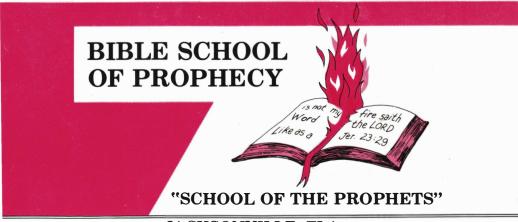
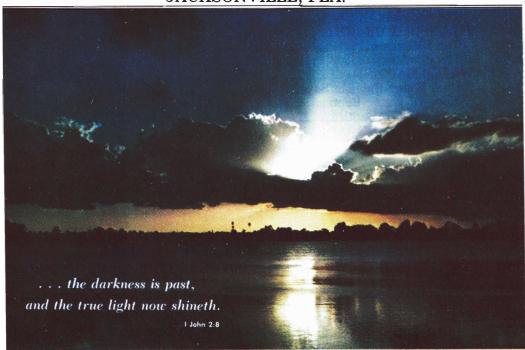
BIBLE STUDY COURSE LESSON NO. 13

— FROM —



JACKSONVILLE, FLA.



THE GODHEAD AND WATER BAPTISM

BIBLE SCHOOL OF PROPHECY

Lesson No. 13

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BIBLE SCHOOL OF PROPHECY LESSON NO. 13

THE GODHEAD AND WATER BAPTISM

DECLARATION:

"For in him [Jesus Christ] dwelleth all the fulness of the Godhead bodily." Col. 2:9. For more on the Godhead, see Acts 17:29, Romans 1:20. JESUS IS A MAN. "For there is one God, and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus." I Tim. 2:5. God the Father is a Spirit: "God is not a man." Numbers 23:19. Also: "GOD is A SPIRIT." John 4:24. Notice carefully the Truth of this revelation: God is a spirit, but the scripture doesn't say what many theologians and church doctrines declare: that God is spirit. God is a spirit and therefore possesses being and individuality that sets him apart from being Jesus or the Holy Spirit. God is a person, therefore as the Holy Scriptures declare, He is characterized by feelings as love, grief, sorrow, pleasure, hatred, anger, jealousy. The Bible declares that He has a head, hair, ears, eyes, a mind, a soul, a spirit, a heart, and feet.

Jesus Christ is declared to be the only begotten Son of God, and possesses equality with God the Father by the Father's own decree (Psalm 2:7). "For unto which of the angels said he [God the Father] at any time, Thou art my Son, this day have I begotten thee? And again, I will be to him a Father, and he [Jesus] shall be to me a Son?... And of the angels he saith, Who maketh his angels spirits, and his ministers a flame of fire. But unto the Son he [God the Father] saith, Thy throne O God, is for ever and ever: a sceptre of righteousness is the sceptre of thy kingdom." Heb. 1:5-8.

THE SON OF GOD.

Jesus Christ was not the Son of God in eternity: "In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God." John 1:1. Jesus was not the Son of God until His birth in Bethlehem, the son of Mary — and, God was His Father. "And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth." John 1:14. He declared himself to be the Son of God — not God the Father! cf. Heb. 5:7-10; Mt. 26:53; John 10:36; John 17:1; John 19:7.

THE DECREE.

"God hath fulfilled the same unto us their children, in that he hath raised up Jesus again; as it is also written in the second psalm, Thou art my Son, this day Have I begotten thee." Acts 13:33.

Also: "Christ glorified not himself to be made an high priest: but he [God the Father] that said unto him, **Thou art my Son, to day have I begotten thee.**" Hebrews 5:5. Jesus is declared to be God the Son, but not God the Father.

THE HOLY GHOST.

The Holy Ghost also has individuality and possesses being, and is called again and again in the scriptures, "He." To wit, Jesus declared: "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 15:26. Also: "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." John 14:26.

WATER BAPTISM.

Water Baptism, as ordained through the Great Commission by Jesus Christ is as follows without controversy: "Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you alway, even unto the end of the world. Amen." Matthew 28:19-20.

INTRODUCTORY COMMENTARY.

This Bible lesson on two great Bible doctrines is not a Satire or a Rebuttal to those who have wrong concepts of the Godhead, and err in these great truths of God's Word. This lesson should be studied with soberness and care, with objectivity — an open heart and mind — not with bias or prejudice. Weigh very judiciously every thought, scripture, and concept presented or introduced in this lesson and revelation. A true man of God strives to bring Christians into the **unity of the faith** (Ephesians 4:11-14). No cry of protest or rejection such as calling this the work of a false prophet, or blindly denouncing the message contained herein, will justify you before God. The author is not a false prophet or false teacher, and you should be ready to call any person a liar to his face who is so blind and ignorant to brand him so. This author lives the holy life of a prophet of God, and the Word of God is with him (II Kings 3:11-12). He is full of the Holy Ghost and spiritual experiences to qualify him as a prophet of God likewise.

Our age is a dangerous age where most people are given to following seducing spirits and heresies (I Timothy 4:1-2). "But we are not as many which corrupt the Word of God; but as of sincerity; but as of God; in the sight of God speak we in Christ. To the one [or some] we are the savour of death unto death; and to [others] the savour of life unto life." II Corinthians 2:16-17. This message and ministry is

ordained and established by God to heal the painful divisions among God's people and the whole end-time church — unto Restoration!

— by Ray S. Pringle, Jr.

LESSON EXPOSITION

"For there are **three** that bear record in heaven, the Father, the Word, and the Holy Ghost: **and these three are one.**" I John 5:7. There are 3 Persons in the Godhead — all 3 possess being, personality, and individuality — **separate and apart from the other** — and these compose the one True God Christians worship! This Unity By Scriptural Authority and Declaration is as follows:

(1) Jesus declared: "And now I am no more in the world, but these are in the world, and I come to thee. Holy Father, keep through thine own name those whom thou hast given me, that they may be one, as we are... Neither pray I for these alone, but for them also which shall believe on me through their word; That they all may be one; as thou, Father, art in me, and I in thee, that they also may be one in us; that the world may believe that thou hast sent me. And the glory which thou gavest me I have given them; that they may be one, even as we are one: I in them, and thou in me, that they may be made perfect in one; and that the world may know that thou hast sent me, and hast loved them, as thou hast loved me." John 17:11, 20-23.

A SPIRITUAL UNITY.

A spiritual unity is expressed by Christ concerning His disciples as being "one", that also reveals the unity of the Godhead as one in spirit and purpose, yet manifested by the 3 persons who possess being, personality, and individuality.

(2) "For we [Christians] are members of his [Christ's] body, of his flesh, and of his bones. For this cause shall a man leave his father and mother, and be joined unto his wife, and they two shall be one flesh. This is a great mystery: but I speak concerning Christ and the Church." Ephesians 5:30-31. A man and wife become one flesh in Christ at their conversion — thus becoming a type of the unity of the Godhead and of the True Church as "one." Also cf. Genesis 2:21-24.

(3) Understanding is Vital.

"Wherefore I give you to understand, that no man speaking by the Spirit of God calleth Jesus accursed: and that no man can say that Jesus is the Lord, but by the Holy Ghost." I Corinthians 12:3. "That their hearts might be comforted, being knit together in love, and unto all riches of the full assurance of understanding, to the acknowledgement of the mystery of God, and of the Father, and of Christ;

In whom are hid all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge. And this I say, lest any man should beguile you [i.e., fool you] with enticing words." Colossians 2:2-4.

THE GODHEAD IS A MYSTERY. However, the Scriptures reveal what can be known — and, what can be understood is by revelation of the Holy Scriptures, to wit: "Whom shall he teach knowledge? and whom shall he make to understand doctrine...For precept must be upon precept, precept upon precept; line upon line, line upon line, here a little, and there a little [i.e., here a scripture, there a scripture]...that they might go, and fall backward, and be broken, and snared, and taken [i.e., those who do not understand]. Isaiah 28:9-13.

REVELATION IN PROVERBS.

(4) "They understood not that he [Jesus] spake to them of the Father." John 8:27.

"These things have I spoken unto you in proverbs: but the time cometh, when I shall no more speak unto you in proverbs, but I shall shew you plainly of the Father...I came forth from the Father, and am come into the world: again, I leave the world, and go to the Father. His disciples said unto him, Lo, now speakest thou plainly, and speakest no proverb...by this we believe that thou camest forth from God [i.e., God the Father]." John 16:25-30. My, my, what an exhilarating revelation! For further clarity: Cf. John 13:1-3.

(5) Jesus was not God the Father, but was sent by the Father to declare, manifest, and reveal Him to a confused and unenlightened world, including His own people. Jesus came to show what God the Father was like. "Philip saith unto him [Jesus], Lord, shew us the Father, and it sufficeth us. Jesus saith unto him, Have I been so long a time with you, and yet hast thou not known me, Phillip? He that hath seen me hath seen the Father; and how sayest thou then, shew us the Father? 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." John 14:8-11.

THE MYSTERY!

Was the Father in Jesus, or was Jesus in the Father? Both were true as Christ's manifestation of the Godhead unveiled and declared. Notice carefully, God was not just in Christ, but Christ was in God—and the Holy Ghost was in Christ also, further revealing His Deity, and the mystery of the Godhead—a complete and perfect Spiritual Unity!

Remember: "For in him [Christ] dwelleth all the fulness of the Godhead bodily [or all the Godhead that lives in a human body]." Colossians 2:9. Also: "God giveth not the Spirit [Holy Ghost] by measure unto him [Christ]." John 3:34.

Also: "To wit, that God was in Christ, reconciling the world unto himself." II Corinthians 5:19.

Consider: God in Christians as His sons doesn't make them God, but rather — sons of God. A Christian is in the Father and the Father is in him, but that doesn't make him God. To wit: "For it is God which worketh in you both to will and to do of his good pleasure." Phil. 2:13. "As God hath said, I will dwell in them, and walk in them: and I will be their God, and they shall be my people." II Corinthians 6:16. Jesus was the Son of God — He dwelt in God, the Father, and the Father in Him, yet he was not God the Father, but He came to reveal, manifest, declare, and do the works of His Father.

(6) The God & Father of Jesus Christ. "For this cause I bow my knees unto the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ." Ephesians 3:14. Cf. also Eph. 1:17.

