of the world. Whosoever shall confess that Jesus is the Son of God, God dwelleth in him, and he in God. And we have known and believed the love that God hath to us. God is love, and he that dwelleth in love dwelleth in God and God in him." 1 Jn.4:13-16. The Holy Spirit gives to us this very identification, based on Divine love. "But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, long-suffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness, self-control; against such there is no law." Gal.5:22-23.

"The Spirit himself beareth witness with our spirit that we are the children of God."Rom.8:16.

A. THE ANOINTING BY THE HOLY SPIRIT.

In the Old Testament, the Lord used the anoint of chosen ones through the prophets, as they would pour the cruise of oil upon those particular ones. This was very special and respected by the Old Testament saints. King David gives us a perfect example of this. Samuel had anointed Saul as Israel's king, (1 Sam.10:1.) and as time went on King Saul disobeyed God, and David was chosen and anointed. (1 Sam.16:1-13.) Now note,"But the Spirit of the Lord departed from Saul, and an evil spirit from the Lord troubled him." 1 Sam.16:14. David in due time became a target of revenge, and Saul sought to kill him several times. David had opportunities to kill Saul but he respected God's anointing. (1 Sam.24:4-10.) This happened again as Saul sought to kill David.(1 Sam.26:1-20) David respected God's anointed, and rightly so. The Holy Spirit did come upon men of old, but never did he abide with them continually. But, from Pentecost onward, until the Rapture, we have the new birth by the Holy Spirit and he dwells within us forever. This in itself is a great anointing by God the Holy Spirit, and nothing has it's equal to it! "Know ye not that ye are the temple of God, and that the Spirit of God dwelleth in you? If any man defile the temple of God, him shall God destroy; for the temple of God is holy, which temple ye are." 1 Cor.3:16-17. "But the anointing which ye have received of him abideth in you, and ye need not that any man teach you; but as the same anointing teacheth you of all things, and is truth, and is no lie, and even as he hath taught you, ye shall abide in him." 1 Jn.2:27.

This is an important truth that we as Christians need to study and realize that what God has done in this age of grace, is beyond our finite understanding.This anointing of the Holy Spirit takes place upon all who believe, regardless of their status quo, and never can be rescinded, under any circumstance. If the Christian walk is abused, then that person suffers the loss before the judgement seat of Christ. (2 Cor.5:10.) May each of us be reminded that we have been made to partake of the Divine nature, through the indwelling of God the Holy Spirit.

B. THE BAPTISM OF GOD THE HOLY SPIRIT.

The baptism of the Holy Spirit, plainly means the identification with the Holy Spirit. That is attained when one accepts the Lord Jesus Christ as their personal Savior. It is not a separate anointing, but as a soul is born of the Holy Spirit, so he is indwelt by the Holy Spirit, and identified with the Holy Spirit. This is the real baptism as over against the ritual baptism with water. The real baptism gives us the identification, and the ritual baptism

becomes the witness to others that we have been born again. This real baptism is not a special gift from the Holy Spirit, but is the new eternal life which all believers receive, when they first believe. "For by one Spirit were we all baptized into one body, whether we be Jews or Greeks, whether we be bond or free; and have been all made to drink into one Spirit." 1 Cor.12:13. Too much stress has been placed upon the ritual baptism, and often it is used to be repeated if joining a new group or assembly. However, here we are concerned about the real baptism, which only can come from the Holy Spirit. He is real in the life of every believer, whether they realize it or not. If they are unaware of his presence, there may be one of several things wrong.

1. **Their Christian growth is stunted by lack of food from the Word of God. (2 Tim.2:15; Rom.12:2.)**
2. **They may be grieving the Holy Spirit. (Eph.4:30.)**
3. **They are unable to feast on the meat of God's Word. (1 Cor.3:1-3.)**
4. **Refusing to obey the truth. (Gal.5:7.)**
5. **Remain as babes in Christ, living on 2 % milk. (1 Cor.3:2.)**
6. **The Holy Spirit power in their life may be quenched. (1 Thess.5:19.)**

C. EVERY BELIEVER IS SEALED BY THE HOLY SPIRIT.

God has made every provision for those whom he has paid for through the death of his own eternal Son. God is jealous of all of the eternal undertakings for his glory and honor. Note what is recorded, concerning Christians. "Blessed be the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, who hath blessed us with all spiritual blessings in heavenly places, according as he hath chosen us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before him, in love having predestinated us unto the adoption of sons by Jesus Christ to himself, according to the good pleasure of the glory of his grace, through which he hath made us accepted in the Beloved; in whom we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of his grace, in which he hath abounded toward us in all wisdom and prudence, having made known unto us the mystery of his will, according to his good pleasure which he hath purposed in himself; that in the dispensation of the fullness of times he might gather together in one all things in Christ, both which are in heaven, and which are on earth, even in him; in whom also we have obtained an inheritance, being predestinated according to the purpose of him who worketh all things after the counsel of his own will, that we should be to the praise of his glory who first trusted in Christ; in whom ye also trusted, after ye heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation; in whom also after ye believed, ye were sealed with the Holy Spirit of promise, who is the earnest of our inheritance until the redemption of the purchased

possession, unto the praise of his glory." Eph.1:3-14. This is absolutely incredible, as to what precautions the Almighty God has gone to, in order to protect his own, and then sealing them by God the Holy Spirit.

The Lord has given us a tremendous feast of eternal things. "Labor not for the food which perisheth, but for that food which endureth unto everlasting life, which the Son of man shall give unto you; for him hath God the Father sealed." Jn.6:27. These wonderful promises are in the Lord Jesus Christ. "For all the promises of God in him are yea, and in him Amen, unto the glory of God by us. Now he who establisheth us with you in Christ, and hath anointed us, is God, who hath also sealed us, and given the earnest of the Spirit in our hearts." 2 Cor.1:21-22.

The unity within the Triune God is absolutely astounding! Listen to what the Lord reveals as to their purpose for those who believe. "Neither pray I for these alone, but for them also who shall believe on me through their word; That they all may be one as thou, Father, art in me, and I in thee, that they also may be one in us; that the world may believe that thou hast sent me. And the glory which thou gavest me I have given them, that they may be one, even as we are one: I in them, and thou in me, that they may be made perfect in one; and that the world may know that thou hast sent me, and hast loved them, as thou hast loved me." Jn.17:20-23. Finally, I would like us to see just how secure is that seal of the Holy Spirit. "My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me. And I give unto them eternal life; and they shall never perish, neither shall any man pluck them out of my hand. My Father, who gave them to me, is greater than all, and no man is able to pluck them out of my Father's hand. I and my Father are one." Jn.10:27-30. This is certainly secure enough, but to complete the job of security, those that belong to the Lord are sealed by God the Holy Spirit. Who is able to break such a hold on the saints lives? No one is able!

In conclusion, may we quote just a few more of these important Scriptures, verifying this eternal seal of the Holy Spirit. "Nevertheless, the foundation of God standeth sure, having this seal, The Lord knoweth them that are his; and, Let every one that nameth the name of Christ depart from iniquity." 2 Tim.2:19. "And grieve not the Holy Spirit of God, by whom ye are sealed unto the day of redemption." Eph.4:30. It is of very important in our Christian walk that we listen to the leading and guidance of the Holy Spirit. As we further study the working of the Holy Spirit, may we be mindful that our spiritual life depends upon God the Holy Spirit.

D. THE SAINTS TO BE FILLED BY THE HOLY SPIRIT.

With God's plans and purpose for every believer, it is of the utmost importance that the saints have the filling of the Spirit, in the Christian way of life. If the filling of the Holy Spirit is not covering every aspect of the Christian's life, then the enemies of our soul can get a foot hold in our daily life. The question is not that you get more of the Holy Spirit, but rather that the Holy Spirit gets all of you. If you block off certain private affairs in your life, then you become susceptible to the world, the flesh and the devil. "See, then, that ye walk circumspectly, not as fools but as wise, redeeming the time, because the days are evil. Wherefore, be ye not unwise but understanding what the will of the Lord is. And be not drunk with wine which is excess, but be filled with the Spirit, speaking to yourselves in

psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord, giving thanks always for all things unto God and the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ." Eph.5:15-20.

There is a possibility for Christians to prevent the complete filling by the Spirit, in our life. The Triune God does not force those who believe, to exercise good works, but desires that they will choose to be obedient unto the righteousness of God. The choice is ours, and if we allow our lives to be influenced by the holiness of God through the Holy Spirit, we then can be certain that our lives will be filled by the Holy Spirit, as well as be filled with joy and thanksgiving. The filling of the Holy Spirit is not a once and forever, but rather to keep on being filled by Him. If we refuse to give complete access to the Holy Spirit and reserve certain worldly practices of evil, then we grieve the Holy Spirit. If we continue these practices, we will eventually have to be removed from this life, by "The sin unto death". (Rom.6:16; 1 Jn.5:16.) That is the removal of the mortal body. Such a person will be saved so as by fire, relinquishing their reward before the Judgement seat of Christ. 1 Cor.3:13-15.

It is through the Holy Spirit, teaching us the Word of God that we are able to know and understand the will of God for our lives. Having been born again by the Holy Spirit, giving us the baptism of the Holy Spirit, makes possible a direct identification with the Divine life. This requires our complete yielding to the Holy Spirit and under His control. As we continue in this life, we must walk circumspectly, being aware of the pitfalls along the way. "This I say then, Walk in the Spirit, and ye shall not fulfill the lust of the flesh." Gal.5:16. This new relationship with Almighty God, brings us into the Royal family of God. Whereas we once walked according to the children of darkness, now we are led by the Spirit in paths of righteousness. (Gal.5:16.) Our lives must be controlled by the Holy Spirit and then we will not grieve the Holy Spirit.

E. THE HOLY SPIRIT INTERCEDES FOR THE SAINTS.

Although we have a spiritual birth and understand through the guidance of the Holy Spirit, of some of the evil forces which we face, we are still vulnerable against the wiles of the devil. The believers must remember that we are constantly being accused by Satan before God, day and night of our short comings according to God's standard. Rightly so, we do fall short of the glory of God, and that is why the Lord had to do a complete job in us from beginning to ending. The Lord is also our Advocate before the Father (2 Jn.2:1.), and pleads our cause, based upon his merit. However, in our Christian walk in this life, we need some help that is at hand. That has been assigned to God the Holy Spirit. He is praying in our behalf, concerning things that cannot even be spoken in human languages. "Likewise, the Spirit also helpeth our infirmity; for we know not what we should pray for as we ought; but the Spirit himself maketh intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered. And he that searcheth the hearts knoweth what is the mind of the Spirit, because he maketh intercession for the saints according to the will of God. And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose." Rom.8:26-28.

The Holy Spirit is our ever present help, and without him there would be confusion and catastrophes in the Christian lives, far beyond those that exist in the body of Christ.

Often times we pray for the wrong things, to the detriment of our Christ life, and the Holy Spirit has to come to our rescue with prayer that will avoid defeat. We must constantly remember that the Holy Spirit is aware of our every thought word and deed. He is the one who molds us into vessels that can best serve the Lord. Those gifts that he gives are also based upon our capability, and out utilizing the natural talents that we have. "But all these worketh that one and the very same Spirit dividing to every man severally as he will." 1 Cor.12:11. Who but the Holy Spirit could best intercede for us! As the Holy Spirit prays in our behalf, he knows our every need, and he is also able to guide and direct us, as we pray to the Father.

F. THE WORK OF SANCTIFICATION IN THE BELIEVER.

Christ set himself apart, sanctifying his body for the redemption of our souls. "Sanctify them through thy truth; thy word is truth. As thou hast sent me into the world, even so have I also sent them into the world. And for their sakes I sanctify myself, that they also might be sanctified through the truth." The truth, which is the word of God, is Spirit given, which makes our sanctification, a work of the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit is our direct witness to this separation unto the ministry of God. "For by one offering he hath perfected forever them that are sanctified. And the Holy Spirit also is a witness to us; for after he had said before, This is the covenant that I will make with them after those days, saith the Lord: I will put my laws into their hearts, and in their minds will I write their sins and iniquities will I remember no more." Heb.10:14-17. As we are set apart by the Holy Spirit, who provided the new life and indwells us, we are joined to the Lord Jesus Christ as members of the body of Christ. "That no flesh should glory in his presence. But of him are ye in Christ Jesus, who of God is made unto us wisdom, and righteousness, and sanctification, and redemption; That, according as it is written, He that glorieth, let him glory in the Lord." 1 Cor.1:29-31. This makes our election in Christ secure. "Elect according to the foreknowledge of God, the Father, through sanctification of the Spirit, unto obedience and sprinkling of the blood of Jesus Christ: Grace unto you, and peace be multiplied." 1 Pet.1:2. This choice was made by God on the basis of one's faith. "But we are bound to give thanks always to God for you, brethren beloved of the Lord, because God hath from the beginning chosen you to salvation through sanctification of the Spirit and the belief of the truth. Unto which he called you by our gospel, to the obtaining of the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ." 2 Thess.2:13-14.

This sanctification by the Holy Spirit is to enable us to keep within the truth of God's word, and be separate unto the Lord, avoiding the conformity to the world. "For ye know what commandments we gave you by the Lord Jesus. For this is the will of God, even your sanctification, that ye should abstain from fornication; That every one of you should know how to possess his vessel in sanctification and honor, not in the lust of sensuality, even as the Gentiles who know not God;" 1 Thess.4:2-5.

IV. THE DIVINE GUARANTEE TO THE BELIEVER.

INTRODUCTION

Every believer has been given the Holy Spirit, who has always existed with God the Father and God the Son, therefore we have a possession dwelling within us forever. This guarantees eternal life from the time which the Holy Spirit took his abode in us, extending on into the eternities to come. It was no small thing that the Triune God was willing to indwell a creature that he created. As we pass through this life, indwelt by God the Holy Spirit, we gladly will endure these limitations until we are delivered from it, and brought into eternal glory. "For I reckon that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us. For the earnest expectation of the creation waiteth for the manifestation of the sons of God. For the creation was made subject to vanity, not willingly but by reason of him who hath subjected the same in hope. Because the creation itself also shall be delivered from the bondage of corruption into the glorious liberty of the children of God. For we know that the whole creation groaneth and travaileth in pain together until now. And not only they, but ourselves also, who have the first fruits of the Spirit, even we ourselves groan within ourselves, waiting for the adoption, that is, the redemption of our body. For we are saved by hope; for what a man seeth, why doth he yet hope for? But if we hope for that which we see not, then do we with patience wait for it." Rom.8:18-25. We are reminded, "If in this life only we have hope in Christ, we are of all men most miserable." So with the giving of the Holy Spirit to the believers at this present time, is a guarantee that there are greater things ahead for all who put their trust in the Lord. Knowledge of the word of God is so essential in providing confidence to the believer as to God's guarantees. "For is our heart condemn us, God is greater than our heart, and knoweth all things. Beloved, if our heart condemn us not, then have we confidence toward God." 1 Jn.3:20-21.

THE PRESENCE OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

As the Eternal Son of God entered this earthly realm, to reclaim those in which have been created in the image of God, bearing the cross, we can rest assured that there is an eternal purpose. There is more than meets the eye, concerning our salvation, with such ground work which the Triune God has laid. If all of this was merely on a temporary basis, we wouldn't have such statements from the Lord. "And I will pray the Father, and he shall give you another Comforter, that he may abide with you forever; Even the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it seeth him not, neither knoweth him; but ye know him; for he dwelleth with you, and shall be in you. I will not leave you comfortless; I will come to you. Yes the Lord did return to them and breathed upon them, the Holy Spirit (Jn.20:22.), until they would receive the new birth, by the Holy Spirit on the day of Pentecost. If our hope and guarantee was only pertaining to this world, then we would not have such a statement as, "The World cannot receive". We are established in the Master Plan of God for eternity, and our guarantee is the indwelling of God the Holy Spirit. "Now

he who establisheth us with you in Christ, and hath anointed us, is God. Who hath also sealed us, and given the earnest of the Spirit in our hearts." 2 Cor.1:21-22.

THE POSITION OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

A. THE HOLY SPIRIT IN THE OLD TESTAMENT.

The Holy Spirit is mentioned in the Old Testament over 80 times and has always been included in the Godhead. His position has always been to bring communication to mankind, in various ways. The anointing of individuals by the prophets was meant to give the Holy Spirit special access to that one. In the Old Testament, God the Holy Spirit was never to remain, indwelling that person indefinitely. David knew of the Holy Spirit with him, and rightfully prayed, "Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me. Cast me not away from thy presence, and take not thy Holy Spirit from me." Ps.51:10-11. There was not the indwelling of the Holy Spirit forever. That position of the Holy Spirit came at Pentecost. There was a security established through the unconditional covenant with Abraham and David. The truth which is found in the Old Testament, comes through God the Holy Spirit. The Old Testament saints were aware of the position of the Holy Spirit in the Godhead. "As God liveth, who hath taken away my right; and the Almighty, who hath vexed my soul; All the while my breath is in me, and the Spirit of God is in my nostrils; My lips shall not speak wickedness, nor my tongue utter deceit." Job.27:3-4. Again Job speaks up, concerning the Spirit of God. "My words shall be of the uprightness of my heart; and my lips shall utter knowledge clearly. The Spirit of God hath made me, and the breath of the Almighty hath given me life." Job.33:3-4.

Abraham, begins a new lineage, separating from the Gentiles, which was necessary for the Holy Spirit to control his working power through captivities and scatterings, unto the cross. The Holy Spirit exercised his sovereign rights during the Old Testament times. The shikinah glory over the tabernacle and the temple would be a very important and significant appearance of the Holy Spirit. This glory, could have included the Triune God. Also when the three so called men approached Abram's tent. (Gen.18:1-16.) We could also see the sovereignty of the Holy Spirit, as a bride was sought for Isaac. (Gen.24:1-67.) Throughout the Master Plan of the Godhead, The Holy Spirit was formulating the compilation of the whole Bible. Now let us look at the New Testament, where the Holy Spirit is more obvious.

B. THE HOLY SPIRIT IN THE NEW TESTAMENT.

JOHN THE BAPTIST

The first obvious indications of his sovereignty is in the birth of John the Baptist and then the Lord Jesus Christ. "But the angel said unto him, Fear not, Zacharias; for thy prayer is heard; and thy wife, Elizabeth, shall bear thee a son, and thou shalt call his name John, And thou shalt have joy and gladness; and many shall rejoice at his birth. For he shall be great in the sight of the Lord, and shall drink neither wine nor strong drink; and he shall be filled with the Holy Spirit, even from his mother's womb. Lk.1:13-15.

THE ENTRANCE OF THE ETERNAL CHRIST INTO THIS WORLD.

"And the angel came in unto her, and said, Hail, thou who art highly favored, the Lord is with thee; blessed art thou among women. And when she saw him, she was troubled at his saying, and considered in her mind what manner of greeting this should be. And the angel said unto her, Fear not, Mary; for thou hast found favor with God. And, behold, thou shalt conceive in thy womb, and bring forth a son, and shalt call his name JESUS. And he shall be great, and shall be called the Son of the Highest; and the Lord God shall give unto him the throne of his father David. And he shall reign over the house of Jacob forever; and of his kingdom there shall be no end. Then said Mary unto the angel, How shall this be, seeing I know not a man? And the angel answered, and said unto her, The Holy Spirit shall come upon thee, and the power of the Highest shall overshadow thee; therefore also that holy thing which shall be born of thee shall be called the Son of God." Lk.1:28-35.

JESUS CHRIST PRESENTED IN THE TEMPLE.

According to the Mosaic law, the first born, must be set apart unto the Lord. (Ex.13:12.) "And when the eight days were accomplished for the circumcision of the child, his name was called JESUS, who was named by the angel before he was conceived in the womb. And when the days of her purification according to the law of Moses were accomplished, they brought him to Jerusalem, to present him to the Lord." Lk.2:21-22. At the time of the presentation of Jesus to the Father, the Holy Spirit had prepared two devout believers to be there as a special witness. "And, behold, there was a man in Jerusalem, whose name was Simeon; and the same man was righteous and devout, waiting for the consolation of Israel; and the Holy Spirit was upon him. And it was revealed unto him by the Holy Spirit, that he should not see death, before he had seen the Lord's Christ. And he came by the Spirit into the temple; and when the parents brought in the child, Jesus, to do for him after the custom of the law, then took he him up in his arms, and blessed God, and said, Lord, now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace, according to thy word; For mine eyes have seen thy salvation, which thou hast prepared before the face of all people; A light to lighten the Gentiles, and the glory of thy people Israel. And Joseph and his mother marveled at those things which were spoken of him. And Simeon blessed them, and said unto Mary, his mother, Behold, this child is set for the fall and rising again of many in Israel; and for a sign which shall be spoken against. (Yea, a sword shall pierce through thy own soul also), that the thoughts of many hearts may be revealed." Lk.2:21-35. This was followed by the testimony of the prophetess Anna. (Lk.2:36-38.)

THE PURPOSE OF THE HOLY SPIRIT.

As we have referred to the Holy Spirit in his various active roles, so far, we are now acquainted with some of the reasons of being very important in each generation of man. The complete Triune God is a necessary entity from eternity past and on into eternity to come. In the following chapter, we will be studying more in detail about the importance of the

Holy Spirit. May we briefly just list some of the activities of the Holy Spirit, as we conclude this chapter.

1. **The Holy Spirit was present in creation. (Gen.1:2.)**
2. **The Holy Spirit will not always strive with wicked man. (Gen.6:3.)**
3. **The Holy Spirit was present when Sodom & Gomorrah were destroyed. (Gen. 18:1-3.)**
4. **The Holy Spirit would fill particular believers for a specific work. (2 Sam.2:4; Ps.51:11; Lk.2:25; Acts 7:55.)**
4. **The Holy Spirit brings newness of life. (Jn.3:5-6.)**
5. **The Holy Spirit has a teaching ministry. (Jn.16:13,)**
5. **The Holy Spirit prevents and restrains the evil forces. (2 Thess.2:7.)**
6. **The Holy Spirit convicts of sin. (Jn.16:8.)**
7. **The Holy Spirit comforts those who are believers. (Jn.14:26.)**
8. **The Holy Spirit is the author of the Scriptures. (2 Tim.3:16.)**
9. **The Holy Spirit has special gifts for the believers. (1 Cor. 12:11.)**
10. **The Holy Spirit prays for the believers. (Rom.8:26.)**
11. **The Holy Spirit creates life in the man. (Gen.1:26.)**
12. **The Holy Spirit is our helper. (Jn.14:16,25; Jn.15:26; Jn.16:7; Gal.3:1-5.)**

QUESTIONS CHAPTER TWO

1. **What evidence do we have of the eternal existence of the Holy Spirit? Scripture.**
2. **How can we determine that the Holy Spirit is the author of the Bible?**
3. **Did Christ use the Scripture during his earthly ministry? Give examples.**
4. **Give reasons for accepting the Bible as the Word of God.**

5. **Name some of the works of the Holy Spirit.**
6. **Why does the Master Plan of God demand one eternal author of the Bible?**
7. **Why is the Holy Spirit so important as to the coming of the incarnate Son of God into this world?**
8. **What importance is the Holy Spirit to mankind in giving him eternal life?**
9. **How is the Holy Spirit used in revealing sin in the lives of both the unregenerate, and the believers?**
10. **Does the Holy Spirit retrain wickedness? Give Scripture.**
11. **What is necessary in studying the Bible?
What work is done by the Holy Spirit?**
12. **How does the Holy Spirit help us as we witness for the Lord?**
13. **Are all believers baptised immediately by the Holy Spirit, when they first believe?
Give Scripture.**
14. **Since we become identified by being baptised by the Holy Spirit, is that them same as being anointed by the Holy Spirit. Give Scripture.**
15. **How do we determine the presence of God the Holy Spirit in our Christian lives?
Scripture.**
16. **When do believers get sealed by the Holy Spirit? Scripture.**
17. **What takes place when a believer is filled by the Holy Spirit?**
18. **Explain Romans 8:26.**
19. **How are believers sanctified? (Heb.10:14-17.)**
20. **Give reasons that believers are guaranteed eternal life. Scripture.**
21. **Why is it necessary to have the presence of the Holy Spirit in this world?**
22. **Give Scripture concerning the position of responsibility of God the Holy Spirit, both in the Old Testament and the New Testament.**
23. **Give the purpose of the Holy Spirit in his earthly ministry.**

CHAPTER THREE



The Importance of God the Holy Spirit

CHAPTER THREE

THE IMPORTANCE OF THE HOLY SPIRIT.

OUTLINE

- I. THE IMPORTANCE OF THE HOLY SPIRIT IN THE GODHEAD.**
- II. THE IMPORTANCE OF THE HOLY SPIRIT IN THE WORLD.**
- III. THE IMPORTANCE OF THE HOLY SPIRIT IN THE NEW CREATION.**

- I. THE IMPORTANCE OF THE HOLY SPIRIT IN THE GODHEAD.**

THE TRIUNE GOD

As one studies God the Holy Spirit, there is quite an overlapping of important information, because our Eternal God cannot be separated into separate characteristics without involving the unity in the Godhead. "Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God is one Lord: And thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thine heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy might." Deut.6:4-5. As we study the importance of God the Holy Spirit, we have already reviewed some of the mighty work of the Holy Spirit. He is equal in character to God the Father and God the Son. The three of them, being separate personalities are nevertheless One Supreme Eternal God. The following Scripture, reveals the closeness in the unity of the Triune God. The disciples were anxious to know how Jesus Christ would manifest himself to them and not to the world. Here is Christ's answer. "Jesus answered, and said unto him, If a man love me, he will keep my words; and my Father will love him, and we will come unto him, and make our abode with him. He that loveth me not keepeth not my sayings; and the word which ye hear is not mine, but the Father's who sent me. These things have I spoken unto you, being present with you. But the Comforter, who is the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, He shall teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you." Jn.14:23-26. One cannot improve upon such a unity within the Godhead, as stated by the Eternal Son of God.

Christ constantly taught the unity within the Triune God. The believers which followed Christ were given as sheep to the Lord Jesus Christ by the Father. "My Father, who gave them to me, is greater than all, and no man is able to pluck them out of my Father's hand. I and my Father are one." Jn.10:29-30. Each person has a particular work to be done within the Master Plan. The Holy Spirit is given to glorify the Son of God. As one reads the word of God from the day of Pentecost onward, we become aware of the mighty works, wrought through the Holy Spirit, glorifying the Lord Jesus Christ.

A. THE PERSONALITY OF GOD THE HOLY SPIRIT.

Although each person in the God head are equal in characteristics, yet they have positional responsibilities, applicable to their individual work. The Divine attributes are possessed by God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit. May we briefly review these attributes, and bear in mind that these characteristics were not attained but were always absolute and complete.

- 1. Divine love. (2 Jn.4:7-10.)**
- 2. Divine perfect righteousness. (Rom.3:21-26.)**
- 3. Divine perfect and complete holiness. (Ps.5:4; Isa.6:1-3.)**
- 4. Divine perfect justice. (Rom.3:26.)**
- 5. Divine and absolute truth without and error. (2 Thess.2:8-12; Jn.14:17.)**
- 6. The complete source of eternal life. (Jn.1:4; Jn.14:6.)**
- 7. The Triune God never needs to change but is immutable. (Heb.13:8; Jas.1:17;)**
- 8. The Triune God cannot sin in any form of thought, word or deed. (Jn.8:1-11,45,46.)**
- 9. The Triune God is sovereign over all. (Dan.2:19-22.)**
- 10. God is omniscient and has knowledge of everything. (Rom.11:33-36;)**
- 11. God is Omnipresent, and is aware of all. (Ps.139.)**
- 12. God is Omnipotent, and almighty. (Gen.17:1; Gen.35:11; Ex.6:3; Ps.68:14; Rev.16:7.)**

There are various Scriptures, indicating the marvelous personality of God the Holy Spirit. May we just consider some of these.

