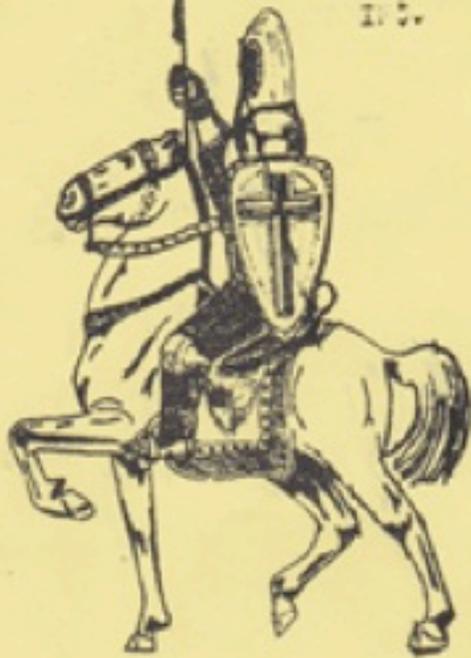


Christian Training Center



**CHRISTIAN TRAINING CENTER, INC.
THE CHARISMATIC BIBLE INSTITUTE
Principal: Dr. Albert Grimes
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BOOK SEVENTEEN

**THE DOCTRINE OF THE HOLY SPIRIT
March 1976**

Lesson 1: The Doctrine of the Holy Spirit 3
QUESTIONS ON LESSON 1 29

SPECIALIZED TRAINING IN GIFTS AND MINISTRIES

DEDICATION

These books are purposely written and dedicated to the Layman, who desires to enter into a Teaching Ministry.

They are therefore written simply with the paragraphs broken up in order that teaching from these books can be made easy for the Teacher to read.

Our motto is stated in 2 Timothy 2:2, "And the things that thou has heard from me, the same commit thou to faithful men who shall be able to teach others also".

The questions at the end of each lesson can be used by the Teacher to give tests to the students. We recommend the writing out of answers in order that the material may be implanted into the minds of the students. Any other type of questioning does not accomplish this purpose.

May the Lord, therefore, bless the truths presented in these studies.

Dr. Albert Grimes

Book 17: The Doctrine of the Holy Spirit
Lesson 1: The Doctrine of the Holy Spirit
John 16:13,14
By Dr. Albert Grimes

THE TEACHING OF THE HOLY SPIRIT AS AN INFLUENCE

The confusion regarding the Holy Spirit has its source in the fact that in the third Century Paul of Samosata advanced a theory denying the Deity of Christ. He also taught that the Holy Spirit was only an influence of divine energy and power moving out from God, and that this divine energy from God was exerted upon men. This false doctrine has influenced almost the whole church.

This influence can be seen in the Authorized Version, where the personal pronoun, which refers to the Holy Spirit, is translated by the neuter, “it”, Romans 8:25, “but the Spirit itself”.

This shows the trend of thought among Christians in that day. Men prayed and regarded the Spirit as an “it”, an influence of energy, proving that this theory had influenced the minds of men. Even in our day men are not absolutely sure who or what the Holy Spirit is.

AS CONTRASTED WITH THE OTHER PERSONS OF THE GODHEAD
THE HOLY SPIRIT SEEMS IMPERSONAL

The acts and workings of the Holy Spirit are so secret and mystical. So much is said of His power, influence, and grace and gifts, and of His unseen method of working in people’s lives, that we are prone to think of Him as an influence, a power, a manifestation of divine nature, rather than a person.

THE NAMES AND SYMBOLS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

In the Word of God the Holy Spirit is described in many ways, as Breath, Wind, Power, Fire, Oil, Water... These words only describe the Spirit in His different activities. Breath: as bringing life. Power: activities or acts of power. Fire: purifying. Oil: light or illumination. Water: cleansing.

Then we have other terms relating to His moving upon or moving into men, as coming upon them, as in the Old Testament sense, “Being filled with”, “Coming on them”, “Falling on them”, “Being full of”. These terms are to be understood in regards to how the Spirit as a person moves into people’s lives in order to fulfill His purposes.

These same scriptures are not describing the person of the Holy Spirit but only what He does as a person. God is calling His people everywhere to a recognition of the most important doctrine of the Holy Spirit as a person.

THE PERSONALITY OF THE HOLY SPIRIT
IS SHOWN IN THE SCRIPTURES

John 16:13,14, “Howbeit when he, the Spirit of truth, is come, he will guide you into all truth: for he shall not speak of himself; but whatsoever he shall hear, that shall he speak: and he will shew you things to come. 14 He shall glorify me: for he shall receive of mine, and shall shew it unto you.”

We then have a person described to us. The name “Paracletos” translated “Comforter” cannot be taken as a name of any abstract influence. It relates to a person. The “Comforter”, “Instructor”, “Patron”, “Guide”, “Advocate” are all related to that word “Paracletos”.

Now let us read John 15:26, “But when the Comforter is come, whom I will send unto you from the Father, even the Spirit of truth, which proceedeth from the Father, he shall testify of me.”

HIS NAME IS MENTIONED IN CONNECTION WITH THE OTHER PERSONS

IN SUCH A WAY AS TO IMPLY PERSONALITY WITH BELIEVERS

His personal relationship to believers and His ability in their midst is brought out in Acts 15:28, “For it seemed good to the Holy Ghost, and to us, to lay upon you no greater burden than these necessary things.” In the early church He was recognized as a Person in the midst, a person to be submissive to.

HIS RELATIONSHIP WITH CHRIST

In His relationship with Christ the Holy Spirit takes the things of Christ and reveals them unto us. He perfects in believers the finished work of Christ, as pointed out in John 17:4, “I have glorified thee on the earth: I have finished the work which thou gavest me to do.” Then John 16:14, “He shall glorify me: for he shall receive of mine, and shall shew it unto you.” He works in us by His power and brings these things to pass in us.

HIS RELATIONSHIP WITH THE FATHER AND SON

As we baptize in water, we recognize the Holy Spirit as equal with the Father and the Son as in Matthew 28:19, “Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost.”

By praying in the Holy Ghost we keep ourselves in the Love of God the Father, which prepares us for the coming of Christ, as in Jude 1:20,21, “But ye, beloved, building up yourselves on your most holy faith, praying in the Holy Ghost, 21 Keep yourselves in the love of God, looking for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ unto eternal life.”

Then there is the threefold relationship of the grace of the Lord, and the love of the Father, and the communion of the Holy Ghost, as in 2 Corinthians 13:14, “The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Ghost, be with you all. Amen.”

This relationship of the Holy Spirit with the Father and the Son, proves the fact that the Holy Spirit is a divine person, not just an influence.

HE PERFORMS ACTS PROPER TO PERSONALITY

He moves to recondition the ruined earth in order to prepare it for man. Genesis 1:2, “...And the Spirit of God moved upon the face of the waters.”

Before the flood He strives with man in regards to their obeying God. Genesis 6:3, “My Spirit shall not always strive with man...”

In the necessary hour of need when we are brought before the rulers and those in authority, to give an account, He will give us the words to say. Luke 12:12, “For the Holy Ghost shall teach you in the same hour what ye ought to say.”

Moving unseen like the wind, He brings about the New Birth. John 3:8, “The wind bloweth where it listeth, and thou hearest the sound thereof, but canst not tell whence it cometh, and whither it goeth: so is every one that is born of the Spirit.”

He comes and indwells us and causes our tongue to glorify God. Acts 2:4, “And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance.”

HE PRESERVES OUR BODY AND WILL ALSO GLORIFY IT

The Word of God reveals the fact that not only will the Holy Spirit as a person indwell us, but while He dwells in our spirit and in our bodies, He will revitalize and preserve our bodies in order that we may have health. Romans 8:11, “But if the Spirit of him that raised up Jesus from the dead dwell in you, he that raised up Christ from the dead shall also quicken your mortal bodies by his Spirit that dwelleth in you.”

Then the Holy Spirit, when the Rapture comes, will glorify us, if we are alive when Jesus comes... Then if we die He will resurrect us to glorification.

THE HOLY SPIRIT ALSO PRAYS THROUGH US AND FOR US

Knowing the weaknesses of believers, the Holy Spirit intercedes through us, according to the will of God, as stated in Romans 8:26,27, “Likewise the Spirit also helpeth our infirmities: for we know not what we should pray for as we ought: but the Spirit itself maketh intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered. 27 And he that searcheth the hearts knoweth what is the mind of the Spirit, because he maketh intercession for the saints according to the will of God.”

These acts are all acts which are performed by a person.

THE HOLY SPIRIT IS AFFECTED AS A PERSON BY THE ACTS OF OTHERS

An influence, or power, could not be affected in the ways in which the scriptures describe. Only a person could be so affected.

We can vex the Holy Spirit and He will turn against us, as pointed out in Isaiah 63:10, “But they rebelled, and vexed his holy Spirit: therefore he was turned to be their enemy, and he fought against them.”

When unregenerated men attribute the work of the Holy Spirit to the devil, when it is accomplished before their eyes, they are blaspheming against the Holy Spirit according to Matthew 12:31,32, “Wherefore I say unto you, All manner of sin and blasphemy shall be forgiven unto men: but the blasphemy against the Holy Ghost shall not be forgiven unto men. 32 And whosoever speaketh a word against the Son of man, it shall be forgiven him: but whosoever speaketh against the Holy Ghost, it shall not be forgiven him, neither in this world, neither in the world to come.”

The Holy Spirit can be lied to and it is punishable by death as in Acts 5:3, “But Peter said, Ananias, why hath Satan filled thine heart to lie to the Holy Ghost...” Verse 4, “...thou hast not lied unto men, but unto God.” Further study in this section of scripture points out the fact that both died for their sins.

The non acceptance of the Word of God, preached under the anointing of the Holy Spirit, is resisting the Holy Spirit, as in Acts 7:51, “Ye stiff necked and uncircumcised in heart and ears, ye do always resist the Holy Ghost: as your fathers did, so do ye.”

When children of God walk in the flesh, they grieve the Spirit of God, so that He will not work in the person. Ephesians 4:30, “And grieve not the holy Spirit of God, whereby ye are sealed unto the day of redemption.”

THE HOLY SPIRIT IS A DIVINE PERSON

The Holy Spirit is not only a person, but it must be understood that He is a Divine Person. He is spoken of as God as stated in Acts 5:3,4, “...to lie to the Holy Ghost...4...thou hast not lied unto men, but unto God.”

Although sometimes men administer the things of the Spirit, we must also understand that behind this human administration is the person of the Holy Spirit. In going against this administration, it is not just men who are involved but the Holy Spirit. Thus we are sometimes taken up so much with human activity that we forget the person of the Holy Spirit that is ordaining and guiding these activities. He is the person we are to reckon with.

When the Holy Spirit dwells in us at the Baptism of the Holy Spirit, it is said that God dwells in us in 1 Corinthians 3:16, “Know ye not that ye are the temple of God, and that the Spirit of God dwelleth in you?” Then in 1 Corinthians 6:19, “What? know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost which is in you, which ye have of God, and ye are not your own?”

