Is the Holy Spirit a Person OR Power?

A Lesson in Greek
Fred R. Coulter—July 26, 2025

Greetings everyone, welcome to Sabbath Services. Today is a special recording because what we have is one of the most important messages that is necessary not only for the Churches of God, but especially now for the Seventh-Day Adventists and also for all Catholics who are being called and all Protestants who need to know the Truth. That is *The Holy Spirit, Power of God*, and we have a book on it which you can get. *No cost!* You need it.

If you don't have this—if you rely just on your smartphone for a little window of information—you're going to find yourself deprived of knowledge and understanding!

You get this book {truthofGod.org}: *The Holy Spirit, Power of God*, or, we can add, is it a *third person* in the Godhead?

Now we know that in Matt. 24 Jesus told us that in the last days, *beginning in His day*, <u>false prophets shall arise</u>. He says, 'Beware!' *That means watch out and be on guard against, for they will come in Jesus' name saying that Jesus is the Christ!* He said it three times in Matt. 24.

Matthew 24:5: "For many shall come in My name, saying, 'I am the Christ'; and they shall deceive many."

The second time He says, v 11: "And <u>many</u> <u>false prophets shall arise</u>, and shall <u>deceive many</u>." The many means the majority!

Verse 12: "And because lawlessness shall be multiplied..." Look at all the lawlessness going on!

It's all that they can do wherever to put down all the lawlessness and hatred and killing and everything like that. So. that's absolutely true. Remember this: *Every Word of God is true*. BUT *not every Word of God has been translated correctly!* We're going to examine that today even in the Greek in the second part of this message.

Verse 24: "For there shall arise false Christs and false prophets, and they shall present great signs and wonders, in order to deceive, if possible, even the elect."

Now that's a very interesting thing. What do we have today? We have prophets everywhere. YouTube, Facebook, Sunday morning on TBN, Daystar, Catholic channel, *all false teachings!*

Now they use the Bible, but they don't do it correctly. So, people not knowing, they think, 'Oh, well, that's Biblical, they read from the Bible' while they're standing in front of an idol! Or they have

some sort of religious garment on that has crosses on it, and they fold their hands and say nice little things.

Just remember this: all of the chanting in the Roman Catholic Church is hypnotic. So, those who are hung up with that, you are <u>being programmed</u> every time you take <u>a mass</u>, every time you go into a cathedral!

Very important for what we need to cover today; let's understand this: <u>The Word of God is</u> <u>Truth!</u> We have the Faithful Version, and you will see Google it has a five star accuracy on how the readers like it; out of five stars, *A Faithful Version* is *four and a half!* Now that's a very high rating.

We also have this booklet, *New Testament Scriptural* Comparisons by Joseph Albert Ackermann—comparing 26 New Testament translations to the *Faithful Version*. *It will blow your mind!*

A lot of people think because they have the King James Version. Well, you don't know that there are <u>hundreds</u> of mistranslations in it! Oh, well, I have the New King James Version, same thing. Whatever new version you have, some of them have up to 3,500 words omitted. Now think on that when God says this: <u>Every Word of God is true</u>, <u>and there is no like in it</u>, as the Apostle John wrote in:

1-John 2:21 "...and you understand that <u>not</u> <u>one lie comes from the Truth</u>." But you can make the Truth lie when you come to a false conclusion.

All of this was prophesied during Jeremiah's day. And wherever the Word of God is, Satan is there to try and get it to say something that it doesn't say.

Where did that begin? *The Garden of Eden!* Remember that Satan is always interested in subverting the leaders and teachers. Just to give you one example: remember the account in Matt. 16 about Jesus asking the disciples who He was?

Matthew 16:16: "Then Simon Peter answered and said, 'You are the Christ, the Son of the living God.' And Jesus answered and said to him, 'Blessed are you, Simon Bar-Jona, for flesh and blood did not reveal it to you, but My Father, Who is in heaven." (vs 16-17).

Jesus explained to them that He was going to 'delivered up' to be killed!

Verse 22—Peter stood up and said, "... In no way shall this happen to You"—because 'I'm here to help you, Lord! We won't let it happen!' That was the whole meaning of it.

What did Jesus say to him? "... Get behind Me, Satan" (v 23). Satan is always interested in getting to the top! Never, never forget that! Peter repented.