"Jesus saith unto her [Mary], Touch me not; for I am not yet ascended to my Father: but go to my brethren, and say unto them, I ascend unto my Father, and your Father; and to my God, and your God." John 20:17. "But I would have you know, that the head of every man is Christ; and the head of the woman is the man; and the head of Christ is God [i.e., God the Father]." I Corinthians 11:3. God is the God of Jesus Christ — and His Father also. Amen and Amen!

Remember: God is not spirit, **but a spirit** — a personal being, with soul, heart, mind — and especially individuality — setting Him apart from angels who are also spirits — and all these have being and individuality, and names such as Michael, Gabriel, Lucifer, etc.

OUR FATHER! "But ye have received the Spirit of adoption, whereby we cry, Abba, Father." Romans 8:15. Jesus warned: "And call no man your father upon the earth: for one is your Father, which is in heaven." John 23:9.

This is not a proverb: "If ye then be risen with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ sitteth on the right hand of God [the Father]." Colossians 3:1.

Also: "And [Stephen] said, Behold, I see the heavens opened, and the Son of man [Jesus] standing on the right hand of God." Acts 7:56. If the heavens were opened to any saint of God, he too would see Jesus at the Father's right hand, right now!

John Wesley said of the Mystery of the Godhead:

"Tell me how it is that in this room there are three candles and but one light, and I will explain to you the mode of divine existence." John Wesley knew there are 3 persons who comprise the Godhead — the **one** God existent in perfect divine unity!

(7) OF BAPTISM.

"Then cometh Jesus from Galilee to Jordan unto John, to be baptized of him. But John forbad him, saying, I have need to be baptized of thee, and comest thou to me? And Jesus answering said unto him, Suffer it to be so now; for thus it becometh us to fulfill all righteousness. Then he suffered him [allowed him]." Matthew 3:13-15. Water baptism: "To fulfill all righteousness." But water baptism does not save!

The Great Commission:

"And he [Jesus] said unto them, Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature. He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved: **but he that believeth not shall be damned**." Mark 16:15-16; also Cf. Matthew 28:19-20.

In the days of the apostles: "Then they that gladly received his word were baptized." Acts 2:41. After they were saved!

PART A. GOD THE FATHER.

Discussion.

God has always been — **He inhabits Eternity.** Isaiah 57:15. Also: "Before the mountains were brought forth, or ever [i.e., before] thou hadst formed the earth and the world, even from everlasting to everlasting, thou art God." Psalm 90:2. God has eternally existed in three manifestations — "The Father, the Word, and the Holy Ghost." I John 5:7.

A PERSON.

God is a Spirit. God the Father is unique in the spirit world about us composed of angels and demons. God the Father is designated so by His individuality, personality, and being, separate and apart from all other spirits. And the Father has a voice, a mind, a soul — possessing eyes, ears, head, hair, hands, and feet. He has feelings and emotions also. God the Father has distinctive personal characteristics, to wit: Jesus came in the form of God (Phil. 2:6); Jesus was the express image of His person (Heb. 1:3); Jesus told the Pharisees that they had never seen the Father's shape nor heard His voice (John 5:37); God created man in His own image (Gen. 1:27); Moses saw God's back parts, but could not see His face, for no man can see a complete revelation of God except through Jesus Christ (Ex. 33:20-23).

INVISIBLE.

"[Christ] is the image of the invisible God." Col. 1:15. Of God the Father, the Apostle Paul declared: "Now unto the King eternal, immortal, invisible, the only wise God, be honour and glory for ever and ever. Amen." I Tim. 1:17.

"No man hath **seen God** at any time; the only begotten Son, which is in the bosom of the Father, he hath declared [i.e., revealed or manifested] him." John 1:18.

However, "seen" means more than physical sight — it means: (1) "To have gotten knowledge of through the eyes; look at; (2) to have gained understanding of, as, I have seen your point; seen through; to understand the true nature of."

MANIFESTED.

"God was manifest in the flesh." I Timothy 3:16. One truth that stands out above others, especially in the New Testament is, Jesus Christ came to manifest the one True God. Manifest means: "Apparent to the 5 senses or mind; to make clear or evident; obvious; to prove." God the Father's likeness, personality, being, and individuality was made clear to the mind and senses of men through the revelation of Jesus Christ. If you miss this, you miss the whole Truth about the Godhead!

SONS OF GOD.

Nowhere in the Holy Scriptures are true Christians called sons of Jesus, but rather sons of God. Cf. I John 3:1-2. Jesus was the Son of God, and He declared to His disciples that His Father had sent Him, to wit: "For I proceeded forth and came from God, neither came I of myself, but he sent me." John 8:42. Also: "Yet a little while am I with you, and then I go unto him that sent me." John 7:33.

Also: "And the Father himself, which hath sent me, hath borne witness of me." John 5:37.

Jesus Christ is an elder brother — not a father to Christians. This relationship of Christ to members of His Body, the Church, is not sons of Christ, but sons of God! To wit: Jesus said, "For whosoever shall do the will of God, the same is my brother, and my sister, and mother." Mark 3:35. Also: Jesus said to Mary, "Go to my brethren, and say unto them, I ascend unto my Father, and your Father, and to my God, and your God. Mary Magdalene came, and told the disciples that she had seen the Lord..." John 20:17-28. Jesus' brethren were His disciples — they were not His sons!

I. GOD IS OMNIPRESENT FROM HEAVEN!

Summarization.

God's presence is everywhere, yet God the Father Himself is on His throne in heaven. The sun is a wonderful example! The sun itself is 93 million miles away from all Earth people, yet as the scriptures declare, "There is nothing hid from the heat thereof (Psalm 19:6)." The sun's presence and effect is felt by all on this earth, even though the sun itself is 93 million miles away. So it is with our great Creator God — He sits on His throne in heaven, yet His presence is everywhere!

- a. Jesus said, "Take heed that ye despise not one of these little ones; for I say unto you, That in heaven their angels do always behold the face of my Father which is in heaven." Matthew 18:10.
- b. "For God is in heaven, and thou upon earth." Eccl. 5:2.
- "Whither shall I go from thy spirit? Or whither shall I flee from thy presence? If I ascend up into heaven, thou art there: if I make my bed in hell, behold, thou art there. If I take the wings of the morning, and dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea; Even there shall thy hand lead me, and thy right hand shall hold me." Psalm 139:7-10. This is God's omnipresence vividly expressed. Also read verses 11-16.
- "Hear thou therefore the word of the Lord: I saw the Lord sitting on his throne, and all the host of heaven standing by him

on his right hand and on his left." I Kings 22:19. God's prophet saw this revelation of God. Let God's Word be true and every man who disagrees, a liar — okay?

e. "Behold, I see the heavens opened, and the Son of man [Jesus] standing on the right hand of God." Acts 7:56.

Stephen, the first martyr for Jesus Christ, saw this great revelation of God the Father, and Jesus Christ, His Son.

SUPPLEMENTARY SCRIPTURES FOR FURTHER STUDY.

Genesis 6:12	Genesis 22:11,15	Matt. 5:16, 45-48	Rev. 3:12
Exodus 20:22	Psalms 73:23-25	Matt. 6:1,9	Ezra 1:2
Isaiah 66:1	II Chron. 6:25,27	Mat. 7:11,21	Neh. 1:4
Daniel 2:28	II Chron. 6:30,33	Matt. 16:17	Lam. 3:50
II Chron. 6:18,23	II Chron. 6:35,39	Matt. 23:9	John 12:28
Psalms 11:4	Psalms 33:13	Psalms 57:3	Matt. 12:50
Psalms 14:2	Psalms 53:2	Psalms 102:19	Matt. 10:32

II. GOD THE FATHER ANSWERS PRAYER.

Discussion.

Every true Christian's prayer must be directed to God the Father prefaced by, "Our Father, which art in heaven." Every prayer must be ended with, "In Jesus' Name", in order to receive respect from God or Christ. Jesus is our high priest or intercessor at the right hand of God the Father who makes intercession for His saints, or for a penitent sinner. Even in repentance and conversion, a sinner must pray to the Father through the intercession of Christ, to wit:

- a. Jesus declared in a great prayer: "And this is life eternal, that they might know thee the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom thou hast sent." John 17:3.
- b. The Apostle Paul declared: "Testifying both to the Jews, and also to the Greeks, repentance toward God, and faith toward our Lord Jesus Christ." Acts 20:21.
- C. "And he [Jesus] said unto them, When ye pray, say, Our Father which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name." Luke 11:2.
- d. Jesus taught: "And in that day ye shall ask me nothing. Verily, verily, I say unto you, Whatsoever ye shall ask the Father in my name, he will give it [to] you." John 16:23.
- e. The Apostle Paul taught: "And whatsoever ye do in word or deed do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God and the Father by him." Col. 3:17.

f. Christ commissioned His disciples to do His works in His name: "In my name shall they cast out devils; they shall speak with new tongues; They shall take up serpents; and if they drink any deadly thing, it shall not hurt them; they shall lay hands on the sick, and they shall recover [all in Jesus' Name]. So then after the Lord had spoken unto them [i.e., given them this Great Commission], he was received up into heaven, and sat on the right hand of God." Mark 16:17-19. Where is Christ now? Answer: At God the Father's right hand where he makes intercession for those who come unto God's throne of Grace. Cf. Heb. 4:14-16. By the way, Jesus Christ has no throne yet, but God, His Father, will set him on His own throne when Jesus comes to rule this world for 1,000 years!

GOD THE FATHER IS GREATER THAN JESUS CHRIST. Jesus declared: "Ye have heard how I said unto you, I go away, and come again unto you. If ye loved me, ye would rejoice, because I said, I go unto the Father: for my Father is greater than I." John 14:28. Jesus did not lie!

Also: "My Father, which gave them me [i.e., Christ's sheep], is greater than all; and no man is able to pluck them out of my Father's hand." John 10:29.

h. JESUS PRAYED TO GOD HIS FATHER.

"These words spake Jesus, and lifted up his eyes to heaven, and said, Father, the hour is come, glorify thy Son, that thy Son also may glorify thee...I pray not for the world, but for them which thou hast given me; for they are thine." John 17:1, 9. Also: "And he went a little further, and fell on his face, and prayed, saying, O my Father, if it be possible, let this cup pass from me: nevertheless not as I will, but as thou wilt." Matthew 26:39. Cf. Heb. 5:5-10.