- 1. The Spirit to search out the deep things. (1 Cor.2:10-11.)**
- 2. The Spirit of wisdom. (Eph.1:17.)**
- 3. The Spirit of understanding. (Isa.11:2.)**
- 4. The Spirit of counsel and might. (Isa.11:2.)**

5. **The Spirit of knowledge. (Isa.11:2.)**

6. **The Spirit of justice. (Isa.28:6.)**

7. **The Spirit of grace. (Zech.12:10.)**

8. **The Spirit of truth. (Jn.14:17.)**

B. THE PROPHETIC MINISTRY OF GOD THE HOLY SPIRIT.

Since the Holy Spirit is the author of the Bible, he certainly was involved in the prophetic aspect within the Bible. The Master plan of the Godhead clearly involves the Triune God as they were responsible for the forthtelling of their plans. Then we also have the foretelling by God the Holy Spirit who predicts or foretells what is going to happen. "For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts. For as the rain cometh down, and the snow from heaven, and returneth not there, but watereth the earth, and maketh it bring forth and bud, that it may give seed to the sower, and bread to the eater, so shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth; it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it." Isa.55:9-11. From Genesis to the Book of Revelation is totally inspired by the Holy Spirit. With over half of the Bible in the prophetic realm, we are made aware of the great part that God the Holy Spirit had in formulating the Master Plan of the Godhead.

The prophetic element in the Scriptures is evidence enough that the Divine viewpoint had to be in control as the various writers were dictated to by the Holy Spirit. It would not have been possible for these writers to have predicted so accurately and concise in a unified plan. Especially in the Old Testament writings, we have excellent examples of things which the writers knew nothing about. This had to be dictated to them by the Holy Spirit. Isaiah has some marvelous prophetic truths set forth, which were far beyond what he could have written without the dictates of the Holy Spirit. The name of Cyrus found in Isaiah 44:28; and Isaiah 45:1, which would not have been familiar to Isaiah, had not the Holy Spirit revealed this to him. Then there is the case of the prophet Joel, who wrote of the out pouring of the Holy Spirit upon all flesh. (Joel 2:28.) This was entirely new outreach, predicting the out pouring of the Holy Spirit on the day of Pentecost. Since it was the out pouring of the Holy Spirit, certainly he would be absolutely accurate as to the timing of this event, since he would be involved.

The Holy Spirit was vitally involved in this mystery age, as the body of Christ was being gathered, to form the future bride of Christ. Without him, giving the new birth, there would not been the new creatures in Christ Jesus. Though this age of grace was hidden from the Old Testament prophets, God the Holy Spirit was responsible to hide it until the accepted day. Joel the prophet wrote about it, but as is so often, the prophets themselves do not always know the details or when their prophetic utterances will take place. Although the Holy Spirit is as a still small voice, and remains behind the scenes, he is of the greatest importance in the Master Plan of the Godhead.

II. THE IMPORTANCE OF GOD THE HOLY SPIRIT IN THE WORLD.

There has been nothing hidden from the Godhead and there never will be any activity that they are not aware of under their sovereignty. The kingdoms of this world, though they are in the clutches of Satan, yet the Holy Spirit restrains the evil forces from going too far, with their evil practices. "Nevertheless, I tell you the truth: It is expedient for you that I go away; for if I go not away, the Comforter will not come unto you; but if I depart, I will send him unto you. And when he is come, he will reprove the world of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgement: Of sin, because they believe not on me; Of righteousness, because I go to my Father, and ye see me no more; Of judgement, because the prince of this world is judged." Jn.16:7-11.

The world is at enmity with the Triune God and Satan has usurped power among the earth dwellers. The infiltration of "Homo Sapiens" by his army of demons just prior to the flood was destined to destroy the Messianic lineage, BUT GOD in his omniscience, had already made plans to destroy all but eight souls by the means of a flood. God's messengers needed special protection from the world, the flesh, and the devil throughout the whole history of God dealing with man. The Lord Jesus Christ had to breathe the Holy Spirit upon his disciples, as he was about to return to heaven, preceding the forty days after the resurrection. "Then the same day at evening, being the first day of the week, when the doors were shut where the disciples were assembled for fear of the Jews, came Jesus and stood in the midst, and saith unto them, Peace be unto you. And when he had so said, he showed unto them his hands and his side. Then were the disciples glad, when they saw the Lord. Then said Jesus to them again, Peace be unto you; as my Father hath sent me, even so send I you. And when he had said this he breathed on them, and saith unto them, Receive ye the Holy Spirit;" Jn.20:19-22. Until the day of Pentecost, the disciples had to have special protection by the Holy Spirit against the world, the flesh and the devil. This was merely a temporary coverage by the Holy Spirit until the fulfillment of Joel 2:28.

A. THE HOLY SPIRIT'S WARFARE AGAINST SIN.

God the Holy Spirit is present in this world for several reasons, and a very important reason is to reprove the world of their wickedness and life of sin. They do not want to believe in the Lord Jesus Christ and because of this, they are reprovved and condemned. He also works among others who, although they do not believe at the time, they become convicted and turn to the lord Jesus Christ for salvation. Without the Holy Spirit, we could not operate in the world and the enemy of our soul would gain the victory. This battle in which we find ourselves is against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places. Since we are born of God the Holy Spirit, we can fight the good fight of faith, which is the victory that overcomes the world. Sin is the barrier between mankind and God and Christ has paid the debt for that sin, and the Holy Spirit keeps on reprovving sin.

The Lord Jesus Christ has sent God the Holy Spirit into this world to protect his own from the onslaught of Satan. Without the Holy Spirit we would be easy prey for the evil

forces. He is our source of Divine help. "Not by might, nor by power, but by my Spirit, saith the Lord of hosts." Zech.4:6. The Old Testament saints realized the importance of the anointing of the Spirit. It is a continual battle against sin, and we can praise God that we have the Holy Spirit dwelling within us, to give us all the help necessary to withstand the wiles of the devil. There are several provision that God has provided, of which we need to be aware.

1. **The new birth by the Holy Spirit is necessary. (Jn.3:5.)**
2. **Be constantly filled by the Holy Spirit. (Eph.5:18.)**
3. **Use the Word of God for strength. (Heb.4:12.)**
4. **Abide in the Word of God, to help prevent sinning. (Ps.119:11.)**
5. **Spend time in prayer. (Eph.6:18.)**
6. **Do not neglect assembling together. (Heb.10:24-25.)**
7. **Hold fast to the things of the Lord by faith. (Heb.10:23.)**
8. **Keep short accounts with God, confessing our sins. (1 Jn.1:9.)**
9. **Being led by the Holy Spirit. (Rom.8:14; Gal.5:18.)**

B. THE HOLY SPIRIT'S WARFARE AGAINST UNRIGHTEOUSNESS.

The righteousness of the Lord Jesus Christ is offered to whosoever will believe in him. God the Holy Spirit has been left to deal with the unrighteous, and reprove them for not accepting the Lord Jesus Christ as their personal Savior. Christ's work was completed at the cross and is now at the right hand of God the Father. The reproofing ministry has been left to God the Holy Spirit. We as believers are God's witnesses to the saving grace of our loving Lord. The Holy Spirit is our ever present help and brings convictions upon those who by faith hear the Gospel and believe. "There is, therefore, now no condemnation to them who are in Christ Jesus." Rom.8:1. "Therefore, as by the offense of one judgement came upon all men to condemnation, even so by the righteousness of one the free gift came upon all men unto justification of life." Rom.5:18. The righteousness of the Lord Jesus Christ has been offered to all who believe. To refuse this free gift is to bring judgement by the reproof of God the Holy Spirit.

JUDGEMENT AGAINST THE UNBELIEVERS

This judgement against the unbelievers is made possible because the prince of this world system has been judged at the cross. His sentence of eternal damnation in the Lake

of fire will take place in the fullness of time. The Lord Jesus Christ who has brought judgement against all ungodliness at the cross, is now in heaven at the right hand of God the Father. God the Holy Spirit remains with the believers and dwells within them. This is God's special protection, arranged to protect God's very own. How wonderful it is to know, that the Holy Spirit is our ever present help against all of the evil forces. God's judgement was primarily against all the fallen angels, but because of unbelief among men, the judgement has fallen upon them as well. "He that believeth on him is not condemned; but he that believeth not is condemned already, because he hath not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God." Jn.3:18.

C. THE RESTRAINING POWER OF GOD THE HOLY SPIRIT IN THIS PRESENT WORLD.

From eternity past and on into eternity of the future, the Triune God will always manifest the sovereign rights. At times, he does grant his permissive will, for certain tests that believers must experience. But God's own are always given special care by God the Holy Spirit who dwells within them. Job was a good example of a terrible time of testing. He proved his loyalty to his Creator, regardless of the circumstances. Job could say, "For I know that my redeemer liveth, and that he shall stand at the latter day upon the earth; And though after my skin worms destroy this body, yet in my flesh shall I see God, whom I shall see for myself, and mine eyes shall behold, and not another; though my heart be consumed within me." Job 19:25-27. Note also, "Though he slay me, yet will I trust in him; but I will defend mine own ways before him. He also shall be my salvation; for an hypocrite shall not come before him." Job.13:15-16. "In this ye greatly rejoice, though now for a season, if need be, ye are in heaviness through manifold trials, that the trial of your faith, being much more precious than of gold that perisheth, though it be tried with fire, might be found unto praise and honor and glory at the appearing of Jesus Christ," 1 Pet.1:6-7. We as believers need to realize that there are times in our Christian walk, when all seems to go against us, and nothing seems to be right. God is able to prevent these difficult times in your life and my life, but so often he allows them for a purpose. When we have to cry out unto the Lord for his Divine help, it also causes us to realize that we are utterly dependent upon his super Divine power. It becomes a process in our Christian walk, whereby we walk by faith, rather than by sight.

THE RESTRAINING POWER OF GOD THE HOLY SPIRIT.

Since the day of Pentecost, God the Holy Spirit has been given the responsibility of protecting the Divine rights, here upon Planet Earth. Sometimes it may seem that nothing is controlling the wicked and corrupt activities in this whole world. Evil practices are ever on the increase, as we come closer to the close of this century. That is exactly true, for as we draw near to that great "Air Lift", Satan is becoming more desperate with his evil intentions. However, may we also realize, that if God the Holy Spirit wasn't here on earth, that there would be very little chance of survival for God's saints. We may think that the wickedness in this world is at it's peak, but on the contrary it is restrained by the Holy Spirit.

May we search out the Scripture, in defence of this statement. We know that the great "Air Lift", when the Lord returns in the air, to bring all of the saints to those heavenly mansions, that "Jacob's Trouble" will start on planet earth. Praise God, we will be caught up from the wrath to come. (1 Thess.1:10.) As we leave this old earth for those mansions, the satanic powers will begin to work rapidly. The reason will be, God the Holy Spirit will remove his restraining power. "That ye be not soon shaken in mind, or be troubled, neither by spirit, nor word, nor by letter as from us, as that day of the Lord is present. Let no man deceive you by any means; for that day shall not come, except there come the falling away first, and that man of sin be revealed, the son of perdition, who opposeth and exalteth himself above all that is called God, or that is worshipped, so that he, as God, sitteth in the temple of God, showing himself that he is God. Remember ye not that, when I was yet with you, I told you these things? And now ye know what restraineth that he might be revealed in his time. For the mystery of iniquity doth already work; only he who now hindereth will continue to hinder until he be taken out of the way. And then shall that wicked one be revealed, whom the Lord shall consume with the spirit of his mouth, and shall destroy with the brightness of his coming, even him whose coming is after the working of Satan with all power and signs and lying wonders, and with all deceivableness of unrighteousness in them that perish, because they received not the love of the truth, that they might be saved. And for this cause God shall send them strong delusion, that they should believe the lie, that they all might be judged who believed not the truth, but had pleasure in unrighteousness." 2 Thess.2:2-12. What the Holy Spirit revealed in this passage covers a great area in prophecy. Let us review the contents of this very important Scripture.

1. **The Day of the Lord is very near. vs.2.**
2. **During these days there are many false teachers.**
3. **There will be a falling away from the truth of God.**
4. **During these last days, the man of sin will appear.**
5. **This man of sin will move into the temple, setting himself up as though he is God.**
6. **The Holy Spirit is restraining this evil power, until a later time.**
7. **The mystery of iniquity is continuing under restraining orders from the Holy Spirit, until the Holy Spirit is taken up during the Rapture of the saints.**
8. **That wicked one, "The Beast" will appear during the Tribulation.**
9. **At the end of the great Tribulation, the Lord shall return and destroy him and his armies, casting that wicked one into the Lake of fire & brimstone.**
10. **That wicked one will be under the power of Satan, deceiving the people of the world, because they refused God's word.**

- 11. God will cause a strong delusion to come over these wicked people, as they believe the lie.**
- 12. All these shall be judged, because they believe not God's truth, but have pleasure in unrighteousness.**

This gives us a little survey of what will happen when God the Holy Spirit is taken out of the world, when the Rapture takes place. It is a very important factor, concerning these followers of Satan, who refuse God's truth, will become entangled with Satan's lies. Until that great "Air Lift", God the Holy Spirit is bringing conviction, striving with precious souls and restraining the evil powers, keeping them within the sovereign rights of the Triune God. As of old, Almighty God had his limitations of grace, bringing on the flood, when the antediluvians refused to take heed to the preaching of Noah.

III. THE IMPORTANCE OF GOD THE HOLY SPIRIT IN THE NEW CREATION.

CHRIST THE FIRST FRUITS.

Christ is the first fruits of the new creation with a glorified body, which will eternally bear the scars of the crucifixion. All the saints of God of all generations from Adam to the Rapture will receive their perfect glorified bodies. This will distinguish us all from the people of the earth. The body of Christ will be a unit in itself, as we will be classified as the bride of Christ. The marriage, of course will take place in heaven. (Rev.19:7-10.) God is life and the source of life and apart from him there is no life. "Of which I am a minister, according to the dispensation of God which is given to me for you, to fulfill the word of God, even the mystery which hath been hidden from ages and from generations, but now is made manifest to his saints, to whom God would make known what is the riches of the glory of this mystery among the Gentiles, which is Christ in you, the hope of glory." Col.1:25-27. "But now is Christ risen from the dead and become the first from the dead and become the first fruits of them that slept. For since by man came death, by man came also the resurrection of the dead. For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ shall all be made alive; But every man in his own order: Christ the first fruits; afterward they that are Christ's at his coming. Then cometh the end, when he shall have delivered up the kingdom to God, even the Father, when he shall have put down all rule and authority and power. For he must reign, till he hath put all enemies under his feet. The last enemy that shall be destroyed is death." 1 Cor.15:20-26.

REGENERATION BY GOD THE HOLY SPIRIT.

By the grace of God, an eternal life in the presence of God has been offered to those who will believe. While we were dead in trespasses and sins, Christ died for us, delivering us from the penalty of sin. "And you hath he made alive, who were dead in trespasses and sins; In which in times past ye walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that now worketh in the sons of disobedience;

Among whom also we all had our manner of life in times past in the lusts of our flesh, fulfilling the desires of the flesh and of the mind, and were by nature the children of wrath, even as others, but God, who is rich in mercy, for his great love with which he loved us, even when we were dead in sins, hath made us alive together with Christ (by grace are ye saved), and hath raised us up together, and made us to sit together in heavenly places in Christ Jesus; That in the ages to come he might show the exceeding riches of his grace in his kindness toward us through Christ Jesus." Eph.2:1-7. It is not sufficient for God the Father to save us out from the wrath to come, but he made us alive together with his Son, the Lord Jesus Christ. "But after the kindness and love of God, our Savior, toward man appeared, not of works of righteousness which we have done, but according to his mercy he saved us, by the washing of regeneration, and renewing of the Holy Spirit." Tit.3:4-5. It is certainly amazing the love that the Triune God has poured out upon the regenerate, accepting them through the finished work of the Eternal Son of God.

A SPIRITUAL NEW BIRTH IS NECESSARY.

During Jesus Christ's earthly ministry, he presented the kingdom truths, mainly to Israel, and the giving of God the Holy Spirit was only recorded with the interview with Nicodemus. At the time this would not have meant much to the disciples, and certainly Nicodemus did not understand. However, the Holy Spirit used John to record a very important truth. "Jesus answered, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God. That which is born of the flesh is flesh; and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit." Jn.3:5-6. The day of Pentecost was the set time for the fulfillment of Joel 2:28. "And it shall come to pass afterward, that I will pour out my Spirit upon all flesh; and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, your old men shall dream dreams, your young men shall see visions;" This was never anticipated by the majority among the Old Testament saints. Even as John the Baptist was heralding the coming kingdom, there was no mention of the Holy Spirit. This was verified, when Paul spoke to some who received John's baptism. "He said unto them, Have ye received the Holy Spirit since ye believed? And they said unto him, We have not so much as heard whether there is any Holy Spirit. And he said unto them, Unto what, then, were ye baptized? And they said, Unto John's baptism. Then said Paul, John verily baptized with the baptism of repentance, saying unto the people that they should believe on him who should come after him, that is, on Christ Jesus. When they heard this, they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. And when Paul had laid his hands upon them, the Holy Spirit came on them, and they spoke with tongues, and prophesied. And all the men were about twelve. " Acts.19:2-7.

INDWELT BY GOD THE HOLY SPIRIT FOREVER.

It is obvious that now this which was planned in mystery, is now come to pass. The Body of Christ is to receive a new birth of the Holy Spirit, and furthermore, would be indwelt by the Holy Spirit forever and ever! "And I will pray the Father, and he shall give you another Comforter, that he may abide with you forever; Even the Spirit of truth, whom

the world cannot receive, because it seeth him not, neither knoweth him; but ye know him; for he dwelleth with you, and shall be in you." Jn.14:16-17. This is the work of God, taking the Christians into his royal family as the future bride of his Eternal Son. "Let us be glad and rejoice, and give honor to him; for the marriage of the Lamb is come, and his wife hath made herself ready. And to her was granted that she should be arrayed in fine linen, clean and white; for the fine linen is the righteousnesses of saints." Rev.19:7-8. We are not only clothed upon in Christ's righteousness, but are now given the privilege of expressing God's righteousness, through a surrendered righteous life. God will grant to each member of the body of Christ the garments of salvation, and covered with Christ's robe of righteousness. The self righteousness which can be acquired in a religious life, will not stand the test at the judgement seat of Christ. "But what things were gain to me, those I counted loss for Christ. Yea doubtless, I count all things but loss for the excellency of the knowledge of Christ Jesus, my Lord; for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and do count them but refuse, that I may win Christ, and be found in him, not having mine own righteousness, which is of the law, but that which is through the faith of Christ, the righteousness which is of God by faith." Phil.3:7-9. These pure white linen garments will be provided by God the Father for that great wedding day. "But now the righteousness of God apart from the law is manifested, being witnessed by the law and the prophets, even the righteousness of God which is by faith of Jesus Christ unto all and upon all them that believe; for there is no difference." Rom.3:21-22. Certainly, we as believers who have obtained the righteousness of God should practice righteousness as a witness to the brethren and to the world. "Put on, therefore, as the elect of God, holy and beloved, tender mercies, kindness, humbleness of mind, meekness, longsuffering; Forbearing one another, and forgiving one another, if any man have a quarrel against any; even as Christ forgave you, so also do ye. And above all things put on love, which is the bond of perfection." Col.3:12-14. This would be impossible for us to do a[part from the indwelling of God the Holy Spirit. "But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, long-suffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness, self-control; against such there is no law." Gal.5:22-23.

The Lord Jesus Christ has sent God the Holy Spirit to be the administrator of eternal life.

THE HOLY SPIRIT BRINGS ETERNAL NEWNESS OF LIFE.

The day of Pentecost was the turning point of the mystery of God. We as Christians have been reborn by the Holy Spirit, making it possible for us to be adopted by God and brought into the royal family of God. The Holy Spirit has made us alive in the Lord Jesus Christ. The Lord bought us out of the slave market of sin, and the Holy Spirit placed eternal life within each of us, and then sealed the new birth, never to depart from us. This is a tremendous undertaking by God the Holy Spirit, being born by him, indwelt by him and desires that we allow him to fill our whole life. It is then and then only that he can teach us all things. He is called, "Eternal Spirit", Heb.9:14; "The Glorious Spirit", "The Spirit of life" Rom.8:2. He is our "Comforter" Jn.14:26, The Holy Spirit is our "Prayer Warrior" Rom.8:26. As we study the Bible, he is our "Teacher" Jn.16:13. He gives us an identification before God the Father. 1 Cor.12:13. He is our source of "Power" Gal.3:1-5; Zech.4:6. With all of this and more, God the Holy Spirit is our "Helper" Jn.14:16, 26; Jn.15:26; Jn.16:7.

GOD THE HOLY SPIRIT, THE GUARDIAN OF OUR SOULS.

The Lord Jesus Christ , being the first fruits in this new creation, desired to bring his future bride through safely. There could be none better than the Holy Spirit to accomplish it. Satan can challenge toe angels, but God the Holy Spirit cannot be challenged and his decisions are final. He is our ever present help, placing a Divine hedge around our lives. Yes, we have trials and tribulations in this natural realm. The physical "Old Man" is always present, and the world would like to lure us off into it's Sodom and Gomorrah! The Holy Spirit wants to guard our every phase of life, but if we deny him the rights into every phase of our lives, we become easy prey for the Devil. The Holy Spirit wants us to live, with activity pleasing in the sight of God and realize that we are new creatures in Christ Jesus. "Therefore, if any man be in Christ, he is a new creation; old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new. All things are of God, who hath reconciled us to himself by Jesus Christ, and hath given to us the ministry of reconciliation; To wit, that God was in Christ reconciling the world unto himself, not imputing their trespasses unto them, and hath committed unto us the word of reconciliation." 2 Cor.5:17-19.

CONCLUSION

In this age of grace, God the Father is not only choosing out an Eternal bride for his Eternal Son, but he is making possible the elimination of sin, death and hell forever. The Master Plan of God was established before the foundation of the world. We were chosen in Christ before the foundation of the world. "According as he hath chosen us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before him, in love." Eph.1:4. That certainly reveals that the Triune God had it all worked out with their eternal plan, for which each person in the Trinity would be responsible. The lineage of the Messiah had to be guarded and kept from being infiltrated with demons. The Holy Spirit did the perfect job, in spite of the many odds against him. Everything was taken into account from before time, even all of the human weaknesses. At a very crucial stage in mankind, God had to order a universal flood , saving only eight souls. Adultery had to be dealt with as well as wicked rulers. The Holy Spirit was always there, guarding the royal seed. The unconditional covenant to Abraham and also to king David were God's responsibility, and it was accomplished. Man's extremity became God's opportunity! At one time, God had to separate the tribe of Judah from being destroyed by the Syrians, sending them to Babylon for safe keeping. God the holy Spirit was always there, guarding the integrity of the Godhead.

All things will be made new, and the former things will be forgotten with the marvelous creation to come. God the Holy Spirit who dwells within us forever, guarantees us a place in eternity. We also, being the bride of Christ will have a special place with our Lord, who promised, never to leave us nor forsake us. God has clearly made the line of demarkation and division within his creation. The holy angels that endured the test will always be holy and never face the problem of disobedience and sin again. All of this present creation is groaning to be relieved of the blight of sin. There will be that great separation between the saints and the children of darkness. When Christ, through the great white throne judgement casts not only the unbelievers of all ages into the lake of fire, he will also

cast death and hell into it as well. "And death and hell were cast into the lake of fire. This is the second death. And whosoever was not found written in the book of life was cast into the lake of fire." Rev.20:14-15. This will be their eternal living death, separated from God forever with no escape route, as they are tormented, day and night forever and ever. By the grace of God, we who have accepted the Lord Jesus Christ as our personal Savior, will live in newness of a glorious life in the presence of God, There will be no more death, no more sorrow. "And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain; for the former things are passed away. And he that sat upon the throne said, Behold, I make all things new. And he said unto me, Write; for these words are true and faithful. And he said unto me, It is done. I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end. I will give unto him that is a thirst of the fountain of the water of life freely. He that overcometh shall inherit all things, and I will be his God, and he shall be my son. But the fearful, and unbelieving, and the abominable, and murderers, and fornicators, and sorcerers, and idolaters, and all liars, shall have their part on the lake which burneth with fire and brimstone, which is the second death." Rev.21:4-8.

Praise God, we have overcome all things through the Lord Jesus Christ. "These things I have spoken unto you, that in me ye might have peace. In the world ye shall have tribulation: but be of good cheer; I have overcome the world." Jn.16:33. "For whatsoever is born of God overcometh the world; and this is the victory that overcometh the world, even our faith. Who is he that overcometh the world, but he that believeth that Jesus is the Son of God?" 1 Jn.5:4-5. "But these are written, that ye might believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God; and that believing ye might have life through his name." Jn.20:31. It is imperative that we defend this faith, once delivered unto the saints. God is not a God of confusion, but has set forth the way of life eternally with him, or death eternally without him. "Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life; no man cometh unto the Father, but by me." Jn.14:6. "Now therefore, fear the Lord, and serve him in sincerity and in truth; and put away the gods which your fathers served on the other side of the river, and in Egypt, and serve ye the Lord. And if it seem evil unto you to serve the Lord, choose you this day whom ye will serve, whether the gods which your fathers served that were on the other side of the river, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land ye dwell; but as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord." Josh.24:14-15.

We of those who are living in this "Mystery Age of Grace", have much for to be thankful. We have obtained through the finished work of Christ an inheritance sealed by God the Holy Spirit. We are all looking forward to the culmination of that redemption, when we receive those glorified bodies made like unto the Lord. We are assured by God himself that we are made "Joint Heirs" with the Lord Jesus Christ. This was all made possible by the new birth through God the Holy Spirit. "For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, they are the sons of God. For ye have not received the spirit of bondage again to fear; but ye have received the Spirit of adoption, whereby we cry, Abba, Father. The Spirit himself beareth witness with our spirit, that we are the children of God; And if children, then heirs - heirs of God, and joint heirs with Christ - if so be that we suffer with him, that we may be also glorified together." Rom.8:14-17. Worship before our heavenly Father must be in spirit and in truth. "But the hour cometh, and now is, when true worshipers shall

worship the Father in spirit and in truth; for the Father seeketh such to worship him, God is a Spirit; and they that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth." Jn.4:23-24. In order to worship the true and living God, we must be quickened by the spirit, and to be alive spiritually, one must be born again by the Holy Spirit.

"Now unto him that is able to keep you from falling, and to present you faultless before the presence of his glory with exceeding joy, to the only wise God, our Savior, be glory and majesty, dominion and power, both now and ever. Amen."Jude 24-25.