As God the Holy Spirit is equal with the Father and the Son, He is the representative of the Godhead upon the earth.

DIVINE ATTRIBUTES AND PERFECTIONS ARE ASCRIBED TO HIM

An attribute is a characteristic or quality of a thing. It is what a person is and does because of what he is.

THE HOLY SPIRIT IS LIFE

He is the source of that Divine life, which because of what Christ has done, dwells in the believer's spirit which brought about the New Birth. John 3:6, "...and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit."

That divine life is in the believer as a nature. 2 Peter 1:4, "...that by these ye might be partakers of the divine nature..." This nature remains within the believer as stated in 1 John 3:9, "...for his seed remaineth in him: and he cannot sin, because he is born of God." That is, he cannot practice sin.

It is this divine life in the believer that makes him free from the law of sin and death, produced by the Old Adamic nature, as pointed out in Romans 8:2, "For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus hath made me free from the law of sin and death."

Being made free because of this life of the Holy Spirit within us, we can walk in the newness of this same life. Romans 6:4, "...even so we also should walk in newness of life."

Living unto righteousness as in 1 Peter 2:24, "...that we, being dead to sins, should live unto righteousness..."

THE HOLY SPIRIT IS TRUTH

In this sense the Holy Spirit will reveal Christ, who is the truth. He will reveal the things of Christ, which will bring us into a knowledge of the truth. So it must be understood that all we are going to learn about Christ will be taught us through the Holy Spirit, as state in John 16:13-15, "Howbeit when he, the Spirit of truth, is come, he will guide you into all truth: for he shall not speak of himself; but whatsoever he shall hear, that shall he speak: and he will shew you things to come. 14 He shall glorify me: for he shall receive of mine, and shall shew it unto you. 15 All things that the Father hath are mine: therefore said I, that he shall take of mine, and shall shew it unto you," through the Word of God.

THE HOLY SPIRIT IS LOVE

This love of God according to the scriptures is by the Holy Ghost which is given us as in Romans 5:5, "And hope maketh not ashamed; because the love of God is shed abroad in our hearts by the Holy Ghost which is given unto us." He is the dispenser of the love of God, gifts, ministry and fruit.

This love is always to be witnessed amongst those who really move in the Holy Spirit. This experience of love does come with the Baptism of the Holy Spirit.

THE HOLY SPIRIT IS HOLINESS

After receiving the Holy Spirit as a person, we soon find out that He is holy as He begins to move in our lives, to sanctify us as stated in 1 Peter 1:2, "...through sanctification of the Spirit...", by the Word of God. When we walk in the flesh we grieve Him, because it is His work to perfect holiness in us.

It is the Holy Spirit that reproves sin in us as we walk in the light as suggested in 1 John 1:7, "But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin." Then in Ephesians 5:13, "But all things that are reprov'd are made manifest by the light: for whatsoever doth make manifest is light." Walking in the flesh grieves him according to Ephesians 4:30, "And grieve not the holy Spirit of God, whereby ye are sealed unto the day of redemption."

THE HOLY SPIRIT IS ETERNAL

As God, that the Holy Spirit is eternal is pointed out in Hebrews 9:14, "How much more shall the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself without spot to God..." Because the Holy Spirit is eternal, He performs an eternal work in the believer. We have eternity in us through the Eternal Spirit.

THE HOLY SPIRIT IS OMNIPOTENT

The Holy Spirit, as God, is all powerful. The same could be said, that there is no power in the universe apart from God, the Holy Spirit.

This fact is brought out in His bringing to pass the Incarnation. He is revealed as the power of the Highest in Luke 1:35, "And the angel answered and said unto her, The Holy Ghost shall come upon thee, and the power of the Highest shall overshadow thee: therefore also that holy thing which shall be born of thee shall be called the Son of God."

This moving of the Holy Spirit is related to God, as in Luke 1:37, "For with God nothing shall be impossible." The Holy Ghost is all powerful.

THE HOLY SPIRIT IS OMNISCIENT

The Holy Spirit knows all things. He is spoken of as the Spirit that searcheth all things, even the deep things of God. In 1 Corinthians 2:10 is this truth brought out, "But God hath revealed them unto us by his Spirit: for the Spirit searcheth all things, yea, the deep things of God." These are things regarding His plans and purposes. This is the reason why He can teach us all things, as in John 14:26, "But the Comforter, which is the Holy Ghost, whom the Father will send in my name, he shall teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you."

How many times have we seen this all knowledge being revealed through the Word of Knowledge as the Holy Spirit reveals the secrets of the hearts. 1 Corinthians 14:24,25, "...25 And thus are the secrets of his heart made manifest..."

THE HOLY SPIRIT IS OMNIPRESENT

The Holy Spirit as God is present everywhere. As well as indwelling the believer as a person, and as well as His dwelling in the church, He is filling all space. There is no place where He is not, as stated in Psalm 139:7-10, "Whither shall I go from thy spirit? or whither shall I flee from thy presence? 8 If I ascend up into heaven, thou art there: if I make my bed in hell, behold, thou art there. 9 If I take the wings of the morning, and dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea; 10 Even there shall thy hand lead me, and thy right hand shall hold me."

All these attributes prove Him to be equal with the Father and the Son. Theoretically we may believe this. Do we in our real thought of Him, or in our practical attitude towards Him treat Him as a Person? Do we regard Him as indeed a real person, as real as Jesus Christ? He has come to be to the disciples and to us, what Christ had been to them during the days of his personal companionship with them. Do we know the communion and fellowship of the Holy Ghost?

THE NAME OF THE HOLY SPIRIT IS COUPLED IN EQUALITY WITH THE NAMES OF GOD AND CHRIST IN THE APOSTOLIC COMMISSION

Matthew 28:19, "Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost." It is just as important to mention the Spirit, as it is to mention the Father and Son.

IN THE APOSTOLIC BENEDICTION

2 Corinthians 13:14, "The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Ghost, be with you all. Amen."

IN THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE CHURCH

1 Corinthians 12:4-6, “Now there are diversities of gifts, but the same Spirit. 5 And there are differences of administrations, but the same Lord. 6 And there are diversities of operations, but it is the same God which worketh all in all.” So the Holy Spirit as a person is equal with the Father and with the Son, and one in essence and power in the Godhead.

THE WORK OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

In taking up the work of the Holy Spirit, a popular misconception needs to be removed, and it is this. In creation God the Father works, in Redemption God the Son works, and in Salvation God the Spirit works, then also that the Old Testament Dispensation was the Dispensation of the Father. The period of the Gospels, or the transition period between Law and Grace was the Dispensation of the Son. The Dispensation of Grace is the Dispensation of the Holy Spirit after Acts 2:4.

The scriptures teach that in every manifestation of the works of God the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit are alike and active. So in creation, in redemption, and in Salvation, we can trace the working of each member of the Trinity.

In every divine activity the power to bring forth the divine plan proceeds from the Father. The power to arrange or set in order, proceeds from the Son. The power to bring to completion or to perfect proceeds from the Spirit.

The Father has authoritative power, the Son Executive power, and the Spirit has energizing power. The Office work of the Spirit of God is to bring forward to completion that which has been conceived by the Father and executed by the Son.

THE WORK OF THE HOLY SPIRIT IN RELATION TO CREATION

One part of the Spirit’s work, which has been overlooked, is related to the statement made in scripture in Hebrews 1:3, “...and upholding all things by the word of his power...”

The origin and preservation of everything in nature is spiritual. This is suggested in Psalm 18:9-12, “He bowed (stretched out) the heavens also, and came down: and darkness was under his feet. 10 And he rode upon a cherub, and did fly: yea, he did fly upon the wings of the wind. 11 He made darkness his secret place; his pavilion round about him were dark waters and thick clouds of the skies...” This relates to the elements universal.

A close study reveals evidence of an ever present God in nature. In Isaiah 6:1-3, “...3...the whole earth is full of his glory.” Then in Romans 1:20, “For the invisible things of him from the creation of the world are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even his eternal power and Godhead; so that they are without excuse.” There is an invisible something between the Spiritual and the material. One controls the other. Hebrews 1:3, “...upholding all things by the word of his power...”

Behind the order and laws of this universe is the Spirit of God. The special work of the Holy Spirit in creation is to lead creation to its destiny, which is to glorify God.

It has been His particular work to bring in, and sustain, and mature life, order and beauty in this universe.

BRINGING ORDER INTO THE UNIVERSE

The Spirit of God created and garnished the heavens, according to Psalm 33:6, “By the word of the Lord were the heavens made; and all the host of them by the breath of his mouth,” referring to the Holy Spirit. Then in Job 26:12,13, “He divideth the sea with his power, and by his understanding he smiteth through the proud. 13 By his spirit he hath garnished the heavens...” The word “garnished” relates to glistening, shining bodies in the heavens.

Then in Isaiah 40:12,13, “Who hath measured the waters in the hollow of his hand, and meted out heaven with the span, and comprehended the dust of the earth in a measure, and weighed the mountains in scales, and the hills in a balance? 13 Who hath directed the Spirit of the Lord, or being his counselor hath taught

him?” This is not a description of the bringing of order to one small planet, but the record of the whole universe.

Through the energizing power of the Holy Spirit came the systems of which man is just beginning to learn, that in their entirety they are undiscoverable, just as the scriptures point out. Jeremiah 33:22, “As the host of heaven cannot be numbered...”

THE RECONDITIONING OF THE RUINED EARTH

After earth’s judgment because of Satan’s rebellion against God, the earth was left in ruin, but was reconditioned by the Holy Spirit in Genesis 1:2, “And the earth was without form, and void; and darkness was upon the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God moved upon the face of the waters.”

The earth as it is today, except the results of the curse, caused by the fall, is the direct outcome of the action of the Holy Spirit.

THE RENEWAL OF THE FACE OF THE EARTH

The Spirit of God brings the seasons of winter, and spring and summer, as in Isaiah 40:7, “The grass withereth, the flower fadeth: because the spirit of the Lord bloweth upon it...” Then Psalm 104:30, “Thou sendest forth thy spirit, they are created: and thou renewest the face of the earth.”

The cold and icy winds blow under the direction of the Spirit of God, and produces the winter of death, so the warm spring and summer winds bring life into nature.

THE SPIRIT OF GOD HAS TO DO WITH THE SUSTAINING OF THE PRESENT PHYSICAL ORDER AND SUPPORTING ANIMAL AND VEGETABLE LIFE

Psalm 104:10-14,30, “He sendeth the springs into the valleys, which run among the hills. 11 They give drink to every beast of the field: the wild asses quench their thirst. 12 By them shall the fowls of the heaven have their habitation, which sing among the branches. 13 He watereth the hills from his chambers: the earth is satisfied with the fruit of thy works. 14 He causeth the grass to grow for the cattle, and herb for the service of man: that he may bring forth food out of the earth...30 Thou sendest forth thy spirit, they are created: and thou renewest the face of the earth.”