FOR FURTHER STUDY: Romans 8:15. Study carefully the Apostle's prayer of Acts 4:24-30, prefaced by, "Lord, thou art God, which hast made heaven, and earth...[and ended by] and that signs and wonders may be done by the name of thy holy child Jesus."

Jesus conclusively declared: "If ye shall ask any thing in my name, I will do it... And I will pray the Father, and he shall give you another Comforter..." John 14:14-16. Prayer is directed to God the Father in Jesus' Name, then He performs whatever is granted by the Father, to wit:

- (1) Jesus said, "For I do always those things that please him [i.e., the Father]." John 8:29.
- (2) Jesus also said, "I can of mine own self do nothing: as I hear, I

- judge...because I seek not mine own will, but the will of the Father which hath sent me." John 5:30.
- (3) Jesus said again, "For I have not spoken of myself; but the Father which sent me, he gave me a commandment, what I should say, and what I should speak...whatsoever I speak therefore, even as the Father said unto me, so I speak." John 12:49-50.

III. GOD'S NAME.

Discussion.

First, what authority must Christians accept to determine the name or names of God, our Father and Creator? — the dictionary and encyclopedia, or the Bible, God's Word about Himself? **Answer: Always the Bible**, in every controversy or dispute over the Divine Existence of the Godhead!

Should we address God the Father by calling Him Jesus? The answer is unequivocally NO!

Should God be called Yahweh? Of course not. God's names from the Hebrew and Greek lexicon or manuscripts are interpreted and translated into English as Lord, God Almighty etc., and this is sensible and clear because you don't speak Hebrew or Greek — you speak and comprehend English. Enough said for this matter that is divisive, dangerous, and damnable.

MY NAME IS JEHOVAH!

- "And God spake unto Moses, and said unto him, I am the Lord: and I appeared unto Abraham, unto Isaac, and unto Jacob, by the name of God Almighty, but by my name JEHOVAH was I not known unto them." Exodus 6:2-3.
- "And Abraham...called there upon the name of the Lord, the everlasting God." Genesis 21:33. What name did Abraham call God? Answer: God Almighty!
- "And [Isaac] builded an altar there, and called upon the name of the Lord." Gen. 26:25. What name did Isaac call God? Answer: God Almighty!

TITLES OR NAMES?

The Bible declares that Lord, God Almighty, Father, Jehovah, Jealous, and Holy are God's Names. Remember Romans 3:4: "Let God [His Word] be true, but every man a liar: as it is written, That thou mightest be justified in thy sayings, and mightest overcome when thou art judged." The dictionary cannot be accepted as true and God's Word in error!

d. "The Lord is a man of war: the Lord is his name." Exodus 15:3.

MY NAME IS JEALOUS!

- e. "And the Lord passed by before him, and proclaimed, The Lord, the Lord God, merciful and gracious, and longsuffering, and abundant in goodness and truth...For thou shalt worship no other god: for the Lord, whose name is Jealous, is a jealous God." Exodus 34:6, 14.
- f. "Thou shalt not take the name of the Lord thy God in vain." Deut. 5:11. What name? Any name that is used in reference to God must be used in respect and honor!
- "Sing unto God, sing praises to his name: extol him that rideth upon the heavens by his name JAH, and rejoice before him." Psa. 68:4.
- h. "In Judah is God known: his name is great in Israel." Psalm 76:1.
- i. "That men may know that thou, whose name alone is Jehovah, art the most high over all the earth." Psa. 83:18; Cf. Isa. 12:2; 26:4.

MY NAME IS THE LORD!

- j. "I am the Lord: that is my name: and my glory will I not give to another..." Isaiah 42:8.
- (As for our redeemer, the Lord of hosts is his name, the Holy One of Israel." Isaiah 47:4.
- 1. "For thy Maker is thine husband; the Lord of hosts is his name; and thy Redeemer the Holy One of Israel; The God of the whole earth shall he be called." Isaiah 54:5.
- "Therefore, behold, I will this once cause them to know, I will cause them to know mine hand and my might; and they shall know that my name is The Lord." Jeremiah 16:21.

MY NAME IS HOLY!

"For thus saith the high and holy One that inhabiteth eternity, whose name is Holy..." Isaiah 57:15.

MY NAME IS THE LORD OF HOSTS!

- "As I live, saith the king, whose name is the Lord of hosts...Jeremiah 46:18. Cf. also Jeremiah 31:35; 32:18.
- "Their Redeemer is strong; the Lord of hosts is his name." Jeremiah 50:34. Cf. also Jeremiah 48:15; 51:19, 57.
- "The Lord, the God of hosts, is his name." Amos 4:13. Cf. also Amos 5:8, 27; 9:6; James 5:10.

GOD'S NAME IS "THE FATHER"!

- "But ye have received the Spirit of adoption, whereby we cry, Abba, Father." Romans 8:15.
- "And call no man your father upon the earth: for one is your Father, which is in heaven." Matthew 23:9.
- t. "And [Jesus] said unto them, when ye pray, say, Our Father which art in heaven..." Luke 11:2.
- "Then cometh the end, when he [Jesus] shall have delivered up the kingdom to God, even the Father; when he shall have put down all rule and authority and power." I Corinthians 15:24. Note the designation of "the Father" as God's name.
- "For he [Jesus] received from God the Father honour and glory, when there came such a voice to him from the excellent glory, This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased." II Peter 1:17. Cf. also I Peter 1:2, 17.
- "Therewith bless we God, even the Father; and therewith curse we men, which are made after the similitude of God." James 3:9. Cf. also James 1:27.
- "Grace be with you, mercy, and peace, from God the Father, and from the Lord Jesus Christ, the Son of the Father, in truth and love." II John 3. Notice: God is the Father, and Jesus is the Son of God the Father Jesus is not God the Father! Cf. also I John 1:3; Hebrews 1:5.

SUPPLEMENTARY SCRIPTURES FOR FURTHER STUDY.

Psa. 9:10	Isa. 51:15	John 17:11
Psa. 20:1	Isa. 52:5-6	I Cor. 8:6
Psa. 54:1,6	Jer. 10:16	Col. 1:19
Psa. 99:3	Jer. 33:2	Eph. 5:20
Isa. 48:2	Jer. 51:19,57	Jude 1
	Psa. 20:1 Psa. 54:1,6 Psa. 99:3	Psa. 20:1 Isa. 52:5-6 Psa. 54:1,6 Jer. 10:16 Psa. 99:3 Jer. 33:2

PART B. THE SON OF GOD

Discussion.

In Eternity with God the Father, Jesus was the Word of God. When He returns to earth again, the prophetic scriptures declare: "His name is called the Word of God," (Rev. 19:13), and this is His name — not a title, but as the word dictates, it is His name. The Word was in the beginning with God (John 1:1-2), but Jesus was begotten or born of natural birth as we also are — the Son of God! "The Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,) full of grace and truth." John 1:14.

NOT GOD THE FATHER — BUT EQUAL WITH GOD!

"For unto which of the angels said he [God] at any time, Thou art my Son, this day have I begotten thee? And again, I will be to him a Father, and he shall be to me a Son?...But unto the Son he [God the Father] saith, Thy throne, O God, is for ever and ever: a sceptre of righteousness is the sceptre of thy kingdom. Thou has loved righteousness, and hated iniquity, therefore God [now listen to this carefully], even thy God [i.e., God the Father is the God of Jesus Christ even though God decreed that Christ is equal with Him as God], hath anointed thee with the oil of gladness above thy fellows." Hebrews 1:5-9.

EQUALITY BY DECREE.

God the Father decreed equality for His Son thusly:

- (1) "[God] hath in these last days spoken unto us by his Son, whom he hath appointed heir of all things, by whom also he made the worlds [i.e., by and through the Word]: Who [Jesus, that is] being the brightness of his glory, and the express image of his person [i.e., God the Father's], and upholding all things by the word of his power, when he had by himself purged our sins, sat down on the right hand of the Majesty on high." Hebrews 1:2-3.
- (2) "So also Christ glorified not himself to be made an high priest; but he that said unto him, Thou art my Son, to day have I begotten thee." Hebrews 5:5.
- (3) "I will declare the decree: the Lord [i.e., God the Father] hath said unto me, Thou art my Son; this day have I begotten thee." Psalm 2:7.
- (4) The angel announced the decree to Mary: "And, behold, thou shalt conceive in thy womb, and bring forth a son, and shalt call his name JESUS...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." Luke 1:31-35.

I. CHRIST AS GOD AND MAN.

- a. In His life he was a Prophet. Cf. Deut. 18:15-19; Acts 3:22-23; Luke 4:24; 24:19.
- **b.** In His death He was a Saviour. Cf. Matt. 1:21; Rom. 5:6-11; Luke 2:11; I John 4:14; II Pet. 1:11.
- c. In His absence he is a High Priest and Intercessor. Cf. I Tim. 2:5; Heb. 4:14-16; Rom. 8:34; Heb. 8:1.
- d. At His return to earth, He will be King of Kings and Lord of Lords. Cf. Rev. 19:16; 17:14; Matt. 25:31-34.
- e. Jesus came in His Father's Name, that is, in His authority, to reveal the True God show what He is like and to deliver God's message and terms of Reconciliation. Cf. John 14:6-9; 18:37; 8:27-29; 12:49-50; 15:15.
- Christ was clothed with humanity but not a sinful nature as all other members of Adam's race possess and Jesus is still a man, but God the Father is not a man!
- (1) "For I am God, and not man; the Holy One in the midst of thee." Hosea 11:9.
- (2) "God is not a man that he should lie; neither the son of man, that he should repent." Numbers 23:19. Jesus was the "son of man." Cf. Mt. 9:6; Mt. 16:13; Mt. 26:64.
- (3) "Jesus declared, "God is a Spirit: and they that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth." John 4:24.
- (4) "For there is one God [i.e., the Father], and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus." I Timothy 2:5.

g. Christ As The Creator.

- (1) "[Christ] who is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of every creature: For by him were all things created, that are in heaven, and that are in earth, visible and invisible, whether they be thrones, or dominions, or principalities, or powers: all things were created by him, and for him: And he is before all things, and by him all things consist." Colossians 1:15-17. All things consist by the Word of God! Christ is the Word!
- (2) "In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. The same was in the beginning with God. All things were made by him; and without him [i.e., the Word that became Christ, the Son of God by natural birth] was not any thing made that was made." John 1:1-3.