QUESTIONS ON CHAPTER THREE

- 1. Give the characteristics of the Triune God. Give Scripture.**
- 2. What is the positional responsibility of God the Holy Spirit in this mystery church age of grace? Give Scripture.**
- 3. Name 8 attributes of God the Holy Spirit as to his personality and special work.**
- 4. Write briefly on the prophetic ministry of God the Holy Spirit.**
- 5. What important place does the Holy Spirit have in the world of toaday?**
- 6. How does the Holy Spirit battle against sin?**
- 7. What provisions has God the Father given us through the Holy Spirit. Name at least 7 of them. Give Scripture.**
- 8. Write briefly on the Holy Spirit warfare against un righteousness.**
- 9. What special protection do we have through the Holy Spirit?**
- 10. Write briefly on "The Restraining Power of the Holy Spirit". 2 Thess.2:1-12.**
- 11. When will that special restraining power of the Holy Spirit end? Give Scripture.**
- 12. Write briefly on "The Importance of the Holy Spirit, throughout all the ages".**
- 13. What part does the Holy Spirit have in the new creation?
Who was the first fruits of this new creation? Give Scripture.**
- 14. How are the church age saints regenerated? Give Scripture.**
- 15. Why is a new birth necessary during this church age? Give Scripture.**
- 16. What guarentee do we have of eternal life? Give Scripture.**
- 17. What happens to the old nature when we become new creatures in Christ Jesus?**
- 18. Who is the guardian of our souls?**
- 19. What is the prime purpose of the Triune God in allowing sin to run it's full course?**
- 20. Write briefly on "The Importance of God the Holy Spirit".**

CHAPTER FOUR



Eternal Life by the Holy Spirit

CHAPTER FOUR

THE EVERLASTING LIFE BY THE HOLY SPIRIT

INTRODUCTION

It is very important that we as saints of God, are aware of our credentials as believers. We should be ready to give a reason for our belief, based upon the eternal Word of God. Since the Holy Spirit dwells within us, he certainly should cause us to know all about his mission in this world, for he will be our life long companion throughout eternity to come. It is also of great importance that we recognize him as the "Third Person of the Trinity", rather than just an element of power. The Holy Spirit was thoroughly involved in the creation of the universe, the Divine Author of the Scripture, as it was dictated by Him. Furthermore, the Holy Spirit was involved with the entrance of Christ into this world as the "Incarnate One". The Holy Spirit is the source of our new birth, giving us life through that marvelous and wonderful regenerating power. The Holy Spirit is the sustaining power in our Christian life, and provides the saints with special gifts for special tasks. The Holy Spirit is our inner voice, guiding and directing us into all truth. So, as we study this everlasting life which began when we accepted Christ as our personal Savior, let us consider the marvelous and mighty work of the Holy Spirit as he exalts the Lord Jesus Christ through his ministry.

OUTLINE

- I. THE SOURCE OF ALL LIFE.**
- II. THE PENTECOSTAL MYSTERY.**
- III. THE EXALTATION OF CHRIST THROUGH THE HOLY SPIRIT.**

- I. THE SOURCE OF ALL LIFE.**

CHARACTERISTICS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT DECLARE LIFE.

God the Holy Spirit, being equal with God the Father and God the Eternal Son, places him in a very important position as the life giving personality in the Godhead. All the attributes are equally shared with the Triune God. Therefore, the Triune God, being the very source of life, can impart life to whom they wish. The Godhead can also take away life if they so desire. "And behold, I, even I, do bring a flood of waters upon the earth, to destroy all flesh, wherein is the breath of life, from under heaven; and everything that is in the earth shall die." Gen.6:17. God has breathed upon man and he became a living soul. (Gen.2:7.) He has placed the life of the flesh in the blood. "For the life of the flesh is in the blood;" Lev.17a. Life is necessary for existence and we are totally dependent upon God for

eternal life. "Thou wilt show me the path of life. In thy presence is fullness of joy; at thy right hand there are pleasures for evermore." Ps.16:11. That life is strengthened by the Lord. "The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear? The Lord is the strength of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?" Ps.27:1.

THE ETERNAL LIFE IN CHRIST JESUS.

The Lord Jesus Christ placed the right emphasis upon life. "Is not the life more than food and the body than raiment?" Matt.6:25b. Almighty God has more than just this present life to offer us. "Enter in at the narrow gate; for wide is the gate, and broad is the way, that leadeth to destruction, and many there be who go in that way; because narrow is the gate, and hard is the way, which leadeth unto life, and few there be that find it." Matt.7:13-14. "For whosoever will save his life shall lose it; and whosoever will lose his life for my sake shall find it. For what is a man profited, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul? Or what shall a man give in exchange for his soul? Matt.16:25-26. While Christ was present upon planet earth, he prepared the way for God the Holy Spirit to make possible the new birth, bringing life eternal to those who believe. "In him was life; and the life was the light of men." Jn.1:4. "He that believeth on the Son hath everlasting life; and he that believeth not the Son shall not see life, but the wrath of God abideth on him." Jn.3:36. Christ is the one who gives the water of life. "But whosoever drinketh of the water that I shall give him shall never thirst, but the water that I shall give him shall be in him a well of water springing up into everlasting life." Jn.4:14. "I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly. Jn.10:10b. "Jesus saith unto her, I am the resurrection, and the life; he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live. And whosoever liveth and believeth in me shall never die. Believest thou this?" Jn.11:25-26. "Jesus saith unto him. I am the way, the truth, and the life; no man cometh unto the Father, but by me." Jn.14:6.

These are important statements coming from the Eternal Son of God. It is our responsibility, not only to personally accept these words, but also declare them to those who have never heard. Christ has sent us forth with this glorious gospel message as his personal ambassadors. That great commission of Matthew 28:19-20; is a command from the Eternal Son of God to all who believe. "Go ye, therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you; and, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the age. Amen.

GOD THE FATHER MADE PROVISION FOR ETERNAL LIFE.

The giving of eternal life is provided in a unique way, involving the Triune God. Since Christ was sent by the Father to remove the barrier of sin, by his death on the cross, is certainly evidence that the Father was totally involved in so great salvation. "Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that heareth my word, and believeth on him that sent me, hath everlasting life, and shall not come into judgement, but is passed from death unto life." Verily, verily, I say unto you, The hour is coming, and now is, when the dead shall hear the

voice of the Son of God; and they that hear shall live. "For as the Father hath life in himself, so hath he given to the Son to have life in himself; And hath given him authority to execute judgement also, because he is the Son of man. Marvel not at this; for the hour is coming, in which all that are in the grave shall hear his voice, and shall come forth: they that have done good, unto the resurrection of life; and they that have done evil, unto the resurrection of damnation." Jn.5:24-29. God the Father has in his omniscience, sealed the believers through the Holy Spirit, with everlasting life, and sealed his Son for this task to be accomplished. "Labor not for food which perisheth, but for that food which endureth unto everlasting life, which the Son of man shall give unto you; for him hath God the Father sealed. Jn.6:27. "For the bread of God is he who cometh down from heaven, and giveth life unto the world." Jn.6:33. "All that the Father giveth me shall come to me; and him that cometh to me I will in no wise cast out. For I came down from heaven, not to do mine own will but the will of him that sent me. And this is the Father's will who hath sent me, that of all that he hath given me I should lose nothing, but should raise it up again at the last day. And this is the will of him that sent me, that everyone who seeth the Son, and believeth on him, may have everlasting life; and I will raise him up at the last day." Jn.6:37-40. "These words spoke Jesus, and lifted up his eyes to heaven, and said, Father, the hour is come; glorify thy Son, that thy Son also may glorify thee. As thou has given him power over all flesh, that he should give eternal life to as many as thou hast given him. And this is eternal life, that they might know thee, the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom thou hast sent." Jn.17:1-3.

GOD THE HOLY SPIRIT ASSIGNED TO PROVIDE LIFE.

As we recognize from the previous Scriptures, how that God the Father has sent forth his Eternal Son to make possible the offering of eternal life to whosoever believeth. Christ fulfilled the law of God by giving his life a ransom for many. The sin barrier was removed, and the Triune God was free to provide so great salvation. "And i will pray the Father, and he shall give you another Comforter, that he may abide with you forever; Even the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive because it seeth him not, neither knoweth him: but ye know him; for he dwelleth with you, and shall be in you." Jn.14:16-17. "But the Comforter, who is the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, he shall teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatever I have said unto you." Jn.14:26. This is an amazing statement from the Lord, stating that God the Holy Spirit would cause his disciples to remember some of these hard sayings. The Gospels would be incomplete without the later inspiration given to John to write these things, which they had heard before, but did not thoroughly understand. You could ask, why wasn't the new birth mentioned in Matthew, Mark, and Luke? This was certainly a very important truth that they somehow neglected. BUT GOD had his specific timing for the remembrance of the conversation that Jesus had with Nicodemus. God the Holy Spirit was not emphasized during the time that Christ offered the kingdom to Israel. But we did have one clue as to the change from Israel and the temple, to Christians and the church. "And I say also unto thee, That thou art Peter (a stone), and upon this rock I will build my church, and the gates of hades shall not prevail against it." Matt.16:18. We do not have details about the building of

the church by the Lord Jesus Christ, but we are reminded of the Word of the Holy Spirit, bringing eternal life, by the new birth. "That which is born of the flesh is flesh; and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit. Marvel not that I said unto thee, Ye must be born again." Jn.3:6-7. All through the earthly ministry of Christ, the emphasis was upon the Kingdom. Even after the resurrection of Christ, his teachings were on the kingdom. "To whom also he showed himself alive after his passion by many infallible proofs, being seen by them forty days, and speaking of the things pertaining to the kingdom of God." Acts 1:3. As long as the Lord remained with his disciples, the Holy Spirit remained in the background. There were some ten days that the disciples would be on their own, and that was from the ascension of the Lord to the pouring out of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost. The Lord made provision for this short period as well. "Then said Jesus unto them again, Peace be unto you; as my Father hath sent me, even so send I you. And when he had said this, he breathed on them, and saith unto them, receive ye the Holy Spirit;" Jn.20:21-22.

As we have observed, the Triune God is the source of all life. Each one in the Godhead have equal characteristics, all three are the source of life and are the Creator of all things. This life which is the very being of the Triune God, has been manifested in several ways.

- 1. The Creation of the heavens and the earth. (Gen.1;1.)**
- 2. The creation of the angelic beings. (Matt.26:53.)**
- 3. The six day creation (Gen.1:3-31.)**
- 4. The creation through the seed of the woman. The Incarnate One. (Gen.3:15; Isa.7:14; Gal.4:4-5.)**
- 5. The new birth by the Holy Spirit. (Jn.3:3-8.)**
- 6. The guarantee of a New Heavens and a new earth. (Rev.21:1.)**

The Divine love of God has been shed abroad in our hearts by God the Holy Spirit. The Triune God communicates to us through the indwelling of the Holy Spirit. "And hope maketh not ashamed, because the love of God is shed abroad in our hearts by the Holy Spirit who is given unto us." Rom.5:5. Then the Holy Spirit in a matter of process, teaches us the Word of God, as we are willing to be taught. We can certainly say, "The Holy Spirit is Our Life". "It is the Spirit that giveth life; the flesh profiteth nothing. The words that I speak unto you, they are spirit, and they are life." Jn.6:63. "That the righteousness of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit. For they that are after the flesh do mind the things of the flesh; but they that are after the Spirit, the things of the Spirit. For to be carnally minded is death, but to be spiritually minded is life and peace." Rom.8:4-6. We as Ambassadors for the Lord must completely depend upon the leading of the Holy Spirit. "Who also hath made us able ministers of the new testament, not of the letter, but of the spirit; for the letter killeth, but the Spirit giveth life." 2 Cor.3:6. We

as Christians are completely dependent upon the Holy Spirit in every phase of our Christian walk. "For he that soweth to his flesh shall of the flesh reap corruption; but he that soweth to the Spirit shall of the Spirit reap life everlasting." Gal.6:8. The source of our life and the workings in this newness of life is very dependent upon God the Holy Spirit. He must not be ignored, nor grieved in the Christian's life, for that will eventually lead to the quenching of the power of the Spirit in the Christian's life.

II. THE PENTECOSTAL MYSTERY

THE OUTPOURING OF THE HOLY SPIRIT.

IN PROPHECY

The Old Testament prophets were often given an over all picture of an eternal relationship with Almighty God, but it was the prophet Joel who clearly mentioned concerning the outpouring of the Holy Spirit. "And it shall come to pass afterward, that I will pour out my Spirit upon all flesh; and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, your old men shall dream dreams, your young men shall see visions; And, also, upon the servants and upon the handmaids in those days will I pour out my Spirit." Joel 2:28-29.

The Lord Jesus Christ referred to the outpouring of the Spirit through the necessity to be born of the Holy Spirit. "That which is born of the flesh is flesh; and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit" Jn.3:6. Christ also spoke of the coming of the Comforter who would dwell within them. (Jn.14:16-17.) The Holy Spirit was promised to be sent from the Father. "But the Comforter, who is the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, he shall teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatever I have said unto you." Jn.14:26. "Nevertheless, when he, the Spirit of truth, is come, he will guide you into all truth; for he shall not speak of himself, but whatever he shall hear, that shall he speak; and he will show you things to come." Jn.16:13.

The Lord told his disciples to tarry in Jerusalem for he had promised them that God the Holy Spirit would come, after he had gone to his heavenly home. "And behold, I send the promise of my Father upon you; but tarry ye in the city of Jerusalem, until ye be endued with power from on high." Lk.24:49. "And being assembled together with them, commanded them that they should not depart from Jerusalem, but wait for the promise of the Father, which saith he, ye have heard from me. For John truly baptized with water; but ye shall be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now." Acts 1:4-5. The disciples then wanted to know if Christ would restore the kingdom to Israel at that time when he spoke to them. "When they, therefore, were come together, they asked of him, saying, Lord, wilt thou at this time restore again the kingdom to Israel? And he said unto them, It is not for you to know the times or the seasons, which the Father hath put in his power. But ye shall receive power, after the Holy Spirit is come upon you; and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judea, and in Samaria. and unto the uttermost part of the earth." Acts 1:6-8. These were the last words spoken by Christ before he was caught up in

a cloud, returning to heaven. The two men in white apparel assured them that he would return again. (Acts 1:10-11).

THE GREAT DAY OF PENTECOST.

The remembrance of the passover, as God delivered Israel from Egypt, has become the feast of remembrance, because the Lamb of God was prepared and provided to take away the sins of the world. Little did the religious leaders of Israel realize that they were witnessing the sacrificial death of the Eternal Son of God, when they cried out, "Crucify Him, Crucify Him!" "Up from the grave He arose, bringing a mighty victory!" After the resurrected Christ spent 40 days with the disciples and others, that victory over death and sin was verified with ample witnesses. As the Hebrew people continued their celebration of the passover and after 50 days would complete their ceremony of the first fruits, so God had the fullness of time, to send God the Holy Spirit on the day of Pentecost. Christ being the first fruits from death.

As the Lord commanded his disciples to tarry in Jerusalem until they would be endued with power, so the disciples were waiting in that upper room, waiting upon the Lord. "And when the day of Pentecost was fully come, they were all with one accord in one place. And suddenly there came a sound from heaven like a rushing mighty wind, and it filled all the house where they were sitting. And there appeared unto them cloven tongues as of fire, and it sat upon each of them. And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit, and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterances. Acts.2:1-4. This was verified by the message that the Holy Spirit spoke through Peter, that Joel prophesied that this would happen. "But Peter, standing up with the eleven, lifted up his voice, and said unto them, Ye men of Judea, and all ye that dwell at Jerusalem, be this known unto you, and hearken to my words; For these are not drunk, as ye suppose, seeing it is but the third hour of the day. But this is that which was spoken through the prophet Joel: And it shall come to pass in the last days, saith God, I will pour out of my Spirit upon all flesh; and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams; And on my servants and on my handmaids I will pour out in those days of my Spirit, and they shall prophesy:" Acts 2:14-18. Peter went on to proclaim the Lord Jesus Christ to the men of Israel, "Whosoever shall call on the name of the Lord shall be saved." "This Jesus hath God raised up, whereof we all are witnesses. Therefore, being by the right hand of God exalted, and having received from the Father the promise of the Holy Spirit, he hath shed forth this, which ye now see and hear. For David is not ascended into the heavens; but he saith himself, The Lord said unto my Lord, Sit thou on my right hand, until I make thy foes thy footstool. Therefore let all the house of Israel know assuredly, that God hath made that same Jesus, whom ye crucified, both Lord and Christ. Now when they heard this, they were pricked in their heart, and said unto Peter and to the rest of the apostles, Men and brethren, what shall we do? Then Peter said unto them, repent, and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. For the promise is unto you, and to your children, and to all that are afar off, even as many as the Lord, our God, shall call." Acts 32-39. This led to some three thousand souls coming to the Lord for salvation at one time. Now let's

analyze as to what happened this first day of Pentecost when the Holy Spirit descended, bringing a new spiritual birth to those who believed.

IMPORTANT ISSUES TAKING PLACE AT PENTECOST

- 1. There were some 120 gathered in the upper room. (Acts.1:15.**
- 2. They were gathered together in unity, tarrying in Jerusalem as commanded by Christ.**
- 3. They were seated and waiting as this mighty sound filled the room.**
- 4. The cleansing fire of God cleansed each one of them as they remained seated.**
- 5. All were filled by the Holy Spirit, providing the new birth.**
- 6. The Holy Spirit gave them the words to speak in other languages.**
- 7. An evangelistic campaign began and the Gospel was preached in proper languages, with an understanding, as every man heard in his own language.**
- 8. No interpreter was necessary, for the languages spoken were named.**
- 9. Then Peter spoke in the language of Jerusalem, and about three thousand souls accepted Christ as their personal Savior.**
- 10. Bible teaching began, fellowship in the Lord was present, and the remembrance of the salvation of the Lord was observed, with prayer.**
- 11. Many wonders and signs and miracles were done by the apostles.**
- 12. They met in the temple with great rejoicing.**
- 13. The Lord added to the church, such as should be saved.**

These are important factors to be dealt with as we continue our study on the coming of the Holy Spirit on the day of Pentecost. We must remember that the pentecostal outpouring as recorded was accomplished once and forever. The extension of this outpouring had to be accomplished as the one hundred and twenty were of the immediate followers of Jesus. The Scripture gives us evidence that the out pouring of the Holy Spirit was for all races of people and all flesh. (Joel 2:28.) Let us examine the Scripture. The Great commission stated. "But ye shall receive power, after the Holy Spirit is come upon you; and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judea, and in Samaria, and the

uttermost part of the earth." Acts 1:8. It has to be realized that the outpouring of the Holy Spirit was upon all races of people. How was this accomplished? The following references will clarify this, and give us a better understanding of God's events.

THE GOSPEL TO THE SAMARITANS.

"Therefore, they that were scattered abroad went everywhere preaching the word. Then Philip went down to the city of Samaria, and preached Christ unto them. And the people with one accord gave heed unto those things which Philip spoke, hearing and seeing miracles which he did;.....But when they believed Philip preaching the things concerning the kingdom of God, and the name of Jesus Christ, they were baptized, both men and women.....Now when the apostles who were at Jerusalem heard that Samaria had received the word of God, they sent unto them Peter and John, who, when they were come down, prayed for them, that they might receive the Holy Spirit; For as yet he was fallen upon none of them; only they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. Then laid they their hands on them, and they received the Holy Spirit." Acts 8:4-17.

THE GOSPEL TO THE ETHIOPIANS AND AFRICA.

"And an angel of the Lord spoke unto Philip, saying, Arise, and go toward the south unto the way that goeth down from Jerusalem unto Gaza, which is desert. And he arose and went; and, behold, a man of Ethiopia, an eunuch of great authority under Candace, queen of the Ethiopians, who had the charge of all her treasure and had come to Jerusalem to worship, was returning, and sitting in his chariot read Isaiah, the prophet. Then the Spirit said unto Philip, Go near, and join thyself to this chariot. And Philip ran there to him, and heard him read the prophet, Isaiah, and said, understandest thou what thou readest? And he said, How can I, except some man should guide me? And he besought Philip that he would come up and sit with him. The place of the Scripture which he read was this, He was led as a sheep to the slaughter; and like a lamb dumb before his shearer, so opened he not his mouth,.....Then Philip opened his mouth, and began at the same scripture, and preached unto him Jesus. And they went on their way, they came unto a certain water; and the eunuch said, See, here is water. What doth hinder me to be baptized? And Philip said, If thou believest with all thine heart, thou mayest. And he answered and said, I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God. And he commanded the chariot to stand still; and they both went down into the water, both Philip and the eunuch, and he baptized him. And when they were come up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord caught away Philip, that the eunuch saw him no more; and he went on his way rejoicing." Acts 8:26-39. There was no need of the speaking in other tongues, for they were in the desert. This was another indication of the out pouring of the Holy Spirit for the continent of Africa.

THE GOSPEL TO THE GENTILES.

"There was a certain man in Caesarea called Cornelius, a centurion of the band called the Italian band, a devout man, and one that feared God with all his house, who gave much alms

to the people, and prayed to God always. He saw in a vision, evidently about the ninth hour of the day, an angel of God coming in to him, and saying unto him, Cornelius. And when he looked on him, he was afraid, and said, What is it, Lord? And he said unto him, Thy prayers and thine alms are come up for a memorial before God.....On the next day, as they went on their journey, and drew near unto the city, Peter went up upon the housetop to pray about the sixth hour.....Now while Peter was perplexed what this vision which he had seen should mean, behold, the men who were sent from Cornelius had made inquiry for Simon's house, and stood before the gate. And called, and asked whether Simon, who was surnamed Peter was lodged there.....And as Peter was coming in, Cornelius met him, and fell down at his feet, and worshipped him. But Peter took him up, saying, Stand up; I myself also am a man.....Then Peter opened his mouth, and said, Of a truth I perceive that God is no respecter of persons; But in every nation he that feareth him, and worketh righteousness, is accepted with him.....And we are witnesses of all things which he did, both in the land of the Jews and in Jerusalem; whom they slew and hanged on a tree. Him God raised up the third day, and showed him openly;While Peter yet spoke these words, the Holy Spirit fell on all them who heard the word. And they of the circumcision who believed were astonished, as many as came with Peter, because on the Gentiles also was poured out the gift of the Holy Spirit. For they heard them speak with tongues, and magnify God. Then answered Peter. Can any man forbid water, that these should not be baptized, who have received the Holy Spirit as well as we? And he commanded them to be baptized in the name of the Lord. Then asked they him to tarry certain days. Acts 10:1-48.

THE GOSPEL TO THE OLD TESTAMENT SAINTS.

"And it came to pass that, while Apollos was at Corinth, Paul having passed through the upper borders came to Ephesus and, finding certain disciples, he said unto them, Have ye received the Holy Spirit since ye believed? And they said unto him, We have not so much as heard whether there is any Holy Spirit. And he said unto them, Unto what, then, were ye baptized? And they said, Unto John's baptism. Then said Paul, John verily baptized with the baptism of repentance, saying unto the people that they should believe on him who should come after him, that is, on Christ Jesus. When they heard this, they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. And when Paul had laid his hands upon them, the Holy Spirit came on them, and they spoke with tongues, and prophesied. And all the men were about twelve." Acts 19:1-7

This completes the occasions of the out-pouring of the Holy Spirit upon the various nations of people. It gives us definite information as to pentecost, which began in Jerusalem, Judea, Samaria, Ethiopia, and the Gentiles. Please not that John the Baptist was sent to herald the king and prepare through repentance the people for the kingdom. But God in his omniscience, knew Israel would reject the Messiah and the kingdom was postponed. John the Baptist was not Elijah, but rather the spirit of Elijah. All believers of this church age are baptized immediately by the Holy Spirit. "For by one Spirit were we all baptized into one body, whether we be Jews or Greeks, whether we be bound or free; and have been all made to drink into one Spirit." 1 Cor.12:13. There is a diversity of the working of the Holy Spirit, but only one Holy Spirit.

LIFE IMPUTED BY GOD THE HOLY SPIRIT.

God the Holy Spirit, quietly works in mighty ways and is the power of God. John the Baptist gave his testimony concerning Christ, and how the Holy Spirit came upon him. "And John bore witness, saying, I saw the Spirit descending from heaven like a dove, and he abode upon him. And I knew him not; but he that sent me to baptize with water, the same said unto me, Upon whom thou shalt see the Spirit descending, and remaining on him, the same is he who baptizeth with the Holy Spirit. And I saw, and bore witness that this is the Son of God." Jn.1:32-34. The Lord Jesus Christ has made possible the identification of the Holy Spirit within the believers. This takes place upon accepting Christ as personal Savior and the Holy Spirit imputes newness of life to the believer, providing spiritual birth and newness of life. "That which is born of the flesh is flesh; and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit. Marvel not that I said unto thee, Ye must be born again." This new birth is a permanent one and will last throughout eternity, which is forever and ever. (Jn.14:16-17.) This makes possible an understanding of God's word. "But when the Comforter, who is the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, he shall teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatever I have said unto you." Jn.14:26.

THE TESTIMONY OF THE HOLY SPIRIT.

God the Holy Spirit is that quiet voice within each believer and He bears witness to what Christ has proclaimed. "But when the Comforter is come, whom I will send unto you from the Father, even the Spirit of truth, who proceedeth from the Father, He shall testify of me. And ye also shall bear witness, because ye have been with me from the beginning." Jn.15:26-27. It is important to know that the stabilizing influence in a Christian's life, comes from God the Holy Spirit. When we were born of the Spirit, then we are alive spiritually. This makes possible the discerning element in our lives. "Beloved, believe not every spirit, but test the spirits whether they are of God; because many false prophets are gone out into the world. By this know ye the Spirit of God; every spirit that confesseth that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh is of God. And every spirit that confesseth not that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh is not of God; and this is the spirit of antichrist, of which ye have heard that it should come, even now already is in the world." 1 Jn.4:1-3. The work of the Holy Spirit is to guide believers into all truth. "Nevertheless, when He, the Spirit of truth, is come, He will guide you into all truth; but whatever He shall hear, that shall He speak; and He will show you things to come. He shall glorify me; for He shall receive of mine, and shall show it unto you. All things that the Father hath are mine; therefore said I, that He shall take of mine, and shall show it unto you." Jn.16:12-15.

THE TEACHING OF THE HOLY SPIRIT.

The Lord Jesus Christ during his earthly ministry, gave evidence of the existence of the Holy Spirit. One of the early records we have of the Lord referring to the work of the Holy Spirit was as he spoke to the woman at the well. "But whosoever drinketh of the water that I shall give him shall be in him a well of water springing up into everlasting life."

Jn.4:14. As Jesus attended the Feast of the Tabernacles, he spoke out, "In the last day, that great day of the feast, Jesus stood and cried out, saying, If any man thirst, let him come unto me, and drink. He that believeth on me, as the scripture hath said, out of his heart shall flow rivers of living water. But this spoke he of the Spirit, whom they that believe on him should receive; for the Holy Spirit was not yet given, because Jesus was not yet glorified." Jn.7:37-39. May we always differentiate between the Holy Spirit coming upon an Old Testament saint, and the Holy Spirit indwelling the Saints of this age of grace. The Old Testament Saints were not promised that the Holy Spirit would dwell within them forever. If this were the case, then Joel 2:28 would not have been necessary, and certainly there would be no need of a day of Pentecost.

As the Lord continued to teach his disciples, concerning the coming of the Holy Spirit, he prepared them for a new intimacy that would be made possible between God and those who would believe. "Henceforth I call you not servants; for the servant knoweth not what the lord doeth: but I have called you friends; for all things that I have heard of my Father I have made known unto you. Ye have not chosen me, but I have chosen you, and ordained you, that ye should go and bring forth fruit, and that your fruit should remain; that whatever ye shall ask of the Father in my name, he may give it you." Jn.15:15-16. The Lord could not go much into detail with this, as he had to wait until the Holy Spirit would be given at the day of Pentecost. The Lord Jesus Christ said, "I have many things to say unto you, but ye cannot bear them now. Nevertheless, when he, the Holy Spirit of truth, is come, he will guide you into all truth; for he shall not speak of himself, but whatsoever he shall hear, that shall he speak; and he will show you things to come." Jn. 16:12-13. This precious word which we call the Bible, has been given to us to be studied under the guidance of God the Holy Spirit.

THE NECESSITY OF THE HOLY SPIRIT IN THIS AGE.

