



*The  
Anatomy  
of the Spirit*

*by Michael J. Brown*

# The Anatomy of the Spirit

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This book is dedicated to all of those who desire to walk as Jesus walked and glorify the Father. Those who have encountered His love and know that His glory covers the face of the earth. Those who have a desire to fully encounter the reality of the Spirit in their everyday lives. This is the day That the Lord has made. Let us rejoice in it and take the Joy of His Kingdom to the ends of the earth. Amen

**1 Cor 2:13-16 13 These things we also speak, not in words which man's wisdom teaches but which the Holy Spirit teaches, comparing spiritual things with spiritual. 14 But the natural man does not receive the things of the Spirit of God, for they are foolishness to him; nor can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned. 15 But he who is spiritual judges all things, yet he himself is rightly judged by no**

**one. 16 For "who has known the mind of the Lord that he may instruct Him?" But we have the mind of Christ. NKJV**

**Rom 8:5-6 5 For those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who live according to the Spirit, the things of the Spirit. 6 For to be carnally minded is death, but to be spiritually minded is life and peace. NKJV**

The Holy Spirit's primary focus in teaching us about the ways of our Father deal with the way we think and interpret life. Just as a natural instructor teaching in any classroom desires to give you knowledge so you can apply what you have learned. So, our teacher, the Holy Spirit desires to instruct us in the ways of the Spirit. There is a natural, earthly way of thinking and there is a spiritual way of thinking. The one we choose to use either enables us to live the life of the Spirit or enslaves us to live the life of a natural person. The apostle Paul tells the Corinthians in chapter 12:1 Now concerning spiritual, brethren, I do not want you to be ignorant: NKJV The word gifts in this verse was added by the translators, which I removed to reveal the fuller meaning of what he was saying. Concerning spiritual things, we cannot be ignorant and expect to live the life Jesus died to give us. This book takes a deep dive in to the mysteries of the Spirit. We have a natural mind

and a spiritual mind, only one leads to a life of Peace and great Joy.  
Which one will you live by?

In this book it is not my objective to give you my thoughts on the topics being discussed. My only goal is to clearly show what the scripture says about each area. If you do not believe the Bible and have a desire to know what it really says, then you will be wasting your time reading any further. God stands behind His word and sent forth His word to accomplish His desires. The purpose of this book is not to create or establish doctrine. It is to release revelation of the realities of the Spirit. Revelation produces life and causes us to walk in the depth of the Fathers love. It is only through revelation that we abide in Christ and allow Him to live through us.

I include many references to Greek words used in scripture. It is important for us to look at the Greek to see a fuller meaning of what the writer intended and to properly interpret what was being said. All Greek definitions come from: (Biblesoft's New Exhaustive Strong's Numbers and Concordance with Expanded Greek-Hebrew Dictionary. Copyright © 1994, 2003, 2006 Biblesoft, Inc. and International Bible Translators, Inc.)

I also want to mention CONTEXT. If we do not look at the context, the overall sequence and setting of what is being said and who is saying it, we will miss the deeper meaning of what we just read. If all we want is information, then we can simply read through something and take it at a surface level. But if we want transformation, we must have revelation of what we just read. This requires us to see the big picture. The Greek language is much broader in its scope than any other language known to man. Therefore, in its translation to English there are options as to what emphasis is made from a particular word. Different translations of the Bible say things in a different way. This is one of the reasons that Context is so important.

I also want to point out that in the spirit there is not a male or female distinction. Those qualities come from our soul and body. So, when I am speaking of the Sons of God throughout this book, it includes woman.

Gal 3:26-29 26 For you are all sons of God through faith in Christ Jesus.

27 For as many of you as were baptized into Christ have put on Christ.

28 There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, **there is neither male nor female; for you are all one in Christ Jesus.** 29 And if you are Christ's, then you are Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise. NKJV

# Chapter 1 Creation

Gen 1:26 Then God said, "Let Us make man in Our \*image, according to Our \*likeness; NKJV

Gen 1:27 So God created man in His own image; in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them. NKJV

Mankind was Gods masterpiece. He wanted us to be created in a way that reflected who He is. **We were created in His image**, \*Image OT:6754 tselem (tseh'-lem); from an unused root meaning to shade; a phantom, i.e. (figuratively) illusion, **resemblance; hence, a representative figure**, especially an idol:

**And in His likeness or like Him.**

\*Likeness OT:1823 demuwth (dem-ooth'); from OT:1819; resemblance; concretely, model, shape; adverbially, like: KJV - fashion, like (-ness, as), manner, similitude.

OT:1819 <START HEBREW damah (daw-maw'); a primitive root; to compare; by implication, to resemble, liken, consider: KJV - compare, devise, (be) like (-n), mean, think, use similitudes.

This word for **image** implies a reflection. When you look into a mirror you see your reflection or image.

To be made **like** Him is implied by the rest of the verse; Gen 1:26-28

...let them **have dominion** over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, **over all the earth** and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth." 27 So God created man in His own image; in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them. 28 Then God blessed them, and God said

to them, "Be fruitful and multiply; fill the earth and **subdue it; have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over every living thing that moves on the earth.**" NKJV

The Psalmist confirms this: Ps 115:16 The heaven, even the heavens, are the Lord's;

But **the earth He has given to the children of men.** NKJV

We are like Him in that we are to rule and reign over the earth, it is our dominion. This is what Paul was referring to here: Rom 5:17 For if by the one man's offense death reigned through the one, much more those who receive abundance of grace and of the gift of righteousness will reign in life through the One, Jesus Christ.  
NKJV

Jesus also confirmed this in His final command in Matthew: Matt 28:18-20

18 And Jesus came and spoke to them, saying, "**All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth.** 19 **Go therefore** and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, 20 teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age." Amen.

We are made in the reflection of God. Mankind was made in His image and His likeness. Just as He spoke everything into existence, so our words have power. Proverbs 18:21 says that life and death are in the power of the tongue. Our words, like Gods, have the power to create the world we live in.



We can also compare Man as a 3 part being in a similar way to God being 3 persons in 1 God. Man is a spirit being, we have a soul and we live in a body. Man's spirit is the eternal part of us that we received from God the Father. Our soul is our mind, will and emotions. This can be viewed as the part of us the Holy Spirit influences. Then there is our body. Christ became a man to show us how to live a holy life in the flesh. He gave us victory over our carnal nature that only lives to fulfill the desires of the flesh.

God put His spirit in us when he created us.

Gen 2:7 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 being. NKJV

What we see in Gen 2:7 was the action that took place when God made us Like Him. The Hebrew word for breath is the same word that is used for spirit. God breathed into us our spirit and we became a living being and we became like Him.

In John 4:24 Jesus tells us that **God is a Spirit**. So, the first thing we need to understand is that **we are a spirit being**. Before the breath of life came into us, we were a hunk of clay with no life in us. We need to also realize that the spirit that God put in us was His Spirit. He literally birthed Himself into us through His breath and we became alive.

In these next verses we see that all mankind had the breath of the spirit of life.

Gen 7:21-23

21 And all flesh died that moved on the earth: birds and cattle and beasts and every creeping thing that creeps on the earth, and every man. 22 All in whose nostrils was the **breath of the spirit of life**, all that was on the dry land, died. NKJV

Job 33:4 The Spirit of God has made me, And **the breath of the Almighty gives me life**. NKJV

Prov 20:27 The **spirit of a man** is the lamp of the Lord, Searching all the inner depths of his heart.

So, we need to ask the question, what happened when Adam and Eve sinned? Let's look at what God said would happen.

Gen 2:15-17 15 Then the Lord God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to tend and keep it. 16 And the Lord God commanded the man, saying, "Of every tree of the garden you may freely eat; 17 but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in **the day that you eat of it you shall surely die**." NKJV

So, we see in the results that took place as soon as they ate that the first signs of death are seen in a separation of the spirit of man from the Spirit of God. They had been in open communication and fellowship with God every day of their lives to this point.

Gen 3:6-10 She also gave to her husband with her, and he ate. 7 Then the eyes of both of them were opened, and they knew that they were naked; and they sewed fig leaves together and made

themselves coverings. 8 And they heard the sound of the Lord God walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and Adam and his wife **hid themselves from the presence of the Lord God** among the trees of the garden. 9 Then the Lord God called to Adam and said to him, "Where are you?" 10 So he said, "I heard Your voice in the garden, **and I was afraid** because I was naked; **and I hid myself.**" NKJV

After the spiritual separation from God occurred as soon as the Lord God came, they were afraid, fear entered into them. Up until now they had ruled over everything on the earth and they did not fear anything. Then they hid themselves from Gods presence. Sin had entered into their hearts and now the very person they had enjoyed being with, they feared. Fear is a byproduct of separation from God. Hiding or deception was also part of this new death that they brought upon themselves by disobeying their Creator.

This separation was passed down to every person born on the earth from Adam to Moses called Sin. It is a state of being where our spirit is separated from the Spirit of God. Man, still has a spirit, but it is no longer in communion with God. Since the spirit of Life is no longer connected to a person's spirit, God considers this death. Mankind was living in a state of spiritual death from Adam to Moses.

Rom 5:14 Nevertheless death reigned **from Adam to Moses**, even over those who had not sinned according to the likeness of the transgression of Adam, who is a type of Him who was to come. NKJV

1 Cor 15:22 For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ all shall be made alive. NKJV

Notice in Rom 5:14 the scripture tells us from Adam to Moses. What happened when Moses came on the scene? The Law came and now spiritual separation, death came by a new method.

Paul explains how we died:

Rom 7:9-12 9 I was alive once without the law, but when the commandment came, sin revived **and I died**. 10 And the commandment, which was to bring life, I found to bring death. 11 For sin, taking occasion by the commandment, deceived me, and by it **killed me**. NKJV

Just as Eve was deceived by the serpent, we are deceived by sin. Sin brings spiritual blindness to us and keeps us from entering into a relationship with God.

Once spiritual death occurs our carnal nature takes over. That is the mindset that only lives for the gratification of our flesh and is ruled by our earthly sense driven desires.

Rom 7:14-18 4 For we know that the law is spiritual, **but I am carnal, sold under sin**. 15 For what I am doing, I do not understand. For what I will to do, that I do not practice; but what I hate, that I do. 16 If, then, I do what I will not to do, I agree with the law that it is good. 17 But now, it is no longer I who do it, **but sin that dwells in me**. NKJV

When we live in a state of separation from God, we are sold under sin. Dead to the life that God intended for us to have. We

are unable to keep the holy law of God by our own will and determination.

After the fall when sin brought separation Ezekiel prophesied this:

Ezek 36:26-28 I will give you a new heart and **put a new spirit within you**; I will take the heart of stone out of your flesh and give you a heart of flesh. 27 **I will put My Spirit within you** and cause you to walk in My statutes, and you will keep My judgments and do them. NKJV

This was a prophetic picture of the Spirit of God coming back into union with the spirit of man just as we were originally created. Adam was the first son of God on the earth when he received the Spirit of sonship, we know Him as the Spirit of Christ the eternal Son of God.

### **Paul wrote this about Christ Jesus**

Col 1:15-20 He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation. **16 For by Him all things were created that are in heaven and that are on earth, visible and invisible**, whether thrones or dominions or principalities or powers. All things were created through Him and for Him. 17 And He is before all things, and in Him all things consist. 18 And He is the head of the body, the church, who is the beginning, **the firstborn from the dead**, that in all things He may have the preeminence. 19 For it pleased the Father that in Him all the fullness should dwell, 20 and **by Him to reconcile all things to Himself, by Him, whether things on**

**earth or things in heaven, having made peace through the blood of His cross.**

The meaning of the word reconcile is to **bring back to its original state**. Through Christ Jesus we have the doorway to be brought back into the union we were created to have.

Jesus tells us plainly that just as we were born into this earth we have to be born of the Spirit. By this new birth we are brought back into union with God.

John 3:5-7 5 Jesus answered, "Most assuredly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God. 6 That which **is born of the flesh is flesh**, and that which **is born of the Spirit is spirit**. 7 Do not marvel that I said to you, 'You must be born again.'

When we are born again, the Spirit of the Son of God comes to live in us. I go into more detail about this in the next chapter.

Rom 5:8-11 8 But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. 9 Much more then, having now been justified by His blood, we shall be saved from wrath through Him. 10 For if when we were enemies we were reconciled to God through the death of His Son, much more, having been reconciled, we shall be saved by His life. 11 And not only that, but **we also rejoice in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received the reconciliation.**  
NKJV

Let's look at what takes place in the Spirit when someone is born again. This is vital to our spiritual understanding. If we do not

comprehend what has transpired, we will miss the totality of our salvation. Jesus did not die to merely pay for our sins; He died so we could have a new life in communion with the Father through Him.

Jesus was telling His disciples that He would be leaving them.

John 16:19-20 19 Now Jesus knew that they desired to ask Him, and He said to them, "Are you inquiring among yourselves about what I said, 'A little while, and you will not see Me; and again a little while, and you will see Me'? 20 Most assuredly, I say to you that you will weep and lament, but the world will rejoice; and you will be sorrowful, but your sorrow will be turned into joy. NKJV

John 16:23-28 23 "And in that day you will ask Me nothing. Most assuredly, I say to you, **whatever you ask the Father in My name He will give you.** 24 Until now you have asked nothing in My name. Ask, and you will receive, **that your joy may be full.** 25 "These things I have spoken to you in figurative language; but the time is coming when I will no longer speak to you in figurative language, but I will tell you plainly **about the Father.** 26 **In that day you will ask in My name, and I do not say to you that I shall pray the Father for you; 27 for the Father Himself loves you, because you have loved Me, and have believed that I came forth from God.** 28 I came forth from the Father and have come into the world. Again, I leave the world and go to the Father." NKJV

We now have direct communication with the Father in Christ. We see the term "in Christ" 87 times in the New Testament. If we do not know what this means we will not live in the fellowship with

the Father that Jesus died to give us. Everything about our life comes from the Father. It is His breath that is in us. Let's look at what this is telling us.

## **What we see in this Chapter**

1. We were created in the image and likeness of God
2. God is a Spirit
3. We are a spirit being
4. Spiritual death is being separated from communion with God
5. Jesus died to reconcile us to the Father
6. When we are born again, the Spirit of the Son comes into us
7. We are back in Communion with God
8. We now have direct access to the Father



## Chapter 2 the Godhead 3 in 1

Many times, we are quick to say that no one can understand the Trinity. However, if we simply read the scripture with an open heart and mind, the Holy Spirit who the Father sent to teach us and the one who inspired the writings that we are reading will give us the ability to understand the mysteries of God.

One of my favorite verses in the Old Testament is Deut. 29:29, it says this: "The secret things belong to the Lord our God, but those things **which are revealed belong to us and to our children forever**, that we may do all the words of this law. NKJV

The apostle Paul tells us that we can achieve a full assurance of understanding of the knowledge of the mystery of God. What kind of a father would we have if He did not give us everything we need to know Him. Obviously, we will not understand everything about Him. But we can understand everything we need in this life to know Him. If we do not believe that, then we do not believe His Word.

2 Peter 1:2-4 2 Grace and peace be multiplied to **you in the knowledge of God and of Jesus our Lord, 3 as His divine power has given to us all things that pertain to life and godliness, through the knowledge of Him who called us by glory and virtue, 4** by which have been given to us exceedingly great and precious promises, that through these you may be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust. NKJV

Col 2:2-3 2 that their hearts may be encouraged, being knit together in love, and attaining to all riches of the **full assurance of understanding, to the knowledge of the mystery of God, both of the Father and of Christ, 3** in whom are hidden all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge. NKJV

1 Cor 2:7 But we speak the wisdom of God in a mystery, **the hidden wisdom which God ordained before the ages for our glory,...**

1 Cor 2:10-12 ...10 **But God has revealed them to us through His Spirit.** For the Spirit searches all things, yes, **the deep things of God.** 11 For what man knows the things of a man except the spirit of the man which

is in him? Even so no one knows the things of God except the Spirit of God. **12 Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit who is from God, that we might know the things that have been freely given to us by God.** NKJV

With that introduction let us go on to a better understanding of the Godhead (Trinity). If we truly want to know Him intimately then at some point, we have to stop believing all the things we have been told and start believing what He tells us in the scripture. The biggest hindrance we have to moving into the reality of the Spirit are half-truths. Most of which are based on an old covenant reality that no longer applies to us.

### **Rom 1:20-21**

20 For since the creation of the world His invisible attributes are **clearly seen**, being **understood** by the things that are made, **even His eternal power and Godhead**, so that they are without excuse, 21 because, although they knew God, they did not glorify Him as God, nor were thankful, but became futile in their thoughts, and their foolish hearts were darkened. NKJV

#### **Clearly Seen**

NT:2529 kathorao (kath-or-ah'-o); from NT:2596 and NT:3708; **to behold fully**, i.e. (figuratively) distinctly apprehend: KJV - clearly see.

#### **Understood**

NT:3539 noeo (no-eh'-o) or noieo (noy-eh'-o); from NT:3563; to exercise the mind (observe), i.e. (figuratively) **to comprehend**, heed: KJV - consider, perceive, think, understand.

#### **Godhead**

NT:2305 theiotes (thi-ot'-ace); from NT:2304; divinity (abstractly):KJV - godhead.

NT:2304 theios (thi'-os); from NT:2316; godlike (neuter as noun, divinity)KJV - divine, godhead.

NT:2316 theos (theh'-os); of uncertain affinity; a deity, especially (with NT:3588) the supreme Divinity; figuratively, a magistrate; by Hebraism, very: KJV - exceeding, God, god [-ly, -ward].

Now let's look at this passage again to see a few more things about what we are being told.

**Gen 1:26-28** 26 Then God said, "Let **\*Us** make man in Our image, according to Our likeness; let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth." 27 So God created man in His own image; in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them. NKJV

**\*Us** OT: 'elohiym (el-o-heem'); **plural** of OT:433; gods in the ordinary sense; but specifically used (in the plural thus, especially with the article) of the supreme God; occasionally applied by way of deference to magistrates; and sometimes as a superlative: KJV - angels, exceeding, God (gods)- dess, -ly), (very) great, judges, mighty.

## **God is 3 Persons in One. The Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit.**

Why does there seem to be so much confusion in the Church about this? I believe the reason is we do not look at each person of the Godhead by function. Yet their very revelation and relationship to us is by function and the way we interact with each person of the Godhead.

## **The Father Abba Papa**

The names of God show us who the **Father** is:

### **Elohim (God)**

First seen in [Genesis 1:1](#) – Used 2599 times in the Bible

This is the very first name given to God found in the very first verse of Genesis. This name shows that God is the majestic ruler over all.

Elohim is actually a plural word and its use as the first name of God and sets him high above all other gods. It also foreshadows the later revelation of the triune Godhead – Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

### **Yahweh (Lord, Jehovah)**

First seen in [Genesis 2:4](#) – Used 6519 times in the Bible

Yahweh is the promised proper name of God. It means *Lord and Master*. By Jewish tradition this name is too holy to pronounce or write. Therefore they just wrote four letters without any vowels: YHWH.

## El Elyon (The Most High God)

First seen in [Genesis 14:18](#) – Used 52 times in the Bible (sometimes without El, simply as Elyon)

El is likely related to the word Elohim and is used in conjunction with other descriptive words to specifically reference a particular characteristic of God. Elyon means highest or most high.

## Adonai (Lord, Master)

First seen in [Genesis 15:2](#) – Used 434 times in the Bible

Because the Jews have a tradition of not pronouncing nor spelling out the promised proper name of God they often would use Adonai instead of YHWH. Adonai means *Lord, Master, or Owner*. This name emphasizes that God is in charge of his creation and his people, Lord of lords.

## El Shaddai (Lord God Almighty)

First seen in [Genesis 17:1](#) – Used 48 times in the Bible (sometimes without El, simply as Shaddai)

El is likely related to the word Elohim and is used in conjunction with other descriptive words to specifically reference a particular characteristic of God. Shaddai derives from the word for a woman's breast (*shad*) and literally means "many breasted one." This denotes God as provider, supplying, nourishing, and satisfying his people with their needs as a mother would her child. God our sustainer.

## El Olam (The Everlasting God)

First seen in [Genesis 21:33](#) – Used 439 times in the Bible

Used together El Olam means *The Everlasting God*. He exists beyond time and space.

## **Jehovah Jireh (The LORD Will Provide)**

Only occurs once in [Genesis 22:14](#)

Jehovah is actually YHWH (see Yahweh above) and means Lord and Master. It is the promised and proper name of God. Jireh means to see or provide.

## **Jehovah Rapha (The LORD Who Heals You)**

Occurs only once in [Exodus 15:26](#)

Jehovah is actually YHWH (see Yahweh above) and means Lord and Master. It is the promised and proper name of God. Rapha means to heal or make healthful. Together Jehovah Rapha means *The LORD Who Heals You*. God is the Great Physician who heals his people.

## **Jehovah Nissi (The LORD Is My Banner)**

Occurs only once in [Exodus 17:15](#)

Nissi means flag or banner so together Jehovah Nissi means *The LORD Is My Banner*. God himself is our banner and victory. He gives us hope and a focus, and is the one who wins our battles.

## **El Qanna (Jealous God)**

First seen in [Exodus 20:5](#) – Used 6 times in the Bible

Used together El Qanna means *Jealous God*. God's jealousy is a holy, loving jealousy without any of the insecure manipulation or control that comes packaged with worldly jealousy. It draws from the marriage relationship with a picture of a husband jealous for his wife.

## **Jehovah Mekoddishkem (The LORD Who Sanctifies You)**

First seen in [Exodus 31:13](#) (Only other occurrence is in [Leviticus 20:8](#))

Mekoddishkem means holy or set apart. It is the process of sanctification, which is the separation of something so that it is holy. Used together Jehovah Mekoddishkem (can have the variant spelling Jehovah M'Kaddesh) means *The LORD Who Sanctifies You*. God sets us

apart as his children when we become believers. He sanctifies us and makes us holy because we are incapable of it on our own.

## **Jehovah Shalom (The LORD Is Peace)**

Occurs only once in [Judges 6:24](#)

Shalom means peace, absence of strife, complete, or sound. Used together Jehovah Shalom means *The LORD Is Peace*. When it seems like the whole world is against you or that you are completely unable to deal with whatever problem is in front of you, turn to the God of peace to find comfort and strength.

## **Jehovah Sabaoth (The LORD of Hosts)**

First seen in [1 Samuel 1:3](#) – Used in the Bible more than 285 times Sabaoth means an army going out to war. Used together Jehovah Sabaoth means *The LORD of Armies* or *The LORD of Hosts*. The Lord reigns over a vast well ordered host in the heavenlies. God is always there to defend us, fight our battles, and win our wars. There is no enemy he cannot defeat.

## **Jehovah Raah (The LORD Is My Shepherd)**

Occurs once in [Psalms 23:1](#). (Raah is also used in reference to God in [Genesis 48:15](#), [Genesis 49:24](#), and [Psalm 80:1](#))

Raah means to shepherd or feed, to supply with food, and to be a good friend. Jehovah Raah means *The LORD Is My Shepherd*. God is a friend who provides extravagant nourishment, protection, as well as rest for our weary bodies and souls.