By the power of the Spirit the universe was created. By the same power the ruined earth was reconditioned and by the same power it is maintained and life in its varying forms is supported.

GIVING LIFE TO MAN

The Holy Spirit is the source of man’s life, as in Genesis 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 soul.” The breath of life relates to the Spirit as in Job 33:4, “The spirit of God hath made me, and the breath of the Almighty hath given me life.”

The man that God made was devoid of self-consciousness. He had no power to enter into his new environment or his new relationship nor his new companionship, until the Spirit of God moved upon him. This moving of God’s Spirit upon man made him absolutely different from the other created things.

In man, life is different from the life anywhere else. In man life becomes light and knowledge, as in John 1:4, “In him was life; and the life was the light of men.” Then in John 1:9, “That was the true Light, which lighteth every man that cometh into the world.”

There was life in the plants and life in the lower animals, but when God breathed into man the breath of life, He bestowed life in which lay the elements of light. Man knew God and he entered into full fellowship with him.

Because of sin, the light that man had received became darkness, as stated in Romans 1:21, “Because that, when they knew God, they glorified him not as God, neither were thankful; but became vain in their

imaginations, and their foolish heart was darkened.”

When man finds God, this same light giving life is imparted to man by the Holy Spirit.

THE MINISTRY OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

The whole being of man was conditioned by the Holy Spirit to enjoy to the full his environment and fellowship with God. This was lost because of sin. The Spirit of God is restoring man back to fellowship, full and complete with God.

FROM THE FALL TO THE FIRST COMING OF CHRIST

What was the difference between the Old Testament and the New Testament in regards to the Spirit's work? The key to the difference between the two periods could be pointed out in this sense. In the Old Testament age chosen individuals were the objects of the Spirit's grace, for life, and gifts, and service, while in the New Testament and the present age, He works in and upon the Body of Christ and the individual members of the Body of Christ. This is the reason why Joel 2:28,29, the prediction of the Spirit being poured out upon all flesh, was still a future event to begin in the New Testament times.

Another distinction, which should also be noted, is that the Spirit in the Old Testament came “upon” and filled men for a specific work without reference to their character. A suggestion to this fact is made in Acts 17:30, “And the times of this ignorance God winked at; but now commandeth all men every where to repent.”

In the New Testament after the accomplishment of the work of the cross, this was never so. His filling for service depends upon cleansing and holiness.

THE WORK OF THE HOLY SPIRIT IN THE OLD TESTAMENT MAY BE CLASSED AS: COMING UPON MEN

The Hebrew word means that the Spirit clothed Himself with them. He took hold of them and made them instruments through which He could accomplish His work.

The scriptures relating to this are found in Judges 6:34, “But the Spirit of the Lord came upon Gideon, and he blew a trumpet; and Abiezer was gathered after him.” 1 Chronicles 12:18, “Then the spirit came upon Amasai...” 2 Chronicles 24:20, “And the Spirit of God came upon Zechariah...” The same thought is expressed in each of these passages.

COMING MIGHTILY UPON MEN

In this sense the meaning is different. It means forcing them into something. The thought is the Spirit of God attacked these men, came upon them with compulsion, forced them forward in certain activities.

The scripture relating to these experiences are, Judges 14:6, “And the Spirit of the Lord came mightily upon him, and he rent him as he would have rent a kid...”, referring to the lion and Samson. Then in 1 Samuel 10:10, “...and the Spirit of God came upon him, and he prophesied among them,” after Saul was crowned king. Also in 1 Samuel 16:13, “...and the Spirit of the Lord came upon David,” when he was anointed as king.

INDWELLING MEN

The same working of the Holy Spirit as a principle of life, can be found in the same individual sense as in the New Testament.

There seemed to be a certain knowledge of this possibility as in Genesis 41:38, “And Pharaoh said unto his servants, Can we find such a one as this is, a man in whom the Spirit of God is?”

Joshua doubtless, had this experience, Numbers 27:18, “And the Lord said unto Moses, Take thee Joshua the son of Nun, a man in whom is the spirit, and lay thine hand upon him.”

This scripture holds true to the New Testament pattern, although Joshua had the Holy Spirit, as a

principle of life (born again). He still needed Moses to lay hands upon him, in order to receive power, and gifts for service, as stated in Deuteronomy 34:9, “And Joshua the son of Nun was full of the spirit of wisdom; for Moses had laid his hands upon him...”

There was doubtless some manifestation of spirituality in the lives of these people, that could be seen as in Daniel 5:11, “There is a man in thy kingdom, in whom is the spirit of the holy gods...”, referring to Daniel.

HIS ACTIONS UPON THE HEART OF INDIVIDUALS IN SAVING GRACE IN THE OLD TESTAMENT

It is quite evident that the Spirit of God moved in the hearts and lives of Old Testament saints, and that they understood the principle of salvation.

David understood, as pointed out in Psalm 51:12, “Restore unto me the joy of thy salvation...” It is evident that his fellowship with God was not being enjoyed because of Psalm 51:10-13, “Create in me a clean heart, O God; and renew a right spirit within me. 11 Cast me not away from thy presence; and take not thy holy spirit from me. 12 Restore unto me the joy of thy salvation...” Verse 13, “Then will I teach transgressors thy ways; and sinners shall be converted unto thee.”

That they received a full, completed experience of salvation is evident, from scripture, as in Job 19:25-27, “For I know that my redeemer liveth, and that he shall stand at the latter day upon the earth: 26 And though after my skin worms destroy this body, yet in my flesh shall I see God: 27 Whom I shall see for myself, and mine eyes shall behold, and not another; though my reins be consumed within me.”

That Old Testament saints were born again was understood even in Jesus’ day, as is pointed out in John 3:3, “Jesus answered and said unto him, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God.”

That Nicodemus should have known is also evident in John 3:10, “Jesus answered and said unto him, Art thou a master of Israel, and knowest not these things?”

The fact that the Old Testament saints were resurrected is also evident in scripture. Matthew 27:52-53, “And the graves were opened; and many bodies of the saints which slept arose, 53 And came out of the graves after his resurrection...” They were saved.

But for the most part, the Old Testament saints are not to receive the full glorification until we in the New Testament are also glorified, as pointed out in Hebrews 11:39-40, “And these all, having obtained a good report through faith, received not the promise: 40 God having provided some better thing for us, that they without us should not be made perfect.”

The fact that Old Testament saints were born again is evident, but what they did not receive was the abiding presence of the Comforter. This could only come after Jesus was glorified as in John 7:38,39, “He that believeth on me, as the scripture hath said, out of his belly shall flow rivers of living water. 39 But this spake he of the Spirit, which they that believe on him should receive: for the Holy Ghost was not yet given; because that Jesus was not yet glorified.”

FITTING AND FILLING MEN FOR SPECIAL SERVICE

It is quite evident that the Spirit of God as he came upon men, qualified them for special service, as Kings, Priests, and Prophets.

THE MISSION OF THE HOLY SPIRIT DURING THE MESSIANIC PERIOD

This period would be related to the Four Gospels, the transition period between Law and Grace. We find the Holy Spirit working in much the same way as He did in the Old Testament times.

HE FILLED AND EMPOWERED JOHN THE BAPTIST FOR SERVICE

This fact is stated in Luke 1:15-17, “For he shall be great in the sight of the Lord, and shall drink neither

wine nor strong drink; and he shall be filled with the Holy Ghost, even from his mother's womb..." This filling is in the same sense as the Old Testament saints were filled.

JOHN'S FATHER AND MOTHER WERE ALSO FILLED WITH THE HOLY GHOST

Luke 1:41,67, "And it came to pass, that, when Elisabeth heard the salutation of Mary, the babe leaped in her womb; and Elisabeth was filled with the Holy Ghost... 67 And his father Zacharias was filled with the Holy Ghost, and prophesied, saying..."

THE INCARNATION WAS BROUGHT ABOUT BY THE POWER OF THE HOLY GHOST

The miracle of the incarnation was brought to pass by the Holy Ghost as stated in Luke 1:35, "And the angel answered and said unto her, The Holy Ghost shall come upon thee, and the power of the Highest shall overshadow thee: therefore also that holy thing which shall be born of thee shall be called the Son of God."

The Holy Ghost by His power, gave Jesus His physical nature, and human body. The Holy Ghost made possible His virgin birth, and sinless humanity, not Mary. She contributed nothing to his human nature.

IT WAS THE HOLY SPIRIT WHO ANOINTED JESUS FOR HIS PROPHETIC OFFICE

The fact is very plain in scripture, that Jesus was baptized in the Holy Ghost, but not in the Old Testament sense. Luke 3:21-22, "Now when all the people were baptized, it came to pass, that Jesus also being baptized, and praying, the heaven was opened, 22 And the Holy Ghost descended in a bodily shape like a dove upon him..."

The difference in Jesus' experience is further pointed out in John 3:34, "...for God giveth not the Spirit by measure unto him...", meaning a limited portion, as in Old Testament times. He is now an abiding continual presence of the Holy Spirit.

THE HOLY SPIRIT FILLED AND EMPOWERED JESUS, AS THE SERVANT OF JEHOVAH FOR THE ACCOMPLISHMENT OF HIS WORK

After receiving the Baptism of the Holy Spirit, Jesus was tempted in relationship to his submissiveness to the Holy Spirit. This was accomplished by his being tempted of the devil. Luke 4:1, "And Jesus being full of the Holy Ghost returned from Jordan, and was led by the Spirit into the wilderness."

Satan tried to get Jesus to act as the Son of God, independent of the Holy Ghost. Thus the statement made by Satan, "If thou be the Son of God".

After complete submissiveness to the Holy Ghost in the temptation, Jesus returned in the power, or full control of the Holy Ghost as stated in Luke 4:14, "And Jesus returned in the power of the Spirit into Galilee: and there went out a fame of him through all the region round about."

THUS THE HOLY GHOST WAS HIS ANOINTING AND POWER THROUGHOUT HIS EARTHLY MINISTRY

Acts 10:38, "How God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Ghost and with power: who went about doing good, and healing all that were oppressed of the devil; for God was with him."

In relationship to the Holy Spirit ministering through Jesus, we have his own words in Matthew 12:28, "But if I cast out devils by the Spirit of God..." It was the Holy Spirit, who not only revealed through revelation the works which Jesus was to perform, but He was also the power through Jesus, that brought them to pass.

John 5:20, "For the Father loveth the Son, and sheweth him all things that himself doeth: and he will shew him greater works than these, that ye may marvel."

Ministering as man filled, and empowered by the Holy Spirit, Jesus sets the example of ministry for us, as stated in Luke 4:18,19, “The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he hath anointed me to preach the gospel to the poor; he hath sent me to heal the brokenhearted, to preach deliverance to the captives, and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty them that are bruised, 19 To preach the acceptable year of the Lord.”