God the Holy Spirit had been sent by God the Father, at the request of God the Eternal Son. We have noted many important activities of the Holy Spirit during this age of grace. This new life in Christ Jesus, was made possible by the new birth through the Holy Spirit. In our study of the Bible, we cannot ignore the Holy Spirit. He is our ever present protection and teacher, as to the written Word of God. He is the Author of this marvelous revelation and is ready to guide us into all truth. As believers, we cannot survive the onslaught of Satan with his billions of demons. The Holy Spirit enables us to withstand the wiles of the Devil. Special gifts are given to the believers, not only to help withstand the evil one, but to stand firmly upon the promises of God, and fulfill that great commission. Our own natural talents are different in us as individuals, and so the gifts which the Holy Spirit provides differ one from another. "Now there are diversities of gifts, but the same Spirit. And there are differences of administration, but the same Lord. And there are diversities of operations, but it is the same God who worketh all in all. But the manifestation of the Spirit is given to every man to profit. For to one is given, by the Spirit, the word of wisdom; to another, the word of knowledge by the same Spirit; To another, faith by the same Spirit; to another, the gifts of healing by the same Spirit; To another, the working of miracles; to another, prophecy; to another, discernment of spirits; to another various kinds tongues; to

another, the interpretation of tongues. But all these worketh that one and the very same Spirit, dividing to every man severally as He will." 1 Cor.12:4-11.

THE IMPORTANCE OF THE HOLY SPIRIT.

As you search through the Scriptures, whether in the Old Testament or the New Testament you will be surprised how many times he is mentioned. God the Holy Spirit is mentioned some 72 times in the Old Testament and 100 times in the New Testament, The phrase, "The Spirit of the Lord" is an outstanding declaration in the Old Testament. The timing element in Word is placed in the hands of the Holy Spirit. Simeon was waiting for the birth of the Messiah, and we read, "And, behold, there was a man in Jerusalem, whose name was Simeon; and the same man was righteous and devout, waiting for the consolation of Israel; and the Holy Spirit was upon him. And it was revealed unto him by the Holy Spirit, that he should not see death, before he had seen the Lord's Christ. And he came by the Spirit into the temple;" Lk.2:25-27a. Christ was led by the Spirit into the wilderness. (Lk.4:1.) After the temptation of Jesus in the wilderness, we read, "And Jesus returned in the power of the Spirit into Galilee;" Lk.4:14a. As Christ went into the temple and read Isaiah 61:1-2. "The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he hath anointed me to preach the gospel to the poor; he hath sent me to heal the brokenhearted, to preach deliverance to the captives, and recovering of the sight to the blind, to set at liberty them that are bruised, to preach the acceptable year of the Lord." Lk.4:18-19. He immediately closed the book, and read no further. "And he began to say unto them, This day is this scripture fulfilled in your ears." Lk.4:21. Christ stopped at the exact place, to proclaim his first advent. When he comes the second time the remainder of the writing will be fulfilled. "And the day of vengeance of our God; to comfort all that mourn; To appoint unto those who mourn in Zion, to give unto them beauty for ashes, the oil of joy for mourning, the garment of praise for the spirit of heaviness, that they might be called trees of righteousness, the planting of the Lord, that he might be glorified." Isa.61:2b-3. If the Lord Jesus Christ, the Creator of heaven and earth depended upon the leading of the Holy Spirit in his earthly ministry, certainly we must be alert to the leading of the Holy Spirit. As Christ sent out his disciples to preach the gospel of the kingdom, we read, "In that hour Jesus rejoiced in the Spirit, and said, I thank thee, O Father, Lord of heaven and earth, that thou hast hidden these things from the wise and prudent, and hast revealed them unto babes. Even so, Father, for so it seemed good in thy sight." Lk.10:21. You remember that the Lord prayed to the Father to send the Comforter to the disciples? God the Holy Spirit is our source of eternal life and our guide through this present life. In our Christian walk, we must constantly be submissive to the Holy Spirit. "So, then, they that are in the flesh cannot please God. But ye are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if so be that the Spirit of God dwell in you. Now if any man have not the Spirit of Christ, he is none of his. And if Christ be in you, the body is dead because of sin, but the Spirit is life because of righteousness. But if the Spirit of him that raised up Jesus from the dead dwell in you, he that raised up Christ from the dead shall also give life to your mortal bodies by his Spirit that dwelleth in you. Therefore, brethren, we are debtors, not to the flesh, to live after the flesh. For if ye live after the flesh, ye shall die; but if ye, through the

Spirit, do mortify the deeds of the body, ye shall live. For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, they are the sons of God." Rom.8:8-14.

We are declared new creatures in Christ Jesus, and this was only made possible through God the Holy Spirit. "Forasmuch as ye are manifestly declared to be the epistle of Christ ministered by us, written not with ink but with the Spirit of the living God; not in tables of stone but in fleshy tables of the heart. And such trust have we through Christ toward God; Not that we are sufficient of ourselves to think anything as of ourselves, but our sufficiency is of God." 2 Cor.3:3-5. "For we through the Spirit wait for the hope of righteousness by faith." Gal.5:5. Since we have become new creatures, our pattern of love has changed, and now we manifest the Divine love. "Who also declared unto us your love in the Spirit." Col.1:8. "And this is his commandment, that we should believe on the name of his Son, Jesus Christ, and love one another, as he gave us commandment. And he that keepeth his commandments dwelleth in him, and he in him. And by this we know that he abideth in us, by the Spirit whom he hath given us." 1 Jn.3:23-24.

III. EXALTATION THROUGH THE HOLY SPIRIT.

God the holy Spirit was the Incarnate Son of God's ever present help, during the Lord's earthly ministry. The second Person of the Godhead, submitted himself to the Holy Spirit. That we saw when the Spirit led Christ into the wilderness for those 40 days of temptation. This reveals the unity within the Godhead, as well as the equal trust. "Who hath directed the Spirit of the Lord, or being his counselor, hath taught him?" Isa.40:13. Ezekiel recognized that the Holy Spirit led and guided in his ministry. We read such sayings as, "And the Spirit of the Lord fell upon me". "Afterwards the Spirit took me up, and brought me in a vision by the Spirit of God", So with the Lord Jesus Christ, the Incarnate, the Holy Spirit was his ever present help, as Christ took upon himself a form of man.

THE ENTRANCE OF CHRIST INTO THIS WORLD.

When Mary was told that she would bare a son and his name was to be Jesus, she was troubled within, until she learned that the Holy Spirit would come upon her. "And the angel answered, and said unto her, The Holy Spirit shall come upon thee, and the power of the Highest shall overshadow thee; therefore also that holy thing which shall be born of thee shall be called the Son of God." Lk.1:35. The entrance of the Lord into this world was the overshadowing by the Holy Spirit upon Mary. It was God's method of taking upon himself the form of man, apart from the sin nature, that he could pay the debt of sin, for the redemption of mankind. As the Holy Spirit overshadowed Mary, he was also making the way for the Eternal Son of God to make his formal entrance, to become the Messiah and pay the total debt of sin. "Who is the image of the invisible God, the first-born of all creation; For by him were all things created, that are in heaven, and that are in earth, visible and invisible, whether they be thrones, or dominions, or principalities, or powers - all things were created by him, and for him; And he is before all things, and by him all things consist. And he is the head of the body, the church; who is the beginning, the first-born from the dead, that in all things he might have the pre-eminence. For it pleased the Father that in him

should all fullness dwell;" Col.1:15-19. It was very important that the Holy Spirit kept his watchful eye upon the Incarnate Son, as he submitted to being "The Son Of Man". The Lord presents the Holy Spirit as a guiding factor in the glorification of the Eternal Son of God. "Nevertheless, when he, the Spirit of truth, is come, he will guide you into all truth; for he shall not speak of himself, but whatever he shall hear, that shall he speak; and he will show you things to come. He shall glorify me; for he shall receive of mine, and shall show it unto you. All things that the Father hath are mine; therefore said I, that he shall take of mine, and shall show it unto you." Jn.16:13-15. The entrance of Christ into the world through the Holy Spirit, was to glorify the Lord in every way possible, exalting Him as God the Father has so declared.

QUESTIONS CHAPTER 4.

- 1. Write briefly on the third Person of the Trinity.**
- 2. Is the holy Spirit important to Believers? If so, in what ways? Write briefly.**
- 3. Explain whhat constitutes a New Birth.**
- 4. Write briefly on, "The Eternal Life In Christ".**
- 5. How did God the Father make provision for eternal life in believers?**
- 6. How was God the Holy Spirit assigned to provide life to the believers?**
- 7. Write a brief thesis on "The Manifestation of Pentecost".**
- 8. In what ways has the Triune God manifested creative power?**
- 9. What examples do we have of other than the Jews receiving Pentecost?**
- 10. Name 13 important issues that took place on the day of Pentecost.**
- 11. Write briefly on the subject, "Life Impiuted By God the holy Spirit."**
- 12. What are the main responsibilities of God the Holy Spirit today?**
- 13. Explain John 4:14.**
- 14. Why is the holy Spirit so necessary in this day and age?**
- 15. Give a brief account of the importance of the Holy Spirit.**
- 16. Who does the Holy Spirit exalt? How does the Holy Spirit do it?**
- 17. What part did the Holy Spirit have, when Christ entered the world as a babe?**

CHAPTER FIVE



The Divine Work of the Holy Spirit

CHAPTER FIVE

THE DIVINE WORK OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

INTRODUCTION

God the Holy Spirit is unique in his work upon planet earth. He has been used in the Godhead to stabilize all things in the creation. What ever phase of work that the Holy Spirit is to accomplish, his prime motive is to exalt the Lord Jesus Christ. So little recognition of him has been seen in the Old Testament, except in revelation. Here in this mystery age of the church, he is given more personal contact with every believer. In fact the believers is totally dependent upon him in the Christian life. This is certainly the "Dispensation of the Holy Spirit". It is very appropriate that we who are living in this age of grace devote much time to the study of God the Holy Spirit. We will consider this study in the following divisions.

OUTLINE

- I. THE WORK OF THE HOLY SPIRIT AMONG BELIEVERS.**
- II. THE WORK OF THE HOLY SPIRIT ON PLANET EARTH.**
- III. THE WORK OF THE HOLY SPIRIT AMONG THE UNREGENERATE.**

- I. THE WORK OF THE HOLY SPIRIT AMONG BELIEVERS.**

We as Christians are primarily concerned about our relationship with the Holy Spirit, and his working power in our lives. We will be spending eternity with him, so the more we get acquainted with him on planet earth, the greater appreciation we will have of his presence throughout eternity. He is often neglected and forgotten as we try to study the Bible by ourselves. This becomes an impossible task, for he is with us and within us to be our Comforter, teacher and protector. May we allow him to have his rightful place in our lives.

THE BELIEVERS LIFE GIVING PROVIDER.

"But the cometh, and now is, when the true worshippers shall worship the Father in spirit and in truth; for the Father seeketh such to worship him. God is Spirit; and they that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth." Jn.4:23-24.

We who have accepted Christ as our personal Savior have been given this regeneration power making us of a new creation through God the Holy Spirit. That is one

reason why he was sent to planet earth, to provide this eternal life, through Christ Jesus. As we had studied, concerning the Incarnate Messiah's entrance into this world, under the control of the Holy Spirit, so now may we study the importance of the Holy Spirit in Christians. We know that flesh and blood cannot inherit the heavenlies. "As is the earthy, such are they also that are earthy; and as is the heavenly, such are they also that are heavenly. And as we have been borne the image of the earthy, we shall also bear the image of the heavenly. Now this I say, brethren, that flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God; neither doth corruption inherit incorruption." 1 Cor.15:48-50. This certainly reveals not only that we must have a Divine touch to worship God, but also a Divine body to enter the heavenly kingdom of God. God the Holy Spirit was sent to make this vital change. How does this Divine spark with newness of life take place? God himself is necessary to make the difference. "Jesus answered, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God. That which is born of the flesh is flesh; and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit. Marvel not that I said unto thee, Ye must be born again." Jn.3:5-7. This requires an absolute new beginning, for those who desire eternal life in Christ Jesus. Please note, that the water mentioned in this passage does not refer to water baptism as essential for this new life. If that were the case, the thief on the cross could never arrived in Paradise. It would also mean that water baptism is necessary as part of salvation, and this would be contrary to the teachings of the Word of God. This term "water" refers to the Word of God. We claim this new birth on the basis of God's Word. "For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves, it is the gift of God - Not of works, lest any man should boast. For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them." Eph.2:8-10. "Not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to his mercy he saved us, by the washing of regeneration, and renewing of the Holy Spirit, which he shed on us abundantly through Jesus Christ, our Savior. That, being justified by his grace, we should be made heirs according to the hope of eternal life." Tit.3:5-7.

THE FULLNESS OF TIME.

The entrance of God the Holy Spirit into this earth during this "Mystery Age" was completed by Christ. "And I will pray the Father, and he shall give you another Comforter, that he may abide with you forever." Jn.14:16. This was part of God's Master Plan in providing God the Holy Spirit, to not only be with the Body of Christ forever, but also to dwell within them for eternity. "Even the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it seeth him not, neither knoweth him; but ye know him; for he dwelleth with you, and shall be in you." Jn.14:17. "The exact timing of God corresponded to the first fruit offerings, the fiftieth day after the beginning of the Passover. The new birth by the Holy Spirit was preceded with the cleansing by the tongues of fire, and then the filling by the Holy Spirit, as he baptized the disciples. This gave the 120 in the upper room the new birth. (Acts 2:1-4.)

THE INDWELLING OF THE HOLY SPIRIT FOREVER.

Nothing of this sort has ever happened before, that very God, would indwell his creatures. "Oh, the depth of the riches both of the wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable are his judgements, and his ways past finding out. For who hath known the mind of the Lord? Or who hath been his counselor? Or who hath first given to him, and it shall be recompensed unto him again? For of him, and through him, and to him, are all things: to whom be glory forever. Amen." Rom.11:33-36. The indwelling of the Holy Spirit is an eternal possession. This makes the body of Christ a very special group endowed with God himself. "And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit, and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance." Acts 2:4. The Pentecostal experience of the 120 was not repeated again, for this was the only indication that God needed to have the Holy Spirit enter into the earth's domain. "For by one Spirit were we all baptized into one body, whether we be Jews or Greeks, whether we be bond or free; and have been all made to drink into one Spirit." 1 Cor.12:13. Those that follow are verifications that the Holy Spirit is for, "Whosoever Believeth". (Acts 8:17; Acts 8:26-39; Acts 10:44; Acts 19:6.)

THE DIVINE VIEWPOINT.

Having the Holy Spirit living within the believers, makes it possible for us to understand the Divine reasoning, minding the things of the Holy Spirit. "For they that are after the flesh do mind the things of the flesh; but they that are after the Spirit, the things of the Spirit." Rom.8:5. We still are in the flesh, but now that we have been born of the Spirit, we have been given the capacity to allow the Holy Spirit to lead us. "For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, they are the sons of God." Rom.8:14. "Now the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, that ye may abound in hope, through the power of the Holy Spirit." Rom.15:13. We must constantly remind ourselves that, being new creatures in Christ Jesus, we have been given the Holy Spirit who is dwelling within us. Our body becomes the temple of God. Therefore we can say, "For in him we live, and move, and have our being;" Acts 17:28a. Having God the Holy Spirit dwelling within us, we can be assured of the Divine viewpoint in our decisions when we have knowledge of the Scripture under the guidance of the Holy Spirit. "Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus." Phil.2:5. This can only be possible as we submit to the Holy Spirit who dwells within us. Our priorities and outlook of life are completely changed. "But we all, with unveiled face beholding as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, are changed into the same image from glory to glory, even as by the Spirit of the Lord." 2 Cor.3:18. This Divine viewpoint will also help us to walk in the light of God's word. "This I say then, Walk in the Spirit, and ye shall not fulfill the lusts of the flesh." Gal.5:16.

God the Father has sent God the Holy Spirit in person, during this mystery age of grace. A special body of believers is being gathered, within dwells the Holy Spirit. We are the first to be blessed with Divinity, dwelling in us for ever and ever. Now with the Holy Spirit, giving us a new birth, and remaining within us, should make it easier for us to think divinely, being guided and taught by the Holy Spirit. We are a peculiar people being prepared for becoming the bride of Christ. When we get our glorified bodies, we qualify for the everlasting association with God the Father, God

the Son and God the Holy Spirit. Being closed upon with the righteousness of Christ, we will satisfy the Godhead in every phase of our life throughout eternity.

THE BELIEVER'S IDEALS PROVIDED.

Since this mystery age is also an outstanding age, there are many advantages given to the Christians through the Holy Spirit. The individual talents which each believer has is sanctified by the Holy Spirit for the work of the Lord. Where there is a need for additional gifts, these are provided by the Holy Spirit according to his will. At the very time of the new birth, our life becomes the property of the Almighty God. "Brethren, I count not myself to have apprehended; but this one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before, I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus. Let us, therefore, as many as be perfect, be thus minded; and if in anything ye be otherwise minded, God shall reveal even this unto you." Phil.3:13-15. "For we through the Spirit wait for the hope of righteousness by faith. That glorified body which we are to receive at the Rapture of the saints, will be the perfect righteousness as a gift from God.

Whatever a believer lacks in talents, the Holy Spirit has special gifts for them, as he so wills. "But now hath God set the members, every one of them, in the body, as it hath pleased him." 1 Cor.12:18. With our preliminary training here on earth, we are being prepared for a mighty out reach during the kingdom age.

A. REGENERATION, PROVIDING THE NEW BIRTH.

Being born of God the Holy Spirit is the method in which we are made new creatures in Christ Jesus, This is only prevalent in this age of grace. Never before in the history of man was experienced such an act of God toward human beings. It was an act of God, necessary to prepare a future bride for the Eternal Son of God. This new birth is a means of God in bringing a creature of his into his eternal glory. It is the means through which human beings can become "Joint Heirs" with the Lord. "The Spirit himself beareth witness with our spirit that we are children of God; And if children, then heirs - heirs of God, and joint heirs with Christ - if so be that we suffer with him, that we may be also glorified together." Rom.8:16-17. It was the necessary method in preparing a bride for the Son of man. If this new birth was the general practice of God in the Old Testament, then why would there have had to be a Pentecost? Also, why would the children of Israel require the new birth during this age of grace? Nicodemus was told, that he must be born again, to enter the kingdom of God.

The giving of the Holy Spirit provides a bride to be for the Lamb of God, ready with the indwelling of the Holy Spirit to receive that glorified body, when the Rapture takes place. Receiving this Divine nature through the Holy Spirit makes us legitimate children of God. We as believers become new creatures, having been given very life from the Eternal God. God who is the source of all life, he himself being eternal, imparts to believers of this mystery age and eternal order of being. We who are Christians receive of the very life of God. This has been a hidden reality in the ages past. "Even the mystery which hath been

hidden from ages and from generations, but now is made manifest to his saints, to whom God would make known what is the riches of the glory of this mystery among the Gentiles, which is Christ in you, the hope of glory; Whom we preach, warning every man, and teaching every man in all wisdom, that we may present every man perfect in Christ Jesus." Col.1:26-28.

B. THE INDWELLING OF GOD THE HOLY SPIRIT.

The Lord Jesus Christ being the Incarnate one, has taken upon himself a form of man, but now the believers of this age become indwelt by God the Holy Spirit. God in his abundant love and mercy toward us of this mystery age his abundant grace and makes us his very temple, whereby God the Holy Spirit will dwell within us for ever. "Know ye not that ye are the temple of God, and that the Spirit of God dwelleth in you?" 1 Cor.3:16. With such a relationship with Almighty God, there is no excuse for any believer, not to be able to obtain sufficient knowledge about God. This takes us farther in the Bible, than just knowing about God. With the Holy Spirit dwelling within us we are now capable of knowing God. With the indwelling of God the Holy Spirit, the scripture enlightens our souls, as we allow the very presence of God to guide us into all truth. This not only effects our study of the Bible, but as we are now able to cry out - "Abba Father". "For ye have not received the spirit of bondage again to fear; but ye have received the Spirit of adoption, whereby we cry, Abba Father. The Spirit himself beareth witness with our spirit, that we are the children of God." Rom.8:15-16. "And because ye are sons, God hath sent forth the Spirit of his Son into your hearts, crying, Abba Father. Wherefore, thou art no more a servant, but a son; and if a son, then an heir of God through Christ." Gal.4:6-7.

Being in the royal family of God, gives us very special privileges before our heavenly Father. As a child of God we are told that we can call unto our Father, long distance, wherever we are and he is right there to talk to us. He could say, son, what's the problem? We can then bring the whole situation before our Heavenly Father and he will show us great and mighty things that we did not even think about. (Jer.33:3.) He has also given us an unlimited credit card, which we can depend upon. "But my God shall supply all your need according to his riches in glory by Christ Jesus." Phil.4:19. This is all in being adopted into the royal family of God. This is a marvelous arrangement that God has made for us and we accept it "By Faith". This is not wistful thinking, but a reality for we read- "Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen." Heb.11:1. Knowing our Heavenly Father through the Bible, and having God the Holy Spirit within us, as well as abiding in Christ Jesus, we may ask what we will. "If ye abide in me, and my words abide in you, ye shall ask what ye will, and it shall be done unto you. In this is my Father glorified, that ye bear much fruit; so shall ye be my disciples. As the Father hath loved me, so have I loved you; continue in my love." Jn.15:7-9. In this we need to be careful as to what we asked our Father to give us. If we do not allow God the Holy Spirit to fill our lives, because we are cluttered with material values, and we are out of fellowship with God due to our life of unconfessed sin, we are not abiding in the Lord. "Ye ask, and receive not, because ye ask

amiss, that ye may consume it upon your lusts." Jas.4:3. May this not be known among us as God's children.

Another good indication that we are in good standing within the royal family of God is, our desire to have Christian fellowship with those of like faith. "And having an high priest over the house of God, let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled from an evil conscience, and our bodies washed with pure water. Let us hold fast the profession of our faith without wavering (for he is faithful that promised), And let us consider one another to provoke unto love and to good works, not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is, but exhorting one another, and so much the more, as ye see the day approaching." Heb.10:21-25. The Christian should be one who loves the light and the truth. If we say that we have fellowship with him, and walk in darkness, we lie, and do not the truth; But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ, his Son, cleanseth us from all sin." 1 Jn.1:6-7.

The great commission that the Lord has proclaimed, demands that the divine love is forth coming. The Holy Spirit who dwells within us desires to speak through Christians as they evangelize the world. To be fully used by the Holy Spirit in evangelizing, we must keep in fellowship with him. There is always the possibility of grieving the Holy Spirit, and if it is continually practiced, his power may be quenched. If that continues, God may have to remove that soul, as he is no earthly good.

C. THE BAPTISM OF THE HOLY SPIRIT.

The indwelling of the Holy Spirit is certainly sufficient evidence of the identification of God within mankind, but God desired to baptize us with the Holy Spirit as well. This gives us a perfect identification with Christ, through the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit is the real baptizing agent for the body of Christ. It is necessary that the body of Christ is in perfect standing with Christ the head of the body. "For as the body is one, and hath many members, and all the members of that body, being many, are one body: so also is Christ. For by one Spirit are we all baptized into one body, whether we be Jews or Gentiles, whether we be bond or free; and have been all made to drink into one Spirit." 1 Cor.12:12-13. These are important truths, portraying the unity necessary in the body of Christ. This all is made possible by the Lord Jesus Christ who removed the barrier of sin. We have the testimony of John the baptist, recognizing that the Messiah would make possible the baptism of the Holy Spirit. "I, indeed, baptize you with water unto repentance, but he who cometh after me is mightier than I, whose shoes I am not worthy to bear; he shall baptize you with the Holy Spirit, and with fire; whose fan is in his hand, and he will thoroughly purge his floor, and gather his wheat into the granary, but he will burn up the chaff with unquenchable fire. Then cometh Jesus from Galilee to the Jordan unto John, to be baptized by him. But John forbade him, saying, I have need to be baptized of thee, and comest thou to me? And Jesus answering said unto him, Permit it to be so now; for thus it becometh us to fulfill all righteousness. Then he consented to him. And Jesus, when he was baptized, went up straightway out of the water; and, lo, the heavens were opened unto him, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove, and lighting upon him. And, lo, a voice from heaven,

saying, This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased." Matt.3:11-17. John recognized that Jesus was the Messiah, of whom was to come. "The next day John seeth Jesus coming unto him, and saith, Behold the Lamb of God, who taketh away the sin of the world. This is he of whom I said, After me cometh a man who is preferred before me; for he was before me. And I knew him not; but that he should be made manifest to Israel, therefore am I come baptizing with water. And John bore witness, saying, I saw the Spirit descending from heaven like a dove, and it abode upon him. And I knew him not; but he that sent me to baptize with water, the same said unto me, Upon whom thou shalt see the Spirit descending, and remaining on him, the same is he who baptizeth with the Holy Spirit. And I saw, and bore witness that this is the Son of God." Jn.1:29-34. This is the Scriptural evidence that Christ was given the authority to have the Holy Spirit baptize all who believe. As the Lord spent those 40 days with the disciples, he proclaimed, "For John truly baptized with water; but ye shall be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now.....But ye shall receive power, after the Holy Spirit is come upon you; and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth." Acts 1:5-8.

The baptism of the Holy Spirit, giving new birth to the individual and thereby Christ receives the Holy Spirit identification, into his body, "The Church". This gives us the Christ standard of perfection, as our positional right before God. This vital baptism is real and all inclusive for our standing before God the Father. "For ye are all the sons of God by faith in Christ Jesus. For as many of you as have been baptized into Christ have put on Christ." Gal.3:26-27. As we have been identified through baptism by the Holy Spirit, we now are members of the body of Christ and are partakers of the Divine nature. "For in him dwelleth all the fullness of the Godhead bodily. And ye are complete in him, who is the head of all principality and power;" Col.2:9-10. This baptism is from God the Holy Spirit and no other source. "Endeavoring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. There is one body, and one Spirit, even as ye are called in one hope of your calling; One Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of all, who is above all, and through all, and in you all." Eph.4:3-6. This real baptism of the Holy Spirit unifies us in one body in Christ Jesus which would be impossible through the ritual baptism with the use of water. It is the real Holy Spirit baptism which indicates salvation. "The like figure unto which even baptism doth also now save us (not the putting away of the filth of the flesh, but the answer of a good conscience toward God, by the resurrection of Jesus Christ, who has gone into heaven, and is on the right hand of God, angels and authorities and powers being made subject unto him." 1 Pet.3:21-22. That great commission that the Lord gave to his disciples, "And he said unto them, Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature. He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned. Mk.16:15-16. Since salvation cannot come through water baptism, this definitely refers to the real baptism, making possible the new birth and salvation.

D. BEING SEALED BY THE HOLY SPIRIT.

There is no way, having once been identified with God, by the indwelling of the Holy Spirit, that God is going to lose one of his precious souls for whom Christ died. He now

places the eternal seal of the Holy Spirit upon each one who is born again. This is but another provision which God has made for those "In Christ Jesus". Since the Christians have imputed righteousness, positionally, this work which the Lord has begun in us, must be protected for us. God's promises are always kept, and we should accept them by faith. Abraham is a good example. "He staggered not at the promise of God through unbelief, but was strong in faith, giving glory to God, and being fully persuaded that, what he had promised, he was able also to perform. And therefore it was imputed to him for righteousness. Now it was not written for his sake alone, that it was imputed to him, but for us also, to whom it shall be imputed, if we believe on him that raised up Jesus, our Lord from the dead; Who was delivered for our offenses, and raised again for our justification." Rom.4:20-25. Regardless of our circumstances, we continue our witness for the Lord Jesus to the salvation of precious souls. "Therefore, I endure all things for the elect's sake, that they may also obtain salvation which is in Christ Jesus with eternal glory." 2 Tim.2:10. "Christ in you the hope of glory". Col.1:27b.

