

The Godhead, 2 - The Spirit

With Daniel Mesa

“The Holy Spirit always leads to the written Word. **The Holy Spirit is a person**; for He beareth witness with our spirits that we are the children of God. When this witness is borne, it carries with it its own evidence. At such times we believe and are sure that we are the children of God. What strong evidence of the power of truth we can give to believers and unbelievers when we can voice the words of John, “We have known and believed the love that God hath to us. God is love; and he that dwelleth in love dwelleth in God, and God in him.” {Ms20-1906.31}

The Holy Spirit has a personality, else He could not bear witness to our spirits and with our spirits that we are the children of God. **He must also be a divine person**, else He could not search out the secrets which lie hidden in the mind of God. “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.”” {Ms20-1906.32}

“Your ideas of the two subjects you mention [“my idea in reference to the Holy Ghost not being the Spirit of God, which is Christ, but the angel Gabriel, and my belief that the 144,000 will be Jews who will acknowledge Jesus as their Messiah”] do not harmonize with the light which God has given me. The **nature of the Holy Spirit is a mystery**; it is **not clearly revealed**, and you will never be able to explain it to others, because the Lord has not revealed it to you. You may gather together scriptures and put your construction upon them, but the application is not correct. The expositions by which you sustain your position are not sound. You may lead some to accept your explanations, but you do them no good, nor are they, through accepting your views, enabled to do others good. Lt7-1891.13

It is **not essential for you to know and be able to define just what the Holy Spirit is**. Christ tells us that **the Holy Spirit is the Comforter**, and **the Comforter is the Holy Ghost** [see p. 3, par. 3], “the Spirit of truth, which the Father shall send in My name.” “I will pray the Father, and He shall give you **another** Comforter, that He may abide with you for ever; even the Spirit of truth; whom the world cannot receive, because it seeth Him not, neither knoweth Him: but ye know Him, for He dwelleth with you [currently], and shall be in you [future]” [John 14:16, 17]. **This refers to the omnipresence of the Spirit of Christ, called the Comforter**. Again Jesus says, “I have yet many things to say unto you, but ye cannot bear them now. Howbeit when He, the Spirit of truth is come, He will guide you into all truth” [John 16:12, 13].” 14MR 179.2

“**Cumbered with humanity, Christ could not be in every place personally**; therefore it was altogether for their advantage that He should leave them, go to His father, and **send the Holy Spirit to be His successor** on earth. **The Holy Spirit is Himself divested of the personality of humanity and independent thereof**. He would represent Himself as present in all places by **His Holy Spirit, as the Omnipresent**. “But the Comforter, which is the Holy Ghost, whom the Father **will** [future] send in My name, He shall (although unseen by you), [This phrase was added by Ellen White.] teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you” [John 14:26]. “Nevertheless I tell you the truth; It is expedient for you that I go away: for **if I go not away, the Comforter will come not** unto you; but **if I depart, I will send Him** unto you” [John 16:7].” 14MR 23.3

“The Father can not be described by the things of earth. **The Father *is* all the fullness** of the Godhead bodily, and is invisible to mortal sight. **The Son *is* all the fullness** of the Godhead manifested. The word of God declares Him to be “the express image of His **person**.” “God so

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loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life.” Here is shown the **personality** of the Father. BTS March 1, 1906, par. 1

The Comforter that Christ promised to send *after* He ascended to heaven, **is the Spirit *in* all the fullness** of the Godhead, making manifest the power of divine grace to all who receive and believe in Christ as a personal Saviour. There are **three living persons** of the heavenly trio. In the name of these **three powers**,—the **Father**, the **Son**, and the **Holy Ghost**, those who receive Christ by living faith are baptized, and these **powers** will cooperate with the obedient subjects of heaven in their efforts to live the new life in Christ.” BTS March 1, 1906, par. 2

“We want the Holy Spirit, **which is** Jesus Christ.” {Lt66-1894 1.6600}

“The Holy Spirit **is** the Spirit of Christ; it is His representative. Here is the divine agency that carries conviction to hearts.” {13MR 313.3}

“The Holy Spirit **is** the Spirit of Christ, which is sent to all men to give them sufficiency, that through His grace we might be complete in Him.” {14MR 84.3}

“They have one God and one Saviour; and **one Spirit — the Spirit of Christ —** is to bring unity into their ranks.” {9T 189.3}

“It is not your spirit that is going into heaven; it is **Christ’s spirit**.” {1888 905.2}

“The Holy Spirit, which **proceeds from** the only - begotten Son of God, binds the human agent, body, soul, and spirit, to the perfect, divine - human nature of Christ.” {1SM 251.1}

“...The Holy Spirit, **proceeding from** the Saviour, pervades the soul, renews the motives and affections, and brings even the thoughts into obedience to the will of God, enabling the receiver to bear the precious fruit of holy deeds.” {AA 284.1}

“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 15:26.

“He shewed me a pure river of **water of life**, clear as crystal, **proceeding out of the throne** of God ***and*** of the Lamb” Revelation 22:1.

“For my people have committed two evils; they have forsaken **me** the **fountain of living waters**, and hewed them out cisterns, broken cisterns, that can hold no water” Jeremiah 2:13.

“O LORD, the hope of Israel, all that forsake thee shall be ashamed, and they that depart from me shall be written in the earth, because they have forsaken the **LORD**, the **fountain of living waters**” Jeremiah 17:13.

“If any man **thirst**, let him come unto ***me***, and **drink**. He that believeth on me, as the scripture hath said, **out of *his* belly** [most often translated womb] shall flow **rivers of living water**. (But this spake he of the **Spirit**, which they that believe on him ***should*** [future] receive: for the **Holy Ghost was not yet given; because that Jesus was not yet glorified**)” John 7:37-39.