Then when Jesus was being questioned by the leaders of the Sanhedrin after He was arrested; remember what Jesus said? As Peter also said the night before Jesus was arrested, 'Lord, I'll go with you and die with you.'

Matthew 26:34: "Jesus said to him, 'Truly I say to you, during this *very* night, before *the* cock crows, **you yourself shall deny Me three times.**'

Did Peter deny Jesus on that Passover night? *Yes, three times!* Yes, he had to greatly repent!

- What's the lesson in this?
- Why am I bringing this up?

Because there are a lot of people out there who are locked in concrete in what they believe and think it's Christian, but it's not!

We will show you one of the most important false doctrines and strip it bare of any credibility of Truth. Now let's finish the story of Peter.

John 21—they were out there fishing and Jesus came and He was on the shore and He set up everything with a fire and fish and they were out there and hadn't caught anything. So, Jesus told him, cast your net on the other side. So they did and it was suddenly filled with so many fish they didn't know what to do and they finally brought it to shore and then they understood that it was Jesus. Then Jesus had a little conversation with Peter in the front of them all.

John 21:15 "...Jesus said to Simon Peter, 'Simon, son of Jonas, do you love Me..."

Jesus used the Greek word 'agape,' which is spiritual love, the deepest love you can get!

"...And he [Peter] said to Him, 'Yes, Lord. You know that I <u>love</u> You.'..." (v 15)—'phileo,'—friendship love!

Verse 16: "He said to him again a second time, 'Simon, son of Jonas, <u>do you love Me?</u>'....."— 'agape.'

And he said to Him, 'Yes, Lord. You know that I love You.'..." (v 16)— 'phileo,'—friendship

Verse 17: "He said to him the third time, 'Simon, son of Jonas, <u>do you love Me?</u>"..."— 'phileo.' And he said to Him, 'Lord, You know all things. You know that I love You." Jesus said:

- feed My lamb (v 15)
- shepherd My sheep (v 16)
- feed My sheep (v 17)

And that's the responsibility for every elder! We're

not here to do our will. We're not here to show ourselves whatever thing that people might think we are. We are here to teach the Word of God.

Now, one last caveat to the story of Peter, which is this: Peter was a little political and he looked over there and he saw the Apostle John.

Verse 21: "Seeing him, Peter said to Jesus, 'Lord, what *shall happen* to this one?' Jesus said to him, 'If I desire that he remain alive until I come..." (vs 21-22).

Now that was twisted later on, and He said, 'Feed My sheep.' Now, to finish the account, John did see the return of Christ in the vision of the entire Book of Revelation. Now we are living in those days called 'the latter days'!

Jeremiah 23:1: "Woe to the shepherds who destroy and scatter the sheep of My pasture,' says the LORD"—because:

- we're to teach the brethren
- we're to grow in grace and knowledge ourselves as elders and ministers constantly, *constantly*

because we're nothing of ourselves. We are just conveyors of Truth <u>IF</u>:

- we love the Truth
- believe the Truth
- live the Truth
- teach the Truth

Do we have any other reason for living? *No!*

Verse 2: "Therefore, thus says the LORD, God of Israel, against the shepherds who feed My people, 'You have scattered My flock, and have driven them away, and have not taken care of them. Behold, I will bring upon you the evil of your doings,' says the LORD." He will!

Verse 9: "As for the prophets my heart within me is broken; all my bones shake. I am like a drunken man, and like a man whom wine has overcome because of the LORD and because of the words of His Holiness"

That's how Jeremiah was. He had the Spirit of God. He saw everything that was going on. He saw all the false prophets back then. Look at what it would have been today if he were here. All the false prophets everywhere, everywhere!

What do they say? I have a dream. The Lord told me this and that and the other thing! And they are all wrong! They may have some Truth, but as we will see, they all miss the Truth that we're going to cover about the Holy Spirit. So what happens?

Verse 10: "For the land is full of adulterers...."

Sidebar: A little lesson in how active and powerful the Word of God is, which is this: Leviticus 19:29: "You shall not prostitute your daughter...the land become full of wickedness"—violence! That law works all the time. We see that today.

Jeremiah 23:10: "...Because of swearing the land mourns; the pleasant places of the wilderness are dried up, and their course is evil, and they *wield* power unjustly. 'For both prophet and priest are ungodly; yea, **in My house I have found their evil**,' says the LORD" (vs 10-11).