God has provided his Divine seal of the Holy Spirit in the lives of the believers, to protect the salvation Divinely provided. "That we should be to the praise of his glory, who first trusted in Christ; In whom ye also trusted, after ye heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation; in whom also after ye believed, ye were sealed with the Holy Spirit of promise." Eph.1:12-13. There is no power in heaven or earth that can break the seal of God the Holy Spirit. Our establishment before our heavenly Father is in Christ, by the Holy Spirit. "For all the promises of God in him are yea, and in him Amen, unto the glory of God by us. Now he who establisheth us with you in Christ, and hath anointed us, is God, who hath also sealed us, and given the earnest of the Spirit in our hearts." 2 Cor.20-22; "And grieve not the Holy Spirit of God, by whom ye are sealed unto the day of redemption. Let all bitterness, wrath, and anger, and clamor, and evil speaking, be put away from you, with all malice; And be ye kind one to another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God, for Christ's sake, hath forgiven you." Eph.4:30-32. The Holy Spirit dwells within us to lead us into all truth and keep us walking in the light of the Word of God.

E. BEING FILLED BY THE HOLY SPIRIT.

Being filled by the Holy Spirit does not infer that you get more of the Holy Spirit, but rather that the Holy Spirit gets all of you. It is of the utmost importance that we understand the process of being filled by the Holy Spirit. On the day of Pentecost, they all were filled by the Holy Spirit, immediately upon being baptized by the Holy Spirit. They all were filled by the Holy Spirit, as they all were cleansed by the tongues of fire. For us to be filled by the Holy Spirit is to get rid of all hindrances in our Christian walk. If your life is filled with earthly things, how can God fill you with the heavenly things? When we grieve the Holy Spirit, you certainly cannot expect to be filled by the Holy Spirit. If you are praying to be filled by the Holy Spirit, then you better also confess your sins and get rid of the worldly things in your life. "This I say then, Walk in the Spirit, and ye shall not fulfill the lust of the flesh. For the flesh lusteth against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh; and these are contrary the one to the other, so that ye cannot do the things that ye would." Gal.5:16-17. This is why we must depend upon the leading of the Holy Spirit, otherwise we

grieve the Holy Spirit. "And grieve not the Holy Spirit of God, by whom ye are sealed unto the day of redemption. Let all bitterness, and wrath, and anger, and clamor, and evil speaking, be put away from you, with all malice; And be ye kind one to another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God, for Christ's sake, hath forgiven you." Eph.4:30-32. This certainly indicates that there is a possibility of the believer doing those things contrary to God. If the believer does not take heed to God's warning then the consequences becomes "quenching the power of the Holy Spirit in one's life. "Quench not the Spirit." 1 Thess.5:19. The Holy Spirit remains within that disobedient believer but because of the continual pattern of sin, his power becomes dormant. The seal of the Holy Spirit is not broken, because it was a work of God, based upon the grace of God. The believer may eventually be punished by being removed from this earth pre-maturely.

THE NECESSARY CONDITIONS FOR THE FILLING OF THE HOLY SPIRIT.

In order to get the full benefit of the Christian life, we must be fully yielded to the Lord in every phase of our Christian walk. It is not attained through asking for it, but rather being in the right relationship with God. If your life is cluttered up with the things of the world, then there is no room for the Holy Spirit to fill your life with himself. If you are conformed to this world system, then you also are in trouble, for you will not know the perfect will of God. "And be not conformed to this world, but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect will of God." Rom.12:2. Then too, there are those Christians who are living in sin and out of fellowship with the Lord. They certainly cannot be filled by the Holy Spirit. May we remember that if we are grieving the Spirit and other quench the Spirit, there is no possibility of being filled with the Spirit.

If you manifest the fruit of the Spirit in your life, then you are certainly walking in the Spirit, and your life is filled by the Spirit. "This I say then, Walk in the Spirit, and ye shall not fulfill the lust of the flesh." Gal.5:16. Here are some of the indications that you are walking in the Spirit. "But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, long-suffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness, self-control; against such there is no law. And they that are Christ's have crucified the flesh with the affections and lusts. If we live in the Spirit, let us also walk in the Spirit." Gal.5:22-26.

There are precautionary measures to be taken in the Christian life, in order to receive the filling of the Holy Spirit.

- 1. Do not neglect reading and studying the Word of God.**
- 2. The indwelling of the Holy Spirit must be constantly recognized. Allow him to guide and direct you in the knowledge of God. If we as Christian ignore the leading of the Holy Spirit, we certainly cannot expect the Holy Spirit to fill our lives.**
- 3. The intercessory prayer of the Holy Spirit before the throne of grace. "Likewise, the Spirit helpeth our infirmity; for we know not what we should pray for as we ought;**

but the Spirit himself maketh intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered. And he that searcheth the hearts knoweth what is the mind of the Spirit, because he maketh intercession for the saints according to the will of God." Rom.8:26-27.

- 4. The intercessory prayer of the Lord Jesus Christ in our behalf, before our heavenly Father. He is also our Advocate and high priest, as well as being the head of the church body.**

THE SIN UNTO DEATH.

God's Word warns us that we better not grieve the Holy Spirit, by living in sin. This endangers us of being removed from this world, where we are left to be a witness unto the saving grace of our loving Lord. If we know of someone who is troubled with besetting sins, we should up lift that one in prayer, that the yielding to sin might be removed. "If any man see his brother sin a sin which is not unto death, he shall ask, and he shall give him life for them that sin not unto death. There is a sin unto death; I do not say that he shall pray for it. All unrighteousness is sin, and there is a sin not unto death. We know that whosoever is born of God sinneth not, but he that is begotten of God keepeth himself, and that wicked one toucheth him not. And we know that we are of God, and the whole world lieth in wickedness. And we know that the Son of God is come, and hath given us an understanding, that we may know him that is true; and we are in him that is true, even in his Son Jesus Christ. This is the true God, and eternal life. Little children keep yourselves from idols. Amen." 1 Jn.5:16-21. There are several issues at stake in this passage of Scripture.

- 1. Christians do sin and need to confess to God the Father. 1 Jn.1:9.)**
- 2. Fellow believers who are aware of a sinning brother need to uplift him in prayer.**
- 3. The sin unto death is a believer who constantly is sinning and refuses to get right with God. This then necessitates that God will have to remove him from this earth. He will, at the Rapture, then stand before the judgement seat of Christ, and the results will be, "Saved so as by Fire". 1 Cor.3:15.**
- 4. "Whosoever is born of God sinneth not", does not mean that the believer does not sin, but rather that the believer cannot sin willfully. If those who were born again do not sin, then 1 John 1:8 would have to be removed. "If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us." If we were sinless perfect, then there would be no need for 1 John 1:9. "If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness."**

PREPARATION FOR THE FILLING OF THE HOLY SPIRIT.

BOUGHT WITH A PRICE

As children of God, of the royal family of heaven, there are rules and regulations for keeping in fellowship with our Heavenly Father. We are not our own, but have been bought with the precious blood of the Lord Jesus Christ. "What? Know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit who is in you, whom ye have of God, and ye are not your own? For ye are bought with a price; therefore, glorify God in your body and in your spirit, which are God's." 1 Cor.6:19-20. This truth is very important to us, as we desire to be filled with the Holy Spirit. We are God's possession, and God the Holy Spirit dwells within every believer. If we clutter up our life with the natural cares and desires, then there isn't much room left for the Holy Spirit to fill. "Ye are bought with a price; be not ye the servants of men. Brethren, let every man, in whatsoever state he is called, there abide with God." 1 Cor.7:23-24.

STUDY GOD'S WORD FOR

DISCERNMENT.

We must make sure that we have discernment of the spirit world. "But there were false prophets also among the people, even as there shall be false teachers among you, who secretly shall bring in destructive heresies, even denying the Lord that bought them, and bring upon themselves swift destruction. And man shall follow their pernicious ways, by reason of whom the way of truth shall be evil spoken of." 2 Pet.2:1-2. Since the Lord has paid the price of all sin, all are without excuse, and they are condemned by the rejection of the Lord Jesus Christ. "Beloved, believe not every spirit, but test the spirits whether they are of God; because many false prophets are gone out into the world. By this know ye the Spirit of God: every spirit that confesseth that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh is of God; And every spirit that confesseth not that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh is not of God; and this is that spirit of antichrist, of which ye have heard that it should come, and even now already is in the world." 1 Jn.4:1-3. This discernment is necessary in our Christian walk, in order that we understand the Word of God. The Lord Jesus Christ as he was preparing for his earthly ministry constantly depended upon his Divinity. "And the child grew, and became strong in spirit, filled with wisdom, and the grace of God was upon him." Lk.2:40. "For this cause we also, since the day we heard it, do not cease to pray for you, and to desire that ye might be filled with the knowledge of his will in all wisdom and spiritual understanding; That ye might walk worthy of the Lord unto all pleasing, being fruitful in every good work, and increasing in the knowledge of God;" Col.1:9-10.

KEEPING SHORT ACCOUNTS WITH GOD.

One of the very important factors to understand, preceding the possibility of being filled with the Holy Spirit, is our getting right with God. All sin and short comings need to be brought before God, confessing them to him. "If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. If we say that we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us." 1 Jn.1:9-10. In this way we judge

ourselves and make things right with God. This gives God the Holy Spirit an opportunity to be in control of your whole life. It is a self judgement that every Christian should continually make. "For if we would judge ourselves, we should not be judged. But when we are judged, we are chastened of the Lord, that we should not be condemned with the world." 1 Cor.11:31-32. When we judge ourselves, God doesn't have to chasten us, and the Holy Spirit can then fill our lives with himself in sweet fellowship with God and with one another.

QUENCH NOT THE HOLY SPIRIT.

The Christian can totally ignore the presence of the Holy Spirit in his life, endangering him with the quenching of the Holy Spirit. Since the Holy Spirit is within us as believers forever, God cannot deny himself, but the Holy Spirit becomes negative and powerless in that disobedient Christian. The consequences that follow can only lead to the sin unto death. The Holy Spirit is a life giving entity in the Godhead and remains in our lives for bringing blessings, and building up the saints in the most holy faith. To be filled by the Holy Spirit, we need to confess every known sin, submitting to God's will, studying the Word under the guidance of the Holy Spirit, and walking in the light of the Word of God. God wants to work in you according to his good pleasure, and preparing you as a new creature in Christ Jesus, for the new creation which will come in the fullness of time. If you are disobedient and desire to go your own way, then you must suffer the consequences of quenching the power of the Holy Spirit in your life. This quenching does not mean that you drive out the Holy Spirit from your life, but rather as you resist the Holy Spirit, your block off the work of the Holy Spirit and become a carnal Christian. "For to be carnally minded is death, but to be spiritually minded is life and peace. Because the carnal mind is enmity against God; for it is not subject to the law of God, neither, indeed, can be." Rom.8:6-7.

LIVING A YIELDED LIFE IN THE HOLY SPIRIT.

In order for the Holy Spirit to give you his fullest, you must be completely yielded to him, and enjoying his presence. We must be totally dependent upon the Holy Spirit in all of our activities. Our continual attitude of prayer should be a source of the awareness of the presence of the Holy Spirit. Being filled by God the Holy Spirit will enable us to be fruitful by the Holy Spirit. Our spiritual life is completely dependent upon the Holy Spirit, who has given us the new birth. We have been made new creatures by the Holy Spirit through his regenerating power. When you yield to the Holy Spirit, you are constantly drawing from that vast power in the Living God. "For it is God who worketh in you both to will and to do his good pleasure. Phil.2:13. Yield your life completely to the Holy Spirit, so that you will be well pleasing to God. This will provide you with an inner joy, establishing you in the precious promises of God. Your Christian life will be fruitful, and bring much glory and praise to our heavenly Father.

WALKING CIRCUMSPECTLY IN THE SPIRIT

Our Christian walk, being led by the Holy Spirit is essential for being filled by the Holy Spirit, and not cluttered with the activities of the unregenerate world. "This I say then, Walk in the Spirit, and ye shall not fulfill the lusts of the flesh. For the flesh lusteth against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh; and these are contrary the one to the other, so that ye cannot do the things that ye would. But if ye be led by the Spirit, ye are not under the law." Gal.5:16-18. As we live for the glory of God in this life, we constantly are confronted with all sorts of obstacles and temptations. Our walk should be in newness of life. Christ passed through death for us, that we may be a new creation. "Therefore, we are buried with him in baptism into death, that as christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life." Rom.6:4. This conflict that the new man has will continue throughout this present life, but as we face the issues of this present life, we have the Holy Spirit dwelling within us. "Ye are of God, little children, because greater is he that is in you, than he that is in the world." 1 Jn.4:4. "That the righteousness of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit." Rom.8:4. This walk is to be cautious and mindful of the wiles of the Devil. "See, then, that ye walk circumspectly, not as fool but as wise, redeeming the time, because the days are evil. Wherefore, be ye not unwise but understanding what the will of the Lord is." Eph.5:15-17. God the Holy Spirit is our ever present help as we journey through this life. We are warned against the pitfalls along the way and the Word reminds us that we should not grieve the Holy Spirit. (Eph.4:30.)

II. THE WORK OF THE HOLY SPIRIT UPON PLANET EARTH.

THE WORK OF THE HOLY SPIRIT IN THE OLD TESTAMENT.

We have studied the work of the Holy Spirit among the believers, and now may we turn our attention to the Holy Spirit's work upon this planet earth. We must go back to the renovation of the world from the chaotic condition caused by Lucifer, when he sinned against God. "They that see thee shall narrowly look upon thee, and consider thee, saying, Is this the man who made the earth to tremble, who did shake kingdoms, who made the world like a wilderness, and destroyed its cities, who opened not the house of his prisoners?" Isa.14:16-17. Make no mistake about the power that Satan possesses, for it was given him when he was created. Here is the Bible record of his greatness. "Thus saith the Lord God: Thou sealest up the sum, full of wisdom, and perfect in beauty. Thou hast been in Eden, the garden of God; every precious stone was thy covering, the sardius, topaz, and the diamond, the beryl, the onyx, and the jasper, the sapphire, the emerald, and the carbuncle, and gold; the workmanship of thy timbrels and of thy flutes was prepared in thee in the day that thou was created. Thou art the anointed cherub that covereth, and I have set thee so; thou wast upon the holy mountain of God; thou hast walked up and down in the midst of the stones of fire. Thou wast perfect in thy ways from the day that thou wast created, till iniquity was found in thee." Ezek.28:12b-15.

This is the Lucifer who became Satan, that serpent the devil. He was not satisfied in being the greatest creature that God ever created, but desired to be like God. (Isa.14:12-14.) He became the arch enemy of God and all that God stands for. He accuses the brethren day and night, but someday he shall be cast into the Lake of fire and brimstone forever and ever. (Rev. 12:10; Rev.20:10.) The Holy Spirit is the Old Testament opposition to all the evil works of the world, the flesh and the devil. The Holy Spirit is mentioned more than 80 times in the Old Testament. Our first reference to the Holy Spirit, as he moved upon the face of the waters. (Gen.1:2b.) I am sure that when Satan came to tempt the woman by indwelling an animal, that if he could have, he would have infiltrated Eve. Perhaps the Holy Spirit was on guard of both Adam and Eve. Adam and Eve, having disobeyed God and sinned, the world becomes a battleground and warfare against sin. That first prophetic utterance, "And I will put enmity between thee and the woman, and between thy seed and her seed: he shall bruise thy head, and thou shalt bruise his heel." Gen.3:15. We know from this statement that the Holy Spirit was appointed to protect that Messianic lineage until he himself became the means of the Eternal Son of God coming into this world through the virgin Mary. The outstanding phrase, "The Spirit of the Lord" is used many times over. However we have but few references to the Holy Spirit, up to and including the time of Abraham. It is of great importance as how Job was led to express the working of the Holy Spirit. "He hath compassed the waters with a boundary, until the day and night come to an end. The pillars of heaven tremble and are astonished at his reproof. He divideth the sea with his power, and by his understanding he smiteth through the proud. By his Spirit he hath garnished the heavens; his hand hath formed the crooked serpent." Job 26:10-13. Even though there are not many references to the Holy Spirit in the early revelations, he is of great importance. God the Father manifests himself through the Eternal Son and the Eternal Holy Spirit. "And the Lord said, My Spirit shall not always strive with man, for that he also is flesh: yet his days shall be an hundred and twenty years." Gen.6:3. Job, being an upright man before God has given us some important information about the Holy Spirit. "All the while my breath is in me, and the spirit of God is in my nostrils ." Job.27:3. Job recognized the working of the Holy Spirit. "The Spirit of God hath made me, and the breath of the Almighty hath given me life." Job 33:4.

THE HOLY SPIRIT GAVE THE BIBLE.

"All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness." 2 Tim.3:16.

God the Holy Spirit has given us the Word from God the Father to mankind. He has transferred the message to man by means of writers. Sometimes God just spoke to man, and other times he revealed a message to man to be recorded. Prophecy was always to be recorded for future generations. The Scripture has been "God breathed", coming from God the Holy Spirit.

As we see the Messianic hope being revealed, prophetically, we can understand that there would be an increase in the Holy Spirit activity before men. Although the Holy Spirit is not mention often, yet we know that he is the one who is revealing these Divine truths.

"Therefore the Lord himself shall give you a sign; Behold, the virgin shall conceive, and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel." Isa.7:14. "For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given, and the government shall be upon his shoulder; and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counselor, The Mighty God, The Everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace. Of the increase of his government and peace there shall be no end, upon the throne of David, and upon his kingdom, to order it, and to establish it with justice and with righteousness from henceforth even forever. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will perform this." Isa.9:6-7. Who but God the Holy Spirit could report such predictions, seeing that the Incarnate Eternal Son of God would enter this sphere by the conception through the Holy Spirit. "And the angel said unto her, Fear not, Mary; for thou hast found favor with God. And, behold, thou shalt conceive in thy womb, and bring forth a son, and shalt call his name Jesus. He shall be great, and shall be called the Son of the Highest; and the Lord God shall give unto him the throne of his father David. And he shall reign over the house of Jacob forever; and of his kingdom there shall be no end. Then Mary said unto the angel, How shall this be, seeing I know not a man? And the angel answered, and said unto her, The Holy Spirit shall come upon thee, and the power of the Highest shall over-shadow thee; therefore also that holy thing which shall be born of thee shall be called the Son of God." Lk.1:30-35. This certainly gives us an insight to the working of the Holy Spirit in prophecy and in its fulfillment. "We have also a more sure word of prophecy, unto which ye do well that ye take heed, as unto a light that shineth in a dark place, until the day dawn, and the day star arise in your hearts; Knowing this first, that no prophecy of the scripture is of any private interpretation. For the prophecy came not at any time by the will of man, but holy men of God spoke as they were moved by the Holy Spirit." 2 Pet.1:19-21.

GOD'S OLD TESTAMENT WITNESSES.

"God, who at sundry times and in diverse manners spoke in time past unto the fathers by the prophets." Heb.1:1.

The Holy Spirit was very active in the Old Testament, as coming upon various saints, but not indwelling them as he does from the day of Pentecost until the Rapture. Elisha wanted a double portion of the spirit of Elijah, which indicated that Elisha saw something more in Elijah than the normal. "And it came to pass, when they were gone over, that Elijah said unto Elisha, Ask what I shall do for thee, before I am taken away from thee. And Elisha said, I pray thee, let a double portion of thy spirit be upon me. And he said, Thou hast asked a hard thing. Nevertheless, if thou see me when I am taken from thee, it shall be so unto thee; but if not, it shall not be so. And it came to pass, as they still went on, and talked, that, behold, there appeared a chariot of fire, and horses of fire, and separated them, and Elijah went up by a whirlwind into heaven. And Elisha saw it, and he cried, My father, my father, the chariot of Israel, and its horsemen. And he saw him no more; and he took hold of his own clothes and tore them in two pieces. He took up also the mantle of Elijah that fell from him, and went back, and stood by the bank of the Jordan. And he took the mantle of Elijah that fell from him, and smote the waters, and said, Where is the Lord God of Elijah? And when he also had smitten the waters, they parted to the one

side and to the other; and Elisha went over." 2 Ki.2:9-14. This double portion of the spirit of Elijah that was given to Elisha had its fulfillment through the mantle of Elijah. This certainly does not teach the indwelling of the Holy Spirit upon Elisha, as the Holy Spirit cannot be divided into portions, or a certain quantity. However it does represent the sovereignty of Almighty God. This coincides with the Old testament saints who were baptized under the ministry of John the Baptist. "He said unto them, Have ye received the Holy Spirit since ye believed? And they said unto him, We have not so much as heard whether there is an Holy Spirit. And he said unto them, Unto what, then, were ye baptized? And they said, Unto John's baptism. Then said Paul, John verily baptized with the baptism of repentance, saying unto the people that they should believe on him who should come after him, that is, on Christ Jesus. And when Paul had laid his hands upon them, the Holy Spirit came on them, and they spoke with tongues, and prophesied. And all the men were about twelve." Acts 19:2-7. This does indicate that the new birth was not available for the permanent indwelling of the saints in the Old testament, but became the fulfillment of Joel 2:28. on the day of Pentecost. In the Old Testament the Holy Spirit would come upon certain ones, for a specific work, and then went, when that work was completed. Note, the seventy elders in the time of Moses. "And Moses went out, and told the people the words of the Lord, and gathered the seventy men of the elders of the people, and set them round about the tabernacle. And the Lord came down in a cloud, and spoke unto him, and took of the Spirit that was upon him, and gave it unto seventy elders: and it came to pass that, when the Spirit rested upon them, they prophesied, and did not cease." Num.11:24-25.

The various judges over Israel had a similar experience, with the Spirit of the Lord coming upon them. Jud.10; Jud.6:34; Jud.11:29; Jud.13:25; Jud.14:6,19; Jud.15:14; 1 Sam.10:10; 1 Sam.11:6; 1 Sam.16:13. Please also note that in the case of Saul, that the Spirit of the Lord departed from him. "But the Spirit of the Lord departed from Saul, and an evil spirit from the Lord troubled him." 1 Sam.16:14. The leaving of the Holy Spirit from Pentecost until the Rapture remains with the believers, on into eternity. "And I will pray the Father, and he shall give you another Comforter, that he may abide with you forever; Even the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it seeth him not, neither knoweth him: but ye know him; for he dwelleth with you, and shall be in you." Jn.14:16-17.

THE LAWS OF GOD

The laws of God were also given in the Old testament. These laws could not have been thought of by depraved man, but had to come directly from God through the Holy Spirit. We as Christians are not under the law, but under grace. However, this does not excuse us from the law, for God's laws are always the same, as they portray the holiness of God. In contrast to God's holiness, we also have recorded the total depravity of man apart from God. The human sin recorded in the Old Testament as well as the New Testament, is a record by the Holy Spirit of what is in man, apart from the mighty work of God. Some of these laws may seem strange to us in our day and generation, but they were very important in establishing God's word among them, and for the preservation of God's holy character. God often gave strict penalties for the breaking of his law, which may seem extreme to us today, but it was God's way of enforcing his law upon his people. The Mosaic law and the

commandments of God relate to us the importance of God's requirements to approach his presence.

FUTURE PREDICTIONS

Only God the Holy Spirit could give us the prophetic truth of the future. Many of the prophetic messages have been fulfilled in a matter of time, which we have observed in the Old Testament. These give us confidence in the Bible as the Word of God, and help encourage us in waiting for the future predictions. Just to name a few of these fulfilled prophecies of the Old Testament, I have listed the following.

1. Physical and spiritual death because of Adam's sin. (Gen.2:15-17)
2. The conflict of the ages. (Gen.3:15.)
3. The flood. Gen.7:1-24.
4. The confusion of languages. (Gen.11:1-9.)
5. The Nation Israel, a chosen race of people. (Gen.12:1-Mal.4:6; Deut.32:8.)
6. The predictions given to Daniel of Babylon, Medo Persia, Greece, and Rome. (Dan.2:19-45.)
7. The sacrificial death of the Son of God. (Ps.22; Dan.9:26; Isa.53:1-12.)
8. The Birth of John the Baptist. (Mal.3:1.)
9. The seventy years captivity of Judah in Babylon. (Jer.25:1-11.)
10. The coming of the Lord of Glory. (Isa.7:14; Matt.1:18-25; Lk.1:26-2:20.)
11. The Golden Gate closed after the triumphal entry. (Ezek.44:2; Lk.19:28-40.)
12. The regathering of Israel back in her land after being scattered to the four corners of the earth. (April 1948 Israel was declared a nation.) (Jer.30:1-3; Jer.31:8; Jer.32:37-38.)

These are but a few of the many prophetic utterances by God the Holy Spirit in the Old testament. One could dwell at great length on the 70 weeks of Daniel how that 69 of

those weeks or 483 years were literally fulfilled. The 70th week has been postponed, with this mystery age of grace. Christ confirms that the final week of Jacob's trouble will be completed. He especially drew attention the latter part of that 7 year great tribulation. "When ye, therefore, shall see the abomination of desolation, spoken of by Daniel the prophet, stand in the holy place (whosoever readeth, let him understand)" Matt.24:15. "For then shall be great tribulation, such as was not since the beginning of the world to this time, no nor ever shall be." Matt.24:21. The book of revelation is filled with detail of this great tribulation, and as the first 69 weeks of Daniel's prophecies were fulfilled literally, so we can expect the remainder to be literally fulfilled.

THE WORK OF THE HOLY SPIRIT IN THE NEW TESTAMENT.

We have already pointed out some very important predictions in the Old Testament, which have been fulfilled in the New Testament. Christ spent his entire earthly ministry in teaching kingdom principles. Even as he was with the disciples the 40 days after the resurrection, Christ taught more about the coming kingdom. The mystery age of the church was in the future planning of the Godhead. "And upon this rock I will build my church, and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it." Matt.16:18b.

In the Omniscience of the Godhead, they knew that Israel would reject their Messiah, and the kingdom had to be postponed. That was why John the Baptist was sent to herald the King of kings and Lord of lords, rather than Elijah. The coming of Elijah was predicted to herald the establishment of the kingdom, and he will come, as God said he would. (Mal.4:5; Rev.11:3-14.)

THE NEW ERA OF THE HOLY SPIRIT.

We have an outstanding prediction from the Old Testament as to the out pouring of the Holy Spirit upon all flesh. "And it shall come to pass afterward, that I will pour out my Spirit upon all flesh; and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, your old men shall dream dreams, your young men shall see visions;" Joel 2:28. The Gospel of John, which was written after Pentecost, confirmed what Christ told that religious leader name Nicodemus. "Ye must be born again"! This meant very little to the disciples until after the day of Pentecost, for nothing like it was experienced in the Old Testament. The Lord told them, "I will pray the Father, and he shall give you another Comforter, that he may abide with you forever; Even the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it seeth him not, neither knoweth him: but ye know him; for he dwelleth with you, and shall be in you." Jn.14:16-17. (Acts 2:1-4.) The Holy Spirit's entrance into this world, replacing the Eternal Son of God came for the primary reason of indwelling those who believed. However, as the Holy Spirit indwells those who believe, he also gives them the necessary protection against being indwelt by the demons. This same power of the Holy Spirit extends to a restraining power in this godless world.

As we look at world affairs and the deterioration of godly principles upon planet earth, we often wonder, "why doesn't Christianity have a greater impact upon world affairs"? Well, the simple reason is, "They are not of the world, even as I am not of the world".

