

## **That We Might Know Him (1)**

Deuteronomy 29:29 “The secret things belong to the LORD our God: but those things which are revealed belong to us and to our children for ever...”

Jeremiah 9:23-24 “Thus says the LORD, “Let not the wise man glory in his wisdom, let not the mighty man glory in his might, nor let the rich man glory in his riches; but let him who glories glory in this, that he understands and knows Me”.

Has anyone ever told you that God is a mystery?

This idea has kept many genuine Christians from experiencing the fullness of peace, love, and transforming power that can only be found in close fellowship with their Creator. The truth is that only through the veil of human speculation and theory do we distort God into a being who cannot be understood. This study was created to simply explore what God has revealed about Himself in His Word – adding nothing to what is said, and taking nothing away.

My prayer is that it will bring you into a closer and deeper relationship with your God - a God who wants to be known!

Hosea 6:3 “Let us know, let us pursue the knowledge of the LORD, His going forth is established as the morning; He will come to us like the rain, like the latter and former rain to the earth.”

Proverbs 2:3-5 “Yes, if you cry out for discernment, and lift up your voice for understanding, if you seek her as silver, and search for her as hidden treasures; then you will understand the fear of the LORD, and find the knowledge of God.”

### (1) God the Father

What is the Father’s character like?

1 John 4:8-10 “He who does not love does not know God; for God is love. In this the love of God was manifested toward us, that God sent His only begotten Son into the world, that we might live through Him. In this is love, not that we loved God, but that He loved us and sent His Son to be the propitiation for our sins.”

John 3:16-17 “For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believes in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life. For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through Him might be saved.”

2 Corinthians 1:3 “Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and the God of all comfort.”

Matthew 6:14 “For if you forgive men their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you.”

2 Corinthians 6:18 “I will be a Father to you, and you shall be My sons and daughters,” says the LORD (Yahweh) Almighty.”

James 1:17 “Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and comes down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow of turning.”

1 John 3:1 “Behold, what manner of love the Father has bestowed on us, that we should be called children of God! Therefore the world does not know us, because it did not know Him.”

Where is the Father?

Matthew 6:9 “...Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name.”

Revelation 4:2 “...behold, a throne set in heaven, and One sat on the throne...”

Isaiah 37:16 “O LORD (Yahweh) of hosts, God of Israel, the One who dwells between the cherubim, You are God, You alone, of all the kingdoms of the earth. You have made heaven and earth.”

How has He been revealed to us?

Psalms 19:1 “The heavens declare the glory of God; and the firmament shows His handiwork.”

Exodus 33:20 "But He said, "You cannot see My face; for no man shall see Me and live."

Hebrews 1:1-2 "God ... has in these last days spoken to us by His Son, whom He has appointed heir of all things, through whom also He made the worlds,"

John 1:18 "No one has seen God at any time. The only begotten Son, who is in the bosom of the Father, He has declared Him."

What has Christ revealed to us about His Father?

Matthew 11:25 "At that time Jesus answered and said, "I thank You, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, that You have hidden these things from the wise and prudent and have revealed them to babes."

Mark 14:36 "And He said, "Abba, Father, all things are possible for You. Take this cup away from Me; nevertheless, not what I will, but what You will."

John 3:35 "The Father loves the Son, and has given all things into His hand."

John 4:24 "God is Spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth."

John 5:19-23 "Most assuredly I say to you, the Son can do nothing of Himself, but what He sees the Father do; for whatever He does, the Son also does in like manner. For the Father loves the Son, and shows Him all things that He Himself does; and He will show Him greater works than these, that you may marvel. For as the Father raises the dead and gives life to them, even so the Son gives life to whom He will..."

John 5:26-27 "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 judgement also, because He is the Son of Man."

John 5:30 "I can of Myself do nothing. As I hear, I judge; and My judgement is righteous, because I do not seek My own will but the will of the Father who sent Me."