## **Jehovah Tsidkenu (The LORD Our Righteousness)**

First seen in [Jeremiah 23:6](#) – Only other occurrence is in [Jeremiah 33:16](#)

Tsidkenu means justice, rightness, righteousness, deliverance, victory, and prosperity. Used together Jehovah Tsidkenu means *The LORD Who Is Our Righteousness*. God himself stands for us and provides us with His righteousness and justice when we don't have any in ourselves. He is the one who provides victory and our prosperity.

## Jehovah Shammah (The LORD Is There)

Occurs only once in [Ezekiel 48:35](#)

Shammah is an adverb that simply means *there*, although when it's used in relation to time it means *then*. Together Jehovah Shammah means *The LORD is There*. God revealed this name at a time when Israel was in rebellion and in captivity. God was letting the Jews know that he had not forsaken them and that he was still there, both in their present as well as in their future. Regardless of what you are going through, or what you are heading into, you can take comfort knowing that God is already there.

Moses' greatest desire was to see the Fathers glory.

Ex 33:17-20 17 So the Lord said to Moses, "I will also do this thing that you have spoken; for you have found grace in My sight, **and I know you by name.**" 18 And he said, "**Please, show me Your glory.**" 19 Then He said, "**I will make all My goodness pass before you, and I will proclaim the name of the Lord before you.** I will be gracious to whom I will be gracious, and I will have compassion on whom I will have compassion." 20 But He said, "You cannot see My face; for no man shall see Me, and live. NKJV

The Fathers glory is revealed in His name, all His goodness is in His name. He is the same yesterday, today and forever! Do you know Him by Name? Which parts of His glory do you need to know today? It is in His Name that is who He is.

**Jesus showed us the Father by revealing every one of these Names to us in what He did in His earthly ministry and as our representative. He was the full expression of the Father to us.**

The Godhead is seen in this passage by function:

**1 Cor 12:1-6**

12 Now concerning **\*spiritual gifts**, brethren, I do not want you to be ignorant: 2 You know that you were Gentiles, carried away to these dumb idols, however you were led. 3 Therefore I make known to you

that no one speaking by the Spirit of God calls Jesus accursed, and no one can say that Jesus is Lord except by the Holy Spirit. 4 There are diversities of **gifts, but the same Spirit**. 5 There are differences of **ministries, but the same Lord**. 6 And there are diversities of **activities**, but it is **the same God who works** all in all. NKJV

\*NT:4152 **Spiritual** pneumatikos (pnyoo-mat-ik-os'); from NT:\*4151; **non-carnal**, i.e. (humanly) ethereal (as opposed to gross), or (daemoniacally) a spirit (concretely), or (**divinely**) **supernatural**, regenerate, religious: KJV - spiritual. Compare NT:5591.

NT:\*4151 Spirit pneuma (pnyoo'-mah); from NT:4154; a current of air, i.e. breath (blast) or a breeze; by analogy or figuratively, a spirit, i.e. (human) the rational soul, (by implication) vital principle, mental disposition, etc., or (superhuman) an angel, demon, or (divine) God, Christ's spirit, the Holy Spirit:

KJV - ghost, life, spirit (-ual, -ually), mind.

In this verse Paul is talking about the Spirit realm and the things concerning the operation of Spiritual things. He points out **three distinct operating points and who is the one at work**.

1. The Gifts are given by the Holy Spirit to equip and empower the body. (1Cor 12:7-11)
2. The ministry is administered by the Lord Jesus (He is the head of the body).(Eph. 4:7-16)
3. Yet the work or activities are still and have always been the Fathers work. It is the Father who dictated the work/activities that are happening. We are all doing the Fathers work of redeeming mankind. (John 5:19, 9:4, 10:38, 14:10)

We see this clearly in the ministry of Jesus. He told us that He was doing **the Fathers works**:

John 5:20-21 For **the Father** loves the Son, and **shows Him all things that He Himself does**; and He will show Him greater works than these, that you may marvel. NKJV

John 9:4 I must work **the works of Him who sent Me** while it is day; the night is coming when no one can work. NKJV



John 14:10 Do you not believe that I am in the Father, and the Father in Me? The words that I speak to you I do not speak on My own authority; but **the Father who dwells in Me does the works.** NKJV

From these passages we clearly see that all of creation and everything that God has done since creation are **the works of the Father, carried out by the Son, through the power of the Holy Spirit.**

The ministry is Christ's, He is the head of the body. We see this clearly in the following passage:

Eph 4:7-13 7 But to each one of us **grace was given according to the measure of Christ's gift.** 8 Therefore He says:

"When He ascended on high, He led captivity captive, And gave gifts to men."

9 (Now this, "He ascended" — what does it mean but that He also first descended into the lower parts of the earth? 10 He who descended is also the One who ascended far above all the heavens, that He might fill all things.) 11 And **He Himself gave** some to be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, and some pastors and teachers, 12 for the equipping of the saints **for the work of ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ,** NKJV

We also see that the Holy Spirit is the one who gives us the gifts and power to show the kingdom:

Acts 1:4-6 4 And being assembled together with them, He commanded them not to depart from Jerusalem, but to wait for the Promise of the Father, "which," He said, "you have heard from Me; 5 for John truly baptized with water, but you shall be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now."

Acts 1:8

8 But **you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you;** and you shall be witnesses to Me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth." NKJV

1 Cor 12:7-11

But the manifestation of the Spirit is given to each one for the profit of all: 8 for to one is given the word of wisdom through the Spirit, to

another the word of knowledge through the same Spirit, 9 to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healings by the same Spirit, 10 to another the working of miracles, to another prophecy, to another discerning of spirits, to another different kinds of tongues, to another the interpretation of tongues. 11 **But one and the same Spirit works all these things, distributing to each one individually as He wills.** NKJV

We also know that Jesus did no miracles until the Holy Spirit came **upon** Him.

Let's take a look now at the Son of God.

## The Son of God Christ Jesus

Luke 3:21-22 When all the people were baptized, it came to pass that Jesus also was baptized; and while He prayed, the heaven was opened. 22 **And the Holy Spirit descended in bodily form like a dove upon Him,** and a voice came from heaven which said, "You are My beloved Son; in You I am well pleased."

Luke 4:1-2 Then Jesus, being **\*filled with the Holy Spirit**, returned from the Jordan and was **led by the Spirit** into the wilderness, 2 being tempted for forty days by the devil. And in those days He ate nothing, and afterward, when they had ended, He was hungry. NKJV  
**\* Filled** NT:4134 pleres (play'-race); from NT:4130; replete, **or covered over**; by analogy, complete:  
KJV - full.

Here we see that the Holy Spirit came upon Jesus, He was covered over or anointed with the Holy Spirit. We see confirmation of this in Acts 10:38: how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power, who went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with Him. NKJV

Luke 4:14-21 Then Jesus **returned in the power of the Spirit** to Galilee, and news of Him went out through all the surrounding region. 15 And He taught in their synagogues, being glorified by all.

16 So He came to Nazareth, where He had been brought up. And as His custom was, He went into the synagogue on the Sabbath day, and stood up to read. 17 And He was handed the book of the prophet Isaiah. And when He had opened the book, He found the place where it was written:

18 "The Spirit of the Lord **is upon Me**, Because He has **anointed Me** To preach the gospel to the poor;

He has sent Me to heal the brokenhearted, To proclaim liberty to the captives And recovery of sight to the blind, To set at liberty those who are oppressed; 19 To proclaim the acceptable year of the Lord."

20 Then He closed the book, and gave it back to the attendant and sat down. And the eyes of all who were in the synagogue were fixed on Him. 21 And He began to say to them, "**Today this Scripture is fulfilled in your hearing.**" NKJV

**The Ministry is the Lords but the activity or what was happening was from the Father.** Just as Jesus only did what He saw the Father doing we are to continue the same ministry that Jesus had.

2 Cor 5:18-21

18 Now all things are of God, who has reconciled us to Himself through Jesus Christ, and **has given us the ministry of reconciliation**, 19 that is, that **God was in Christ reconciling the world to Himself**, not imputing their trespasses to them, and has committed to us **the word of reconciliation**.

20 Now then, we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God were pleading through us: we implore you on Christ's behalf, be reconciled to God. NKJV

Acts 20:24

24 But none of these things move me; nor do I count my life dear to myself, so that I may finish my race with joy, and **the ministry which I received from the Lord Jesus**, to testify to the gospel of the grace of God. NKJV

**We were all placed into the Spiritual Body of Christ by the Holy Spirit when we were born again.** This is an important concept to understand.

Jesus knew that His life was in a spiritual realm. He said that He was in the Father and the Father was in Him. This is a hard reality for us to understand if we try to grasp it with our natural reasoning. However, when we realize the absolute limitlessness of the Spirit realm we can enter into this reality by faith. Just as the New Testament tells us over and over again our life is in Christ. The only true life we have is spiritual life, it is eternal. Without Christ we are the living dead. We have a body but there is no true life in it. This doesn't mean that we ignore our bodies, just they are not the source of life. The Spirit realm exists outside of time and space. There is literally no distance in the Spirit realm. We see in scripture that God exists in all places at one time. The closest thing we know of that can exemplify this is the air that surrounds our planet. Air covers the entire face of the earth all at once. Just as the oceans cover the majority of our planet and have been given different names, it is the same body of water that touches all the shores it comes in contact with.

1 Cor 12:12-14 For as the body is one and has many members, but all the members of that one body, being many, are one body, so **also is Christ**. 13 For **by one Spirit we were all \*baptized into one body** — whether Jews or Greeks, whether slaves or free — and have all been **made to drink into one Spirit**. 14 For in fact the body is not one member but many. NKJV

\*Baptized NT:906 baptizo (bap-tid'-zo); from a derivative of NT:911; **to immerse, submerge**; to make overwhelmed (i.e., fully wet); used only (in the N. T.) of ceremonial ablution, especially (technically) of the ordinance of Christian baptism: KJV - Baptist, baptize, wash.

Many think the use of the term the body of Christ is metaphorical. Simply a way to picture something that is not real. But, is it metaphorical? Or, is it mystical? Or, is it Spiritual?

The things of the Spirit are not naturally discerned, they are spiritually discerned. We have to grasp the reality that the spiritual realm is the eternal realm and that the natural realm we physically live in is not. As always, we find our answers in the scripture: **2 Cor 4:18** while we do not look at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen.

For the things which are seen are temporary, but the things which are not seen are eternal. NKJV

We have to look to the eternal to see the reality of a spiritual body that exists in that realm. When we were born again, we were literally translated in the spirit realm By the Holy Spirit into the eternal body of Christ. We became members of a Holy Priesthood and became a part of the temple of God, the place where He lives. We are individually a temple of God because Christ is in us. We are also a corporate temple when we come together:

1 Peter 2:4-6 4 Coming to Him as to a living stone, rejected indeed by men, but chosen by God and precious, 5 you also, as living stones, **are being built up a spiritual house**, a holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. NKJV

When we deny the reality of the things that exist in the spiritual realm, we cut ourselves off from walking in that reality. Faith is **the substance** of things hoped for; **it is the evidence of things not seen. (Heb 11:1)**  
**The only way we walk in that reality is by Faith.**

That was the easy part. Now we need to understand why we are also the physical body of Christ on the earth.

The first thing we need to see is the two elements of who Jesus Christ was.

Jesus most often referred to Himself as the Son of Man, we see that, 87 times in the New Testament this term is used. It was only by revelation from the Father that He was recognized as the Son of God. Jesus only used this term 5 times in the gospels. I am not saying that He was not God in the flesh, so please continue reading.

Let's start at the beginning of His journey here on earth.

### **Mary's visitation from Gabriel**

Luke 1:26-38

26 Now in the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a city of Galilee named Nazareth, 27 to a virgin betrothed to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. 28 And having come in, the angel said to her, "Rejoice, highly favored one, the Lord is with you; blessed are you among women!"

29 But when she saw him, she was troubled at his saying, and considered what manner of greeting this was. 30 Then the angel said to

her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. 31 And behold, **you will conceive in your womb and bring forth a Son, and shall call His name Jesus**. 32 He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Highest; and the Lord God will give Him the throne of His father David. 33 And He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of His kingdom there will be no end."

34 Then Mary said to the angel, "How can this be, since I do not know a man?"

35 And the angel answered and said to her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Highest will overshadow you; therefore, also, that **Holy One who is to be born will be called the Son of God**. 36 Now indeed, Elizabeth your relative has also conceived a son in her old age; and this is now the sixth month for her who was called barren. 37 For with God nothing will be impossible."

38 Then Mary said, "Behold the maidservant of the Lord! Let it be to me according to your word." And the angel departed from her. NKJV

#### **Joseph received a heavenly visitation**

Matt 1:18-21 18 Now the birth of Jesus Christ was as follows: After His mother Mary was betrothed to Joseph, before they came together, she was found with child of the Holy Spirit. 19 Then Joseph her husband, being a just man, and not wanting to make her a public example, was minded to put her away secretly. 20 But while he thought about these things, behold, **an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, "Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take to you Mary your wife, for that which is conceived in her is of the Holy Spirit. 21 And she will bring forth a Son, and you shall call His name Jesus, for He will save His people from their sins."** NKJV

This was the earthly side of the story. Jesus was announced by the angel Gabriel. He told Mary she would have a son and **he told her** what to name him. Now let's take a look at the spiritual side of what was required for Christ to become a man.

**Isa 9:6** 6 For unto us a **Child is born**, Unto us a **Son is given**; And the government will be upon His shoulder. And His name will be called Wonderful, Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. NKJV

This verse depicts what was to happen as **the Father Gave** His only begotten Son who was **born as a man, a child**. Here we see heaven and earth being united in the birth of Jesus Christ.

**Phil 2:5-9** 5 Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus, 6 who, being in the form of God, did not consider it robbery to be equal with God, 7 but **\*made Himself \*of no reputation**, taking the form of a bondservant, and coming in the **likeness of \*men**. 8 And being found in appearance as a **\*man**, He humbled Himself and became obedient to the point of death, even the death of the cross. NKJV

**\*Made** NT:1096 ginomai (ghin'-om-ahee); a prolongation and middle voice form of a primary verb; **to cause to be** ("gen"-erate), i.e. (reflexively) **to become** (come into being), used with great latitude (literal, figurative, intensive, etc.): KJV - arise, be assembled, be (-come, -fall, -haveself), be brought (to pass), (be) come (to pass), continue, be divided, draw, be ended, fall, be finished, follow, be found,

**\*Of No Reputation** NT:2758 kenoo (ken-o'-o); from NT:2756; **to make empty**, i.e. (figuratively) to abase, neutralize, falsify: KJV - make (of none effect, of no reputation, void), be in vain.

**\*Men, Man** NT:444 anthropos (anth'-ro-pos); from NT:435 and ops (the countenance; from NT:3700); man-faced, i.e. **a human being**: KJV - certain, man.

Christ had to give up something before the world was in order to show the Father to mankind. It would be enough to know all that the Son of God suffered as a man to redeem us and show how much the Father loves and values us. Yet the price He paid started before the world was even created. Oh, how He loves us to pay such a price for you and me to have a relationship with the Father.

John 17:5 And now, O Father, glorify Me together with Yourself, **with the glory which I had with You before the world was**. NKJV

Rev 13:8 All who dwell on the earth will worship him, whose names have not been written in the Book of Life of **the Lamb slain from the foundation of the world**. NKJV

When Moses cried out to see the Glory of God, he received this response from the Father: Ex 33:20-22

20 But He said, "You cannot see My face; **for no man shall see Me, and live.**" 21 And the Lord said, "Here is a place by Me, and you shall **stand on the rock**. 22 So it shall be, while My glory passes by, that I will put you in the cleft of the rock, and will cover you with My hand while I pass by. NKJV

One of the things that had to happen for Christ to become a man was His laying down the glory He had with the Father. If He had not done that, we would not have been able to look at Him and live.

Without fully embracing this spiritual reality we would not be able to do what Jesus said we would do. He was the perfect example of what we are capable of doing as a new creation created in Christ.

John 14:12-14 12 "Most assuredly, I say to you, he who believes in Me, **the works that I do he will do also**; and greater works than these he will do, because I go to My Father. 13 And whatever you ask in My name, that I will do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son. 14 If you ask anything in My name, I will do it. NKJV

The only path that leads to doing the same works and greater works than Jesus did is found in fully embracing the one who lives in you. Christ in you, anointed by the Holy Spirit has the same ability that Jesus had when He walked on the earth. Remember, **He gave us His authority. We have His Spirit and the same Holy Spirit comes upon us that was on Him.**

An important piece of this puzzle is to understand that Jesus, the son of man, the fleshly body that was formed in Mary's womb was born a man. He **was given the name Jesus**, just as the angel had instructed Mary and Joseph to name Him. Before He was born as a man, Jesus the man did not exist. During this Immaculate Conception the Spirit of the eternal Son of God, **Christ**, entered into this fleshly body. When He was



born, He was a man with the Spirit of Christ living in Him. He had every natural need that any baby would have. He grew in favor with God and man as a Jewish boy under the old covenant. He learned obedience by the things he suffered. If Jesus Christ was living as God when He walked the earth, then these verses would not apply to Him:

Heb 5:7-9 **7 who, in the days of His flesh, when He had offered up prayers and supplications, with vehement cries and tears to Him who was able to save Him from death, and was heard because of His godly fear, 8 though He was a Son, yet He learned obedience by the things which He suffered. 9 And having been perfected, He became the author of eternal salvation to all who obey Him NKJV**

Would God need to learn obedience? Can God be perfected? No, but Jesus the son of man was. Just as Adam represented all of humankind when he sinned; so also, Jesus the last Adam also represented all of humankind, and everyone that receives Him as Lord and Savior becomes this new kind of human.

Phil 2:8-11

**8 And being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself and became obedient to the point of death, even the death of the cross. 9 Therefore God also has highly exalted Him and given Him the name which is above every name, 10 that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of those in heaven, and of those on earth, and of those under the earth, 11 and that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father. NKJV**

Any time you see the word therefore, we need to ask ourselves what is it there for? The reason the Father gave Him the name above every name is because He completed the Father's work and became the perfect sacrifice to pay for our sins and redeem us to the Father. He was **tempted in every way** just as we are, yet without sin (Heb 4:15). If He was living as God and not a man, He could not be tempted in the same way we are.

This is the climax of the gospel! The fact that Christ the eternal Son of God became Jesus and lived as a man with the Spirit of Christ in Him

who did no miracles until the Holy Spirit came upon Him, shows us that we can do the same works as He did. The reason Jesus died was to give us full access to the Father.

**Gal 4:4-7** 4 But when the fullness of the time had come, God sent forth His Son, born of a woman, born under the law, 5 to redeem those who were under the law, that we might receive **the adoption as sons**.

6 And **because you are sons, God has sent forth the Spirit of His Son into your hearts**, crying out, "**Abba, Father!**" 7 Therefore you are no longer a slave but a son, and if a son, then an heir of God through **Christ**. NKJV

**Rom 8:9-11** 9 But you are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if indeed the Spirit of God dwells in you. **Now if anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ**, he is not His. 10 **And if Christ is in you**, the body is dead because of sin, but the Spirit is life because of righteousness. 11 But if the Spirit of Him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, He who raised Christ from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through His Spirit who dwells in you. NKJV

What these 2 passages clearly show us is that when we are born again the **Spirit of Christ who is the Son of God, becomes one with our spirit**. In Romans 8:9 some people get confused over what spirit is being referred to here. One thing we have to keep in mind is that all 3 persons of the Godhead are God. The Spirit of Christ is God, The Father who is Spirit is God, and the Holy Spirit is God. So, what we need to receive from this passage is what is **clearly** said, and that it is in reference to **the Spirit of Christ**. We also see this by comparing it to Galatians 4:4-7 above. Paul is referencing the spirit of adoption that makes us a son. Let's look at verse 11 where it says the Spirit of Him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you: This act of resurrection was a combined action of all 3 persons of the godhead.

**Christ the Son said this:**

John 10:17-18 17 "Therefore My Father loves Me, because **I lay down My life that I may take it again**. 18 No one takes 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 command I have received from My Father." NKJV

### **Paul tells us that God the Father raised Him:**

Gal 1:1 Paul, an apostle (not from men nor through man, but through Jesus Christ **and God the Father who raised Him from the dead**), NKJV

This passage tells us indirectly that the Holy Spirit who is the Dunimus power of God was what the Father used to raise Christ from the dead.

Eph 1:19-21

19 and what is the exceeding greatness of **His power** toward us who believe, **according to the working of His mighty power** 20 **which He worked in Christ when He raised Him from the dead** and seated Him at His right hand in the heavenly places, NKJV

Rom 8:11 also finishes with the implication that life will come from His Spirit who dwells in you, which he just clearly told us was the Spirit of Christ. The reason it is important for us to see this distinction is so we will have full confidence in the reality that we are on the same playing field that Jesus was when He walked on this earth. We have **the SAME Spirit** in us that He did; we also have the same Holy Spirit to be upon us to anoint us with power to do the works that Jesus did. Without full confidence in the finished work of Christ we will not operate in the same level of faith that He did. That is what He made available to us. He gave us a measure of Faith when we were saved. See Eph. 2:8,9 and Rom. 12:3. If He gave us our Faith and He is the author and finisher of our Faith (Heb. 12:2), then the Faith we have is His Faith. We too often think that Faith is something we have to work up. When in reality it is a gift, He gave us to use to see the realities of the spiritual realm. We need to see ourselves the way He sees us.

Rom 8:15-17 15 For you did not receive the spirit of bondage again to fear, but you **received the Spirit of adoption by whom we cry out, "Abba, Father."** 16 **The Spirit Himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God,** 17 and if children, then heirs — **heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ,** if indeed we suffer with Him, that we may also be glorified together. NKJV

**We must always look at the context of what is being said to embrace what the Spiritual reality is.**

I think Paul said it very well when he said this to the Corinthians: 1 Cor 6:17 But he who is joined to the Lord **is one spirit with Him**. NKJV  
**This is what Jesus prayed for in John 17:** John 17:20-23 20 "I do not pray for these alone, but also for those who will believe in Me through their word; 21 that they all **may be one, as You, Father, are in Me, and I in You; that they also may be one in Us, that the world may believe that You sent Me.** 22 And the glory which You gave Me I have given them, **that they may be one just as We are one: 23 I in them, and You in Me;** that they may be made perfect in one, and **that the world may know** that You have sent Me, **and have loved them as You have loved Me**. NKJV

Our only access to the Father is in Christ. Christ is IN us and the Father is IN Him. This is an interesting picture that Jesus gives us. We can look at this several ways. The first thing we see is that Jesus is our High Priest and our intercessor. He represents us to the Father in all things. He is the one that stands as an intermediator between us and the Father. But, even more than that, the Father actually sees us in Christ. We are in Him in the Spirit. We were baptized into Him. The second way to look at this is that Christ as the eternal Son of God fully carries the DNA of the Father. We as those who are born again by the Spirit of Christ, the Spirit of sonship, carry His DNA.