Jn.17:16. This world and the flesh have been usurped by Satan and as we get closer to the coming of the Lord to Rapture us home, the more desperate will Satan become. He will know that he has a limited time in the heavenlies, as well as during the great tribulation. Since, we must constantly contend with the wiles of the devil, so we need that spiritual guardianship against the devil. God has placed a spiritual hedge around our lives, against the onslaughts of Satan. It is therefore of grave importance that we allow the Holy Spirit to fill our lives, rather than we grieve the Holy Spirit.

THE REPROVING POWER OF THE HOLY SPIRIT.

There is another important factor, with the presence of the Holy Spirit in this world at such a time as this. "Nevertheless, I tell you the truth: It is expedient for you that I go away; for if I go not away, the Comforter will not come unto you; but if I depart, I will send him unto you. And when he is come, he will reprove the world of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgement: Of sin, because they believe not on me; Of righteousness, because I go to my Father, and ye see me no more; Of judgement, because the prince of this world is judged." Jn.16:7-11. Regardless of the decisions that the unregenerate make, they are nevertheless under convictions of the Holy Spirit. Their refusal to accept Christ as their savior, does not exclude them from dealing with the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit makes them aware of God's righteousness, and the coming judgement, because of sin. They are reprovved, convicted and condemned. "But these are written, that ye might believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God; and that believing ye might have life through his name." Jn.20:31.

THE RESTRAINING POWER OF THE HOLY SPIRIT.

The restraining power of the holy Spirit in this world of sin and debauchery is very important to the furthering of the Gospel. Without this special power of the Holy Spirit, we would have greater difficulties in sending forth the Gospel message. This restraining power will continue until the Rapture takes place. "Let no man deceive you by any means; for that day shall not come, except there come the falling away first, and that man of sin be revealed, the son of perdition, who opposeth and exalteth himself above all that is called God, or that is worshipped, so that he, as God, sitteth in the temple of God, showing himself that he is God. Remember ye not that, when I was yet with you, I told you these things? And now ye know what restraineth that he might be revealed in his time. For the mystery of iniquity doth already work; only he who now hindereth will continue to hinder until he be taken out of the way. And then shall that wicked one be revealed, whom the Lord shall consume with the spirit of his mouth, and shall destroy with the brightness of his coming. Even him whose coming is after the working of Satan with all power and signs and lying wonders, and with all deceivableness of unrighteousness in them that perish, because they received not the love of the truth, that they might be saved. And for this cause God shall send them strong delusion, that they should believe the lie, that they all might be judged who believed not the truth, but had pleasure in unrighteousness." 2 Thess.2:3-12. This has many important truths for us to consider.

1. **There will be a falling away from the truth as we approach the Rapture. (2 Thess.2:3.)**
2. **The man of sin will be revealed, who will be the beast which will come up out of the sea. (Rev.13:1-10.)**
3. **This man of sin will set himself up as God and will be worshipped in the temple. (Dan.9:27;Rev.13:11-18.)**
4. **The Holy Spirit is now restraining the evil forces until the Rapture takes place. (2 Thess.2:6.)**
5. **The mystery of iniquity continues as we preach the Gospel. (2 Thess.2:7; Eph.6:12-17.)**
6. **The wicked one will be revealed and a great tribulation shall break forth upon this earth. (2 Thess.2:8a. Rev.chapters 6 through 18.)**
7. **The Lord will consume the beast and the false prophet at his coming. (2 Thess.2:8b., Rev.19:11-21.)**
8. **This beast will have power from Satan and deceive the unregenerate with great power, signs and lying. (2 Thess.2:9-10; Rev.13:1-18.)**
9. **God brings a strong delusion upon those who reject the Gospel, and their judgement is sealed. (2 Thess.2:11-12.)**

III. THE WORK OF THE HOLY SPIRIT AMONG THE UNREGENERATE

THE HOLY SPIRIT IN OLD TESTAMENT TIMES.

We have already indicated some of the ways in which the Holy Spirit will be dealing with the unregenerate. His ministry upon this earth has varied. The Old Testament has a very important distinctive work of the Holy Spirit, coming upon individuals for a particular revelation. He also was the author of all of the Old Testament. We now would like to look into ancient times, to discover how the Holy Spirit worked among the unregenerate. The first indication of this is, the infiltrating of demon possession among the human beings. This was producing a population of godless human beings and would soon corrupt all of mankind, and make null the promise of a Redeemer. "And the Lord said, My Spirit shall not always strive with man, for that he also is flesh; yet his days shall be an hundred and twenty years." Gen.6:3. The Holy Spirit then is of great importance in keeping the human race under

control. This involves a continual judgement, and here we had the judgement of a world wide flood.

There was a great contrast between the Pharaoh of Joseph's time, and the Pharaoh of Moses' day. Joseph was recognized as having the Spirit of God. "And Pharaoh said unto his servants, Can we find such an one as this is, a man in whom the Spirit of God is? And Pharaoh said unto Joseph, Forasmuch as God hath shown thee all this, there is none so discreet and wise as thou art. Thou shalt be over my house, and according unto thy word shall all my people be ruled: only in the throne will I be greater than thou." Gen.41:38-40. Then the Pharaoh of Moses' time, And Pharaoh's heart was hardened, neither did he hearken unto them, as the Lord had said." Ex.7:22b. This is repeated over and over again. (Ex.8:15,19,32; Ex.9:7,12,34; Ex.10:27; Ex.11:10; Ex.14:4.) The hardening of Pharaoh's heart was another evidence of God the Holy Spirit's work among the unregenerate. A similar case is recorded, concerning Sihon of Heshbon, who would not let Israel pass through his land. "But Sihon, king of Heshbon, would not let us pass by him, for the Lord God hardened his spirit, and made his heart obstinate, that he might deliver him into thy hand, as appeareth this day." Deut.2:30. The unregenerate of the Old Testament, think that they are free to act as they please, but God is sovereign. "He shall cut off the spirit of princes; he is fearsome to the kings of the earth." Ps.76:12. When the unbelieving children of Israel, rebelled against God in the wilderness, they were punished. "Yea, they spoke against God; they said, can God furnish a table in the wilderness? Behold, he smote the rock, that the waters gushed out, and the streams overflowed. Can he give bread also? Can he provide flesh for his [people? Therefore, the Lord heard this, and was angry; so a fire was kindled against Jacob, and anger also came up against Israel. Because they believed not in God, and trusted not in his salvation." Ps.78:19-22. The unregenerate, do not realize the mighty power of God. "Who hath directed the Spirit of the Lord, or being his counselor, hath taught him?" Isa.40:13.

THE WORK OF THE HOLY SPIRIT IN THE NEW TESTAMENT.

One of the great tasks of the Holy Spirit, during the earthly ministry of the Eternal Son of God was battling the evil spirits. The religious leaders questioned Jesus as to by what power he could cast out demons. "And if Satan cast out Satan, he is divided against himself; how shall then his kingdom stand? And if I, by Beel'zebub, cast out demons, by whom do your sons cast them out? Therefore, they shall be your judges. But if I cast out demons by the Spirit of God, then the kingdom of god is come to you." Matt.12:26-28.

The unregenerate are kept under control by the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit convicts, reproves, judges, and restrains. The Holy Spirit reproves the world of sin, of righteousness and judgement. (Jn.16:8.) The world and the flesh may think that they are getting by with their godless life, but the day of reckoning is coming. "There is a way which seemeth right unto man, but the end thereof are the ways of death." Prov.14:12. As God is gathering a future bride for his Son, the presence of the Holy Spirit in all affairs of this world are important. Since our battle is a spiritual battle and not flesh and blood, we are constantly in need of the Holy Spirit to fight through, the principalities, and powers of darkness and spiritual wickedness in high places. (Eph.6:10-18.) One day our spiritual eyes in our glorified

bodies will behold some battles that the Holy Spirit fought. We are thoroughly known now, and someday we shall also know. "For now we see in a mirror, darkly; but then, face to face; now I know in part, but then shall I know even as I am known. " 1 Cor.13:12. We are living in an evil age, where the world, and the flesh are under the control of the Devil. Christ gave himself for our sins, and provided us with the Holy Spirit, who protects us against these evil forces. "Grace be unto you, and peace, from God the Father, and from our Lord Jesus Christ, who gave himself for our sins, that he might deliver us from this present evil age, according to the will of God and our Father. To whom be glory for ever and ever. Amen." Gal.1:3-5. We must recognize that Satan is the god of this world system. He has and continues to brain wash every soul born into this world. "But if our Gospel be hidden, it is hidden to them that are lost, in whom the god of this age hath blinded the minds of them who believe not, lest the light of the glorious gospel of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine unto them." The Holy Spirit is essential in the results of preaching the gospel. The Holy Spirit brings conviction to the unregenerate as a means of snatching these souls from the power of Satan.

So as we study the work of the Holy Spirit in this world we come to the conclusion as follows.

1. **He restrains the world the Flesh and the devil. (2 Thess.2:3-12;)**
2. **The Holy Spirit convicts the unsaved of sin and their need of the Savior. (Jn.6:44; Jn.15:7-11.)**
3. **The Holy Spirit reveals the Word of God to the unsaved. (Rom.10:16-17.)**

CONCLUSION

The Holy Spirit must always be reckoned with, as we witness to the saving grace of our loving Lord. The Holy Spirit must enlighten that soul and bring convictions of a need for salvation. No unsaved person is capable of themselves to become a Christian. They may respond to some evangelistic appeal under emotional pressure. But unless the Holy Spirit reveals and enlightens that soul, it is all in vain. Salvation depends upon the Holy Spirit giving the new birth, otherwise it is only a new fleshly resolution.

QUESTIONS CHAPTER FIVE

1. **Write briefly on the Holy Spirit in relation to believers.**
2. **Give a report on the entrance of the Holy Spirit in this mystery age.**
3. **How long will the Holy Spirit remain in the believers? Scripture.**
4. **How can we know the Divine viewpoint for our lives? Scripture.**

5. **What advantage do the Christians have over other ages? Scripture.**
6. **How are we adopted into the royal family of God? Scripture.**
7. **What possibilities are there of displeasing the Holy Spirit? Scripture.**
8. **When are we baptized by the Holy Spirit? Scripture.**
9. **What guarantee do we have from God that we as Christians are secure? Scripture.**
10. **Explain being filled by the Holy Spirit.**
11. **What are the requirements to be filled by the Holy Spirit?**
12. **Explain "The Sin unto Death".**
13. **How do we acquire spiritual discernment in the Christian life?**
14. **When a Christian sins, how do we get cleansed from that sin Scripture.**
15. **What happens if a Christian quenches the Holy Spirit?**
16. **Write a brief report on "Living a Yield Life in the Holy Spirit".**
17. **Give some examples of the work of the Holy Spirit in the Old Testament.**
18. **Give some examples of the work of the Holy Spirit in the New Testament.**
19. **Who of the Godhead gave us the Bible?**
20. **Give some examples of God's Old Testament witnesses.**
21. **Why were the laws of God given to mankind, if they were too hard to keep?**
22. **Name some past fulfilled prophecy. Name some future prophecy to be fulfilled.**
23. **What particular powers does the Holy Spirit manifest in this present mystery age? Scripture.**

CHAPTER SIX



Recognition of the Holy Spirit Through Types

CHAPTER SIX.

RECOGNITION OF THE HOLY SPIRIT THROUGH TYPES.

INTRODUCTION

Signs and wonders with symbols and types, which are found in the Bible are very important and have great significance. Christ used parables often to illustrate truths, sometimes they were likened to something, and sometimes they were classified as "A certain One". Israel has been given certain emblems, such as an Olive branch and a fig tree. This helps us to identify, to whom the Word of God refers. In dealing with the Holy Spirit, he has kept himself subservient as to names and depended on being known and observed through various types. He remains in obscurity but expressive in wisdom. The third person in the Trinity has been sent to the body of Christ and to the world, to glorify the name of the Lord Jesus Christ. It is what God the Holy Spirit says, rather than what is revealed by sight.

I. THE CLOTHING A TYPE OF GOD THE HOLY SPIRIT.

Clothing is something that is "Put On", and so with the Holy Spirit, He is placed within those who believe, dwelling within. The Holy Spirit is our covering. "But let us, who are of the day, be sober, putting on the breastplate of faith and love, and, for an helmet, the hope of salvation." 1 Thess.5:8. It becomes a matter of our way of life as believers. "And have put on the new man, that is renewed in knowledge after the image of him that created him;" Col.3:10. "Put on, therefore, as the elect of God, holy and beloved, tender mercies, kindness, humbleness of mind, meekness, long-suffering;" Col.3:12. This may seem to indicate that it is something that we in our own strength add, but that is not so, it refers to the outward cloak of the fruit of the Holy Spirit. (Eph.6:11-17; Gal.5:22-26.) "And behold, I send the promise of my Father upon you; but tarry ye in the city of Jerusalem, until ye be endued with power from on high." Lk.24:49. "If so be that, being clothed, we shall not be found naked. For we that are in this tabernacle do groan, being burdened; not that we would be unclothed, but clothed upon, that mortality might be swallowed up of life. Now he that hath wrought us for the very same thing is God, who also hath given unto us the earnest of the Spirit." 2 Cor.5:3-5. Since the Lord Jesus Christ asked God the Father to send the Comforter as our covering and our guarantee of being accepted by the Beloved, we are assured of being accepted in the Beloved, the Lord Jesus Christ. It is also important that God the Holy Spirit is our protection against the world, the flesh, and the devil and he provides us with the armor to stand against the wiles of the devil. "Put on the whole armor of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places." Eph.6:11-12. The only way that we could be clothed upon with the righteousness of the Lord, is through the mighty working of the Holy Spirit.

II. THE DOVE A SYMBOL OF GOD THE HOLY SPIRIT.

The symbol of the dove is the most used in depicting the work of the Holy Spirit. This sign and symbol is often misused by cults and mystical religions. However this symbol has a wonderful bearing on the earthly ministry of the Lord Jesus Christ, When Christ was being baptized by John the Baptist for his identification with the coming kingdom, promised to Israel. "John bore witness of him, and cried, saying, This was he of whom I spoke, He that cometh after me is preferred before me; for he was before me. And of his fullness have we received, and grace for grace. For the law was given by Moses, but grace and truth came by Jesus Christ. No man hath seen God at any time; the only begotten Son, who is in the bosom of the Father, he hath declared him..... John answered them, saying, I baptize with water; but there standeth one among, whom ye know not. He it is who, coming after me, is preferred before me, whose shoe's latchet I am not worthy to loose.....The next day John seeth Jesus coming unto him, and saith, Behold the Lamb of God, who taketh away the sin of the world. This is he of whom I said, After me cometh a man who is preferred before me; for he was before me. And I knew him not; but that he should be made manifest to Israel, therefore am I come baptizing with water. And John bore witness, saying, I saw the Spirit descending from heaven like a dove, and it abode upon him. And I knew him not; but he that sent me to baptize with water, the same said unto me, Upon whom thou shalt see the Spirit descending, and remaining on him, the same is he who baptizeth with the Holy Spirit. And I saw, and bore witness that this is the Son of God." Jn.1:15-34. God used the symbol of a dove to relate his work to us as a swift bird, but yet of a lovely character, which exemplifies the Holy Spirit as our Comforter.

THE DOVE OF NOAH'S ARK.

As the floods subsided, Noah was desirous to know whether was beginning to appear again. It is significant to see the contrast between the sending forth of the raven, and the sending forth of the dove. The raven is a picture of those who are restless like the ravens, "They go to and fro and desire to solve their own problems". But the dove, as a symbol of the Holy Spirit, is the "Go Between"and unified with the home base, until evidence is found, which was an Olive leaf, a symbol of Israel through which the Messiah was promised. "And God remembered Noah, and every living thing, and all the cattle that was with him in the ark: and God made a wind to pass over the earth, and the waters subsided; The fountains also of the deep and the windows of heaven were stopped, and the rain from heaven was retrained; And the waters returned from off the earth continually: and after the end of the hundred and fifty days the waters were abated. And the ark rested in the seventh month, on the seventh day of the month, upon the mountains of Ararat. And the waters decreased continually until the tenth month: in the tenth month, on the first day of the month, were the tops of the mountains seen. And it came to pass at the end of forty days, that Noah opened the window of the ark which he had made; And he sent forth a raven, which went forth to and fro, until the waters were dried up from off the earth. Also he sent forth a dove from him, to see if the waters were abated off the face of the ground; But the dove found no rest for the sole of her foot, and she returned unto him into the ark, for the waters were

on the face of the whole earth: then he put forth his hand, and took her, and pulled her in unto him into the ark. And he stayed yet another seven days; and again he sent forth the dove out of the ark; And the dove came in to him in the evening; and, lo, in her mouth was an olive leaf plucked off: so Noah knew that the waters were abated from off the earth. And he stayed yet another seven days; and sent forth the dove, which returned not again unto him any more." Gen.8:1-12.

The Holy Spirit portrayed as a dove, is a wonderful illustration of the Holy Spirit sent forth to seek souls which desire to have their resting place in the Lord Jesus Christ. As the dove brought back the olive leaf, so the Holy Spirit is the proof that we can rest in the Lord, and sealed by the Holy Spirit. As David prayed, "And I said, Oh, that I had wings like a dove! For I then would I fly away, and be at rest." Ps.55:6. Praise God, we who are Christians have God the Holy Spirit dwelling in us forever and ever! As Christ submitted himself to the Holy Spirit who descended upon him, so we who are indwelt by the Holy Spirit, should allow him to guide and direct us through life for the glory and honor of our soon coming Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, (Matt.3:16; Mk.1:10; Lk.3:22; Jn.1:32.) We of the mystery age of grace have been specially blessed by the inward presence of the Holy Spirit.

III. EARNESTLY GUARANTEED THE HOLY SPIRIT.

The Triune God, not only gave us the Divine spark through the new birth by the Holy Spirit, but wanted to make sure that we, as children of God, would be secure throughout eternity. "In whom ye also trusted, after ye heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation; in whom also after ye believed, ye were sealed with the Holy Spirit of promise, who is the earnest of our inheritance until the redemption of the purchased possession, unto the praise of his glory." Eph.1:13-14. The Holy Spirit gives us a little taste of the heavenly life, which will take us into eternity. "Beloved, "Now are we the children of God, and it doth not yet appear what we shall be, but we know that, when he shall appear, we shall be like him; for we shall see him as he is." 1 Jn.3:2. May we also realize that our guarantee is not in the great number of gifts that we may have from God the Holy Spirit, but rather the indwelling of the Holy Spirit. The giving of God the Holy Spirit is the Triune God's way of telling us that we are already partakers of the heavenly life. "According as his divine power hath given unto us all things that pertain unto life and godliness, through the knowledge of him that hath called us to glory and virtue; By which are given unto us exceedingly great and precious promises, that by these ye might be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust. And beside this, giving all diligence, add to your faith virtue; and to virtue, knowledge; And to knowledge, self-control; and to self-control, patience; to patience, godliness; And to godliness, brotherly kindness; and to brotherly kindness, love." 2 Pet.1:3-7. Such a Christian walk could only be accomplished by the indwelling of God the Holy Spirit. This is actually the partaking of the glory of God that will exist throughout eternity. (1 Pet.5:1.)

Partaker of spiritual things.

The very indwelling of the Holy Spirit within every believer, guarantees spiritual life in the heavenlies forever and ever. Whatever our background in the ages past, we are now brought into that new relationship with God through the Holy Spirit. "It hath pleased them, verily; and their debtors they are. For if the Gentiles have been made partakers of their spiritual things, their duty is also to minister unto them in carnal things." Rom.15:27. This is very important for all believers to take note. If God has given us spiritual things, and we see our brethren in need of material things, we certainly ought to be willing to do our part, knowing that this present life is but a temporal condition. This is one of the mysteries in the Lord Jesus Christ. "(By which, when ye read, ye may understand my knowledge in the mystery of Christ) Which in other ages was not made known unto the sons of men, as it is now revealed unto his holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit: That the gentiles should be fellow heirs, and of the same body, and partakers of his promise in Christ by the Gospel, of which I was made a minister, according to the gift of the grace of God given unto me by the effectual working of his power." Eph.3:4-7. This status of spiritual things is by the grace of God, and maintained in the power of the Holy Spirit. "'Strengthened with all might, according to his glorious power, unto all patience and long-suffering with joyfulness; Giving thanks unto the Father, who hath made us fit to be partakers of the inheritance of the saints in light; Who hath delivered us from the power of darkness, and hath translated us into the kingdom of his dear Son; In whom we have redemption through his blood, even the forgiveness of sins." Col.1:11-14. These spiritual things which we have inherited have their origin from the heavenly calling of God. "Wherefore, holy brethren, partakers of the heavenly calling, consider the Apostle and High Priest of our profession, Christ Jesus," Heb.3:1. These spiritual things have been made possible by the redemptive power of the Lord Jesus Christ. (Heb.3:14.) The Holy Spirit is our guarantee from the Triune God that we are partakers of Divinity. (Heb.6:4.) This then acclaims to all who believe that they are partakers of God's holiness through Christ Jesus. (Heb.12:10.)

IV. The Holy Spirit as a Type of Fire.

In the Word of God we are aware that Almighty God is a consuming fire. (Heb.12:29.) We also read elsewhere. "For the Lord thy God is a consuming fire, even a jealous God." Deut.4:24. As Israel was to march into the promised land, she was reminded, "Understand, therefore, this day, that the Lord thy God is he who goeth over before thee; as a consuming fire he shall destroy them, and he shall bring them down before thy face. So shalt thou drive them out, and destroy them quickly, as the Lord hath said unto thee." Deut.9:3. Fire is a means of God's purifying that which comes before him. The day of pentecost was a good example of this. "And there appeared unto them cloven tongues as of fire, and it sat upon each of them. And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit, and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance." Acts 2:3-4. The fire of God appeared to Moses in the form of a burning bush, and all the land around about it became holy. "And the angel of the Lord appeared unto him in a flame of fire out of the midst of a bush; and he looked, and behold, the bush burned with fire, and the bush was not

consumed.And when the Lord saw that he turned aside to see, God called unto him out of the midst of the bush, and said, Moses, Moses, And he said, Here am I. And he said, Draw not near here: put off thy shoes from thy feet, for the place whereon thou standest is holy ground." Ex.3:2-5. Fire was a symbol in the temple for cleansing as well as the presence of God. (Lev.9:24; 2 Chron.7:1;

God's Heavenly Flame

The prophet Elijah as he sacrificed upon Mount Carmel had an unusual experience, before Israel as God sent down that heavenly flame to consume everything upon the altar as well as the very altar. "Hear me, O Lord, hear me, that this people may know that thou art the Lord God, and that thou hast turned their heart back again. Then the fire of the Lord fell, and consumed the burnt sacrifice, and the wood, and the stones, and the dust, and licked up the water that was in the trench." 1 ki.18:37-38. God's heavenly fire has a variety of purposes, sometimes for purification, sometimes for identification, sometimes for approval and other times for judgement. God's pillar of fire lead as well as to protect Israel as they left Egypt, against the onslaught of Pharaoh's armies. "And the Lord went before them by day in a pillar of a cloud, to lead them the way, and by night in a pillar of fire, to give them light; to go by day and night:"Ex.13:21. (Ex.14:19.)

The Flaming Sword of Fire

The garden of Eden was man's first abode, with full protection from the Eternal Son of God, who would come and walk with Adam and Eve in the cool of the evening. However, when mankind became the slave of sin, then that close walk with God was broken. And the Lord God said, Behold, the man is become as one of us, to know good and evil, and now, lest he put forth his hand, and take also of the tree of life, and eat, and live forever; Therefore the Lord God sent him forth from the garden of Eden, to till the ground from where he was taken. So he drove out the man; and he placed at the east of the garden of Eden cherubim, and a flaming sword which turned every way, to guard the way of the tree of life." Gen.3:22-24.

The Great Wall of Fire

Israel has been the main target of Satan down through the ages, as we have seen from God's Word. God had chosen Israel to maintain his commandments, oracles and statutes. They were given a specific land to dwell in with the full title deed from God. "When the most High divided to the nations their inheritance, when he separated the sons of Adam, he set the bounds of the people according to the number of the children of Israel." Deut.32:8. In order to fulfill this promise, God himself had to provide the fire of protection. "For I, saith the Lord, will be unto it a wall of fire round about, and will be the glory in the midst of it." Zech.2:5. Until this day, God has kept the nation Israel alive, in spite of all the

difficulties. Even through the great tribulation, the remnant of Israel will have a place of refuge. Perhaps the cherubim and a great wall of flame will protect the remnant from the terrible beast during Jacob's trouble.

The symbol of Fire

Fire has many functions as we have already briefly seen. It will be the final destruction of sin and death, when Satan and all of the demon world will be cast into the Lake of fire and brimstone. (Rev.20:10.) The final stand which Satan will make after he is released from the bottomless pit, will be short and complete. "And they went on the breadth of the earth, and compassed the camp of the saints about, and the beloved city; and fire came down from God out of heaven, and devoured them. And the devil that deceived them was cast into the lake of fire and brimstone, where the beast and the false prophet are, and shall be tormented day and night forever and ever." Rev.20:9-10.

The Purifying Fire

To us we are grateful to the Lord for his purification of our lives, as we get contaminated with sin. The Lord will refine those of whom he has paid for with his own precious blood. "But who may abide the day of his coming? And who shall stand when he appeareth? For he is like a refiner's fire, and like fullers' soap. And he shall sit like a refiner and purifier of silver, and he shall purify the sons of Levi, and purge them like gold and silver, that they may offer unto the Lord an offering in righteousness. Mal.3:2-3. The Lord Jesus Christ will refine Israel and give them a new heart. The Lord is also to the church a cleansing fire. (Rev.1:14.) One day we as believers will stand before the Judgement seat of Christ, and the purifying fire from the throne of god will remove all wood, hay and stubble. "Now if any man build upon this foundation gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, stubble- every man's work shall be made manifest; for the day shall declare it, because it shall be revealed by fire; and the fire shall test every man's work of what sort it is. If any man's work abide which he hath built upon it, he shall receive a reward. If any man's work shall be burned, he shall suffer loss; but he himself shall be saved so as by fire." 1 Cor.3:12-15. If we allow the Holy Spirit to keep on filling our life with Himself, then we can be assured that the wood, hay, and stubble in our lives will be removed. May we attentive to that still small voice of God the Holy Spirit, allowing Him to guide us into all truth, teaching us, "This is the way, walk ye in it". This requires your total commitment to God in all phases of this present life.

V. The Holy Spirit as the Symbol of Oil.

The use of oil is well defined in the Bible, as for anointing, for soothing and comfort, for healing and an oil of gladness. Christ clearly identified the Holy Spirit as "The

Comforter". You and I as believers have been anointed by the Holy Spirit and has given us newness of life, prepared for eternity. Christ as the Incarnate One, laid aside his own rights as the Eternal Son of God and depended upon the Holy Spirit to anoint him for his earthly ministry. The Old Testament meal offerings were a good example of the oil being poured over the meal. (Lev.2:4-9.) The Lord Jesus Christ became the sweet savor unto the Father. Christ fulfilled this type, as he yielded to the baptism of John the Baptist, and the Holy Spirit was poured over his earthly ministry. Since God the Holy Spirit is the Author of the Bible, and the Bible brings light to our souls, so the oil is also a source of light. Oil was used in the temple, by the priests, so we being the temple of God depend upon the oil of the Holy Spirit, filling our lives as children of light. "Let your loins be girded about, and your lamps burning; And ye yourselves like men that wait for their lord, when he will return from the wedding; that when he cometh and knocketh, they may open unto him immediately." Lk.12:35-36. The Holy Spirit supplies the oil for us to shine forth in this world. "No man, when he hath lighted a lamp, putteth it in a secret place, neither under a bushel, but on a lampstand, that they which come in may see the light." Lk.11:33. The Lord gave the parable of the ten virgins, as to the importance of oil in the lamps. "Then shall the kingdom of heaven be likened unto ten virgins, who took their lamps, and went forth to meet the bridegroom. And five of them were wise, and five were foolish. They that were foolish took their lamps, and took no oil with them; But the wise took oil in their vessels with their lamps." Matt.25:1-4. These virgins are often confused as being of the bride, but they are friends of the bridegroom. However the illustration that we have here, is the necessity of God the Holy Spirit being a prerequisite for coming into the wedding feast as friends of the bridegroom.