John 10:29 "My Father, who has given them to Me, is greater than all; and no one is able to snatch them out of My Father's hand."

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

John 14:24 “He who does not love Me does not keep My words; and the word which you hear is not Mine but the Father’s who sent Me.

John 14:28 “...If you loved Me, you would rejoice because I said, ‘I am going to the Father’, for My Father is greater than I.”

John 17:7 “Now they have known that all things which You have given Me are from You.”

John 17:1-3 “Jesus spoke these words, lifted up His eyes to heaven, and said, “Father, the hour has come. Glorify Your Son, that Your Son also may glorify You, as You have given Him authority over all flesh, that He should give eternal life to as many as You have given Him. And this is eternal life, that they may know You, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom You have sent.”

Jesus declared that His Father is the only true God. Did His disciples understand His teaching?

1 Corinthians 8:6 “But to us there is but one God, the Father, of whom are all things, and we in Him; and one Lord Jesus Christ, by whom are all things, and we by Him.”

1 Corinthians 11:3 “But I want you to know that the head of every man is Christ, the head of the woman is man, and the head of Christ is God.”

Ephesians 4:6 “One God and Father of all, who is above all, and through all, and in you all.”

Philippians 2:11 “and that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.”

1 Thessalonians 1:1 "Paul, and Silvanus, and Timothy, unto the church of the Thessalonians which is in God the Father and in the Lord Jesus Christ: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ."

Titus 1:4 "To Titus, a true son in our common faith: Grace, mercy, and peace from God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ our Saviour."

(See also 1 Corinthians 1:3, 2 Corinthians 1:2, Galatians 1:3, Ephesians 1:2, Philippians 1:2, Colossians 1:2, 2 Thessalonians 1:1-2, 1 Timothy 1:2, 2 Timothy 1:2, Philemon 1:3, and 2 John 1:3)

James 3:8-9 "But no man can tame the tongue... With it we bless our God and Father, and with it we curse men, who have been made in the similitude of God."

Acts 17:23-25 "Therefore, the One whom you worship without knowing, Him I proclaim to you: "God, who made the world and everything in it, since He is Lord of heaven and earth, does not dwell in temples made with hands. Nor is He worshiped with men's hands, as though He needed anything, since He gives to all life, breath, and all things."

Jude 1:1 "Jude, a servant of Jesus Christ, and brother of James, to those who are called, sanctified by God the Father, and preserved in Jesus Christ"

(To be continued)

## **That We Might Know Him (2)**

### (2) Jesus Christ

If the Father, by Christ's own declaration, is the "only true God", then who is Jesus?

Matthew 16:15-17 "He said to them, "But who do you say that I am?" Simon Peter answered and said, "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God." Jesus answered and said to him, "Blessed are you, Simon Bar-Jonah: for flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but My Father who is in heaven."

Simon Peter's answer was inspired by the Father Himself – that Jesus is His Son! His answer was so powerful that Christ shortened His name to Peter, which means "a rock", and declared that "on this rock I will build My church, and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it." (Matthew 16:18)

Was Christ identifying Himself as God's literal Son? We find that in the Old Testament, through King Solomon, Christ gave amazing insight into His relationship with the Father. The Spirit of Prophecy confirms that Christ is speaking of Himself in Proverbs 8:22-30, which agrees with 1 Corinthians 1:24, 30 and Luke 11:49 in declaring Christ as the "wisdom of God".

"The LORD possessed me in the beginning of His way, before His works of old. I was set up from everlasting, from the beginning, or ever the earth was. When there were no depths, I was brought forth; When there were no fountains abounding with water. Before the mountains were settled, before the hills was I brought forth: While as yet He had not made the earth, nor the fields, Nor the highest part of the dust of the world. When He prepared the heavens, I was there: When He set a compass upon the face of the depth: When He established the clouds above: When He strengthened the fountains of the deep: When He gave to the sea His decree, that the water should not pass His commandment: When He appointed the foundations of the earth: then I was by Him, as one brought up with Him: and I was daily His delight, rejoicing always before Him"

This beautiful description of the companionship between the Father and Son in the days of eternity tells us that Christ indeed had a beginning to His existence. Our finite minds cannot fathom the time period when this occurred, because in reality it was before the measurement of time was established, and we may not fully understand how Christ was brought forth from His Father, but we accept our Saviour's words by faith.