The very thing that will convince the WORLD that Jesus came seems to be the greatest Spiritual Reality that very few Christians will believe. Why? I will go into this more in Chapter 4.

John 4:13-14 13 Jesus answered and said to her, "Whoever drinks of this water will thirst again, 14 but whoever drinks of the water that I shall give him will never thirst. But the water that I shall give him will become **in him** a fountain of water springing up into everlasting life." NKJV

**Jesus told the woman at the well what this drink is, it is the water of eternal life, His Spirit in us.**

We must understand that we do not have 2 spirits in us. If we look under the spiritual microscope, we do not see the Spirit of Christ and our own spirit in our bodies. There is only 1 spirit in us and it is the Spirit of Christ. We have become one with Him the same way He and the Father are one. I look at it this way, if you take a glass of water and pour

it into the ocean, you cannot tell the difference between the water that was in the glass and the ocean. So also, we have become one Spirit with Christ. You cannot separate our spirit from His. My life verse has become Galatians 2:20-21 I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; **yet not I, but Christ liveth in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God**, who loved me, and gave himself for me. **21 I do not frustrate the grace of God:** for if righteousness come by the law, then Christ is dead in vain. KJV

Are you trying to work your way into a spiritual reality that the Father gave us by His Grace? If so, you are frustrating the grace of God. We need to awaken to the reality of the Spirit! Let this revelation come to you by agreeing with the Grace of God and believing and speaking over you what the Father declares over you. You are His beloved Son/Daughter in whom He is well pleased, not because you do everything right, but because His Son, Christ lives in you! Let His grace overwhelm you and you will begin to walk in the Spirit in a new way that reveals the Father's love to everyone you encounter.

This was the Apostle Paul's passion, to see Christ formed in every believer. That is the reason he separated himself before he started his ministry.

**Gal 1:15-17** 15 But when it pleased God, who separated me from my mother's womb and called me **through His grace**, 16 **to reveal His Son in me**, that I might preach Him among the Gentiles, I did not immediately confer with flesh and blood, 17 nor did I go up to Jerusalem to those who were apostles before me; but I went to Arabia, and returned again to Damascus. NKJV

**Gal 4:19** My little children, for whom I labor in birth again **until Christ is \*formed in you**, NKJV

\***Formed** NT:3445 morphoo (mor-fo'-o); from the same as **NT:3444; to fashion** (figuratively): KJV - form.

**NT:3444** morphe (mor-fay'); perhaps from the base of NT:3313 (through the idea of adjustment of parts); shape; figuratively, **nature**: KJV - form.

This is the same Greek root word that Paul used in Rom. 12:2 where he said we would be transformed by the renewing of our mind. The same way a caterpillar becomes a butterfly through metamorphosis. Once it becomes a butterfly it will never be a caterpillar again, it will no longer crawl on its belly, it will soar to the heavens. This is what we became when we were born again:

2 Cor 5:17-18 17 Therefore, if anyone is **in Christ**, he is a **new creation**; old things have passed away; behold, **all things have become new**. NKJV

This is a spiritual reality! We are literally a new species of being. We are no longer an earthly creature; we are NOW a Heavenly being. If you do not believe that, you are denying the very reason that Jesus died. His death atoned for our sin, but His resurrection released a whole new species of beings. He is the Firstborn among many brethren. Now I don't know about you, but in my family, I have two brothers and when we were born into our natural family, we all had similar DNA and looked similar. We were all natural beings of flesh and bone. Yet when we are born into our Heavenly spiritual family, we do not realize that the same thing happened. We now have a Heavenly DNA that matches our older brother, Jesus. Depending on which mind (natural or spiritual) we choose to interpret this reality through will determine how it affects our lives. Our natural mind will only look at the flesh and see our imperfections and live according to our natural limitations. Our spiritual mind will interpret this correctly and live according to the eternal reality of who we are in Christ with no limitations. All things are possible with God! Our Father does not deal with us according to our natural history, He only sees our true spiritual Destiny!

**All ministry comes from Jesus, He is the head of the body.**

Eph 4:11-13 And **He (Jesus) Himself gave** some to be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, and some pastors and teachers, 12 for the **equipping of the saints for the work of ministry**, for the edifying of the body of Christ, NKJV

Eph 4:15-16 ...speaking the truth in love, may grow up in all things into Him who is **the head — Christ** — 16 from whom the whole body, joined and knit together by what every joint supplies, according to the

effective working by which every part does its share, **causes growth of the body for the edifying of itself in love.**

Col 1:18 And He is the head of the body, the church, who is the beginning, **the firstborn** from the dead, that in all things He may have the preeminence. NKJV

**Just as Jesus declared He was in the Father so now we are in Him.**

Col 2:9-10 For in Him dwells all the fullness of the Godhead bodily; 10 and **you are complete in Him**, who is the head of all principality and power. NKJV

Col 3:1-4 If then you were raised with Christ, **seek those things which are above**, where Christ is, sitting at the right hand of God. 2 **Set your mind on things above**, not on things on the earth. 3 For you died, and **your life is hidden with Christ in God.** NKJV

We will walk in the fullness of Christ to the same extent that we acknowledge the eternal realities of who we are in Christ instead of living in the temporal realities of the earth.

We are citizens of a heavenly kingdom and no longer restrained by the things on this earth. Yet all too often we defer our spiritual birth right to merely existing in the natural realm.

Philemon 4-6 4 I thank my God, making mention of you always in my prayers, 5 hearing of your love and faith which you have toward the Lord Jesus and toward all the saints, 6 that the sharing of your faith **may become effective by the acknowledgment of every good thing which is in you in Christ Jesus.** NKJV

What do you acknowledge in your life? The weaknesses you see in yourself as a son of man? Or the eternal reality of every good thing that is IN YOU IN Christ Jesus? We only move toward the things we see. If we want to live in the Spiritual realities of everything that Christ died to give us, we must set our sight on them. We need to quite looking at our natural circumstances and start seeing heavens provision.

Eph 1:3-4 3 Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with **every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places in Christ**, 4 just as **He chose us in Him** before the foundation of the world... NKJV

Eph 5:30-33 30 **For we are members of His body, of His flesh and of His bones.** 31 "For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh." 32 This is a great mystery, but I speak concerning Christ and the church. 33 Nevertheless let each one of you in particular so love his own wife as himself, and let the wife see that she respects her husband. NKJV

You see your body is the body of the Spirit that is in it. Who is the Spirit that is in our bodies? It is the Spirit of Christ. Therefore, we are the physical body of Christ in the earth. Yes, this is a mystical union that is only embraced by the spiritual reality of what the Father has done in joining our spirit with the Spirit of Christ. Just as Paul used the reference to a man and a woman becoming one flesh in the bond of marriage so we have been joined to Christ and have become one flesh with Him. Do we have the natural ability to understand the union between a man and his wife? I don't. This is a spiritual reality that we must believe by faith that through the grace of God we are His flesh and bones. When we touch someone, God is touching them through His Son who now lives in us.

Just as the devil tempted Christ in the wilderness about His identity, he works continually to get us to deny the full reality of who we are in Christ. We must overcome the temptations of the flesh that were alive in our carnal nature by living in the Spirit. We do not overcome by trying to kill something that is already dead. It is only when we identify with the death, burial and resurrection of Christ that we overcome. We died with Him! We inherited His death when His Spirit became one with our spirit. The old man is dead and we are raised up a new man. A Christ man, Christian, one who is like Christ.

We see an example of this process in nature. When a snake grows it comes to a point in its life when it sheds its skin. It doesn't try to repair the old skin that is decaying; the new skin that has grown on the inside of the old simply pushes off the old and it falls away. That is the Fathers



desire for us. We are to live according to our new nature in Christ. If we will do that it will break through and push off the old dead nature that we used to live in. We become what we behold, if we keep our eyes on Christ then He will become our life.

## The Names of Christ

Just as the Father has many names that help us understand all that He is, so Christ does as well. Keep in mind that the Father, Son and Holy Spirit are all that we saw in the Names of the Father. All 3 are all of those things. Yet the additional names that the Son and Holy Spirit have help us identify them in their function in the godhead.

### 50 Names and Titles of Jesus:

- 1. Almighty One** – *“...who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty.” Rev. 1:8*
- 2. Alpha and Omega** – *“I am the Alpha and the Omega, the First and the Last, the Beginning and the End.” Rev. 22:13*
- 3. Advocate** – *“My dear children, I write this to you so that you will not sin. But if anybody does sin, we have an advocate with the Father--Jesus Christ, the Righteous One.” 1 John 2:1*
- 4. Author and Perfector of Our Faith** – *“Fixing our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of faith, who for the joy set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.” Heb. 12:2*
- 5. Authority** – *“Jesus said, ‘All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me.’ Matt. 28:18*

**6. Bread of Life** – *“Then Jesus declared, ‘I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never go hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty.’” John 6:35*

**7. Beloved Son of God** – *“And behold, a voice from heaven said, “This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased.” Matt. 3:17*

**8. Bridegroom** – *“And Jesus said to them, “Can the wedding guests mourn as long as the bridegroom is with them? The days will come when the bridegroom is taken away from them, and then they will fast.” Matt. 9:15*

**9. Chief Cornerstone** – *“The stone which the builders rejected has become the chief corner stone.” Ps. 118:22*

**10. Deliverer** – *“And to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead, Jesus who delivers us from the wrath to come.” 1 Thess.1:10*

**11. Faithful and True** – *“I saw heaven standing open and there before me was a white horse, whose rider is called Faithful and True. With justice he judges and wages war.” Rev.19:11*

**12. Good Shepherd** - *“I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep.” John 10:11*

**13. Great High Priest** – *“Therefore, since we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold fast our confession.” Heb. 4:14*

**14. Head of the Church** – *“And he put all things under his feet and gave him as head over all things to the church.” Eph. 1:22*

**15. Holy Servant** – *“...and grant that Your bond-servants may speak Your word with all confidence, while You extend Your hand to heal, and*

*signs and wonders take place through the name of Your holy servant Jesus." Acts 4:29-30*

**16. I Am** – *"Jesus said to them, "Truly, truly, I say to you, before Abraham was, I am." John 8:58*

**17. Immanuel** – *"...She will give birth to a son and will call him Immanuel, which means 'God with us.'" Is. 7:14*

**18. Indescribable Gift** – *"Thanks be to God for His indescribable gift." 2 Cor. 9:15*

**19. Judge** – *"...he is the one whom God appointed as judge of the living and the dead." Acts 10:42*

**20. King of Kings** – *"These will wage war against the Lamb, and the Lamb will overcome them, because He is Lord of lords and King of kings, and those who are with Him are the called and chosen and faithful." Rev. 17:14*

**21. Lamb of God** – *"The next day John saw Jesus coming toward him and said, "Look, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world!" John 1:29*

**22. Light of the World** – *"I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life." John 8:12*

**23. Lion of the Tribe of Judah** – *"Weep no more; behold, the Lion of the tribe of Judah, the Root of David, has conquered, so that he can open the scroll and its seven seals." Rev. 5:5*

**24. Lord of All** – *"For this reason also, God highly exalted Him, and bestowed on Him the name which is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee will bow, of those who are in heaven and on*

*earth and under the earth, and that every tongue will confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.” Phil. 2:9-11*

**25. Mediator** – *“For there is one God, and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus.” 1 Tim. 2:5*

**26. Messiah** – *“We have found the Messiah” (that is, the Christ).” John 1:41*

**27. Mighty One** – *“Then you will know that I, the Lord, am your Savior, your Redeemer, the Mighty One of Jacob.” Is. 60:16*

**28. One Who Sets Free** – *“So if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed.” John 8:36*

**29. Our Hope** – *“...Christ Jesus our hope.” 1 Tim. 1:1*

**30. Peace** – *“For he himself is our peace, who has made the two groups one and has destroyed the barrier, the dividing wall of hostility,” Eph. 2:14*

**31. Prophet** – *“And Jesus said to them, “A prophet is not without honor, except in his hometown and among his relatives and in his own household.” Mark 6:4*

**32. Redeemer** – *“And as for me, I know that my Redeemer lives, and at the last He will take His stand on the earth.” Job 19:25*

**33. Risen Lord** – *“...that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures.” 1 Cor. 15:3-4*

**34. Rock** – *“For they drank from the spiritual Rock that followed them, and the Rock was Christ.” 1 Cor. 10:4*

**35. Sacrifice for Our Sins** – *“This is love: not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins.” 1 John 4:10*

**36. Savior** – *“For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord.” Luke 2:11*

**37. Son of Man** – *“For the Son of Man came to seek and to save the lost.” Luke 19:10*

**38. Son of the Most High** – *“He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. The Lord God will give him the throne of his father David.” Luke 1:32*

**39. Supreme Creator Over All** – *“By Him all things were created, both in the heavens and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities-- all things have been created through Him and for Him. He is before all things, and in Him all things hold together....” Col. 1:16-17*

**40. Resurrection and the Life** – *“Jesus said to her, “I am the resurrection and the life. The one who believes in me will live, even though they die.” John 11:25*

**41. The Door** – *“I am the door. If anyone enters by me, he will be saved and will go in and out and find pasture.” John 10:9*

**42. The Way** – *“Jesus answered, “I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.” John 14:6*

**43. The Word** – *“In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.” John 1:1*

This particular name is one that needs to be further explored. The reason is that revelation of Christ as the Word will totally transform the way you read scripture. I go into great detail about this in Chapter 4.

**44. True Vine** - *"I am the true vine, and My Father is the vinedresser." John 15:1*

**45. Truth** – *"And you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free." John 8:32*

**46. Victorious One** – *"To the one who is victorious, I will give the right to sit with me on my throne, just as I was victorious and sat down with my Father on his throne." Rev. 3:21*

**47. – 50. Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace** – *"For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders. And he will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting \*Father, Prince of Peace." Is. 9:6*

This title or Everlasting Father has some controversy around it. How can Christ be the Son of God and the Everlasting Father? Why did Isaiah call him this? This can be understood in its simplest form that Jesus Christ fully represented the Father in all He said and did. He referred to this in John 14 when he told Phillip that "if you have seen me, you have seen the Father". Jesus was not saying He was the Father, but that everything He did showed the Father. If you want to know what the Father is like, look at Jesus. You cannot say that the Father would act or do anything different than what Jesus did. The Hebrew word Isaiah used is below. This word has several meanings, one of which is a figurative and remote application. We can be confident by interpreting this passage from the fullness of scripture to know that is how this word was being used.

\*Father OT:1 'ab (awb); a primitive word; father, in a literal and immediate, or **figurative and remote application**): KJV - chief, (fore-) father ([-less]), patrimony, principal.

## **What we saw in this Chapter**

1. The Father revealed Himself through His covenant names
2. All of His goodness which is His glory is revealed in His name
3. The scripture tells us that we can understand His eternal power and Godhead
4. Each person of the Godhead is seen by function
5. The eternal Son of God laid down a portion of His glory before the world was
6. He became a man who was given the name Jesus
7. Jesus had the Spirit of Christ in Him and the Holy Spirit upon Him
8. The Son of God had many names that revealed who He is
9. When we were born again the Spirit of Christ became one with our spirit

# Chapter 3 the Holy Spirit

## The Holy Spirit – the third person of the Godhead

What did Jesus say about the Holy Spirit?

1. He told us **blasphemes against Him would not be forgiven**. The word blasphemes means to vilify or speak evil of Him.

Luke 12:10 "And anyone who speaks a word against the Son of Man, it will be forgiven him; but to him who blasphemes against the Holy Spirit, it will not be forgiven. NKJV

This shows us that there is something very special about the work of the Holy Spirit.

2. Jesus said **it was to our advantage** that He went away in order to send the Holy Spirit who He calls our Helper.

John 16:7-11 It is to your advantage that I go away; **for if I do not go away, the Helper will not come to you**; but if I depart, I will send Him to you. 8 And when He has come, **He will convict the world of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgment**: 9 of sin, because they do not believe in Me; 10 of righteousness, because I go to My Father and you see Me no more; 11 of judgment, because the ruler of this world is judged. NKJV

3. He said that the Holy Spirit **would convict the world** of sin, righteousness and judgment. Notice that this convicting work was directly related to non-believers and the righteousness that Jesus possessed and that **the ruler of this world** is already judged. This conviction work of the Holy Spirit is what brings those who do not know Christ into the process of salvation, translating them from the



power of darkness into the kingdom of light. (1Pet 2:9, Col 1:13)

John 16:12-13 12 "I still have many things to say to you, but you cannot bear them now. 13 However, when He, the Spirit of truth, has come, He will guide you into all truth; for He will not speak on His own authority, but whatever He hears He will speak; and He will tell you things to come. NKJV

4. Jesus told us that the Holy Spirit would be our teacher; He would guide us into all truth. The way He will do this is by hearing from Heaven and then speaking to us. Keep in mind that all scripture was given by His inspiration. He is the author; He is the Spirit of revelation. The one who reveals all things to us.
5. The greatest assignment He has is to see Christ formed in us. I will go into more depth on this in Chapter 4.

**In order to understand the function of the Holy Spirit we must have a clear understanding of what took place when we were born again.**

Let me first say that all 3 persons of the Godhead are holy, therefore we can say that the Spirit of Christ is a Holy Spirit, the Father is a Holy Spirit and the Holy Spirit is holy. This refers to an attribute of God. God is Holy in all three persons. That is why it is absolutely imperative that we look at function and context to see the reality of what the Scripture is telling us as we look at the function of each person of the Godhead. The translators used the term Holy Spirit when in context we see that it was the Spirit of Christ in some instances and the Holy Spirit Himself in other

verses. Let me give you a classic example that has caused a lot of confusion with many theologians.

John 20:19-23 19 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, Jesus came and stood in the midst, and said to them, "**Peace be with you.**" 20 When He had said this, **He showed them His hands and His side.** Then the disciples were glad when they saw **the Lord.**

21 So Jesus said to them again, "**Peace to you!** As the Father has sent Me, I also send you." 22 And when He had said this, **He breathed on them, and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. 23 If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained."** NKJV

There has been much debate over what really transpired in this passage of Scripture. Some say nothing happened, they did not receive anything. That was why Jesus instructed them shortly after this to not go out or do anything until they had gone to Jerusalem to wait for the Holy Spirit to be poured out upon them. However, when we look at Luke's gospel account of this same event, we get a better picture of what took place.

Luke 24:36-39 36 Now as they said these things, Jesus Himself stood in the midst of them, and said to them, "**Peace to you.**" 37 But they were terrified and frightened, and supposed they had seen a spirit. 38 And He said to them, "Why are you troubled? And why do doubts arise in your hearts? 39 **Behold My hands**

**and My feet, that it is I Myself. Handle Me and see,** for a spirit does not have flesh and bones as you see I have."

Luke 24:44-49 44 Then He said to them, "These are the words which I spoke to you while I was still with you, that all things must be fulfilled which were written in the Law of Moses and the Prophets and the Psalms concerning Me." 45 **And He opened their understanding, that they might comprehend the Scriptures.** 46 Then He said to them, "Thus it is written, and thus it was necessary for the Christ to suffer and to rise from the dead the third day, 47 **and that repentance and remission of sins should be preached in His name to all nations, beginning at Jerusalem.** 48 And you are witnesses of these things. 49 Behold, I send the Promise of My Father **upon you; but tarry in the city of Jerusalem until you are endued with power from on high.**" NKJV

**Now look at what Jesus said about being born again:**

John 3:3 Jesus answered and said to him, "Most assuredly, I say to you, unless one is born again, he cannot **\*see the kingdom of God.**" NKJV

NT:1492

\*See eido (i'-do); a primary verb; used only in certain past tenses, the others being borrowed from the equivalent NT:3700 and NT:3708; properly, to see (literally or figuratively); by implication (in the perf. only) **to know:** KJV - be aware, behold, can (+not tell), consider, (have) know (-ledge), look (on), perceive, see, be sure, tell, **understand**, wish, wot.

Jesus told us that when we are born again, we will be able to see, eido in the Greek, meaning to be able to know or understand the kingdom of God. In modern language it is like when you are explaining something to someone and they say "I see what you are saying". Meaning they understand what you just told them. So, we see what really took place when Jesus breathed on them and said receive the Holy Spirit, they were born again and their understanding was opened. They received the Spirit of Christ and were told that repentance was to be preached in His name to all nations. Just as God had breathed into Adams nostrils the spirit of life that caused him to come alive in Genesis, we see Jesus breathing into His disciples the rebirth of the life of God coming back into men with the announcement that all people could now receive the true Spirit of Life, Christ.

So now with an understanding of what transpired in this event we can move forward into a revelation of the Holy Spirit. Who He is and what He is here to do.

Let's look at some of the things Jesus told us the Holy Spirit would do.

Jesus gave us a commission, the same way the Father commissioned Him. We cannot fulfill our call without the same power Jesus needed to fulfill His.

### **John 20:21-22**

21 So Jesus said to them again, "Peace to you! **As the Father has sent Me, I also send you.**" NKJV

### **Matt 28:19-20**

**19 Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy**

**Spirit, 20 teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age." Amen. NKJV**

**Mark 13:11-12**

11 But when they arrest you and deliver you up, do not worry beforehand, or premeditate what you will speak. But whatever is given you in that hour, speak that; for it is not you who speak, but the Holy Spirit.

Luke brings clarification to this verse. The reality based on the function of the Holy Spirit is He will teach us what to say. That is one of His roles, He is our teacher.

**Luke 12:11-12**

11 "Now when they bring you to the synagogues and magistrates and authorities, do not worry about how or what you should answer, or what you should say. 12 For **the Holy Spirit will teach you** in that very hour what you ought to say." NKJV

Again, this is a small detail since if we say what He told us to say, it has the same power as if He said it. Just as Jesus' words, always carried the authority and power of the Father; yet He only spoke **what He heard the Father say.**

**John 14:25-26**

25 "These things I have spoken to you while being present with you. 26 But **the \*Helper, the Holy Spirit**, whom the Father will send in My name, **He will teach you all things, and bring to your remembrance all things that I said to you.** NKJV

\*NT:3875 **Helper** parakletos (par-ak'-lay-tos); an intercessor, consoler: KJV - advocate, comforter.

paraklētōs: called to one's aid

Usage: (a) **an advocate, intercessor, (b) a consoler, comforter, helper**, (c) Paraclete.

3875 *paráklētōs* (from [3844](#) /*pará*, "**from close-beside**" and [2564](#) /*kaléō*, "make a call") – properly, a *legal advocate* who makes the right judgment-*call* because *close* enough to the situation. [3875](#) /*paráklētōs* ("advocate, advisor-helper") is the regular term in NT times of an *attorney* (lawyer) – i.e. someone *giving evidence that stands up in court*.

The Holy Spirit is our helper, an advocate, intercessor, consoler, and comforter the one who is **called alongside of us in everything we do**.