Think about that, and you see that back in John $8_{[transcriber's\ correction]}$. All the leaders of the temple came up to Jesus and said, 'Who are you?

"...they said to Him, 'We have not been born of fornication..." (v 41) *And He said to them*:

Verse 43: "Why don't you understand My speech? Because you cannot bear to hear My words. You are of your father the devil..." (vs 43-44).

And the devil has been <u>a liar from the</u> <u>beginning!</u> That's the same thing right here.

Jeremiah 23:20: "The anger of the LORD shall not return, until He has executed and until He has performed the purposes of His heart; in the latter days you shall understand it perfectly. 'I have not sent these prophets, yet, they ran; I have not spoken to them, yet, they prophesied'" (vs 20-21).

Verse 22: "But <u>IF</u> ..."—conditional; choice! We're going to see choice is the most important thing in our lives to exercise it properly with the Spirit of God!

"...they had stood in My counsel and had caused My people to hear My words, then they would have turned them from their evil way and from the evil of their doings. *Am* I a God *Who is* near,' says the LORD, 'and not a God afar off?" (vs 22-23). *Yes, He's right there!*

Think about this: I want you to understand the power of God in everything, everywhere on the earth!

Verse 24: "Can anyone hide himself in secret places so that I shall not see him?' says the LORD...."

How many secret rites are there in the worship of Satan the devil today, in some cave, in some tunnel, in some dark part of the place where no one goes.

"...'Do I not fill the heavens and earth?' says the LORD" (v 24). Everything there is:

- God has filled it
- He has made it
- He has created it

Take one other little law. I've mentioned this before, but think about it: The law of gravity. Everyone is subject to it, it operates automatically.

- Can you see it? *No!*
- Can you hear it? *No!*
- Can you feel it? Well, yeah, if you fall down, you will!

Verse 25: "I have heard what the prophets said, who prophesy lies in My name, saying, 'I have dreamed, I have dreamed.""

Go on YouTube and that's all you see. And a lot of people think that Jonathan Cahn is a wonderful prophet *No!* At best, he's 30%!

- he will not tell the Protestants to keep Sabbath
- he will not acknowledge the sacrifice of Jesus Christ
- he will not keep a 14th Passover

<u>He is a false prophet</u>, yet, everyone thinks he's one of the best.

Verse 26: "How long shall *this* be in the heart of the prophets who prophesy lies and who are prophets of the deceit of their own heart?"—and the whisperings of Satan the devil in their ears!

Verse 27: "<u>They scheme to cause My people to forget My name</u> by their dreams, which they tell, each one to his neighbor, as their fathers have forgotten My name for Baal."

Now then, v 28 is the key verse we want to get to for what we're going to study today:

Verse 28: "The prophet who has a dream, let him tell a dream. And he who has My Word....

All right, you have a Bible? Yes, we've got the *Faithful Version*; there's no other Bible like it.

"...he who <u>has My Word</u>, let him <u>speak My Word faithfully</u>..." (v 28)—honestly; truthfully!

- not for self
- not for wealth
- not for popularity
- not for fame

but to

- serve and love God
- serve and love the people of God

That's what God wants!

We will see how the leaders of Christianity, Catholic and Protestant, have turned their back on God in believing the lie that the Holy Spirit is the third person in a trinity!

I will prove that in the second half of this message from the Greek, of the words of Christ Himself. Remember this:

"...What is the chaff to the wheat?' says the LORD. 'Is not My Word like a fire?' says the LORD, and like a hammer that breaks the rock in pieces? Therefore, behold, I am against the prophets who steal My words each one from his neighbor" (vs 28-30).

That's what it is. Let's see how they have done that. Let's go to John 3 16; I've got an old *King James* that I preached out of for years. Let's read it. Let's read a mistranslation of this that is brought out on everyone's lips who is a false preacher!

They say that the love of God is unconditional. We'll see a little later, it's not! It's eternal, but it is highly conditional, because He's given us free moral agency and free choice, and we must choose!

John 3:16 (*KJV*) "For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him **should**..."

Now, that is imperative. *That's an incorrect translation!* 'should' almost always means *shall*.

"...shall not die, but have everlasting life" (v 16(.