This is the reason why Jesus speaks to us, commanding us to perform the same ministry as in John 14:12, “Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that believeth on me, the works that I do shall he do also; and greater works than these shall he do; because I go unto my Father.”

IT WAS THROUGH THE SPIRIT IN SOME MYSTERIOUS WAY THAT JESUS OFFERED HIMSELF AS A SACRIFICE TO GOD

As the Holy Spirit empowered Jesus for service, he also empowered Jesus to offer himself as a sacrifice to God, as stated in Hebrews 9:14, “How much more shall the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself without spot to God...”

THE HOLY SPIRIT WAS THE POWER THAT RAISED JESUS FROM THE DEAD

It was this resurrection, wrought through the Holy Spirit, that declared Jesus to be the Son of God, as pointed out in Romans 1:4, “And declared to be the Son of God with power, according to the spirit of holiness, by the resurrection from the dead.”

The Holy Spirit that brought about the resurrection of Jesus, will also resurrect, or translate and glorify our mortal bodies also, as in Romans 8:11, “But if the Spirit of him that raised up Jesus from the dead dwell in you, he that raised up Christ from the dead shall also quicken your mortal bodies by his Spirit that dwelleth in you.” He preserves our bodies until that time.

So the Holy Spirit that now dwells within us, will glorify us.

THE HOLY SPIRIT CAME AT PENTECOST AT THE REQUEST OF CHRIST FROM THE FATHER

Jesus, as He ministered upon this earth, was to leave his disciples, after the work of the cross was completed. And after Christ left, the Holy Spirit came from the Father at the request of Jesus as stated in Luke 24:49, “And, behold, I send the promise of my Father upon you: but tarry ye in the city of Jerusalem, until ye be endued with power from on high.”

When he came he was to abide with believers forever, as in John 14:16, “And I will pray the Father, and he shall give you another Comforter, that he may abide with you for ever.” He shall be sent from the Father, as pointed out in John 15:26, “But when the Comforter is come, whom I will send unto you from the Father, even the Spirit of truth, which proceedeth from the Father, he shall testify of me.”

He was sent after Christ was exalted to the right hand of God, as pointed out in Acts 2:33, “Therefore being by the right hand of God exalted, and having received of the Father the promise of the Holy Ghost, he hath shed forth this, which ye now see and hear.”

WHAT IS THE RELATIONSHIP OF THE HOLY SPIRIT AND CHRIST IN THE DISPENSATION OF GRACE?

He has come to perfect in men the finished work of Christ. When Jesus left this earth, the Holy Spirit came. This is the teaching of the scriptures. John 14:12, “Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that believeth on me, the works that I do shall he do also; and greater works than these shall he do; because I go unto my Father.”

It was absolutely necessary for Jesus to leave this earth, in order that the Holy Spirit may come. John 16:7, “Nevertheless I tell you the truth; It is expedient for you that I go away: for if I go not away, the Comforter will not come unto you; but if I depart, I will send him unto you.”

The reason for the departure of Jesus is simple to understand. As a person, Jesus could not do the work which was ordained by the Father for the Holy Spirit to do. The Holy Spirit, as a person could indwell every believer, and then the greater, or extended work could be accomplished, that Jesus spoke of in John 14:12.

When the Holy Spirit came to indwell the believers, He would abide forever, John 14:16, "And I will pray the Father, and he shall give you another Comforter, that he may abide with you for ever."

Whatever Jesus had taught his disciples, plus all we need to know in relationship to redemption, the Holy Spirit will teach us as stated in John 14:26, "But the Comforter, which is the Holy Ghost, whom the Father will send in my name, he shall teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you."

In his working in us, the Holy Spirit will never speak of Himself, but will always speak of Christ, and he will guide us into all truth. John 15:26, "But when the Comforter is come, whom I will send unto you from the Father, even the Spirit of truth, which proceedeth from the Father, he shall testify of me." John 16:13, "Howbeit when he, the Spirit of truth, is come, he will guide you into all truth: for he shall not speak of himself; but whatsoever he shall hear, that shall he speak: and he will shew you things to come."

Then also John 16:14, "He shall glorify me: for he shall receive of mine, and shall shew it unto you."

A lot of Christians mistake the work of the Holy Spirit in the sense just revealed. They mistakenly interpret the scripture of 1 John 2:27, "But the anointing which ye have received of him abideth in you, and ye need not that any man teach you: but as the same anointing teacheth you of all things, and is truth, and is no lie, and even as it hath taught you, ye shall abide in him."

Some think that the Holy Spirit is going to be a personal teacher to them, and they need not to listen to any man, in order to be taught.

Like Paul they are going to receive the full revelation of what they are to teach, as in Galatians 1:11-12, "But I certify you, brethren, that the gospel which was preached of me is not after man. 12 For I neither received it of man, neither was I taught it, but by the revelation of Jesus Christ."

When we understand that the full revelation of the gospel had not been revealed to the church and the only way it could be revealed was through revelation to the foundational Apostles. And it is to be noticed that Paul was led by revelation to submit to the other Apostles, what he had received in order to make sure that what he taught was the truth, Galatians 2:2, "And I went up by revelation, and communicated unto them that gospel which I preach among the Gentiles, but privately to them which were of reputation, lest by any means I should run, or had run, in vain."

Now we must understand that what the Holy Spirit reveals to individual members, in illumination, is the same truth already revealed to the foundational Apostles. And that He will guide us to teachers who can give us the truth we need, in order that we might go on with God. But the personal things relating to truth and error, by witness, and my own particular ministry, he will Himself teach us. This is the meaning of 1 John 2:27.

But I still need the ministry of others in order that I may learn the things of God. But the Holy Spirit, in most cases, is the one that brings me under the right kind of teaching and what we learn we are to communicate to others. 2 Timothy 2:2, "And the things that thou hast heard of me among many witnesses, the same commit thou to faithful men, who shall be able to teach others also."

So the Holy Spirit in the Dispensation of Grace is revealing Christ, guiding believers into all truth, revealing the things which are to come. This is just one part of His ministry to the believer. This ministry of the Spirit will carry on as long as Christ's bodily presence is at the right hand of God in the heavens.

Having finished His Prophetic Ministry, Christ is now our High Priest in the presence of God, as pointed out in Hebrews 9:24, "For Christ is not entered into the holy places made with hands, which are the figures of the true; but into heaven itself, now to appear in the presence of God for us."

The work of the Holy Spirit in earth and the work of Christ in heaven is to be seen in the fact that on earth the Holy Spirit convicts men of sin, and of righteousness and judgment, and brings about the pre-conversion of the sinner and the new birth. John 16:8-10, "And when he is come, he will reprove the world of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgment: 9 Of sin, because they believe not on me; 10 Of righteousness, because I go to my Father, and ye see me no more."

While in heaven, at the right hand of God, Christ is their mediator, as in 1 Timothy 2:5, "For there is one God, and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus."

Then again this same twofold work can be seen in regards to the saint. The Holy Spirit reproveth and brings to light the hidden sins, Ephesians 5:13, "But all things that are reproveth are made manifest by the light: for whatsoever doth make manifest is light."

Confession to the Father, 1 John 1:9, "If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. This is made possible because Christ is our advocate before the Father in heaven, 1 John 2:1, "My little children, these things write I unto you, that ye sin not. And if any man sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous."

Thus we have the work of the Holy Spirit in the earth, bringing sinners to Christ, and saints to maturity. Christ at the right hand of God, as mediator and advocate, bringing sinners into God the Father's family and saints in constant fellowship with the Father.

THE HOLY SPIRIT AS HE WILLS GIVES SPIRITUAL GIFTS TO THE MEMBERS OF THE BODY OF CHRIST

Working in cooperation with Christ who gives the ministries to members in the Body of Christ, as in Ephesians 4:8, "Wherefore he saith, When he ascended up on high, he led captivity captive, and gave gifts unto men."

These ministries are mentioned as being, Ephesians 4:11, "And he gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers." The Holy Spirit gives spirituals, or gifts to supplement the ministries which the Lord gives. 1 Corinthians 12:7, "But the manifestation of the Spirit is given to every man to profit withal."

These gifts are manifestations or expression of the indwelling Holy Spirit, 1 Corinthians 12:11, "But all these worketh that one and the selfsame Spirit, dividing to every man severally as he will."

After Christ and the Holy Spirit gift the members, the Father sets them in the Body of Christ as stated in 1 Corinthians 12:18, "But now hath God set the members every one of them in the body, as it hath pleased him."

THE HOLY SPIRIT REVEALED TRUTH TO THE APOSTLES AND PROPHETS WHICH HAD BEEN HIDDEN FROM MEN OF OTHER AGES

This deals with what we have formerly discussed, but to add to it we could say that the church, and the fact that Jews and Gentiles would fellowship together, was revealed to Paul by the Spirit.

This was a truth that the other apostles were not immediately convinced of, Ephesians 3:2-5, "If ye have heard of the dispensation of the grace of God which is given me to you-ward: 3 How that by revelation he made known unto me the mystery; (as I wrote afore in few words, 4 Whereby, when ye read, ye may understand my knowledge in the mystery of Christ) 5 Which in other ages was not made known unto the sons of men, as it is now revealed unto his holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit."

THE HOLY SPIRIT GAVE REVELATIONS TO THE OLD TESTAMENT PROPHETS, WHICH WERE INDEPENDENT OF THEIR OWN THINKING OR UNDERSTANDING

These revelations were given to the Old Testament prophets as they prophesied concerning things to come, as pointed out in 1 Peter 1:10-12, "Of which salvation the prophets have enquired and searched diligently, who prophesied of the grace that should come unto you: 11 Searching what, or what manner of time the Spirit of Christ which was in them did signify, when it testified beforehand the sufferings of Christ, and the glory that should follow. 12 Unto whom it was revealed, that not unto themselves, but unto us they did minister the things, which are now reported unto you by them that have preached the gospel unto you with the Holy Ghost sent down from heaven; which things the angels desire to look into."

It is evident that these prophets of the Old Testament spoke of things they did not understand, things that related to the New Testament period.

**THE HOLY SPIRIT IMPARTED PROPHETIC KNOWLEDGE TO
HOLY MEN APART FROM THEIR OWN WILL
AND CONTROLLED THEM IN GIVING THE UTTERANCE**

This is the basic truth concerning all prophecy, Old Testament and New Testament, but as they began to speak forth these revealed things, the Holy Spirit bore, or carried them along in their utterances, as in 2 Peter 1:21, "For the prophecy came not in old time by the will of man: but holy men of God spake as they were moved by the Holy Ghost."

**THE HOLY SPIRIT GAVE THESE UTTERANCES IN ALL CASES,
AND MEN OF GOD SPOKE THEM FORTH BY FAITH**

The whole of the prophetic revelation throughout the Old Testament and New Testament, the birth, life and death of Christ, all prophecies relating to Israel, all events relating to God's plans and purposes, the Holy Spirit gave to the prophets the words which were filled with revelation unfolding God's plans and purposes through human lips.