Let's take a look at what Jesus said would happen when He (The Holy Spirit) came upon us.

Acts 1:4-6

4 And being assembled together with them, He commanded them not to depart from Jerusalem, but to wait for the Promise of the Father, "which," He said, "you have heard from Me; 5 for John truly baptized with water, but you shall **be \*baptized** with the Holy Spirit not many days from now." NKJV

\*NT:907 **baptizo** (bap-tid'-zo); from a derivative of NT:911; to immerse, submerge; to make overwhelmed (i.e. fully wet); used only (in the N. T.) of ceremonial ablution, especially (technically) of the ordinance of Christian baptism: KJV - Baptist, baptize, wash.

When we are baptized our whole body is covered with water. When we are baptized with the Holy Spirit our whole body is covered with the Dunimus power of God.

**Acts 1:8** But you shall **receive \*power** when the Holy Spirit has come **\*upon you**; and **you shall be witnesses** to Me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth." NKJV

\*NT:1411 **Power** - dunamis (doo'-nam-is); from NT:1410; force (literally or figuratively); specially, **miraculous power** (usually by implication, a miracle itself):

KJV - ability, abundance, meaning, might (-ily, -y, -y deed), (worker of) miracle (-s), power, strength, violence, mighty (wonderful) work.

\*NT:1909 **Upon** - epi (ep-ee'); a primary preposition; properly, meaning superimposition (of time, place, order, etc.), as a relation of distribution [with the genitive case], i.e. **over, upon**, etc.; of rest (with the det.) at, on, etc.; of direction (with the accusative case) towards, upon, etc.:

So, here we see that the Holy Spirit would come **upon us**, not in us. He would give us miraculous power to do the works of the Father under the authority of Christ's ministry.

**Acts 2:1-4** When the Day of Pentecost had fully come, they were all with one accord in one place. 2 And suddenly there came a sound from heaven, as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled the whole house where they were sitting. 3 Then there appeared to them divided tongues, as of fire, and one **sat upon** each of them. 4 And they were all **\*filled** with the Holy Spirit and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave **them \*utterance**. NKJV

\*NT:4130 **Fill** - pletho (play'-tho); a prolonged form of a primary pleo (pleh'-o) (which appears only as an alternate in certain tenses and in the reduplicated form pimplemi); to "fill" (literally or figuratively [**imbue, influence, supply**]); specifically, to fulfil (time):KJV - accomplish, full (... come), furnish.

\*NT:669 **Utterance** - apophtheggomai (ap-of-theng'-om-ahee); from **NT:575** and **NT:5350**; **to enunciate plainly, i.e. declare**: KJV - say, speak forth, utterance.

NT:575 apo (apo'); a primary particle; "off," i.e. away (**from something near**), in various senses (of place, time, **or relation**; literal or figurative)

NT:5350 phtheggomai (ftheng'-gom-ahee); probably akin to NT:5338 and thus to NT:5346; **to utter a clear sound**, i.e. (generally) to proclaim: KJV - speak.

When this happened on the day of Pentecost it caused quite a commotion and everyone in Jerusalem wanted to know what this meant.

Peter stood up and shared a powerful message that ended with the following verses:

Acts 2:33 Therefore being exalted to the right hand of God, and having received from the Father the promise of the Holy Spirit, He poured out this which you now see and hear. NKJV

Acts 2:38-39

38 Then Peter said to them, "Repent, and let every one of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins; and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. 39 For the promise is



to you and to your children, and **to all who are afar off, as many as the Lord our God will call.**" NKJV

This is Good News, that it was not just for those who were there, but for as many as the Lord our God will call. **That includes us!**

Here we see the order of salvation. First there is a change of heart in repentance then being baptized in the name of Jesus (water) and then the baptism of the Holy Spirit.

We see in Samaria that Philip went down and preached the gospel with signs and wonders. They received the word of God and were baptized. However, the Holy Spirit did not come upon them until some of the apostles went down and laid hands on them.

Acts 8:12 But when they believed Philip as he preached the things concerning the kingdom of God and the name of Jesus Christ, both men and women were baptized. NKJV

Acts 8:14-17 14 Now when the apostles who were at Jerusalem heard that Samaria had received the word of God, they sent Peter and John to them, 15 who, when they had come down, prayed for them that they might receive the Holy Spirit. 16 For as yet **He had fallen upon** none of them. **They had only been baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus.** 17 Then they laid hands on them, and they received the Holy Spirit. NKJV

So, in the Godhead we see and can clearly understand each person by function:

1. The Father is at work and the initiator of all things.
2. The Son, Christ who was crucified before the foundation of the world has always represented the Father to Mankind

and man to the Father after His atonement. He had to lay down His glory so He could appear to Man. Scripture tells us that no man can see the Father and live. This required the Son to lay down that glory so He could speak to us face to face. We see this reality in Jesus' prayer in John 17.

3. The Holy Spirit who is the Promise of the Father. He is the one who was sent to empower us to fully proclaim the Gospel in word and in power. All of the work He does is external. He seals us for salvation, He comes upon us to anoint us and He stands beside us as our teacher, counselor, advocate and friend.

We also see that there were certain restrictions on when the Holy Spirit could come upon all mankind.

John 7:37-39

37 On the last day, that great day of the feast, Jesus stood and cried out, saying, "If anyone thirsts, let him come to Me and drink. 38 He who believes in Me, as the Scripture has said, out of his heart will flow rivers of living water." 39 But this He spoke concerning the Spirit, whom those believing in Him would receive; for the Holy Spirit was not yet given, because Jesus was not yet glorified. NKJV

So, this verse raises some more questions, however if we break it down by function and the fullness of scripture, we can see what was being said.

1. What is the Spirit that those who believe in Him receive? It is the Spirit of Christ; He is the living water that flows out of us. We see this clearly in Rom 8:9-11

9 But you are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if indeed the Spirit of God dwells in you. Now if anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, he is not His. 10 And if Christ is in you, the body is dead because of sin, but the Spirit is life because of righteousness. NKJV

2. Then why would John write a reference to the Holy Spirit? There are 2 ways to look at this: A) The Holy Spirit is the one who convicts the world of sin and is imperative for salvation to occur. Paul tells us in 1 Cor 12:3 no one can say that Jesus is Lord except by the Holy Spirit. Without the Holy Spirit's involvement true salvation cannot occur. Or B) The Holy Spirit mentioned here could have in fact been the Spirit of Christ that was available after Jesus' ascension and glorification.

**Jesus said it was to our advantage that He leaves so the Holy Spirit could come: John 16:7-8**

Nevertheless, I tell you the truth. It is to your advantage that I go away; for if I do not go away, the Helper will not come to you; but if I depart, I will send Him to you. NKJV

**John 16:12-15**

12 "I still have many things to say to you, but you cannot bear them now. 13 However, when He, the Spirit of truth, has come, He will guide you into all truth; for He will not speak on His own authority, but **whatever He hears He will speak**; and He will tell you things to come. 14 He will glorify Me, for He will take of what is Mine and declare it to you. NKJV

The Holy Spirit is our direct line to heaven. He is the one who speaks Jesus' words to us. He is also the only one who can guide

us into all Truth. He is the Spirit of revelation. He is the one who reveals Christ in us. It is our responsibility to renew our minds, but He is the one teaching us what we should be renewing them to. Without a relationship with the Holy Spirit, we will never grow up into what Christ died to make available to us. We are called to be Sons of God and walk just as Jesus walked. Releasing the Kingdom of Heaven everywhere we go.

**In the Godhead there is order, yet in the end all things will be delivered to the Father.**

**1 Cor 15:20-28**

20 But now Christ is risen from the dead, and has become the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep. 21 For since by man came death, by Man also came the resurrection of the dead. 22 For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ all shall be made alive. 23 **But each one in his own order:** Christ the firstfruits, afterward those who are Christ's at His coming. 24 Then comes the end, **when He delivers the kingdom to God the Father**, when He puts an end to all rule and all authority and power. 25 For He must reign till He has put all enemies under His feet. 26 The last enemy that will be destroyed is death. **27 For "He has put all things under His feet." But when He says "all things are put under Him," it is evident that He who put all things under Him is excepted. 28 Now when all things are made subject to Him, then the Son Himself will also be subject to Him who put all things under Him, that God (the Father) may be all in all.** NKJV

**Let's look at the difference between the Spirit of Christ and the Holy Spirit**

John 14:6-14 Jesus said to him, 6 "**I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me.** 7 "If you had known Me, you would have known My Father also; and from now on you know Him and have seen Him." 8 Philip said to Him, "Lord, show us the Father, and it is sufficient for us." 9 Jesus said to him, "Have I been with you so long, and yet you have not known Me, Philip? **He who has seen Me has seen the Father;** so how can you say, 'Show us the Father'? 10 Do you not believe **that I am in the Father, and the Father in Me? The words that I speak to you I do not speak on My own authority; but the Father who dwells in Me does the works.** 11 Believe Me that I am in the Father and the Father in Me, or else believe Me for the sake of the works themselves. 12 "Most assuredly, I say to you, he who believes in Me, **the works that I do he will do also;** and greater works than these he will do, because I go to My Father. 13 And whatever you ask in My name, that I will do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son. 14 If you ask anything in My name, I will do it. 15 "If you love Me, keep My commandments. 16 And I will pray the Father, and He will give you another Helper, that He **may abide with you forever** — 17 **the Spirit of truth,** whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees Him nor knows Him; but **you know Him, for He dwells with you and will be in you.** 18 **I will not leave you orphans; I will come to you.** 19 "A little while longer and the world will see Me no more, but you will see Me. Because I live, you will live also. 20 **At that day you will know that I am in My Father, and you in Me, and I in you.** NKJV

This passage taken at face value is a little confusing. We have to break it down to see what is really being said. All scripture needs to be taken in what is called the far and near context to understand what is actually being said. You can pull scripture out of context and get it to say anything you want. But if and only if you truly want to know the truth, you have to dig deeper. I love what Bill Johnson says, "God does not hide things from us, He hides things for us". That is a very prolific statement that gets to the heart of the one who wants to truly know the Father. One of my favorite verses in the bible is 2 Tim 2:15 Be diligent to present yourself **\*approved** to God, a worker who does not need to be ashamed, **rightly \*dividing the word of truth**. NKJV

\*Approved NT:1384 dokimos (dok'-ee-mos); from NT:1380; properly, acceptable (current after assayal), i.e. approved: KJV - approved, tried.

\*Divide NT:3718 orthotomeo (or-thot-om-eh'-o); from a compound of NT:3717 and the base of NT:5114, **to make a straight cut**, i.e. (figuratively) to dissect (expound) correctly (the divine message): KJV - rightly divide.

This means we are to know how the Holy Spirit connects and divides the scripture. He ties it all together and shows us the eternal reality that only truth can reveal. We see the result of **not** doing this in Eph 4:14... that we should no longer be children, **tossed to and fro and carried about with every wind of doctrine**, by the trickery of men, in the cunning craftiness of deceitful plotting, NKJV

So let's look at John 14 to see what is actually being said.

1. Jesus starts by telling His disciples that He is going to prepare a place for them and that He will come and receive them to that place.
2. He then states that they know the way. Which results in Thomas saying , “Lord we do not know where you are going and we do not know the way.”
3. Jesus then tells them **who He is: I am the way, the truth and the life**. No one comes to the Father except through me. Very important to notice Jesus said **He is the truth**.
4. Then He goes on to tell them that if you have seen me you have seen the Father. So here Jesus switches from dealing with their earthly concerns to declaring spiritual realities. He is not saying He is the Father, just that they have seen the Father.
5. Then Philip says just show us the Father and all will be great.
6. Jesus replies to this by going on declaring that He is in the Father and the Father is in Him. Then He progresses to telling them that the things He has been doing they will do also. Jesus is working overtime here to get them to see the realities of the spirit and to quite looking in the natural for the answers.
7. He then tells them that if they love Him, to keep His commandments and He will ask the Father to give them another helper called the Spirit of truth. He then immediately qualifies who this Spirit of truth is by saying that they know Him, for He dwells with them and will be in them. **I will** not leave you orphans, **I will** come to you.

8. So the truth that **He said He was** in verse 6 is the same spirit of truth He says will be in them in verse 17. He confirms this by saying that **He will come to them**.
9. **So in conclusion we have to see in context the Spirit that Jesus was talking about in this dialogue was the Spirit of Christ. It opens by Him declaring who He IS and ends with Him telling them He will come to them in verse 18 and He is the one in them in verse 20. What tends to make this confusing is that The Holy Spirit and The Spirit of Christ are the same in all aspects just as Jesus and The Father are the same. The same reason that Jesus said if you have seen me you have seen the Father, so the Holy Spirit completely portrays Christ. In fact Jesus refers to the Holy Spirit as the Spirit of Truth later in 2 places (John 15:26 and John 16:13) confirming this similarity. In these 2 passages we know from the context that He is referring to the Holy Spirit. Yet we need to understand the differences and the function of each person in the Godhead to fully mature into the Sons and Daughters we are called to be.**

**Jesus made this declaration after he returned from the wilderness where he fasted and was tempted for 40 days. (all of His temptations were focused on if He was the Son of God)**

Luke 4:18-19 "The Spirit of the Lord is **upon Me**, Because He has anointed Me To preach the gospel to the poor; He has sent Me to heal the brokenhearted, To proclaim liberty to the captives And recovery of sight to the blind, To set at liberty those who are oppressed; 19 To proclaim the acceptable year of the Lord."



John 1:32-34 And John bore witness, saying, "I saw the Spirit descending from heaven like a dove, and He remained **upon Him**. 33 I did not know Him, but He who sent me to baptize with water said to me, 'Upon whom you see the Spirit descending, **and remaining on Him**, this is He who baptizes with the Holy Spirit.' 34 And I have seen and testified that this is the Son of God." NKJV  
**Jesus Christ will baptize us with the Holy Spirit if we ask Him. Can we live the life we are called to without the same power that Jesus had? (Hint) No!**

### **Jesus' commission to us**

Luke 24:46-49 Then He said to them, "Thus it is written, and thus it was necessary for the Christ to suffer and to rise from the dead the third day, 47 and **that repentance and remission of sins** should be preached **in His name to all nations**, beginning at Jerusalem. 48 And you are witnesses of these things. 49 Behold, **I send the Promise of My Father upon you; but tarry in the city of Jerusalem until you are endued with power from on high.**" NKJV

### **Luke then records some additional details about this in the book of Acts**

Acts 1:4-8 And being assembled together with them, He commanded them not to depart from Jerusalem, **but to wait for the Promise of the Father**, "which," He said, "you have heard from Me; 5 for John truly baptized with water, **but you shall be baptized with the Holy Spirit** not many days from now." 6 Therefore, when they had come together, they asked Him, saying, "Lord, will You at this time restore the kingdom to Israel?" 7 And

He said to them, "It is not for you to know times or seasons which the Father has put in His own authority. 8 But **you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be witnesses to Me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.**" NKJV

Do you want to be filled with the power of God? Do you want to be baptized with the Holy Spirit? If so, we need to first answer one question. Am I willing to be His witness? The Father does not give us the power of the Holy Spirit to put on a show. He gives us His power to proclaim His gospel. God is not willing that any should perish but that all should come to the saving knowledge of Jesus Christ. He is not asking everyone to be a missionary or a preacher. But He is asking us in our world in our lives to those we encounter, are we willing to show His love and compassion to them? Will we be His testimony of His Grace? If so, we are a candidate to be filled with His precious Holy Spirit and power.

**Let's look at some misunderstood concepts that cause us to miss our potential.**

John 1:1-3 In the beginning was **the Word**, and **the Word** was with God, and **the Word** was God.

2 The same was in the beginning with God.

3 **All things were made by him; and without him was not anything made that was made.**

Who is this referring to? Who is the eternal Word? Jesus the son of man, or Christ the Son of God? You might be thinking they are the same person. Yes, they are now, but remember **Christ is the eternal son of God**. Jesus was the name given to Him when He

became the son of Man. Jesus did not exist in the beginning, Christ did. Jesus was the Son of Man, the last Adam; Christ is the eternal Son of God, **the Second person of the Godhead**. Yes, they are completely one now. You cannot separate Jesus and Christ; they are One Person now Jesus Christ. Yet we need to see the difference that existed when Christ became the Son of Man, Jesus. **405** Times Christ is mentioned in Paul's writings. **66** Times he uses the name Christ Jesus; **124** times he uses Jesus Christ. So, the majority of his teaching centers around the **215** times he uses **only** the name Christ. If we do not understand the difference in why he does that we will miss the spiritual reality of what he is telling us. If all you identify with is the man Jesus you will stay at the cross. Your life will be focused on your inabilities. Yet Jesus died to bring resurrection life. That life is only found in the resurrection, not the cross. The cross is where we die. We must lose our life, as Jesus said, to find His life. **His life is a life of resurrection power that is living as a full Son of God by the Spirit of Christ who is in us**. When we see that Christ is THE WORD of God, we realize that THE WORD is now living in us. When we understand this, we are positioned to receive revelation from the Holy Spirit. He wants to reveal what is in us in the spirit not in our natural mind. **Col 1:27-28** To them God willed to make known what are the riches of the glory of this mystery among the Gentiles: which is **Christ in you, the hope of glory**. NKJV  
This word hope is not really understood in the English language. It literally means to anticipate with pleasure a confident expectation of glory. The Greek word doxa (glory) signifies the eternal value and honor and weight of God's presence in our lives and signifies the revealing of the very life of Christ in us.

Hope NT:1680 elpis (el-pece'); from a primary elpo (to anticipate, usually with pleasure); expectation (abstractly or concretely) or confidence: KJV - faith, hope.

We will look at this more deeply in Chapter 4.

John 1:12-14 **But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God**, even to them that believe on his name:13 **Which were born**, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but **of God**. 14 **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.** KJV

#### **Jesus explains this further to Nicodemus**

John 3:3-8 Jesus answered and said to him, "Most assuredly, I say to you, unless one is born again, he **cannot \*see the kingdom of God.**" 4 Nicodemus said to Him, "How can a man be born when he is old? Can he enter a second time into his mother's womb and be born?" 5 Jesus answered, "Most assuredly, I say to you, **unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God.** 6 That which is born of the flesh is flesh, and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit. 7 Do not marvel that I said to you, '**You must be born again.**' 8 The wind blows where it wishes, and you hear the sound of it, but cannot tell where it comes from and where it goes. So is everyone who is born of the Spirit." NKJV **\*NT:3708 See - to discern clearly (physically or mentally); by extension, to attend to; by Hebraism, to experience; passively, to appear: Or to Understand.**

NT:1080

**Born** gennao (ghen-nah'-o); from a variation of NT:1085; to procreate (properly, of the father, but by extension of the mother); figuratively, **to regenerate**:

KJV - bear, beget, be born, bring forth, conceive, be delivered of, gender, make, spring.

**Just as Adam and Eve's spirits were cut off from God (spiritual death) in the garden, here Jesus tells us that spiritual life must be regenerated-born again in order to have the life of God back in us. That life is only found in Jesus Christ. He is the Life!**

### **Jesus tells the Samaritan woman about true worship**

John 4:23-24

23 But the hour is coming, and now is, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth; for the Father is seeking such to worship Him. **24 God is Spirit**, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth." NKJV

Just as Jesus' words were spirit and life, His desire for us is to release the same words, words that bring spirit and Life.

John 6:63 It is the Spirit who gives life; the flesh profits nothing.

**The words that I speak to you are spirit, and they are life.** NKJV

### **What we saw in this Chapter**

1. The Holy Spirit is very Special
2. He is our Helper, called alongside of us
3. He convicts the world of sin and their need for salvation
4. We have the same commission that Christ received from the Father

5. We receive the same power that Jesus did when the Holy Spirit comes upon us
6. He is the Promise of the Father
7. He tells us what He hears
8. Both the Holy Spirit and Spirit of Christ are Truth, one within and without
9. Paul teaches extensively on Christ, who we are in Him and who He is in us

# Chapter 4 Christ incarnate

## How to Decode the Bible/Living Epistles

**Rom 8:18-19 18 For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us. 19 For the earnest expectation of the creation eagerly waits for the revealing of the sons of God. NKJV**

### Part 1

The best way to truly understand any book you have ever read is to know the Author. They are the ones that know the true meaning of what they have written.

When we look at the Bible, we see it referenced with several different titles. Some call it the Scripture, some the Word of God, some the Holy Bible.

The first thing we must understand is that The Word is a Person and not a book. We will look at the importance of the Scripture later, the inspired words, history and accounts that are written on pages for us. Too many people get this backward, thinking that the scripture is Christ Jesus and do not understand that all scripture testifies of Christ. It reveals Him and shows us who He is. Everything always comes back to the Living Word, which is Christ; He is the Word of God. We do not worship the Bible; **we worship the Living Word who is Christ Jesus.**

Let me explain it this way. If I showed you a picture of my friend Jon, I would say this is Jon. If you said, "Hi Jon", you would not get a response. The picture is not the person, just an image of him. Then if I showed you all the history of Jon's life, if it was recorded in written form, you would feel like you are getting to know Jon by what is there. Then if I showed you Jon's personal journal where he wrote all of his thoughts and desires and prayers, you would start to really know what Jon is like in his heart. However, all of this information would still not BE Jon. You would not actually know Jon until he walked into the room and you embraced him and lived with him. So it is with scripture, you see the history, the thoughts and desires, literally the journal of the Father. However, all of this was to bring you to Christ the Living Word so you could actually experience the person of Christ. Remember Jesus told the Pharisees; you search the scripture and think you find life, but if you truly knew what they were saying you would come to Me.

The Key verses of the Bible that all true interpretations come from are these:

1. John 14:6 Jesus said to him, "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me. NKJV

Jesus is not a truth, but The Truth. He tells us that He is the way and the Life and that no one can come to the Father except through Him. This is a revelation that Peter first received when Jesus asked His disciples "Who do men say that I the son of man am?" Peter declared "You are the Christ the Son of the living God". Jesus told Peter that flesh and blood did not reveal this to



Him, but His Father who is in Heaven revealed it. He later states in John 6:44 “No one can come to Me unless the Father who sent Me draws him” NKJV

2. John 1:1

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. NKJV

The Greek word used here is logos, here is its meaning:

NT:3056 Word

logos (log<sup>1</sup>-os); from NT:3004; something said (including the thought); by implication a topic (subject of discourse), also reasoning (the mental faculty) or motive; by extension, a computation; specifically (with the article in John) the Divine Expression (i.e. Christ)

This is further exemplified by Heb 1:1-3

God, who at various times and in various ways spoke in time past to the fathers by the prophets, 2 has in these last days spoken to us by His Son, whom He has appointed heir of all things, through whom also He made the worlds; 3 who being the brightness of His glory and the express image of His person NKJV

Christ Jesus was and is the full expression of His Father. If you want to know what the Father is like, look at Jesus, the Word made flesh. He fully represents and shows us His Father.