VI. God the Holy Spirit as the Seal of Security.

As we study the Word of God, we learn, not only the rudiments of our Christian life, but also the security which God has placed within our lives. Sometime the Lord seals certain events until a certain time and others are sealed for eternity. We as Christians have been sealed by the Holy Spirit forever and ever! Daniel was faced with some things which he wanted explained to him but he was told, "And I heard, but I understood not. Then said I, O my Lord, what shall be the end of these things? And he said, Go thy way, Daniel; for the words are closed up and sealed till the time of the end." Dan.12:8-9. Paul the Apostle, when he was caught up into the third heaven saw things which were not lawful for him to write. "How he was caught up into paradise, and heard unspeakable words, which is not lawful for a man to utter." 2 Cor.12:4. Then we have the visions of John on the Isle of Patmos, where he saw things which were not lawful to write. "And when the seven thunders had uttered their voices, I was about to write; and I heard a voice from heaven saying unto me, Seal up those things which the seven thunders uttered, and write them not." Rev.10:4. We also have in the Book of Revelation the 144,000 sealed with God the Father's name upon their foreheads. "And I looked and, lo, a Lamb stood on Mount Zion, and with him an hundred forty and four thousand, having his Father's name written in their foreheads." Rev. 14:1. This seal of the 144,000 is sufficient to protect them from all of the judgements that will fall

during the Abomination of Desolation, spoken of by Daniel and confirmed by the Lord Jesus christ. (Dan.9:27; Matt.24:15).

The Believers Eternal Seal by the Holy Spirit

Perhaps the best illustration of our security is by Christ's own words. "My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me. And I give unto them eternal life; and they shall never perish, neither shall any man pluck them out of my hand. My Father, who gave them to me, is greater than all, and no man is able to pluck them out of my Father's hand. I and my Father are one." Jn.10:27-30. Our eternal life in the Lord has a complete hand clasp of the Father and the Son, which would be sufficient security, in our new birth by God the Holy Spirit. God the Holy Spirit, living within us forever, is another proof of our security. "For by one Spirit were we all baptized into one body, whether we be Jews of Greeks, whether we be bond or free; and have been all made to drink into one Spirit." 1 Cor.12:13. Here we have a beautiful molding of our new life with the Triune God in complete control from within and without. This security is certainly sufficient, but God gives us yet another safe guard against the loss of any of the believers. It is true that Christ said that he would never leave us nor forsake us. (Heb.13:5.) Christ also confirmed that we should never perish. (Jn.3:15.) But in order for us to have the greatest of confidence, we are sealed by God the Holy Spirit. "That we should be to the praise of his glory, who first trusted in Christ; In whom ye also trusted, after ye heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation; in whom also after ye believed, ye were sealed with the Holy Spirit of promise, who is the earnest of our inheritance until the redemption of the purchased possession, unto the praise of his glory." Eph.1:12-14. We are certainly well established in Christ Jesus. "For all the promises of God in him are yea, and in him Amen, unto the glory of God by us. Now he who establisheth us with you in Christ, and hath anointed us, is God, who hath also sealed us, and given the earnest of the Spirit in our hearts." 2 Cor.1:21-22. What a glorious confidence that we have, as we look into the future! God has made us secure for eternity, and may we now serve him in sincerity and zeal, manifesting to the world the saving grace of our loving Lord.

VII. The Holy Spirit in type as a Servant.

In the Old Testament we have an excellent example of God the holy Spirit, humbling himself and taking the place of a servant. Abraham was seeking a bride for his son Isaac and commissioned his faithful servant to go and find that God chosen bride. We have no mention of the name of that servant, whom Abraham sent, but it probably was Eliezer of Damascus, who was in charge of the household of Abraham. (Gen.15:2.) Abraham sent the servant to his kindred, and each step of the way was directed by God. God actually sent an angel before the servant as he went on his journey. (Gen.24:7.) The timing was exact, as the servant waited at the well. "And he said, O Lord God of my master, Abraham, I pray thee, send me good speed this day, and show kindness unto my master, Abraham. Behold I stand here by the well of water; and the daughters of the men of the city come out to draw water; And let it come to pass, that the damsel to whom I shall say, Let down thy pitcher, I pray

thee, that I may drink; and she shall say, Drink, and I will give thy camels drink also; let her be the one whom thou hast appointed for thy servant, Isaac; and thereby shall I know that thou hast shown kindness unto my master." Gen.24:12-14. It was exactly as the servant planned and Rebekah was the one chosen by God to be the wife of Isaac. (Gen.24:1-67. This is favorable to God the Father in Heaven with God the Son, and the Holy Spirit as a servant is seeking out the future bride of Christ. Thus process has been going on for almost two thousand years and the Holy Spirit is making possible the gathering of the future bride of Christ through the new birth. The Holy Spirit who dwells within us is preparing us for that great day when the body of Christ will be complete and gathered to the heavenly home for the heavenly marriage. The work of God the Holy Spirit is far reaching and deeply seated in the lives of the future bride of Christ.

As Isaac was at home with his father, preparing for the coming of the bride, so Christ is preparing a place in the Father's Mansions, for his bride. (Jn.14:2-3.) For some two thousand years, the Lord has been preparing that special place for his bride, with great love which was manifested when he died on the cross. That great day when the complete bride of Christ will be "Caught Up", to meet the Lord in the air, and so shall we ever be with him as the bride of Christ. God the Holy Spirit will continue to draw out believers, giving them freely of the water of life. "But whosoever drinketh of the water that I shall give him shall never thirst, but the water that I shall give him shall be in him a well of water springing up into everlasting life." Jn.4:14.

VIII. The Holy Spirit as the Water of Life.

As we concluded the Holy Spirit as the servant, with that great statement of the Lord's concerning the water of life, we introduce another type of the Holy Spirit. "The Water of Life". Without the new birth by the Holy Spirit, there would be no living water, for it is the Holy Spirit that gives life. "Jesus answered, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born of water and of the Spirit he cannot enter into the kingdom of God. That which is born of the flesh is flesh; and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit." Jn.3:5-6. The water of the Holy Spirit is not only for giving of new life, but also maintaining that new life. It is possible to grieve the Holy Spirit, which should cause the believer to stop, look, and listen to that still small voice.

In reference to the Holy Spirit as "The Water of Life", we must remember that the real baptism by the Holy Spirit is not ritual water, but rather real spiritual water, namely the Holy Spirit. He is the one important baptism. "There is one body, and one Spirit, even as ye are called in one hope of your calling; One Lord, one faith, one baptism, One God and Father of all, who is above all, and through all, and in you all." Eph.4:4-6.

IX. The Holy Spirit as a Type of Wind.

The Holy Spirit is best known to have been the author of the Holy Scriptures, which were "God Breathed". "All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness, that the man of God

may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works." 2 Tim.3:16-17. The working of the Holy Spirit is not in great outward power, but rather in providing inward life bearing fruit. ""But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, long-suffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness, self-control; against such there is no law." Gal.5:22-23. "Not by might, nor by power, but by my Spirit, saith the Lord of hosts." Zech.4:6b.

The Triune God is but one God, yet each has his personality. Christ we will see one day, the Holy Spirit dwells within us and we feel his presence, but God cannot be seen, but we are assured that when we see Christ, we will have seen the Father. Moses desired to see God, as recorded in (Ex.33:12-23.) Elijah to was desirous to get a glimpse of God. (1 Ki.19:8-13.) God revealed himself to Elijah as through a still small voice. We of course desire to have the unction of the Holy Spirit, but our lives are so cluttered up with the cares of this world that we fail to hear him speak to us because of the clamoring worldly cares. God the Holy Spirit is our means of communication through the Word of God. "Marvel not that I said unto thee, Ye must be born again. The wind bloweth where it willeth, and thou hearest the sound of it, but canst not tell from where it cometh, and where it goeth, so is every one that is born of the Spirit." Jn.3:7-8.

Conclusion

The representation of God the Holy Spirit through types, has briefly been considered, not that they are less important than other phases of the working of the Holy Spirit, but rather that these types were used as an outward sign of the inward work by God the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit from Pentecost onward until the rapture takes place, is of great importance to us as the future bride of Christ. It is through the Holy Spirit that we have the guarantee of a body like unto the Lord's body. He has made possible our positional righteousness in Christ. Although he is explained through these simple illustrations and types, he is our powerful protection against the wiles of the devil. Besides this, the Holy Spirit leads us into all truth derived from the Bible. Without him, it would be impossible to rightly divide the word of truth. All prophetic utterances come from the Holy Spirit, with the foretelling of all the important events of the future. Having the indwelling of the Holy Spirit, we are without excuse as to understanding the Master Plan as set forth in the Bible. If you are one, who cannot understand these prophetic utterances, then it is due to your lack of personal study, or maybe you are involved in too much of the world, that the Holy Spirit cannot fill your life with himself. There is also the possibility that you are grieving the Holy Spirit, and not allowing him to take control of your life. Our supreme source of spiritual understanding, comes from God the Holy Spirit. He is our source of protection from the wiles of the devil as well as the giver of strength to combat the deception of the world and the flesh.

Questions Chapter 6

1. Explain the importance of symbols and types in the Bible.
2. How is the Holy Spirit a type of clothing? Give Scripture.
3. Give an example of the Holy Spirit as a dove.
4. Write briefly about the dove and the raven of Noah's ark.
5. What makes this mystery age of grace different from all other ages?
6. Explain Rom.15:27.
7. Give several examples of the Holy Spirit as fire, recorded in the Bible.
8. Explain 1 Kings 18:37-38.
9. Write briefly on the flaming sword of fire. Gen.3:22-24.
10. How was Israel protected from the Egyptians and also her wondering years in the wilderness?
11. Name some of the functions of fire in the Bible.
12. Explain Malachi 3:2-3; Revelation 1:14; 1 Corinthians 3:12-15.
13. How is oil used in the Bible?
14. How are Believers of this mystery age sealed by the Holy Spirit?
15. Explain Gen.24:1-57.
16. Explain John 3:5-6. and John 4:14.
17. Write a thesis on the Holy Spirit in types.

CHAPTER SEVEN



The Power of the Holy Spirit

CHAPTER SEVEN

THE POWER OF GOD THE HOLY SPIRIT.

INTRODUCTION

Although God the Holy Spirit is without definite names throughout the Bible, we must be aware that he is co-equal with God the Father and God the Son. Each personality in the Godhead has a specific work to which they have agreed to do. We will take a journey through the whole Bible and study some of the outstanding elements of power that are contributed to God the Holy Spirit. He is known for his action, rather than revealing his personality by the use of names. Every attribute of God the Father and God the Son is also claimed by God the Holy Spirit. His personality is sustained by evidence in creation, authority of the Scripture, life provided in the incarnation of Christ's humanity. The Holy Spirit is the vital life of the Christian's life, as well as the restraining power in this world, under the domination of Satan. As we study the power of God the Holy Spirit, we will discover his life giving power, making possible the glorified bodies for all of the saints of God. "How much more shall the blood of Christ, who through the Eternal Spirit offer himself without spot to God, purge your conscience from dead works to serve the living God." Heb.9:14. In such a statement as this, we have the Triune God involved in so great salvation. To accomplish God's Master Plan, it was necessary for each Person in the Trinity to have a part in dealing with sin, and bringing in everlasting righteousness, where sin will never appear again. (Dan.9:24.

God the Holy Spirit, being co-equal with God the Father and God the Son has equal Divine perfection in all attributes. Christ in his earthly ministry, willingly subjected himself to the Eternal Holy Spirit. (Heb.9:14.) The sacrifice of the Lord Jesus Christ ,to put away sin was made possible by the power of the Holy Spirit. "For Christ also hath once suffered for sins, the just for the un just, that he might bring us to God, being put to death in the flesh but made alive by the Spirit." 1 Pet.3:18. Therefore Christ in his resurrection was made alive by God the Holy Spirit. No one could take away the life of Christ, but he freely laid down his life, knowing that he could freely take it again, by the power of the Holy Spirit. "Therefore doth my Father love me, because I lay down my life, that I might take it again. No man taketh it from me, but I lay it down of myself. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it again. This commandment have I received of my Father." John 10:17-18. Again it is important for us to realize that the Triune God have perfect unity in so great salvation.

OUTLINE

- I. THE BIBLICAL AUTHORITY.**
 - A. THE PROPHETIC UTTERANCES.**
 - B. THE LIVING WORD.**
- II. GENERATING DIVINE LIFE IN THE NEW CREATION.**
 - A. THE INCARNATION OF CHRIST.**
 - B. THE DIVINE SPARK OF REGENERATION.**
- III. THE RESTRAINING POWER OF THE HOLY SPIRIT.**
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- I. THE BIBLICAL AUTHORITY.**
 - A. THE PROPHETIC UTTERANCES.**

Since all Scripture is God breathed and by the Holy Spirit, then all prophetic utterances must come from God the Holy Spirit. "For the Word of God is living, and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart. Neither is there any creature that is not manifest in his sight, but all things are naked and opened unto the eyes of him with whom we have to do." Heb.4:12-13. The greatest of all utterances was when Satan caused man to sin, and the conflict began between Satan's seed, and "The Seed of the Woman". "I will put enmity between thee and the woman, and between thy seed and her seed; he shall bruise thy head, and thou shalt bruise his heel." Gen.3:15. This utterance and challenge to all evil powers had the final judgement against Satan and all sin, at the cross. The sentence of this judgement will be completed when the Devil and all his demons are cast into the lake of fire and brimstone, along with death and hell, and all unregenerate "Homo Sapiens" of all ages. (Jn.19:30; Rev.19:20; Rev.20:10; Rev.20:14-15.) These are evidences of the mighty power of God the Holy Spirit. This again shows the Holy Spirit as aware of all prophetic events, being co-equal with God the Father and God the Son.

GOD'S CONVERSATION WITH ADAM

In the cool of the evening, the Eternal Son of God walked and talked with Adam. He allowed Adam to name the various creatures, taught him astronomy, how to garden, to read and write and the beginnings of all creation. He was spiritually alive in his perfection, with great help from God the Holy Spirit. When God creates, he does it to the fullest extent, and not allowing evolvement for his development, but rather a direct creation. Adam was given the highest I Q of any human being, and was the father of all humans. His origin was directly from God. "And the Lord God formed man of the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living soul." Gen.2:7. Adam was not able in himself to formulate a system of conversing with God, but rather, God in the person of the Lord Jesus Christ taught him the rudiments of life.

THE WRITINGS OF ENOCH.

It is amazing as to what had been revealed to Enoch, the seventh generation from Adam. With so few people on the earth and so few following the Lord, yet Enoch could say, "And Enoch also, the seventh from Adam, prophesied of these, saying, Behold, the Lord cometh with ten thousands of his saints, to execute judgement upon all, and to convict all that are ungodly among them of all their ungodly deeds which they have ungodly committed, and of all their hard speeches which ungodly sinners have spoken against him." Jude 14-15. This could only have been revealed by the Holy Spirit as Enoch walked and talked to the Eternal Son of God. It is certain, from such revelation, that God set forth his Master Plan to Enoch as he spent many years, walking and teaching Enoch. God had a specific reason for the creation of man in his own image, and that was to use "Homo Sapien" to be an instrument in bringing in everlasting righteousness. Therefore it was very necessary that records should be kept in writing, as was the case of faithful Enoch.

THE CHANGE OF LANGUAGES

Since God the Holy Spirit is the author of the Bible, and has breathed upon certain chosen men to write, certainly he is in control of the known languages. The multiple of languages at the time of the tower of Babel, certainly was a mighty powerful act of God. You would have thought that the sons of Noah onward would turn to the living God after that terrible flood, but they turned farther away than ever. Instead of them seeking God in their individual lives, they decided to reach the heavens by their own craftiness and efforts. "And they said, Come, let us build a city and a tower, whose top may reach unto heaven; and let us make us a name, lest we be scattered abroad upon the face of the whole earth." Gen.11:4. The confusion of languages had to be a powerful act of God the Holy Spirit. God the Holy Spirit spoke through the prophets in times past, revealing that great Master Plan of the Triune God. (Heb.1:1.) I am also sure that in heaven there will be a single language spoken by all. There is no language in the heavens or earth that is not thoroughly known by God, who is the creator of all languages. How else could the prayers of the various languages be heard and understood before the throne of grace?

As the saints of all ages reach their heavenly home, speaking various languages upon earth, it would be necessary for them to converse in a heavenly language. If God could confuse the languages at the tower of Babel, from one language to many, so he could reverse the process and use the original language. In ages past, God has sent forth his angels upon this planet earth to speak, and they were always understood in the various languages. There will be a unity in the heavenly language and all saints and angels will understand each other.

GOD'S CONVERSATION WITH MEN OF ALL AGES.

The giving of the Bible down through the ages has been a consistent and clear revelation, regardless of whether Sanskrit, Aramaic, Hebrew or Greek were used. This is a powerful means at the command of God the Holy Spirit. The power of the Triune God was manifested in great wisdom and expression, using these various languages in revealing the eternal truth of the Godhead. Another interesting factor is the use of these various languages, when they were developed at the peak of their development. The translations from the Hebrew and Greek into English under King James was another example of a language fully developed to reach the requirements for translation. There was nothing that the Triune God was not aware of, as the Bible was being given by God the Holy Spirit. There was great understanding and clarity of thought provided as the Holy Spirit revealed the Eternal Word of God to mankind. "We have also a more sure word of prophecy, unto which ye do well that ye take heed, as unto a light that shineth in a dark place, until the day dawn, and the day star arise in your hearts; Knowing this first, that no prophecy of the scripture is of any private interpretation. For the prophecy came not at any time by the will of man, but holy men of God spoke as they were moved by the Holy Spirit." 2 Pet.1:19-21.

B. THE LIVING WORD.

"For the Word of God is living, and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword." Heb.4:12a.

The greatest weapon that we have against the world, the flesh and the devil is the living Word of God. Since it is "God Breathed" by God the Holy Spirit it is a direct revelation from the Triune God, and we have a potential asset against every foe. Combined with the Bible, we have the indwelling of the Holy Spirit, giving us protection as well as our eternal guide into all truth. "But the anointing which ye have received of him abideth in you, and ye need not that any man teach you; but as the same anointing teacheth you of all things, and is truth, and is no lie, and even as he hath taught you, ye shall abide in him." 1 Jn.2:27.

The Printed page of God's Word is evidence and a witness to the total depravity of mankind and the total dependence of mankind on the Eternal God. Pilate asked Christ in the judgement hall, "What is truth"? (Jn.18:38.) Pilate was so used to hearing corruption that he rightly could ask such a question. Those during Christ's earthly ministry knew that he taught the truth according to the word of God. "And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt

among us (and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father), full of grace and truth." Jn.1:14. Christ's ministry exalted the truth of the word of God. "For the law was given by Moses, but grace and truth came by Jesus Christ". Jn.1:17. The Holy Spirit gave us the truth of the Godhead and this becomes the light of our pathway. "And this is the condemnation, that light is come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil. For everyone that doeth evil hateth the light, neither cometh to the light, lest his deeds should be reprov'd. But he that doeth truth cometh to the light, that his deeds may be made manifest, that they are wrought in God." Jn.3:19-21. The Holy Spirit is the powerful personality in our lives, through the Word of God. "Then said Jesus to those Jews who believed on him, If ye continue in my word, then are ye my disciples indeed; And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free." Jn.8:31-32. All truth comes from God, and we need to realize this important factor. "Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life; no man cometh unto the Father, but by me." Jn.14:6. That certainly reveals the power of the truth which is given to us through the Holy Spirit. We have been given the Spirit of truth from God the Father by the Lord Jesus Christ. (Jn.14:17.) This unity is manifested in the Godhead, with each person taking his place in maintaining the mighty power of the living God. "But when the Comforter is come, whom I will send unto you from the Father, even the Spirit of truth, who proceedeth from the Father, he shall testify of me;" Jn.15:26. So powerful is God the Holy Spirit that it is his responsibility to guide every believer into all truth. (Jn.16:13.)

In the prayer of Christ to the Father we are aware of this great power through the Word of the Holy Spirit. We have been sanctified through the truth of God's word. "Sanctify them through thy truth; thy word is truth." Jn.17:17. The Lord himself knew how important the word of truth was, which was set forth by the Holy Spirit, that he also sanctified himself. "And for their sakes I sanctify myself, that they also might be sanctified through the truth." Jn.17:19. Christ the Eternal Son of God was led by the Holy Spirit, making available the living Word. Since Christ is no longer in this world in person, we must depend upon the Printed Word, which was given with great power, by the Holy Spirit.

II. GENERATING DIVINE LIFE IN THE NEW CREATION.

A. THE INCARNATION OF CHRIST.

The seed of the woman was promised, and the virgin brought forth the Incarnate one, who was prepared before the foundation of the world. (Gen.3:15; Isa.7:14; Gal.4:4-5; Lk.1:26-33.) The birth of Christ as a babe was not his beginning, but rather it was the Eternal Son of God's way of entering into this world, to become the sacrifice for our sins. The Lord Jesus Christ laid aside his eternal garments and took upon himself a form of man. This form was prepared before the foundation of the world. Being born as a babe was not the birthday of the Lord, but rather the means that the Lord used for his entrance into the world to accomplish so great salvation. "Who his own self bore our sins in his own body on the tree, that we, being dead to sins, should live unto righteousness; by whose stripes ye were healed." 1 Pet.2:24. This great act of Christ, who could declare, "Saying, I am Alpha and

Omeg'a, the first and the last;" Rev.1:11a, could humble himself and allow the incarnation to take place through the birth as a child.

It was absolutely necessary that a perfect and impeccable sacrifice be provided, to forever pay the penalty of sin. This required that God himself was the only one who could sustain perfect holiness and justice in dealing with sin. The incarnation of Christ involved God the Father's consent, and God the Holy Spirit being willing to generate and sustain such a life as the Eternal Son of God laid aside his eternal status to remove sin once and forever. This has not only provided mankind with an escape route, but also has made possible God's new creation where sin will never be the issue. (Dan.9:24.) The Holy Spirit used the seed of the woman, through the virgin birth, in the fullness of time to provide the means of accomplishing this great Master Plan of God. (Gen.3:15; Isa.7:14; Isa.9:6-7; Gal.4:4-5; Lk.1:26-38; Jn.1:29-34.)

It was through the incarnation of the Lord Jesus Christ that we be partakers of the divine life and power. "According as his divine power hath given unto us all things that pertain to life and godliness, through the knowledge of him that hath called us to glory and virtue; By which are given unto us exceeding great and precious promises, that by these ye might be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust." 2 Pet.1:3-4. All of this was made possible by the incarnation of the Eternal Son of God, giving us the divine spark of regeneration.

B. THE DIVINE SPARK OF REGENERATION.

The Lord Jesus Christ, through his incarnation has made possible the baptizing with God the Holy Spirit, upon all who believe. As Christ laid aside his eternal robes and authority, became subjected to God the Holy Spirit for the purpose of coming into this world. John the Baptist witnesses this great event. "And John bore witness, saying, I saw the Spirit descending from heaven like a dove, and it abode upon him. And I knew him not; but he that sent me to baptize with water, the same said unto me, Upon whom thou shalt see the Spirit descending, and remaining on him, the same is he who baptizeth with the Holy Spirit. And I saw, and bore witness that this is the Son of God." Jn.1:32-34. "And looking upon Jesus as he walked, he saith, Behold the Lamb of God!" Jn.1:36. " Without God the Holy Spirit this great Master Plan of the Triune God could not have been accomplished. The Godhead used God the Holy Spirit to transfer this Divine Spark of regeneration, from heaven to earth, through the Lord Jesus Christ. We have become the body of Christ, being baptized by the Holy Spirit. Our identification with the Holy Spirit is an eternal act of God. "And I will pray the Father, and he shall give you another Comforter, that he may abide with you forever; Even the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it seeth him not, neither knoweth him: but ye know him; for he dwelleth with you, and shall be in you." Jn.14:16-17. That great event happened on the day of Pentecost, fulfilling Joel 2:28, with the outpouring of the Holy Spirit, bringing eternal life to all who believe. (Acts.2:1-8.) That is why the Lord in speaking to Nicodemus said, "Jesus answered, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born of water (The Word) and of the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God." Jn.3:5.

ETERNITY WITH GOD.

Christ being the first fruits, as the head of the body of the church, has made possible a divine body of believers by God the Holy Spirit. This is a necessary creation for the future bride of Christ. When the rapture takes place and we receive that glorified body, God the Holy Spirit will remain within us throughout all of eternity. It is imperative that we realize that our bodies are the temple of God. Your worship of God has been acceptable, because, you have been born of the Holy Spirit. "But the hour cometh, and now is, when the true worshippers shall worship the Father in Spirit and in truth; for the Father seeketh such to worship him. God is a Spirit; and they that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth." Jn.4:23-24. Our finite minds cannot comprehend these things of eternity which God is preparing for the saints of God, but God has said it and I believe it! The limited beauty which we see under cursed nature, will not even be remembered, when God provides the new creation where sin will never show it's ugly head again. God himself has completely arranged that this special creation of his, both the holy angels and the saints of earth shall be in perfect fellowship throughout eternity. Sin will never be the question. "Behold, the virgin shall be with child, and shall bring forth a son, and they shall call his name Immanuel, which, being interpreted, is God with us." Matt.1:23. "And there shall be no more curse, but the throne of God and of the Lamb shall be in it, and his servants shall serve him; And they shall see his face; and his name shall be in their foreheads. And there shall be no night there; and they need no lamp, neither light of the sun; for the Lord God giveth them light, and they shall reign forever and ever." Rev.22:3-5. "And I saw no temple in it; for the Lord God Almighty and the Lamb are the temple of it. And the city had no need of the sun, neither of the moon, to shine in it; for the glory of God did light it, and the Lamb is the lamp of it." Rev.21:22-23.

III. THE RESTRAINING POWER OF THE HOLY SPIRIT.

A. IN THE AGES PAST.

The Scripture denotes great emphasis upon Christ as the Creator of the heavens and the earth, and "All things were made by him; and without him was not anything made that was made." Jn.1:3. However we note, "And the Spirit of God moved (brooded) upon the face of the waters." Gen.1:1b. The perfect unity in the Triune God must be considered at all times. "Thou sendest forth thy Spirit, they are created; and thou renewest the face of the earth. The glory of the Lord shall endure forever; The Lord shall rejoice in his works." Ps.104:31-32. One day the Holy Spirit shall move upon Israel, and the valley of the dry bones shall become alive by him. The breath of life will be given by the Holy Spirit to Israel as he is the source of life through the new birth. At present we are concerned about the working of the Holy Spirit in ages past.

In the Old Testament truths, we have mention of God the Holy Spirit many times, and especially as "The Spirit of the Lord". Man had to be restrained as well as the wiles of the devil. Adam and Eve were driven out of that beautiful garden of Eden and were never to return to it. Eventually it was completely destroyed, no doubt by the flaming sword of the

cherubim. The tree of life eventually was also removed. The Holy Spirit, through his Word, continually warned man of the coming judgement, and one of the early writers was Enoch. (Jude 14,15.)