The choice of words in which these utterances were clothed was the Spirit's. They came forth in simple form, easy to understand. Man sometimes clothes his own wisdom in words which are hard to understand. Not so of the Spirit of God, 1 Corinthians 2:13, "Which things also we speak, not in the words which man's wisdom teacheth, but which the Holy Ghost teacheth; comparing spiritual things with spiritual."

**THE HOLY SPIRIT INSPIRED OR BREATHED OUT THE SCRIPTURES IN
THEIR ENTIRETY THROUGH THE MEDIUM OF MEN**

This is the reason why these same scriptures are life giving, transforming men's lives. They are words filled with life giving power, as pointed out in 2 Timothy 3:16,17, "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 perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works."

It is quite evident that some wrestle with the scriptures, and are not able to understand them, because of their spiritual condition as pointed out in 2 Peter 3:15,16, "And account that the longsuffering of our Lord is salvation; even as our beloved brother Paul also according to the wisdom given unto him hath written unto you; 16 As also in all his epistles, speaking in them of these things; in which are some things hard to be understood, which they that are unlearned and unstable wrest, as they do also the other scriptures, unto their own destruction."

THE HOLY SPIRIT IS THE INTERPRETER OF THE SCRIPTURES

This fact should be understood in the days when men are applying man made methods of interpretation of scripture.

If we never learn to know the Holy Spirit, who is the author of the scriptures, we will never learn to interpret these same scriptures, as they should be interpreted. But we will produce a man made interpretation void of life and power, as stated in John 16:14, "He shall glorify me: for he shall receive of mine, and shall shew it unto you."

It is evident that we have to have the Holy Spirit in us, and know him, as He is supposed to be known in order that he might reveal unto us the things of God, as pointed out in 1 Corinthians 2:9-14, "But as it is written, Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love him. 10 But God hath revealed them unto us by his Spirit: for the Spirit searcheth all things, yea, the deep things of God. 11 For what man knoweth the things of a man, save the spirit of man which is in him? even so the things of God knoweth no man, but the Spirit of God. 12 Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the spirit which is of God; that we might know the things that are freely given to us of God..."

THE MINISTRY OF THE HOLY SPIRIT FROM PENTECOST TO THE LORD'S RETURN

The Holy Spirit empowered the church on the day of Pentecost, as a Body of living members. The Church was formed before the day of Pentecost, and consisted of about a hundred and twenty members as stated in Acts 1:15, "And in those days Peter stood up in the midst of the disciples, and said, (the number of names together were about an hundred and twenty)."

The Holy Spirit up to this time was not personally active in the earth but on the day of Pentecost the Holy Spirit began a personal ministry in the earth.

He was sent down from heaven to remain in the earth, residing in the church, until He is taken out at the Rapture of the saints. This is the clear statement of scripture as in John 16:7, "...for if I go not away, the Comforter will not come unto you; but if I depart, I will send him unto you."

Then in 1 Peter 1:12, "...with the Holy Ghost sent down from heaven..." He will remain in the earth and in believers, and in the church until he is taken out of the way, at the Rapture of the saints in order that the Antichrist may be revealed as pointed out in 2 Thessalonians 2:6-7, "And now ye know what withholdeth that he might be revealed in his time. 7 For the mystery of iniquity doth already work: only he who now letteth will let, until he be taken out of the way."

As the Lord came to minister in the earth as a person, so on the day of Pentecost, the Holy Spirit came in the same sense as Jesus had, only he was to indwell believers. His coming is described in Acts 2:1-4, "And when the day of Pentecost was 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 all the house where they were sitting. 3 And there appeared unto them cloven tongues like as of fire, and it sat upon each of them. 4 And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance."

This was the coming of the Comforter. Now before we go any further in this study we must deal with a misinterpretation of this whole experience, regarding the receiving of the Holy Spirit, according to Acts 2:4.

We are taught by some that this experience of receiving the Holy Spirit comes to all, at the time when they are regenerated, or born again. But a study of the scriptures teaches that regeneration, and the baptism of the Holy Spirit are two different experiences.

The disciples of Jesus received regeneration in John 20:22, "And when he had said this, he breathed on them, and saith unto them, Receive ye the Holy Ghost." Then in Acts 2:4, "And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance."

This same principle is again brought out in Samaria. They believed Philip's preaching, and were baptized as in Acts 8:12, "But when they believed Philip preaching the things concerning the kingdom of God, and the name of Jesus Christ, they were baptized, both men and women." This proves the fact of their regeneration, but they did not receive the baptism of the Holy Spirit as stated in Acts 8:16, "For as yet he was fallen upon none of them: only they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus."

It was after Peter and John came down from Jerusalem and laid hands upon them, that they were filled with the Holy Ghost. Acts 8:17, "Then laid they their hands on them, and they received the Holy Ghost."

The same experience is to be found in Saul's life. He found Christ as Saviour on the road to Damascus, as stated in Acts 9:6, "And he trembling and astonished said, Lord, what wilt thou have me to do?..." Three days after this experience of salvation he was filled with the Holy Spirit as in Acts 9:17, "And Ananias went his way, and entered into the house; and putting his hands on him said, Brother Saul, the Lord, even Jesus, that appeared unto thee in the way as thou camest, hath sent me, that thou mightest receive thy sight, and be filled with the Holy Ghost."

The same two experiences are to be found in the house of Cornelius. Peter, as he preached his message, as stated in Acts 10:43, "To him give all the prophets witness, that through his name whosoever believeth in him shall receive remission of sins."

It is to be noticed that the Holy Ghost fell upon all those who received the Word, which Peter preached. They were born again first, before they received the Holy Spirit. Acts 10:44, "While Peter yet spake these words, the Holy Ghost fell on all them which heard the word."

Then again in Ephesus the same is brought to pass. They were saved first, as in Acts 19:5, “When they heard this, they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus.” Then after this experience they received the Holy Ghost, Acts 19:6, “And when Paul had laid his hands upon them, the Holy Ghost came on them; and they spake with tongues, and prophesied.”

THE HOLY SPIRIT’S WORK IN REGENERATION

Regeneration as a work of the Holy Spirit, takes place in man’s spirit. This is the statement of scripture, as in John 3:3, “...Except a man be born again...” Also in Ephesians 2:1, “And you hath he quickened, who were dead in trespasses and sins.”

In man’s spirit is born a new man, or nature as explained in Ephesians 4:24, “And that ye put on the new man, which after God is created in righteousness and true holiness.”

This same nature or man is again mentioned in Colossians 3:10, “And have put on the new man, which is renewed in knowledge after the image of him that created him.” So through the New Birth, the image of God is again created in us, and into this new man or nature is implanted the divine sinless nature of God as stated. We become partakers of this divine nature, as in 2 Peter 1:4, “...that by these ye might be partakers of the divine nature...”

This new man or nature does not commit sin, 1 John 3:9, “Whosoever is born of God doth not commit sin; for his seed remaineth in him: and he cannot sin, because he is born of God.”

This new birth is brought about by the power of the Holy Spirit, as stated in John 3:6, “...that which is born of the Spirit is spirit.” After this birth takes place, the Holy Spirit becomes the life of my new nature. That is why he is called the Spirit of life, as in Romans 8:2, “For the law of the Spirit of life...” Then also in Romans 6:4, “...so we also should walk in newness of life.”

So in regeneration a new man is born in man by the power of the Holy Spirit. After this birth takes place, the Holy Spirit becomes the life of that new nature.

THE BAPTISM OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

Having pointed out according to scripture, that regeneration, and the Baptism of the Holy Ghost are two distinct works of the Holy Spirit, then what takes place when a person receives the Baptism of the Holy Ghost?

Three different functions relating to the Holy Spirit take place. In the first sense the Baptism of the Holy Spirit is the actual coming into my body, of the Person of the Holy Spirit.

It is the fulfillment of Jesus’ statement in John 16:7-13, “...for if I go not away, the Comforter will not come unto you; but if I depart, I will send him unto you...” This indwelling is referred to in different scriptures, Romans 8:11, “But if the Spirit of him that raised up Jesus from the dead dwell in you, he that raised up Christ from the dead shall also quicken your mortal bodies by his Spirit that dwelleth in you.”

Then also in 1 John 4:4, “Ye are of God, little children, and have overcome them: because greater is he that is in you, than he that is in the world.”

The Holy Spirit indwells the believers inner spirit as pointed out in Ephesians 3:16, “That he would grant you, according to the riches of his glory, to be strengthened with might by his Spirit in the inner man.”

In the second function, this Baptism of the Holy Ghost is the Father’s seal on my salvation as in Ephesians 1:13-14, “In whom ye also trusted, after that ye heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation: in whom also after that ye believed, ye were sealed with that holy Spirit of promise...”

The Holy Spirit of promise relates to Luke 24:49, “And, behold, I send the promise of my Father upon you...” Ephesians 1:14, “Which is the earnest of our inheritance until the redemption of the purchased possession, unto the praise of his glory.”

The principle here is, that at regeneration, I have been purchased by the blood of Christ. I belong to the Father. The Baptism of the Spirit is the sealing upon what the Father has purchased, until the resurrection when the Father will take unto Himself, that which he hath purchased.

We are sealed by the Holy Spirit until that day takes place as pointed out in Ephesians 4:30, “And grieve not the holy Spirit of God, whereby ye are sealed unto the day of redemption.”

The third function, the Baptism of the Holy Spirit is power to witness, Acts 1:8, “But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you...” This power speaks of works of power, which are brought about by the Holy Spirit.

TERMS RELATING TO THE INDWELLING OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

There are certain terms relating to the Baptism of the Holy Spirit that should be understood. These are:

Acts 2:4, “And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost...”

Acts 2:38, “...and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost.”

Acts 8:15,16, “...that they might receive the Holy Ghost: 16 For as yet he was fallen upon none of them...”

Acts 8:18, “...laying on of the apostles' hands the Holy Ghost was given...”

Acts 10:44, “...the Holy Ghost fell on all them...”

Acts 19:6, “...the Holy Ghost came on them...”

All these terms relate to the receiving of the Holy Spirit. Now after we have received the Holy Spirit, another term used in scripture can be applied. This term has been misapplied and some teach the fact of one baptism, and many fillings, using the scripture in Acts 4:31, “And when they had prayed, the place was shaken where they were assembled together; and they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and they spake the word of God with boldness.” What we are to understand from this passage is this, that we receive the Baptism of the Holy Spirit, after which the Holy Spirit as a person, indwells us.

After this indwelling, the person of the Spirit fills us, for the term relates to control, yieldedness to the inner control of the Holy Spirit.

The Apostles who were indwelt in Acts 2:4, in Acts 4:31 dedicated themselves, gave themselves over to more control, of the Spirit and he filled, or controlled them more than he had done before.