In comparison to the word Logos, another Greek word used for word is Rhema. It was used when Jesus referred to the words He spoke.

John 6:63 It is the Spirit who gives life; the flesh profits nothing. The \*words that I speak to you are spirit, and they are life. NKJV

\*NT:4487 Word

rhema (hray'-mah); from NT:4483; an utterance (individually, collectively or specifically); by implication, a matter or topic (especially of narration, command or dispute)

Matt 4:4

4 But He answered and said, "It is written, 'Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word (Rhema) that proceeds from the mouth of God.'" NKJV

Jesus quoted Deut. 8:3

### 3. John 1:14

And the Word (Logos) became 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. NKJV

\*Begotten NT:3439 monogenes (mon-og-en-ace'); from NT:3441 and NT:1096; only-born, i.e. sole: KJV - only (begotten, child).

NT:3441 monos (mon'-os); probably from NT:3306; remaining, i.e. sole or single; by implication mere:

NT:1096 ginomai (ghin'-om-ahee); a prolongation and middle voice form of a primary verb; to cause to be ("gen"-erate), i.e.

(reflexively) to become (come into being), used with great latitude (literal, figurative, intensive, etc.):

The word begotten here has several connotations. In general, we think of it as referring to when Jesus was born in a manger. However, when we look at the Greek word used here, we see that it implies to cause to be or to become (come into being). We know that this was not referring to Christ the eternal Son of God before He became a man. He has always been with the Father. So this is referring to the birth of His physical body. Scripture also tells us that He was the 1<sup>st</sup> born from the dead. Paul tells us it was God the Father who raised Him from the dead. (Rom 6:4, 1Thes 1:10, Gal 1:1) and Acts 13:33 and Col 1:18 relates His birth to when He was raised from the dead.

Col 1:18 And He is the head of the body, the church, who is the beginning, **the firstborn** from the dead, that in all things He may have the preeminence. NKJV.

Further explained in this verse:

Phil 2:5-9

5 Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus, 6 who, being in the form of God, did not consider it robbery to be equal with God, 7 but made Himself of no reputation, taking the form of a bondservant, and coming in the likeness of men. 8 And being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself and became obedient to the point of death, even the death of the cross. NKJV  
Christ, who was with the Father before He became a man, is God. He came to this earth as a man (Jesus), born in a manger. He humbled himself; He took upon Himself a lowly form and became human. Many ask, why would God become a man? There are several reasons that we will see. One of the primary reasons was to fulfill the law of God. The only way sinful man could enter a

relationship with a holy God was by Gods holy requirements being met. Because His law was given to men, it had to be met by a man. The only man who could fulfill this holy law was a sinless man, Christ Jesus. God Himself became a man so He could fulfill the law and make a new way of having a relationship with a loving Father.

Matt 5:17 "Do not think that I came to destroy the Law or the Prophets. I did not come to destroy but to fulfill. NKJV

John 19:30 So when Jesus had received the sour wine, He said, "It is finished!" And bowing His head, He gave up His spirit. NKJV

Rom 8:3-5

3 For what the law could not do in that it was weak through the flesh, **God did** by sending His own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, on account of sin: He condemned sin in the flesh, 4 **that the righteous requirement of the law might be fulfilled** in us who do not walk according to the flesh but according to the Spirit. NKJV

4. John 1:17 For the law was given through Moses, but grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. NKJV

In the next section we will look more fully into what this verse is telling us and how it impacts our entire relationship with God. It is the precursor to reveal a new covenant that the Father was going to make with mankind.

5. 1 John 2:20-21

20 But you have an anointing from the Holy One, and you know all things. 21 I have not written to you because you

do not know the truth, but because you know it, and that no lie is of the truth. NKJV

John is talking here about the Spirit of Christ that lives in a believer. When you asked Christ to come into your heart by confessing Jesus as your Lord and believing that He rose from the dead, you were born again, and His Spirit, the Spirit of Christ, came to live inside of you.

Because Christ is The Word when that took place the The Word came to live in you. I mentioned above that one of the Names of Christ is **The Word**. The meaning of His name, Christ, is the Anointed One. He is the anointing in us that we received from the Father.

John 5:37-40

37 And the Father Himself, who sent Me, has testified of Me. You have neither heard His voice at any time, nor seen His form. 38 **But you do not have His word abiding in you, because whom He sent, Him you do not believe.** 39 **You search the Scriptures, for in them you think you have eternal life;** and these are they which **testify of Me**. 40 But you are not willing to **come to Me that you may have life**. NKJV

**Jesus told us here that those who would believe in Him would have His Word abiding in them. This prophecy from Ezekiel was a promise of what would take place.**

Ezek 36:25-28

25 Then I will sprinkle clean water on you, and you shall be clean; I will cleanse you from all your filthiness and from all your idols. 26 I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit within you; I will

take the heart of stone out of your flesh and give you a heart of flesh. 27 I will put My Spirit within you and cause you to walk in My statutes, and you will keep My judgments and do them. NKJV

Rom 8:9-11 But you are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if indeed the Spirit of God dwells in you. Now if anyone does not have **the Spirit of Christ**, he is not His. 10 And **if Christ is in you**, the body is dead because of sin, but the Spirit is life because of righteousness. NKJV

Rom 8:14-16 14 For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, these are sons of God. 15 For you did not receive the spirit of bondage again to fear, but you received **the Spirit of adoption** by whom we cry out, "Abba, Father." 16 The Spirit Himself bears witness with our spirit that **we are children of God**, NKJV

1 Cor 6:17 But he who is joined to the Lord is one spirit with Him. NKJV

We need to understand a new way of learning, not from an external source, but from an internal reality. Christ, who IS the Truth, lives on the inside of us. We have His mind in our spirit man.

1 Cor 2:13-16

13 These things we also speak, not in words which man's wisdom teaches but which the Holy Spirit teaches, comparing spiritual things with spiritual. 14 But the natural man does not receive the things of the Spirit of God, for they are foolishness to him; nor can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned. 15 But he who is spiritual judges (discerns) all things, yet he himself is

rightly judged by no one. 16 For "who has known the mind of the Lord that he may instruct Him?" But we have the \*mind of Christ. NKJV

If Christ is in us, then we also have His mind. This is referring to our spirit man. His mind, thoughts, will and understanding abide in our spirit. See the meaning of this Greek word below:

NT:3563 \***Mind** nous (nooce); probably from the base of **NT:1097**; the intellect, i.e. mind (divine or human; in thought, feeling, or will); by implication meaning: KJV - mind, understanding.

**NT:1097**

ginosko (ghin-occe'-ko); a prolonged form of a primary verb; to "know" (absolutely) in a great variety of applications and with many implications (as follow, with others not thus clearly expressed):

KJV - allow, be aware (of), feel, (have) know (-ledge), perceived, be resolved, can speak, be sure, understand.

So, this changes the way that we learn things. In the natural we must go to school or college or seminary to learn things. This is a natural knowledge that goes into our brain. Then depending on how good of a student we are and how well we can recall the knowledge we have gained we can use what we learned in our everyday lives or profession. The process goes from an outside source into our human cognition. Or simply from out to in. We gain external knowledge and put it into our mind.

However, when it comes to spiritual learning there is a different process. When Christ came to live on the inside of us, He brought all His knowledge and understanding with Him.

6. 1 John 2:26-27 These things I have written to you concerning those who try to deceive you. 27 But **the anointing which you have received from Him abides in you**, and you do not need that anyone teach you; but as the same **anointing teaches you concerning all things, and is true, and is not a lie, and just as it has taught you, you will abide in Him.** NKJV

This verse is one of the most profound verses in the bible. Why? Because it tells us how all true spiritual growth occurs. All spiritual life flows out of Him, therefore we must abide in Him to have true spiritual life. Jesus said it this way: John 15:5-6 "I am the vine; you are the branches. He who abides in Me, and I in him, bears much fruit; for without Me you can do nothing. NKJV

We fail to comprehend the way we learn and live in spiritual realities. We have been trained from birth to process everything we learn from our minds to our life. By this process alone we limit our learning and experiences in life to our own abilities. Some people are blessed with exceptional minds and therefore have the ability to do great things in the world. However, this type of learning does not translate to spiritual growth. Spiritual growth is seen by fruit. It is seen by more fully living a life that shows Christ to those around us. Jesus did the same thing by showing the Father:

John 14:9-11



9 Jesus said to him, "Have I been with you so long, and yet you have not known Me, Philip? He who has seen Me has seen the Father; so how can you say, 'Show us the Father'? 10 Do you not believe that I am in the Father, and the Father in Me? The words that I speak to you I do not speak on My own authority; but the Father who dwells in Me does the works. 11 Believe Me that I am in the Father and the Father in Me, or else believe Me for the sake of the works themselves. NKJV

This is the same thing Jesus will say of us when He prays for us in John 17.

John 17:20-23

20 "I do not pray for these alone, but also for those who will believe in Me through their word; 21 that they all may be one, as You, Father, are in Me, and I in You; that **they also may be one in Us**, that the world may believe that You sent Me. 22 And the glory which You gave Me **I have given them, that they may be one just as We are one:** 23 I in them, and You in Me; that they may be made perfect in one, and that the world may know that You have sent Me, and have loved them as You have loved Me. NKJV

*(I want to make a side point here, when Christ says that something is possible, He gives us the Grace to do it. We will look more at grace in a later chapter.)*

So, what are we missing, why are we not doing the things that Jesus did? Let's look at the last part of this verse, 1 John 2:27 ... and just as it has taught you, you will abide in Him. If we are not

learning from Him, the anointing, the person living inside of us, **Christ Himself**, then we are not receiving the truth. The true spiritual food, the only word that will transform us into His image. As it is has taught us – we will **Abide** in Him. This word abide is key, here is what it means:

NT:3306

GREEK> meno (men'-o); a primary verb; **to stay (in a given place, state, relation or expectancy)**: KJV - abide, continue, dwell, endure, be present, remain, stand, tarry (for), thine own.

Jesus never did anything outside of His relationship to the Father. Do we think that we can do anything outside of our relationship with Him? You see the anointing that John is referring to is true revelation of the living Word of God. Until the word has become alive on the inside of us, it will never be lived out on the outside.

This is the reason Paul wrote in Romans 12: **Rom 12:1-2** I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that you present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God, which is your reasonable service. 2 And do not be conformed to this world, **but be transformed by the renewing of your mind**, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God.

NKJV

The word transformed comes from the following Greek words:

NT:3339 metamorphoo (met-am-or-fo'-o); **from NT:3326 and NT:3445; to transform** (literally or figuratively, "metamorphose"): KJV - change, transfigure, transform.

NT:3326 meta (met-ah'); a primary preposition (often used adverbially); **properly, denoting accompaniment; "amid"** (local or

causal); modified variously according to the case (genitive case association, or accusative case succession) **with which it is joined.**

NT:3445 morphoo (mor-fo'-o); from the same as NT:3444; **to fashion** (figuratively):

KJV - form.

NT:3444 morphe (mor-fay'); (through the idea of adjustment of parts); shape; figuratively, **nature**: KJV - form.

I realize that is a lot of information to take in. The crux of what Paul was saying is, if you want to be like Jesus, you must do this. We all know that information that is stored in our brain does not change **our nature**. It does not change **who we are**. That is why just reading the scripture, or any book does not change us. **There is a learning process that we must go through with the anointing that abides in us.** Christ the anointed one who is one spirit with us is the only one who can release the true revelation of who He is and who we are when He is living through us. Then we must take the things He shows us and renew our way of thinking to line up with Him. That is what transforms us and changes our very nature. This is learning from the inside out. Then we will not only know what our Fathers will is, **we will prove it.** To many times Christians are only known for what they are against, not what they are for. Unless we are transformed by this process, we will not have anything to show.

We need to know how important the way we think is, in relation to living out the realities of the Kingdom. Paul was very clear on what he taught about the way we are to think.

We know from the prayer model that Jesus gave us that it is His desire to see Heaven on Earth. As it is in Heaven, He desires His

kingdom to come and His will to be done on earth. It is unfortunate that many try to tell people what Gods will is without going through this process. We are supposed to do what Jesus did. He showed the Fathers will through the works He did. We need to do the same.

Not only do we have Christ living in us, we also have the Holy Spirit here to empower and help us.

7. John 14:26-27

26 But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My name, **He will teach you all things**, and bring to your remembrance all things that I said to you. NKJV

8. John 15:26-27

26 "But when the Helper comes, whom I shall send to you from the Father, the Spirit of truth who proceeds from the Father, He will testify of Me. NKJV

This is an amazing promise that Jesus gave us. The Holy Spirit will teach us, the very one who inspired the words that were written in the Scriptures, will teach us. Now wouldn't you love to see what the author meant when He gave us those words?

9. John 5:39-40

39 You search the Scriptures, for in them you think you have eternal life; and these are they which testify of Me.  
40 But you are not willing to come to Me that you may have life. NKJV

They all testify of Christ Jesus. When we look at Jesus, we see the totality of scripture explained. If we think that the Father has a different meaning than what we saw in Jesus, we are misled. We

have missed the true meaning of what was written. We do not have life until we come to Christ. Regardless of what we think we know; it will do nothing for us until we do.

Paul the apostle who wrote most of the New Testament learned this way.

Gal 1:11-12 11 But I make known to you, brethren, that the gospel which was preached by me is not according to man. 12 For I **neither received it from man, nor was I taught it, but it came through the revelation of Jesus Christ.** NKJV

Eph 3:1-5 3 For this reason I, Paul, the prisoner of Christ Jesus for you Gentiles — 2 if indeed you have heard of the dispensation of the grace of God which was given to me for you, 3 how **that by revelation He made known to me the mystery** (as I have briefly written already, 4 by which, when you read, you may understand my knowledge in the mystery of Christ), 5 which in other ages was not made known to the sons of men, as it **has now been revealed by the Spirit** to His holy apostles and prophets: NKJV

You may ask, well is it only for the apostles and prophets? Absolutely not, this will explain why Paul prayed for all believers this way:

Eph 1:15-21 15 Therefore I also, after I heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love for all the saints, 16 do not cease to give thanks for you, making mention of you in my prayers: 17 that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, **may give to you the spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of Him,** 18 the eyes of your understanding being enlightened; that you may

know what is the hope of His calling, what are the riches of the glory of His inheritance in the saints, 19 and what is the exceeding greatness of His power toward us who believe, according to the working of His mighty power 20 which He worked in Christ when He raised Him from the dead and seated Him at His right hand in the heavenly places, 21 far above all principality and power and might and dominion, and every name that is named, not only in this age but also in that which is to come. NKJV

This is not some pie in the sky prayer that maybe someday we will begin to walk in this reality. NO this is available to us who believe, NOW. If we do not understand the past tense of Gods promises, then we will be like the older brother in the parable of the prodigal son. He thought his works were what gave him the Fathers promises. He said “Luke 15:13 Lo, these many years I have been serving you; I never transgressed your commandment at any time; .... And what did the Father say: Luke 15:31 And he said to him, 'Son, you are always with me, and **all that I have is yours.**' Do we know what the Father has given us?

Ok, so what does this look like? How do we enter this process? The good news is we already have. When we accepted Jesus as Lord and Savior, the Holy Spirit gave us a revelation that Christ Jesus was God in the flesh and that He paid for our sin so that we could be forgiven, and we were born again of His Spirit. The way we receive revelation knowledge is the same way. We ask the Holy Spirit to teach us. We ask Him to reveal who Christ is on the inside of us. I call these life bursts, where all of sudden I hear what the Spirit is telling me, and I agree and receive what He said. One way to test what you're hearing is 1) do you see this in the

scripture? And 2) do you see this in the life of Jesus when He was on the earth? This is what Paul told the Philippians - Phil 4:8-9  
8 Finally, brethren, whatever things are true, whatever things are noble, whatever things are just, whatever things are pure, whatever things are lovely, whatever things are of good report, if there is any virtue and if there is anything praiseworthy — **meditate on these things.** 9 The things which **you learned and received and heard and saw in me**, these do, and the God of peace will be with you. NKJV

Here Paul used himself as the example to look to. But rest assured, he knew who it was that was living through him. Gal 2:20 I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; NKJV

This brings us to the second part of this process mentioned in this verse, Meditate (Think) on these things. After we receive revelation, we must renew our minds, our way of thinking to line up with the truth we received. This is the only way to bring agreement and unity into your heart. I think of it this way: in your spirit you know what is true and immediately agree with it. However, in your soul, your mind will and emotions you have to receive and agree with the truth. We must change our world view to the truth that the Holy Spirit has taught us. When your spirit and your soul agree then your heart is perfect before the Lord. Faith is a spiritual force that comes from our spirit man, belief comes from our soul. You only believe what you think is true. When we believe a lie then our heart is not true, but when our spirit and our soul agree our very nature is changed and **we become the truth that we have believed.**

There are a lot of different ways to meditate going around now days. You may be wondering should I sit and chant something or should I cross my legs and hold my hands a certain way. How does a believer meditate? Let's look at a few examples from scripture:

The first mention of the word meditate is found in Gen 24:63 And Isaac went out to meditate in the field in the evening; NKJV

OT:7742 suwach (soo'-akh); a primitive root; **to muse** pensively: KJV - meditate.

Another popular verse is found in Joshua: Josh 1:8 This Book of the Law shall not depart from your mouth, but you **shall meditate in it day and night**, that you may observe to do according to all that is written in it. For then you will make your way prosperous, and then you will have good success. NKJV

OT:1897 hagah (daw-gaw'); a primitive root [compare OT:1901]; to murmur (in pleasure or anger); by implication, **to ponder**: KJV - **imagine**, meditate, mourn, mutter, roar, sore, speak, study, talk, utter.

In the Psalms we see this word used more times than any other book in the bible. Ps 119:15 I will meditate on Your precepts, and contemplate Your ways. 16 I will delight myself in Your statutes; I will not forget Your word. NKJV

OT:7878 siyach (see'-akh); a primitive root; **to ponder**, i.e. (by implication) converse (with oneself, and hence, aloud) or (transitively) utter: KJV - commune, complain, declare, meditate, muse, pray, speak, talk (with).



Paul gave us a New Testament use of meditate when he was telling the Philippians what to think on.

Phil 4:8 Finally, brethren, whatever things are true, whatever things are noble, whatever things are just, whatever things are pure, whatever things are lovely, whatever things are of good report, if there is any virtue and if there is anything praiseworthy — **meditate** on these things. NKJV

NT:3049 logizomai (log-id'-zom-ahee); middle voice from NT:3056; to take an inventory, i.e. estimate (literally or figuratively): KJV - conclude, (ac-) count (of), despise, esteem, impute, lay, number, reason, reckon, suppose, think (on).

Paul told Timothy that this would be instrumental in the outward visibility of his progress. 1 Tim 4:15 **Meditate** on these things; give yourself entirely to them, that your progress may be evident to all.

NT:3191 meletao (mel-et-ah'-o); from a presumed derivative of NT:3199; to take care of, i.e. (by implication) **revolve in the mind**: KJV - **imagine**, (pre-) meditate.

All of the different Hebrew and Greek words used for meditate seem to imply the same thing. Pondering and using your imagination to see the reality of what you are thinking on. The best way to do this is to find a quiet place where you can be alone with the Lord, and be still.

Ps 4:4 Be angry, and do not sin.

Meditate within your heart on your bed, and be still. NKJV

Ps 46:10 Be still, and know that I am God; I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth! NKJV

Silence all the stirring and cares that are in your mind and begin to ponder the greatness of our God. Think about His faithfulness to His promises. Think about how He is the one who made us acceptable before Him through the blood of Christ. Enter into the peace that only He can give and begin to dream with your Father. Let the Holy Spirit begin to reveal the realities of the spirit to you and show who you are.

You might be asking yourself, well if this is the way we learn why do I need to go to church or listen to any person teach me? The answer is simple. The Holy Spirit uses people to help us draw out the truths that are in our spirit man. When we listen to anyone teach, we are supposed to be tuned into the Holy Spirit. He uses the one speaking and anoints our hearing to hear His Voice. The reason that God set Apostles, Prophets, Evangelists, Pastors and Teachers in the Body was because He anointed them with abilities to release what is in us. When I teach, I can always tell when someone is receiving something from the Holy Spirit. There is a flow of Spirit Life. The same way Jesus could tell that someone touched Him in the crowd of people. The woman with the issue of blood used a special touch, the touch of faith. Jesus immediately felt virtue flow out of Him. These 5-fold ministry gifts, if they are in subjection to Jesus and not just coming up with their own good ideas, are vessels that the Holy Spirit uses in this process.

Teaching also helps us renew our minds to the truth that is in us. Some people get so convinced of half-truths or lies; it takes the anointing of the Holy Spirit that is on someone else to break through the strongholds that are in their mind. Every believer is

teaching those around them something. If what we are living is birthed in the Spirit, then it is releasing the kingdom of God everywhere we go to the degree that we abide in Christ Jesus, who is the Way the Truth and the Life, some 30 fold, some 60 fold and some 100 fold.

## Part 2 Decoding the Bible

### A New Covenant

The Next thing we must understand is covenantal standing. What covenant do we operate under, the old or the New? For they are entirely different and lay the foundation for how we interpret everything pertaining to our relationship with the Father.

The Old covenant ends with the Fulfillment of the Law, which takes place at the end of the Gospels. Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John's gospels are the fulfillment of the Old covenant. The New Covenant starts with Jesus' resurrection and is recorded in the book of Acts and includes all the epistles written to the new covenant church.

Matt 5:17-19 17 "Do not think that I came to destroy the Law or the Prophets. **I did not come to destroy but to fulfill.** 18 For assuredly, I say to you, till heaven and earth pass away, one jot or one tittle will by no means pass from the law **till all is fulfilled.** NKJV

Jesus was sent to the lost sheep of the house of Israel. Many of the things He said and did were in harmony with the Law and according to the Jewish understanding of scripture. Many of the

parables He used were to confound the wise among the religious leaders of the day. We can glean an understanding of the kingdom and spiritual principles that apply to us. However, some of the things He said only pertained to the Jews. He pushed the law to its outer limits to show the nation of Israel its sin and need for a Savior.

Matt 15:24

24 But He answered and said, "I was not sent except to the lost sheep of the house of Israel." NKJV

Jesus sent His disciples out

Matt 10:5-6

"Do not go into the way of the Gentiles, and do not enter a city of the Samaritans. 6 But go rather to the lost sheep of the house of Israel. NKJV

It was only after the nation of Israel rejected Jesus that the gospel was sent to the gentiles. God always had a way of salvation for all people, but it was through the Israelites. They were called proselytes, Gentiles who converted to the Jewish faith.

Rom 11:11 I say then, have they stumbled that they should fall? Certainly not! But through their fall, to provoke them to jealousy, **salvation has come to the Gentiles.** NKJV

When salvation came to the Gentiles it came with a new Covenant.