Jesus Christ, as the Word, was in the beginning with God. God's Word was made the Son of God through human birth, therefore by Him, the Eternal Word, were all things created. God's Word is Spirit and Life, for "Through faith we understand that the worlds were framed [created] by the word of God." Hebrews 11:3.

II. CHRIST'S AUTHORITY.

Summary.

Christ's authority and power came from God the Father's decrees. He received His authority and His message from God the Father, and He declared this truth over and over again. All authority and power originates from God the Father, to wit: "God hath spoken once; twice have I heard this; that power belongeth unto God." Psalm 62:11.

- a. Jesus Himself declared: "For the Father judgeth no man, but hath committed all judgment unto the Son...For as the Father hath life in himself: so hath he given to the Son to have life in himself; And hath given him AUTHORITY to execute Judgment also, because he is the Son of man." John 5:22, 26-27.
- "And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, All power [i.e., authority] is given unto me in heaven and in earth." Matthew 28:18. God the Father gave His power to Jesus!
- "Therefore let all the house of Israel know assuredly, that God [the Father] hath made that same Jesus, whom ye have crucified, both Lord and Christ." Acts 2:36. God the Father decreed that the Son be Lord and Christ.
- d. "Jesus answered them, I told you, and ye believed not: the works that I do in my Father's name [i.e., my Father's authority], they bear witness of me." John 10:25.

III. NO MORE USE OF PROVERBS IN GODHEAD REVELATION.

Discussion.

Jesus taught His apostles thusly: "These things have I spoken unto you in proverbs: but the time cometh, when I shall no more speak unto you in proverbs, but I shall shew you plainly of the Father...I came forth from the Father, and am come into the world; again, I leave the world, and go to the Father. His disciples said unto him, Lo, now speakest thou plainly, and speakest no proverb. Now are we sure that thou knowest all things, and needest not that any man should ask thee: by this we believe that thou camest forth from God." John 16:25-30.

THE UNITY.

The unity of the Godhead was proverbially explained by Christ thusly:

(1) "At that day ye shall know that I am in my Father, and ye in me, and I in you." John 14:20.

(2) "He that hath seen me hath seen the Father: and how sayest thou then, Shew us the Father? 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." John 14:9-11.

The proverbs: "I am in the Father" and "the Father is in me."

(3) Jesus declared: "I and my Father are one." John 10:30. Also: "Holy Father, keep through thine own name [i.e., His power or authority] those whom thou hast given me, that they may be one as we are." John 17:11, 21,23.

Also: "For this cause shall a man leave his father and mother, and shall be joined unto his wife, and they two shall be one flesh. This is a great mystery: but I speak concerning Christ and the church." Ephesians 5:31-32.

The proverb: "I and my Father are one." The unity is a spiritual unity of perfect law, perfect plan, perfect order, perfect method carried out by perfect unity between the Father, Son, and Holy Ghost! The true members of Christ's Church are a perfect unity in Christ's body as the marriage of a man and woman in Christ symbolizes this spiritual unity of Christ and His Church.

IV. SENT FROM GOD.

Summary.

"Jesus said unto them, If God were your Father, ye would love me: for I proceeded forth and came from God; neither came I of myself, but he sent me." John 8:42. This is plain enough for any Christian who has an honest heart to see — Jesus declared here and again that God, His Father, sent Him!

(1) "For the works which the Father hath given me to finish, the same works that I do, bear witness of me, that the Father hath sent me. And the Father himself, which hath sent me, hath borne witness of me." John 5:36-37.

Look carefully and scrutinizingly at the following phrase: "And the Father himself." The Father is a person, a him, and a self!

- (2) Jesus declared, "For I came down from heaven, not to do mine own will, but the will of him that sent me. And this is the Father's will which hath sent me...And this is the will of him that sent me..." John 6:38-40. The Father sent Christ to this world!
- (3) "Jesus answered them, and said, My doctrine is not mine, but his that sent me." John 7:16.
- (4) Jesus said, "I am not come of myself, but he that sent me is true, whom ye know not. But I know him [God the Father, a him and a person], and he hath sent me." John 7:28-29.
- (5) "Then said Jesus unto them, yet a little while am I with you, and then I go unto him that sent me." John 7:33. Jesus went back to God the Father who sent him, and he is now sitting at His right hand. Cf. Colossians 3:1; Ephesians 1:20; Acts 2:33.
- (6) "Say ye of him, whom the Father hath sanctified, and sent into the world, Thou blasphemeth; because I said, I am the Son of God?" John 10:36.
- (7) "Jesus cried and said, He that believeth on me, believeth not on me, but on him that sent me. And he that seeth me seeth him that sent me." John 12:44-45. Jesus was the express image of God's person exactly like His Father, God. So, thru Christ, men can understand God the Father, who is invisible.
- (8) "For I have not spoken of myself; but the Father which sent me, he gave me a commandment, what I should say, and what I should speak." John 12:49. God the Father sent Christ, and told him what to preach and teach!
- (9) Christ was sent to lead men back to God the Father, to wit: "I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me." John 14:6. Also: Jesus declared, "If I honour myself, my honour is nothing: it is my Father that honoureth me; of whom ye say, that he is your God." John 8:54. The Jews acknowledged God the Father, but rejected His Son whom he sanctified and sent into the world to truly bring them back to God.
- (10) "For the Father himself loveth you, because you have loved me, and have believed that I came out from God. I came forth from the Father, and am come into the world: again, I leave the world, and go to the Father." John 16:27-28. Plain enough about Christ's origin and destination! He was sent into this world by His Father, and He returned to His Father, and now sits with Him in His throne Read Revelation 3:21; John 20:21.

SUPPLEMENTARY SCRIPTURES FOR FURTHER STUDY

John 3:17	John 7:18	John 11:42	John 16:5,7
John 5:24,30	John 8:16,18	John 12:49	John 16:10,16
John 6:44,57	John 8:54	John 14:24	John 17:3,18,21
Acts 3:26	Galations 4:4	I John 4:9	John 17:23,25

V. EQUALITY WITH GOD THE FATHER.

Summary.

God the Father declared Jesus Christ, His only begotten Son, to be equal in authority and power. Jesus declared: "The works that I do in my Father's name [i.e., by the Father's authority and power], they bear witness of me." (John 10:25). The following declaration bears repeating: "But I would have you know, that the head of every man is Christ; and the head of the woman is the man; and the head of Christ [or the one higher than Christ in authority] is God [i.e., the Father]." I Corinthians 11:3. My, what a vivid and detailed revelation of God's Divine Order in authority.

- (1) "Who [Jesus], being in the form of God [i.e., God the Father], thought it not robbery to be equal with God." Philippians 2:6.
- (2) Jesus revealed: "My Father, which gave them me [i.e., his disciples]; is greater than all..." John 10:29. Greater even than Jesus!
- (3) Jesus told His Apostles, "Ye have heard how I said unto you, I go away, and come again unto you. If ye loved me, ye would rejoice, because I said, I go unto the Father: for my Father is greater than I." John 14:28.
- (4) "Therefore the Jews sought the more to kill him, because he not only had broken the sabbath, but said also that God was his Father, making himself equal with God [the Father]." John 5:18.
- (5) "But unto the Son he [i.e., God the Father] saith, Thy throne, O God, is for ever and ever." Hebrews 1:8. By equality which the Father has granted to Christ, Jesus the Son is also God!

VI. THE SUMMIT OF GODHEAD REVELATIONS.

Summary.

There are definite and definitive revelations found in the Holy Scriptures by diligent search that unveil beyond any doubt that Jesus Christ and God the Father are two distinct persons in the Godhead. To wit:

a. The Beginning of Christ's Kingdom.

"I beheld till thrones were cast down, and the Ancient of days did sit [this is God the Father], whose garment was white as snow, and the hair of his head like the pure wool: his throne was like the fiery flame, and his wheels as burning fire...the judgment was set, and the books were opened...I saw in the night visions, and behold, one like the Son of man [this is Jesus, the Son of God] came with the clouds of heaven, and came to the Ancient of days, and they

brought him near before him. And there was given him dominion and glory, and a kingdom, that all people, nations, and languages, should serve him..." Daniel 7:9-14. At the return of Christ it is revealed here, that God the Father will set Christ on His throne as the prophetic scriptures foretell! Cf. Acts 2:30; Revelation 3:21.

b. At The End of Christ's Kingdom — The Beginning of the Kingdom of God! [I Corinthians 15:24-28]

Verse 24. "Then cometh the end, when he shall have delivered up the kingdom to God, even the Father; when he [Christ] shall have put down all rule and all authority, and power." This is plain enough for any person that has been blinded by the heresy "that God the Father and Jesus Christ are the one and same person," to see and comprehend — if he is honest-hearted.

Verse 25. "For he [Christ] must reign, till he hath put all enemies under his feet." Jesus Christ will rule this world for 1,000 years, and all rebellion will be crushed by his iron rule. Please study Revelation 2:26-27; 19:15; 20:4-7.

Verse 26. "The last enemy that shall be destroyed is death." Christ will reign until death is cast into the lake of fire." Cf. Revelation 20:14; 21:4.

Verse 27. "For he [God the Father] hath put all things under his [Christ's] feet. But when he saith, all things are put under him [Christ], it is manifest that he [God the Father] is excepted, which did put all things under him." What a glorious, enlightening revelation to God's true saints — God the Father put everything under Christ's authority and rule except Himself!

Verse 28: "And when all things shall be subdued unto him [i.e., Christ], then shall the Son also himself be subject unto him [God the Father] that put all things under him, that God [the Father] may be all in all." Throughout eternity, Jesus will accord all glory and honor to His Father, and be "e pluribus unum" among all God's children — one Son among many sons!

C. The Lamb Before God The Father.

"And I saw in the right hand of him [God the Father] that sat on the throne a book written within and on the backside, sealed with seven seals...And I beheld, and, lo, in the midst of the throne and of the four beasts, and in the midst of the elders, stood a Lamb [Jesus] as it had been slain...And he [Jesus] came and took the book out of the right hand of him that sat upon the throne." Rev. 5:1, 6-7. Two persons — The Father and the Son!

d. Jesus declared: "But of that day [i.e., the day of His return] and that hour knoweth no man, no, not the angels which are in heaven, neither the Son, but the Father." Mark 13:32. Note carefully: Jesus does not know the day of His return — only His Father knows and determines the day and hour! Two persons or intelligences revealed.