Let me explain something here, and with any basic knowledge of Greek anyone can find out the Truth of this. It's not like the Protestants say:

Oh, if you say this little prayer and believe in Jesus and confess your sins to Him—never tell him what sin is—then you will be saved and you'll go to heaven and God's love is unconditional and it doesn't matter what you do as long as you believe in the Lord.

Satanic lie. Never happen!

John 3:16 (FV): "For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, so that everyone who believes in Him <u>may not</u> perish, but <u>may have</u> everlasting life."

That is the correct translation. What they have here, they have made it *imperative*, and *it's sub subjunctive*, which means *there are conditions! May!*

Say you're going to get it. You <u>may!</u> Because there are other conditions that are added to it, and we'll see that a little later on.

Verse 20: "For everyone who practices evil hates the Light..."

- Isn't that what we have today?
- Don't they hate God?
- Don't they hate the Truth?
- Don't they hate doing right?

Especially the Democrat Party, which has sold itself, bodies, soul, mind, and every fiber of their being to Satan the devil!

"...and does not come to the Light, so that his works may not be exposed; but the one who practices the Truth..." (vs 20-21)

There is the condition! May have practiced the Truth! What is Truth?

- the Word of God is true
- His Commandments are true
- His Holy Spirit is true
- everything about God is true
- everything He has made operates by law

Verse 21: "But the one who practices the Truth comes to the Light So that his works may be... [subjunctive] ...manifested, that they have been accomplished by the power of God"—<u>not</u> by our own efforts!

<u>The Spirit of God is important in</u> <u>understanding the Word of God!</u> So there's one there. Now let's come back here to 1-John 5, and here is *a blatant insertion into the Word of God*, which even George Ricker Berry kept in his *Greek Interlinear*.

What I want you to do is make a note to read afterwards the footnote on the bottom of page 1140 in The Holy Bible In Its Original Order, A Faithful Version!

1-John 5:6-7—we're going to find out is that v 7 in the King James and New King James and many other translations—was inserted! That's well documented, so read the footnote on the bottom of the page 1140 in the Faithful Version!

1-John 5:6 (*FV*): "This is He Who came by water and blood—Jesus the Christ; not by water only, but by water and blood. And it is the Spirit that bears witness, because the Spirit is the Truth" (vs 6-7).

<u>The true Spirit of God will always lead you</u> to the <u>Truth.</u> And we are to try all the spirits. That's what John says there at the beginning of 1-John 4 & 5.

Verse 7 (*KJV*). "For there are three that bear record in heaven, the Father, the Word, and the Holy Ghost."

That should be *Spirit*, but the *King James* translates Spirit 'Ghost' in many places.

"...And these three are one. And there are three that bear witness in the earth, the Spirit, the water, and the blood. And these three agree in one' (vs 7-8 *KJV*).

- Does there need to be a witness in heaven to God?
- Does God need a witness? No! He's made everything there is through Christ!

Verses 7-8 were *deliberately inserted* between the $800s_{AD}$ and the 1000_{AD} . Now let's read it in the *Faithful Version!* And this is what it should read:

Verse 5: "Who is the one who overcomes the world?.... [that's the whole process of our growing in grace and knowledge] ...Even the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God...."

Now this *believing*, in most cases, in the Greek it is a participle. Meaning, *you believe and continue to believe and continue to believe!*

- same way with professing
- same way with confessing

That Jesus is the Son of God!

Verse 6: "This is He Who came by water and blood—Jesus the Christ; not by water only, but by water and blood. And it is the Spirit that bears witness because the Spirit is the Truth. For there are three that bear witness on the earth: the Spirit, and the water, and the blood; and these three witness unto the one Truth" (vs 6-8). That's the correct translation!

What did James say? James 2:9: "But if you have respect of persons, you are practicing sin, being convicted by the Law as transgressors."

Here is a great principle to understand and something that we all need to really take especially every minister or pastor, whatever you are called.

Verse 10: "For if anyone keeps the whole Law, but sins in one aspect, he becomes guilty of all."

Now that's a great principle we can apply if you are translating the Word of God from the Hebrew or the Greek! We are thankful to Michael Heiss. We wouldn't have the Bible without Michael Heiss, who translated the Old Testament. When he was translating it, I had an agreement with him. You take care of the Hebrew and I'll take care of the English/Greek.

It took him three years. Now we had already published the New Testament in its Original Order by that time. But it's true, if you are going to translate, you must translate in Truth.