It's important to understand that Christ was not created, as angels and humans were. We know this because John 1:3 tells us that, "All things were made through Him, and without Him nothing was made that was made." He was truly begotten – brought forth from the very substance of His Father's being.

John 8:42 "Jesus said unto them, "If God were your Father, you would love Me: for I proceeded forth and came from God; nor have I come of Myself, but He sent Me."

John 16:27-28 "For the Father Himself loveth you, because ye 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 17:8 "For I have given unto them the words which Thou gavest Me; and they have received them, and have known surely that I came out from Thee, and they have believed that Thou didst send me."

In every instance, the event of proceeding/coming forth from the Father is separated from the event of being sent into this world (conjunction noted with italics). This clarifies that Jesus was speaking of two separate events – i.e. being begotten in heaven, and being sent to earth.

Through faith in Christ's word, we understand that there was a point in the great expanse of eternity when the Father chose to bring forth a divine Son. Therefore, Christ had a beginning, while the Father did not. Does this lessen Christ's divinity in any way? Absolutely not!

John 5:26 “For as the Father hath life in Himself; so hath He given to the Son to have life in Himself”

Colossians 1:19 “For it pleased the Father that in Him all the fullness should dwell.”

Colossians 2:9 “For in Him dwells all the fullness of the Godhead (deity/divinity) bodily.”

\*\* Note that “Godhead” is the Greek word *theotes* (G2320), which simply means deity – the state of being God.

Christ was brought forth from the very substance of the Father, the great Source of all. It pleased the Father to bring Christ into existence, giving Him the same full, divine, eternal life that He had in Himself. Just as a human father begets a human son, our divine Father begot a divine Son!

John 1:1 presents this beautifully in the original Greek, with the first use of “God” actually being a definite article. If thus properly translated it would read: “In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with the God, and the Word was God.”

In the beginning Christ was with His Father (the only true God), but Christ Himself was also God in nature. He was fully divine.

Hebrews 1:4-5 “...as He hath by inheritance obtained a more excellent name than they. For unto which of the angels said He 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?”

Christ is divine because He inherited His Father’s divinity! But the Father is the Source of all, without beginning, making Him the only true God.

1 Corinthians 8:6 “But to us there is but one God, the Father, of whom are all things, and we in Him; and one Lord Jesus Christ, by whom are all things, and we by Him.”



The Father is the source, and Christ is the executing agent, or the channel, by whom the Father made all things, and by whom we are reconciled to the Father.

1 Timothy 2:5 "For there is one God, and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus."

Not surprisingly, Christ's identity as God's Son was the exact truth that Satan attacked:

Matthew 4:3 "...If You are the Son of God, command that these stones become bread."

Matthew 4:6 "...If You are the Son of God, throw Yourself down..."  
Satan's angels knew who He was as well:

Mark 5:7 "And he cried out with a loud voice and said, "What have I to do with You, Jesus, Son of the Most High God? I implore You by God that You do not torment me."

Luke 4:41 "And demons also came out of many, crying out and saying, "You are the Christ the Son of God!" And He, rebuking them, did not allow them to speak: for they knew that He was the Christ."

Christ's own declaration of His identity was the reason He was persecuted:

John 10:36 "Do you say of Him whom the Father sanctified and sent into the world, 'You are blaspheming', because I said, I am the Son of God?"

John 19:7 "The Jews answered him, "We have a law, and according to our law He ought to die, because He made Himself the Son of God."

Matthew 26:63 "But Jesus kept silent. And the high priest answered and said to Him, "I put You under oath by the living God: Tell us if You are the Christ, the Son of God!"