The Apostle Peter declared: "And he commanded us to preach unto the people, and to testify that it is he which was ordained of God to be the Judge of quick and dead." Acts 10:42. God the Father made Jesus the Judge of the dead and living!

"Jesus saith unto her, Touch me not, for I am not yet ascended to my Father: but go to my brethren, and say unto them, I ascend unto my Father, and your Father; and to my God, and your God." John 20:17. **The Father-Son relationship is between God and Jesus**, and includes every born-again son of God. If there is a Father, there is of necessity a Son! God the Father is also the God of Jesus his Son!

"The Father loveth the Son, and hath given all things into his hand." John 3:35. The very real Father, who is God, gave all authority and power to Jesus, His Son!

h. Jesus Is Right Now At The Right Hand of God The Father. "But he, being full of the Holy Ghost, looked up stedfastly into heaven, and saw the glory of God, and Jesus standing on the right hand of God. And said, Behold, I see the heavens opened, and the Son of man standing on the right hand of God." Acts 7:55-56. God is not a bundle of Glory as some claim Him to be. God the Father is a person, and Stephen, the first martyr of Christ, saw Jesus at His right hand, where He was also seen by the other apostles.

i. "If ye then be risen with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ sitteth on the right hand of God." Col. 3:1.

"So then after the Lord had spoken unto them, he was received up into heaven, and sat on the right hand of God." Mark 16:19. Where did Christ go when he left this world? Answer: Into heaven, and He sat down at His Father's right hand!

FOR FURTHER STUDY.

Psalm 110:1 Eph. 1:20 Heb. 1:3,13 Heb. 10:12; 12:2 Acts 2:33 Romans 8:34 Heb. 8:1 I Peter 3:22

k. Jesus Was No Ventriloquist!

"And lo a voice from heaven saying, This is my beloved Son, in whom

I am well pleased." Matthew 3:17. God the Father spoke from heaven to honor His Son — and Jesus did not throw his voice to fool the people who were present, nor you — it was really the Father "who art in heaven" who spoke! Cf. also Matthew 17:5; John 12:27-28.

VII. THE KINGDOM OF CHRIST.

Summary.

The Scriptures reveal two heavenly kingdoms designated as (1) The Kingdom of God, and (2) the Kingdom of heaven or of Christ. There are two heavenly kingdoms and two divine rulers as kings over these kingdoms.

a. "And the seventh angel sounded: and there were great voices in heaven, saying, The kingdoms of this world are become the kingdoms of our Lord, and of his Christ: and he shall reign for ever and ever." Rev. 11:15.

b. "[God] hath delivered us from the power of darkness, and hath translated us into the kingdom of his dear Son." Colossians 1:13.

"Blessed and holy is he that hath part in the first resurrection: on such the second death hath no power, but they shall be priests of God and of Christ, and shall reign with him a thousand years." Rev. 20:6. Christ's kingdom will last 1000 years — God the Father's for ever, beginning at the termination of Christ's 1,000 year reign, "when he shall deliver [his] kingdom to God, even the Father." (I Cor. 15:24).

d. Christ Will Rule 1,000 Years in The Kingdom of Heaven. Jesus declared to his apostles: "I appoint unto you a kingdom, as my Father hath appointed unto me; that ye may eat and drink at my table in my kingdom, and sit on thrones judging the twelve tribes of Israel." Luke 22:29-30. Christ's kingdom is everlasting, but his rule for only 1,000 years, yielding the throne to His Father at the end: "Then cometh the end, when he shall have delivered up the kingdom to God, even the Father." (I Cor. 15:24).

FOR FURTHER STUDY.

Matthew 4:23 Matthew 16:28 I Cor. 15:50 II Timothy 4:1 Matthew 7:21 Luke 23:42 I Thess. 2:12 II Peter 1:11

e. Mysticism. Summary.

The Godhead cannot be explained by imagination or spiritism. The Holy Scriptures have already revealed the Trinity of the Godhead. God's Word does not confuse or mislead true Christians — it

is dumb, blind, and dishonest preachers who are the culprits who bewitch God's people and others into believing a heresy. When the Holy Ghost was poured out in this age of the Latter Rain of Pentecost in 1900 and the early years of this 20th Century, all those who received the Baptism of the Holy Ghost were Trinitarians. These did not get their Trinity doctrine from the Catholic Church, but from the Holy Bible!

NEW LIGHT?

The so-called Apostolic Faith, Oneness, or Jesus Only doctrine began to be introduced as "new Light" in the 1930's — a heresy out of darkness, not from the light of God's Word. This is the most divisive and damnable heresy to infiltrate Christ's Church of the end-time, and the adherents to this heresy have brought an old arrogant spirit into the church that is devilish and weakening. This Jesus Only doctrine is steeped in mysticism, not in God's Word! The Godhead is not mysterious: "For the invisible things of him [God the Father] 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." Romans 1:20. God the Father demands to be honored as God, and Jesus as His Son!

f. Christ's Own Claim to Deity. Summary.

Jesus declared again and again during His ministry upon earth: "I am not God the Father — I am the Son of God."

- (1) To wit: "Say ye of him, whom the Father hath sanctified, and sent into the world, Thou blasphemeth; because I said, I am the Son of God? If I do not the works of my Father, believe me not. But if I do, though ye believe not me, believe the works: that ye may know, and believe, that the Father is in me, and I in him." John 10:36-38. Jesus is in the Father, and the Father is in Him perfect divine unity! Cf. also John 5:25-26; John 11:4; John 17:1; John 19:7.
- (2) "Jesus...said unto him, Dost thou believe on the Son of God? He answered and said, Who is he, Lord, that I might believe on him? And Jesus said unto him, Thou hast both seen him, and it is he that talketh with thee." John 9:35-37.

PART C. THE SPIRIT OF GOD.

Discussion.

Jesus gave this mighty revelation: "He that believeth on me, as the scripture hath said, out of his belly shall flow rivers of living waters. 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." John 7:38-39. The Spirit of God has two manifestations as revealed by the New Testament Scriptures: (1) "The Holy Spirit or Spirit of God represents God the Father; (2) The Holy Ghost represents Jesus Christ." The Holy Ghost baptism is the equivalent of Christ being literally with and in a truly sanctified Christian.

The Comforter.

To wit: Jesus assured His grief-stricken disciples, "I will pray the Father, and he shall give you another Comforter, that he may abide with you forever; Even the Spirit of Truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it seeth him not, neither knoweth him: but ye know him; for he dwelleth with you, and shall be in you. I will not leave you comfortless: I will come to you...But the Comforter, which is the Holy Ghost, whom the Father will send in my name [this is, in Christ's Authority], he shall teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you." John 14:16-18, 26. This promise was fulfilled on the Day of Pentecost when the disciples were all filled with the Holy Ghost (Acts 2:1-4).

A PERSON.

The Holy Ghost has personality, hence a spiritual being or person, meaning: "the quality or fact of being a particular person; personal identity; individuality; distinctive individual qualities." The Spirit of God, or the Holy Ghost, qualifies as the third person in the Godhead as the Holy Scriptures reveal.

Jesus called the Holy Ghost a "Him" and a "He" — indicating an individual or person. He, the Holy Ghost or the Spirit of God is set forth in the scriptures as an equal in the Godhead with the Father and the Son. He possesses being, individuality, and characteristics that determine personality — hence a person. The Devil or Satan is a spirit, yet a person — so are his demons! Angels of God are spirits, yet persons who possess being, individuality, and even names. All members of the Godhead are assigned names that some declare titles, yet in divinity, they are names chosen by God to reveal His relationship to His disciples.

(1) Like Christ, the Holy Spirit Came From God.
Jesus revealed: "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 15:26.

(2) In the Creation: "And the Spirit of God moved upon the face of the waters." Genesis 1:2. Active in Creation!

(3) "But they rebelled, and vexed his holy Spirit; therefore he was turned to be their enemy, and he fought against them." Isaiah

63:10. He Executes God's judgment.

(4) Jesus foretold His disciples: "I tell you the truth: it is expedient for you that I go away: for if I go not away, the Comforter will not come unto you; but if I depart, I will send him unto you. And when he is come, he will reprove the world of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgment: Of sin, because they believe not on me; Of righteousness, because I go to my Father, and ye see me no more...Howbeit when he, the Spirit of Truth, is come, he will guide you into all truth...and he will shew you things to come. He shall glorify me..." John 16:7-14.

(5) "For he whom God hath sent speaketh the words of God: for God giveth not the Spirit by measure unto him [i.e., Jesus]." John 3:34. Christ was not baptized with the Holy Ghost — he was the Holy Ghost baptizer Himself, being filled without measure.

THE NEW BIRTH IS BY THE SPIRIT OF GOD.

"Jesus answered and said unto him, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God." John 3:5. This is an office work of the Holy Ghost.

SANCTIFICATION IS BY THE SPIRIT OF GOD.

"Because God hath from the beginning chosen you to salvation **through sanctification of the Spirit** and belief of the truth." II Thess. 2:13. Study also I Peter 1:2; Romans 15:16.

HOLY GHOST BAPTISM WITH FIRE.

"I indeed baptize you with water unto repentance: but he that cometh after me is mightier than I, whose shoes I am not worthy to bear: he shall baptize you with the Holy Ghost and with fire." Matthew 3:11. The Holy Ghost was symbolized by tongues of fire. Acts 2:3.

GOD SENDS ANGELS.

Angels are sent to represent God, but they are not God the Father — yet they are spirits — and they are individually a person — not a thing or an "it", to wit:

(1) Daniel exclaimed, "My God hath sent his angel, and hath shut the lions' mouths that they have not hurt me." Daniel 6:22.

(2) "Then Manoah knew that he was an angel of the Lord. And Manoah said unto his wife, We shall surely die, because we have seen God." Judges 13:21-22. An Angel of God is like God!

(3) "And the angel answering said unto him, I am Gabriel, that stand in the presence of God; and am sent to speak unto thee, and to shew thee these glad tidings." Luke 1:19. Angels, like God Himself can appear as men — but as spirits, they are as flames of fire — so also is the Holy Ghost. God appeared to Abraham as a man with two angels whose appearance were as men. Study Genesis 18.

FOR FURTHER STUDY.