We are going to see that the whole Christian world accepts the lie that there is a third person in the Godhead because they deliberately mistranslated the Greek.

• What do you suppose that does to people who don't know?

• What do you suppose that does to people who are trying to find the Truth?

Right now at the present time, Richard Gonzales has let me know that the Seventh-Day Adventist Church is under assault by the Jesuits!

They need to have this information that we are going to cover today, especially this afternoon, that the Holy Spirit is not a third person in a Trinity!

Now if you want a little research of yourself... Let's come back here to Eph. 1 and we will see how Paul opens every single one of his 14 epistles.

- <u>IF</u> the Holy Spirit were a person in a Trinity, <u>THEN</u> Paul never recognized it.
- <u>IF</u> the third person in the Trinity is supposedly vital for salvation, <u>why did he</u> never even mention it?

Ephesians 1:1: "Paul, an apostle of Jesus Christ by *the* will of God, to the saints who are in Ephesus and to *the* faithful in Christ Jesus: Grace and peace *be* to you from God our Father and *the* Lord Jesus Christ" (vs 1-2).

No Holy Spirit in all of his introductions, in all of his 14 epistles *there is not one mention* that the Holy Spirit is a person or God.

Verse 3: "Blessed *be* the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, Who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly *things* with Christ."

Think about that! Not mentioned again there. Now let's see something else. This is very important.

Ephesians 2:1: "Now, you were dead in trespasses and sins, in which you walked in times past according to the course of this world..." (vs 1-2).

Who is the God of this world? We'll see later on that's Satan the devil! He's called 'the god of this world.'

"...according to the prince of the power of the air... [Satan the devil] ...the spirit that is now working within the children of disobedience" (v 2).

• Do these false preachers have a spirit of love and obedience?

<u>or</u>

- Do they teach people to disobey God?
- Do they teach people that God loves you unconditionally and you can do whatever you want as long as you pray this little prayer?
 - That sounds Biblical, doesn't it? But it's blasphemous!
 - Can you use the words of Christ to speak alive? *Yes!*
 - Is there any salvation in it? *No!*

- Those who believe it, are they deceived? Yes!
- Who deceives the whole world? Satan the devil! How does he do it? With his demons and with his spirit, the prince of the power of the air!

There you go!

Verse 3: "Among whom also we all once had our conduct in the lusts of our flesh, doing the things willed by the flesh and by the mind, and were by nature *the* children of wrath, even as the rest *of the world.*"

Isn't that true? Oh, this man is one of the most intelligent and richest in the world, but he doesn't believe in God! He may send rockets off into space, but he doesn't know a thing about the Truth!

Now likewise with everyone living in the world, in the religions of the world, not only just the Christianity, but all the other religions. Remember what Pope Francis said, which is going to be carried out. That's happening right now, which is why the SDAs are under assault.

They are weak victims ready to be consumed by Satan the devil, *because they are pushing the Trinity down their throat!* They have those who are subversive plants in there to bring them in to the one world religion. Now I'll tell you one experience and then we'll take a break and we'll come back and we'll get into a lesson in Greek to see whether the inspired Greek of the New Testament tells us that the Holy Spirit is a person in the Godhead *or the power of God!*

These subversives in the Seventh-Day Adventist Church have polluted the whole church and all of their universities. Andrew University, Loma Vista and others. Remember there are 22-million Seventh-Day Adventists. They believe in the Sabbath and they believe in the Ten Commandments. But beyond that, they're 'naked and bare'.

- they need help
- they need the Spirit of God
- they need the Truth of God

Let me tell you this experience. When I wrote the first edition of *The Christian Passover* book Carl Franklin was helping me with it and his wife Jeannie was editing what I was writing.

So, we got it all done and he lived in Michigan, 12 miles from Andrew University, one of the main SDA universities in America. Carl always used their library because they had a great theological library. So, he made an appointment to see Samuele Bacchiocchi, <u>a subversive Jesuit</u> heading up the teachings of theology in the SDA Church! But no one knew it. He wrote the book From Sabbath to

Sunday and guess what? He got a medal from the pope!

So Carl said, well, I'm going to take this to Samuele Bacchiocchi, because if there's any one thing the Seventh-Day Adventists need to know, *that is to know the Truth about the Passover!* So, he took it up to Samuele Bacchiocchi, gave it to him, Bacchiocchi thumbed through it and right in front of Carl, threw it in the waste can.