Luke 22:70 "Then they all said, "Are You then the Son of God?" So He said to them, "You rightly say that I am."

Matthew 27:40 "And saying, "You who destroy the temple and build it in three days, save Yourself! If You are the Son of God, come down from the cross."

Matthew 27:54 "So when the centurion and those with him, who were guarding Jesus, saw the earthquake, and those things that happened, they feared greatly, saying, "Truly this was the Son of God!"

And this is, in fact, the only belief by which we are saved!

John 3:16,18 "For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life... He who believes on Him is not condemned; but he who does not believe is condemned already, because he has not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God."

John 20:31 "But these are written that you might believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing you may have life through His name."

John 5:25 "Most assuredly, I say to you, the hour is coming, and now is, when the dead will hear the voice of the Son of God: and those who hear will live."

Looking back to Hebrews 1, verse 4 also explains why the Father's name, Yahweh, can be applied to Christ in the prophecy of Jeremiah.

Jeremiah 23:5-6 "Behold, the days are coming" says the LORD (Yahweh), "That I will raise to David a Branch of righteousness; a King shall reign and prosper, and execute judgement and righteousness in the earth. In His days Judah will be saved, and Israel will dwell safely; now this is His name by which He will be called: THE LORD (Yahweh) OUR RIGHTEOUSNESS."

Hebrews 1:4 "... as He has by inheritance obtained a more excellent name than they." Just as a human son inherits his father's name, so Christ inherited His Father's name! In verses 8 and 9 we again see that while Jesus is divine in nature, His Father is still the Head over all.

Hebrews 1:8-9 "But unto the Son He saith: "Thy throne, O God, is forever and ever: a sceptre of righteousness is the sceptre of Thy kingdom. Thou hast loved righteousness, and hated iniquity; therefore God, even Thy God, hath anointed Thee with the oil of gladness above Thy fellows."

Though Christ is divine, and has been exalted by His Father to receive worship, He also has a God – His own Father.

Matthew 27:46 "And about the ninth hour Jesus cried out with a loud voice, saying, ... My God, My God, why have You forsaken Me?"

John 20:17 "Jesus said to her, "Do not cling to Me, for I have not yet ascended to My Father; but go to My brethren, and say to them, "I am ascending to My Father and your Father, and to My God and your God."

Romans 15:6 "That you may with one mind and one mouth glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ."

1 Corinthians 11:3 "But I want you to know that the head of every man is Christ, the head of woman is man, and the head of Christ is God."

Ephesians 1:3 "Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ..."  
(See also 2 Corinthians 1:3, 2 Corinthians 11:31, Colossians 1:3, and 1 Peter 1:3)

Ephesians 1:17 "...that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give to you the spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of Him"

Revelation 1:5-6 "To Him who loved us and washed us from our sins in His blood, and has made us kings and priests to His God and Father, to Him by glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen."

Revelation 3:12 (Christ speaking) "He who overcomes, I will make him a pillar in the temple of My God, and he shall go out no more. I will write on him the name of My God, and the name of the city of My God, the New Jerusalem, which comes down out of heaven from My God. And I will write on him My new name."

In receiving the seal of God, Christ will write His Father's name – Yahweh, upon our foreheads. Our forehead represents our knowledge of who God is.

John 4:23 "But the hour is coming, and now is, when the true worshippers will worship the Father in spirit and truth; for the Father is seeking such to worship Him."

In contrast, the mark of the beast will be a counterfeit seal with the same layout as God's seal (Rev. 3:12): name of their God, name of their city, name of their Christ (i.e. the Antichrist).

Revelation 17:4-5 "The woman was arrayed in purple and scarlet, and adorned with gold and precious stones and pearls, having in her hand a golden cup full of abominations and the filthiness of her fornication: And on her forehead a name was written, "Mystery, Babylon the Great, The Mother of Harlots and of the Abominations of the Earth."