John 17:3-5

3 And this is eternal life, that they may know You, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom You have sent. 4 I have glorified You on the earth. **I have finished the work which You have given Me to do.** NKJV

John 19:29-30

30 So when Jesus had received the sour wine, He said, "**It is finished!**" And bowing His head, He gave up His spirit.  
NKJV

When Jesus made this declaration from the cross, He knew that he had fulfilled all things from the law and the scripture. He had met the Fathers justice that had to be met. Sin, the state of separation from God that started with Adam and had been passed down through all generations to the sons and daughters of men was now defeated. When He rose from the dead, He established the only way to come into right standing with God. A new birth was now available that would unite the spirit of man with the Spirit of Christ that would make us righteous in the sight of God and give us unlimited access to the throne room. A relationship that was no longer based on the laws of God but given by Grace through Faith based on what Jesus did for us. We are now family!  
**Everything in our relationship with God is now based on a Fathers love for His Sons and Daughters.**

## **A New Covenant is established**

If you do not understand the importance of the Covenant that you have with God you need to read more about this subject than I am

including in this book. I recommend this book “He Qualifies you” by Mr. Chad M Mansbridge.

God is and has always been a Covenant keeping God. Unlike people who sometimes break the contracts that they enter into and too often do not keep their word when they say they will do something, it is impossible for God to break His word. His Covenant is His promise. When He said he would throw our sin as far as the East is from the West, He did just that. He no longer remembers or brings up our past sins. Obviously if you are living in sin or have habitual sinful actions then you need freedom. Paul told us in Romans that if we are living in bondage then that is our master. Jesus died so we could live free from all sin. You may need deliverance to achieve that freedom. This book is to establish who you are in Christ all based upon the New Covenant we have with God. Rest assured as you rise up in your true identity as a Son of God all the bondages in your life will fall away. If you need help achieving that liberty, then by all means seek the help you need.

The following verses show us the foundation of a New and Better covenant that is available to us.

Heb 7:14

22 by so much more Jesus has become a surety of a better covenant. NKJV

Heb 7:18-19

18 For on the one hand there is an annulling of the former commandment because of its weakness and unprofitableness, 19 for the law made nothing perfect; on

the other hand, there is the bringing in of a better hope, through which we draw near to God. NKJV

Heb 8:5

6 But now He has obtained a more excellent ministry, inasmuch as He is also Mediator of a better covenant, **which was established on better promises.** NKJV

Heb 8:13

13 In that He says, "**A new covenant,**" **He has made the first obsolete.** Now what is becoming obsolete and growing old is ready to vanish away. NKJV

Heb 9:11-15

11 But Christ came as High Priest of the good things to come, with the greater and more perfect tabernacle not made with hands, that is, not of this creation. 12 Not with the blood of goats and calves, but with His own blood **He entered the Most Holy Place once for all, having obtained eternal redemption.** 13 For if the blood of bulls and goats and the ashes of a heifer, sprinkling the unclean, sanctifies for the purifying of the flesh, 14 **how much more shall the blood of Christ,** who through the eternal Spirit offered Himself without spot to God, **cleanse your conscience from dead works to serve the living God?** 15 And for this reason He is the Mediator of the new covenant, by means of death, for the redemption of the transgressions under the first covenant, that those who are called **may receive the promise of the eternal inheritance.** NKJV

You may need to stop right here for a few moments and let all that soak in. All we can say is WOW, Wow, wow! If you believe the lie that the enemy brings saying you are not worthy and valuable, then you have not realized what made you acceptable in the sight of our God and Father. We were washed and we were cleansed with the blood of Christ. We have received an eternal inheritance in Him.

Heb 10:8-10 Previously saying, "Sacrifice and offering, burnt offerings, and offerings for sin You did not desire, nor had pleasure in them"(which are offered according to the law), 9 then He said, "Behold, I have come to do Your will, O God." **He takes away the first that He may establish the second.** 10 By that will **we have been sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.** NKJV

Heb 10:19-23

19 Therefore, brethren, **having boldness to enter the Holiest by the blood of Jesus,** 20 by a new and living way which He consecrated for us, through the veil, that is, His flesh, 21 and having a High Priest over the house of God, 22 **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. NKJV

All these verses show us the amazing things that Jesus has accomplished for us. He has dealt sin and death its final blow. Sin has no authority over our lives any longer. Our very conscience should be cleansed from dead works. What are these dead works? They are the acts that lead to death, sin. We are no longer controlled by the sin nature. The writer of Hebrews mentioned them in chapter 6 verse 1: Heb 6:1 Therefore, leaving the



discussion of the elementary principles of Christ, let us go on to perfection, not laying again the foundation of repentance from dead works ... NKJV

If all we think about are dead works, we will never achieve the perfection that we have in Christ. Think about the power of His blood, how spotless and perfect was the sacrifice made for us. We are complete in Him. If we do not know who we are in Him and that the Father only sees us in Him, we will not receive the inheritance He has given us to live in Now. We are seated with Him in heavenly places. We are heaven on earth, just as Jesus was when He walked the earth.

How do we receive this divine nature?

2 Peter 1:2-4 2 Grace and peace be multiplied to you in the knowledge of God and of Jesus our Lord, 3 as His divine power has given to us all things that pertain to life and godliness, through the knowledge of Him who called us by glory and virtue, 4 by which **have been given to us exceedingly great and precious promises, that through these you may be partakers of the divine nature**, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust. NKJV

We receive it by believing the promises! The Old Covenant was based on keeping the law. The New Covenant is based on believing a promise. So, the only question is, do you believe and trust the Goodness of your Father to receive His promises? He withheld nothing to enter into a relationship with you. He has freely given you everything, including His Kingdom. So, will you allow Him to reveal to you who Christ is and let Him live His life through you. That is the very reason He has come to live in you, and one of the reasons the Holy Spirit is here to teach us and release His life in and through us to reconcile a lost world to Himself.

May these words build you up and encourage you to enter into the only process designed by the Father to release His life through us, to give us the abiding presence and power that our good works will never produce, that He alone can reveal in us to release His Kingdom everywhere we go. To Him be all the Glory forever and ever, amen.

## **What did we see in this Chapter**

1. The Word is a person, Christ
2. The Word is in us
3. Christ is the anointing that abides in us and teaches us
4. True spiritual growth only comes through life giving revelation
5. We are changed from the inside out
6. The Holy Spirit is also our teacher
7. Our mind is renewed by meditating on the truth
8. We have a New Covenant purchased by the blood of Jesus

# Chapter 5 the Perfect law of Liberty

## The Duplicity of our Walk in the Spirit

Our walk in the Spirit all comes down to where the focus of our life is directed. We can walk by physical sight or by faith, seeing the unseen. We must grasp the fact that this is a lifelong journey. The more we walk in the realities of the unseen realm the more naturally supernatural we become. Until we determine to believe what the scripture tells us and live in what God's Word tells us we will not have the fruit that we desire to see. How many times does the scripture have to say something before you believe it? Our thinking has to be constantly progressing in a process of repentance in order to fully embrace what Jesus made available to us. If we believe something that contradicts scripture or we embrace a theology that does not support the fullness of scripture we must be willing to change the way we think. If we try to force scripture to fit into our narrow way of thinking then we will never receive the very thing that will give us the ability to grow. When we find something in the scripture that challenges what we think we know we must be willing to expand our view of that topic. It is only when we search a matter out that we allow the Holy Spirit to teach us and release the revelation we need to be living epistles of the goodness of God.

James 1:5-8

5 If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask of God, who gives to all liberally and without reproach, and it will be given to him. 6 But let him **ask in faith, with no doubting**, for he who doubts is like a wave of the sea driven and tossed by the wind. 7 For let not that man suppose that he will receive anything from the Lord; 8 he is a **\*double-minded man, unstable in all his ways**. NKJV

James 1:23-25

23 For if anyone is a hearer of the word and not a doer, he is like a man observing his natural face in a mirror; 24 for he observes himself, goes

away, and immediately forgets what **\*\*kind of man he was. 25 But he who looks into the perfect law of liberty and continues in it and is not a forgetful hearer but a doer of the work**, this one will be blessed in what he does. NKJV

\*NT:1374 dipsuchos (dip'-soo-khos); from NT:1364 and NT:5590; two-spirited, i.e. vacillating (in opinion or purpose): KJV - **double minded**.

\*\*NT:3697 hopoios (hop-oy'-os); from NT:3739 and NT:4169; of what kind that, i.e. how (as) great (excellent) (specifically, as an indefinite correlative to the definite antecedent NT:5108 of quality): KJV - what manner (sort) of, such as whatsoever.

If we are trying to live by Old Covenant realities, we will be double minded and unstable in walking into the new realities that Christ made available to us. You see the liberty that we have in Christ is not a freedom to sin, but a freedom to become what He has made us. Paul said it this way: Gal 6:13-16

13 For not even those who are circumcised keep the law, but they desire to have you circumcised that they may boast in your flesh. 14 But God forbid that I should boast except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by whom the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world. 15 For in Christ Jesus neither circumcision nor uncircumcision avails anything, **but a new creation**. 16 **And as many as walk according to this rule**, peace and mercy be upon them, and upon the Israel of God. NKJV

What is the perfect law of liberty? It is the Grace of God. What we could not do, God did for us when He sent His Son into this world to represent us. He took our sin and paid the price we owed. He fulfilled the law and ended its reign of death over mankind. He made the way back into relationship with the Father. He gave us the ability to be born of His Spirit and become a son and an heir of the Fathers kingdom. An orphan thinks he has to work his way into the Fathers graces, but a son

enters into rest and knows that he does not have to earn the Father's love. A son grows out of relationship not works. We do not do the things we do to earn the Father's blessings. We do the things we do because we are a son. One is working toward something and the other is working from something. Our Father loves us because of who we are not what we do.

The Law dealt with the outer man, the flesh. The new creation deals with the inner man, our heart. The duplicity we deal with is how does our life change to be like Jesus? Is it by dealing with the outer man? Or, by realizing what has taken place on the inside and focusing on the new realities that we have?

Matt 6:22-24 Jesus said this:

22 "The lamp of the body is the eye. If therefore your eye is \*good, your whole body will be full of light. 23 But if your eye is bad, your whole body will be full of darkness. If therefore the light that is in you is darkness, how great is that darkness! 24 "No one can serve two masters; for either he will hate the one and love the other, or else he will be loyal to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and mammon. NKJV

\*Good NT:573 haplous (hap-looce'); probably from NT:1 (as a particle of union) and the base of NT:4120; properly, **folded together, i.e. single** (figuratively, clear): KJV - **single**.

We cannot focus on two things at the same time. If we do, we will be double minded and become unstable in all our ways. It is only by focusing on the new realities and allowing the Holy Spirit to bring revelation of who we are in Christ that His life is released in us. As a new creation there is no way we can continue to walk in old patterns of life. Sin is no longer in our nature. We are no longer its slave. We are no longer ruled by a spirit of disobedience or the master of this world. We

have been translated into the kingdom of light! Now we must keep our eyes on the King of Glory, and as we do our whole body will be full of light.

Isa 28:9-10 9 "Whom will he teach knowledge? And whom will he make to understand the message?

Those just weaned from milk? Those just drawn from the breasts?

10 For precept must be upon precept, precept upon precept, Line upon line, line upon line, Here a little, there a little." NKJV

Heb 5:12-6:3 12 For though by this time you ought to be teachers, you need someone to teach you again the first principles of the oracles of God; and you have come to need milk and not solid food. 13 For everyone who partakes only of milk is unskilled in **the word of righteousness**, for he is a babe. 14 But solid food belongs to those who are of full age, that is, those who by reason of use have their senses exercised to discern both good and evil.

Therefore, leaving the discussion of the elementary principles of Christ, let us go on to perfection, not laying again the foundation of repentance from dead works and of faith toward God, 2 of the doctrine of baptisms, of laying on of hands, of resurrection of the dead, and of eternal judgment. 3 And this we will do if God permits. NKJV

The Holy Spirit orated through inspiration the most beautiful book in the world. We call it the Holy Bible, the Scripture God's word. I mentioned earlier that Christ is "The Word". "The Word" is a person, the eternal Son of God. Yet if we do not understand how the Holy Spirit uses the scripture to reveal Christ, we will not stand firm in the midst of all the many storms this life brings. Jesus in Mark chapter 4 gave us in His words the key to understanding all parables. Mark 4:13 And He said to them, "Do you not understand this parable? How then will you understand all the parables? NKJV

Jesus taught us here that the Kingdom of God operates in the law of seed time and harvest. What this means is simply that you will never reap a harvest where you did not sow a seed. He told us that the word is the seed. We are not talking here about an earthly seed but a spiritual seed. God is not interested in us receiving knowledge in our mind. He is interested in our lives being transformed into the image of His Son. Renewing our mind to bring transformation only comes from the life of Christ in us being revealed as the Holy Spirit releases the breath of God that He put in the scripture when He inspired it. When this new reality becomes life in us, we will walk it out in our everyday life. Not through self-exertion, but by the grace of God that He put in His word, our daily bread. There is a life transformation that takes place when the Logos becomes Rhema. Everyone marveled at the authority that Jesus taught with. What was the difference? He spoke from something that was alive in Him, as He said my words are spirit and life. He did not teach from His great knowledge but instead released the life that was in Him.

2 Tim 3:16-17 16 All Scripture is given by **\*inspiration of God**, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness, 17 that the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work. NKJV

\*Inspiration NT:2315 theopneustos (teh-op'-nyoo-stos); from NT:2316 and a presumed derivative of NT:4154; **divinely breathed in**: KJV - given by inspiration of God.

The life of God is literally breathed into His word. We can read on the surface and gain knowledge of what the scripture says, or we can let the Holy Spirit give us the life that is in those words revealing Christ in us. This is the process that takes place that is shown in 1John 2 that I discussed earlier.

1 Cor 13:11 When I was a \*child, I spoke as a child, I understood as a child, I thought as a child; but when I became a man, I put away childish things. NKJV

\*Child NT:3516 nepios (nay'-pee-os); from an obsolete particle ne- (implying negation) and NT:2031; not speaking, i.e. an infant (minor); figuratively, a simple-minded person, an immature Christian: KJV - babe, child (+-ish).

NT:2031 epos (ep'-os); from NT:2036; speak or say a word: KJV - say.

Childlikeness and Childishness are two different things. Childlikeness is the complete uninhibited trust that we have in our Father. We receive His words like a child who knows how much our Father loves us. Childishness is a resistance to grow and move into the deeper things of the Spirit. It is linked directly to what is coming out of our mouth. Not so much related to a cussing or a foul mouth, but speaking negatively about the realities we have in Christ or speaking negatively about someone else. Mature believers all know how important the words are that we speak. Jesus said by our words we will be justified or condemned.

## The Flesh Vs the Spirit

2 Cor 5:17-19

17 Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is **a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new.** 18 Now **all things** are of God, who **has** reconciled us to Himself through Jesus Christ, and **has given us the ministry of reconciliation,** NKJV

Gal 5:16-18

16 I say then: Walk in the Spirit, and you shall not fulfill the lust of the flesh. 17 For the flesh lusts against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh; and these are contrary to one another, so that you do not do the



things that you wish. 18 But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not under the law. NKJV

The NLT version says it this way:

Gal 5:16-18

16 So I say, let the Holy Spirit guide your lives. Then you won't be doing what your sinful nature craves. 17 The sinful nature wants to do evil, which is just the opposite of what the Spirit wants. And the Spirit gives us desires that are the opposite of what the sinful nature desires. These two forces are constantly fighting each other, so you are not free to carry out your good intentions. 18 But when you are directed by the Spirit, you are not under obligation to the law of Moses. NLT

When we follow the flesh, we are following a dead man. We are living a dead life and sowing seeds that produce death. When we live a sinful life, the Law imposes itself upon us and produces death. We reap what we sow.

When we follow the Spirit, we are walking in our new reality and the things we sow to the spirit will never die and produce a continual harvest. The Law has no power over us.

So, what do we do?

**We must recognize that our flesh is DEAD. It has no right, power, or authority to rule us any longer.**

Rom 6:10-14

10 For the death that He died, He died to sin once for all; but the life that He lives, He lives to God. 11 Likewise you also, **reckon yourselves to be dead indeed to sin, but alive to God in Christ Jesus our Lord.** 12 Therefore **do not let sin reign in your mortal body**, that you should obey it in its lusts. 13 And do not present your members as instruments of unrighteousness to sin but **present yourselves to God as being alive from the dead, and your members as instruments of righteousness to**

**God. 14 For sin shall not have dominion over you, for you are not under law but under grace. NKJV**

Our life in the flesh died on the Cross of Christ. Our carnal life and its ability to rule over us was crucified with Jesus. When someone is dead, they no longer have the ability to rule anyone or anything. When a King or Queen dies someone new takes the throne.

Who is on the throne of your life? A dead man, or Christ?

Rom 7:5-6

5 For when we were in the flesh, the sinful passions which were aroused by the law were at work in our members to bear fruit to death. **6 But now** we have been delivered from the law, having died to what we were held by, so that **we should serve in the newness of the Spirit** and not in the oldness of the letter. NKJV

The flesh and its rebellious nature were exposed by the law. The law aroused the flesh, it caused it to rebel because it knew it could not keep the law. Every person on earth is under the law whether they are aware of it or not. Gods law is ruling over everyone until they come to Christ. They feel its pressure in their life but they do not know its origin. They are blind to eternal realities. When God spoke something into existence it became a reality. When Adam sinned, spiritual death came to all his descendants. When that occurred the only life left was the carnal life, a life ruled by the flesh.

Rom 7:18

18 For I know that in me (that is, in my flesh) nothing good dwells; for to will is present with me, but how to perform what is good I do not find.

NKJV

Rom 7:21-25

21 I find then a law, that evil is present with me, the one who wills to do good. 22 For I delight in the law of God according to the inward man. 23 But I see another law in my members, warring against the law of my

mind, and bringing me into captivity to the law of sin which is in my members. 24 O wretched man that I am! Who will deliver me from this body of death? 25 I thank God — through Jesus Christ our Lord! So then, with the mind I myself serve the law of God, but with the flesh the law of sin. NKJV

Rom 8:1-4

**There is therefore now no condemnation to those who are in Christ Jesus**, who do not walk according to the flesh, but according to the Spirit. 2 For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has made me free from the law of sin and death. 3 For what the law could not do in that it was weak through the flesh, God did by sending His own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, on account of sin: He condemned sin in the flesh, 4 that **the righteous requirement of the law might be fulfilled** in us who **do not walk according to the flesh but according to the Spirit**. NKJV

The very law that caused us to rebel loses its authority in Christ. It is fulfilled! The life of the flesh dies, and a new life has come, the life of the Spirit.

Rom 8:14 For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, these are sons of God NKJV

The Greek word used for sons in this verse is very significant. The word used here is *Huios*. There were actually 5 different Greek words used for child or son in the New Testament. *Tekna* refers to those who were born of God as in John 1:12, This word primarily signifies the relation of offspring to a parent and simply birth. *Huios* refers to those who are mature, acting as sons who represent their Father. The *Huios* have learned to recognize the voice of the one they have had close relationship with and will not follow another. They hear the still small voice of the Spirit and have learned to obey Him; these are the Sons of God. In Matt 3:17 when Jesus was baptized at the age of 30 this was

what the Father called Him. This is My beloved Son (Huios) in whom I am well pleased. Another significance of this word in the Jewish culture was that this meant that from that day forward the son was authorized and recognized by the father to carry out the family business. He fully represented the father in everything he did.

The easiest way to determine our maturity level in Christ is by which voice to we listen to the most? The Spirit or the flesh? Is our relationship to the Father determined by works or obedience? Are we trying to prove we are a son based on what we do or who we are? If we are led by the Spirit of God, then the motivation behind everything we do comes from His love. This is the only way that the Kingdom is manifested in the earth. If we are just trying to do good works then we are building our own kingdom. Jesus only did what He saw the Father do. Compassion flows from relationship not good intentions.

## **What we saw in this Chapter**

1. Focus determines direction, we are to be single minded
2. Our fleshly carnal nature is dead
3. We learn precept upon precept, line upon line
4. God breathed spirit life into the Scripture
5. We have grace to Walk in the Spirit
6. We are called to become (Huios) mature Sons who represent our Father

## Chapter 6 Grace Vs Works

Eph 2:8-10

8 For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God, 9 not of works, lest anyone should boast. NKJV

In Grace there are No Limits because we are dependent upon what God has done and is doing. In Works we are limited to our own best efforts.

The reason we must understand and walk in the Grace of God is because it is the way He reveals and releases His Kingdom. To access Grace, we must first submit to His desires and ability and recognize the total inability that is in us. Grace is based upon what He has done for us. Not just acknowledging it but walking in the reality of that Grace.

Sometimes humility is portrayed as staying in a lowly state that acknowledges what God has done with a grateful heart. But that is only the earthly side of humility. We must also enter into the heavenly side of humility which is walking in the reality of all Jesus has done for us. It is easier for us to say that we are not worthy of what He did for us, that is true, however the true value of something is only established by what someone is willing to pay for it. Jesus gave His Life for Us. We need to let Him determine our value. In humility walking in all He has provided based on the value He has given us. I think it takes more humility to **receive something we do not deserve**, that to simply say we are not worthy. The Father does not deal with us based on our past. He is only looking at our destiny.

To say we are not worthy of all He has given us is not true. We were not worthy when we were outside of the covenant He has made with us, but NOW we are worthy. We are now the Righteousness of God in Christ. When we walk in this new reality we are starting to walk in the Grace of God.

We do not want to be like the older brother in the story of the Prodigal son:

Luke 15:28-31

28 "But he was angry and would not go in. Therefore, his father came out and pleaded with him. 29 So he answered and said to his father, 'Lo, these many years I have been serving you; I never transgressed your commandment at any time; and yet you never gave me a young goat, that I might make merry with my friends. 30 But as soon as this son of yours came, who has devoured your livelihood with harlots, you killed the fatted calf for him.'

31 "And he said to him, 'Son, you are always with me, **and all that I have is yours.** NKJV

Are we too blind to see all that the Father has given us? Or do we lack the true humility to walk in it? Humility is not denying who we are, it is not using who we are to think we are better than anyone else. It is taking all we have been given and use it to serve others and to lay our lives down in love for those Christ died for.

2 Cor 3:4-6 4 And we have such trust through Christ toward God. 5 **Not that we are sufficient of ourselves to think of anything as being from ourselves, but our sufficiency is from God,** 6 who also made us sufficient as ministers of the new covenant, not of the letter but of the Spirit; for the letter kills, but the Spirit gives life. NKJV

2 Cor 3:14 But **we have this treasure in earthen vessels,** that the excellence of the power may be of God and not of us. NKJV

We only grow and are transformed one way in our spiritual walk. By staying in the Grace of God and letting His Glory transform us. Grace is our only access to the Spirit. Works deal with our flesh and are based on the law. Grace enables us to be moved by the compassion of the Father. So, when we do things, we are allowing His Grace to manifest His Glory

through us. He is the one who must initiate everything we do. If we initiate it, it is our work and not His. Jesus only did the things He saw the Father do. How did He know when the Father was doing something? **When He was moved by compassion**, He knew the Father was wanting to do something. **Compassion is the Love of God in motion bringing the mercy of God to those in need.**

Heb 4:7 Let us therefore come boldly to the **throne of grace**, that we may **obtain mercy and find grace to help in time of need.** NKJV

God's throne is a throne of Grace. That is the only one He sits on.