Now, let everyone think on that! What did we read in James? <u>If you violate one law</u>, <u>you violate</u> them all!

Let's go ahead and take a break and we'll come back and we will have an intensive study in Greek.

(break@41:47)

Here we are, ready for a little Greek instruction this morning so you can find out whether the Holy Spirit is a person OR the power of God.

{transcriber's note, per Fred: because of the very detailed explanations and graphic shown on the video, this study section is understood better if you watch on the video and using the *Greek Interlinear* by George Ricker Berry. Also, you may get a DVD of this message by:

• calling the office 1-831-637-1875

<u>or</u>

• email: webmaster@cbcg.org}

{transcript continues after the Greek lesson @1:07:05}: I'll just let you know this, that I had private tutoring from Dr. Dorothy covering the first two years of New Testament Greek. Then I studied it, with his mentoring, until he died. He kept telling me, Fred, translate, translate, translate!

But the whole thing in translating is this: It must be the Truth, always the Truth! It must reflect what the Greek or the Hebrew is actually telling us!

Now let's come here to Luke 1, and see something very important concerning the Holy Spirit. This is one which shows definitely without a doubt. And this is why you always compare Scripture with Scripture. You never read a single Scripture and then give an interpretation of it or try to explain it separated from the rest of the Bible. *Doesn't work that way!*

Luke 1—this talks about when Christ was impregnated in the womb of the Virgin Mary. Now we read Phil. 2, that the One Who was the Word, Who was the Lord God of the Old Testament, and the Father was the Most High. So, we have *the Word*, Who is Christ, and Jesus divested Himself, humbled

Himself down to a speck of dust. Now think about that! As small as a speck of dust just like all of us. He didn't come down here as an adult. He came down here to be born like every one of us! Amazing!

Luke 1:29—Gabriel the angel came to Mary: "But when she saw him, she was greatly perplexed at his message, and was considering what kind of salutation this might be. Then the angel said to her, 'Do not be afraid, Mary, because you have found grace with God; and behold, you shall conceive in your womb and give birth to a Son; and you shall call His name Jesus'" (vs 29-31).

Now let's understand something here right here 'Yesus' in the Greek is as close to English as you can get. Some will say that the Greek never had a 'J'; well, the 'I' is pronounced as a 'J'—'Yesus'; Jesus.

Now remember, God created all languages. You do not need in the New Testament Old Testament names.

Verse 32: "He shall be great, and shall be called *the* Son of *the* Highest; and *the* Lord God shall give Him the throne of David, His forefather; and He shall reign over the house of Jacob into the ages, and of His Kingdom there shall be no end" (vs 32-33).

Verse 34: "But Mary said to the angel, 'How shall this be, since I have not had sexual relations with a man?' And the angel answered *and* said to her, '*The* Holy Spirit shall come upon you... [and it did right at that point] ... and the power of the Highest..." (vs 34-35)—defining the Holy Spirit is The Power of the Highest: of God! It's a power; it's not a person.

Now think about this. <u>IF</u> the Holy Spirit were a person, <u>THEN</u> the Holy Spirit would have been the Father of Jesus and not God the Father. *They don't think about that!*

"...and the power of the Highest shall overshadow you; and for this reason, the Holy One being begotten..." (v 35).

There it is, being begotten. And that's what it is when we receive the Holy Spirit upon baptism.

"...begotten in you shall be called *the* Son of God" (v 35).

1-Peter 1—this becomes really important in understanding what God is doing:

- how God is dealing with us
- how is He going to give us eternal life

Now remember in all the genealogies that are in the Bible, 'so and so *begot* so and so.' All right, now we all in the flesh have been begotten by our father in the womb of our mother, and then the sperm and the egg came together, *and automatically God*

was creating and forming us from the very instant of conception!

For the first weeks, it multiplies and grows very rapidly, and before a woman knows she's pregnant, the baby is already about an inch, inch high, has a head, has arms, and legs, and everything. So, the begettal is very important, and the parallel between that and what God is doing in us to develop the character of God within us is the same thing by the power of His Holy Spirit!

1-Peter 1:1 "Peter, an apostle of Jesus Christ, to *the* elect strangers scattered in Pontus, Galatia, Cappadocia, Asia, and Bithynia; *who have been chosen...*" (vs 1-2).