Christ came to this earth for the express purpose of revealing His Father to us, so that our God would not be a mystery! Amen! Christ never received glory unto Himself, but did all to the glory of His God and Father. His teachings consistently express that He came to this earth to reveal His Father's love, character, and purpose to mankind, and to reconcile us to the Father through Himself.

Revelation 14:1 "Then I looked, and behold, a Lamb stood on Mount Zion, and with Him one hundred and forty-four thousand, having His Father's name written in their foreheads."

To undoubtedly confirm the identity of Christ, we need only to look to the Father's affirmation of who He is. The Father, the highest authority in the universe, gave a specific message at Christ's baptism, and again on the mount of transfiguration (Matt. 3:17, 17:5, Mark 1:11, 9:7, Luke 3:22, 9:35, 2 Peter 1:17). His message was this:

"This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased." And on the mount He adds "Hear Him!"

All authority that Jesus has to be the Father's representative, and to be a sufficient sacrifice for fallen humanity, rests in this single, most important truth – that He is the beloved, divine, begotten Son of God.

(To be continued)

## **That We Might Know Him (3)**

### (3) The Holy Spirit

As we've discovered that the Father is the Source of all, we can also confirm with scripture that the Holy Spirit proceeds from the Father Himself.

John 15:26 "But when the Comforter is come, whom I will send unto you from the Father even the Spirit of truth, which proceedeth from the Father, He shall testify of Me"

Genesis 1:2 "And the earth was without form, and void; and darkness was upon the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God moved upon the face of the waters."

Just as the "Son OF God" implies possession (i.e. The Son belongs to the Father, He is His Son), the "Spirit OF God" does also. The Holy Spirit is exactly as the Bible describes – the Spirit OF God. It is God's own spirit, the spirit of the Father!

Matthew 10:20, "For it is not you who speak, but the Spirit of your Father who speaks in you."

As a quick aside, let's look at some other "spirits" in the Bible...

Genesis 41:7-8 "...And Pharaoh awoke, and, behold, it was a dream. And it came to pass in the morning that his spirit was troubled; and he sent and called for all the magicians of Egypt..."

Genesis 45:27 "And they told him all the words of Joseph, which he had said unto them: and when he saw the wagons which Joseph had sent to carry him, the spirit of Jacob their father revived."

Deuteronomy 2:30 “But Sihon king of Heshbon would not let us pass through: for the LORD your God hardened his spirit, and made his heart obstinate...”

Ezra 1:1 “Now in the first year of Cyrus king of Persia, that the word of the LORD by the mouth of Jeremiah might be fulfilled, the LORD stirred up the spirit of Cyrus king of Persia, so that he made a proclamation throughout all his kingdom...”

There are many more examples, but I think the point is clear. In no other instance would we think of someone’s spirit as being anything other than that – their own spirit, i.e. their mind, thoughts, and character. So why would we picture a separate, third being when the Bible says “the Spirit of God”? The Father is an all-powerful, omnipresent spirit-being, and therefore can be sitting on the throne of heaven in body, and yet be present on earth by His own Spirit.

John 4:23-24 “...for the Father seeketh such to worship Him. God is a Spirit: and they that worship Him must worship Him in spirit and in truth.”

Christ was brought forth, however, to be the mediator between God and mankind. Thus, just as the Father wrought all of creation through His Son, He likewise sends His Spirit through His Son, to minister on our behalf, and even dwell within us!

Ephesians 2:13,18 “But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ. (...) For through Him we both have access by one Spirit to the Father.”

In this way the Father and Son share the same Spirit, being one in character, purpose, and love for mankind. The book of John comes alive so beautifully when we understand this powerful truth.