The term has in it, the principle of learning to yield, or being controlled by the Holy Spirit. So being filled with the Holy Spirit could be a fluctuating experience depending on how much control the Holy Spirit is given.

This is the sense in which it is used in the following scriptures:

Acts 4:8, “Then Peter, filled with the Holy Ghost...”

Acts 13:9, “Then Saul, (who also is called Paul,) filled with the Holy Ghost...”

Acts 13:52, “And the disciples were filled with joy, and with the Holy Ghost.”

Ephesians 5:18, “...but be filled with the Spirit”.

The fullness of the Spirit has reference to His control over the yielded believer for the interpretation of Ephesians 5:18, “Be constantly, moment by moment, controlled by the Spirit”.

This brings us to another term used in scripture. After we have learned to be filled with the Holy Spirit, as in Acts 6:3, “full of the Holy Ghost”.

ACTS 6:5, “and they chose Stephen, a man full of faith and of the Holy Ghost”.

Acts 7:55, “But he, being full of the Holy Ghost...”

Acts 11:24, “For he was a good man, and full of the Holy Ghost...”

Now in the word filled, the Greek word “play-tho” is used, but in this word “full” the Greek word “play-race” is used. This relates to an experience of being completely full, or controlled by the Holy Ghost, a life fully dedicated to the control of the Holy Ghost. Such a person is said to be full of the Holy Ghost.

Now it must be understood that the experience of being filled and full, are not to be received, as we further tarry before God as some teach. The term “filled” them, relates to a progressive control of the Holy Spirit in our lives, while the term “full” speaks of a complete control.

So both terms being “filled” and “full” take place after we have received the Baptism of the Holy Spirit and depend upon yieldedness to the Spirit’s control, and all the other factors which make up the Christian

experience.

THE SPIRIT BAPTISM INTO THE BODY OF CHRIST

Much confusion has been produced because believers have been taught that the Baptism of the Holy Spirit is the means by which we are baptized into the Body of Christ. The scripture used is 1 Corinthians 12:13, "For by one Spirit are we all baptized into one body, whether we be Jews or Gentiles, whether we be bond or free; and have been all made to drink into one Spirit."

In relationship to what we are discussing, I would like to quote from the book, "Elemental Theology", by Dr. Bancroft, Page 166. "The Baptism of the Holy Spirit is that act which takes place at conversion, by which the individual is made a member of the Body of Christ. This work has been accomplished in the life of every believer, though it is not always recognized".

"It is not something to be attained by the believer after regeneration. It is something that has been obtained for him at regeneration. The Baptism began at Pentecost, but reaches down across the centuries, until the last member has been added to the church, "By one Spirit are we all baptized into one body"".

A clear outline of the difference between regeneration and the Baptism of the Holy Spirit has already been made in this study. So we could definitely say that the above teaching is false.

To take the teaching on the Baptism of the Holy Spirit as taught in scripture we must come to the conclusion that thousands of born again believers are not baptized with the Holy Spirit, which means according to the following teaching of Dr. Bancroft, that they are not in the Body of Christ. This proves the teaching wrong.

Scripture clearly teaches that it is not the Baptism of the Holy Spirit that places us in the Body of Christ, but the Born Again experience as stated in Acts 2:47, "And the Lord added to the church daily such as should be saved".

An understanding of the Doctrine of Baptisms, as in Hebrews 6:2, "Of the Doctrine of Baptisms...", will clear away any misunderstanding in relationship to 1 Corinthians 12:13.

In the Doctrine of Baptisms we find that there are three baptisms after regeneration, and in this relationship these baptisms speak of identification in three senses:

We are baptized into Christ, Romans 6:3, "...baptized into Jesus Christ..."

We are baptized into his death, Romans 6:3, "...baptized into his death"

Through this first baptism we are able to become partakers of all Christ has wrought for us. Through the second, the old nature is put to death, as in 1 Peter 2:24, "...that we, being dead to sins, should live unto righteousness..."

Through the third we are baptized into his body, 1 Corinthians 12:13, positioned as stated in 1 Corinthians 12:18, "But now hath God set the members every one of them in the body, as it hath pleased him." This placing into the body relates to our ministry and spiritual gifts as in Romans 12:3-8. These baptisms are the work of the Holy Spirit. After which we are baptized in water, Acts 2:28. Then Baptized in the Holy Spirit, Acts 2:38-39. Then to fit us for ministry we are baptized in suffering, Luke 12:50, Mark 10:37-39.

Thus the experience of 1 Corinthians 12:13, is not the same as Acts 2:4. And when we understand that at regeneration we are baptized into Christ, we are baptized into his death, and into his body, and that these baptisms are becoming identified with Christ, his death, his body, the confusion is cleared away concerning the Baptism of the Holy Spirit.

THE HOLY SPIRIT POSSESSED AND INDWELT THE CHURCH AS THE TEMPLE OF GOD

We must be very careful at this point in our study. For we can teach that the Holy Spirit indwells the church, and leave out the individual members in the church.

Like some try to teach that the gifts are in the church, not in the members. They forget that the members make the church. Then we can emphasize the fact that the individual member is indwelt, and lose sight of the Body of Christ.

The individual member is a temple of the Holy Spirit, as stated in 1 Corinthians 6:19, “What? know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost which is in you...” But by the work of the Holy Spirit we are identified with one another in the Body of Christ, and we are all energized and irrigated by the one Spirit into a oneness. 1 Corinthians 12:13, “For by one Spirit are we all baptized into one body, whether we be Jews or Gentiles, whether we be bond or free; and have been all made to drink into one Spirit.”

Thus in this sense the church is evident by the Holy Spirit. It is His temple on earth as in Ephesians 2:22, “In whom ye also are builded together for an habitation of God through the Spirit.” He is the energizing power of all the churches’ work on earth.

Denominationalism is a sad reminder of how far we have gotten from the truth of the Spirit’s indwelling in the church.

IT’S THE HOLY SPIRIT THAT WORKS, OR BRINGS FORTH MANIFESTATIONS IN THE CHURCH

The Spirit of God gifts the members as He wills, and He is the one that brings forth these manifestations, as we learn to cooperate with him as in 1 Corinthians 12:8-11, “For to one is given by the Spirit the word of wisdom; to another the word of knowledge by the same Spirit; 9 To another faith by the same Spirit; to another the gifts of healing by the same Spirit; 10 To another the working of miracles; to another prophecy; to another discerning of spirits; to another divers kinds of tongues; to another the interpretation of tongues: 11 But all these worketh that one and the selfsame Spirit, dividing to every man severally as he will.

THE INCENSE OF PRAISE IS OFFERED BY THE INSPIRATION OF THE SPIRIT

John 4:24, “God is a Spirit: and they that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth.” God cannot be worshipped intellectually or emotionally. He must be worshipped by the inner spirit of man controlled by the Holy Ghost.

Worship takes on many forms, prayer, praise, singing, adoration, as pointed out in 1 Corinthians 14:14,15, “For if I pray in an unknown tongue, my spirit prayeth, but my understanding is unfruitful. 15 What is it then? I will pray with the spirit, and I will pray with the understanding also: I will sing with the spirit, and I will sing with the understanding also.”

This fountain of spiritual praise and worship and singing is related to being filled with the Holy Ghost, as pointed out in Ephesians 5:18,19, “And be not drunk with wine, wherein is excess; but be filled with the Spirit; 19 Speaking to yourselves in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord.” This inspired singing in the Spirit can become a medium by which we can teach one another in the things of God, as stated in Colossians 3:16, “Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom; teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord.”

A psalm, a sacred song, or poem or a sacred folk song. A hymn is a song of praise to God. Spiritual songs are inspired or prophetic songs which contain the fourth element of prophecy, as pointed out in 1 Corinthians 14:3, “But he that prophesieth speaketh unto men to edification, and exhortation, and comfort.” 1 Corinthians 14:24,25, “But if all prophesy...25 and thus are the secrets of his heart made manifest.” This kind of revelation can even come forth through inspired song.

THE INTERCESSION OF PRAYER IS MAINTAINED BY THE WHOLE COMPANY OF THOSE WHO PRAY IN THE HOLY GHOST

Too much of our praying is the invention of the human intellect, beautifully worded, and very good to listen to.

But the free flowing of inspired prayer is what is needed in our day, the gift of prophecy, inspired speaking which can also be to God, Jude 20, “But ye, beloved, building up yourselves on your most holy faith,

praying in the Holy Ghost.

And sometimes because of our human limitations, we do not know what to pray for as we ought, but the Holy Spirit comes to our aid. Romans 8:26,27, "Likewise the Spirit also helpeth our infirmities: for we know not what we should pray for as we ought: but the Spirit itself maketh intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered. 27 And he that searcheth the hearts knoweth what is the mind of the Spirit, because he maketh intercession for the saints according to the will of God."

THE WORK OF PREACHING, WITNESSING AND DELIVERANCE IS CARRIED FORWARD BY SUCH AS ARE WITNESSES IN COOPERATION WITH THE HOLY GHOST TO THE ETERNAL TRUTH OF GOD

One of the Holy Spirit's works is to testify of Christ as stated in John 15:26, "But when the Comforter is come, whom I will send unto you from the Father, even the Spirit of truth, which proceedeth from the Father, he shall testify of me."

Thus those who had labored with Jesus from the beginning of his ministry, verse 27, "And ye also shall bear witness, because ye have been with me from the beginning." It was these men that the Holy Spirit empowered to become witnesses, to testify of Christ to the whole world as in Acts 1:8, "But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth."

Our witnessing is not to be clothed with the robes of intellectualism, as Paul the Apostle states in 1 Corinthians 2:1-5, "And I, brethren, when I came to you, came not with excellency of speech or of wisdom, declaring unto you the testimony of God..."

The center of our witness, when brought forth by the Holy Spirit to a dying world, will be as stated, 1 Corinthians 2:2, "For I determined not to know any thing among you, save Jesus Christ, and him crucified."

At this point we must not be carried away as some have. We have often heard this statement from pulpits, "We preach nothing here but Christ and him crucified". What they are trying to tell us is that the simple message of the cross is all that they preach. And doctrine, and the spiritual realities of the Word are not to be tolerated.

We have often noticed that under that kind of witnessing souls are saved, while saints perish for the lack of knowledge. A witness in the power of the Holy Ghost will produce the following as stated in Acts 8:5, "Then Philip went down to the city of Samaria, and preached Christ unto them." The twofold effect of preaching Christ is revealed in Acts 8:6,7, "And the people with one accord gave heed unto those things which Philip spake, hearing and seeing the miracles which he did. 7 For unclean spirits, crying with loud voice, came out of many that were possessed with them: and many taken with palsies, and that were lame, were healed." This is the type of Holy Ghost witnessing that the world needs.

But as overseers of the Church of God we are to feed the flock, over the which the Holy Ghost hath made us overseers, Acts 20:28, "Take heed therefore unto yourselves, and to all the flock, over the which the Holy Ghost hath made you overseers, to feed the church of God, which he hath purchased with his own blood." Not only to feed but to declare the whole counsel of God as Paul himself points out in Acts 20:27, "For I have not shunned to declare unto you all the counsel of God."