When you repent and you receive the Holy Spirit of God, *you have been chosen!* Back in Rev. 17, it talks about *the called*, *the chosen*, *and the faithful!* That's the progression of it:

- the call of God comes
- we repent and come to God
- we are baptized
- we have hands laid upon us
- we receive the Holy Spirit

What did Jesus say? *The Holy Spirit would be within you, that power of God,* and this gives you

- the desire
- the love
- the hope
- everything about God

combined with His Word so that you can grow in grace and knowledge in order to be in the resurrection!

Verse 2: "<u>Who have been chosen</u> according to *the* predetermined knowledge of God *the* Father... [that's His Plan, which was before the ages of time] ...by <u>sanctification through the Spirit</u>... ['ta penuma'] ...unto obedience..."

That's what it does; that's what the Spirit of God in us does! Without the Spirit of God, we are lawless; we make up our own rules and whatever we think is right is right. That's why it says in the Bible, 'there's a way that seems right to a man, but the end thereof are the ways of death.' That's what happens!

Now, when we repent and are baptized and receive the Spirit of God, we are begotten by the Spirit of God! Notice how Peter writes it:

"...unto obedience and sprinkling of *the* blood of Jesus Christ: Grace and peace be multiplied to you." (v 2).

That's what God wants. Just like the cells of a newly conceived infant, it's multiplying, multiplying, multiplying, and forming.

God is forming us in the womb, likewise spiritually. We receive the Spirit of God so we can:

- grow in grace and knowledge
- grow in love and Truth
- grow in understanding

In other words, multiply, multiply, multiply!

Verse 3: "Blessed *be* the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, Who, according to His abundant mercy, **has begotten us again**..."

That's what it is with the Holy Spirit! That's why it's the power of God!

"...unto a living hope through *the* resurrection of Jesus Christ from *the* dead; unto an inheritance incorruptible and undefiled and unfading, reserved in heaven for us" (vs 3-4).

That's what it's all about. Here's what God wants to do where there's Holy Spirit in us. *But*

- <u>we</u> have to come to God the Father and Jesus Christ all the time
- we have to be loving and obedient all the time
- <u>we</u> have to be trusting and believing in God all the time the way that it should be

This is absolutely amazing! Here's what God is going to do. This is how He does it with the power of his Holy Spirit! It is called the power of God, which He only gives to those who obey Him (Acts 4-5. That's what Peter told the Sanhedrin. He told them Christ is The Prophet!

2-Peter 1:1: "Simon Peter a servant and an apostle of Jesus Christ, to those who have obtained *the* same precious faith as ours..."

How do you have the faith of God? *Through the Holy Spirit!* The fruit of the Spirit is:

- love
- joy
- faith
- peace
- hope
- self-control

"...the same precious faith as ours... [the apostles] ...by the righteousness of our God and Savior Jesus Christ: Grace and peace be multiplied to you in the knowledge of God and of Jesus our Lord" (vs 1-2). There again it is: multiply!

- that's why we study
- that's why we pray
- that's why we have to grow in grace and knowledge all the time

Verse 3: "According as His Divine power has given to us all things that *pertain* to life and

Godliness, through the knowledge of Him Who called us by *His own* glory and virtue; through which He has given to us the greatest and *most* precious promises, **that through these**..." (vs 3-4).

- this is the whole purpose of it
- this is why we have the Holy Spirit
- that's why it is the power of God

so that He can transmit to us, and then with the power in us:

- help us
- guide us
- lead us
- direct us
 - Christ is there
 - He's our Savior

"...precious promises, that through these you may become partakers of the Divine nature..." (v 4). That's what God wants!

- that's why we're here
- that's why God has called us
- that's why we have the Word of God
- that's why we need to understand it

so that we will be partakers of the Divine Nature!

What did God do to make that possible? He became partaker of humans, whom He originally made in the image and likeness of God for the same purpose that as He became human, we can become part of the God Family!

This is what is important. This is why it all ties together. This is why it has to be of God, *of His Way!* We can't in any way believe that the Holy Spirit is a third person. Think of it this way so that you understand what is happening when people do that. Satan is called 'the god—theos—of this world.'

- Who wanted to become God? *Satan did!*
- What did he do? *He rebelled!*

In Ezek. 28 and Isa. 14, he said, 'I will ascend to heaven. I will be like the Most High.'