John 14:20-23 “At that day you will know that I am in My Father, and you in Me, and I in you. He who has My commandments and keeps them, it is he who loves Me. And he who loves Me will be loved by My Father, and I will love him, and will manifest

Myself to him.” Judas (not Iscariot) said to Him, “Lord, how is it that You will manifest Yourself to us, and not to the world?” Jesus answered and said to him, “If anyone loves Me, he will keep My word; and My Father will love him, and We will come to him, and make Our home with him.”

The Holy Spirit is none other than the Spirit of Christ and His Father, and we can have Their Spirit living in us! We see that the terms, “Spirit of God” and “Spirit of Christ” can be used interchangeably, because they operate as one Spirit.

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

However, while Christ dwelt on earth He had clothed His divinity in humanity. Having taken on human form, His Father’s Spirit was still within Him, but He could not act as the channel to bestow it upon mankind.

Isaiah 42:1 “Behold, My servant whom I uphold. My elect One in whom My soul delights! I have put My Spirit upon Him; He will bring forth justice to the Gentiles”

Philippians 2:6-7 “who, being in the form of God, did not consider it robbery to be equal with God, but made Himself of no reputation, taking the form of a bond-servant, and coming in the likeness of men.”

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

This is why the Holy Spirit, known after Christ’s ascension as “the Comforter”, could not be given to His disciples until Pentecost.



John 7:39 “But this He spoke concerning the Spirit, whom those believing in Him would receive; for the Holy Spirit was not yet given, because Jesus was not yet glorified.”

John 16:7 “Nevertheless I tell you the truth; It is expedient for you that I go away; for if I go not away, the Comforter will not come unto you; but if I depart, I will send Him unto you.”

Only once Christ returned to heaven to be glorified, and commence His work in the sanctuary as our High Priest, could He then petition His Father to send His disciples the Spirit.

Hebrews 2:17 “Therefore, in all things He had to be made like His brethren, that He might be a merciful and faithful High Priest in things pertaining to God, to make propitiation for the sins of the people.”

Hebrews 4:15 “For we do not have a High Priest who cannot sympathize with our weaknesses, but was in all points tempted as we are, yet without sin.

John 14:16-20 “And I will pray the Father, and He will 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. Yet a little while, and the world seeth Me no more; but ye see Me: because I live, ye shall live also.”

The Comforter could not be sent until Jesus was glorified, yet Jesus said “He dwelleth with you” in present tense, but “shall be in you” in future tense. By saying “ye know Him” and “He dwelleth with you”, Christ is identifying Himself, filled with His Father’s Spirit, as the very same Comforter. Though He was currently dwelling with them in person, in the future He would be in them by the Holy Spirit.

Acts 2:32-33 “This Jesus has raised up, of which we are all witnesses. Therefore being exalted to the right hand of God, and having received from the Father the promise of the Holy Spirit, He poured out this which you now see and hear.”

The Greek word for “Comforter” is “parakletos”. John is the only author who used this term -four times in his gospel, and once in 1 John.

Despite the widely held belief that the Comforter describes a third being, separate from the Father and Christ, John had actually purposed in his writings that there would be no question as to who he was referring.

Unfortunately, his effort for clarity was hidden in the translation. In 1 John 2:1 he identifies exactly who he was speaking about, but this term, parakletos, was here translated as “Advocate” instead of “Comforter”.

1 John 2:1 “My little children, these things I write to you, so that you may not sin. And if anyone sins, we have an Advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous.”

OR “My little children, these things I write to you, so that you may not sin. And if anyone sins, we have a Comforter with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous.”

Our “parakletos”, our “Comforter”, is none other than Jesus Christ!

But why, then, in John 14:16 does Christ say that the Father will send another Comforter?

Doesn’t this mean that it must be a separate person?”

There are two Greek words which are translated as “another” – allos and heteros.

While hetero means “another of a different sort” (ex. “May I try another type of apple?”), allos means “another of an identical sort” (ex. “Those green apples are

delicious! May I have another?") The word Christ used in this passage was *allos*. Therefore, He was not telling them that the Father would send a different Comforter, but that He would send a Comforter identical to the One who was currently with them! The Father had sent Christ as their Comforter the first time in human form, and would send Him again, in spirit form.