And what we declare must be both in demonstration and in power, as in 1 Corinthians 2:4, "And my speech and my preaching was not with enticing words of man's wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power." Verse 5, "That your faith should not stand in the wisdom of men, but in the power of God."

God help us, if we have been carried away with some humanistic promotion, or we have followed some personality, and that is what our faith is in.

Holy Ghost teaching puts the foundation under the saint, that he needs. And when humanistic promotions fail, when personalities fail, we will still have something to hold on to.

You can listen to some preach and teach, and be very impressed by the man. But you can also listen to others, and be impressed by the Christ which they present. Holy Ghost witnessing glorifies Christ, not man.

THE HOLY SPIRIT CONFERS GIFTS AND GRACES UPON THE CHURCH

FOR LIFE, FRUITFULNESS, AND SERVICE HE IS CALLED THE SPIRIT OF LIFE

He is called the Spirit of Life, and as such he is the giver of life to the church. This life comes to us through the Word as in John 6:63, "It is the spirit that quickeneth; the flesh profiteth nothing: the words that I speak unto you, they are spirit, and they are life."

It is this Spirit of life, that makes us free from the law of sin and death in our members as in Romans 8:2, "For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus hath made me free from the law of sin and death."

As the Fruitbearer, He is God that giveth the increase when we work in our respective ministries, as stated in 1 Corinthians 3:7, "So then neither is he that planteth any thing, neither he that watereth; but God that giveth the increase." This is the fruit of our labor, fruit unto eternal life.

But it is the same Holy Spirit that produces the fruit of the Spirit in our lives. He is cultivating us as a garden, as pointed out in 1 Corinthians 3:9, you are God's garden, and vineyard, and field under cultivation. Every Christian grace is the fruitage of the Holy Spirit borne in the soul of surrendered hearts, and the fruit brought forth in this sense is pointed out in Galatians 5:22,23, "But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, 23 Meekness, temperance: against such there is no law."

It is that which is described to us as charity in 1 Corinthians 13:4-7, which controls the vessel in order that spiritual manifestation, and all Christian activity can come forth in the power of the Holy Spirit, and by the love of the Spirit.

Romans 5:5, "And hope maketh not ashamed; because the love of God is shed abroad in our hearts by the Holy Ghost which is given unto us." Not only does the Holy Spirit produce the two kinds of fruit in our lives, but He also qualifies us for service by giving Spiritual Gifts to the members of the Body as stated in Romans 12:6-8, "Having then gifts differing according to the grace that is given to us, whether prophecy, let us prophesy according to the proportion of faith; 7 Or ministry, let us wait on our ministering: or he that teacheth, on teaching. 8 Or he that exhorteth, on exhortation: he that giveth, let him do it with simplicity; he that ruleth, with diligence; he that sheweth mercy, with cheerfulness."

The ministries that are mentioned are given by the Lord as pointed out in Ephesians 4:8, "...and gave gifts (or ministry gifts) unto men". The giving of spiritual gifts is through the Spirit as in 1 Corinthians 12:7, "But the manifestation of the Spirit is given to every man to profit withal." Then also in 1 Corinthians 12:11, "But all these worketh that one and the selfsame Spirit, dividing to every man severally as he will."

THE HOLY SPIRIT HAS ANOINTING, ILLUMINATION, AND GUIDANCE FOR THE CHURCH

We are anointed for service, by the Holy Spirit as in 2 Corinthians 1:21, "Now he which stablisheth us with you in Christ, and hath anointed us, is God." Not only are we anointed for service, by this anointing, but it also reveals to us what is truth, as in 1 John 2:20, "But ye have an unction from the Holy One, and ye know all things." So in this sense the anointing brings illumination, or a lighting up or explanation, or supplying of light.

It is an anointing that abides in us, as in 1 John 2:27, "But the anointing which ye have received of him abideth in you, and ye need not that any man teach you: but as the same anointing teacheth you of all things, and is truth, and is no lie, and even as it hath taught you, ye shall abide in him." We are to abide in the truth which the anointing illuminates to us.

In the anointing of the High Priest we have an illustration of the anointing which is ours in Christ, Psalm 133:1-2, "...It is like the precious ointment upon the head, that ran down upon the beard, even Aaron's beard: that went down to the skirts of his garments."

This is fulfilled in Christ our great High Priest, who is passed into the heavens. From him the unction of the Holy Ghost descended at Pentecost. It was poured out richly upon His Body, the Church, and is still being poured out on individual members who desire it. This anointing will continue until His Body is completed.

JESUS APPROPRIATED TO HIMSELF THE ANOINTING SPOKEN OF BY THE PROPHETS

Jesus' own words are these in Luke 4:18, "...because he hath anointed me..." Then also in Acts 4:27,

“For of a truth against thy holy child Jesus, whom thou hast anointed...”, and also in Acts 10:38, “How God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Ghost...”, and as the Lord who is the Head of the Body, so with the Body.

THIS ANOINTING HAS BEEN BESTOWED

This fact is brought out in the words “and hath anointed us”, 2 Corinthians 1:21, “Now he which stablisheth us with you in Christ, and hath anointed us, is God.”

We are anointed then, but there needs to be recognition, and a realization of this on the part of the church. That we have an abiding anointing as stated in 1 John 2:27, “But the anointing which ye have received of him abideth in you...”, the “abideth” means to stay. This fact of an abiding anointing must be appropriated by faith, and we are anointed to be as stated in 1 Peter 2:9, “But ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people; that ye should shew forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvellous light.”

THE HOLY SPIRIT PRESIDES OVER AND DIRECTS THE CHURCH INTO THE WILL AND PLAN OF GOD

The Holy Spirit from the day of Pentecost has occupied an entirely new position. The whole administration of the affairs of the church are His. This position, He will continue to hold until the Rapture of the church.

HE IS THE VICAR OF CHRIST

The word Vicar, means a person who acts in place of another, deputy. The Holy Spirit acts while Christ is on the right hand of God as our High Priest. He is directing everything according to the divine plan of God. This is to be seen in sending forth workers as in Acts 13:1-3, “...2 As they ministered to the Lord, and fasted, the Holy Ghost said, Separate me Barnabas and Saul for the work whereunto I have called them...” Verse 4, “So they, being sent forth by the Holy Ghost...”

In the setting forth of the doctrinal position of the church, as in Acts 15:28, “For it seemed good to the Holy Ghost, and to us, to lay upon you no greater burden than these necessary things.” In the setting in place, the elders of the church, as pointed out in Acts 20:28, “Take heed therefore unto yourselves, and to all the flock, over the which the Holy Ghost hath made you overseers, to feed the church of God, which he hath purchased with his own blood.”

Then we find the Holy Spirit in His operation, and direction in regards to spiritual gifts, for the benefit of the church, and the world of sinners in 1 Corinthians 12:8-11.

What kind of a church we belong to, for one factor determines a true church: Is the authority of the one ruling sovereign Holy Spirit being recognized or ignored? This and this alone determines whether the church shall be an anarchy or a unity, a synagogue of lawless ones, or the temple of the living God.

What is the cause of the apostasy in Christendom. The rule and the authority of the Holy Ghost ignored in the Church, the servants of the house assuming the authority until one man set himself up as the Vicar of Christ.

There is only one “Holy See” and that the seat of the Holy Ghost in the church. The other is just blasphemy. When we recognize Him as the only guiding factor in the church, and recognize Him as a person and our anointer in regards to our place in the Body of Christ, our gifts will be empowered and we will be directed by him.

THE HOLY SPIRIT HAS SUPERVISION OVER THE GOVERNMENT OF THE CHURCH

It is the Holy Ghost who has made men overseers in the church, as is stated in Acts 20:28, “Take heed

therefore unto yourselves, and to all the flock, over the which the Holy Ghost hath made you overseers...”

It is also true according to scripture that Christ gave the ministries to the church as pointed out in Ephesians 4:8-12, “Wherefore he saith, When he ascended up on high, he led captivity captive, and gave gifts unto men... 11 And he gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers...”

These offices are governed by the Holy Spirit. Christ is in heaven, as Head over all things in the Church. But the Holy Spirit came down to direct the construction of the Body.

IT’S THE HOLY SPIRIT THAT DIRECTS THE WORSHIP, AND SERVICE OF THE CHURCH IN THEIR EVERY PHASE

Preaching gets its inspiration and effectability and authority from the Holy Spirit, 1 Peter 1:12, “that have preached the gospel unto you with the Holy Ghost sent down from heaven”.

He is the source of power and also demonstration in relationship to the spoken word as in 1 Corinthians 2:4, “And my speech and my preaching was not with enticing words of man's wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power.” This is further brought out in Acts 10:44, “While Peter yet spake these words, the Holy Ghost fell on all them which heard the word.” And again in Acts 14:9-10, “The same heard Paul speak: who stedfastly beholding him, and perceiving that he had faith to be healed, 10 Said with a loud voice, Stand upright on thy feet. And he leaped and walked.”

The Holy Spirit convicts the hearts as the Word is preached in the same Spirit’s power, as in Acts 2:37, “Now when they heard this, they were pricked in their heart, and said unto Peter and to the rest of the apostles, Men and brethren, what shall we do?”

PRAYER IS DEPENDENT FOR ITS ACCEPTABLENESS AND ACHIEVEMENT UPON THE POWER AND GUIDANCE OF THE HOLY GHOST

It is evident, according to scripture that prayer in the Holy Spirit by His power, and under His guidance is prayer according to the will of God. So we pray in the Holy Ghost as in Jude 20, “...praying in the Holy Ghost”, then again in Ephesians 6:18, “Praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit...” And even in times when we know not what to pray for, the Holy Spirit will sometimes rise up within us and pray in His own way to God as stated in Romans 8:26,27, “Likewise the Spirit also helpeth our infirmities: for we know not what we should pray for as we ought: but the Spirit itself maketh intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered. 27 And he that searcheth the hearts knoweth what is the mind of the Spirit, because he maketh intercession for the saints according to the will of God.”

THE SERVICE OF SONG SHOULD BE IN THE SPIRIT’S FULLNESS AND POWER

The Spirit filled believer, controlled by the Holy Spirit, will find a constant flowing of song and praise, coming forth from his innermost being, as pointed out in Ephesians 5:18,19, “And be not drunk with wine, wherein is excess; but be filled with the Spirit; 19 Speaking to yourselves in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord.”

This kind of spiritual expression can become a medium by which we can teach one another, as in Colossians 3:16, “Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom; teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord.”

This can be entered into at will, as the believer desires, 1 Corinthians 14:15, “What is it then? I will pray with the spirit, and I will pray with the understanding also: I will sing with the spirit, and I will sing with the understanding also.”