So, stop and think of this. Anyone who attributes personhood to the Holy Spirit is putting Satan on the same level as God the Father and Jesus Christ!

All who do that are deceived. Do you understand that?

- they do not know God, though they may read Scripture
- they may do all of these things like the Catholics and the Protestants, but they don't keep the Commandments of God

Because we have, as Peter wrote, the Spirit of God for obedience!

Jesus said there in John 3, that we practice the Truth! The Holy Spirit is Truth from God. We are not to bring in the doctrines of men and try and make them spiritual. It won't work.

- Remember what we covered in the Greek? Those are the very words of Christ Himself to all of us!
- When did He speak those words? *On the night before He was arrested, the Passover night!*

The Passover is the only time that we partake of the bread and wine and foot washing! Any other time is not to God. If it's not to God, who are you doing it to?

Seventh-Day Adventists: You do it to first Sabbath of every quarter. *That's not even of God!* Why do you do it?

Catholics do it many times every day; priests get almost drunk drinking the wine. *It's not of God!*

This is what 2-Cor. tells us. We cannot take the things of men and marry it to the things of God and expect to have righteousness.

2-Corinthians 6:14: "Do not be unequally yoked with unbelievers. For what do righteousness and lawlessness *have* in common? And what fellowship *does* light *have* with darkness?" *It can't work!* It can't work!

- Sunday-keeping is against God
- all the communion-keeping is against God
- Christmas, New Year's, Easter, all of those are against God

They are all satanic, pagan days that are blasphemous to God!

Verse 15: "And what union *does* Christ *have* with Belial? Or what part *does* a believer *have* with an unbeliever? And what agreement *is there between* a Temple of God and idols?...." (vs 15-14).

We are called a Temple of God because we have the Holy Spirit. Jesus said of Him and the Father, we will come and make our abode with him. So that's what he says in 1-Cor. 3.

"...For you are a Temple of *the* living God, exactly as God said..." (v 16).

Now notice, here is the whole purpose of the power of the Holy Spirit within us.

"...'I will dwell in them and walk in *them*; and I will be their God, and they shall be My people" (v 16).

Just like our children, though separate beings, are our children from us. So we, though separate beings, receiving the Holy Spirit as a

begettal, are becoming the children of God to be born again at the resurrection!

Verse 17: "Therefore, come out from the midst of them and be separate' says *the* Lord..."

That's what God says of Babylon the Great: 'Come out of her my people so that you do not become partakers of her sins!

"...'and touch not *the* unclean, and I will receive you; and I shall be a Father to you, and you shall be My sons and daughters,' says *the* Lord Almighty" (vs 17-18).

That's the whole purpose of the Holy Spirit of God!

- we must have the Truth
- we must have the righteousness
- we must rightly divide the Word of God
- we must faithfully speak the Word of God
- we must faithfully interpret the Word of God
- we must faithfully live by the Word of God

in everything that we do!

So, I hope that this helps everyone who is able to watch this today. It is recorded, it will be online, and you can go back over it whenever you need to and download it and keep it yourself.

Scriptural References:

- 1) Matthew 24:5, 11-12, 24
- 2) 1-John 2:21
- 3) Matthew 16:16-17, 22-23
- 4) Matthew 26:34
- 5) John 1:15-17, 21-22
- 6) Jeremiah 23:1-2, 9-10
- 7) Leviticus 19:29
- 8) Jeremiah 23:10-11
- 9) John 8:41, 43-42
- 10) Jeremiah 23:20-30
- 11) John 3:16, 20-21
- 12) 1-John 5:6-7, 5-8
- 13) James 2:9-10
- 14) Ephesians 1:1-3
- 15) Ephesians 2:1-3
- 16) Luke 1:29-35
- 17) 1-Peter 1:1-3
- 18) 2-Peter 1:1-4
- 19) 2-Corinthians 6:14-18

Scriptures referenced, not quoted:

- 1-John 4
- Philippians 2
- Revelation 17
- Acts 4-5
- Ezekiel 28

- Isaiah 14
- 1-Corinthians 3

Also referenced: {truthofGod.org}

Booklets:

- The Holy Spirit, Power of God
- New Testament Scriptural Comparisons by Joseph Ackermann

Book: The Christian Passover

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