Hebrews 2:18 "For in that He Himself has suffered, being tempted, He is able to aid those who are tempted."

Christ alone can help us overcome worldly temptation, because He is the only divine being who has taken on our fallen human nature and triumphed over sin! We also shouldn't take issue with the fact that while describing "the Comforter" Christ speaks of Himself in the third person, as He did this all throughout His ministry. (Matthew 13:41, 24:27,30, Mark 10:33-34, 45, Luke 17:24, 18:8, John 10:2-4, 17:1-3, etc.)

Remember that 1 Timothy 2:5 tells us, "For there is one God and one Mediator between God and men, the Man Christ Jesus." There is only one mediator – one intercessor.

Romans 8:26 "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."

When we let scripture interpret scripture, who is said to make intercession for us?

Romans 8:34 "Who is He who condemns? It is Christ who died, and furthermore is also risen, who is even at the right hand of God, who also makes intercession for us."

Hebrews 7:25 "Therefore [Christ] is also able to save to the uttermost those who come to God through Him, since He always lives to make intercession for them."

Christ Himself is that one mediator, that one intercessor between God and men.

John 17:23 “I in them, and You in Me; that they may be made perfect in one; and that the world may know that You have sent Me, and have loved them, as You have loved Me.”

Galatians 4:6 “And because you are sons, God has sent forth the Spirit of His Son into your hearts, crying out, “Abba, Father!”

1 Peter 1:10-11 “Of this salvation the prophets have inquired and searched carefully, who prophesied of the grace that would come to you, searching what, or what manner of time, the Spirit of Christ who was in them was indicating when He testified beforehand the sufferings of Christ and the glories that would follow.”

1 Corinthians 2:16 “For “who has known the mind of the LORD that He may instruct Him?” But we have the mind of Christ.”

1 Corinthians 15:45 “And so it is written, “The first man Adam became a living being. The last Adam became a life-giving spirit.”

May we all pray to receive the only life-giving Spirit – the Spirit of our Saviour Himself.

Revelation 3:19-20 “As many as I love, I rebuke and chasten: be zealous therefore, and repent. Behold I stand at the door, and knock: if any man hear my voice, and open the door, I will come in to him, and will sup with him, and he with Me.”

Christ wants to fill us with His Spirit, so that He can give us His power to overcome the temptations of this world, and live a victorious Christian life! Only through Him can we be transformed, day by day, to reflect God’s image as He does.

2 Corinthians 3:16-18 “Nevertheless when one turns to the Lord, the veil is taken away. Now the Lord is the Spirit; and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is liberty. But we all, with unveiled face, beholding as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from glory to glory, just as by the Spirit of the Lord.”

Philippians 4:7 “And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.”

John 16:13 “...when He, the Spirit, has come, He will guide you into all truth.”

Philippians 4:13 “I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.”

The Father and Son are longing to come abide with you through the Spirit, to give you strength, guide you into all truth, and give you peace which surpasses all understanding.

Will you let Them?

Colossians 1:26-29 “Even the mystery which has been hidden from ages and from generations, but now has been revealed to His saints. To them God willed to make known what are the riches of the glory of this mystery among the Gentiles: which is Christ in you, the hope of glory. Him we preach, warning every man and teaching every man in all wisdom, that we may present every man perfect in Christ Jesus. To this end I also labor, striving according to His working which works in me mightily.”

Galatians 2:20 “I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave Himself for me.”

(To be continued)

## **That We Might Know Him (4)**

### (4) Father & Son

Here are a few more verses revealing the two divine beings: God and His Son.

Proverbs 30:4 “Who has ascended into heaven, or descended? Who has gathered the wind in His fists? Who has bound the waters in a garment? Who has established all the ends of the earth? What is His name, and what is His Son’s name, if you know?”