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(The word “given” was supplied by the translators and is not in the original Greek.)

“***Jesus*** comes to you as the Spirit of truth; study the mind of the **Spirit**, consult your **Lord**, follow **His** way.” {2MR 337.1}

“Let them study the seventeenth of John, and learn how to pray and how to live the prayer of **Christ. He is the Comforter**. He will abide in their hearts, making their joy full.” {RH January 27, 1903, Art. A, par. 13}

“Jesus is waiting to **breathe** upon all his disciples, and give them the **inspiration of *his* sanctifying spirit**, and transfuse the **vital influence** from ***himself* to his people**. He would have them understand that henceforth they cannot serve two masters. Their lives cannot be divided. **Christ** is to live ***in*** his human agents, and ***work through*** their faculties, and **act** through their capabilities. Their will must be submitted to **his will**, they must act with ***his* spirit**, that it may be no more they that live, but **Christ that liveth in them**. Jesus is seeking to impress upon them the thought that **in giving *his* Holy Spirit he is giving to them the glory** which the Father has given him, that **he and his people may be one** in God. Our way and will must be in submission to God’s will, knowing that it is holy, just, and good.” {ST October 3, 1892, par. 4}

“In Him all fulness dwells. He has grace and pardon for every soul. As by faith we look to Jesus, our faith pierces the shadow, and we adore God for His wondrous love in giving ***Jesus* the Comforter**.” {19MR 297.3}

“**Christ** is to be known by the blessed name of **Comforter**. “The Comforter,” said Christ to His disciples, “**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, Peace I leave with you, My peace I give unto you: not as the world giveth, give I unto you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid.”” {Ms7-1902.10}

Out of the five times the Greek word for “**Comforter**” is used in the NT, four of them are found in John 14-16, the last is 1 John 2:1, “We have an **advocate** with the Father, Jesus Christ.”

Out of the 31 verses that use the phrase “**spirit of the Lord**”, only one of them includes the word “**GOD**” after Lord. (It’s the prophecy Jesus used when He spoke of Himself in Luke 4:18.)

“The **Spirit of the Lord GOD** is upon me” (Isaiah 61:1). Notice the last time it’s used, “But even unto this day, when Moses is read, the vail is upon their heart. Nevertheless when it shall turn to the Lord, the vail shall be taken away. Now ***the Lord is that Spirit***: and where the **Spirit of the Lord** is, there is liberty. But we all, with open face beholding as in a glass the glory of the Lord, are changed into the same image from glory to glory, even as by the **Spirit of the Lord**” 2 Corinthians 3:15-18.

“Believest thou not that **I am in the Father, and the Father in me**? the words that I speak unto you I speak not of myself: but **the Father that dwelleth in me**, he doeth the works. **Believe me that I am in the Father, and the Father in me**: or else believe me for the very works’ sake” John 14:10-11.

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Notice, the Bible never says, “the Lord Spirit.” Neither does the Bible ever say “God the Spirit.” It’s the “Spirit of **God**,” the “Spirit of the **Lord**,” etc.

“***On the Day of Pentecost*** Christ ***gave*** His disciples the Holy Spirit as their Comforter. It was ever to abide with His church. During the whole Jewish economy **the influence of this Spirit** has often been revealed in a marked manner, but **not in full**. The Spirit had been ***waiting*** for the crucifixion, resurrection, and ascension of Christ. **For ages prayers** had been offered for the fulfillment of the promise, **for the impartation of the Spirit**; and **not one** of these earnest **supplications** had been **forgotten**. Now **for ten days the disciples sent up their petitions**, and **Christ** in heaven **added His intercession**. He **claimed the gift of the Spirit**, that He might pour it out upon His people. He ascended on high, leading captivity captive, and gave gifts unto men. Having ***reached His throne, the Spirit was given*** as He had promised, and like a rushing, mighty wind, it fell upon those assembled, filling the whole house. It came with a **fullness** and power, **as if** for ages **it had been restrained**, but was now poured forth up on the church, to be communicated to the world.” {Ms44-1898 1.4400}

“The promise of the **Holy Spirit** is not limited to any age or to any race. Christ declared that the **divine influence of His Spirit** was to be with His followers unto the end. ***From the Day of Pentecost*** to the present time, **the Comforter has been sent** to all who have yielded themselves fully to the Lord and to His service.” {AA 49.2}

If God the Father is a Spirit (John 4:23-24), then it makes sense for EGW to say that the Spirit is just as much as Person as God is a Person. The Father has—as can be shown in the Bible—hands, feet, a head, face, hair, eyes, a nose, a back, etc.

Also, if the omnipresent spirit of Christ was DIVESTED of the personality of humanity, it must have been INVESTED sometime with that same personality! (hands, feet, eyes, hair, a nose, etc.)

At the same time, the Holy Spirit comes as rain, wind, oil, light... all the things the ANGELS come as also!

If it was “God the Spirit” planting the seed in the virgin Mary, then Christ has two Fathers, right?

It was the Father who sent His glory to His Son when the dove came down as burnished gold. {YI March 1, 1874, par. 4}

If “God the Spirit” makes intercession for us, then how can we have only “one Mediator between God and men” in 1 Timothy 2:5?

Christ declared that ***after*** his ascension, he would ***send*** to his church, as his crowning gift, the ***Comforter***, who was to take his place. This Comforter is the Holy Spirit,—the soul of his life, the efficacy of his church, the light and life of the world. With his Spirit Christ sends a reconciling influence and a power that takes away sin. {RH May 19, 1904, par. 1}