Daniel 9:20-22 Daniel 10:5-7 Judges 6:20-23 Matthew 28:2-4

AN ENTITY.

In Divine Existence, far removed from and beyond physical existence, the Holy Ghost is a real entity, possessing being, individuality, and personality — possessing both power and responsibility given by God the Father. God's Angels, Satan, Demons, Seraphim, Cherubims, the Holy Ghost, and God the Father fill the spirit world about us — Jesus Christ possessing all the fulness of the Godhead bodily, or in a human body. Divine Reality is not the same as physical reality which our eyes perceive, our ears hear, and our minds comprehend!

I. THE DIFFERENCE.

Summary.

The Holy Ghost has a marked degree of difference from God the Father and Jesus Christ in Responsibility and Divine duties or assignments in the unity of the Godhead. The Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost are one in perfect unity of agreement, perfect identity of purpose, and perfect identity in love, holiness, wisdom, and power. However, each operates in God's Master Plan of the Redemption of men, and to the ministering to God's saints as God the Father decrees and assigns.

- The Holy Ghost Has a Different Office Work From God the Father & Jesus. Jesus declared this revelation: "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. And whosoever speaketh a word against the Son of man [Jesus], 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." Matthew 12:31-32.
- b. "Wherefore I give you to understand, that no man speaking by the Spirit of God calleth Jesus accursed: and that no man can say that Jesus is the Lord, but by the Holy Ghost." I Corinthians 12:3.

Without the conviction of the Holy Ghost, men could never find God and Jesus unto eternal life.

NOTE CAREFULLY: God will forgive any sin except those against the Holy Ghost — the third person in the Godhead — whom God has entrusted with the responsibility to reprove, convict, and draw men to Christ as their Lord. God will never — neither will Jesus — forgive blasphemy against the Holy Ghost — which is: Irreverence, disrespect, or vocal opposition to the work of His Divinely appointed office. To wit: "And grieve not the Holy Spirit of God, whereby ye are sealed unto the day of redemption." Eph. 4:30. Study also John 16:12-14; Gen. 6:3.

C. He Gives Christ's Power to Christians — Anointing! Jesus declared: "But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me..." Acts 1:8.

Also: John the Baptist was "filled with the Holy Ghost, even from his mother's womb," and went before Christ in the spirit and power of Elijah (Holy Ghost power). Luke 1:15-17. Study also Acts 6:5-8; Romans 15:13; Luke 4:1; Acts 10:38; Hebrews 2:4; Luke 4:14-19; Micah 3:8.

d. Lying to the Holy Ghost.

Ananias and Sapphira lied to the Holy Ghost and fell dead at the Apostle Peter's feet.

The Apostle rebuked thusly: "Ananias, why hath Satan filled thine heart to lie to the Holy Ghost, and to keep back part of the price of the land?...thou hast not lied unto men, but unto God. And Ananias hearing these words fell down, and gave up the ghost." Acts 5:1-11.

Ananias and his wife Sapphira didn't lie to God the Father or Jesus, but to the Holy Ghost — and He executed God's judgment upon them for an example to other Christians.

e. He helps Us to Pray.

The office work of the Holy Ghost is to help a truly consecrated Christian to pray. This is not the responsibility of the Father or of the Son.

"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. 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." Romans 8:26-27.

Also: "But ye, beloved, building up yourselves on your most holy faith, praying in the Holy Ghost, keep yourselves in the love of God." Jude 20:21.

Notice the clause of revelation in Romans 8, verse 27: "Knoweth what is the mind of the Spirit." The Spirit of God has a mind! He also speaks — Acts 13:2! He can hear — John 16:13; He teaches — John 14:26; I Corinthians 2:13; Matthew 10:20; He leads — Romans 8:14; Galatians 5:18.

f. Christ's Conception Was By The Holy Ghost.

Mary conceived by the Holy Ghost. Also in every true Christian, Christ is conceived by the Holy Ghost through the Word of God, to wit:

- (1) "And the angel answered and said unto her [Mary], **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." Luke 1:35.
- (2) "Being born again, not of corruptible seed, but of incorruptible, by the word of God, which liveth and abideth forever." I Peter 1:23. Cf. James 1:18, 21; Acts 20:32; Romans 10:14-17. The office work of the Holy Ghost not the Father or the Son is to create a "new man" in every believer in whose heart the Word of God is conceived, through their faith in Jesus Christ. NOTE THIS CAREFULLY: "For by one Spirit are we all baptized into one body...and have been all made to drink into one Spirit." I Cor. 12:13.

g. Holy Ghost Revelation.

Jesus declared: "And he [the Holy Ghost] shall shew you things to come." John 16:13. He unveils the prophetic Word.

- (1) "And Simon Peter answered and said, Thou art the Christ, the Son of the Living God. And Jesus answered and said unto him, Blessed art thou, Simon Bar-jona: for flesh and blood hath not revealed it unto thee, but my Father which is in heaven." Matthew 16:16-17. The Spirit of God acts in this capacity to do the Father's will.
- (2) "And behold, there was a man in Jerusalem, whose name was Simeon...and the Holy Ghost was upon him. And it was revealed unto him by the Holy Ghost, that he should not see death, before he had seen the Lord's Christ." Luke 2:25-26.
- (3) "Now the Spirit speaketh expressly, that in the latter time, some shall depart from the faith, giving heed to seducing spirits [demons], and doctrines of devils [demons]." 1 Timothy 4:1.

(4) "But God hath **revealed them unto us by his Spirit.**" I Cor. 2:10. What? The things that are spiritual! Study also: Ephesians 3:5; I Peter 1:9-12. This is a specific office work of the Holy Ghost, designated to Him by the Father.

h. Gifts Of The Holy Ghost.

"For to one is given by the Spirit the word of wisdom; to another the word of knowledge by the same Spirit; To another faith by the same Spirit; to another the working of miracles..." I Cor. 12:8-10.

Also: "God also bearing them witness, both with signs and wonders, and with divers miracles, and gifts of the Holy Ghost, according to his own will?" Hebrews 2:4.

The office work and responsibility of the Holy Ghost is different from the Father and the Son, but Divine Unity in the Godhead is carried out to Infinite Perfection, especially in the Redemption of man unto salvation through Christ, and the administration of God's graces of Calvary to His Church.

The Spirit of Grace.

The Holy Ghost is also called "the Spirit of grace," in the Holy Scriptures. Cf. Hebrews 10:28-29. He administers God's grace to each true believer in Christ.

i. Holy Ghost is Omnipresent. Summary.

Jesus revealed truthfully to His Apostles: I am going to return to heaven and to my Father — to him that sent me (John 14:28). But he also promised to send them another Comforter — and not to leave them comfortless (John 14:18-30). Jesus is in heaven at the Father's right hand, but he promised also: "Lo, I am with you alway, even unto the end of the world (Matt. 28:20)." How could Jesus keep this promise? Here's how:

"I will pray the Father, and he shall give you another Comforter [the Holy Ghost], that he may abide with you for ever." (John 14:16).

Also: "But the Comforter, which is the Holy Ghost, whom the Father shall send in my name [this means, with the same authority and power I have] he shall...bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you" (John 14:26).

The Holy Ghost represents Jesus; He gives Christians authority as Jesus did to His disciples, and brings to our remembrance His Word in which is found Eternal Life. This is the responsibility of the Holy Ghost, different from the Father and the Son. God the Father is on

His throne, and Jesus our Mediator and High Priest is at His right hand in heaven.

Note Carefully Jesus declared, "I am the true vine, and my Father is the husbandman. Every branch [Christian] in me that beareth not fruit he [God the Father] taketh away (John 15:1-2)." Jesus makes intercession for His disciples — to God the Father. The Holy Ghost either shows mercy or judgment as the Father determines.

j. Holy Ghost Baptism.

Being filled with the Holy Ghost [or baptized with the Holy Ghost] is being filled with Deity — the third person in the Godhead — just as if Jesus was literally in us!

- (1) "[Jesus] commanded them that they should not depart from Jerusalem, but wait for the promise of the Father, which, saith he, ye have heard of me. For John truly baptized with water; but ye shall be baptized with the Holy Ghost not many days hence." Acts 1:4-5. And they were baptized with the Holy Ghost within a few days, to wit:
- (2) "And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and began to speak with other tongues [languages] as the Spirit gave them utterance. Acts 2:4. Study also: Acts 2:33; 38-39; Acts 5:32; 8:15; 10:44-46; 19:1-7.

k. Where Does The Holy Ghost Live?

"Know ye not that ye are the temple of God, and that the Spirit of God dwelleth in you? If any man defile the temple of God, him shall God destroy; for the temple of God is holy, which temple ye are." I Cor. 3:16-17.

- (1) "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?" I Cor. 6:19.
- (2) "And what agreement hath the temple of God with idols? for ye are the temple of the living God..." II Cor. 6:16.
- (3) "In whom [Jesus] ye also are builded together for an habitation of God through the Spirit." Ephesians 2:22.

Notice the revelation: First, God dwells in a Christian through the presence of the Spirit of God or Holy Ghost; and, secondly, the Holy Ghost does represent God the Father and/or Jesus in a true Christian's life, and thirdly, the Spirit of God is truly the executive officer of the Godhead.

1. This is the Doctrine of Christ.

"He that abideth in the doctrine of Christ, he hath both the Father and the Son. If there come any unto you, and bring not this doctrine,

receive him not into your house, neither bid him God speed. For he that biddeth him God speed is partaker of his evil deeds." II John 9-11.

Every Christian who knows the Whole Truth and lives holy should obey this apostolic order for their own spiritual safety and wellbeing, and that of their family — and, if you're a pastor, for the safety and wellbeing of your church.

II. THE SIMILARITY.

Summarization.

The Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost are not really similar — they are identical! They are perfect in unity, agreeing in all things. They are all Holy! "These three are one" (I John 5:7); one in purpose, of one mind, of one heart, of one soul, and in one accord.