THE HOLY SPIRIT IS THE SPIRIT OF MISSIONS, THE SUPERINTENDENT AND ENERGIZER THEREOF

The Spirit filled believer becomes a witness, or a missionary as stated in Acts 1:8, “ But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth.”

In the story of missions we see how every step in the enterprise was originated and directed by the Holy Spirit.

1. In the selection of missionaries.

We must understand when we speak of missionaries, we are not speaking of missionaries ordinary, but we are speaking of Apostles in relation to ministries. These Apostles then were chosen men, as pointed out in Acts 13:2, “As they ministered to the Lord, and fasted, the Holy Ghost said, Separate me Barnabas and Saul for the work whereunto I have called them.”

Not only did the Spirit choose them, but also sent them forth, Acts 13:4, “So they, being sent forth by the Holy Ghost, departed unto...”

This same Holy Spirit empowered them to speak, Acts 13:9, “Then Saul, (who also is called Paul,) filled with the Holy Ghost, set his eyes on him.” And he that opposed the gospel became blind.

The Holy Spirit sustains them under persecution, as they ministered in His power, as in Acts 13:50, “But the Jews stirred up the devout and honourable women, and the chief men of the city, and raised persecution against Paul and Barnabas, and expelled them out of their coasts. 51 But they shook off the dust of their feet against them, and came unto Iconium. 52 And the disciples were filled with joy, and with the Holy Ghost.”

THE HOLY SPIRIT SET HIS DIVINE SEAL UPON THEIR MINISTRY AMONG THE GENTILES

The Holy Spirit set His seal upon their ministry amongst the Gentiles by giving the Gentiles the Holy Spirit as stated in Acts 15:8, “And God, which knoweth the hearts, bare them witness, giving them the Holy Ghost, even as he did unto us.”

THE HOLY SPIRIT ALSO COUNSELLED THEM CONCERNING DIFFICULT DOCTRINAL QUESTIONS

This is one of the reasons for our being led by the Spirit in relation to fields we are to labor in. Some fields are not open, and some are. The Holy Spirit alone knows, as is pointed out in Acts 16:6, “Now when they had gone throughout Phrygia and the region of Galatia, and were forbidden of the Holy Ghost to preach the word in Asia, 7 After they were come to Mysia, they assayed to go into Bithynia: but the Spirit suffered them not. 8 And they passing by Mysia came down to Troas. 9 And a vision appeared to Paul in the night; There stood a man of Macedonia, and prayed him, saying, Come over into Macedonia, and help us.”

THE HOLY SPIRIT COMPLETES THE CHURCH, THE BODY OF CHRIST, BY CALLING OUT A PEOPLE FOR THE NAME OF CHRIST

It is the Holy Spirit, in the Dispensation of Grace that is bringing men to Christ, and adding them to the Body of Christ, the Church. Thus the Church is being completed. These are being called out from amongst the nations as stated in Acts 15:14,15, “ Simeon hath declared how God at the first did visit the Gentiles, to take out of them a people for his name...”

THE HOLY SPIRIT IN RELATION TO THE WORLD

There is a threefold revelation which the Holy Spirit is giving to the world, and this is revealed in John 16:8-11, “And when he is come, he will reprove the world of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgment...”

It is clear that these three works cover the past, the present, and the future of the outlook of man as a

sinner, the history of past sins, the present demand of righteousness, and the fear of future judgment.

The Holy Spirit takes these three cardinal facts and places them in their true light, so that man may make no mistake concerning them.

THE HOLY SPIRIT CAN BE SINNED AGAINST IN DIFFERENT WAYS

There are different ways in which the Holy Spirit can be sinned against. These are pointed out in the scripture.

Men may vex the Holy Spirit, Isaiah 63:10, "But they rebelled, and vexed his holy Spirit: therefore he was turned to be their enemy, and he fought against them."

This relates to the rebellion of the Children of Israel.

The Holy Spirit can be grieved. When God's children who have power through the Holy Spirit, to overcome the flesh as in Romans 8:13, "...but if ye through the Spirit do mortify the deeds of the body, ye shall live."

Continuance to walk in the flesh, grieves the Holy Spirit, as stated in Ephesians 4:30, "And grieve not the holy Spirit of God, whereby ye are sealed unto the day of redemption."

The Holy Spirit may be quenched. This is possibly referring to the operation of spiritual gifts, and it is related to in 1 Thessalonians 5:20, "Despise not prophesyings." 1 Thessalonians 5:19, "Quench not the Spirit," in relationship to spiritual utterances.

The Holy Spirit can be blasphemed against. This sin is committed when unregenerated men speak against the works, or miracles, or healings which are performed by the Holy Spirit and they say that they are of the devil.

It must be understood that these same men actually see these works performed before their own eyes, and yet attribute them to the devil, as brought out in Matthew 12:24, "But when the Pharisees heard it, they said, This fellow doth not cast out devils, but by Beelzebub the prince of the devils."

This act then is what Jesus said is blasphemy against the Holy Ghost, Matthew 12:31,32, "Wherefore I say unto you, All manner of sin and blasphemy shall be forgiven unto men: but the blasphemy against the Holy Ghost shall not be forgiven unto men. 32 And whosoever speaketh a word against the Son of man, it shall be forgiven him: but whosoever speaketh against the Holy Ghost, it shall not be forgiven him, neither in this world, neither in the world to come."

The Holy Spirit may be lied to. This act relates to a church member, in relation to his fellowship in the church. In this instance it was the giving of money to the church.

Ananias and his wife, kept back a part of the price of the land, but they gave what was left to Peter hoping to get credit for giving it all. In this sense they lied. Acts 5:3, "But Peter said, Ananias, why hath Satan filled thine heart to lie to the Holy Ghost, and to keep back part of the price of the land?"

Men may do despite unto the Holy Spirit. The thought here is that Jewish Christians were in danger of going back into Judaism, and turning from the sacrifice of Christ, as stated in Hebrews 6:4-6, and returning to the temple worship, to offer lambs again. To do this would do despite to the Holy Spirit. This is pointed out in Hebrews 10:26, "For if we sin willfully after that we have received the knowledge of the truth, there remaineth no more sacrifice for sins..." Hebrews 10:29, "...and hath done despite unto the Spirit of grace".

THE HOLY SPIRIT WILL RETURN TO HIS FORMER POSTION TO HEAVEN AS HE WAS IN THE OLD TESTAMENT TIMES, AFTER THE CHURCH IS TAKEN OUT

The Holy Spirit who is now in the members of the church in a person sense, filling the church with His fullness, Ephesians 2:22, "In whom ye also are builded together for an habitation of God through the Spirit," also will be taken out of the world with the church as stated in 2 Thessalonians 2:6,7, "And now ye know what withholdeth that he might be revealed in his time. 7 For the mystery of iniquity doth already work: only he who now letteth will let, (or he that hindereth will continue to hinder) until he be taken out of the way."

Then the Holy Spirit will continue His work in the Tribulation period, and in the Kingdom Age, as He did in the Old Testament times, coming upon men.

In the eternal ages the Godhead will return to its oneness, as it was before creation. This oneness is suggested in the terms given in Genesis 1:26, "...Let us make man in our image...", Genesis 3:22, "...Behold, the man is become as one of us...", Genesis 11:7, "Go to, let us go down...", that God may be all in all.

THE DOCTRINE OF THE HOLY SPIRIT
BOOK 17
QUESTIONS ON LESSON 1

1. What person advanced a theory that the Holy Spirit was only an influence of divine energy, coming from God?
2. In what way did this theory influence the church?
3. Explain the symbolic names given the Holy Spirit.
4. In what scripture is the personality of the Holy Spirit shown?
5. In what way is he mentioned in regards to believers, Christ and the Father?
6. What acts prove his personality?
7. Is the Holy Spirit as a person affected by the acts of others? Explain.
8. What divine attributes and perfections are ascribed to Him?
9. What do all these things prove him to be?
10. In what ways is the name of the Holy Spirit seen to be equal with the name of God and Christ?
11. In taking up the work of the Holy Spirit, what misconception needs to be removed?
12. Explain how the Father, and the Son and the Holy Spirit work in creation and redemption?
13. Explain the work of the Holy Spirit in creation?
14. Explain how the Holy Spirit gives life to man.
15. What was the difference between the work of the Holy Spirit in the Old Testament and in the New Testament?
16. What did Joel 2:28,29 predict?
17. Was this infilling in the Old Testament related to the character of persons?
18. What does the Holy Spirit demand in the New Testament after the work of the cross?
19. In what way could the work of the Holy Spirit be classified in the Old Testament?
20. Were Old Testament saints saved through the work of the Holy Spirit?
21. Explain the work of the Holy Spirit in the Gospel period.
22. Explain how Jesus was filled and empowered by the Holy Spirit for his ministry.

23. What scripture proves that through the Holy Spirit, Jesus offered himself as an offering on the cross?
24. How was Jesus raised from the dead?
25. At whose request did the Holy Spirit come at Pentecost?
26. Why was it necessary for Christ to leave this earth?
27. How long would the Holy Spirit indwell the believers?
28. What will the Holy Spirit teach believers?
29. Because the Holy Spirit will teach us, is it necessary then to be taught by teachers?
30. How can the twofold work of Christ in heaven and the Holy Spirit in the earth be seen today?
31. Who is it that gives Gifts to believers?
32. What truth was it that the Holy Spirit revealed to the Apostles?
33. What did the Holy Spirit do through Old Testament Prophets?
34. What did the Holy Spirit do in regards to the scriptures through men?
35. Who is the interpreter of the scriptures?
36. In what way did the Holy Spirit become personally active after Pentecost?
37. Explain why the work of regeneration is different from the Baptism of the Holy Spirit.
38. Explain the terms filled and full.
39. If the Baptism of the Holy Spirit baptizes believers into the Body of Christ, what would be the condition of thousands of believers?
40. Explain the doctrine of Baptisms.
41. In what way does the Holy Spirit dwell in the church?
42. What is Denominationalism a sad reminder of?
43. What does the Holy Spirit bring forth through believers as they learn to cooperate with Him?
44. Can God be worshipped entirely through the intellect or emotions?
45. In what power do we witness and preach the gospel?
46. What should happen when we preach Christ under the power of the Holy Spirit?
47. Who made men overseers in the church?

48. In what twofold way must we declare the whole counsel of God?
49. Why does the Holy Spirit confer gifts and graces upon the church?
50. What has the Holy Spirit further for the church?
51. What did Jesus appropriate for Himself?
52. What does the word “abideth” mean in regards to the Holy Spirit?
53. How does the Holy Spirit direct the church into the will of God?
54. Who has supervision over the governments of the church?
55. Who is the superintendent of missions?
56. Give scripture to prove that the Holy Spirit gives counsel concerning doctrine.
57. In what way does the Holy Spirit guide their entering into fields of labor?
58. How does the Holy Spirit complete the church?
59. What does the Holy Spirit do in the world of men?
60. In what way can the Holy Spirit be sinned against?
61. How will the Holy Spirit work after the church is taken out of the world?