Rom 5:1-2 Therefore, having been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, 2 through whom also **we have access by faith into this grace in which we stand**, and rejoice in hope of the glory of God. NKJV

Many people think that our faith is to enable us to do great and mighty works. This verse shows us the most important thing that our faith is for. It gives us access into the Grace of God which is where we are to **stand**. It is in His grace that we receive our inheritance and all the promises that He has given us. He really is that GOOD! When we walk in His Grace then He will be able to do everything He desires through us.

## **Let us Look at Holiness**

Heb 10:14 For by one offering He has \*perfected forever those who are being sanctified. NKJV

Heb 10:14 for by one offering he hath perfected to the end those sanctified; YLT

\*Perfect NT:5048 teleioo (tel-i-o'-o); from NT:5046; **to complete**, i.e. (literally) accomplish, or (figuratively) consummate (in character): KJV - consecrate, finish, fulfil, make) perfect.NT:5046 teleios (tel'-i-os); from

NT:5056; complete (in various applications of labor, growth, mental and moral character, etc.); neuter (as noun, with NT:3588) completeness: KJV - of full age, man, perfect.

NT:40 Holy - hagios (hag'-ee-os); from hagos (a thing of awe) [compare NT:53, NT:2282]; sacred (physically, pure, morally blameless or religious, ceremonially, consecrated): KJV - (most) holy (one, thing), saint. NT:53 hagnos (hag-nos'); from the same as NT:40; properly, clean, i.e. (figuratively) innocent, modest, perfect: KJV - chaste, clean, pure.

The emphasis that should be put on our Holiness relies on first the one who has made us Holy, Christ. By His perfect sacrifice (offering) He made us perfect in our identity that is in Him. And second on the one who we are set apart unto. This word signifies the character of the one to whom we belong.

1 Peter 1:13-16 **13 Therefore gird up the loins of your mind, be sober, and rest your hope fully upon the grace that is to be brought to you at the revelation of Jesus Christ; 14 as obedient children, not conforming yourselves to the former lusts, as in your ignorance; 15 but as He who called you is holy, you also be holy in all your conduct, 16 because it is written, "Be holy, for I am holy."** NKJV

Holiness is a state of Grace. We did not earn it; we do not deserve it. It is the work of the Holy Spirit that brings the outward manifestation of the reality that we are the Righteousness of God in Christ. If Holiness was a work of the flesh, then the law would have been what brought it. But because it is a state of Grace given to us by the Father, we know that it is only received by faith in the finished work of the cross. The way I look at it is this, if you are possessed by God, then you are holy. If you are possessed by the flesh or the devil, then you are not. Sanctification is the process whereby you walk in more of the holiness of God, as Christ is formed in us, we walk in His holiness. This is not generated by



acts of discipline and our efforts but only by surrender to the Spirit of Christ that is in us. If we lose our life, then we will find it. Remember the pharisees did all the right things, but Jesus said they were whited sepulchers. Our life in Christ always comes from revelation of who we ARE in Him, perfected and holy, then we walk out the reality of that in our natural lives. What does it look like? Walking in the Love of God!

Many times, we confuse ourselves by listening to our flesh or our soul. Christ is one spirit with us and our spirit man is the one who is supposed to be dictating how we live. It is obvious when our flesh rises up, usually when we are fatigued or feel downcast for some reason that we let our flesh dictate what we think will take away the pain or tiredness. That never works and then we feel guilty for letting our flesh have its way. What we really needed to do was enter into the rest of the Lord. Get alone with Him and cry out in your weakness. Come boldly to the throne of Grace to find mercy to help in our time of need. Our soul is purified by obeying the truth through the Spirit. When we receive and walk in the Love of God our mind and emotions get cleansed from all the hatred and destruction that is in the world. If we do not think of ourselves the way the Father thinks about us, we will never love ourselves and let His Grace have its way in us.

1 Peter 1:22-23 22 Since you **have purified your souls** in obeying the truth through the Spirit in sincere \*(1) love of the brethren, \*(2) **love one another fervently with a pure heart**, 23 having been born again, not of corruptible seed but incorruptible, through the word of God which lives and abides forever. NKJV

(1) \*NT:5360 love

philadelphia (fil-ad-el-fee'-ah); from NT:5361; fraternal affection: KJV - brotherly love (kindness), love of the brethren.

*Philia* is friendship love. As C. S. Lewis wrote in his book, *The Four Loves*, “To the Ancients, Friendship seemed the happiest and most fully human of all loves.” *Philia* occurs from bonding over similar interests. Whereas lovers are both preoccupied with each other, friends are both preoccupied with the same things. Friends, of course, care about one another, but it is similar interests that attract them to one another. “*Philia*” is the opposite of “phobia,” literally meaning that those experiencing *philia* are drawn to one another.

- (2) \*NT:25 agapao (ag-ap-ah'-o); perhaps from agan (much) [or compare OT:5689]; to love (in a social or moral sense): KJV - (be-) love (-ed). Compare NT:5368.

*Agape* could be defined as charity. However, we often think of charity nowadays as giving away money or things, which doesn't encompass all of what *agape* is about. *Agape* love is unconcerned with the self and concerned with the greatest good of another. *Agape* isn't born just out of emotions, feelings, familiarity, or attraction, but from the will and as a choice. *Agape* requires faithfulness, commitment, and sacrifice without expecting anything in return.

This is the type of love the Bible speaks about the most. The New Testament references *agape* over **200 times**.

*Agape* love, in the Bible, is love that comes from God. God's love is not sentimental; it's part of His character. God loves from an outpouring of who He is. As **1 John 4:8** states, “God is love [*agapos*],” meaning He is the source of *agape* love. His love is undeserved, gracious, and sacrificial.

We are to love God and others with *agape* love. *Agape* is a choice, a deliberate striving for another's highest good, and is demonstrated through action. God set the standard for *agape* love in sending Jesus to die for us while we were still sinners.

1 Cor 13:4-8 4 \*Love suffers long and is kind; love does not envy; love does not parade itself, is not puffed up; 5 does not behave rudely, does not seek its own, is not provoked, thinks no evil; 6 does not rejoice in

iniquity, but rejoices in the truth; 7 bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. 8 Love never fails. NKJV

2 Cor 3:17-18 Now the Lord is the Spirit; and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is liberty. 18 But we all, with unveiled face, beholding as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from glory to glory, just as by the Spirit of the Lord. NKJV

The process we are in is His Spirit in us taking us from glory to glory as He is revealed in us. That is where His Spirit is, and through His grace, we can behold Him. What do you see when you look in the mirror? Do you see His image? It is Christ in us the hope of glory.

God' glory is His manifest presence, the weight of His substance, the essence of His Character, the reality of who He is. We do not come into His presence based upon what we have done. The only access we have to Him is in Christ. Based entirely upon what Jesus has done for us. By His \*Grace. His Grace entails far more than we can imagine. I have included here an extended definition of Grace:

\*Grace (Strong's #5485 — Noun Feminine — charis — khar'-ece )

Grace has various uses, (a) objective, that which bestows or occasions pleasure, delight, or causes favorable regard; it is applied, e.g., to beauty, or gracefulness of person, act, or speech, Luke 4:22 , RV, "words of grace" (AV, "gracious words"); Colossians 4:6 ; (b) subjective, (1) on the part of the bestower, the friendly disposition from which the kindly act proceeds, graciousness, loving-kindness, goodwill generally, e.g., Acts 7:10 ; especially with reference to the Divine favor or "grace," e.g., Acts 14:26 ; in this respect there is stress on its freeness and universality, its spontaneous character, as in the case of God's redemptive mercy, and the pleasure or joy He designs for the recipient; thus it is set in contrast with debt, Romans 4:4,16 , with works, Romans 11:6 , and with law, John 1:17 ; see also, e.g., Romans 6:14,15 ; Galatians 5:4 ; (2) on the part of the receiver, a sense of the favor bestowed, a feeling of gratitude, e.g., Romans 6:17 ("thanks"); in this respect it sometimes signifies "to be thankful," e.g., Luke 17:9 ("doth

he thank the servant?" lit., "hath he thanks to"); 1 Timothy 1:12 ; (c) in another objective sense, the effect of "grace," the spiritual state of those who have experienced its exercise, whether (1) a state of "grace," e.g., Romans 5:2 ; 1 Peter 5:12 ; 2 Peter 3:18 , or (2) a proof thereof in practical effects, deeds of "grace," e.g., 1 Corinthians 16:3 , RV, "bounty" (AV, "liberality"); 2 Corinthians 8:6,19 (in 2 Corinthians 9:8 it means the sum of earthly blessings); the power and equipment for ministry, e.g., Romans 1:5 ; 12:6 ; 15:15 ; 1 Corinthians 3:10 ; Galatians 2:9 ; Ephesians 3:2,7 .

To be in favor with is to find "grace" with, e.g., Acts 2:47 ; hence it appears in this sense at the beginning and the end of several Epistles, where the writer desires "grace" from God for the readers, e.g., Romans 1:7 ; 1 Corinthians 1:3 ; in this respect it is connected with the imperative mood of the word *chairō*, "to rejoice," a mode of greeting among Greeks, e.g., Acts 15:23 ; James 1:1 (marg.); 2 John 1:10,11 , RV, "greeting" (AV, "God speed").

Notice that the Greek word for Grace is *Charis*. It is the same root word used here for gifts: 1 Cor 12:4 There are diversities of **gifts**, but the same Spirit. NKJV All the gifts of the Spirit are an act of God's Grace.

Rom 3:27-29

Where is boasting then? It is excluded. **By what law? Of works? No**, but by the law of faith. 28 Therefore we conclude that a man is justified by faith apart from the deeds of the law. NKJV

Works are our efforts to keep a standard that we place on ourselves. Whether it is based on the law of God or a moral standard that we learned from others. When we try to justify ourselves based on an external standard, we are putting ourselves into the law of works.

Rom 4:1-4 What then shall we say that Abraham our father has found according to the flesh? 2 For if Abraham was justified by works, he has something to boast about, but not before God. 3 For what does the Scripture say? "Abraham believed God, and it was accounted to him for

righteousness." 4 Now to him who works, **the wages are not counted as grace but as debt.** NKJV

When we live based on works, we think that we are owed something for our ability to keep the external standard we have met. This is trying to tell God He owes us something. Many times, when people pray, they will bring up all the good things someone has done implying that based on those works God should answer their prayer. When we do things based on God's Grace, we are doing things according to what He has done, based solely on the finished work of Christ.

Rom 4:6-8

6 just as David also describes the blessedness of the man to whom God imputes righteousness apart from works: 7 "Blessed are those whose lawless deeds are forgiven, And **whose sins are covered;** 8 Blessed is the man to whom **the Lord shall not \*impute \*sin.**" NKJV

**\*Impute** NT:3049 logizomai (log-id'-zom-ah-ee); middle voice from NT:3056; **to take an inventory**, i.e. estimate (literally or figuratively): KJV - conclude, (ac-) count (of), despise, esteem, impute, lay, number, reason, reckon, suppose, think (on).

**\*Sin** NT:266 hamartia (ham-ar-tee'-ah); from NT:264; a sin (properly abstract): KJV - offence, sin (-ful).

**God is not keeping an inventory of our sins. He has dealt with our sins in Christ and is no longer imputing sin to us.** This is a statement that can only be interpreted in light of the Scripture. It does not make sense to our natural way of thinking. We know that 1 John 1:6-2:2 says this:

6 If we say that we have fellowship with Him, and walk in darkness, we lie and do not practice the truth. 7 But if we walk in the light as He is in the light, we have fellowship **with one another**, and the blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanses us from all sin. 8 **If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.** 9 If we confess our

sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. 10 If we say that we have not sinned, we make Him a liar, and **His word is not in us.** 2:1 My little children, these things I write to you, **so that you may not sin.** And if anyone sins, we have an Advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous. 2 And He Himself is the propitiation for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the whole world. NKJV

We have to interpret these 2 passages of scripture in light of our triune existence. We are a Spirit that has a soul that lives in a body. We know at its root source; Sin is living a life that is not in fellowship with God. Held captive by the ruler of the darkness of this world. A life that is ruled by the carnal nature, a soulish life ruled by the flesh. We also know according to 2Cor 5:17 that when we were born of the Spirit, we (our Spirit) became a new creation and we became the righteousness of God in Christ. However, our soul and body did not change. It is now our responsibility to grow in Christ. We are told to offer our bodies as a living sacrifice and to renew our mind to a new reality. This is a process, and in this process the Truth that is now in us, the One who is The Word, will lead us in this righteousness that we now have. If you buy a brand-new garbage disposal and install it in your kitchen sink, it is perfect when you first install it. However, if you start filling it with scraps of food and other items and never run it, it will start to stink and clog the flow of water that is supposed to go down the drain. That is the way our spiritual walk can become. If we do or say or dwell on something in our mind that we know is not part of the righteousness of God it will start to stink up our relationships and our intimacy with Jesus. We have a simple solution, confess those sins, run the disposal and let the fresh water cleanse our body and soul back to newness that we have in Christ. If we are one Spirit with Christ then we know sin does not separate us from the Father and never will again. What it does do is steal our peace and our ability to let Him live through us. It does not

mean that His Grace will not move through us to touch others. This is what seems to confuse many people. They ask why would God use someone that they know is living in obvious sin? This is questioning God's Grace, not His will or desires. If this person is someone who truly has had a relationship with the Father, you can rest assured that the Holy Spirit is at work to bring them back into the light of fellowship. We are not their judge and they are not our servant. Pray for them and continue your own walk with Jesus.

Rom 11:5-6

5 Even so then, at this present time there is a remnant according to **the election of grace.** 6 **And if by grace, then it is no longer of works; otherwise, grace is no longer grace.** But if it is of works, it is no longer grace; otherwise, work is no longer work. NKJV

You cannot have works and grace. Either we do things according to His Grace or we do things according to our works. There have been many people who have done great works; however, their works have only affected natural outcomes. When we do things by Grace, we impact eternity, and the only one that gets the glory is God.

**Grace and Faith work hand in hand. Without faith you cannot access the Grace you are called into.**

Rom 5:1-3

Therefore, having been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, 2 through whom also we have access **by faith into this grace in which we stand**, and rejoice in hope of the glory of God. NKJV

To many times we have been taught that we are to use our faith to do great things and believe for the impossible. Yet in reality, our faith is to give us access to the Grace of God that has already accomplished

everything that we will ever have need of. Grace is based upon the goodness and love of God.

Rom 5:15-16

For if by the one man's offense many died, much more the grace of God and the gift by the grace of the one Man, Jesus Christ, abounded to many. NKJV

Rom 5:17

17 For if by the one man's offense death reigned through the one, much more those who receive **abundance of grace and of the gift of righteousness** will reign in life through the One, Jesus Christ.) NKJV

If we are not reigning over life's circumstances, then we are not walking in the abundance of Grace. We must understand that Grace has nothing to do with a blank check to continue in any sin or a sinful lifestyle. Grace is actually the opposite. The Grace of God is the power of God to live a holy life as well as the ability to receive everything the Father has promised us. His promises literally carry within them the Grace to receive and walk in the very thing He promised. This is also true of every commission and command that Jesus gave us. Within that command is the Grace to do it. We have to humble ourselves and tell the Lord that we do not have the physical ability to do what He has asked us to do. We need to recognize our weaknesses without using them as an excuse to neglect the things we are called to. Why? Because it is not dependent on our ability or inability. It is dependent on His Spirit who is in us and the Holy Spirit who is upon us. God is not looking for people who are qualified, He is looking for those who are willing. If only qualified people were used by God, then we would not need His Grace and He would not receive the Glory.

Rom 6:1-11 What shall we say then? Shall we continue in sin that grace may abound? 2 Certainly not! How shall **we who died to sin live any longer in it?** 3 Or do you not know that as many of us as were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into His death? 4 Therefore we were



buried with Him through baptism into death, that just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also **should walk in newness of life**. 5 For if we have been united together in the likeness of His death, certainly we also shall be in the likeness of His resurrection, 6 knowing this, that our **old man was crucified with Him**, that the body of sin might be done away with, that we should no longer be slaves of sin. 7 For he who has died has been freed from sin. 8 Now if we died with Christ, we believe that we shall also live with Him, 9 knowing that Christ, having been raised from the dead, dies no more. Death no longer has dominion over Him. 10 For the death that He died, He died to sin once for all; but the life that He lives, He lives to God. 11 Likewise you also, **reckon yourselves to be dead indeed to sin, but alive to God in Christ Jesus our Lord**. NKJV

For Grace to have its full impact on us, we must fully embrace the legal death of our flesh. It no longer has the authority to rule over us. Works and the law are tied to our fleshly existence. Grace is how we walk in the newness of the Spirit. The truth is that we had to be freed from the bonds of sin in order to approach a Holy God. Just as sin separated us from God, now Grace has given us full access to come boldly to Him.

Gal 5:19-26 19 Now the works of the flesh are evident, which are: adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lewdness, 20 idolatry, sorcery, hatred, contentions, jealousies, outbursts of wrath, selfish ambitions, dissensions, heresies, 21 envy, murders, drunkenness, revelries, and the like; of which I tell you beforehand, just as I also told you in time past, that those who practice such things will not inherit the kingdom of God. 22 But **the fruit of the Spirit** is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, 23 gentleness, self-control. Against such there is no law. 24 And **those who are Christ's have crucified the flesh** with its passions and desires. 25 **If we live in the Spirit, let us also walk in the Spirit**. NKJV

Our efforts are not in trying to rehabilitate a dead man. We are called to Walk in the Spirit, when we do that, the flesh has no fruit in our life. Works are the way we think we can bring the flesh under control. The reality is the only way to walk in victory over our fleshly desires **IS to Walk in the Spirit.**

Rom 8:2-5

2 For **the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus** has made me free from the law of sin and death. 3 For what the law could not do in that it was weak through the flesh, God did by sending His own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, on account of sin: He condemned sin in the flesh, 4 **that the righteous requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us who do not walk according to the flesh but according to the Spirit.** NKJV

Rom 8:9-11

But **you are not in the flesh but in the Spirit**, if indeed the Spirit of God dwells in you. Now if anyone **does not have the Spirit of Christ, he is not His.** 10 **And if Christ is in you**, the body is dead because of sin, but the Spirit is life because of righteousness. NKJV

Notice here that Paul makes sure we know who the Spirit of God is that he is referring to. **The Spirit of Christ.**

Rom 8:12-14

12 Therefore, brethren, we are debtors — not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh. 13 For if you live according to the flesh you will die; but if **by the Spirit** you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live. 14 For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, these are sons of God. NKJV

It really could not be any clearer in this passage that what we need to be focused on is being led by the Spirit. Yet the unfortunate reality is that most preachers spend most of their time trying to deal with the flesh. I do not know of any bill collector that has ever made a trip to the cemetery to try to collect money from a dead man. Yet we think that

somehow, if we focus on someone who is dead that we can measure up to Gods standard. How foolish it is to spend all of our time worrying about a dead man, when we are supposed to be learning how to walk in the Spirit. Our victory is only achieved by the Grace of God found in the Spirit.

Remember what Paul said to the Galatians: Gal 3:2-4

2 This only I want to learn from you: Did you receive the Spirit **by the works of the law**, or by the hearing of faith? 3 **Are you so foolish? Having begun in the Spirit, are you now being made perfect by the flesh?** 4 Have you suffered so many things in vain — if indeed it was in vain? NKJV

2 Tim 1:8-9 8 Therefore do not be ashamed of the testimony of our Lord, nor of me His prisoner, but share with me in the sufferings for the gospel according to the power of God, 9 who has saved us and called us with a holy calling, **not according to our works, but according to His own purpose and grace which was given to us in Christ Jesus before time began** NKJV

When we realize and accept how complete and all-encompassing the Fathers love is that He showed us in Christ we will quite striving like an orphan and begin to walk as a Son knowing that He has done it all by His Grace. If He did it before time began, how can anything that we do negate it. We either choose by faith to receive it or choose to ignore all He has provided and walk in darkness.

Titus 3:4-7

4 But when **the kindness and the love of God our Savior toward man appeared**, 5 **not by works of righteousness which we have done**, but according to His mercy He saved us, through the washing of regeneration and renewing of the Holy Spirit, 6 whom He poured out on us abundantly through Jesus Christ our Savior, 7 that **having been**

**justified by His grace** we should become heirs according to the hope of eternal life. NKJV

If you are not grasping the totality of the New Covenant that we have with God by His Grace yet. You need to go back and re-read this chapter and ask the Father to forgive for not believing His Word. You see it is essential to walking and living in the Spirit that we allow God's Word to wash away the wrong thinking that we have been living in. That is called repentance (Changing your mind). Sometimes when we have let the life of others speak louder to us than the scripture, we have set ourselves up to not walk in the fullness of Christ. We all learn from those around us, which is what we are supposed to do. However, if what we have learned does not live up to the image of Christ then we need to go back to Him. We are only transformed by Him. The Holy Spirit's desire is to release in us the fullness of Christ; anything less only shows a fractured image of Him. Just as Jesus told Philip, if you have seen me, you have seen the Father, we need to be able to say if you have seen me, you have seen Christ. I hear your thoughts saying "well that is impossible". Now you are catching on. In our strength and ability, you are absolutely right. It is impossible. That is why we are completely dependent on Christ and the Holy Spirit to bring about this transformation. It is only by His Grace and our surrender to the process.

## **One more key element to walking in the Spirit**

Heb 9:13-15

13 For if the blood of bulls and goats and the ashes of a heifer, sprinkling the unclean, sanctifies for the purifying of the flesh, 14 **how much more** shall the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered Himself without spot to God, **cleanse your \*conscience** from dead works to serve the living God? NKJV

Having a clean or clear conscience is vital to hearing the voice of the Holy Spirit. If our conscience is tied up in fighting a battle against dead

works then we will not be in a position to follow the voice of God. The way we live a holy life is not by following a law or works, it is by keeping a clean conscience. Paul talks about the conscience more than any other writer in the New Testament. Let's take a look at why. To get a clear picture of this word we need to look at the root words it is from.

\* Conscience NT:4893 *suneidesis* (soon-i'-day-sis); from a prolonged form of **NT:4894**; coperception, i.e. moral consciousness: KJV - conscience.

NT:**4894** *suneido* (soon-i'-do); from **NT:4862** and **NT:1492**; to see completely; used (like its primary) only in two past tenses, respectively meaning **to understand or become aware**, and **to be conscious or (clandestinely) informed of**: KJV - consider, know, be privy, be aware of.