The manifestations of the members of the Godhead may differ in physical appearance, to wit:

- (1) The Holy Ghost descended like a dove (John 1:32); like cloven tongues of fire (Acts 2:3); like fire (II Chron. 7:1); as a pillar of cloud and fire (Exodus 13:21-22).
- (2) Also as 7 lamps of fire burning before the throne of God (Rev. 4:5), symbolizing the operation of the Holy Ghost in the 7 church ages.
- (3) Jesus has appeared as a Lamb before God's throne (Rev. 5:6).
- (4) God the Father, the Ancient of Days, has been manifested to men as "the body of heaven in his clearness" (Exodus 24:9-11); also in Isaiah 6:1; I Kings 22:19-23; Daniel 7:9-10; Revelation 5:1-10. The similarity of the members of the Godhead is so vividly expressed in: "There are three, but they are one" (I John 5:7) Perfect identity in Unity of Divine Operation In Holiness, In Works, and In Purpose.

a. God Never Changes.

"For I am the Lord, I change not." Malachi 3:6.

- (1) "Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the Father of lights, with whom is no variableness, neither shadow of turning." James 1:17.
- (2) "Jesus Christ the same yesterday, and to day, and for ever." Hebrews 13:8.

The Godhead never changes or varies in Holiness, in Purpose, or in Works which their past performance reveals as recorded in God's Word. The Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost are alike in "no variableness." Also Cf. Psa. 102:27.

- b. The Holy Ghost is Minister and Executor of the Godhead.
- (1) "For through him [Christ] we both have access by one Spirit [Spirit of God] unto the Father." Ephesians 3:18.

(2) "And hereby we know that he [Christ] abideth in us, by the Spirit [Spirit of God] which he hath given us." I John 3:24.

(3) "And it is the Spirit that beareth witness [i.e., to Jesus in a Christian], because the Spirit [of God] is truth." I John 5:6.

(4) By the Spirit, "Christ dwells in your hearts by faith" (Ephesians 3:17). Study also II Corinthians 1:21-22 carefully.

FURTHER STUDY.

Isa. 11:1-3 Matt. 12:28 I Cor. 2:9-14 I Cor. 12:3

(5) In Conclusion: Jesus Christ and the Holy Ghost or Holy Spirit were both sent from God, the Father, to wit, Jesus revealed:

"But when the Comforter is come, whom I [Jesus] 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.

Repetitious yes, but vital and necessary! AMEN.

The mystery of the work of the Holy Ghost is revealed in this old hymn of the church: "I know not how the Spirit moves, convincing men of sin; Revealing Jesus thro' the Word, Creating faith in him. But I know whom I have believed..."

PART D. WATER BAPTISM.

Discussion.

The doctrines of baptisms have been the most divisive issue among Christians in all church history. In fact, the Holy Scripture calls "the doctrine of baptisms" a principle in the doctrine of Christ — an elementary principle! Cf. Hebrews 6:1-2. Elementary or a principle of Christ's doctrine did the Apostle Paul say? Answer: Yes! But there are professing Christians and professing men of God who will tear a genuinely born-again believer, a sanctified and Holy-Ghost-filled Christian to pieces, over the mode, the rites, and ordinance of water baptism to which they have adhered, differently!

Division & Strife.

The Pentecostal ranks have been split wide open over the issue of water baptism, and the strife continues to this day, thus proving conclusively that it is carnality and not spirituality — and, it is not of God but of men!

It is very obvious that all professing Christians or preachers who go among saved people who have repented and been delivered from sin through faith in Jesus Christ, and they stir up contention and strife, causing division over another form of water baptism, they are not messengers of God but are children of the devil — and at best they are carnal and are babies! Cf. I Corinthians 3:1-4.

Antichrist Doctrine.

Many are the carnal arguments used by the preachers who strive to make proselytes to their cause, whose entire ministry appears to be just stirring up confusion, and rebaptizing Christians who have repented from their sins, found peace through faith in Jesus Christ, and are obedient to His Word.

Any doctrine that causes division in the Body of Christ is antichrist. Any revelation related to salvation that comes from God will be to bring true believers in Christ into unity and love for each other.

The Doctrine of Christ.

(1) "Whosoever transgresseth, and abideth not in the doctrine of Christ, hath not God. He that abideth in the doctrine of Christ, he hath both the Father and the Son. If there come any unto you, and bring not this doctrine, receive him not into your house, neither bid him God speed: [Listen to this warning and obey it] For he that biddeth him God speed is partaker of his evil deeds." II John 9-11. What evil deeds? Answer: Sowing strife and division over modes of baptism, modes of worship, etc.

(2) Christ's Great Commission.

"Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost. Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you..." Matthew 28:19-20. This is the Doctrine of Christ on Water Baptism — and this is the Apostles' Doctrine also — but not the modern Apostolic Faith concept and doctrine, because they have perverted this Doctrine of Christ.

A Warning.

The whole Truth and nothing but the Truth on the subject of Water Baptism must be derived at by Scriptural Authority and not from the dictionary and encyclopedia as perverters of Christ's true doctrine of baptism rely.

I. DOES WATER BAPTISM SAVE?

Summarization.

Water baptism in any form does not wash away sins nor save! It is a public act of obedience and identification with Christ who ordained baptism as an ordinance to the Body of Christ as communion is. So what is water baptism in conversion to Christ? Answer: Obedience! But salvation does not rest upon the fact of being water baptized! Cf. Matthew 10:32-33.

a. ONLY THE BLOOD OF JESUS WASHES AWAY SIN!

(1) Unto him [Jesus] that loved us, and washed us from our sins in his own blood." Revelation 1:5.

(2) "For thou [Jesus] wast slain, and hast redeemed us to God by thy blood out of every kindred, and tongue, and people, and nation." Revelation 5:9.

(3) "...Christ also loved the church [Christ's true disciples], and gave himself for it; That he might sanctify and cleanse it with the washing of water by the word." Ephesians 5:25-26.

(4) Jesus declared: "For this is my blood of the New Testament, which is shed for many for the remission of sins." Matthew 26:28.

(5) "While we were yet sinners, Christ died for us. Much more then, being now **justified by his blood**, we shall be saved from wrath through him." Romans 5:8-9.

(6) "Being justified freely by his grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus: Whom God hath set forth to be a propitiation through faith in his blood, [not water baptism] to declare his righteousness for the remission of sins that are past, through the forbearance of God...and the justifier of him which believeth in Jesus." Romans 3:24-26.

(7) "And without [the] shedding of blood is no remission [of sins]." Hebrews 9:22.

The old hymn of the church so truthfully and powerfully exclaims: "What can wash away my sins? — nothing but the Blood of Jesus!"

FOR FURTHER STUDY.

Ephesians 1:7 Colossians 1:14 I Peter 1:18-19 I John 1:7

b. THE WATER.

(1) "Then Peter said unto them, **Repent**, and be baptized every one of you in the name of [authority of] Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost." Acts 2:38.

True Repentance saves as Jesus warned: Repent or Perish! It was not the water baptism that saved. Cf. Luke 13:1-5. True Repentance saves!

(2) Ananias said to Saul: "And now why tarriest thou? Arise, and be baptized, and wash away thy sins, calling on the name of the Lord." Acts 22:16.

"Calling on the name of the Lord" saved Saul — not the water, but the blood of Jesus.

(3) Why didn't baptism save Simon? Notice carefully:

"Then Simon himself believed also: and when he was baptized, he continued with Philip, and wondered, beholding the miracles and signs which were done...But Peter said unto him...thy heart is not right in the sight of God. Repent therefore of this thy wickedness, and pray God, if perhaps the thought of thine heart may be forgiven thee. For I perceive that thou art in the gall of bitterness, and in the bond of iniquity." Acts 8:13, 20-23. Tens of thousands who claim to be Christians have been baptized in every mode of water baptism, and like Simon, they are not saved or born again.

(4) JOHN BAPTIST WAS SENT TO BAPTIZE IN WATER.

"And I knew him [Jesus] not: but he [God] that sent me to baptize with water, the same said unto me, Upon whom thou shalt see the Spirit descending, and remaining on him, the same is he which baptizeth with the Holy Ghost." John 1:33.

(5) APOSTLE PAUL WAS NOT SENT TO BAPTIZE IN WATER. "For Christ sent me not to baptize, but to preach the gospel: not with wisdom of words, lest the cross of Christ should be made of none effect." I Corinthians 1:17. Controversy and dogmatism over water baptism destroys the effect of the true preaching of the gospel, as the apostle also declares: "For I determined not to know any thing among you, save Jesus Christ, and him crucified." I Cor. 2:2.

c. REPENT, ACCEPT CHRIST, THEN WATER BAPTISM.

(1) "Then answered Peter, Can any man forbid water, that these should not be baptized, which have received the Holy Ghost as well as we? And he commanded them to be baptized in the name of the Lord." Acts 10:47-48. These disciples believed on Christ and received the Holy Ghost — then were baptized. Peter declared, "Then remembered I the word of the Lord, how that he said, John indeed baptized with water [i.e., water baptism], but ye shall be baptized with the Holy Ghost [spiritual baptism]." Acts 11:16. John gave them the water works — Jesus gave them the power works! And He still does!

(2) WATER OR BLOOD?

"And there are three that bear witness in earth, the Spirit, and the water, and the blood: and these three agree in one." I John 5:8. The Spirit of God, Water Baptism, and the Blood of Jesus are all essential to our complete justification in Christ — howbeit, the water baptism does not create a righteous man in Christ, but Repentance and the Blood of Jesus do.

- a. Water baptism fulfills all righteousness which is by faith in Christ. Cf. Matthew 3:15.
- b. Water baptism symbolizes the death, burial, and resurrection of Christ. Cf. Romans 6:3-5; Colossians 2:12-13; I Peter 3:19-22.

d. CONDITIONS OF SALVATION UNTO ETERNAL LIFE.

(1) "Repent ye therefore, and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out, when the times of refreshing shall come from the presence of the Lord." Acts 3:19.

This is Remission of Sins through Repentance and Conversion to Christ!

(2) JESUS SAVES THIS WAY:

"If thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved. For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation." Romans 10:9-10.

A DECLARATION.

Water baptism alone without true repentance and a changed heart and life only whitewashes an individual.

The Blood of Jesus washes white the soul of a truly penitent sinner. The most arrogant people you'll ever know are those who are dogmatic about water baptism. Cf. Titus 3:5; II Corinthians 7:10.