Zechariah 6:12-13 “Then speak to him, saying, Thus says the LORD (Yahweh) of hosts, saying, “Behold, the Man whose name is The BRANCH! From His place He shall branch out, and He shall build the temple of the LORD; yes, He shall build the temple of the LORD. He shall bear the glory, and shall sit and rule on His throne; so He shall be a priest on His throne: and the counsel of peace shall be between them both.” (Both = two!)

Galatians 1:1 “Paul, an apostle, (not of men, neither by man, but by Jesus Christ, and God the Father, who raised Him from the dead)”

Ephesians 5:5 “For this you know, that no fornicator, unclean person, nor covetous man, who is an idolater, has any inheritance in the kingdom of Christ and God.”

1 Timothy 5:21 “I charge you before God and the Lord Jesus Christ and the elect angels that you observe these things without prejudice, doing nothing with partiality.”

Hebrews 8:1 “Now of the things which we have spoken this is the sum: We have such an High Priest, who is set on the right hand of the throne of the Majesty in the heavens.”

1 John 1:3 “That which we have seen and heard we declare to you, that you also may have fellowship with us; and truly our fellowship is with the Father and with His Son Jesus Christ.”

1 John 2:22-23 “Who is a liar but he that denies that Jesus is the Christ? He is antichrist who denies the Father and the Son. Whoever denies the Son does not have the Father either; he who acknowledges the Son has the Father also. Therefore, let that abide in you which you heard from the beginning. If what you heard from the beginning abides in you, you also will abide in the Son and in the Father.”

Revelation 5:13 “And every creature which is in heaven and on the earth and under the earth and such as are in the sea, and all that are in them, I heard saying, “Blessing, and honor, and glory, and power be to Him who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb, forever and ever!”

Revelation 6:16 “And said to the mountains and rocks, “Fall on us, and hide us from the face of Him that sits on the throne and from the wrath of the Lamb!”

Revelation 14:4 “... These are the ones who follow the Lamb wherever He goes. These were redeemed from among men, being first fruits to God and to the Lamb.”

Revelation 14:12 “Here is the patience of the saints; here are those who keep the commandments of God and the faith of Jesus.”

Revelation 20:6 “Blessed and holy is he who has part in the first resurrection. Over such the second death has no power, but they shall be priests of God and of Christ, and shall reign with Him a thousand years.”

Revelation 21:22 “And I saw no temple in it, for the Lord God Almighty and the Lamb are its temple.”

Revelation 22:1,3 “And he showed me a pure river of water of life, clear as crystal, proceeding from the throne of God and of the Lamb. ... And there shall be no more curse, but the throne of God and of the Lamb shall be in it”

Mystery Solved!

2 Peter 1:2-4 “Grace and peace be multiplied to you in the knowledge of God and of Jesus our Lord, as His divine power has given to us all things that pertain to life and

godliness, through the knowledge of Him who called us by glory and virtue, by which have been given to us exceedingly great and precious promises, that through these you may be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust.”

I truly hope you've been blessed by this study. In conclusion, I'd like to quote a passage from one of my favourite books, Ministry of Healing – Chapter 35, p. 409.

“A True Knowledge of God”

“Like our Saviour, we are in this world to do service for God. We are here to become like God in character, and by a life of service to reveal Him to the world. In order to be co-workers with God, in order to become like Him and to reveal His character, we must know Him aright. We must know Him as He reveals Himself. A knowledge of God is the foundation of all true education and all true service. It is the only real safeguard against temptation. It is this alone that can make us like God in character. This is the knowledge needed by all who are working for the uplifting of their fellow men.

Transformation of character, purity of life, efficiency in service, adherence to correct principles, all depend upon a right knowledge of God. This knowledge is the essential preparation both for this life and for the life to come. ... “This is life eternal,” said Jesus, “that they might know Thee, the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom Thou hast sent.”

In the words of Paul to the church in Ephesus,

“...Love with faith, from God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.”

{End}



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