There are numerous occasions when the Holy Spirit had to restrain the evil forces from going too far. Satanic infiltration of demons into the lives of human beings had to be stopped, for otherwise there would be no Messianic hope. The flood was the answer from God, as he preserved a family of eight. The Holy Spirit restrained the builders of the tower of Babel, by confusing their languages. Abraham was restrained from allowing Sarah to be taken by Abimelech, when Abraham feared his own life. (Gen.20:1-18.) The brothers of Joseph were restrained by the Spirit of the Lord from killing him, and the Master Plan of God developed according to the will of God. (Gen.37:2-36; Gen.39:1-41:44.) Pharaoh was restrained from reaching the children of Israel, as they left Egypt.(Ex.5:1-14:31.)

There are numerous times when Israel could have been destroyed by her enemies and God the Holy Spirit only allowed sufficient punishment to remind Israel to return to the Lord whole heartily. Sometimes the tribe of Judah had to be separated from the other tribes in order to keep the remnant from being destroyed. The captivity into Babylon is such a case. (Jer.25.) The restraining power of the Holy Spirit in the life of Niomi, and the provision of Ruth with Boaz as the kinsman redeemer (The Book of Ruth). Queen Esther is another wonderful example as to the restraining power of even the laws of the Medes and Persians (The Book of Esther). We also need to mention King David, how he was hounded by King Saul, but God the Holy Spirit restrained as well as provided a way of escape for David. (Books of 1st and 2nd Samuel.) The various empires that surrounded Israel were restrained from a total destruction of God's chosen people. God always kept a remnant in order to keep alive the Messianic hope, according to his promises. The Holy Spirit, being equal with God the Father and God the Son, had equal attributes, which were essential for his prophetic revelation to the prophets of old. There was nothing hidden from the Holy Spirit as he was given the responsibility of dictating the Bible to the many writers. The Master Plan of the Godhead has been clearly stated by the Holy Spirit, making the message alive and powerful. Everything was timed exactly, as to the fulfilled prophecy and we have no reason not to believe that the future prophecies will not be fulfilled literally as well.

We have clearly seen from the Scriptures that God the Holy Spirit has been given great responsibility in preserving the truth as well as providing the divine spark of regeneration. Although the Holy Spirit does not have a series of names, he is very powerful and essential in the great salvation plan of the Godhead. In perfect unity we must attribute to God the Holy Spirit the breath of life throughout the ages past. The striving of the Holy Spirit in ages past has not diminished in any form, but will show his mighty power in ages to come.

B. IN THIS PRESENT AGE.

"Let no man deceive you by any means; for that day shall not come, except there come the falling away first, and that man of sin be revealed, the son of perdition, who opposeth and exalteth himself above all that is called God, or that is worshiped, so that he, as God, sitteth in the temple of God, showing himself that he is God. Remember ye not

that, when I was yet with you, I told you these things? And now ye know what restraineth that he might be revealed in his time. For the mystery of iniquity doth already work; only he who now hindereth will continue to hinder until he be taken out of the way." 2 Thess.2:3-7. As the Holy Spirit convicts the world of sin, of righteousness, and reminds them of the coming judgements, he also exercises his restraining power against the evil forces when it is necessary. In the salvation of souls, the Holy Spirit convicts the individuals of their hopeless efforts apart from God, and the provision of salvation by the grace of God.

BY THE WORD OF GOD.

There is no private revelations, or interpretations, other than what is recorded in the Bible. "So, then, faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God." Rom.10:17. Satan has great power in brain washing every soul being born into this world, but the simple preaching of the Gospel is used by the Holy Spirit to break that spell in the lives of those who believe. Those that continue to reject the gospel are continually subject to the blinding of Satan. "In whom the god of this age hath blinded the minds of them who believe not, lest the light of the glorious gospel of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine unto them." 2 Cor.4:4. The Word of God which is inspired by the Holy Spirit is our great tool in presenting the gospel as well as preventing the onslaughts of Satan. "Thy word have I hidden in mine heart, that I might not sin against thee." Ps.119:11. The Word of God is powerful and brings conviction. (Heb.4:12.) Our every thought is discerned by the Word of God which has been Spirit breathed. (2 Tim.3:16.)

THE RESTRAINING POWER OF THE HOLY SPIRIT.

God the Holy Spirit, being omnipotent as God the Father and God the Son, is the source of the believers strength. The battle that is set before Christians is a spiritual battle against Satan and his billions of fallen angels, known as demons. "For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places." Eph.6:12. Therefore it is through the Holy Spirit that we are equipped to meet the enemies of our souls, with the whole armor of God. It is also necessary that God the Holy Spirit restrains the evil forces, through his sovereignty from any extreme attacks upon all mankind. As you may recall, I mentioned the special protection that Christ gave to his disciples, before the day of Pentecost. "Then said Jesus to them again, Peace be unto you; as my Father hath sent me, even so send I you. And when he had said this, he breathed on them, and saith unto them, Receive ye the Holy Spirit;" Jn.20:21-22. This was a temporary covering by the Holy Spirit, until the baptism of the Holy Spirit on the day of Pentecost. This indicates the mighty restraining power of the Holy Spirit to help us stand against the wiles of the Devil.

Let us now consider that great act of restraining power during this present age. The kingdom promised to Israel was postponed, because they rejected their Messiah, and now Christ is building his true church, made up of all races, and languages from around the world, known as the body of Christ. For almost two thousand years, God has been calling out "The Ecclesia" preparing a bride for the Lamb of God. The Lord has promised to return

in the clouds, and declare one of the great events in God's creation. The resurrection of the saints of all ages, with a special emphasis on the future bride. "And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself, that where I am, there ye may be also." Jn.14:3. While God is gathering the future bride of Christ from all nations, God the Holy Spirit is giving them new spiritual life with the Divine spark through the indwelling of himself. This not only gives the believers newness of life, but Divine protection from the demonic world. The crowning day will begin at the Rapture, when the saints will receive their glorified bodies and be led by Christ into heaven, in preparations to be presented to God the Father. This body of Christ, during this present age is being constantly attacked by Satan and his multitude of demons. Therefore, it is necessary for God the Holy Spirit to restrain these evil forces from the full onslaught of which they are capable.

Although Satan has been removed from being the cherub with great authority, he has retained his powerful ability, but under the sovereignty of God. "Let no man deceive you by any means; for that day shall not come, except there come the falling away first, and that man of sin be revealed, the son of perdition, who opposeth and exalteth himself above all that is called God, or that is worshiped, so that he, as God, sitteth in the temple of God, showing himself that he is God.....And now ye know what restraineth that he might be revealed i his time. For the mystery of iniquity doth already work; only he who now hindereth will continue to hinder until he be taken out of the way." 2 Thess.2:3-7. This man of sin whom we know as the beast,(Rev.13:1-8.) will come to his great power, after the Rapture of the saints. This period of time is known as the great tribulation. All the saints will be safely escorted to heaven by the Lord, and it will be then that the Holy Spirit lifts the sanctions against the evil forces and the heavenly scroll will be opened by the Lamb, with the out pouring of the wrath of God. When that great "Air Lift" occurs, the Holy Spirit who indwells the body of Christ will also remove his restraining power from this world. Christ has declared the great tribulation as the most terrible judgement of all time. "For then shall be great tribulation, such as was not since the beginning of the world to this time, no, nor ever shall be." Matt.24:21. This certainly proclaims a literal fulfillment of the things written in the Book of Revelation.

C. DURING THE TRIBULATION

INTRODUCTION

Although God the Holy Spirit will release his restraining power upon planet earth during the great tribulation, yet as Sovereign God he will be the tribulation saints ever present help. There will be restrictions against the evil forces led by Satan, as in all generations. The Triune God will always be in control of all things, giving permission according to the will of God. God has often brought glory to his name in spite of the wickedness in the unregenerate of his creation. The choice and will which is found in both the angelic forces and mankind are under the sovereignty of God. There will be the following aspects of the restraining power of the Holy Spirit, which will be dealt with during the study of the tribulation.

1. THE SEAL OF JEHOVAH DURING THE TRIBULATION.

2. THE PLACE OF REFUGE DURING THE TRIBULATION.

3. GOD'S WITNESSES DURING THE TRIBULATION.

1. THE SEAL OF JEHOVAH DURING THE TRIBULATION.

"And I saw another angel ascending from the east, having the seal of the living God; and he cried with a loud voice to the four angels, to whom it was given to hurt the earth and sea, saying, Hurt not the earth, neither the sea, nor the trees, till we have sealed the servants of our God in their foreheads. And I heard the number of them which were sealed; and there were sealed an hundred and forty four thousand of all the tribes of the children of Israel." Rev.7:2-4. "After this I beheld and, lo, a great multitude, which no man could number, of all nations and kindred, and peoples, and tongues, stood before the throne, and before the Lamb, clothed with white robes, and palms in their hands, and cried with a loud voice, saying, Salvation to our God who sitteth upon the throne, and unto the Lamb. And all the angels stood round about the throne, and about the elders and the four living creatures, and fell before the throne on their faces, and worshiped God, Saying, Amen! Blessing, and glory, and wisdom, and thanksgiving, and honor, and power, and might be unto our God forever and ever. Amen. And one of the elders answered, saying unto me, Who are these who are arrayed in white robes? And from where did they come? And I said unto him, Sir, thou knowest. And he said to me, These are they who came out of the great tribulation, and have washed their robes, and made them white in the blood of the Lamb. Therefore are they before the throne of God, and serve him day and night in his temple; and he that sitteth on the throne shall dwell among them." Rev.7:9-15. "And I looked and, lo, a Lamb stood on Mount Zion, and with him an hundred forty and four thousand, having his Father's name written in their foreheads. And I heard a voice from heaven, like the voice of many waters, and like the voice of a great thunder; and I heard the voice of harpers harping with their harps. And they sang, as it were, a new song before the throne, and before the four living creatures and elders; and no man could learn the song but the hundred and forty and four thousand, who were redeemed from the earth." Rev.14:1-3.

These verses of Scripture give us evidence that even during the great tribulation there will be those which cannot be numbered who will be saved during the tribulation. The wrath of God will not effect those who have the name of Jehovah on their foreheads.

THE HUNDRED AND FORTY FOUR THOUSAND

These of the hundred and forty four thousand will all be from the tribes of Israel, except the tribe of Dan, which has corrupted Israel with idols. The two sons of Joseph will be named instead, giving Joseph a double portion. These will be as virgins, or the youth of Israel who have an understanding of the length of the tribulation and do not get married, but witness to the saving grace through the blood of the Lamb of God. They will be

protected from the out pouring of the wrath of God, but will pay with their life, as they witness for God. Their destination after death will be before the throne of God, as the Scripture indicates. There will be great choirs in heaven from the various groups, saved during their earthly ministry. We have the new song of the redeemed during the church age. (Rev.5:9-10.) These of the hundred and forty four thousand, and those who sing the song of Moses. (Rev.15:3.)

During those seven years, known as "Jacob's Trouble" there will be destruction and punishment upon all flesh, God in his sovereignty will protect his own. They will be deprived from the material things that only those under the power of Satan will have access to, but there will be many Gentiles that will come to their rescue as the Lord himself has foretold. (Matt.25:31-40.)

THE GENTILES SAVED DURING THE TRIBULATION.

As you have noticed, in Revelation chapter seven verses nine through verse fifteen, that there will be a great multitude saved during the tribulation through these 144,000 witnesses of God. The world will be evangelized during these terrible times, and many shall be washed in the blood of the Lamb. God is always faithful and merciful and does not wish that one soul should perish, and has made a way of escape. Here we have another example of the need to rightly divide the Word of Truth. The Old Testament saints have their particular place in God's dealing with man, the New Testament age as God is gathering the members of the body of Christ are also separate. So, with the tribulation saints, they will have their special place in the economy of God. We will also see that during the Millennium, there will be those born during that thousand years will have to make a choice to accept the righteousness of God through Christ, or reject God's provision. We praise God for those who will be saved during the tribulation from all tribes, tongues and nations of the world.

2. THE PLACE OF REFUGE DURING THE TRIBULATION.

The Lord Jesus Christ, during his earthly ministry spoke to his disciples about these things which should come to pass. "When ye, therefore, shall see the abomination of desolation, spoken of by Daniel the prophet, stand in the holy place (whosoever readeth, let him understand), Then let them who are in Judah flee into the mountains;" Matt.24:15-16. This "Abomination of Desolation" will take place during the second half of the seven years of tribulation. It will be activated when the Devil and all of his demons will be cast out of heaven. (Rev.9:1-12; Rev. 12:7-17.) This is spelled out in the number of days as well as the number of months. Don't let anyone deceive you, by attempting to just spiritualize all of this. This will literally be fulfilled.

The 144,000 youth from Israel will not flee to the mountains as they will be commissioned by God to broadcast the gospel of the kingdom during the entire tribulation. But, for the sake of the multitudes of Jewish believers, God has prepared a place in the mountains for their protection. However, they have to make the effort to get there and God will do everything possible for them. Protection and food will be provided by God and the Holy Spirit will keep a wall of protection about them. "And when the dragon saw that he

was cast unto the earth, he persecuted the woman who brought forth the male child. (Israel) And the woman were given two wings of a great eagle, that she might fly into the wilderness, into her place, where she is nourished for a time, and times, and half a time (three and one half years), from the face of the serpent. And the serpent cast out of his mouth water like a flood after the woman, that he might cause her to be carried away by the flood. And the earth helped the woman, and the earth opened her mouth, and swallowed up the flood which the dragon cast out of his mouth." Rev.12:13-16. This of course was God's protection toward those who would be preserved for the coming kingdom of righteousness.

This will cause the devil, (the dragon) to take out his revenge upon the remnant,(144,000) and as they witness and preach the gospel of the kingdom, they will be killed. "And the dragon was angry with the woman, and went to make war with the remnant of her seed, who kept the commandments of God, and have the testimony of Jesus Christ." Rev.12:17. It will be through the faithfulness of the 144,000 that many Gentiles will become believers in the Lamb of God and be among the tribulation saints.

3. GOD'S WITNESSES DURING THE TRIBULATION

God's eternal love is found during all ages, doing all that he possibly can do to get human beings to make the right choice in their lives. There are always specific standards which have to be met, to satisfy God's requirements in removing the sin barrier. Regardless of the age in which men live, their acceptance before God, demands an absolute perfection, and that can only be accomplished through the Lord Jesus Christ. Since man has the sin nature and falls short of God's standards, a substitute for his atonement must be found, and that is the Lord Jesus Christ.

GOD'S SPECIAL WITNESSES.

Since the Triune God is omnipresent, there is no way that the evil forces can have the victory over the Godhead. During the Great Tribulation, in the sovereignty of God as well as his permissive will, the evil forces will seem to have their own way, but God will limit them in their activities. It is of great importance that before that terrible beast of the revived Roman Empire demands his seal upon his followers, God makes sure that the remnant, are sealed. "Saying, Hurt not the earth, neither the sea, nor the trees, till we have sealed the servants of our God in their foreheads." Rev.7:3. All 144,000 of these servants of God were sealed by God and none of the terrible judgements of the Tribulation would come upon them. They of course will be deprived from any rights to buy or sell under the Dictator, but by God's mighty power, they will witness throughout the whole earth. There will be many saved during the Tribulation as recorded in the Book of Revelation. (Rev.7:9-17.)

The seven angels sounding forth the trumpets of God will also be showing God's mighty power. There were mighty angels commanded by God to do his will. One of these mighty angels of God came forth with a scroll, and was in command of both sea and land. (Rev.10:1-11.)

THE TWO WITNESSES.

As has been predicted , "Behold, I will send you, Elijah, the prophet, before the coming of the great and terrible day of the Lord; And he shall turn the heart of the fathers to the children, and the heart of the children to their fathers, lest I come and smite the earth with a curse." Mal.4:5-6. Elijah will come as God said, before the kingdom of righteousness is set up by the Lord. God in his omniscience sent a substitute (John the Baptist), declaring the kingdom, which God knew that Israel would refuse. But immediately following the tribulation, the kingdom of righteousness will be set up by the Lord, and Elijah will be sent. Moses will also accompany Elijah and the two shall witness for three and one half years, which will be during the Abomination of Desolation. (Rev.11:3-12.) They will eventually be killed and lay in the streets three and one half days, before the Lord calls them back to their heavenly home.

THE ANGEL WITH THE EVERLASTING GOSPEL.

"And I saw another angel fly in the midst of heaven, having the everlasting gospel to preach unto them that dwell on the earth, and to every nation, and kindred, and tongue, and people, saying with a loud voice, Fear God, and give glory to him; for the hour of his judgement is come; and worship him that made heaven and earth, and the sea, and the fountains of waters." Rev.14:6-7.

This is the final great appeal from God to all earth dwellers, to turn from their wicked ways to the Living God. They are admonished to fear God and glorify his name. They are told to accept the one who made the heavens and the earth, which is none other than the Lord Jesus Christ. This angel with the everlasting Gospel will speak in such a language that every human being will clearly understand. There will not be one of the thousands of languages and dialects neglected, but all will clearly understand the gospel message from Almighty God. This is a warning to all, not to accept the mark of the beast. The nations of the world and every tribe and family shall be warned, and will be without excuse before our Mighty God. Those that will accept the mark of the beast will receive the judgement of God.

ANOTHER ANGEL PREDICTS THE DOOM OF BABYLON.

"And there followed another angel, saying, Babylon is fallen, is fallen, that great city, because she made all nations drink of the wine of the wrath of her fornication." Rev.14:8.

The seat of the revived Roman Empire, where false religious beliefs will bring the beast into power, will at that time, fall to complete destruction. Ecumenical religion of all sorts will fall and be utterly destroyed. It will then make way for the Dictator of the world to have complete control, under the power of Satan. This angel will be followed by another, who will warn the people not to worship the beast,

THE THIRD ANGEL DECLARES GOD'S MESSAGE.

"And the third angel followed them, saying with a loud voice, If any man worship the beast and his image, and receive his mark in his forehead, or in his hand, the same shall drink of the wine of the wrath of God, which is poured out without mixture into a cup of his indignation; and he shall be tormented with fire and brimstone in the presence of the holy angels, and in the presence of the Lamb; And the smoke of their torment ascendeth up forever and ever; and they have no rest day nor night, who worship the beast and his image, and whosoever receiveth the mark of his name." Rev.14:9-11.

The final judgement will be predicted upon such who will take the mark of the beast, and this final judgement will be a continual eternal torment, with no escape. People throughout the whole world will be warned and without excuse, by these angels come down from heaven. It is God's final way of evangelizing the whole world with every tongue and language clearly hearing the everlasting gospel from Almighty God.

JOHN'S VISION OF ARMAGEDDON.

John saw the Eternal Son of God coming in the clouds with full authority to reap the harvest, with great destruction of the evil forces. As John saw, being allowed to look down the corridors of time, another angel coming out of the heavenly temple, heralding that battle of Armageddon. (Rev.19:11-21.) As the vision also declared, "And another angel came out of the temple which is in heaven, he also having a sharp sickle, and gather the clusters of the vine of the earth; for her grapes are fully ripe. And the angel thrust in his sickle into the earth, and gathered the vine of the earth, and cast it into the great winepress of the wrath of God. And the winepress was trodden outside the city, and blood came out of the winepress, even unto the horse bridles, by the space of a thousand and six hundred furlongs. (A furlong = 600 ft.) This will come to pass after the completion of the Great Tribulation, when the Lord returns to set up his thousand year kingdom of righteousness.

CONCLUSION

The power of God the Holy Spirit during the Biblical history of this world, is of great importance. The Triune God, although equal in essence, yet it is specific in evidence. The unity of the Godhead has always been, and always will be manifested. God the Holy Spirit is the power of God beyond any mighty power in God's creation. (Zech.4:6b.) The mighty power of the Holy Spirit made possible so great salvation, to those who would believe. The incarnation of the Eternal Son of God came down to earth through the Divine spark of the Holy Spirit. The new birth of every believer utterly depends upon the Holy Spirit, providing the spiritual birth. A special protection is given to every believer through his indwelling. The future glorified bodies of the saints of all ages will be made possible through God the Holy Spirit. The future Bride of Christ will always have the Divine life through God the Holy Spirit. Although the Holy Spirit is not revealed to us in various special names, yet he is essential in revelation of God through the Bible as well as our lives. Without him, it would be impossible for us, as believers, to understand the wonder working power of God. "Oh,

the depth of the riches both of the wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable are His judgements, and His ways past finding out! For who hath known the mind of the Lord? Or who hath been His counselor? Or who hath first given to him, and it shall be recompensed unto Him again? For of Him, and through Him, and to Him, are all things: to whom be glory forever. Amen." Rom.11:33-36.

QUESTIONS CHAPTER SEVEN.

- 1. Since the Holy Spirit hasn't definite names - Does that mean he is less important as a member of the Godhead? Explain.**
- 2. Give five reasons as to the importance of God the Holy Spirit.**
- 3. What Biblical authority does the Holy Spirit possess?**
- 4. How is the omniscience of the Holy Spirit manifested?**
- 5. Write briefly on God's conversation with Adam and other men, recording in the Bible.**
- 6. What inspirational lesson can we derive from Enoch?**
- 7. In your opinion, what original language did God use before the Tower of Babel?**
- 8. Explain briefly what you understand about "The Living Word".**
- 9. How are we partakers of the Divine Life?**
- 10. What is your opinion as to, "Eternity With God"?**
- 11. Write briefly on, "The Restraining Power of the Holy Spirit, In Ages Past".**
- 12. Write briefly on, "The Restraining Power of the Holy Spirit, In this Present Age".**
- 13. Write briefly on, "The Power of the Word of God". (Heb.4:12.**
- 14. Write briefly on, "The Restraining Power of the Holy Spirit During the Great Tribulation".**
- 15. What provision will God provide for the "Tribulation Saints"?**
- 16. Why will a place of refuge be necessary for the "Tribulation Saints"?**
- 17. Will there be Gentiles saved during the Tribulation? Explain.**

- 18. Name the various witnesses of God during the Tribulation. Give Scripture.**
- 19. Explain Revelation 14:14-20.**
- 20. Write an essay on "God The Holy Spirit".**

In Memory of Dorothy L. Losier

Dorothy L. Losier, the wife of Rev. Dr. Andrew J. Losier, born December 5, 1911, daughter of Mr. & Mrs. Abraham Lehman of Berne, Indiana, went to be with the Lord on May 16, 1992 at 1:00 p.m.

Dorothy attended Wheaton College, where she met her husband, Andy. She later attended Moody Bible Institute, while Andy attended Dallas Theological Seminary in preparation for going to Africa as a missionary. The two were married by Dr. Lewis Sperry Chafer, the Founder and President of Dallas Seminary on May 21, 1937. In 1938, God opened the door for them to go to Kenya, East Africa under the Africa Inland Mission. They began their mission work among the Kipsigis and later an evangelical work among the Masai, who are nomads in East Africa.

In 1952, the Lord directed Andy and Dorothy to establish a brand new work, known as Christian Literature & Bible Center, Inc. This tremendous outreach of the printed page which began in East Africa with the Gospel message in 35 languages has grown to include South Africa and the entire west coast of Africa in some 50 languages as well as many other places around the world. Dorothy was talented in music and produced a seven year Gospel Radio Broadcast in Nairobi, Kenya.

Her service to the Lord included children's work, music broadcasts, editing of manuscripts, and raising a family of five great sons and two wonderful daughters. Two other daughters were taken to be with the Lord many years ago and are now reunited with their mother.

Publications

by

Rev. Dr. Andrew J. Losier

A Study of the Book of Daniel

Amazing Grace

Analytical Theological Questionnaire Vol I and Vol II

Battleground and Warfare of Christians

Biblical Outline of Sermons

Christ the Eternal Son of God

Difficult Biblical Questions Answered

I am Alpha and Omega

Know Your Bible Rightly Divided

Memoirs of Africa

One World Government under Satan verses the Kingdom of God Established Forever

Praise Share & Care Through Prayer

Second Coming of the Lord Jesus Christ

The Inspired Word of God

The Book of Romans

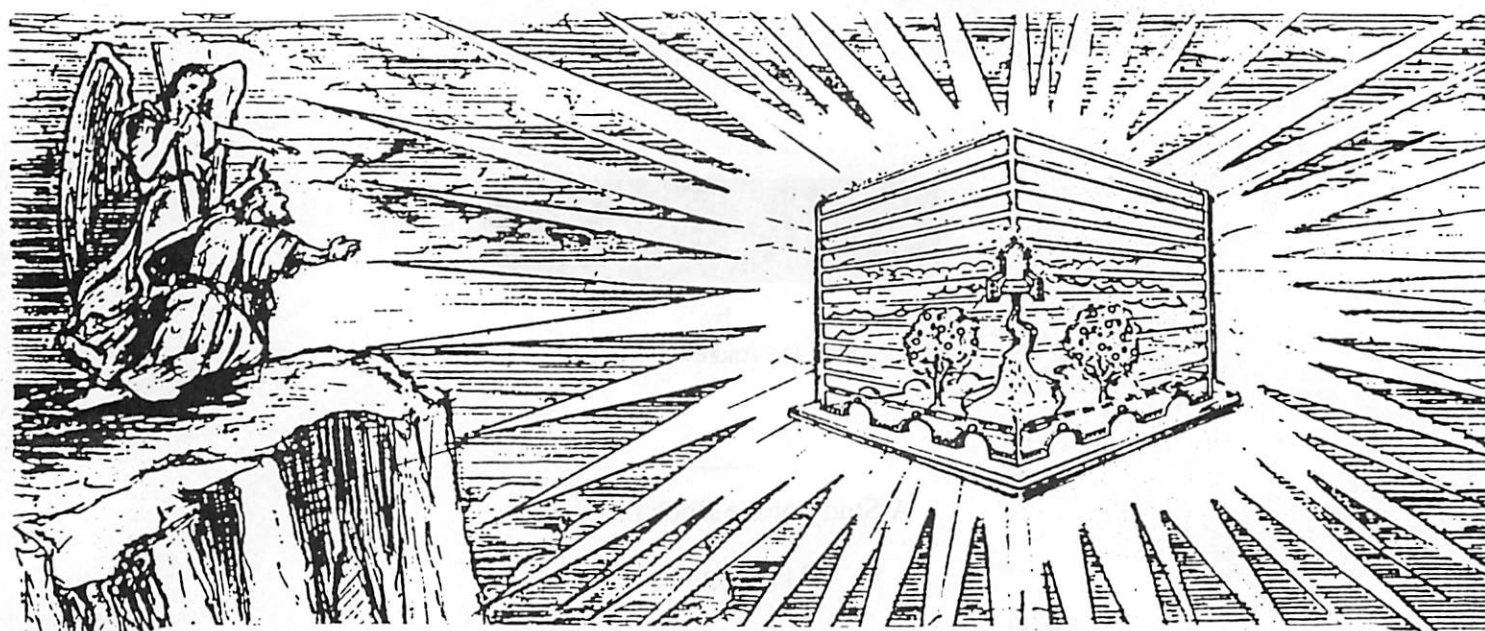
The Cross of Christ

The Holy Spirit

The Glory of God

Treasure Chest of Eternal Gems

What Does the Future Hold?



"And he carried me away in the spirit to a great and high mountain and showed me that great city, the Holy Jerusalem, descending out of Heaven from GOD" – Revelation 21 : 10

Author: Rev., Dr. Andrew J. Losier

Missionary in Africa since 1938, established the first of the Christian Literature and Bible Centers in Kenya, East Africa in 1952. Since then, over a billion pieces of FREE CHRISTIAN LITERATURE have been distributed throughout Africa in approximately 50 different languages. The overwhelming response of African Christian leaders to the WORD OF GOD, inspired Rev., Dr. Andrew J. Losier to write this book.

JESUS said "I am ALPHA and OMEGA"

Revelation 1:8