NT:**4862** *sun* (soon); a primary preposition **denoting union**; with or together (but much closer than NT:3326 or NT:3844), i.e. by **association**, companionship, process, **resemblance**, possession, instrumentality, addition, etc.: KJV - beside, with. In composition it has similar applications, including **completeness**.

NT:**1492** *eido* (i'-do); a primary verb; used only in certain past tenses, the others being borrowed from the equivalent NT:3700 and NT:3708; **properly, to see** (literally or figuratively); **by implication** (in the perf. only) **to know**: KJV - be aware, behold, can (+not tell), consider, (have) know (-ledge), look (on), perceive, see, be sure, tell, understand, wish, wot. Compare NT:3700.

What is all this telling us? Our conscience is the window that our soul sees the realities of the Spirit through. We are aware of the one who is in us. If we live according to the one we are in union with we have a clean conscience. If we do not then our own conscience will convict us. It is like the mirror that James speaks of, we look and see who we are and then turn away and live a contrary lifestyle. Think of it this way. You

look into a two-sided mirror. Looking one way you see the perfect image of Christ. On the other side you see the reflection of your lifestyle. If the two images match your conscience is clean. This is directly tied to the confidence that John speaks about in 1 John 3:18-22  
18 My little children, let us not love in word or in tongue, but in deed and in truth. 19 And by this we know that we are of the truth, and shall assure our hearts before Him. 20 For if **our** heart condemns us, God is greater than our heart, and knows all things. 21 Beloved, if our heart does not condemn us, we have confidence toward God. 22 And whatever we ask we receive from Him, because we keep His commandments and do those things that are pleasing in His sight. NKJV

This is all tied to our love walk. What are His commandments? 1 John 3:23 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.** NKJV

That is why Paul said that for conscience's sake we should not use our liberty as a stumbling block to a weaker brother or sister. He was talking about eating meat that was offered to an idol, but this is true about anything that is outside of walking in love.

## **The Law Vs Faith**

Rom 9:30-33 30 What shall we say then? That Gentiles, who did not pursue righteousness, have attained to righteousness, even the righteousness of faith; 31 but Israel, pursuing the law of righteousness, has not attained to the law of righteousness. 32 Why? Because **they did not seek it by faith**, but as it were, by the works of the law. For they stumbled at that stumbling stone. NKJV

Gal 2:16

16 knowing that a man **is not justified by the works of the law but by faith in Jesus Christ**, even we have believed in Christ Jesus, **that we might be justified by faith in Christ and not by the works of the law; for by the works of the law no flesh shall be justified.** NKJV

You cannot mix the law and grace. They are like oil and water. You either walk by faith in God's Grace or you live by the Law. Just remember the law will not produce the life of Christ in you. It will only produce a critical spirit and condemnation that will steal the joy that the Father wants us to live in.

Gal 3:13-14

13 Christ has redeemed us from the curse of the law, having become a curse for us (for it is written, "Cursed is everyone who hangs on a tree"), 14 that the blessing of Abraham might come upon the Gentiles in Christ Jesus, that we might receive the promise of the Spirit through faith. NKJV

## **What did we see in this Chapter**

1. Grace has no limits
2. God's throne is a throne of Grace
3. Holiness is a state of Grace
4. God is Agape Love
5. Walking in agape is a choice
6. Grace and Faith work together
7. Our conscience is the barometer of our heart
8. Faith and Law do not mix

## Chapter 7 The Leaven of the Pharisees

Matt 16:11-12 Don't you understand? I'm not talking about bread, but I'm warning you to avoid the yeast of the Pharisees and the Sadducees." 12 Then finally they realized he wasn't talking about yeast found in bread, **but the error of the teachings of the Pharisees and the Sadducees.**

What was the teaching of the Pharisees and Sadducees? Let's take a look at a little more about them.

"Pharisees" means "separated ones" (separatists). It is believed that during the time of Jesus there were approximately six thousand Pharisees in Israel. They refused to have dealings with the common people, because they were separated to God. Jesus described them as religious frauds who loved money and wanted to be the final authority on all the doctrines that were taught to the people. They were not all priests, but zealous law keepers who wanted their interpretation of the Scriptures to be the standard in Israel.

The Sadducees (Tzedukim) were wealthy aristocrats with political connections to Rome. They did not believe in the afterlife or angels or demons, and they denied the miraculous. It is believed that among them were Jewish converts from the Edomites who were forced to convert to Judaism in 129 BC by John Hyrcanus, the Hasmonean leader of the second century BC. The Sadducees loved Greek (Hellenistic) culture and basically rejected the oral law of the Pharisees. The Herodians would also be considered to be of the Sadducees. You can imagine how Jesus upset both the Pharisees and the Sadducees. Jesus had no difficulty breaking the traditions, taboos, religious teachings, and political loyalties of both Pharisees and Sadducees in order to please his heavenly Father.

Jesus tells us about the Pharisees:



John 8:10-19 10 When Jesus had raised Himself up and saw no one but the woman, He said to her, "Woman, where are those accusers of yours? Has no one condemned you?" 11 She said, "No one, Lord." And Jesus said to her, "Neither do I condemn you; go and sin no more." 12 Then Jesus spoke to them again, saying, "I am the light of the world. He who follows Me shall not walk in darkness, but have the light of life." 13 The Pharisees therefore said to Him, "You bear witness of Yourself; Your witness is not true." 14 Jesus answered and said to them, "Even if I bear witness of Myself, My witness is true, for I know where I came from and where I am going; but you do not know where I come from and where I am going. 15 **You judge according to the flesh; I judge no one.** 16 And yet if I do judge, My judgment is true; for I am not alone, but I am with the Father who sent Me. 17 It is also written in your law that the testimony of two men is true. 18 I am One who bears witness of Myself, and the Father who sent Me bears witness of Me." 19 Then they said to Him, "Where is Your Father?"

Jesus answered, "**You know neither Me nor My Father. If you had known Me, you would have known My Father also.**" NKJV

The first thing we see here is that the Pharisees only looked at the outward appearance. They were only concerned with what appeared to be the keeping of the Law. Then Jesus told them plainly that they did not know Him or His Father. They did not have a relationship with God.

Matt 23:13-14

For you shut up the kingdom of heaven against men; for you neither go in yourselves, nor do you allow those who are entering to go in. 14 Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you devour widows' houses, and for a pretense make long prayers. NKJV

Those who were supposed to be leading the way to enter the kingdom were actually road blocks for anyone who wanted to enter in. They were masters at appearing righteous but in reality, did not have the true righteousness that came from God.

Matt 23:17-18

17 Fools and blind! For which is greater, the gold or the temple that sanctifies the gold? NKJV

Matt 23:23-24 23 "Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you pay tithe of mint and anise and cumin, and have neglected the weightier matters of the law: **justice and mercy and faith**. These you ought to have done, without leaving the others undone. 24 Blind guides, who strain out a gnat and swallow a camel! NKJV

Jesus showed their hypocrisy in how they choose what they wanted to follow from the Law and neglected the things that they should have been focused on. That is what the spirit of religion will do. It focuses on the external and denies the reality of what has happened on the inside, in the spirit. Unfortunately, we see this spirit hard at work in the church today. The attacks on believers most often happen from the inside and not those in the world. We see this mainly in forms of Christendom where vast portions of scripture are denied. They serve a god who has no power and only fill their minds with what they believe is the portion of scripture that pertains to them. Much like the Pharisees who only followed the laws that they choose to. What this type of believing does is disqualifies those who follow it from being transformed by Christ who is in them. They do not live by Spiritual realities, but rather by earthly realities interpreted by a biblical lens. The fact that Jesus called this leaven should show us that it will affect our entire relationship with Him. It is not enough to believe only the things in scripture that we choose to believe. We must embrace the fullness of who He is and who He has called us to be. One thing that is very interesting in the story of the prodigal son. When the father addressed the two sons, he called the son who had repented and came back to his father a Huios son. Which implies maturity and the ability to represent his father's name. Yet the older son who said that he had always done the things that he thought would please his father and was infuriated by the party for the younger son, the father addressed as Teknon. The Greek word for a child, or immature son.

When we embrace a spirit of repentance (A willingness to change the way we think) we are walking in maturity. Pride will always blind us to see the truth that is right in front of us. This is the root of the religious spirit and the leaven that spoils the whole lump.

Matt 23:25-26 25 "Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you cleanse the outside of the cup and dish, but inside they are full of extortion and self-indulgence. 26 Blind Pharisee, **first cleanse the inside of the cup and dish, that the outside of them may be clean also.** NKJV

Matt 23:27-28 27 "Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you are like whitewashed tombs which indeed appear beautiful outwardly, but inside are full of dead men's bones and all uncleanness. 28 Even so you also outwardly appear righteous to men, **but inside you are full of hypocrisy and lawlessness.** NKJV

The spirit of Religion will always attack the spirit of sonship. The main reason this happens is because they do not have a revelation of who Christ has made us to be. They can only relate to the old man that died with Christ and never enter in to the Liberty of the Sons of God through His Grace.

Rom 3:21-26

21 But now the righteousness of God apart from the law is revealed, being witnessed by the Law and the Prophets,

22 even the righteousness of God, through faith in Jesus Christ, to all and on all who believe. For there is no difference;

23 for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, (*we have all failed and do all fail*)

24 being justified freely **by His grace** through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus,

25 whom God set forth as **a propitiation by His blood** through faith, to demonstrate His righteousness, because in His forbearance God had passed over the sins that were previously committed,

26 to demonstrate at the present time His righteousness, that **He might be just and the justifier of the one who has faith in Jesus.**

27 Where is boasting then? It is excluded. By what law? Of \*works? No, but by the law of faith.

28 Therefore we conclude that **a man is justified by faith apart from the deeds of the law.** (NKJV)

\*Works 2041 ergon (er'-gon); from a primary (but obsolete) ergo (to work); toil (as an effort or occupation); by implication, an act: KJV-- deed, doing, labour, work.

Rom 5:15-17 15 But the free gift is not like the offense. For if by the one man's offense many died, much more the grace of God and the gift by the grace of the one Man, Jesus Christ, abounded to many.

16 And the gift is not like that which came through the one who sinned. For the judgment which came from one offense resulted in condemnation, but the free gift which came from many offenses resulted in justification.

17 For if by the one man's offense death reigned through the one, much more **those who receive abundance of grace and of the gift of righteousness will reign in life through the One, Jesus Christ.**

18 Therefore, as through one man's offense judgment came to all men, resulting in condemnation, even so through one Man's righteous act the free gift came to all men, resulting in **\*justification** of life. (NKJV)

Why is this word Justification so important? Because it is the opposite of condemnation. If we do not learn how to walk free from condemnation, we will never live in the realities that we have in the spirit. Condemnation is the number one method the enemy uses to keep us trapped in a cycle of sin consciousness. He wants all our focus to be on our weaknesses and areas we have failed in the past. Yet the very key to true spiritual growth is keeping our eyes on Christ and the revelation He is daily giving us to bring about transformation. We have all heard the phrase, "practice makes perfect". The only problem with this is if we are practicing the wrong thing then we will never become perfect.

\*Justification NT:1347 dikaios (dik-ah'-yo-sis); from NT:1344; **acquittal** (for Christ's sake): KJV - justification.

**1344** dikaios (dik-ah-yo'-o); from **1342**; **to render** (i.e. show or regard as) **just or innocent**: KJV-- free, justify (-ier), be righteous.

**1342** dikaios (dik'-ah-yos); from 1349; equitable (in character or act); **by implication, innocent, holy** (absolutely or relatively): KJV-- just, meet, right (-eous).

Rom 5:1-2 1 Therefore, **having been justified by faith**, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, 2 through whom also we have access by faith into this grace in which we stand, and rejoice in hope of the glory of God. (NKJ)

Grace - The reality of all that Jesus has done for us being manifest in our lives. The ability to walk in the reality of all He has done for us.

Works - Trying to add to the justification of what Jesus has done for us by doing something to make ourselves of greater value in the eyes of God and man. Whether good or bad. Good works do not bring any more justification, and bad works do not take away any value from the justification that Jesus has given us.

Rom 4:3-5 3 For what does the Scripture say? "Abraham believed God, and it was accounted to him for righteousness." 4 Now to him who works, the wages are **not counted as grace but as debt**.

5 But to him who does not work but believes on Him who justifies the ungodly, his faith is accounted for righteousness, (NKJ)

What are the characteristics of a religious spirit? Judgement and condemnation. It judges others to be less than themselves and condemns others to appear more holy.

What is our mindset?

Rom 4:7-8 7 "Blessed are those whose lawless deeds are forgiven, and whose sins are covered;

8 Blessed is the man to whom the Lord shall not impute sin." (NKJ)

Rom 4:14-16 14 For if those who are of the law are heirs, faith is made void and the promise made of no effect, 15 because the law brings about wrath; for where there is no law there is no transgression. (*Can you get a speeding ticket if there is no speed limit?*) 16 **Therefore it is of faith that it might be according to grace**, so that the promise might **be sure to all the seed**, not only to those who are of the law, but also to those who are of the faith of Abraham, who is the father of us all. (NKJ)

Rom 4:20-25 20 He did not waver at the promise of God through unbelief, but was strengthened in faith, giving glory to God, 21 and being **fully convinced that what He had promised He was also able to perform**. (*What has God Promised us? What do we know He can perform?*)

22 And therefore "it was accounted to him for righteousness."

23 Now it was not written for his sake alone that it was imputed to him, 24 but also for us. It shall be imputed to us who believe in Him who raised up Jesus our Lord from the dead, 25 who was delivered up because of our offenses, and was raised because of our justification. (NKJV)

We are justified before our Father in Heaven. We are holy, just as holy as the blood of Jesus. It is His blood that the Father sees over our lives. Not just His blood over us, but we are IN HIM and He is IN US. That is our true spiritual reality. That is the way the Father sees us. So many churches fall into a works mentality in everything they do. We cannot do that. You can never do enough so if you try you will wear yourself out. It is not about us doing everything, it is about us walking in the liberty and the Grace that He has given us to become who He has created us to be. If we will simply be who He has made us to be, we will do all He desires us to do. An orphan is someone who is always doing to show his father he is worthy of his love. A Son knows the Fathers love and his only desire is to re-present his Father to the world.

Paul's letter to the Galatians gives us insight as to the only purpose of the Law in our relation to God. Do not believe the leaven of the Pharisees to think that you can add anything to the completed work of Christ.

Gal 3:1-7 1 O foolish Galatians! Who has bewitched you that you should not obey the truth, before whose eyes Jesus Christ was clearly portrayed among you as crucified?

2 This only I want to learn from you: Did you receive the Spirit by the works of the law, or by the hearing of faith? 3 Are you so foolish?

**Having begun in the Spirit, are you now being made perfect by the flesh?**

4 Have you suffered so many things in vain-- if indeed it was in vain?

5 Therefore He who supplies the Spirit to you and works miracles among you, does He do it by the works of the law, or by the hearing of faith? -- (NKJ)

Gal 3:10-11 10 For as many as are of the works of the law are under the curse; for it is written, "Cursed is everyone who does not continue in all things which are written in the book of the law, to do them."

11 But that **no one is justified by the law in the sight of God** is evident, for "the just shall live by faith." (NKJ)

Gal 3:22-25

22 But the Scripture has confined all under sin, that the promise by faith in Jesus Christ might be given to those who believe.

23 But before faith came, we were kept under guard by the law, kept for the faith which would afterward be revealed.

**24 Therefore the law was our tutor to bring us to Christ, that we might be justified by faith.**

25 But **after faith has come**, we are **no longer under a tutor**. (NKJ)

We are not under the law!

Rom 7:1-4 1 Or do you not know, brethren (for I speak to those who know the law), that the law has dominion over a man as long as he lives?

2 For the woman who has a husband is bound by the law to her husband as long as he lives. But if the husband dies, she is released from the law of her husband.

3 So then if, while her husband lives, she marries another man, she will be called an adulteress; but if her husband dies, she is free from that

law, so that she is no adulteress, though she has married another man.  
4 Therefore, my brethren, **you also have become dead to the law through the body of Christ**, that you may be **married to another-- to Him who was raised from the dead**, that we should bear fruit to God.  
(NKJ)

Are you dead to the law? So that you can be married to Him who was raised from the dead!

All true spiritual fruitfulness only comes from relationship. Before we can fully embrace our identity as the Bride of Christ, we must walk in our identity as the Sons of God. That is the only spiritual reality that God sees. We must allow the Holy Spirit to lead us into all Truth and see the one who is the Truth formed in us. So that we like Paul can say **“I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless, I live; yet not I but Christ lives in me: and the life I NOW live in the FLESH I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me. I do not frustrate the grace of God... (KJV)**

Let this be the confession of our lips until we see the full reality of it.

## **What we saw in this Chapter**

1. Jesus warns about the leaven of the Pharisees and Sadducees
2. Those who look on the outside miss the reality of the spirit
3. The religious spirit is still around
4. We are Justified
5. We are free from the law so we can be married to Christ



# In Conclusion

We were created in the image and likeness of God. He is a Spirit; we are a spirit being. Our spirit was created to be in relationship with our Father as a Son/Daughter. It is the most natural thing for us to live in the Spirit if we are free from the effects of sin and an unrenewed mind. Jesus did His part in setting us free from the effects of sin. Now we must do our part and believe what He did for us.

We can choose to live a Christian life that is less than what Jesus died to give us, but if we truly want to give Him all the glory He is due, we will press in and upward to the high call of God. We have the same commission He had, we have His Spirit in us and the Holy Spirit upon us. He gave us the authority of His name and the glory the Father gave Him. We have no excuse when we stand before Him as to why we did not do the things He did and more. He gave us the Kingdom. We are seated with Him in heaven. The question is are we going to live our life from the 1<sup>st</sup> heaven (the earth) or the 3<sup>rd</sup> heaven (Where we now are seated with Him). We have overcome this world because we are at the center of His world. There is nothing that compares to His amazing Love. What we must realize is that the only way it grows is if we give it away.

One of the most practical things we can do that increases our spiritual awareness is praying in the Spirit. Paul tells us this:

1 Cor 14:1-5 1 Pursue love, and desire spiritual gifts, but especially that you may prophesy. 2 **For he who speaks in a tongue does not speak to men but to God, for no one understands him; however, in the spirit he speaks mysteries.** 3 But he who prophesies speaks edification and exhortation and comfort to men. 4 **He who speaks in a tongue \*edifies himself,** but he who prophesies edifies the church. 5 **I wish you all spoke with tongues,** but even more that you prophesied; for he who

prophesies is greater than he who speaks with tongues, unless indeed he interprets, that the church may receive edification. NKJV

In context Paul was talking to the Corinthians about what they should do in their gatherings. So, his emphasis was on what would benefit the Church when they met. However, he tells us the importance of praying in tongues in this same passage. Let's look at what this edification does.

**\*Edify** NT:3618 oikodomeo (oy-kod-om-eh'-o); from the same as **NT:3619**; to be a house-builder, i.e. **construct or (figuratively) confirm**: KJV - (be in) build (-er, -ing, up), edify, embolden.

**NT:3619 oikodome** (oy-kod-om-ay'); feminine (abstract) of a compound of **NT:3624** and the base of **NT:1430**; **architecture, i.e. (concretely) a structure; figuratively, confirmation**: KJV - building, edify (-ication, -ing).

**NT:3624 oikos** (oy'-kos); of uncertain affinity; **a dwelling** (more or less extensive, literal or figurative); by implication a family (more or less related, literal or figuratively): KJV - home, house (-hold), temple.

**NT:1430 doma** (do'-mah); from demo (**to build**); **properly, an edifice**, i.e. (specially) a roof: KJV - housetop.

These definitions all bring out the importance of putting up the spiritual structure that the Holy Spirit can build the realities of the spirit upon. I spent 20 years in the construction business and know you cannot build anything that will last without the right foundation and framing structure to hold it. If we want to learn to live in the Spirit, we must have this framework. It was the key to Paul's revelations and it will be instrumental in ours.

1 Cor 14:14-15 14 For if I pray in a tongue, **my spirit prays**, but my understanding is unfruitful. 15 What is the conclusion then? **I will pray**

**with the spirit**, and I will also pray with the understanding. I will sing with the spirit, and I will also sing with the understanding. NKJV

1 Cor 14:18 I thank my God I speak with tongues more than you all;  
NKJV

There is a lot more than can be said about praying in the spirit, but I will leave it at that.

You are valuable and you are needed and we are part of one another. We need each other more than we know. It is only together that we show the Fullness of Christ to the world, we are His body. That only happens when we truly love one another in His agape love. Quit judging and start loving. Don't get offended, get apprehended by the Holy Spirit. Let the most naturally supernatural thing happen in you. May Christ be formed in you to show the Father just like your older brother Jesus did.

Each one of us is unique in our soul. We each refract the glory of the Lord in a little different light. Like the sun shining through different colors of glass. Yet together we show the full image of who He is. Walk in who He has made you to be and let your light shine in the darkness. Christ in You, the light of the world.

## About the author

Michael J. Brown website <https://thespiritandthebride.org>

I first encountered the Love of God as a teenager. I heard the gospel message with a friend when a Jesus freak came to our town. While at a local park he came walking through with his long hair and no shirt or shoes, telling people about Jesus. Though I was raised in a church I had never heard that I needed to be born again and have a personal relationship with the Lord. I did not accept his invitation to receive Christ at that time, but the seed was planted in my heart. Three years later while high on drugs I began to ask the question what is the Truth in life. After what seemed like several hours of pondering this question, I cried out and said, "God what is the Truth". The moment I said that the Spirit of God fell on me with what felt like at the time, someone had poured a warm bucket of molasses on my head of liquid love. It ran down my body and covered me. It was as though someone had taken something out of me that was unclean and put something back in me that was completely pure and holy. I had been born again. This experience was so profound and wonderful. I had never heard anyone describe something like this in any church I had ever been to. I had no idea at the time that this had anything to do with being a Christian. All I knew was that I had experienced the Love of God and that this was something I had to share with everyone I knew.

Several years later, through a series of events, I finally came in contact with the realization that the Holy Spirit was the one I had encountered on that night and that the Spirit of Truth, Christ was the one that had come to live in me. I committed my life to Christ and began to read the Bible. When I got to John chapter 14, I saw those words, Jesus declared He was the Way, the Truth and the Life. From that moment on I began a journey with my Father that led me to Bible school and years of ministry and evangelism.

I have walked with the Lord through many mountains and valleys and have surrendered myself to His leading and teaching. He has been faithful every step of this journey. I have fallen in love with Him and He has taught me how to love the Father and the Holy Spirit and those He died for. Through 43 years of ministry and being in the Church I have seen and heard many things and realized that there is a lot of confusion over the simplicity that is in Christ. We have all done our best to grasp this message that we have been called to share with the world. The enemy has done all he can to splinter and separate the body of Christ to keep us from walking in the reality of who He is and who we are in Him. It is time for us to rise up and let our light shine as never before.

I pray that this book will help you come to a fuller understanding of all Christ has done for you and you will comprehend the vastness of His Love, the height, width, depth and breathe so that you can be filled with His fullness.

In Christ,

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