- (3) Repentance and Remission of Sins are Inseparable. Jesus commanded His apostles thusly: "That repentance and remission of sins should be preached in his name among all nations, beginning at Jerusalem." Luke 24:47.
- (4) Paul the Apostle never stressed water baptism, but he dogmatically stressed Repentance in his preaching. "And the times of this ignorance God winked at; but now commandeth all men everywhere to repent." Acts 17:30. Cf. also Acts 20:20-21; Matthew 3:5-8; Acts 5:31 and 11:18; II Peter 3:9.

e. BIBLE EVIDENCE OF SALVATION.

(1) "Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature; old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new." II Corinthians 5:17. A truly born again person will give up his sins — quit sinning — thus becoming a new creation in Christ — this is the proof of being saved — not water baptism, or infant baptism, or church membership or communion, etc.

(2) "He that saith, I know him [i.e., Christ], and keepeth not his commandments, is a liar, and the truth is not in him...hereby know we that we are in him [or that we are really saved]." I

John 2:4-5. The Real Proof!

(3) "Whosoever abideth in him [Christ] sinneth not: whosoever sinneth hath not seen him, neither known him." I John 3:6. A professing Christian, though baptized in water, who keeps on sinning, is a hypocrite, not a real Christian.

FOR FURTHER STUDY.

John 8:31-36 Romans 6:1-2 I Cor. 15:34 I Cor. 3:7-10

II. MODE OF BAPTISM — IMMERSION.

(1) "And Jesus, when he was baptized, went up straightway out of the water." Matthew 3:16. Jesus was baptized in the Jordan River.

(2) "Buried with him [Christ] in baptism, wherein also ye are risen with him..." Colossians 2:12. "Buried" means to go under!

(3) Philip Baptized the Ethiopian in Much Water.

"The eunuch said, See, here is water: what doth hinder me to be baptized?...and they both went down into the water, both Philip and the eunuch; and he baptized him." Acts 8:36-38. Cf. John 3:22-23. The mode of true Christian Baptism is always by immersion — not sprinkling!

III. MODE OF BAPTISM — THE AUTHORITY.

(1) Jesus commanded: "Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptiz-

- ing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost." Matthew 28:19.
- (2) The Apostle Peter's command: "Then Peter said unto them, **Repent**, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins..." Acts 2:38. Baptism availeth nothing unless a person gives up his sins!

Who was right? Both! The apostolic order is: "And whatsoever ye do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus [i.e., by the authority of Jesus], giving thanks to God and the Father by him." Colossians 3:17.

(3) "IN THE NAME OF" in the English language has always meant: In the authority or power of!

Why in Water Baptism did Jesus command to use the mode of, "In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost?" The answer, to wit:

- a. Jesus declared: "All that the Father giveth me shall come to me... No man can come to me, except the Father which hath sent me draw him." John 6:37, 44. God the Father has a part in every believer's salvation.
- b. "He that believeth on the Son hath everlasting life (John 3:36); And this is life eternal, that they may know thee the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom thou hast sent (John 17:3)." Cf. also John 1:12-13; 3:16; I John 5:10-12.

Jesus, the Son, has a vital part in every believer's salvation.

"No man can say that Jesus is the Lord, but by the Holy Ghost (I Cor. 12:3); My Spirit shall not always strive with man (Gen. 6:3)." The Holy Ghost has a leading part in man's redemption and conversion to Christ.

THE CONSENSUS.

In Water Baptism, the work of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost is respected fully by the mode of baptism Christ authorized and commanded in the Great Commission (Matthew 28:19).

IV. THE AUTHORITY TO BAPTIZE.

Summary.

Jesus came in His Father's Name (His Father's authority and power). John 5:43. The Holy Ghost in true men of God gives Christ the Son's authority or power. Cf. Acts 1:8; Mark 16:17-18.

The Father gave Christ authority: "All power [authority] is given unto me in heaven and in earth." Matthew 28:18. The persecutors of Jesus once asked him: "Tell us, by what authority doest thou these things? or who is he that gave thee this authority?" Luke 20:1-2. But Jesus refused to tell them.

Jesus again amazed His critics who asked: "What a word is this! for with authority and power he commandeth the unclean spirits and they come out." Luke 4:36.

This authority was vested in him by the Father!

Christ has also given authority to His servants: "For the Son of man is as a man taking a far journey, who left his house [this is the church], and gave authority to his servants." Mark 13:34. To a true servant!

Christ's Authority Conferred Upon His Servants.

"In my name shall they cast out devils...they shall lay hands upon the sick, and they shall recover." Mark 16:17-18.

Christ did these works in His Father's Name — His disciples did these works in Jesus' name. In baptism, by the authority of Jesus Christ, Christian baptism must be "in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost."

The Apostles of Christ when on trial were asked: "By what power, or by what name [authority], have ye done this? Then Peter, filled with the Holy Ghost said unto them...Be it known unto you all, and to all the people of Israel, that by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth [i.e., in the authority of Jesus Christ of Nazareth], whom ye crucified, whom God raised from the dead, even by him doth this man stand here before you whole...Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved." Acts 4:7-12.

JESUS IS LORD.

"Jesus is the sweetest name I know," says the old hymn — and truly it is! But just crying out "Jesus" doesn't do the job unless used with authority. The 7 sons of Sceva cried out "in the name of Jesus" in an abortive attempt to cast out a demon, but the demon-possessed man attacked and wounded these phony men of God. Acts 19:13-17. Study This!

Jesus revealed himself to Saul who became the Apostle Paul in his conversion — Saul addressed him "Lord." Cf. Acts 9:3-6. Call him Jesus Christ, Lord, Saviour, Master — a Christian must have the power and authority of Christ by the Holy Ghost's approval to do the works of Christ even to baptizing believers in Christ.

- **a.** Baptism in the name of Jesus Christ. Acts 2:38.
- **b.** Baptism in the name of the Lord Jesus. Acts 8:16.
- c. Baptism in the name of the Lord. Acts 10:48.
- d. Baptism in the name of the Lord Jesus. Acts 19:5. Now if water baptism as taught in the doctrine of the apostles must be literally and essentially always "in the name of Jesus" and does not simply mean in His authority why does the variation exist in the 4 records of baptism in the early church? Answer, to wit: The Apostles of Christ were merely assuring the first century converts to Christ that they had Christ's authority conferred upon them to baptize in water! They obeyed Christ's command in Matthew 28:19-20. This scripture declares that they did!
- Jesus warned: At the judgment, "Many will say to me in that day, Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in thy name [Christ's authority or power]? and in thy name have cast out devils? and in thy name done many wonderful works? And then will I profess unto them, I never knew you: depart from me, Ye that work iniquity." Matthew 7:22-23. Sounds like "Jesus Only" people, doesn't it? They baptize in Jesus' Name, but will not obey Jesus' order and commission "to teach all nations, to baptize in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost (Matthew 28:19)."
- Jesus forewarned His disciples: "And ye shall be hated of all men for my name's sake." Matthew 10:22. This means: "For the sake of my power and authority upon you, not just yelling 'Jesus'."

g. JOHN THE BAPTIST PREACHED THE BAPTISM OF REPENTANCE.

"John did baptize in the wilderness, and preach the baptism of repentance for the remission of sins." Mark 1:4. Cf. also Acts 13:24; Acts 1:22; Luke 3:3.

h. JESUS PREACHED THE BAPTISM OF REPENTANCE.

"The Lord knew how the Pharisees had heard that Jesus made and baptized more disciples than John, **Though Jesus himself baptized not**, but his disciples." John 4:1-2. Cf. John 3:22-23; Mk. 1:14-15.

Li. BEING RE-BAPTIZED. WHY? Summary.

The Apostle Paul didn't make a practice of re-baptizing Christians with whom he disagreed. A lone exception of his rule is found in Acts 19. He asked certain disciples of Apollos which he encountered, "Have ye received the Holy Ghost since ye believed? And they said

unto him, We have not so much as heard whether there be any Holy Ghost. And he said unto them, Unto what then [i.e., by what authority] were ye baptized? And they said, Unto John's baptism. Then said Paul, John verily baptized with the baptism of repentance, saying unto the people, that they should believe on him which should come after him, that is, on Christ Jesus. When they heard this, they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus." Then they also received the Holy Ghost! Verses 1-7.

These disciples of John and Apollos did not know of Christ's order and commandment "to baptize disciples of all nations in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost." The early church ministers obeyed their Lord's Great Commission in baptism. The book of Acts records only that the mode of water baptism was by Christ's authority given to them. This is no problem except to those who love to create strife and division — and this divisiveness is not of God and the light of the Bible, but it is out of darkness and of Satan.

PART E. READING & MEMORIZATION.

Read the Book of John completely and carefully.

Memorize the following scriptures:

John 17:3	I Timothy 2:5	Matt. 28:19-20	Romans 8:34
John 14:28	I Cor. 11:3	John 14:10-11	Col. 3:1
John 10:36	John 8:54	John 7:37-39	I Cor. 15:23-24

PART F. BIBLE READING.

"Till I come, give attendance to reading [i.e., the Holy Scriptures], to exhortation, to doctrine." I Tim. 4:13. Read the books of John and I Timothy carefully. This lesson is not completed until this is done.

Lesson No. 13 The Bible School of Prophecy

CHRIST IN EVERY BOOK OF THE NEW TESTAMENT

In MATTHEW He Is The Messiah

In MARK He Is Christ Coming To Seek And To Save

In LUKE He Is The Son Of Man

In JOHN He Is The Son Of God

In ACTS He Is The Risen Christ Working Through Men

In ROMANS He Is The Justifier

In I & II CORINTHIANS He Is The Sanctifier

In GALATIANS He Is The Redeemer From The Curse Of The Law

In EPHESIANS He Is The Christ Of Unsearchable Riches

In PHILIPPIANS He Is The God Who Supplieth All Our Needs

In COLOSSIANS He Is Christ At The Father's Right Hand

In I & II THESSALONIANS He Is Our Soon Coming King

In I & II TIMOTHY He Is The Mediator Between God & Men

In TITUS He Is The Faithful Pastor

In PHILEMON He Is The Friend Of The Oppressed

In HEBREWS He Is The Blood Of The Everlasting Covenant

In JAMES He Is The Lord Who Raises The Sick

In I & II PETER He Is The Chief Shepherd Who Soon Shall Appear

In I, II & III JOHN He Is Love

In JUDE He Is The Lord Coming With Ten Thousands Of His Saints

In REVELATION He Is King Of Kings And Lord Of Lords

This Lesson Prepared For BIBLE SCHOOL OF PROPHECY

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